

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.

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 12th 2012

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
12:00–12:45pm during
lent and 4:00–4:45pm
also 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, FEBRUARY 11, 2012

5:00pm Intentions of Bobby Vecchio

7:30pm John Weis †

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2012

8:00am William John Guiducci †

9:30am Elizabeth DeGiovine †

11:30am James Colbert †

5:00pm Parishioners of St. Jude

MONDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2012

9:00am Rosemarie Kosik †

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2012

9:00am Anne & Thomas Conneely †

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2012

9:00am Mary & Vito EuFemia †

12 Noon Saint Jude Guild:

Robert Dillon †

Alexander Zanderzuk †

Degna & Felix Scalzo †

Antoinette Angioli †

Sara LaFerrara †

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2012

9:00am Fred Kaucky †

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2012

9:00am Donald Carman †

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2012

8:30am Michael Mattera †

5:00pm Parishioners of St. Jude

7:30pm Caroline Huber †

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2012

8:00am Grace M. Kelly †

9:30am Victor Mendolia †

11:30am Michael S. Orsi †

5:00pm Ronald Lazzaro †

† Denotes Mass is for deceased

FOR THE SICK: Benjamin Archer, Faith Barile, Paul Bidegain, Janeth Billian, Jeanne Blevins, Janet Brandimarte, Francis X. Butler, Lewis Ciullo, Cathy Cremmens, Anthony Cuccia, Mary Theresa Cunningham, Michael Francis Cunningham, Natalie Danisi, Alexandra Ditman, Isabella Grace Dobbeck, Chuck Drake, Nicholas Ferrara, Anthony Fino, Carol Franzone, Christian Gallucci, Frank Gaeta, Bob Gamberale, Deacon Ken Geoghan, Nora Getchell, Ann Giordano, Michelle Gonzalez, Joan Guarino, Santo Giunta, Charlotte Hall, Catherine Hannon, Steve Herrbrandt, Jo, Richard & Matthew Kaminsky, Father Walter Kedjierski, Cookie Landau, Frances Lee, Christine Leone, Katherine Lindsey, Carmine Linsalata, Brian Loftus, Julius Manchise, Joseph V. Mosca Jr., Joan Muller, Ruth Muller, Ronald Nappe, Frank Nitto, Miguel Oriana, Doris Ortiz, Joan & Jessica Passaro, Jackie Pastore, Gina Pisano, Abdul Rattu, Karen Ratcliff, Aurora Riel, Salvatore Russo, Al & Farah Schacca, Lucille Story, Joseph Stozetto, Patricia Swenson, Angelo Tafuro, Joseph Thompson, Al Vanderbilt, Mary Vazzana

FOR THE DECEASED: Charles Brewer

FOR THE MILITARY: John Abel, Matt Corica, Joseph Competello, 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., Katherine M. Onorato, Matthew Parenti, Rich Pinckney, Tory Pinckney, Gerard Posillico, John Redding, Jr., Eric Reilly, Vinnie Riveria, Randy Sanchez, Steven Schloesser, Carl Seaman, Don Skelton, Bobby Sosa, Derek Trabocchi, Timothy Weisner

Important Lenten Information

SCHEDULE FOR ASH WEDNESDAY: Ashes will be distributed during the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on February 22nd, Ash Wednesday at 9AM, 12 noon, and 7:30PM. In addition to these Masses, ashes will be distributed during prayer service at 7:30AM, 4PM, and again at 5PM.

LENTEN REGULATIONS: All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth year are bound to abstain entirely from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent. All Catholics between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine inclusive are also bound to observe the law of fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food in between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be eaten during the day.

MORNING LAUDS: As has been the custom here at St. Jude, we will pray Morning Prayer (The Prayer of the Church) Monday through Friday at 8:15AM. We will begin on Thursday, February 23rd, followed by the Holy Rosary.

LENTEN STATIONS OF THE CROSS: The Way of the Cross each Friday evening during Lent at 8PM. Spanish Stations will be on Tuesdays at 7:30PM. Italian Stations will be on Wednesday at 7:30PM.

