

OUR LITURGY

The Gospel for today presents a stark contrast. King Herod reacts to the birth of Jesus with hostility and suspicion, but the Magi humbly and graciously accept God's revelation in Jesus and are welcomed into Jesus' presence. This event marks a defining moment - the Son of God assumes a human nature for the salvation of *all people*.

ALTAR BREAD & WINE

Louis Delisio
Requested by
Loving Wife



OUR PRIEST-CELEBRANTS

This Week End	Mass	Next Week
Fr Boyle	5:00 pm	Fr Tapel
Fr Boyle	7:00 am	Fr Tapel
Fr Thomas	9:00 am	Fr Maffeo
Fr Maffeo	10:30 am	Fr Boyle
Fr Tapel	12:00 pm	Fr Maffeo
Fr Maffeo	5:00 pm	Fr Boyle

IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO BRING UP THE GIFTS AT THE MASSES ON SATURDAY OR SUNDAY, PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE USHERS WHEN YOU ARRIVE FOR MASS.

Apostolate for Family Consecration



Invites you to bring your family and friends for an opportunity to pray with your parish family. We meet on Mondays at 7:30 PM in the church for a holy hour which includes: Listening to some of our leading theologians, Praying the Rosary using meditative music video images of the life of Christ and Fellowship (coffee and cake). All are welcome.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place every Monday (except holidays) from 2-6:45 PM

And on each First Friday from 7:30- 8:30PM

Please come and spend some quiet time with the Blessed Sacrament



MASS INTENTIONS



Sunday, January 7, Epiphany of the Lord

7:00 Theresa F Casey requested by The Binger Family
7:00 Bailey Smith requested by The McMurray Family
9:00 Anne Johnson requested by Andrea & Angelo Quagliata
9:00 Florence Lattanzio requested by

Loving Husband William & Family

10:30 William Hughes requested by Loving Family
10:30 Matthew Jankey requested by Robert & Nibla Ortiz
12:00 Pasquale Napolitano requested by Claudia & Bill
12:00 Vincent Suppa requested by Rick & Gianna Russo
12:00 For All Who Were Baptized This Past Year
5:00 Gerard McCormack requested by Jerry & Pat Peters
5:00 Joseph & Joan Scotti requested by Sylvia Scotti

Monday, January 8, The Baptism of the Lord

7:00 Mary Sciana requested by Carol & Michael Galante
7:00 Fr. Douglas Arcoleo (living)
9:00 Raymond Stapleton
9:00 Patricia Stapleton requested by John & Lila Kropf

Tuesday, January 9

7:00 Francisco Rosa requested by Loving Family
7:00 For the People of the Parish
8:45 Anne Johnson requested by The Buckley Family
8:45 Jack Sweeney requested by Loving Wife

Wednesday, January 10

7:00 Adeline Mallahan requested by The Milians Family
9:00 Karen Ann Cronin requested by Loving Mom & Dad
9:00 Giovanni Romanielli requested by James Mangiacapre

Thursday, January 11

7:00 Cecilia Loesch requested by Michele
9:00 Eugene Bambrick Jr requested by The Marshall Family
9:00 Edward Dowling requested by Anthony & Rose Barone

Friday, January 12

7:00 Agnes Zehnle requested by The Wimpelberg Family
9:00 Joseph DiBiasi Jr requested by The Mawn Family
9:00 Vincent Tolino requested by Den Jim & Arlene Altonji

Saturday, January 13, St Hilary

8:00 Mass of Thanksgiving requested by The Ventola Family
8:00 Frances Fabrizio requested by Gerard Esposito

Anticipated Mass for Sunday

5:00 Julius Caccapolo requested by Cathy & Jim Foy
5:00 John Sanchez Sr requested by Eda & Maura Howard

Sunday, January 14, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 Cornelius J Dunleavy requested by Loving Wife Anne
7:00 John Reynolds (living) Patty & Jerry Peters
9:00 Leona Demetillo requested by

Linda, Joe & Irene Savage & Family

9:00 Irene Costello requested by Susan Adamski
10:30 Gloria A Isaksen requested by The Matos Family
10:30 Helen Hurlman requested by Raymond Esguerra & Family
12:00 Michael Marchesano requested by Pat & Gerald Peters
12:00 Gerard McCormack requested by The Antonucci Family
5:00 Kenneth Hamilton Sr requested by Norma & Arthur Owen
5:00 Jack Sweeney requested by Cele Larkin

FROM THE DESK OF FR. MIKE

“...behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem. Saying, ‘Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.’”
 “They were amazed at seeing the star, and entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother...and did him homage.”

