Parish Office Hours
Monday Through Friday (effective January 2, 2009)
9am to Noon; 1:15 to 5:00 PM; 6:00 to 8:00 PM
Saturday - 9:00 AM to Noon, 1:00 to 5:00 PM
Sunday - 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Pray with the Parish
Rosary - Prayed daily after the 9 AM Mass
Liturgy of the Hours - Prayed at 8:40 AM (Monday to Friday) and 7:40 AM on Saturday
Eucharistic Adoration - Mondays (except holidays), 2:00 to 6:45 PM
Nocturnal Adoration & Devotion to the Sacred Heart - 7:30 to 8:30 PM on First Fridays.

Our Lady of Fatima Devotion
The 1st Saturday of each month will be devoted to Our Lady of Fatima. The devotion will include 8am Mass, Novena to Fatima / the Rosary, Confessions after Mass and fellowship in Carew Hall at 9am.

Our Lady came to Fatima with a message from God to every man, woman, and child of our century. Our Lady of Fatima promised that the whole world would be in peace, and that many souls would go to Heaven if Her requests were listened to and obeyed. Please join us in this devotion.

St Joseph's Parish Monthly Recollection
On the First Friday of every month, at 7:30 PM, we hold our Monthly Parish Recollection. This is an hour of prayer, of recollection before our Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament - whose Sacred Heart is the source of immense charity and generous love. The foundation of this prayer is God's presence in our souls as Creator, Preserver, and Author of Graces (“in Him we live, and move, and are” Acts 17:28). God is our Father, and our Friend and is our sweet Guest. We must acknowledge the realization of this great truth: God is in each of us, our soul is His Temple.

This prayer of recollection includes the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction, Praying of the Psalms, Silence, Gospel Reading and a Talk/Reflection on the following topics: The Cardinal Virtues of prudence, justice, temperance and fortitude. The Theological Virtues of faith, hope and love. The gifts of the Holy Spirit; wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.

Every soul, hungry & thirsty for God, is invited to this holy hour every First Friday of the month to adore, venerate & contemplate the Sacred Heart of Jesus, & to have a quiet dialogue with God.

Baptism
Celebrated most Sundays at 1:30pm. Please contact Parish Office when child is born to schedule Baptism Preparation requirements and date of Baptism.

Confirmation
A parish program building on foundation laid by the School and Religious Education Program. There is a separate program for any adult or teenager who has not yet been confirmed. Those interested should contact the Parish Office.

Marriage
Couples should contact the Parish Office to see one of the priests or deacons at least 6 months before the proposed wedding date, and before making any other arrangements. Both parties must complete marriage preparation programs before the marriage date. At least one of the parties must be registered in the parish.

Anointing of the Sick
This is a Sacrament for the living. A Catholic should receive this Sacrament if they are chronically ill, or are about to undergo surgery and hospitalization, or are suffering the effects of advanced age. We celebrate it during a Special Mass each Spring and Fall. Reception of the Sacrament at other times can be arranged by contacting the Parish Office.

Holy Orders
Anyone feeling called to the priesthood or religious life should feel free to contact one of the parish priests or deacons for guidance and direction.

Interested in becoming a Catholic?
Anyone interested in becoming a Catholic can contact the Parish Office for information about becoming part of the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.
OUR LITURGY

In today's first reading, Isaiah sends the message that God is doing something new and wonderful for the people of Israel. In the second reading, Paul assures the Corinthians that God is the one who has put his seal on the testimony Paul gives. In the Gospel, Jesus forgives the sins of a paralyzed man, then cures his infirmity, as well.

OUR PRIEST-CELEBRANTS

This Week

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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.

Are You A Registered Parishioner?

Many parishioners support St Joseph's in the weekly collection and we do not have them listed in our census. We would like to make sure you are given proper credit for your donations. **If you do not receive mail from us then you are not on our census.**

Please fill in the bottom of this page and we will send you a registration form.

Name:____________________________________________________________________
Address:_________________________________________________________________
Town:___________________________________________________________________
City & Zip:________________________________________________________________

Sunday, February 22, 2009

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 22

7:00  George J. Rab Jr. req. by Loving Family
7:00  Deceased Members of the Cooper Family req. by MaryAnn Drew
9:00  Joseph Onufriak req. by Loving Wife and Family
9:00  Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus & Columbiettes
10:30 Doris Vetra req. by Rosemary & Gerry McMenamin
10:30 Michael J. Dantone, Sr. req. by Robert & Nilda Ortiz
12:00 John Panella req. by Cathy and Norman West
12:00 Rachel Carucci
5:00 James Baker Jr. req. by Joseph Feleppa
5:00 Antoinette Isidora req. by John & Kara McCullagh

Monday, February 23

7:00  Diane Bergamino req. by Loving Family
7:00  People of the Parish
9:00  Jane Favale req. by The Whitehead Family
9:00  Jane Favale req. by Loving Family

Tuesday, February 24

7:00  Regina Gelormino req. by Russ McGillicuddy & Family
8:45  Patrick Michael Smith req. by Martin DeBobes
8:45  For the People of the Parish
7:30  Ash Tuesday Service

