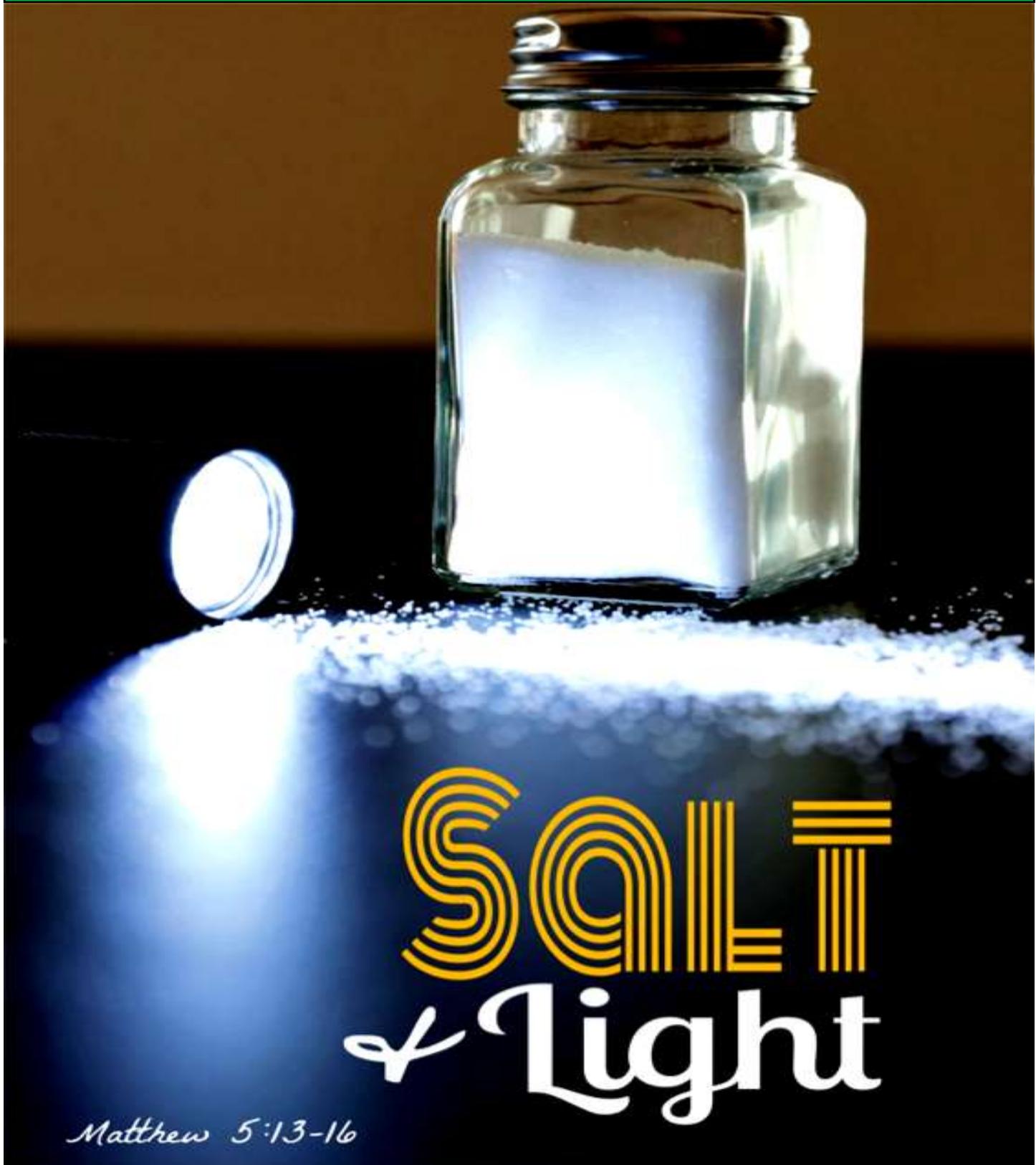


P.O. Box 1227  
580 Main Street  
Westhampton Beach, NY 11978

**Church of the  
IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION**

Website: [iccwrb.org](http://iccwrb.org)  
Parish email: [parishoffice@iccwrb.org](mailto:parishoffice@iccwrb.org)  
FB: [www.facebook.com/iccwrb](https://www.facebook.com/iccwrb)  
YouTube: [www.youtube.com/@iccwrb](https://www.youtube.com/@iccwrb)



