

89 OVERLOOK DRIVE  
MASTIC BEACH, NY 11951  
PHONE: 631-281-5743

Roman Catholic  
Shrine Church of  
**St. Jude**

WWW.STJUDEMB.ORG  
RECTORY@STJUDEMB.ORG  
FAX: 631-395-5786

“To the Greater Glory of God and the Salvation of Souls.”



**Celebration of  
the Eucharist**

SATURDAY EVENINGS  
5:00pm Vigil Mass  
7:30pm Spanish Mass

SUNDAY  
8:00am English & Italian  
9:30am Children's Choir  
11:30am Adult Choir  
5:00pm Youth Mass

MONDAY, TUESDAY,  
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY  
9:00am Mass

WEDNESDAY  
9:00am Mass  
Noon Mass

SATURDAY  
8:30am Mass

HOLY DAYS AS  
ANNOUNCED.

## 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time - October 30th 2011

**Pastor**  
Rev. Gregory Yacyshyn

**In Residence**  
Msgr. John Heinlein

**Senior Priest**  
Rev. James Leone

**Parish Office  
Hours**

MONDAY, TUESDAY,  
THURSDAY, & FRIDAY  
9:00am-5:00pm

WEDNESDAYS  
9:00am-6:00pm

SATURDAYS  
CLOSED

SUNDAYS  
10:00am-2:00pm

CLOSED HOLIDAYS

**Deacons**  
Thomas Gillen  
Kenneth Geoghan  
Mark Herrmann  
Joseph Simeone

**Useful Numbers**

RECTORY  
281-5743

PARISH OUTREACH  
281-5634

RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION  
281-2835

YOUTH MINISTRY  
281-5743

NURSERY SCHOOL  
395-3959

QUEEN OF APOSTLES  
SCHOOL  
878-1033

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL  
219-3542

**Sacrament of  
Anointing of  
the Sick**  
Available in danger of  
death or whenever  
there is a personal  
need, call the rectory  
for an appointment.

**Sacrament  
of Penance/  
Confession**  
SATURDAYS  
Noon during Lent,  
4:00-4:45pm and by  
appointment  
WEDNESDAYS  
2:00-2:45pm and by  
appointment

**Parish Outreach**  
MON.-THURS.  
9:00am-1:00pm  
CLOSED  
FRI., SAT., SUN.,  
AND HOLIDAYS

**Sacrament of  
Marriage**  
Couples wishing to be  
married should contact  
the rectory at least one  
year in advance to meet  
with one of the priests  
to make wedding  
arrangements.  
Pre-Cana is required  
for all couples.

**Sacrament of  
Baptism**  
Celebrated on most  
Sundays throughout  
the year. Please contact  
the rectory to set up  
an appointment with  
a member of the staff  
to arrange for the  
Baptismal preparation  
session and to set a  
date for Baptism.

**Devotions**

MIRACULOUS MEDAL  
NOVENA  
Mondays after the  
9:00am Mass

ST. JUDE NOVENA  
Thursdays after the  
9:00am Mass

ADORATION OF THE  
BLESSED SACRAMENT  
Wednesdays  
12:30pm-1:00pm  
Benediction at 1:00pm