Wednesday, February 25 (Ash Wednesday)

7:00  Intentions of the Celebrant
9:00  Stephen J. Bauer Jr. req. by Loving Mother & Father
12:10 Ash Wednesday Prayer Service
5:00  Ash Wednesday Prayer Service
7:30  Ash Wednesday Prayer Service

Thursday, February 26

7:00  Harry Cadio req. by Martin DeBobes
9:00  Rose LaRosa req. by The Mai Family
9:00  Antoinette Nicoletti (LIVING) req. by Mary Ellen Nicoletti
12:00 Irene Vazquez req. by The Passenan Family

Friday, February 27

7:00  Carmen Cajigal req. by Loving Daughter
9:00  Jessica Milone req. by Loving Sister Josephine
9:00  Rocco DeFranco req. by Loving Family & Friends

Saturday, February 28

8:00  William J. Kelleher, Sr. req. by Loving Family
8:00  Police Officer Michael Melchiona req. by Loving Brother Henry

Anticipated Mass for Sunday, March 1

5:00  Lee & Dom Caccappola req. by Cathy & Jim Foy
5:00  James Gibson req. by Patricia Brozinsky

Sunday, March 1

7:00  Jozef Wolanski req. by Loving Wife
7:00  Robert Maiorca req. by Frank & Connie Mangiacapre
9:00  John W. Biglin req. by Loving Wife & Family
9:00  James Gibson req. by Patricia Brozinsky
10:30 Janet Pata req. by Janet & Cliff Biehl
10:30 Marie B. Schneider req. by Robert & Caroline DeMarco
12:00 Joseph Bonserio req. by The Dempsey Family
12:00 Rose & Tony Tantone req. by Frank & Mary Tantone
5:00  Douglas Batt req. by The Kolarik Family
5:00  Alice DiPrima req. by Mr. & Mrs. S. Fernandes & Family

Our Parishioners Support St Joseph's in the Weekly Collection and We Do Not Have Them Listed in Our Census. We Would Like to Make Sure You Are Given Proper Credit for Your Donations. **If You Do Not Receive Mail from Us Then You Are Not on Our Census.**

Please Fill in the Bottom of This Page and We Will Send You a Registration Form.

Name:____________________________________________________________________
Address:_________________________________________________________________
Town:___________________________________________________________________
City & Zip:________________________________________________________________

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.
"Which is easier to say...your sins are forgiven; or to say, Rise, pick up your mat and go home.'"

These words spoken by Jesus at Capernaum tell us so much more about our Lord’s earthly mission than one could ever imagine. We know and have heard so many times that the people 2000 years ago equated illness, injury, or chronic conditions with sin. The sin was committed either by the person or by some direct ancestor (like a parent or grandparent). We also know that Jesus, by His own words, did not believe this, but spoke about sin and illness in this way because the people did. Yet if Jesus does not believe that illness is caused by sin, why does He first tell the paralytic in today’s account that his sins were forgiven?

Again because the people believe in this connection, but on a deeper level He wanted to show them that His mission here was more than just performing miracles. For the Messiah did not come to earth just to cure the sick, cast out demons, turn water into wine, feed huge crowds with a few loaves and fish, and walk on the water. No, He came to reconcile humanity with God, to destroy the wall that stands between God and us: SIN! So, by equating illness with sin, in this one account, Jesus is telling us that sin does to the soul what injury and disease does to the body. Christ did not come just to heal the body but the soul and be the physician to those souls in need of a cure. When our bodies are sick or in pain, we find it difficult to function; so it is true when we are in a state of sin. Sin makes it hard for us to be what we want to be, and do what we want to do in our spiritual life and it does get in the way from having a meaningful relationship with the God who loves us so much. Sin gets in the way of everything and prevents us from seeing the good people we really are and the better people we truly can be. This is a situation God does not want for us, so by sending us His Son He takes matters into His own hands as we see in the words of the Prophet Isaiah:

“You burdened me with your sin, and wearied me with your crimes. It is I, I who wipes out, for my own sake, your sins I remember no more.”

As we enter into the Season of Lent this Wednesday, we might want to keep in mind the paralyzing effect of sin on us, how sin stands in our way from having a meaningful relationship with God, and how God does not want us to remain in a state of sin for they are a burden to Him. They are a burden to God, because they are a burden to us. To destroy this burden we let us use these 40 days ahead to their fullest. How 1st we must identify that which is really standing between yourself and God. 2nd ask God how to make the best of these days to get rid of whatever it is and to be truly ready to listen to God. And 3rd GET OUT OF GOD’S WAY and your own way too, so that God can wipe away your sins. If we do this, than we can really die to sin with Christ on Good Friday and rise with Him to new life on Easter.

Ashes will be blessed and distributed on Wednesday February 25th at 7 and 9 AM Mass, at 12:10 PM with a Prayer Service and also at Prayer Services at 5 PM and at 7:30 PM. Also on Tuesday Evening (Feb. 24th) we will have our very special Prayer Service of putting away the Green of Ordinary Time as we enter Lent also with the blessing and distributing of Ashes. This service will start at 7:30 PM but at 7 PM we will gather in the Church Lobby for Coffee and Hot Cross buns.

