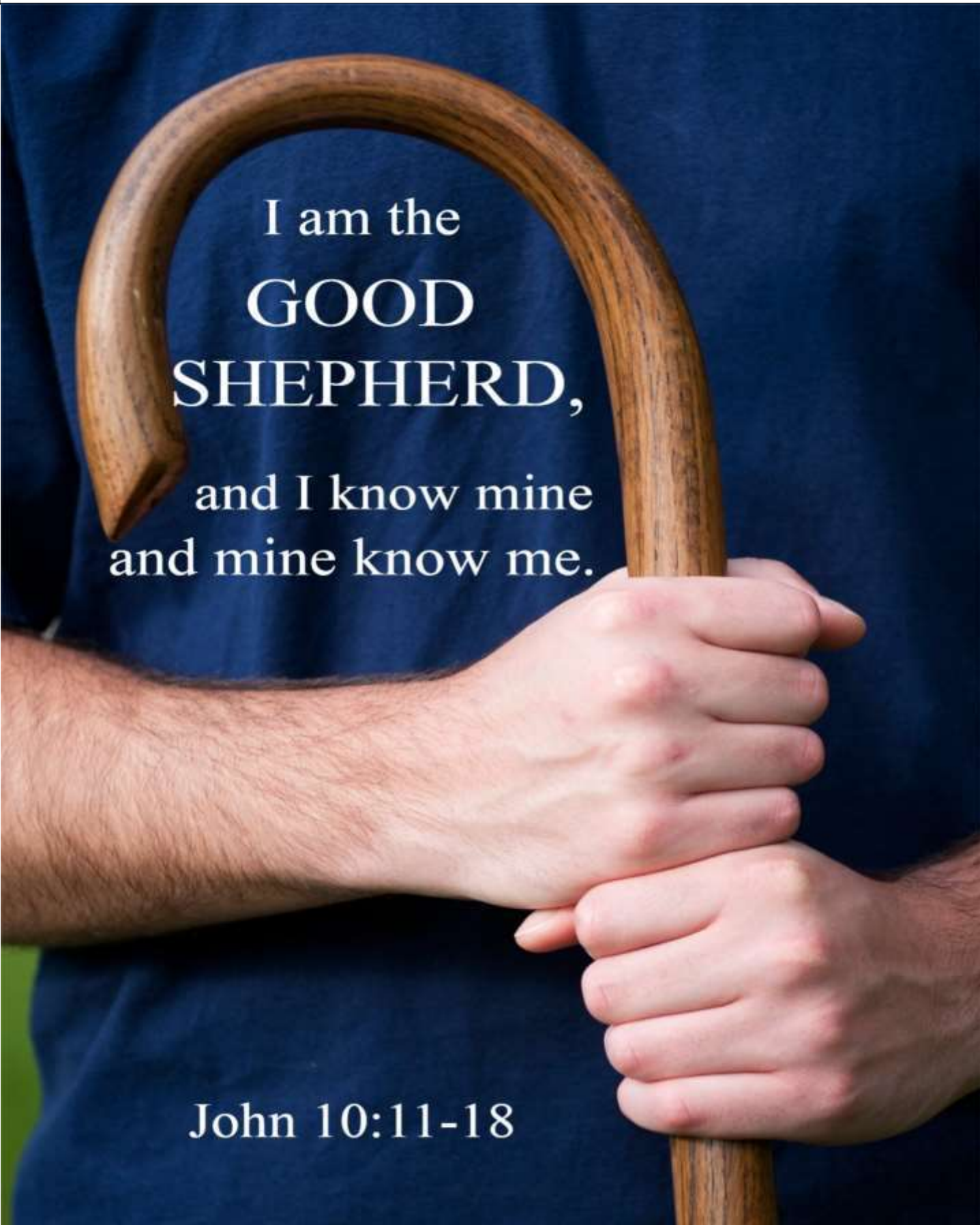


FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
April 21, 2024

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a wooden shepherd's crook. The crook is made of light-colored wood and has a large, smooth, curved hook at the top. The person's hands are positioned to grip the handle of the crook. The background is a solid, dark blue color. The text is overlaid on the image in white, serif font.

I am the
GOOD
SHEPHERD,
and I know mine
and mine know me.