FIRST FRIDAY  
8:00pm-9:00pm  
Benediction at 9:00pm

THE HOLY ROSARY  
Monday through Friday  
at 8:30am; Saturdays at  
8:00am

## Masses for the Week

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2011

5:00pm Parishioners of Saint Jude

7:30pm David Anderson †

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2011

8:00am Rose Aquino †

9:30am Frances Strauss †

11:30am Enid Cook †

5:00pm Carol Murphy †

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2011

9:00am Jules DeCarlo †

4:00pm Fred Iozzino †

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011

7:30am Intentions of Sr. Benigna K., OSB

9:00am Parishioners of Saint Jude

12 Noon Paulo Marko Pacificador †

7:30pm Patrick Spagnoletti †

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011

9:00am All Souls Novena

10:30am All Souls Novena

12 Noon All Souls Novena

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011

9:00am All Souls Novena

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2011

9:00am All Souls Novena

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2011

8:30am All Souls Novena

5:00pm All Souls Novena

7:30pm All Souls Novena

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2011

8:00am Parishioners of Saint Jude

9:30am Intentions of the Signorelli Family

11:30am Laura Szumski †

5:00pm Arlette Cronin †

† Denotes Mass is for deceased

FOR THE SICK: Paul Bidegain, Janet Brandimarte, Francis X. Butler, Cecelia Cottone, Anthony Cuccia, Anthony DeLuco, Isabella Grace Dobbeck, Chuck Drake, Nicholas Ferrara, Anthony Fino, Christian Gallucci, Frank Gaeta, Nora Getchell, Deacon Thomas Gillen, Ann Giordano, Michelle Gonzalez, Joan Guarino, Catherine Hannon, Jon Hanson, Steve Herrbrandt, Jo, Richard & Matthew Kaminsky, Father Walter Kedjierski, Cookie Landau, Christine Leone, Katherine Lindsey, Carmine Linsalata, Julius Manchise, Joseph V. Mosca Jr., Joshua Mussi, Logan Murphy, Ronald Nappe, Frank Nitto, Miguel Oriana, Doris Ortiz, Joan & Jessica Passaro, Jackie Pastore, Gina Pisano, Salvatore Russo, Richard Rydzewski, Lucille Story, Joseph Stozzetto, Joseph Stozzetto Sr., Angelo Tafuro, Al Vanderbilt, Mary Vazzana

FOR THE MILITARY: John Abel, Matt Corica, Michael Cuervo, Kenneth Drumm, Jr., Daniel Edwards, Daniel Engo, Michael Hickey, Jeffrey Holmes, Steven Kay, Richard Kruger, Chris Manakides, John Maresca, Joe Occhineri, Anthony Ochoa Jr., Matthew Parenti, Rich Pinckney, Tory Pinckney, Gerard Posillico, John Redding, Jr., Eric Reilly, Vinnie Riveria, Randy Sanchez, Steven Schloesser, Don Skelton, Bobby Sosa, Derek Trabocchi, Timothy Weisner

## All Saints Day

All Saints Day is Tuesday, November 1st. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Vigil Mass is Monday, October 31st at 4PM. (\*\*note earlier Mass time because of Halloween\*\*)

All Saints Day Mass Schedule: 7:30AM(Latin), 9AM, 12 noon and 7:30PM.

## All Souls Day

Wednesday, November 2nd is All Souls Day. The names of those buried from our church since last All Souls Day will be placed at the foot of the altar. Please return your 'All Souls Novena Envelopes' in time to have your intentions remembered in the Novena Masses. Envelopes can be placed in the collection basket or dropped off at the rectory. All Souls Day Mass Schedule: 9AM, 10:30AM(Latin) and 12 noon.

## Faith Formation

**NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES:** On Monday, October 31st, the office will be open from 9–5:30PM.

**HOME STUDY:** are available for pick up during office hours.

## Lighthouse Catholic Media CD of the Week

**AMAZING ANGELS AND SUPER SAINTS – EPISODES 1 & 2 – CAT.CHAT:**

Cat.Chat is a Catholic Audio Show for kids ages 3-11 narrated by Moses the cat and his friends Hannah and Josh. Using stories, prayers, and catchy songs, these CDs teach about **guardian angels, St. Michael the Archangel, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Therese of Lisieux** and other saints. What a wonderful way to help your children learn and love their Catholic Faith, and possibly learn something new yourselves! Don't forget to look at the other titles and choose one for your own spiritual enrichment.

## St. Vincent de Paul

In the Gospel today, we hear the good news that when we keep our focus on God and serve one another, God exalts us! *This month, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist many families by helping with utility and rent bills, etc. Thank You!*

## First Friday Devotions

First Friday is November 4th. 'Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament' begins at 8PM, and concludes with Benediction at 9PM. We encourage all of our parishioners to participate in the 'Hour of Adoration'.

## First Saturday Devotions

The First Saturday of each month is especially dedicated to Our Blessed Mother. Please join in the praying of the Rosary and the First Saturday Devotion prayers, November 5th at 8AM, preceding the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 8:30AM.

## Knight of Columbus—C&B

The 'Knights of Columbus' will be selling C&B raffle tickets the weekend of November 5th & 6th outside the church after all Masses. Chances are \$1 each or a book of 14 for \$10. Funds raised are used to support many charitable causes throughout New York State. Thank you for your support.