Also remember that starting Thursday Feb. 26th, until Wednesday April 8th (Wednesday of Holy Week) we will celebrate Mass at 12:10 PM. Also during this Holy Season we will have our Lenten Mission on March 23, 24, & 25th and the Stations of the Cross on Friday Evenings.

We close with the Opening Prayer for Ash Wednesday: Father in Heaven, the light of your truth bestows sight to darkness of sinful eyes. May this season of repentance bring us the blessing of your forgiveness and the gift of your light. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Happy Lent
Fr. Mike

Celebrating 100 Years of Service

The Mother Church of the Ronkonkomas
Remember Our Sick

Vincent Ahrem
Abigail Alvarado
Michael Ambrosio
Baby Luke James Infanzon
Anne Bannon
Oliver Bouchard
Mary Brennan
Virginia Buccellato
Danny Caggiano
Demio Castagna
Diane Cunningham
Kathy Cunningham
Debbie Daley
Grace DeBennette
Michael DePinto
Anthony DeVito
John Errico
Paul Felman
Robert Filce
Adam Franciosa
Joann Friederich
Raymond Harold
Deborah Heckman
Kyle Heffron
Gregory Heraghty
Rosemary Hughes
Jasper & Margaret InDelicato
Clinton Inniss
Connie Kalish
Cecelia Keller
Christian Kochler
Joann Lach
Kevin Latini
Patricia Lavarge

Cathy Lordi
Pasquale Lucivero
Agnes Lud wigson
Marie Mangan
Frederick Martinek
Anne Murtha
Joseph O'Connell
Joanara O'Donnell
Vito Orlando
Anthony Palladino
Joan Parenti
Grace C Peshkur
Jennifer Pizzurro
Nicole Ramaglia
Joseph Randazzo
Joan Reilly
John Reynolds
William Rotteck
Francis Rubenbauer
Brandon Saporito
Dawn Saporito
Patrick Schilt
Anna Schramm
Joseph Senia
Darryll Smith
Reno J. Staffa
Stacie Tizzard
Robert Torres
Lloyd Turnier
Joseph Vereline
Claire & Jim Watson
Bruce Wojno

Please note: To keep our prayer list current, we will keep names on the list for two months.

PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

SGT Deborah Alfieri
CPL Justin Aragones
LT Stephen Bartoszak
LCPL John Brown
LT COL James Cersosimo
SPC Thomas E. Corcoran
CPT Edward Cuevas
SGT Stephen DiGirolamo
CPL Joseph Espinzoza
SPC Adam Franciosa
CPT Evan Gotkin
AFC J.R. Kay
SGT John W Keohane
WO-1 Steven Knight
LCPL William Langdon
RCT Tiffany LiCausi
SGT Wade Lynch
PVT Thomas B McGinn
PFC William Meyer
CPO Gregory Migliore
LT Heather Miras
SPC John Monica
SSGT Brian Moran
LCPL Thomas Napolitano
PVT Todd Nelson
LCPL Anthony Notaroberta
SGT Brian Pacella
ENS5 Lucy Padro
CPT Michael Parisi
MAJ Paul E Pinaud
LT David A Rewkowski
LCPL William R Rodgers
SSGT Jason Schiavo
LCPL W.Mason Shehan
SPC James Stanek
EO3 Taylor Taranto
PFC Greg Terrish
SSGT Nick Vicale
LCPL Brandon Waldon
MSTR Robert Casey
ILT Richard Lutz II

SPC Matthew Altonji
TSGT Louis Barletta
LT Michael Jon Bonacorsa
PFC Justin Browne
CPL Glenn Clacher
SPC Jason Crawford
PFC John B Cuneo
TSGT Timothy Dermody
SSGT Tony Elliott
LT Kelly Fletcher
CPT Mark Gillman
LCPL RJ Hartmann
SAMN Jessica Kay
MAJ Sean P Kilkenny
CPL Andrew Kochman
SPC Christopher Leone
SPC Thomas J Lupo
MAJ Kevin McCue
SGT Patrick McNally
CPL Brian G Meyer
SGT Glenn Miller
SPC4 George Monica
SGT Daniel Montville
MAJ Gregory Mueller
LCPL Michael Napolitano
LCPL James Neubauer
PVT James Notaroberta
N/Seal Paul Padro
PFC Matthew Pandolfi
2LT Anthony Parisi
CTR2 Matthew Pistritto
SGT Edwin Rivera, II
LCPL Anthony M Sbrocco
CPL Brian Schildt
CPL Samantha Sickles
PVT Erica Sweeney
MM3 Gregory Taranto
CPL Jason Tulowitzki
SGT John Thomas Vogt
SGT Randolph Weaver
MAJ Jennifer Kochman-Gotkin

REMEMBERING OUR DEAD

Anthony Serafino, Alphonsus Barbato, Irene Vazquez
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.
St. Joseph’s School

Congratulations to St. Joseph School!
Catholic Schools Week was a great success.

Thank you to all who supported “Bring A Friend to Fun Night” on Friday, February 6th. Thank you to Mrs. Cappa and her committee, the evening was wonderful! All who attended had a great time.