This wonderful story of the **Magi** coming from the east to honor the baby Jesus is one we celebrate every year during the Christmas Season. **The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord**, also known as “*Little Christmas* or “*Three Kings Day*” is the day we remember how Christ even as an infant was made manifest to the whole world as signified by these gentiles from several places coming to visit the newborn King of the Jews. Just imagine how surprised they were from the beginning of their quest, of seeing that wonderful strange star in the heavens (that was not seen before), a star which for them indicated that something of equal wonder was happening on earth! Imagine their surprise as the star moved before them and disappeared just as they were entering *Jerusalem*. They probably thought that at *Jerusalem* they would find what they were looking for- and naturally at Herod’s palace. Think of how taken aback they were to not find him in the palace nor any place else in David’s capital. But, after they left *Jerusalem* they were in for the greatest surprise ever, when they saw that star again and followed it as before to the place where it stopped. It did not stop at a palace or mansion, but before a humble house or as Luke tells us, a stable. Here they saw the newborn King of the Jews, no, correction, here they saw the newborn **King of Kings!** And what did they do? Did they run away or say how can this be or we made a wrong turn at *Albuquerque*? No, they were so caught up in the mystery and the surprise of God in their lives at that very moment that they seemed to fully understand. Granted none of those who witness their coming seemed to understand perhaps not even our dear Blessed Mother or our patron saint-Saint Joseph. Yet, the Magi understood and presented to the newborn the gifts they brought that were fit for an earthly king.

This time of the year has always seemed a time of joy and surprise, especially to the younger members of the Church, **but it should be that way for all of us.** So many people say Christmas and the Holidays are not as much fun and surprising when there are no children in the family, and while that does seem to be true, it shouldn’t be. If we look hard enough we can truly see the surprise of God always active in our lives. Today’s feast reminds us of how God can be seen in so many ways in our lives, if we are truly open to it. We must be like the Magi who did not reject what they saw at Bethlehem, but embraced Him and away knew their quest was successful and they had seen a great manifestation of God at work in the world for all people and generations. Better yet, we should follow the teaching of Jesus who tells us that the Kingdom of God belongs to



those who can see the world like little children-always ready for surprises and to see something new or to see more than what meets the eye. How are you at doing this, and when was the last time you saw the world or life through the eyes of one who is not afraid to embrace God’s surprises?

Today at the 12 Noon Mass we welcome back all of our children who were baptized here at St. Joseph’s

during the past year. We will have a special blessing for them and their families-fellowship to follow in *Carew Hall*. We thank all of the members of our **Baptismal Greeters Committee** for sponsoring this wonderful event and for all they do during the year to welcome people to our Sunday Baptisms and assist the priests and deacons in celebrating this most important sacrament. Also as a part of our Baptismal Ministry are those who gather together to make our **White Baptismal Bibs** that we give each child. **They work so hard and thanks to them they make the celebration not only special, but show their wonderful concern for the children and their families. Thank you, for all you do.** They and the greeters are always looking for people to help them. This could be a wonderful ministry for you to consider joining-especially if you can sew! Please call the rectory to find out more information.

As the end of this month we will celebrate Catholic Schools Week and it promises to be a great week. On the Sunday of this week we will have school families sharing their experience of our beautiful St. Joseph’s School and how it has benefited their children both their studies of things of this world and the world that is to come. We will have open house so you can come and tour the school and speak with our *Principal Mrs. Arpino* and members of the school community. If you have children or grandchildren from Nursery to 8th Grade and are looking for a great place to educate them then this is the place for you! Yes, going to Catholic School does cost more, but you get back so much more than you spend. Likewise, the Diocese of Rockville Centre has scholarships available under the Education Commission’s Tomorrow’s Hope Scholarships-call the school at (631) 588-4760 during school hours, for more information.

A very special thank you to all who helped decorate the Church for Advent and Christmas-they did a wonderful job.

God bless you always and Merry Christmas for the last time this Season

Fr. Mike

REMEMBER OUR SICK

Michelle Altonji	Lucy Amato
Florio Barello	Marie Behling
Rosemary Bello	Christine Biancrosia
Hazel Boyce	Mr Michael Boyle Sr
Cynthia Caesar	Ashley Cirigliano
Dylan Jack Cuevas	Joan DeCicco
Joseph DeMaio	Angelina DeSimone
Msgr Donald Desmond	Brian Devereux
Barbara DiGirolomo	Anthony Diubaldo
Marie Diubaldo	Mary Dougherty
Richard Fahey	Kathleen Farrell
Robert Filce	Flavio Gabrielli
Frances Gaeta	Frank Gaeta
Virginia Giommetti	John Gracey
Sonny Grosso	Catherine Hickey
Gregory Hionas	Eugene Hornef
Tom Horvath	Jack Kelleher
Cecelia Keller	Stephen Kelly
Georgiana Lopez	Marie Mangan
Donna R Martinez	Howard Meeks
Sam Monteleone	Christopher Owen
Susan Percoco	Sylvia Persico
Grace C Peshkur	Baby Rebecca Petrellese
Joseph Poirot	Joan Reilly
John Reynolds	Janet Rodgers
Joseph Sabourin	Louise Schaaf
Barbara Seibel-Schoenfeld	Anntonina Sturiano
Stacie Tizzard	Lloyd Turnier
Gerard Weber	

PLEASE NOTE: To keep our prayer list current, we will keep names on the sick list for **two months**. We ask families to return the bulletin cut-out to include names of those who are ill for another two months.