## St. Jude Christmas Fair

Our annual St. Jude Christmas Fair raffle tickets will be on sale the weekend of November 12th & 13th and 19th & 20 after Mass. Consider purchasing a ticket to support our annual fundraiser and win a fabulous prize! **1st prize:** \$1,000 cash, **2nd prize:** \$300 cash, **3rd prize:** 'Gucci' sunglasses, 'Tommy Girl' gift set, and 'Kenneth Cole' clutch purse, **4th prize:** 'Pampered Chef' bake goods, **5th prize:** 'Gateway Playhouse Theater' 2 Tickets, **6th prize:** 'Lee Anne's Flower Shoppe' floral/candle table centerpiece and picture frame, **7th prize:** 'Oster' ice and shaving blender. Raffle tickets are priced at 3 for \$10. Winner need not be present at time of drawing. All drawings will be drawn at fair on Saturday, December 3rd. Thank you to all who have so generously donated baskets for our Chinese Auction. Donations of pies, cupcakes, cakes, and other baked items will be gratefully appreciated for our bake sale. Please contact the rectory if you are interested in baking for the fair. Thank you!



# ffertory

Following the Creed and the Prayer of the Faithful (referring to the baptized Catholics who could receive Holy Communion), the Liturgy of the Word/Mass of the Catechumens has come to an end, and the Liturgy of the Eucharist/Mass of the Faithful begins. The offertory is the rite by which the bread and wine—*and we*—are presented (offered) to God before they are consecrated; and the prayers and chant that accompany it. Our presence and conscious participation in the Offertory is the offering of ourselves to God and *our request* for Him to change us. It has been the contention of many theologians over the centuries, that if one misses the offertory, one has missed Mass, and so should not receive Holy Communion.

**HISTORY:** *The idea of this preparatory hallowing of the matter of the sacrifice by offering it to God is very old and forms an important element of every Christian liturgy. In the earliest period we have no evidence of anything but the bringing up of the bread and wine as they are wanted, before the Consecration prayer. Justin Martyr says: "Then bread and a cup of water and wine are brought to the president of the brethren". But soon the placing of the offering on the altar was accompanied by a prayer that God should accept these gifts, sanctify them, change them into the Body and Blood of his Son, and give us in return the grace of Communion. Ancient liturgical histories attest that "The deacons bring the gifts to the bishop at the altar..." and the bishop would then pray silently while a psalm was sung by the faithful. This silent prayer is undoubtedly an Offertory prayer. But a later modification in the East brought about one of the characteristic differences between Eastern and Roman liturgies. All Eastern (and the old Gallican) rites prepare the gifts before the Liturgy begins. This ceremony (proskomide) is especially elaborate in the Byzantine and its derived rites. It takes place on the credence table. The bread and wine are arranged, divided, incensed; and many prayers are said over them involving the idea of an offertory. The gifts are left there and are brought to the altar in solemn procession at the beginning of the Liturgy of the Faithful. This leaves no room for another offertory then. However, when they are placed on the altar prayers are said by the celebrant and a litaney by the deacon which repeat the offertory idea. Rome alone has kept the older custom of one offertory and of preparing the gifts when they are wanted at the beginning of the Mass of the Faithful. Originally at this moment the people brought up bread and wine which were received by the deacons and placed by them on the altar. (Excerpted from [The Catholic Encyclopedia](#)).*

The monetary collection is taken up, which supports and sustains the work of the Church. It is brought to the priest with the wine and the bread to be transformed, manifesting the sacrifice of God's people in and through Christ. (In former ages [and in still some places today], it was common for produce, eggs, chickens, goats, and other such fruits of the people's toil to be presented at the offertory. Thus became the practicality of the priest washing his hands as part of the ritual). The priest, standing at the altar, takes the paten with the bread and holds it slightly raised above the altar with both hands, saying in a low voice: **Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.**

Then he places the paten with the bread on the corporal.

If, however, the Offertory Chant is not sung, the Priest may speak these words aloud; at the end, the people may acclaim: **Blessed be God for ever.**

The Deacon, or the Priest, pours wine and a little water into the chalice (ancient peoples always mixed water with their wine, as no doubt our Lord did at the Last Supper Passover. Later the mixture was understood as a symbol of His two natures, human and divine, and/or of our union with Him) saying quietly: **By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity.**

The Priest then takes the chalice and holds it slightly raised above the altar with both hands, saying in a low voice: **Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, / for through your goodness we have received / the wine we offer you: / fruit of the vine and work of human hands, / it will become our spiritual drink.**