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION/PENANCE: Lent is a special time of grace in the life of the Church. It is a time when many people receive the grace to come back to the practice of the faith. It is also a time of ongoing conversion for each of us. The Sacrament of Confession/Penance is available each Saturday during Lent 12 noon–1PM and from 4PM–4:45PM and on Wednesdays from 2PM–2:45PM. We encourage you to make use of this sacrament. The Confession Schedule for Holy Week will be printed closer to that week. Please mention this opportunity to family and friends who may be looking for the opportunity to come home!

Faith Formation

MID-WINTER RECESS: There will be NO FAITH FORMATION CLASSES, February 18th–February 25th. Classes will resume on February 27th. The office will be closed February 20th. The office will be open February 21st–23rd from 9AM–5PM.

St. Vincent de Paul

In the Gospel today Jesus moved with pity touched the leper and healed him. Let us pray today for the grace to be generous with our gifts to help those who are suffering. By your gift to the ‘Society of St. Vincent de Paul’ you indeed put your faith into action as you bring healing to the poor, hungry and weeping.

SAVE THE DATE!: Friday, May 11th for the ‘St. Vincent de Paul’ fundraiser: BUNCO NIGHT! Plan for an evening of fun! More info will follow in future bulletins.

Lighthouse Catholic Media

After all the Masses this weekend, a representative from Lighthouse Catholic Media will be at the back of the church. CD bundles will be available at 4 for \$10 and Matthew Kelly’s book, *Rediscovering Catholicism*, will be available for \$5. These CDs and this book can help you with your Lenten commitment to learn more about your Catholic Faith and deepen your relationship with Christ.

Eagle Scout Project

As you may have noticed an outside podium has been completed off the path on the west side of the church. We are now asking ministries, parishioners, families and friends who may be interested in donating towards purchasing the St. Francis statue that Fr. Greg has chosen to be mounted on the completed podium. All donations can be placed in the regular collection basket, dropped-off or mailed to the rectory. Please be sure to indicate that your donation is for the ‘Eagle Scout Project-Statue’. Funds donated to the project are \$390.00 as of 2/8/12.

Altar Guild Members

To all members and any other persons who wish to help beautify the church in preparation for Lent and Easter, we will be meeting on Saturday, February 18th at 10AM in the church. Please remember to wear your cleaning clothes—all cleaning supplies will be provided.



Our Lady of Lourdes

In 1858 the Virgin Mary appeared to Bernadette Soubirous near Lourdes in France within the cave of Massabielle. Through this humble girl, Our Blessed Mother called sinners to conversion and enkindled with the Church a great zeal for prayers and charity, especially service to the sick and the poor. Many of us may have seen the famous Hollywood film starring Jennifer Jones as the young peasant Bernadette who, in doing God's will, would bring Our Lady's message of physical healing and spiritual conversion to the whole world; eventually entering the convent and dying at the age of 35 in 1879. The following is an early account of her experience:

"I had gone down one day with two other girls to the bank of the river Gave when suddenly I heard a kind of rustling sound. I turned my head toward the field by the side of the river but the trees seemed quite still and the noise was evidently not from them. Then I looked up and caught sight of the cave where I saw a lady wearing a lovely white dress with a bright belt. On top of each of her feet was a pale yellow rose, the same color as her rosary beads.

"At this I rubbed my eyes, thinking I was seeing things, and I put my hands into the fold of my dress where my rosary was. I wanted to make the sign of the cross but for the life of me I couldn't manage it and my hand just fell down. Then the lady made the sign of the cross herself and at the second attempt I managed to do the same, though my hands were trembling. Then I began to say the rosary while the lady let her beads slip through her fingers, without moving her lips. When I stopped saying the Hail Mary, she immediately vanished.

"I asked my two companions if they had noticed anything, but they said no. Of course they wanted to know what I was doing and I told them that I had seen a lady wearing a nice white dress, though I didn't know who she was. I told them not to say anything about it, and they said I was silly to have anything to do with it. I said they were wrong and I came back next Sunday, feeling myself drawn to the place...