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

Please continue to remember them in your prayers.



CPL Deborah Alfieri	PFC Matthew Altonji
Tech SGT Louis Barletta	2LT Stephen Bartoszak
PFC Justin Browne	SGT Michael Bruno
CPL Glenn Clacher	SPC Thomas E. Corcoran
SGT Ryan Delaney	TSGT Timothy Dermody
LTCOL Kurt Diehl	SGT Stephen Gene DiGirolamo
LT John Kenneth DiNero	SSGT Tony Elliott
LT Kelly Fletcher	PFC Adam Franciosa
CPT Evan Gotkin	PVT2 Edward Johnston
SGT John W Keohane	SSGT Steven Knight
CPL Andrew Kochman	PVT Thomas B McGinn
SGT Patrick McNally	PFC William Meyer
SGT Glenn Miller	2LT Heather Miras
SGT Daniel Montville	SSGT Brian Moran
CPT Gregory Mueller	LCPL Thomas Napolitano
LCPL Michael Napolitano	Pvt Todd Nelson
LCPL James Neubauer	LCPL Anthony Notaroberta
PVT James Notaroberta	SGT Brian O'Leary
SGT Brian Pacella	N/Seal Paul Padro
ENS3 Lucy Padro	CPT Michael Parisi
2LT Anthony Parisi	MAJ Paul E Pinaud
CTR2 Matthew Pistritto	SGT Edwin Rivera, II
PFC William R Rodgers	LCPL Anthony M Sbrocco
SSGT Jason Schiavo	LCPL W.Mason Shehan
SPC James Stanek	SSGT Nick Vicale
SGT John Thomas Vogt	SGT Randolph Weaver
2LT John Wolven	

If you would like to include a soldier from your family who is serving, place their name and rank and branch of service on the cut -out and put it in the collection basket.

REMEMBERING THE SICK

Please include the following in the bulletin sick list:

Name of person who is ill:

Person making this request: _____ Relationship to ill person _____

Your Phone #: _____
(Please place in collection basket or return to Church Office)
(Friends can be placed on the silent prayer list only)

REMEMBERING OUR TROOPS

Please include the following soldier in your prayers :

Name, Rank and Branch of Service

Person making this request: _____ Relationship to Soldier _____

Your Phone #: _____
(Please place in collection basket or return to Church Office)
(Friends can be placed on the silent prayer list only)

REMEMBER OUR DEAD

Brian Faulkner, Ingeborg McLaughlin, Virginia Giommetti, for our deceased soldiers and all of our deceased relatives and friends.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.
May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen

Religious Education

reled@stjoronk.org

Monday & Thursday 9 am to 4 pm

Tuesday & Wednesday

10 am to 3:30 pm

The office is **closed** on Fridays.



Important Reminder for Level 2 and Sacrament

Readiness 2 – On January 9th, 10th and 11th, an important video on Reconciliation will be shown during your child's class time. Please bring your child to their class room and then come over to the auditorium.

Catechist Meeting on January 10th at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium.

Important Reminder for Level 2 and Sacrament

Readiness 2 – Reconciliation will be held on Tuesday at 7 pm on January 17 and on Saturday January 20th at 10:30 a.m. Please follow the schedule that you were given.

Baptisms

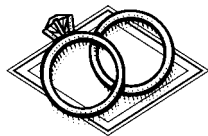
Lucy Eilish Visco

Banns of Marriage

(First Time)

Domenica Valenti of St Joseph's and
Jason Pring of Lake Ronkonkoma

Nicole Marie Compesi and
Peter David Mulea both of St Joseph's



St Joseph's School

school@stjoronk.org

A tremendous thank you to all the school and parish families for their generosity this Christmas season. We were able to help two families for a total of 9 people for the holidays. Our student council project "Bring a Bear if you Care" project totaled 196 bears to be distributed to the Suffolk County Police Department. We also sent a check to the Diocesan Respect Life office from the school children for their holiday fundraiser. It is truly our work that we do for each other that is so important in our lives as Christians.



On Thursday, January 4th we welcomed seven Korean Exchange Students into our school community. These students will be participating in our school day from January 4th until January 28th. They will also be living with five of our school families during this time. We are looking forward to a great experience for all students involved.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Our school will be celebrating Catholic School's Week from January 28 thru February 2, 2007. We will begin with an Open House on Sunday, January 28th from 10:00-1:00. Many wonderful things are going on and all are welcome to walk through and visit our school. If you have a school age child consider a Catholic Education, the most valuable gift you can give them!

Catholic Schools
Character. Compassion. Values.