Then he places the chalice on the corporal. If, however, the Offertory Chant is not sung, the Priest may speak these words aloud; at the end, the people may acclaim: **Blessed be God for ever.**

After this, the Priest, bowing profoundly, says quietly: **With humble spirit and contrite heart / may we be accepted by you, O Lord, / and may our sacrifice in your sight this day / be pleasing to you, Lord God.**

If appropriate, he also incenses the offerings, the cross, and the altar. A deacon or other minister then incenses the priest and the people. Then the priest, standing at the side of the altar, washes his hands, saying quietly:

**Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity/and cleanse me from my sin.** (He prays especially for purity of mind and heart while offering the Most Holy Sacrifice).

Standing at the middle of the altar, facing the people, extending and then joining his hands, he says: **Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), / that my sacrifice and yours / may be acceptable to God, / the almighty Father.**

The people rise and reply: **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands/for the praise and glory of his name, /for our good / and the good of all his holy Church.**

Then the Priest, with hands extended, says the Prayer over the Offerings, at the end of which the people acclaim: **Amen.**

In Christ

Fr. Greg

## New Years Eve Party

New Years Eve tickets will go on sale at 3 locations beginning Thursday, November 3rd. The tickets can be purchased at 'Roma Funeral Home', 'St Jude Rectory', or via 'St Jude Website' through Paypal. The ticket cost is \$50 per person. However, if you purchase your ticket at one of the 3 locations on or before Thursday, December 1st, the cost per ticket is \$45. Table seating maximum is 8 people. If your planning to attend why not take advantage of the \$5 off by purchasing your tickets early. Details will be forthcoming for other dates of ticket sales and raffle chances after December 1st. The caterer is Mama Lisa and music by Bob Vecchio, DJ. The price includes food, DJ, wine, beer, soda, noisemakers and midnight champagne toast.

## Worldwide Marriage Encounter—Long Island

Join us on a 'Marriage Encounter Weekend'! If you would like greater depth, growth, and enrichment in your relationship you'll love what a 'Marriage Encounter Weekend' can do for you! Upcoming weekend November 4-6th registration is limited. For more information or to register call 1-866-499-6354. Please visit us at [www.wwmeli.org](http://www.wwmeli.org) or email Ron & Chris Morasse [ron@morassefamily.com](mailto:ron@morassefamily.com) for more information.

## St. John the Baptist Christmas Fair

'St. John the Baptist High School' located on Montauk Highway in West Islip will hold its 'Annual Christmas Fair' on Sunday, November 6th from 10AM-4PM. There will be great vendors, raffles, and food. Please join us! Any questions please contact Linda at 631-422-5150 or Susan at 631-661-2928. Vendors are also needed.

## Biology of the Theology of the Body

The 'Respect Life Office of the Diocese' invites you to a fascinating workshop designed to further one's understanding on the bio-chemistry of sex, the sexual revolution, and the science of attraction. Offered at 'St. Rosalie' in Hampton Bays, located at 31 Montauk Highway, on Tuesday, November 8th from 10AM-12PM and at 'St. Sylvester' in Medford located at 68 Ohio Avenue on Wednesday, November 9th from 1-3PM. This important study on sexual morality is perfect for teenagers and anyone considering having sex. To register go to <http://www.drvc.org/respectlife>

## Fall Open House

'Molloy College' hosts a 'Fall Open House' for prospective students and their guests. Sunday, November 13th at 1PM at 'Molloy College' in Rockville Centre. For more information please call 516-678-5000 ext. 6230.

## Columbiettes of James V. Kavanaugh Council #5293

Will be holding our 'First Annual Tea Party' on Friday, November 18th at 6PM located at the corner of Madison & Pawnee in Mastic. Admission is \$15. There will be many elegant baskets raffled off. Lottery Hat and 50/50! Proceeds from this event will support charities in the community, 'St. Jude Outreach & Food Pantry'. To reserve a table or buy a ticket, please call Janeth at 252-8759.

## The Nutcracker

On Friday, December 2nd, 'The American Dance Theatre of Long Island' presents *Clara's Dream, The Nutcracker* at the 'Patchogue Theatre for the Performing Arts' located at 71 Main Street in Patchogue. Show time is 10AM. To reserve seats call 631-472-3455.