"The third time I went the lady spoke to me and asked me to come every day for fifteen days. I said I would and then she said that she wanted me to tell the priests to build a chapel there. She also told me to drink from the stream. I went to the Gave, the only stream I could see. Then she made me realize she was not speaking of the Gave and she indicated a little trickle of water close-by. When I got to it I could only find a few drops, mostly mud. I cupped my hands to catch some liquid without success and then I started to scrape the ground. I managed to find a few drops of water but only at the fourth attempt was there sufficient for any kind of drink. The lady then vanished and I went back home.

"I went back each day for fifteen days and each time, except one Monday and one Friday, the lady appeared and told me to look for a stream and wash in it and to see the priests build a chapel there. I must also pray, she said, for the conversion of sinners. I asked her many times what she meant by that, but she only smiled. Finally with outstretched arms and eyes looking up to heaven she told me that she was the Immaculate Conception.

"During the fifteen days she told me three secrets but I was not to speak about them to anyone and so far I have not."

Lourdes, as we know, has become a great place of pilgrimage not only for those with physical ailments and those who assist them, but also for people who desire to thank God and our Lady for the gift of faith; and to pray as well for the conversion of loved ones who have fallen away from a life of virtue and the practice of our holy faith.

May we offer the prayer of the Holy Rosary often, and recommend to Our Blessed Lady of Lourdes the sick and suffering in need of our prayers, support and assistance; and may she help us by her prayers to be purified of our sins, and so give God the pleasing gift of our humble and contrite hearts.

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray to God for the conversion of sinners; pray for us!

**In Christ,
Fr. Greg**

Outreach—Thank you!

We would like to thank all who have donated food, warm coats, sheets, towels, blankets, toiletries and household goods. No matter how small your donations are, it makes a BIG difference in someone's life. Thank you to the 'Mastic Beach Property Owners Association'; their generous monetary donations help fill our shelves each week. Thank you to Maureen and Mario DiMeo who shop and deliver to us with a smile. You are what Outreach is all about! Our pantry is low on rice and rice mixes. Please consider picking up an extra one when you do your shopping.

AARP Tax Counseling

The Mastic/Moriches/Shirley Community Library is offering to seniors tax counselling on February 16th, 23rd, March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, & 29th, April 5th & 12th. Time available is from 10AM to 2PM you must register in advance please call 399-1511.

Young Adult Monthly Mass for February

Join the 'St. Rose of Lima' parish, along with the Young Adults of the 'Diocese of Rockville Centre', for a special Mass for Young Adults (18-40+). All are welcome, bring a friend. This Wednesday, February 15th from 7-10PM. Please arrive between 6:30PM and 7:30PM, during which time there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Lachlan Cameron and will begin promptly at 7:30PM. After Mass, we will be going out for casual food/fellowship. 'St. Rose of Lima' church is conveniently located on the south side of Merrick Rd. (aka Montauk Highway), approximately 2 miles east of 135/Seaford-Oyster Bay Expressway. There is plenty of parking; please enter the church via the doors facing the parking lot. If you have trouble finding the church immediately before Mass, please call the rectory at (516) 798-4992 (staffed until 9PM). To find out more about the 'Young Adults of the Diocese of Rockville Centre', and upcoming events, please visit their website at www.drvc.org/CYA.

Our Lady Queen of Apostles Regional Catholic School

BLIZZARD BUCKS SWEEPSTAKES: Grand prize: \$10,000, 2nd prize: \$2,000, 3rd prize: \$1,000, and 20 prizes of \$100. Raffle tickets are \$50 per chance. Limited to 600 tickets with 23 Guaranteed prizes. **GRAND PRIZE DRAWING MARCH 10th** in the 'St. John's Auditorium' at 3:00PM. Coffee Social Winners need not be present to win. All proceeds will benefit 'Our Lady Queen of Apostles'. Tickets will be available after Mass next weekend of February 18th & 19th. For more information please call 878-1033. Thank you, supporting 'Our Lady Queen of Apostles Regional Catholic School'.