Registration is open for the school year 2009-2010. Registration is ongoing; however as classes fill students will be placed on a waiting list.

Thank you to our Early Childhood and Intermediate Committees. The students in grades Nursery through grade 5 experienced an excellent workshop from a professional dental hygienist.

Please help support our Hershey Candy sales.

St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Church

The Religious Education Office was closed this past week (winter break) The office will be open on Monday February 23 and Tuesday February 24th. Staff members will be attending a conference February 25th and February 26th and support staff will be on vacation.

Religious Education
reled@stjoronk.org
981-1805
Office Hours are:
Monday through Thursday
10:00A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Office Hours are:
Monday through Thursday
10:00A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Ss Cyril & Methodius Parish

$20,200 Raffle

Ss Cyril & Methodius Parish in Deer Park is holding its annual raffle, early bird drawing on Sunday, March 29, 2009 and raffle on Saturday, May 30, 2009. Only 500 tickets sold. Prizes include: one $10,000, five $1,000 and ten $500. That’s a winner for every 31 tickets sold. Winners need not be present. $100 donation per raffle ticket. If you are interested, contact the Parish Center (631) 667-4044 or Dr. Tom O’Brien (631) 848-6211, and a ticket form will be mailed to you.

Tell them to say “Hi” to Fr. Lee and Fr. Gaeta.

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For the month of January we serviced 374 clients. Financial assistance amounted to $4740. Your continued support of the Outreach Program makes all of this possible. Thank you.

Outreach Ministry

sjpo@verizon.net

For the month of January we serviced 374 clients. Financial assistance amounted to $4740. Your continued support of the Outreach Program makes all of this possible. Thank you.

Bookrack News

We have just received an order of over 1000 pamphlets which will be available to you on our parish bookrack in the church vestibule. As space will not permit the display of all these pamphlets and children’s booklets simultaneously, we will begin with a diverse selection (which will include Lenten topics) and rotate titles in the weeks to come.

You are invited to come and browse. Should you choose to make a purchase, please deposit your money in the votive candle box.

Debbie Anne Carter
Linnea Isabela Gabetta
Jayden Joseph Huertas
Frankie William Zigon
RESPECT LIFE
Each year Catholics from across New York State gather in Albany as a united Catholic voice to speak with their Assembly and Senate members on important issues of concern.

This year that day will be Tuesday, March 10th. The issues identified by the bishops of NYS include opposing the radical abortion bill known as RHAPP, preserving Catholic schools, expanding access to health insurance, support for poor families, and defending marriage.

In preparation for March 10, there will be an issues briefing session on Thursday evening, March 5th at St. Matthew’s Parish, Dix Hills, Msgr. Brennan hall, 7:30-9:30 pm.

This briefing is required for all those going to Albany on the 10th.

Bring other Catholics with you to share this opportunity to learn about the Church’s position on the issues of our day, even if they cannot attend the day in Albany.

Please call Mary Robinson at 516-733-5804 to sign up for the briefing and Forum Day.

The NYS Catholic Conference Pro-Life Reporter of January 26, 2009 gives us this information: There is a quick and easy way to communicate with your elected officials about pro-life legislation. Log onto www.nyscatholic.org and go to the Action Center by clicking the “Take Action Now!” button. There are several pre-written letters to lawmakers on key issues available there (Action Alerts) which you may edit if you choose, then sign and e-mail directly to your lawmakers.

If you choose to compose your own letter about an issue that is not currently highlighted with an Action Alert, simply scroll down and click on “My Elected Officials.” You will need to enter your zip code in order to view your elected officials. Once there, click on the person you wish to contact, then click the tab “Contact” above the official’s photograph. Click on the official’s e-mail address and see the options you have to communicate, including “Compose your own letter.” Just take it from there.

If you don’t have access to the Internet, your voice can still be heard by elected officials. Now, more than ever, it is critical for pro-life New Yorkers to communicate their sentiments to their state lawmakers. All lawmakers need to hear from their constituents, both those who identify themselves as “pro-choice” and those who identify as “pro-life.” Please take some time to thank your pro-life elected officials, and to communicate your pro-life beliefs to “pro-choice” legislators.

Contact information: Gov. David Paterson, Executive Chamber, State Capitol, Albany NY 12224 and Hon.(your Assemblyperson) NYS Assembly, Legislative Office Bldg., Albany NY

USING SCRIP MAKES DOLLARS and SENSE!
Thank You for your increasing response to our scrip gift card program appeal. Please use parish-purchased gift cards for all your shopping needs. Not only will you take advantage of the gas-saving convenience of one-stop shopping here, at St. Joseph’s, but our church will benefit from the profit of selling the cards. This will help fill the budget gap noted each week in this bulletin.

God bless you for using your time, talent, and treasure to support the ministries of this parish.

Weekly Offering
Sunday, February 15, 2009 Offerings $15,029
Same collection last year 15,401
Poor Box last weekend $344

Fuel Collection $7,726
Same time last year 8,195

Weekly Budget Amount $18,125
YTD $435,000

Collection 15,029
YTD 407,241
Shortage -3,096
Shortfall -27,759

Snow Collection 2,208
Last Year 1,257

Church in need 09 1,419
08 985

If you missed last week, please make it up this week. Thank you.