We Are Listening

The St. Vincent de Paul Society exists to assist those in need. We can help those we know about. We hear of their need from people like you. Do you know of a parishioner in need of temporary assistance? Please call and let us know.



RESPECT LIFE

All pro-life people across the country are getting ready for the **34th Annual March For Life** which will take place in our nation's capital, Washington, DC, on Monday, January 22nd. Here in our little town a bus will take us and we will join with thousands of others who are determined to work, and march, until Roe v. Wade is repealed.

Here is what you can do, if you cannot get on the bus: first of all, pray for an end to abortion; second, send a rose message to a legislator—they will know that that rose message, the symbol of Respect Life, was sent by someone who believes that abortion is wrong, no two ways about it. There will be persons in the lobby of St. Joseph's before and after all the Masses on January 13th and 14th, the Saturday and Sunday a week before the March, to assist you in either signing up for the bus (\$15 holds your seat) and/or sending a "Say It With Roses" message to any member of the House or Senate, requesting strong support for Life principles.

If you can go to Washington on January 22nd, you can get information now about the buses and times, etc., by calling the L.I. Coalition for Life at 631-243-1435. All buses return the same day. More information about this to come.

March For Life activities are held in Washington because we know that public officials in our Executive, Judicial and Legislative branches of our Federal government can mold Pro-life public opinion and can stop the massacre of the innocents. Therefore, the March For Life Fund has planned a full program of (1) Convention, (2) "Say It With Roses" messages, (3) Rally on the Mall, (4) March For Life to the Supreme Court steps, (5) meet with your Representative and 2 Senators on Capitol Hill and (6) camaraderie at the Rose Dinner.

For more information about the events listed above, call 631-243-1435.

The Respect Life group from St. Joseph's will be meeting on Saturday morning at 9 am on January 13th, in Carew Hall; take the elevator down if you wish. We meet periodically to review our pro-life activities and we also discuss new ideas, regarding same. We welcome all, especially newcomers, and those with an active interest in how to change peoples' minds regarding abortion. Everyone is most welcome, and complimentary refreshments will be served.

St. Margaret of Scotland RCC, 81 College Road, Selden is having their annual Respect Life Breakfast on January 20th, following the 8 am Mass. The speaker will be James Krug, Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights President. His topic will be:

Eugenics and Abortion – How Planned Parenthood serves Margaret Sanger's vision to eliminate the 'unfit races and breeds'.

Call 631-698-1408 or 631-696-2995 for reservations. Cost is \$10 per person, \$5 for students. A full breakfast is served.

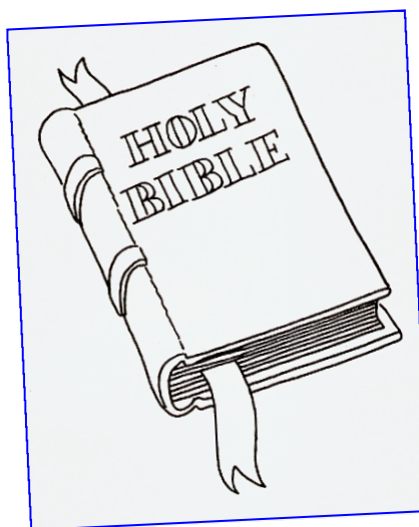
PREGNANCY CRISIS HOTLINE - We are here to help you. Please call 981-6888.

Weekly Offering

Sunday, December 31, 2006 Offerings	\$16,417
Same collection last year	14,796
Number of envelopes	476
Poor Box last weekend	\$366
Fuel Oil Collection YTD	\$7121
Same time last year 2005	7846
Christmas (to date)	\$53,297
Same Collection last year	50,204

Thank you for your generous response to the appeal for increased giving.

God Bless You Always, Fr Mike



*Wise
men
still
seek
Him*

Mark Your Calendars

Jan 7	Unity Sunday
Jan 7	Baptism of Jesus 12:00 Mass
Jan 10	Catechist Meeting 7:30-9 PM
Jan 12	Pre Cana 7:30-9:30 PM Carew Hall
Jan 13	St Regis Free Throw 8:30-11:30 Auditorium
Jan 16	Level 2 Reconciliation 7-8:30 PM
Jan 19	Pre Cana 7:30-9:30 PM Carew Hall
Jan 20	Level 2 Reconciliation 10:30-12 Noon
Jan 22	Level 1 Activity 4:00 & 6:30 PM
Jan 26	Pre Cana 7:30-9:30 PM Carew Hall
Jan 28	Catholic Schools Week Begins



Check Your
Calendar

The March for Life



Washington, D.C.
Monday, January 22, 2007

A bus will leave from St Joseph's Church for the one-day trip. Sign up for the bus will take place on Saturday, January 13th and Sunday, January 14th.