Hospice Volunteers

Volunteers are a special gift to those overwhelmed with the responsibility of caring for someone who is at the end of life. Volunteers provide companionship to patients and respite to families. 'Visiting Nurse Service and Hospice of Suffolk, Inc.' is offering our community a 'Volunteer Training Program'. The program, which is held in East Northport, will run on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6-9PM starting February 21st and conclude on March 1st. Although the classes are held in our East Northport office, patients are located throughout Suffolk County, near your home. Pre-registration is required. For information, please contact Amanda Dubinsky, Volunteer Coordinator at 631-930-9340 or adubinsky@vnshs.org.

Lenten Fish Fry

St. Jude Parish is hosting the annual Lenten fish fry! Come feed your body and soul. Fridays during Lent beginning February 24th and ending March 30th, the week before Good Friday. There is plenty of time to enjoy your meal and afterwards join us for the Stations of the Cross at 8PM in the church. Dinner includes: Fish fillet, french fries, coleslaw, roll dessert and soda (or bring a drink of your choice) for just \$8 per person. The fish fry will be held in the parish center hall from 5-7:30PM.

Catholic Health Services

HEALTHY SUNDAYS: Offers education and information for your health and well being. **FREE FLU IMMUNIZATION** at 'St. John the Evangelist Parish' located at 25 Ocean Avenue in Center Moriches. on Saturday, February 25th from 6PM to 8PM (before the Mass). Refreshments will be served. For further information call Father Freddy Lozano 631-569-4657 or Luz Puello, CHSLI 631-465-6304.

Catholics African Ancestry THE 31ST ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING will be celebrated on Saturday, February 25th at 2PM at 'St. Agnes Cathedral,' located at 29 Quealy Place in Rockville Centre.

Seminary of Immaculate Conception

Sunday, March 25th at 3PM N.T. Wright Professor of New Testament and Early Christianity at the 'University of St. Andrews' will be speaking about "*How God Became King: Why we've all misunderstood the Gospels*". For further information, contact the 'Seminary of the Immaculate Conception' located at 440 West Neck Road in Huntington. Call 423-0483 ext 112 for more information. Free will offering.

Divorced/Separated/Widowed?

Find help for the heartache of divorce, separation, and widowhood. A weekend away for a lifetime of change. The next weekend is March 2-4th at the 'Monfort Spiritual Center' in Bay Shore. For more information and reservations, call John at 516-822-0635. You can also email us at beginningexperienceli@hotmail.com.

Irish Night Dance

The 'Dominican Sisters of Amityville' will be hosting their annual 'Irish Night Dance' for the benefit of their senior sisters on Saturday, March 3rd at 'St. Bridgid's School' in Westbury. The evening will begin with a Mass for "Peace in the World" at 7PM followed by a truly Grand Irish Celebration including Step Dancers, Bagpipers and music by the 'Celtic Connection Band' at 8PM. Back by popular demand is a traditional hot Irish dinner. For more information or to purchase tickets for this fun evening (\$40 per person) please call the Committee at the 'Dominican Sisters Development Office' 631-842-6000 ext 238 or contact S. Patricia Koehler, O.P., Irish Night Chairperson for ticket form pkoebler@aol.com.

“Our Redeemer, ever present in the most Blessed Sacrament, extends His hand to everyone. He opens His heart and says, ‘Come to Me, all of You.’”
—Saint Raphael Kalinowski