Envelopes 537

Thank you and God Bless You Always, Fr Mike
More than 22,000 students receive their education from the 53 diocesan elementary and 3 diocesan high schools on Long Island. Besides a strong tradition of academic excellence, which for 99% of graduates includes pursuing a college degree, our schools foster a strong sense of Catholic values and a love for our religious heritage.

“Attending a diocesan high school taught me how to make the distinction between right and wrong. It became a lot easier to make those decisions and I think that in the future, the foundation that I’ve established here is going to help me affect the world positively.”

Paul (Class of 2008)

“Going to a diocesan high school enabled me to go on a mission trip to New Orleans that really changed the way I viewed things. It was the greatest experience I’ve ever had. You don’t need to build a house or do anything huge, just by listening and talking to people made such a difference in their lives and mine.”

Tom (Class of 2008)

“You can immediately appreciate the atmosphere of a diocesan high school: the earnest and vitality displayed by the faculty, coaches and students provides a welcoming atmosphere in which to learn, play sports and grow in faith.”

Alexandra (Class of 2008)

“My school has provided me with a spiritual foundation that will guide me when I go on to college and beyond.”

Chersey (Class of 2009)

This year because of your support, the Diocese of Rockville Centre was able to serve more than 500,000 people in the Long Island community.

100% of all money raised will go to support the five critical ministries of this year’s Appeal.
Mail in your application right away.

Assure your child a place on a team.

Do not delay... There's no time like TODAY!
Learn a great card game.  
Compete with 3 of your friends.  
WIN PRIZES!!
*We guarantee loads of fun and laughs!*

St. Regis Knights of Columbus  
3280 Pond Road  
Ronkonkoma, New York 11779  
March 21, 2009  
7:00 P.M. Sharp  
Call Rose Cardin:  631-981-0794

**Seating is limited, reserve your team’s spot today**

*We must have final total by March 11, 2009*

Remove and attach to your check or cash:

Make checks payable to St. Regis Columbiettes. Bring this to the March meeting!!  
Or you can return to Rose Cardin, 21 Windham Lane, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Name:____________________________________________________

How many will attend:_____________________________

Attached is $___________________

$10.00 per person  
$35.00 per table - 4 people
Calendar Club 2009

THE WINNERS ARE!!!

From FEBRUARY 15 through FEBRUARY 21, 2009

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<td>Laura Markowski</td>
<td>Richard &amp; Joanne Fahey</td>
<td>Mr &amp; Mrs Thomas Booras</td>
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2/22
Lucky Winner could be YOU!
$50

2/23
Lucky Winner could be YOU!
$25

2/24
Lucky Winner could be YOU!
$25

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Lucky Winner could be YOU!
$25

2/26
Lucky Winner could be YOU!
$25

2/27
Lucky Winner could be YOU!
$25

2/28
Lucky Winner could be YOU!
$25

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ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE CLUB?
The are still some memberships left in the 2009 Calendar Club.

EVERY DAY THERE’S A CHANCE YOU’LL WIN!
(except Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday)

Calendar Club 2009 Prizes

Weekdays* and Saturdays*---$25
(*no prize is awarded for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, or Holy Saturday)
Sundays----$50
larger prizes on the following special days...
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God---$50
St. Joseph's Day---$50
Easter Sunday---$200
April Fools Day---$50
Ascension Thursday---$50
Mothers Day---$75
Fathers Day---$75
Independence Day---$75
Feast of the Assumption of Mary---$75
All Saints Day---$75
Thanksgiving Day---$75
Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary---$75
Christmas Day---$200
New Years Eve---special drawing,
drawn from those who have not won throughout the year---$250

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR WINNERS! THERE ARE STILL MEMBERSHIPS LEFT! JOIN THE CLUB NOW!
Ash Wednesday - A Call to Conversion

On Tuesday, February 24th at 7 PM we will share Hot Cross Buns and fellowship followed by our very moving Prayer Service and distributing of Ashes at 7:30. The Eucharist will be celebrated on Ash Wednesday, February 25th, at 7 and 9 AM. Ashes will be distributed after the homily at each of these celebrations. Ashes will also be distributed at the Service of the Word at 12:10, 5 and 7:30 PM.

Rules of Fast and Abstinence

During the season of Lent the Church calls us to fast and abstain. The days of fast are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fast means that those between the ages of 18 and 59 limit themselves to one full meal and eat nothing between meals. The other meals on a fast day are light meals. All the Fridays of Lent, as well as Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, are also days of abstinence, which means that those 14 years of age and older are to abstain from eating meat.

Daily Mass—A Lenten Tradition

Monday through Friday 7AM, 9AM and 12:10 PM.  
Saturday at 8AM  
Sunday Masses remain the same at 5PM on Saturday, 7, 9 & 10:30 AM, 12 Noon and 5PM on Sunday.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Daily as we pray the “Our Father “ we petition our God to “forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.” These simple words recall the basic need that each of us has to experience forgiveness and to share it with others. As a faith community the Sacrament of Reconciliation has long served to seek forgiveness of God and to be reconciled with one another. Celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation provides us with an encounter with our Compassionate God. Lent is an especially opportune time to experience God’s mercy in this sacramental way.