This is the 34th March for Life. Members of St Joseph Parish, St Regis Council Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes, and Court of St Joseph Catholic Daughters have attended the March for Life each of the past 33 years. Please plan to use this event to make your commitment to the sanctity of all human life. Be part of history in the making as you walk along Constitution Avenue in Washington, DC, up Capitol Hill to end in front of the Supreme Court Building. You will be marching with over 100,000 pro-life people including clergy and religious, men, women, college groups, teens, and families from all 50 states. This will be the experience of a lifetime.

Long Islanders will gather in front of the Capitol before the March for Life begins at the corner of 7th Street and Madison Drive across from the National Gallery of Art.

A Mass will be celebrated here at St Joseph's at 4:30AM Monday, January 22nd for those making the trip and for those wishing to offer the Mass for the success of the March.

For information call St Joseph Parish Respect Life Committee at 588-0168 or 724-8586.

“Children are the major richness and the most precious good of a family.”
~ Pope Benedict XVI

REMEMBERING FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES



Help Us Grow
the
Tree Of Life
At
St Joseph's

Throughout the ages, trees have symbolized life. The Tree of Life at St Joseph's represents our parish's commitment to life by providing for the spiritual, educational and social needs of our parish. The beautiful sculptures, leaves and stones render a tale of support, friendship, remembrance and dedication.

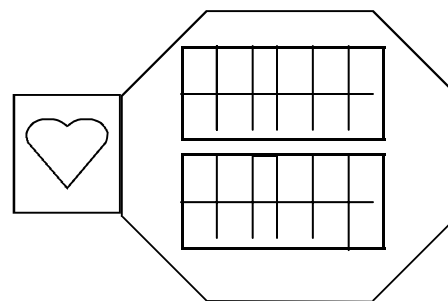
Occupying a prominent position in our Baptistry, and All Saints Shrine, the Tree of Life commemorates our support of St Joseph's Parish. Leaves and stones may be engraved to honor benefactors, highlight or memorialize people or events with special significance in life, or express the sentiments of donors.

The Leaves

Each inscribed leaf on The Tree of Life represents a gift of \$1,000 or more. Inscriptions may recognize a valued friend and supporter of St Joseph's Church, celebrate a significant event in your family, or memorialize a loved one.

The Stones

Each inscribed stone permanently recognizes a contribution of \$5,000 or more given by an individual benefactor, foundation or corporation.



Bricks For The Future

Bricks For the Future welcome our parishioners and friends alike as they enter St Joseph's Church each day. Some stop to read the inscriptions, others to say a prayer in memory. As we hear The Word proclaimed inside the Church building, outside on the step we are witnesses to that faith.

The growth of the Bricks for the Future program at St Joseph's Church through your gift, allows you to have a significant and meaningful part in developing and sharing our Community of faith and love in Jesus. Your contribution helps St Joseph sustain our parish plant and buildings to keep them from deteriorating now and in the future as major projects arise.

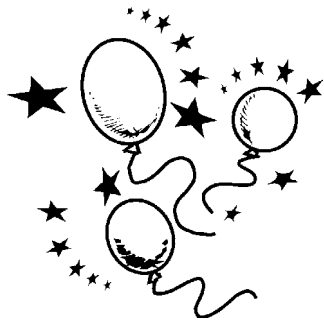
Your tax deductible gift gives you the opportunity to share with others those special persons and meaningful events that touch, shape and illuminate your life.

Each brick in the walk represents a gift of \$1,800. Brick inscription allows up to 4 rows of characters, symbols and spaces as shown above (approx 28). If you wish to have a special symbol (shamrock, cross, heart) on the tab of the brick, please contact the rectory.

	Single	Annual	Semi Annual	Quarterly	Monthly
Tree of Life Leaf	\$1000	\$334	\$167	\$84	\$28
Tree of Life Stone	\$5000	\$1667	\$834	\$417	\$139
Brick For the Future	\$1800	\$600	\$300	\$150	\$50

Name _____
Address _____
Town _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

Upon receipt of your down payment we will send you a form for the exact wording of the inscription. For your convenience we will mail you a statement according to your payment schedule.



The Calendar Club



DON'T MISS OUT ON ALL THE FUN !!!

THE WINNING IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!!

For Your Chance to Win Each Day for the Next Year

Everyday for the next year we will draw one number. The owner of that number will win the prize for that day. Then the number is put back into the mix for the next day's drawing, giving you yet another opportunity to WIN!!!!

A donation of only \$25 buys you 1 number and 362 chances to win.

A donation of \$100 will buy you 1,810 chances to win!!!!!!

Your donation must accompany this form. The calendars will be mailed to you when all returns are received. In order to kick off the drawing in January of 2007, we ask you to return your request as soon as possible but no later than 12/31/06. Thank you and Good Luck

MAIL ALL DONATIONS TO: St Joseph Church
45 CHURCH STREET
RONKONKOMA, NY 11779-3300

NOTE: If more than 1000 calendars are sold, prizes will be increased proportionately.