## Outreach

We cannot thank all our generous donors enough for this past weekend and your over abundant food donations. It was very humbling to see our bare shelves being stocked 10 fold, similar to the parable of the loaves and fishes. Thank you to 'Mastic Sports Soccer' and their commissioner Frank Lombardo & Shirley Speruta who organized a food drive among all the teams in the league. We were busy stocking shelves for 4 hours due to the generosity of the league. Thank you to the 'Knights of Columbus & Columbiettes' for their generous donations and continuous support of Outreach. Thank you to all who donate in the poor box. All your donations go a long way. God bless you all for being active and giving members of your community. "Whatever you do for the least of my brothers, you do it for me". *Matthew 25:40*

## The Shrine of Our Lady of the Island

**HEALING MASS:** Fr. Michael Barry, SS.CC. will be having a Healing Mass on Monday, November 7th. We will start with the rosary at 7PM and Mass will be celebrated at 7:30PM. All are welcome. Please call 631-325-0661 if more information is needed.

**MARRIED DAY OF RECOLLECTION:** Sunday, November 13th, there will be a 'Day of Recollection' for married and engaged couples led by Fr. Pio Mandato and Sr. Theresa May at the 'Shrine of Our Lady of the Island'. Their talks will be on "God's Vision of Marriage" and it will start at 9AM with Mass celebrated at 10AM, after which the different conferences will be presented. Confessions will be heard, ending with Vespers and a renewal of marriage vows in 'Adoration Chapel'. Reservations are \$50 per couple. For additional information, please call 516-747-0365 or email [ladydalemarie@aol.com](mailto:ladydalemarie@aol.com).

**HEALING MASS:** The 'St. Joseph Prayer Center' is sponsoring a Healing Mass at the 'Shrine of Our Lady of the Island' on Saturday, November 19th celebrated by Fr. Joseph Whalen, M.S. and Fr. John Welch, M.S. Praise and Worship will start at 11AM and Mass will be celebrated at 11:30AM followed by the Healing Service, Exposition, Confessions and Benediction. Please call 'St. Joseph's Prayer Center' at 631-730-6210 for additional information.

**IF ONLY THEY LISTENED:** Immaculee Ilibagiza & Sean Bloomfield will be at the 'Shrine of Our Lady of the Island' on Sunday, November 20th at 2PM to present the film; "If Only They Listened." Immaculee is a survivor of the Rwandan massacre and will speak about forgiveness from the heart. Please call 631-325-0661 if you need additional information. There will be a free will offering.

"A man who governs his passions is master of his world.  
We must either command them or be enslaved by them.

It is better to be a hammer than an anvil."

—Saint Dominic de Guzman

## IRA Charitable Rollover: Now is Your Opportunity

You can make a gift from your 'Individual Retirement Account' to St. Jude before December 31st. You must be over 70 and use a traditional IRA. You will not have to report your gift as income—it will be income tax-free, and it will count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD). The best way for you to start is with your IRA custodian. Tell them you want to make a **"qualified charitable distribution"**. In most cases you will only have to fill out a simple form. Your gift must go directly from your IRA to St. Jude—tax-free. If you receive the money first, then you'll be taxed on it like any other distribution.

## Gift of Life

Join the 'Diocese of Rockville Centre' as we stand up for the 'Gift of Life' in Washington D.C. from January 22-23, 2012. March for Life with the 'Diocese of Rockville Centre Youth Ministry'! Quad Occupancy: \$182 per person\* at the Holiday Inn, Laurel, Maryland 11/14/11 \$50 deposit due per person, (non-refundable) On 1/9/12 the balance is due. 1 Free chaperone (21+) per 10 paid participants \*Upgrade to double: \$25pp (adults) \*Upgrade to single: \$50pp (adults). Itinerary: Day One: 6AM Departure for Washington, D.C. Lunch stop at Union Station (bring money for lunch) Full afternoon of touring Shrine, Arlington Cemetery and Pentagon Mall. Prayer gathering at night. Day Two: Brown bag to go Breakfast 6AM departure for 'MCI Center Rally Program' at the Center depart for March. At 2:30PM we will gather at 'St. Josephs Church.' 4:30PM we will depart back to Long Island. Space Is LIMITED! If you are interested, please contact Marianne Sheridan at msheridan@drvc.org or 516-678-5800, ext. 615.