The parish offers weekly celebrations of the sacrament each Monday, Wednesday & Friday after the 7 & 9 AM Masses and on Saturday after the 8AM Mass and from 4-4:45 PM.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be celebrated at the following times:  
Monday of Holy Week - April 6th - after the 7 & 9 AM masses , 4-5PM and 7-8:30PM  
Wednesday of Holy Week - April 8th - after the 7 & 9AM masses  
Holy Saturday - April 11th - 10-12 Noon for those unable to attend other services.
**Stations of the Cross**

Recalling the Passion of our Lord Jesus during the season of Lent has nourished Catholics from the earliest days of Christianity. One of the traditional ways in which we recall Jesus’ *Way of the Cross* is the praying of the *Stations of the Cross*. Join us for the Stations on each of the following Fridays: February 27, March 6,13,20,27, April 3,10.

**The Lenten Retreat**

Our Lenten Retreat is a time for spiritual renewal and growth and will be conducted by Fr. John Collins. Fr. Collins will be talking at all the Masses on March 21st and March 22nd. The retreat will begin on Monday, March 23, through Wednesday, March 25. We invite you to set aside this time of prayer. May the retreat be a truly meaningful experience for you.

**Lenten Feast Days**

Celebrate with us two of our favorite patron saints - St. Patrick & St. Joseph. There will be a St. Patrick’s Day Parade on Sunday, March 15th, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. March 14th we will be celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph with a dinner in Carew Hall following the 5PM Mass.

**Seven Last Words**

Good Friday is a time of deep recollection and prayer. For centuries Christians have prayed over the Passion of the Lord in many ways. As a parish community, on Good Friday at 12 Noon, our prayer service will be structured around “The Seven Last Words”, a very powerful and moving reflection presented by members of our parish family. Come pray with us.

**Palm Sunday**

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<th>Distribution of Palm at all Masses</th>
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<td>Saturday April 4th</td>
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<td>Sunday April 5th</td>
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**Holy Thursday**

*April 9th*

| 9:00  |
| Morning Prayer |
| 7:30 PM |
| Mass of the Lord’s Supper followed by Solemn Procession with the Blessed Sacrament to the Repository |
| 11:00 PM |
| Closing of Repository |

**Good Friday**

*April 10th*

| 9:00  |
| Morning Prayer |
| Noon |
| Reflection on the Seven Last Words |
| 3:00  |
| Commemoration of the Passion and Death of the Lord Jesus |
| 7:30PM |
| Stations of the Cross |

**Holy Saturday**

*April 11th*

| 9:00  |
| Morning Prayer and Blessing of Easter food |
| 10-12 Noon |
| Confessions for those unable to attend other services. |
| 7:30  |
| Easter Vigil Liturgy |
Parish Lenten Mission 2009

GOT QUESTIONS?

what good is God?  where am I going?
why don’t prayers work?
do I have to love everybody?
why do some people get the best of me?

Come explore these and other questions in a humorous, down-to-earth manner with Paulist Father John Collins.

Haven’t been to church recently? Don’t worry! All are welcome.

Three days of talks will be offered, in the morning and again in the evening (come to whichever time is most convenient).

An opportunity for questions and socializing will follow each talk.

Mark these dates and times on your calendar now!

Monday, March 23 — after the 9 AM Mass or at 7:30 PM
Tuesday, March 24 — after the 8:45 AM Mass or at 7:30 PM
Wednesday, March 25 — after the 9 AM Mass or at 7:30 PM

GIVE GOD A SECOND THOUGHT!
Dear God, source of all light and life,
We come before you to ask your blessing on our Parish Mission.
We differ from one another in many ways:
in ages, in interests, and in experiences.
Still we share in being called to serve you as members of your holy Church.

As we prepare for our Mission, fill our hearts with your grace,
so that we might be open to your message.
Heal our wounds, strengthen our commitments, rekindle our love,
and remind us of our worth in your eternal plan.

Individually we can do good works,
but encouraged by our parish family, and supported by their prayers,
we can be all you desire us to be.

In confidence we make our prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Paschal Candle Memorials

If you would like to memorialize the Paschal Candle for the upcoming year
please fill out and return this form with your donation of $100 to the Rectory.

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<th>Paschal Candle Memorial</th>
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Please include the Parish Mission Prayer in your daily prayer leading up to and including the days of the Parish Lenten Mission.
Joe Scotti is a young member of our parish who was a faithful Altar Server and is an Eagle Scout from our Troop 272. His Eagle Project was the addition of the NY State and Papal Flags and poles and the further development of our Flag and Veterans Memorial in front of the Rectory.