MEMBERS NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

NUMBER OF CALENDARS: _____ X \$25 = \$ _____

5 FOR \$100 TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

COME TO CELEBRATE WITH US THE **50TH ANNIVERSARY** OF THE
DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE



DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE to
Rome, Italy

November 4 - 12, 2007

Only \$2,146 from New York

Hosted by Bishop William Murphy, S.T.D., L.H.D

Bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure on behalf of Bishop Murphy to invite you to participate in the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Diocese of Rockville Centre by joining Bishop Murphy and myself on a pilgrimage to Rome, the eternal city so rich in Christian history and tradition.

This very special opportunity will provide a full week in Rome to celebrate our faith and to give thanks for the many blessings God has showered on our Diocese in the past fifty years.

Our pilgrimage will be centered on the four marks of the Church: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. During our seven days in Rome we will travel by comfortable coach buses to the four major basilicas. At St. Peter's Basilica we will learn more about the Church as one. At St. Mary Major we will deepen our appreciation of the Church as holy. At St. John Lateran, which is the Cathedral Church of the Diocese of Rome, we will see how the Church is catholic or universal.

And at St. Paul outside the Walls, which has the Popes pictured around the ceiling in the interior and a magnificent mosaic on the facade, we will explore the Church as apostolic. These four presentations will enrich our understanding of the Church as we celebrate the Church of the Diocese of Rockville Centre.

We will stay in a comfortable first class hotel near the Vatican. We have the privilege of participating in the Papal Audience on Wednesday, November 7th. We will also be present for the Papal Blessing by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI at noon on Sunday, November 11th.

Saint Agnes is the patroness of our Diocese and so we will celebrate Mass at the Church of Saint Agnes in the Piazza Navona in the center of Rome and we will visit the catacombs at St. Agnes outside the Walls on the Via Nomentana.

In addition to these wonderful opportunities we will have time to enjoy the great restaurants of Rome, both together and on our own. We will have the leisure to shop for those we left at home. And we will have free time to explore and to relax. It is a time to pray and to celebrate, to enjoy the company of friends and to thank God for the gift of our Catholic faith. We will return to New York on Monday, November 12th.

Will you join us? It promises to be a wonderful experience.

Sincerely,

Fr. Jim McNamara

Pilgrimage Details.... **Your Diocesan Pilgrimage Includes:**

Round-trip air from New York, JFK Airport to Rome

● 7 nights at 4-star [Hotel Cicerone](#) in Rome

● **Meals:**

7 Buffet breakfasts (at your hotel)

3 Dinners at local restaurants

2 Dinners with wine and music

1 "Farewell Lunch" with wine outside of Rome

● Transportation by air-conditioned motor coach

● Tour escort/manager throughout your stay

● Guided tours and admission fees as per itinerary

● Hotel taxes and service charges

● Papal Audience

● Mass daily

● Baggage handling

● [Flight bag & portfolio of all travel documents](#)

Your price does not include: Meals not listed above, Airport

taxes collected with final payment, but is subject to change until tickets are issued (approx \$250-\$290). Travel Insurance optional but strongly suggested at \$129 - \$169. Tips to your guide & driver (suggested \$6 per person per day). Items of a personal nature. **For more information call 631-361-4644**

Sample Day-by-Day Itinerary:

Day 1: Nov 4, Sunday New York - Italy Depart JFK for our overnight flights to Rome. Dinner and breakfast are served on board.

Day 2: Nov 5, Monday Arrive Rome Upon arrival your escort will warmly greet you this morning and welcome you to Italy. Transfer to your hotel and enjoy a free afternoon. Your tour escort can suggest sights or walks for you to enjoy. Mass at a nearby church. Following Mass enjoy a "Welcome Dinner" at a local restaurant with wine and music. Return to hotel for overnight.

Day 3: Nov 6, Tuesday St Mary Major & Ancient Rome After a relaxing breakfast at our hotel, we board our bus for Mass at Saint Mary Major. St. Mary Major is one of the oldest shrines dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, which contains a relic from the manger of the infant Jesus. At St. Mary Major, we will learn about one of the marks of the Church, the Church as holy. We will take an afternoon sightseeing tour of Ancient Rome, including the Forum and Coliseum, its real name was the Flavian Amphitheatre, after the emperors who built it in the first century after Christ. We will drive by the Forum and enter into the Coliseum. The last stop on our tour will be the Church of St. Peter in Chains, featuring Michelangelo's famous statue of Moses. Before dinner, you'll have some time at leisure, to explore your own paths, to shop, or just to sit in one of the outside cafes and watch the world go by. Dinner and overnight.