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2012

The Catholic Ministries Appeal has begun in our Parish and across the Diocese. The Catholic Ministries Appeal is the yearly appeal that helps our diocese fund many ministries, services and agencies in the 133 parishes across Long Island. We realize that everyone's financial situation is different. Discuss with your family and prayerfully reflect upon the graces that God has bestowed on you and your loved ones. The decision you make is between you and God, and through prayer and reflection, you will come to a meaningful response. Parish Goal for 2011 was \$50,174.00. Our Parish reached our goal and received a 20% parish share of \$10,034.80. Monies pledged and received over goal was \$7,115.00, and we received an 80% parish share of \$5,692.00. The total parish share received for 2011 was \$15,726.80. Our parish Goal for 2012 is \$56,200.00. If we reach our parish goal, St. Jude will receive a parish share of 20% totaling \$11,240.00. For any money pledged and received over goal the parish receives a share of 80%. On the pledge card there is an payment option for (4 months or 10 months) which you can make a pledge or pay online, if you would like to make a credit card payment now, please call 516-379-5210 ext. 213, and speak to Maggie.



“Blessed Are You” Bereavement Conference

Sponsored by ‘Catholic Cemeteries’ and the ‘Office of Faith Formation’ in the ‘Diocese of Rockville Centre’. For the bereaved and those ministering to them. All faiths welcome! On Saturday, March 17th from 8:30AM–5:30PM at ‘Kellenberg Memorial High School’ in Uniondale. The ‘Bereavement Conference’ is designed for anyone who has experienced loss and for those who minister to the bereaved. A keynote speaker and multiple workshops are offered in specific loss, traumatic loss, spirituality and support and workshops for facilitators. Download a listing of workshops or register online and save. “...Blessed are they who mourn for they shall be comforted” (MT5:4). For more information go to <http://www.drvc-faith.org/bereavement.html>.

St. Jude Easter Fair

This year's Easter Fair is Saturday, March 31st. In past years, our parishioners have been extremely generous with our requests for donations for our fair raffles. We are looking for donations of fully assembled baskets ready to raffle off at the ‘St. Jude Easter Fair’. We do have some baskets if needed to get you started. Please let us know if you can help by calling the rectory. Fully assembled baskets shall be turned in by Friday, March 2nd. Thank you for your continued support and generosity. Value for donated baskets should range from \$5 to \$50.

Residential Openings

‘Catholic Charities’ still has vacancies in a few of our facilities. ‘**Mary’s Manor Enriched Housing**’ in Inwood for the frail elderly 65 or older. It is in the style of assisted living as we provide meals and home health aide assistance. ‘**St. Anne’s Gardens**’ in Brentwood consists of rental apartments for independent seniors, 60 or older. ‘**Thea Bowman Residence**’ in Amityville, is for independent living, physically disabled individuals and families. For an application, call Stanan Management at 516-486-1000. For more information call ‘Catholic Charities Housing Department’ at 516-733-7076.

St. Joseph’s College—Pilgrimage

The ‘Spirit and Spirituality of Spain & Portugal’ (10days) departing May 23rd for “Medieval Monasteries, Gothic Cathedrals and the Basilica at Fatima.” Travel with ‘St. Joseph’s College’ faculty member Sister Grace Rowland, CSJ. For a detailed brochure call Sister Grace at 631-654-0199 or email growland@sjcny.edu.

Mass Attendance

	SATURDAY		SUNDAY		5pm	Total	
	5pm	7:30	8am	9:30			11:30
Jan. 15	478	161	188	368	580	180	1955
Jan. 22	192	120	156	278	500	170	1716
Jan. 29	367	175	208	379	600	190	1919
Feb. 5	332	189	221	372	590	160	1864

Weekly Collections

February 5th \$9,950.41
Church in Need \$2,845.00

Catholic Ministries Appeal

2012 Goal \$56,200.00
Pledges a/o 2/8/12 \$4,465.00
of Donors 23
Payments a/o 2/8/12 \$2,440.00

Thank you to all who have pledged.