Make check payable to Waynesburg College with memo “Joseph Scotti”
**YOUTH IN MINISTRY**

Every Sunday at 5:00 PM, St. Joseph’s Parish offers an upbeat experience of celebrating Mass 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

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**CYO Sport Programs**

**REGISTRATION INFO/FORM FOR 2009 BASEBALL / SOCCER / TRACK ON PAGE 9**

**Baseball:**
- Intramural (Coed, ages 5-16): Gene 588-1879
- Travel * (Boys): Vinny 467-3651

**Basketball:**
- Girls Intramural / Lower Division: Debbie 467-6174
- Girls Intramural / Upper Division: Dave 981-5513
- Clinic Division (Coed Grades K-2): Henry 467-6091
- Boys Intramural (Grades 3-12): Henry 467-6091
- Travel* (Boys): Vinny 467-3651

**Track:**
- Boys & Girls, Grades K-8: Karen 588-8636 or Gina 676-6208

**Soccer**:
- Intramural Boys & Girls (ages 4-12): Joe 737-6299
- Travel (LIJSL): Tony B 737-5159

*Must register for the intramural program as well*

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**WE NEVER SAUSAGE A GREAT TURNOUT!**

Troop 272’s Pancake Breakfast was an overwhelming success. Our scouts are grateful to the parish for your generous support.

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**Cub Scout Pack 272**  
**Boy Scout Troop 272**

St. Joseph’s Cub Scout Pack 272 and Boy Scout Troop 272 have fun, exciting, educational, character building programs for boys, age 7 through 17 (first Grade and up).

For more information or to enroll your child, contact Dr. Louis Scotti at 656-8428 or e-mail JoinScouting@StJoRonk.org.

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**Venturing Events**

In Carew Hall after 5:00 PM Mass

Venturing is open to men and women age 14 through 20 who have graduated from 8th Grade. This year’s crew plan is jam packed with interesting and fun activities here at St. Joseph’s and "off-campus" as well.

Come down to our meeting and check it out.

Visit our next meetings —
- Sunday, March 8th
- Sunday, March 22nd

*Must register for the intramural program as well*

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**D.O.G.**

**DEPEND**

**On GOD**

My salvation and my honor depend on God;  
He is my mighty rock, my refuge.  
Psalm 62:7
St. Joseph R.C. School invites you to join us at the
15th Annual Dinner & Chinese Auction

Honoring Mrs. Janet Lamm

Wednesday, March 11, 2009
from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm
at The Watermill
Smithtown, NY

Ticket Price: $50.00
includes Hors D'oeuvres, Choice of Entree, Dessert,
Cash Bar, Soda, Coffee, Tea, & DJ

Featuring:
Grand Raffle Baskets,
Exclusive Grand Raffle Baskets
(for attending guests),
Regular Raffle Baskets, and Mega 50/50

Reservations must be received by March 4, 2009
Dear Parishioners,

This year St. Joseph School will be honoring Janet Lamm at the 15th Annual Dinner and Chinese Auction.

Mrs. Lamm is a long time resident of Lake Ronkonkoma and parishioner of St. Joseph R.C. Church. Her years in the parish have seen her confirmed at St. Joseph’s as well as memed. She has raised eight wonderful children in our community.

Her twenty-five years of work in the public school system as a Teacher’s Aide and work in the grammar school library has lead the way to her work, here, at the St. Joseph School Library. Mrs. Lamm volunteers two days a week in our library by helping to organize and catalogue our books. She works directly with our students and holds them all in high regard.

For the past six years, Mrs. Lamm has been an active member and currently an Officer, of the Catholic Daughters. The Catholic Daughters have assisted our Parish by raising money for our new roof, the installation of the elevator, donating Easter vestments for the Pastoral Staff, to name a few.

Finally, Mrs. Lamm has been involved with the Right to Life movement for over 15 years! She has supported our Parish’s involvement in many Right to Life actions and continues her involvement today.

We are blessed to have such a dedicated and giving woman in our Parish and community! Join us in showing her our appreciation and admiration for her long standing love of our faith, our children and our community!

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**15th Annual Dinner & Chinese Auction-Honoring Janet Lamm**

**Reservation Form**

Your response is requested by March 4, 2009

Reservations for ____________ guests, under the name of ____________

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**Tables are made up of 14 guests.**

If there are more than 5 guests in your party, please attach a list of additional guests with the above information.

Completed Reservation Form along with payment (payable to St. Joseph School) can be left at the Rectory, or, sent to: St. Joseph School, Attn: Ann Ambrosio, Treasurer, 25 Church St., Lk. Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

**---------EARLY BIRD SPECIAL-----------**

The first 10 Full tables of 14 will receive on sheet of 25 regular raffle basket tickets Free! (A $25.00 value!), Ticket price of $50.00 includes Hors d'oeuvres, Pasta, Salad, Choice of Entrée, Dessert, Coffee/Tea/Soda, and DJ
St. Joseph School's 15th Annual Dinner & Chinese Auction

Honoring Mrs. Janet Lamm

Wednesday, March 11, 2009 * The Watermill, Smithtown, NY

Previous winners have taken home a CASH prize amount of over $3000!

THE MORE TICKETS SOLD, THE BIGGER THE JACKPOT! WINNER NEED NOT ATTEND!