Day 4: Nov 7, Wednesday Mass at St. Peter's Basilica & Papal Audience at the Vatican Wake up in Eternal City, one of the greatest centers of Western Civilization and the first truly cosmopolitan city on earth! It is also the spiritual capital for all the Catholics around the world. Today is truly a day we will have in our minds for many years to come. This morning we will celebrate Mass early in St. Peter's Basilica where we will grow in knowledge of the Church as one. After breakfast we will go to Vatican City to attend the weekly Papal Audience given by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI. Following the audience, we will visit the largest church in Christendom, St. Peter's Basilica, (due to our hotel proximity to St. Peter's most of us have already visited). St. Peter's is built on the site where St. Peter was martyred. Unsurpassed in beauty, a monument to the long history of the Catholic Church, to which pilgrims come from around the world, St. Peter's is the grandest of the world's churches. Marvel at the Pieta and Bernini's amazing bronze canopy. After the Papal Audience enjoy a free afternoon for lunch, further exploration of St. Peter's, shopping, or rest. Dinner and overnight in Rome.

Day 5: Nov 8, Thursday FREE DAY Time at leisure, to explore on our own paths, to shop, or just to relax or take one of the optional day trips.

Day 6: Nov 9, Friday Vatican Museum, The Basilica of St. John in Lateran & The Catacombs of St. Callistus After breakfast we visit the Vatican Museums, where we see a group of most impressive edifices with hundreds of galleries filled with art treasures. See awe-inspiring relics and works of art donated throughout centuries as tributes of faith. We'll cover The Tapestry Gallery, The Raphael Rooms and the most overwhelming Sistine Chapel, Michelangelo's Masterpiece and restored mural of the Last Judgment. Following free time for lunch we continue on to the Basilica of St. John in Lateran, which is the Cathedral Church of the Diocese of Rome, and is the former residence of the popes, prior to their return to Rome in 1377. It is here that St. Francis persuaded Pope Innocent III to give permission to begin the Franciscan Order. We will celebrate Mass here on the actual feast of the dedication of St. John in Lateran Basilica and will explore the Church as catholic or universal. We will go to the Catacombs of St. Callistus on the Old Appian way followed by dinner at Cecilia Metella.

Day 7: Nov 10, Saturday St. Paul Outside the Walls & Catacombs of St. Agnes We will have the morning free to shop or visit favorite places we don't want to miss. In the afternoon we will board our coach to the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls which houses the remains of St. Paul the Apostle, affectionately known as the Apostle of the Gentiles. Here we celebrate Mass and hear a talk on the Church as apostolic. This afternoon we depart for the catacombs of St. Agnes outside the Walls on the Via Nomentana, where the early Christians hid themselves to escape persecution. You will be free for dinner to explore the many wonderful restaurants in Rome. Overnight at your hotel.

Day 8: Nov 11, Sunday Rome Saint Agnes is the patroness of our Diocese and so we will celebrate Mass at the Church of Saint Agnes in the Piazza Navona. At noon we will gather at St. Peter's Square, as thousands do every Sunday, to be present for the Papal Blessing by His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI. Following the Audience we will have a special lunch outside of Rome, in the area of Castelgandolfo, today's summer residence of the Pope. While on route we will drive by Albano, Genzano, Nemi, Rocca di Papa, Grottaferrata and Frascati, going along the Via dei Laghi. Return to Rome to pack and to say goodbye to this beautiful city.

Day 9: Nov 12, Monday Rome - USA Depart for our return flights to JFK. We fondly say, *Arrivederci Roma!*



Catholic Daughters Of The Americas



**Court St. Joseph No. 975
Ronkonkoma, New York**

Monthly meetings on Tuesdays at 7 P.M. at
St. Joseph's Parish except in January and July.

WHY BELONG?

To a National Catholic Women's Association

As women of faith and vision, we say,

WHY NOT BELONG?

We must broaden the scope of our responsibility!
We must have a share in the concerns of the whole world!

**THERE IS UNITY IN STRENGTH AND
STRENGTH IN NUMBERS!**

***We invite all Catholic Women,
age 18 and over, to join us.***

**For information call:
Catherine West, Court Regent, at 585-1719 or
Margaret Flood, Vice Regent, at 585-5352**

For the Young at Heart



**Youth
Worship
Service**

YOUTH IN MINISTRY

Every Sunday at 5:00 PM, St. Joseph's Parish offers a modern, upbeat, worship experience designed especially for youth and their families.

Everyone in grades 7-12 is invited to participate.

We're looking for: Lectors Ushers Musicians/Singers Altar Servers
Eucharistic Ministers (Eucharistic ministers must be over 18)

For more information about joining *Youth in Ministry*, contact YIM@StJoRonk.org

Venturing Events

Alternate Sundays in Carew Hall after 5:00 PM Mass

Pius XII Faith Discussion Groups

Share with your peers how our faith applies in your daily life. Usually on alternate Sundays. Next meetings 1/7 & 1/14

Join Us
Tonight!

Table Tennis Clinics

Learn to play "ping-pong" or improve your current skills.
Next meeting 1/7 & 1/14

Fr Renee will show
you how !

Plans in progress :

Karaoke Workshop

Karaoke is fun for everyone, even those who don't usually sing.

Auto Painting 101

Learn by doing – We'll paint one of the parish trucks.