John 10:11-18



Church of the Immaculate Conception

580 Main Street

P.O. Box 1227

Westhampton Beach, NY 11978-7227

STAFF

Rev. Kenneth Grooms, Pastor

Deacon Joseph Byrne
Deacon Mark Herrmann

Shawn Pinson, Sacristan
Bobby Peterson, Music Director
Donna Cosme, Director of Religious Education
Anne Dean, Assistant to Director of Religious Ed
Linda Geoghan, Parish Secretary
Victor Nicotra, Maintenance Manager

Parish Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday
9:00am to 5:00pm

CLOSED Friday, Saturday, Sunday, & Holidays

Parish Office 631-288-1423
Fax 631-288-5498
parishoffice@iccwhb.org

Religious Education 631-288-4188
Fax 631-288-8215
religioused@iccwhb.org

Queen of Apostles, Regional School 631-878-1033

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday

5:00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday

8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am
6:00pm (Spanish Mass)

Daily Mass

8:00am Monday through Friday
The Rosary is recited immediately after daily Mass

Holy Days

Vigil @ 7:00pm (Spanish Mass)
Day @ 8:00am, 12:00pm, & 7:00pm

First Saturday Mass 9:00am

Rosary starts at 8:45am

Eucharistic Adoration

FIRST FRIDAYS of each month following the
8:00am Mass and LAST MONDAYS of each month
at 7:00pm in the Church.

Confessions

Every Saturday 4:00pm to 4:45pm

MARRIAGES: Arrangements should be made at least 1 year in advance. Marriage dates may be made only with the priest after he interviews the couple. Please call the Parish Office to set up an appointment. Pre- Cana classes are required.

BAPTISMS: Parents are required to attend one evening class before Baptism; and are encouraged to attend class during pregnancy. Baptismal class is held on the 1st Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. To register for Baptism, please contact the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING THE SICK:

Emergency calls for the Sacraments for the seriously ill may be made any time of the day or night, every day of the year. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will also be celebrated every second Friday of the month at the 8:00am Mass. All those who are seriously ill, including those preparing for surgery or a hospital stay, are invited to receive the Sacrament.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:1-10
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17;
 Mk 16:15-20
Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27;
 Jn 13:16-20
Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14
Sunday: Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22:26-28, 30-32;
 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: There is no other name under heaven by which we are to be saved than the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene (Acts 4:8-12).
Psalm: The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone (Psalm 118).
Second Reading: See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God (1 John 3:1-2).
Gospel: I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep (John 10:11-18).

eGIVING OPPORTUNITIES

eGiving makes it easy to give, anytime, anywhere. To continue lifesaving ministries and outreach in our parish community, we depend on generous online donations from our church family. We prayerfully invite you to use eGiving from your computer, smartphone, or tablet to set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

FAITH DIRECT

Enrolling with Faith Direct will provide Immaculate Conception with consistent support and simplify your giving without the use of envelopes. Visit:

<https://membership.faithdirect.net/NY66>

Thank you for your continued support!

MASS ATTENDANCE

DATE	5pm	8am	9:30am	11am	6pm	TOTAL
3/24/24	110	152	145	214	296	917
3/31/24	219	240	466	623	305	1,853
4/7/24	160	151	125	148	150	734
4/14/24	130	111	119	134	150	644

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

DATE	COLLECTION	AMOUNT
04/14/2024	Weekly Collection	\$5,765.00
04/16/2023	Weekly Collection	\$5,201.00

Thank you for your continuous support!

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday	April 20
5:00pm	Kurt & Barbara Mietzner (Fr. Ken)
Sunday	April 21
8:00am	Anna Maria Sicuranza (Fr. Peter)
9:30am	Joseph & Cecelia Krajewski (Fr. Michael)
11:00am	Michael James Merlo (Fr. Ken)
6:00pm	People of the Parish (Msgr. Mirro)
Monday	April 22
8:00am	Alexei Navalny
Tuesday	April 23
8:00am	Bernadette Gillis
Wednesday	April 24
8:00am	(Guild Mass) Poor Souls in Purgatory
Thursday	April 25
8:00am	Victoria Mirro
Friday	April 26
8:00am	Patrick Broderick
Saturday	April 27
4:00pm	Confessions
5:00pm	Mary & Louis Ansalone (Fr. Michael)
Sunday	April 28
8:00am	People of the Parish (Fr. Ken)
9:30am	Peter Krajewski (Fr. Peter)
11:00am	Peter Gambino (Fr. Peter)
6:00pm	Poor Souls in Purgatory (Fr. Mike)

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Easter; Earth Day; World Day of Prayer for Vocations
Monday: St. George; St. Adalbert
Tuesday: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen
Wednesday: St. Mark; Administrative Professionals Day
Friday: Arbor Day
Saturday: St. Peter Chanel; St. Louis Grignon de Montfort

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

The 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal

The 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal is on-going in our parish and in parishes across the Diocese. Please give prayerful consideration to help fund the essential ministries and services supported by this appeal.