DONATION: $5.00/each or 5 for $20.00

Tickets can be purchased at the Rectory or by sending completed form below to:
St. Joseph School, Attn: Ann Akroto, Treasurer
25 Cheese Street, Lake Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Name:__________________________________________________________

Phone:________________________________________________________

Address:_______________________________________________________

# of Tickets:________ Amount Enclosed:___________________________(Please make checks payable to St. Joseph School)

Child’s Name & Grade: (St. Joseph School Only) _______________________

50/50 Raffle ticket stubs will be entered to win with the above contact information. The receipt stub will be mailed back to the above address as confirmation of your purchase. Winner will be drawn on March 11, 2009 and will be contacted by phone, if not in attendance.

If you have any questions, please contact the school at (631) 588-4760.
Come dine at OK Dokey
February 25th between
5:30-9:30 pm and 10% of
your check will go to
St. Joseph’s Church.

You must bring in a St. Joseph’s Church
Bulletin & present it to your server.

** Tax & gratuity not included
**Cannot be combined with any other special
**Charismatic Prayer Meeting** - at Our Lady of the Island Shrine the fourth Wednesday of each month from 7-9 PM. Praise, worship & teaching. Contact the Shrine at 631-325-0661 for info.

**Free Food for NY Seniors** - the FAN is offering free food for Seniors age 60 & over who are income eligible. New eligible include a single senior whose gross monthly income is $1,127 or less, & a senior couple whose gross monthly income is $1,517 or less. Call 631-491-4169 or 631-491-4156.

**Free Food for Those in Need** - The Commodity Supplemental Food Program/FAN (funded by USDA), NYS-DOH, and Administered by Catholic Charities) is offering free food for 6 to 12 months post-partum women, children from the age of 5 up to their sixth birthday, and seniors age 60 and over, who are income-eligible. The food package includes cheese, milk, starches, cereals, juices, canned fruits, vegetables, fish, meats and more. Income guidelines are **Gross Monthly Income for Single Senior** $1,127 or less and **Senior Couple** $1,517 or less. For further information please call (631) 491-4169 or (631) 491-4156.

**Meals-On-Wheels** - Lake Nutrition Meals-on-Wheels provides food to elderly & homebound Monday thru Friday, two meals a day. Hot meals & cold meals are available for a charge of $6 for both meals. Call 467-8948 for information.

**Professional Therapy** provided by NYS licensed therapists, are available to our parish & 80 other parishes. It is provided by the Catholic Counseling Center which is independent of & not controlled or supervised by the parish or diocese. Most insurance policies are honored. For information & appointment, call Dr. Giuliani at 243-2503.

**Help Wanted** - Accountant--Diocese of Rockville Centre seeks financial professionals to staff its Parish Services Dept., in providing accounting support to the parishes and schools throughout the Diocese. Must have direct work experience in performing account analyses, bank reconciliations, and financial reporting in a computerized environment. Public accounting experience and CPA a plus. Proficiency in Word and Excel required. Office of Human Resources, Diocese of Rockville Centre Fax (516) 678-9566, E-Mail: HR @ DRVC.org

**Bereavement Conference** - The 2009 Diocesan Bereavement Conference “Fill My Heart with Peace,” will be held on Sat., March 21st at Kellenberg Memorial High School, Uniondale, NY 8:30 AM—5:30 PM for the bereaved and those caring for them, sponsored by Catholic Cemeteries, Diocese of Rockville Centre. Brochures are available by calling (516) 334-7990 extension 120. Advance registration is required.

**Life Line Screening** - March 7th at Gold’s Gym, 700 Union Pkwy #1, Ronkonkoma. Offering 5 painless, noninvasive tests to detect risk for Stroke, Aneurysm, PAD, Osteoporosis & Atrial Fibrillation. $50 each. Pre register—800-407-4557.

**Hope House Ministries** – The Seventh Annual Endowment Fund Event. Wednesday, March 18th from 6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. at Villa Lombardi’s Catering Hall in Holbrook, NY. Outstanding honoree, Mrs. Barbara Pflieger Morin. Ticket price is $250 per person. For ticket, journal & sponsor information, please call Anne Frimmer at (516) 578-6326.

**Bishop McDonnell - Class of 1959**. We are having our 50th Anniversary Celebration on June 7, 2009 at Immaculate Conception Center in Douglaston. Call Helen Craig for details: 718-849-9413.

**Chinese Auction/Dinner Theatre Show** - Thursday, February 26, 2009 7:00 P.M.—11:00 P.M. at Villa Lombardi’s Catering Hall hosted by Gatelot Ave PTA. Over 175 Prizes to choose from, 10 Grand Prizes 50/50. Tickets $40.00 per person. Price includes 3 course dinner, dessert, coffee, tea & soda. For more information please call Dorothy Stallone at 648-0295 or 521-0649.

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In today’s Gospel, Jesus says: “...your sins are forgiven.” Indeed forgiving is a divine act of mercy. When we forgive others we are acting in and by God’s power. When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and forgiveness into our hearts and into our lives.

Tune in to “Religion and Rock” with Msgr. Jim Vlaun on Sunday from 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 on the East End of Long Island. Listen on Saturdays at 11:00 PM on Sirius Satellite Radio Channel 159, the Catholic Channel and at 11:00 PM on XM Satellite, Channel 117. You can visit us anytime to listen or download a show at www.religionandrock.com or at “Religion & Rock” on ITUNES.