CPR Course

Learn skills that could save a life.

Café Construction Project

Build new equipment for Café De Notre Dame, our Crew's contribution to the Family Festival.



E-mail: Crew272@StJoRonk.org
Phone: Advisor Mike Keller (631) 467-6468

*Christ was one child Who knew
more than His parents --
yet He obeyed them.*



Sport for all Seasons ST JOSEPH CYO

Travel Soccer:

Gene ☎ 467-0541

Intramural Soccer:

Beth ☎ 737-6299

Track

Karen ☎ 588-8636

Chairman: Henry

Baseball:

Gene ☎ 588-1879

Girls Basketball:

Christine ☎ 275-8321

Boys Basketball:

Frank ☎ 585-6921

Melchiona ☎ 467-6091



St Joseph's
Play Group



Calling all babies, toddlers and pre schoolers -

Come meet new friends at the St Joseph's Playgroup!

Bring your Mom, Dad, Grandparents or caregiver to Father Carew Hall on Thursday's at 9:30 AM. There you'll meet other St Joseph's families and spend an hour of fun with other children from birth to age 5. For more information please call Sally Miller at 737-5120. Hope to see you there!

Courtesy Announcements

Suffolk Catholic Singles Dance - Saturday night January 13th & 27th. At the Holiday Inn at MacArthur Airport from 9 PM to 12:30 AM. Admission is \$20 at the door and includes Band, DJ, Deli buffet, free snacks and raffle tickets. Neat casual attire. For ages 30's through 60's. For more info call Jerry at 516-520-9385.

St Vincent's Famous Model Train & Toy Show in Elmont on Sunday, January 14th from 10AM to 3:00 PM. For more information please call 516-352-2127.

Service of Prayer Around the Cross - at Holy Cross Parish on Old Nichols Road in Nesconset on January 22 at 7:30PM.

This prayer service is filled with peace and encouragement. It lasts less than one hour. Please call 265-2200 if you need directions. Everyone is welcome.

Catholic League Speaker - Saturday, January 20th at 8:30AM, James Krug, President of the LI Chapter of the Catholic League will speak on "Eugenics and Abortion" at the annual Respect Life Communion Breakfast at St Margaret of Scotland in Selden. Full breakfast \$10 Adults, \$5 Students. Call for reservations at 698-1408 or 696-2995. All are welcome.

Smithtown Central School District Adult Basic Education Program—Free Classes ! All Welcome! Learn English, Earn your GED (High School Equivalency Diploma, Prepare for Citizenship, Gain Basic Computer Skills (Seniors & ESL Students) & Receive Career Counseling! For more info call 382-2181 or www.smithtown.k12.ny.us

St John's Bohemian Singles - 55 & Up meets on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of every month in the lower level of our church. Coffee & cake is served. If you are interested in a very active group that offers a full calendar of social events every month. Please call Mary Ann at 563-8982. Admission is \$4.00. (St John Nepomocene Church)

Professional Therapy & Counseling provided by NYS licensed psychologists are available to our parish. You may be seen at any of the other 70 participating parishes. This program, under the direction of Dr George Giuliani, has been conducted in the diocese for the past 34 years for the convenience of parishioners. It is provided by the Catholic Counseling Center, a propriety professional corporation, which is independent of and not controlled or supervised by the parish or diocese. Most insurance policies are honored. For confidential information and appointment, call Dr Giuliani at 243-1550.

Pilgrimage to Sicily & Southern Italy; Spirit & Spirituality with St Joseph's College faculty members from May 31 to June 10, 2007. For a detailed brochure call Sister Grace at 654-0199 or e-mail growland@sjcnj.edu.

St Catherine of Sienna School in Franklin Square is celebrating it's 50th Anniversary. To mark this historic event they are inviting alumni and past faculty from all graduating classes to attend a grand reunion on Saturday, April 21st. For more information you can call Diane Shanahan at 1-800-424-3367 Ext 422 or email them at alumni@siennaspirit.org

Former Priests Residence of Holy Cross Church FOR SALE - 2 storey Colonial, 4 large BR, 2 1/2 baths, Eat in Kitchen, LR,DR,Den with new gas fireplace and Office. Newly painted and carpeted. Finished room/ closets in basement. Private treed property on Old Nichols Rd. Smithtown School District. Ideal for family with in - home business. Must see. Call Parish office at 631-265-2200.

We're Looking For...

BOX TOPS - from cereals for Educational purposes are always welcomed. Please drop them in the collection.

DEPOSIT BOTTLES AND CANS- Please place them in the baskets that are located on the school side of the Church on weekends or behind the rectory during the week.

CELL PHONES - Please bring your no longer used or needed cell phones and deposit them at the Scrip table in the Church lobby.

INKJET CARTRIDGES - Drop them off (in a plastic baggie) when you come to mass. We will send them to a company who reuses them and gives the parish a bounty for each. One note, to clear confusion, if it is larger than a fist, it is