Goal	\$ 62,100.00
Total Pledged	\$ 21,740.00
Payments Received	\$ 18,317.00
Donors: 37	% of Goal: 35.01%

The parish will receive 20% of the goal once all pledged payments are received. The parish will receive an additional 80% of monies pledged & received over goal.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education Office Hours are:

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday
9am to 3:30pm
631-288-4188

NO CLASSES

April 22nd through April 24th

REFLECTIONS

Living Stewardship

Remember that the Holy Name of Jesus is powerful. This week (and throughout your whole life), invoke the name of Jesus when faced with temptation, fear or worry. Silently call upon His name in faith and trust.



Bulletin Reflection

In the First Reading, St. Peter declares that a man had been healed in the name of Jesus

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Please call the Parish Office (631-288-1423) to add a name to the sick list. This list will be cleared bi-monthly.

SILENCE

Silence is a gift of God,
to let us speak more intimately with God.
~ St. Vincent Pallotti

MEDITATION with Deacon Joe

Tuesdays at 2pm in the Parish Center
Try this spiritual practice, it will surprise you!

PRAYER REQUESTS

There is a great power in prayer. It is our lifeline to God. Through it we communicate with God, and people are strengthened, helped, and made whole.

Do you know of some concern, or of some person with a special need for whom we ought to pray? We have 29 prayer warriors praying, please call Charles Schmidt at 631-288-4243 and leave a message with your prayer request.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

We are in **DIRE** need of
TOILETRIES & SIZE 4 DIAPERS

Canned fruit, Toiletries (shampoo & soap),
Juice Boxes, Rice, Beans, Cereal, Pasta, Tuna, Peanut
Butter, Jelly, Canned Vegetables (all varieties)

SACRAMENTALS

Altar Flowers this week are in loving memory of

Joan Gilhooley

To arrange one of these in loving memory of or for the intentions of your loved one, please visit the Parish Office.

Available Dates:

Altar Bread/Wine: April 29, May 6, 20, 27

Altar Flowers: April 28, May 5, 12, 19, 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Sanctuary Lamp: April 29, May 6, 13, 20, 27

QUESTION OF THE WEEK



In what specific way can I lay down my life this week for someone who needs what I can give them?

PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

Robert J. Malachowsky
Francis Stanleigh Farrell

INTRODUCTION TO THE EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

On this Sunday of Easter joy, our Good Shepherd spreads a table before us. In praise and thanksgiving we once again make present the one who laid down his life for us.

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

Today we are reminded that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, committed to caring for his sheep through every danger, difficulty, and trauma. He told his disciples that he would lay down his life for his sheep. Indeed, this is exactly what he did. By laying down his life for our sins, he conquered death and raises us to eternal life with him. Let us allow the risen Lord to guide us to the idyllic pasture of salvation.

THE STAFF'S CORNER

Alleluia! Alleluia! He is Risen! Happy Easter!



Can you believe Easter has come and gone already? The older I get, the faster time seems to fly! Easter has many, many, memories for me. I am a 1991 convert, having received my sacraments from Fr. Mirro just days after Christmas (mine was the only group in my parish to do that outside of Easter!). But Holy Week and Easter have always been my favorite time of year, spiritually speaking.

I can remember my very first Holy Thursday. I cried through the Mass, it was so moving. This was the “priests” Mass and to think that Jesus himself served others by washing the feet of his disciples, and we still do that today, just brought a very personal meaning to my life ... one that I still remember today and try to put it into action with others.

My husband of 34 years was an ordained Deacon for 18 years before his death and served the Diocese and Parish of St. Jude in Mastic Beach. We LIVED at the Church during Holy Week, as many of you could say the same. It's such a holy time of year. I can also remember a particular Good Friday, in all its solemnness. A family that we were very friendly with had an older handicapped daughter with Spina bifida and was wheelchair bound. When the time came to venerate the Cross, our friend swooped his daughter up in his arms and brought her to the Cross so she could venerate it ... I'm telling you there was not a dry eye in the Church! I was just filled with emotion of all the things our friend does for his severely handicapped daughter ... and he never complained! So many of us are broken and have worries. We bring that to the foot of the Cross and ask Jesus to take it all from us ... and he does! So much love involved in surrendering it over and trusting that he will take care of us.



It's coming upon 7 years that my husband is gone now, and I still miss him terribly ... always will. But I have such beautiful memories of the many Holy Weeks we spent together ... loving one another and loving God ... we were truly blessed to share that life.