## Respect Life Youth Contest

The 'Diocesan Respect Life Office' is excited to announce the '9th Annual Youth Respect Life Contest' for grades 7–8 Level 1, and grades 9–12 Level 2. We welcome all Catholic youngsters in the Rockville Centre Diocese to participate. Download your registration form at [www.drvc.org/respectlife](http://www.drvc.org/respectlife). The awards ceremony will be on March 22, 2012. All entries must be attached to the registration form, postmarked by January 27, 2012, and mailed to the 'Respect Life Office'. Please note the registration form must be signed

by a parent or guardian. Participation in the contest is through poetry, art (book mark design), essay, photography, music and video. All entries will be judged on originality and expression of thought in relation to our Catholic faith and the contest theme, **"I came so that all might have life and have it to the full"**. Respect life issues cover abortion, adoption, euthanasia, cloning, stem cell research, just war doctrine, death penalty, suicide, responsibility of Catholic politicians, reproductive technologies that include invitro-fertilization and embryo adoption, marriage, chastity, rights of the disabled and conscience protection for Catholic health care workers.

## Diocesan Pilgrimage to the 50th Eucharistic Congress in Dublin, Ireland

The 'Diocese of Rockville Centre' is sponsoring a pilgrimage to the '50th Eucharistic Congress' which will be held in Dublin, Ireland under the leadership of Bishop John C. Dunne, auxiliary Bishop of our Diocese. The dates are June 4-13th, 2012. Msgr. Jim McNamara, pastor at 'Holy Cross Church' in Nesconset, is coordinating the pilgrimage events. This pilgrimage is open to everyone. Our pilgrimage will begin with some touring in the western part of Ireland and will end with the first three days of the 'Eucharistic Congress'. Since Bishop Dunne's parents came from Castlebar, we are designing this pilgrimage around his family roots in the west of Ireland. This will enable us to visit some well-known sites (like the 'Cliffs of Moher' and 'Kylemore Abbey') but also to take advantage of local places of interest that will introduce us to the richness of Irish culture and heritage. Travel arrangements are being made through '206 Tours' in Hauppauge. If you wish to have a brochure sent to you, you can contact Eva at '206 Tours' at 631-361-4644 or [eva@206tours.com](mailto:eva@206tours.com). You can also access the brochure at [Pilgrimages.com/bishopdunne](http://Pilgrimages.com/bishopdunne).

## Mass Attendance

	SATURDAY		SUNDAY			Total	
	5pm	7:30	8am	9:30	11:30		
Oct. 2	276	145	197	290	365	150	1423
Oct. 9	354	130	201	317	395	170	1567
Oct. 16	341	150	201	316	495	180	1683
Oct. 23	326	172	195	325	540	202	1760

## Weekly Collections

Regular Collection Oct. 23rd	\$8,924.86
World Mission Sunday	\$2,538.00

## Catholic Ministries Appeal

2011 Goal	\$50,174.00
Total pledges a/o 10/26/11	\$59,414.08
# of Donors	200
Payments a/o 10/26/11	\$53,261.58

Thank you to all who have pledged.

## Scripture Readings

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31 2011 *Weekday*

ROM 11:29–36 • LK 14:12–14

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011 *All Saints*

RV 7:2–4, 9–14 • 1 JN 3:1–3 • MT 5:1–12A

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2011 *All Souls*

WIS 3:1–9 • ROM 5:5–11 OR 6:3–9 •

JN 6:37–40

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2011 *Weekday*

ROM 14:7–12 • LK 15:1–10

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2011 *Saint Charles*

*Borromeo, bishop* ROM 15:14–21 • LK 16:1–8

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2011 *Weekday*

ROM 16:3–9, 16, 22–27 • LK 16:9–15

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2011 *Thirty-second*

*Sunday in Ordinary Time* WIS 6:12–16 • 1 THES

4:13–18 OR 4:13–14 • MT 25:1–13

## Altar Bread and Wine

In loving memory of Sigmund & Alan Czak

Date available: December 12th

## Altar Flower Offering

In loving memory of Angelina Tamburrino

Dates available: November 12th & 13th,  
December 10th & 11th

## Baptisms

Christopher Brian Kraehling,

Alexandria Ann Shea, Gabriel Vincent Knoell

May God bless them and their families!

# Jesus' challenge to humble ourselves

It takes a lot to shock us these days. Long gone are the television shows with married couples in twin beds. It's hard to find a non-G-rated movie without profanity. Halloween costumes are skimpier and more grotesque every year. What used to startle us is now commonplace.