Scripture Readings

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012 *Weekday*

JAS 1:1–11 / MK 8:11–13

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2012 *Saints Cyril, monk, and Methodius, bishop*

JAS 1:12–18 / MK 8:14–21

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2012 *Weekday*

JAS 1:19–27 / MK 8:22–26

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2012 *Weekday*

JAS 2:1–9 / MK 8:27–33

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2012 *Weekday*

JAS 2:14–24, 26 / MK 8:34–9:1

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2012 *Weekday*

JAS 3:1–10 / MK 9:2–13

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2012 *Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

IS 43:18–19, 21–22, 24B–25 / 2 COR 1:18–22 / MK 2:1–12

Altar Bread and Wine

The altar bread and wine for the week of February 13th have been donated:

In memory of Natalie Martinelli

Dates are available for weeks of

March 19th and April 2nd, 16th, & 23rd

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers for the weekend of February 11th & 12th have been donated:

In memory of William John Guiducci

Wedding Banns

II Sean Peter Penfold/Melissa Ann Dugan
I Daniel Repperger/Kristina Olivo

Baptisms

Melanie Isabella Alfaro,
Dayrin Nayeli Ortez-Gonzalez
May God bless them and their families!

Best Poem In the World

I was shocked, confused, bewildered
As I entered Heaven's door,
Not by the beauty of it all,
Nor the lights or its decor.

But it was the folks in Heaven
Who made me sputter and gasp--
The thieves, the liars, the sinners,
The alcoholics and the trash.

There stood the kid from seventh grade
Who swiped my lunch money twice.
Next to him was my old neighbor
Who never said anything nice.

Bob, who I always thought
Was rotting away in hell,
Was sitting pretty on cloudnine,
Looking incredibly well.

I nudged Jesus, 'What's the deal?
I would love to hear Your take.
How'd all these sinners get up here?
God must've made a mistake.

'And why is everyone so quiet,
So somber - give me a clue.'
'Hush, child,' He said,
'they're all in shock.

No one thought they'd be seeing you.'

JUDGE NOT!!

Remember... Just going to church doesn't
make you a Christian any more than
standing in your garage makes you a car.

Every saint has a PAST...
Every sinner has a FUTURE!

Prayer is powerful, and prayer is one of the best gifts we receive. There is no cost but a lot of rewards. Let's continue to pray for one another.

A Prayer For You

Father, I ask You to bless my friends, relatives and those that I care deeply for, who are reading this right now.

Show them a new revelation of Your love and power.

Holy Spirit, I ask You to minister to their spirit at this very moment.

Where there is pain, give them Your peace and mercy.

Where there is self-doubt, release a renewed confidence through Your grace.

Where there is need, I ask you to fulfill their needs.

Bless their homes, families, finances, their goings and their comings.

Amen.

“Earthly riches are like the reed. Its roots are sunk in the swamp, and its exterior is fair to behold; but inside it is hollow. If a man leans on such a reed, it will snap off and pierce his soul.” —St. Anthony of Padua

“Unclean! Unclean!”

That's what lepers in the ancient Middle East called out when anyone came near them. They were required to alert others to their disease so they wouldn't physically or ritually contaminate another person.

Can you imagine having to declare out loud what is wrong with you every time someone approached? It would be difficult enough to have to shout, “Common cold!”

“Bladder infection!”
“Schizophrenia!” But what if we also had to declare our moral failings to everyone we met? “Compulsive liar!” “Self-centered!” “Refuses to forgive!” “Judgmental!” Talk about an isolating experience.

This is what makes Jesus' actions in the Gospel so remarkable. The original Greek translation of the phrase “moved with pity” indicates that Jesus was riveted in his soul by this man's condition and his plea. Jesus touched the man, despite all rules

to the contrary, and healing occurred. He reached through all the barriers, the boundaries, the uncleanness, and loved this man for the person he was—beyond all that was wrong with

him. Jesus does this for us too—he sees beyond our sin, beyond our selfishness, beyond our patterns of bad behavior. He loves us for who we are at our very core, made in God's own image. So the challenge for us is to do the same. Saint Paul impels us to be imitators of Christ.

Though our first instinct may be to see the sinfulness of others, the irritations of family members, and the faults of coworkers, we must look beyond the failings and see

with the eyes of Christ. We must touch with Christ's hands and love with Christ's heart— nothing less is expected of us.

JANEL ESKER

sundaybulletins@liguori.org

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Christ's hands and
love with Christ's heart—
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