Now I am so blessed to be the Parish Secretary here at Immaculate Conception ... mixing the two things I love ... being a secretary and working for the Catholic Church. Fr. Ken, our Pastor, has been an amazing boss and my co-workers are a great group of people whom I look forward to seeing every day. Thank you to all for allowing me to serve you. I look forward to becoming the “old” secretary ... one day! Hahaha



Stop by the Parish Office I would love the chance to say hello and get to know you! God bless you all!

Much love & happiness!

Your Parish Secretary ...

Linda



OUR FOOD PANTRY

What a wonderful service we have here at Immaculate Conception Church. Our Food Pantry serves 25+ families in our community every other week with the essential foods that so many of us take for granted. It is indeed thanks to our generous parishioners, schools, and local businesses that we can accommodate these families in need.

We want to thank all who have so generously donated, and we pray that you are richly blessed for your unselfish love for others.

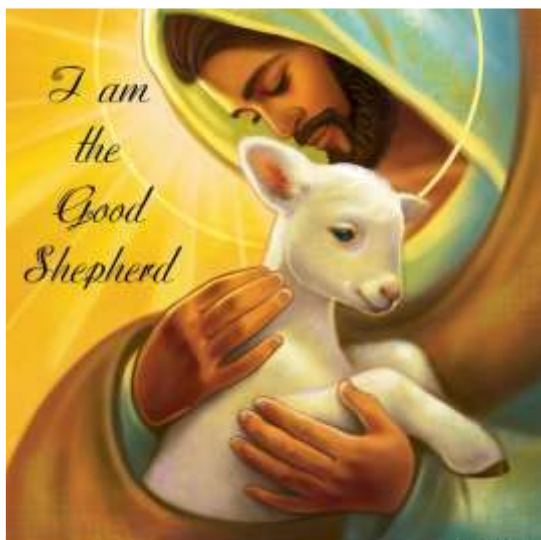
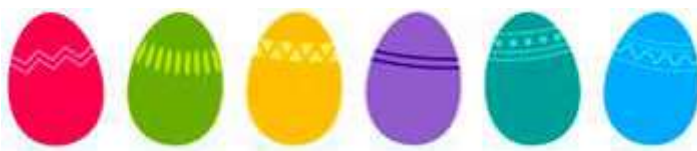
Blessings,
Ann, Lori, & Victor

*By this all will know that you are my
disciples, if you have love for one another.
~ John 13:35*



TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Most languages take the name for this fifty-day season from the Lord's Passover: *Pasqua* in Italian, *Pâques* in French, *Paach* in Dutch, *Pascha* in Greek and Russian. English has a much newer name, the name of a pagan goddess, Eoster. For centuries before Christianity took hold, in both Germany and Britain the spring equinox was dedicated to her and the concepts of fertility and rebirth. She was said to be a playful spirit, following the Sun King's chariot, and ending the reign of winter. She had a magical companion, a rabbit who hid eggs in the fields to coax plants and animals to rebirth. It was believed that Eoster once came across a bird with broken wings and saved it by turning it into a rabbit—an egg-laying rabbit at that! Although they were baptized, most people didn't take to the new Latin name (*Pascha Domini*) too easily, and kept calling the spring equinox by the old accustomed name. For good measure, they kept a pagan name for Christmas, too: Yule.



AT WORK
 Christianity is the spirit of Jesus Christ at work in the world.
 ~ Anonymous

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Ethan Bentley (Navy)
 Lt. Cameron Worden
 Lt. Matthew Worden (Navy)
 Lt. Col. William Robesch

Please contact the Rectory @631-288-1423 to add a loved one to the military list

TEDDY'S CORNER



There's something about a sleeping Teddy that makes us all smile. Enjoy your day!



Office for the Protection of Children and Young People

Keeping our promise to protect.

Learn more.

www.drvc.org/OPCYP

POWERED BY OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS - DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

VIRTUS CLASSES NOW AVAILABLE AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

We are happy to announce that **4 classes** for VIRTUS Training have been scheduled: Thursdays, April 25th and May 2nd, both days at 3pm and 7pm. **Please register at VIRTUS.org.** (the 3pm class on April 25th is now full)

All Volunteers are **REQUIRED** by the Diocese of Rockville Centre to attend 1 training class in order to volunteer in any parish. A background check, done by a reputable & safe agency through the Diocese, and a completed Code of Conduct are also needed and can be done on-line when you register for the class.

If you are **NOT** sure if you've taken the class, or if you have any questions, please contact the Parish VIRTUS Facilitator and Safe-Environment Coordinator:

Linda at 631-288-1423
 Monday through Thursday, 9am-5pm.