The same, unfortunately, can often be said about Jesus' words in the Gospels. How many times have we heard him say, "The greatest among you must be your servant. Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted"? These words, in their first-century Mediterranean context, were incredibly shocking. Jesus' contemporaries believed that prosperity and honor were signs of God's favor. To hear that God actually wanted us to humble ourselves upended all they believed. No wonder Jesus ended up in trouble with those in power.

But are Jesus' words simply the "same ole, same ole" for us?

When was the last time we were startled by Jesus' challenge to humble ourselves? No, we don't have phylacteries to widen or tassels to lengthen. Yet certainly we've sought unnecessary recognition when we felt we weren't being credited for our work. We've cut off others in traffic or pushed our way to the front of a line because we felt our time was more important than everyone else's. Instead of deeply listening to a friend, we've drawn the conversation back to our accomplishments and needs.

Perhaps it's time to let Jesus' words sink in more deeply—to let them shock us. Saint Paul reminds us today, "You received not a human word but...the word of God, which is now at work in you who believe." Let's invite Jesus to shake us up and allow his Word to work in our hearts.

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## What is Stewardship Really All About?

People sometimes speak of stewardship in the context of "the three t's": time, talent and treasure. Many of us grew up only hearing the word when someone was asking for money, so a wall of defense appears anytime we hear the word "stewardship". Perhaps it is time to consider this again, or for the first time, for what it really is, since stewardship is a deeply meaningful way of life. When the word "steward" is used in the Bible, it refers to one who cares for the vineyard, livestock, or property of another, nurturing it to yield with increase. When Jesus uses the word, he is helping his disciples (those who are learning his ways) to understand that our lives, our talents and abilities, our financial resources, everything we value, all is given to us by God in trust. God trusts that we will care for these gifts, but also something more; Jesus tells us that God's way of caring is sharing. God's way of sharing is in sacrifice. To "sacrifice" is to offer something of value to God, making it holy. We are called to take our talents and multiply them, to shine Christ's light brightly and to use our resources to care for one another. Jesus Himself is the model of such stewardship. He sacrifices Himself wholly and freely, never holding back.

## Building Stronger Catholic Elementary Schools

An ongoing series on the 'Strategic Plan for Catholic Elementary Schools' *Vision for the Future*. 'The Diocese of Rockville Centre' released a 'Strategic Plan for Catholic Elementary Education' on September 22nd, outlining the goals and actions that will provide a future for Catholic elementary schools on Long Island that is fiscally secure, academically excellent and fully engaged in promoting the Catholic faith and values. This plan may be accessed through the diocesan website, [www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org). "This Strategic Plan is about making schools stronger," said the Most Reverend William Murphy, bishop, 'Roman Catholic Diocese of Rockville Centre'. "It will help us to identify and take advantage of the many opportunities that lie ahead in order to provide Catholic education that is academically excellent and spiritually engaging as well as affordable and accessible." To accomplish this goal, he created the 'Bishop's Advisory Committee on Catholic Education' and charged it with examining the challenges facing our schools and providing a framework for overcoming them. For more than 18 months, the committee followed a thoughtful, inclusive process, seeking input from pastors, principals, teachers, parents, and business and community leaders. The Strategic Plan identified six important strategic elements that must be addressed to preserve and enhance our schools:

1. Strong Catholic Identity Educational Excellence
2. Effective Organization and Governance
3. Collaborative Leadership
4. Responsible Stewardship
5. Vibrant and Effective Communications

These six areas are critical to our efforts to create a future in which Catholic elementary education continues to thrive in the Diocese. Bishop Murphy said, "This Strategic Plan will make our schools stronger academically, stronger in terms of faith formation and stronger at preparing students to go out into the community as men and women of fine character who can make a difference." Mr. Brian Shea, chair, 'Bishop's Advisory Committee for Catholic Education' said the Strategic Plan presents a "practical and realistic way" for our Catholic schools to adapt to the challenges they face and "to create change for the better." The Strategic Plan is a positive, forward-looking framework for creating strong, vibrant, and sustainable schools. "I am optimistic about the future in both the short term and the long term," Mr. Shea said. In the coming weeks, we will provide more information about the Strategic Plan and our vision for the future of Catholic elementary schools in our Diocese. By working together—religious and laity, principals and teachers, parents and students—we can achieve our shared goal of creating a secure future for our schools.