*"The secret of happiness
is to live moment by
moment and to thank
God for all that He,
in His goodness,
sends to us
day after day."*

- St. Gianna

April 28th
Feast day of
St. Gianna Beretta Molla
*patron of mothers, the preborn,
and physicians*



DIOCESE of ROCKVILLE CENTRE
**Office of Human Life,
Family and Bioethics**



ENCOUNTER CHRIST. DISCOVER YOURSELF. GROW IN HOLINESS.



**Resources and guidance for all those seeking clarity on
same-sex attraction, gender identity discordance, and a
range of other LGBTQ experiences.**



DIOCESE of ROCKVILLE CENTRE
**Office of Human Life,
Family and Bioethics**

www.drvc.life.org/ssa-gender



Invest in the Future of Our Church!

Support Catholic education on Long Island!

100% of your donation supports Catholic school students. Half goes directly to your local Catholic school, and half supports scholarships for students throughout Long Island attending our Catholic schools.



**Give to the Second Collection during Mass:
Saturday, May 4th | Sunday, May 5th**



¡Inviertan en el Futuro de Nuestra Iglesia!

¡Apoye la educación católica en Long Island!

El 100% de su donación apoya a los estudiantes de escuelas católicas. La mitad va directamente a su escuela católica local y la otra mitad apoya becas para estudiantes de Long Island que asisten a nuestras escuelas católicas.



**Aporte a la Segunda Colecta durante la Misa:
Sábado 4 de mayo | Domingo 5 de mayo**



Our Lady Queen of Apostles
Regional Catholic School

DANCE LESSONS
AVAILABLE ...
FOXTROT, WALTZ,
RUMBA, LINNY, AND
MORE!

SPRING DINNER DANCE FUNDRAISER

BUFFET DINNER
CATERED BY
LA VOLPE
RESTAURANT OF
CENTER MORICHES

SATURDAY | APRIL 27TH | 6-9 PM
IN THE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

DJ | \$40 PER PERSON | 21 AND OVER

FOR TICKETS CALL 631-878-1033

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE EVENT
SUPPORT OLQA SCHOOL



Our Lady Queen of Apostles
Mission Middle School Academy
invites you to

an afternoon celebrating the
wisdom of our senior citizens



Senior Luncheon

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Mass at 11AM at St. John the Evangelist Church followed by
lunch and activities in the school auditorium as we
celebrate the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

(No children permitted to the luncheon)

email ghalversen@olqany.org or call 631-878-1033 to RSVP
25 Ocean Ave. Center Moriches

WHAT'S THE MISSION?

The Mission Middle School Academy at Our Lady Queen of Apostles School was established in 2018. This innovative approach to middle school education challenges students to academic excellence in the context of a faith filled environment. Steeped in respect and dignity of the human person, students are given a strong foundation to excel as leaders and missionary disciples in high school, college, and beyond.

CALL 631-878-1033 TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MISSION



Please join us for a Mass and Brunch Fundraiser in support of our Senior Priests living at St. Pius X Residence. The Celebrant for the Mass will be the Most Reverend Bishop John O. Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre.

Saturday, April 27th @ 11:00am
 \$150 pp
 St. Agnes Cathedral
 Rockville Centre
 Contact Barbara Kilarjian at (516) 678-5800 or bkilarjian@drvc.org for more information and to register.

Westhampton Beach School District announces its **FULL DAY UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN** Program for the 2024-2025 school year

- Students residing within the Westhampton Beach School District
- Four (4) years old by December 1, 2024
- Full day (5 hours) – five (5) days per week
- NO transportation is provided
- FREE to participating families
- Application deadline is Friday, May 17th – 3:00pm
- Informational meeting April 17th – 3:30pm in the Elementary School Library

Please contact Ms. Seidler at 631-288-3800 ext.201 for more registration details

ATTENTION:
 Mother's, Grandmothers, Godmothers and Confirmation Sponsors...
 Has a young adult in your family left the Catholic church and is no longer practicing? Are you hoping and praying for their return? Would you like to pray together in solidarity with other Catholic women for this intention? Please join us on Tuesdays from 1-2pm at The Church of St. Isidore RC church, Riverhead. Simply come whenever you can make it! To learn more: www.millionsofmonicas.com



Facing a difficult pregnancy?

Say "Yes" with **FIAT**
Let it be done
Pregnancy Support
 from Catholic Health

Hope is here.
 If you or someone you know needs assistance with an unexpected or difficult pregnancy, help is available:
 Call 631-476-LOVE (5683) any day, any time (24/7).
 All conversations are safe and confidential.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Let us make a decision to love our spouse. Signing up for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience will help you and teach you tools to transform your marriage. Our next experience will be held in Huntington on June 21-June 23. Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Kevin & Regina Hickson at 516-554-3835 or <https://wwmenyli.org/>.