*Matthew 5:13-16*

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**February 8, 2026**

## STAFF

### Rev. Thomas Pers, Pastor

Deacon Joseph Byrne  
Deacon Mark Herrmann

Shawn Pinson, Sacristan  
Renee Stakey, Music Director  
Donna Cosme, Director of Religious Education  
Mary Lou Giacobbe, Asst to Director of Religious Ed  
Linda Geoghan, Parish Secretary  
Juan Vicente, 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@iccwrb.org](mailto:parishoffice@iccwrb.org)

**Religious Education** **631-288-4188**  
Fax **631-288-8215**  
[religioosed@iccwrb.org](mailto:religioosed@iccwrb.org)

**Queen of Apostles, Regional School** **631-878-1033**

**Spanish Apostolate**  
**Rev. José Luis Tenas** **631-914-1538**

## 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

### Eucharistic Adoration

The FIRST FRIDAYS (Novena & silent adoration to Sacred Heart) of each month at 8:30am and the LAST MONDAYS of each month at 7:00pm in the Church.

### Confessions

Every Saturday 4:00pm to 4:45pm

## PARISH TRUSTEES

Beth Hard & Linda O'Brien

## PARISH COUNCIL

Michael Berdinka, Tom Day, Lori Francescani,  
Lisa Guzman, Tara Hudson, Verna Merkel,  
& Amabilia Estrada Ruiz

## PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

Kevin Dwyer, Beth Hard, Daily Hill,  
Christine Lennon, Linda O'Brien, Scott O'Brien,  
Joe Sala, & Michael Strebler

**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 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Baptisms take place the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. 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 12:00pm 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:** 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Mk 6:53-56  
**Tuesday:** 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13  
**Wednesday:** 1 Kgs 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23  
**Thursday:** 1 Kgs 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30  
**Friday:** 1 Kgs 11:29-32, 12:9; Mk 7:31-37  
**Saturday:** 1 Kgs 12:26-32, 13:33-34; Mk 8:1-10  
**Sunday:** Sir 15:15-20; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37 [20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37]

## TODAY'S READINGS

**Isaiah 58:7-10** When your fasting feeds the hungry, a new day dawns.

**Psalm 112** "The just man is a light in darkness to the upright."

**1 Corinthians 2:1-5** Paul's message doesn't rest on his own wisdom but on the power of the Spirit.

**Matthew 5:13-16** You are the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Light binds together today's scripture readings. Isaiah preaches that when we share what we have with those in need, light will drive out the dark. In the psalm we sing that the one who acts with justice is a light in the darkness. Paul tells the Corinthians that the power of the Holy Spirit has enlightened their faith. In the Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples to let their light shine, so the world can see the good that they do. As we listen to the words of scripture, let us appreciate the metaphor of light in expressing what God asks us to do.

## SECOND COLLECTION

Next weekend, February 14/15, our second collection will be for **FUEL**. This collection will help defray the cost of heating all Parish buildings. Thank you for your generous contributions—may God continue to bless you in your giving!

## MASS ATTENDANCE

DATE	5pm	8am	9:30am	11am	6pm	TOTAL
01/11/26	129	90	208	195	196	<b>818</b>
01/18/26	144	82	120	176	185	<b>707</b>
01/25/26	178	38	16	9	xxx	<b>241</b>
02/01/26	130	146	230	175	209	<b>890</b>

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

DATE	COLLECTION	AMOUNT
02/01/2026	Weekly Collection	\$4,670.00
02/02/2025	Weekly Collection	\$6,371.00

Thank you for your continuous support!

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>February 7</b>
5:00pm	Rosemary Scammell (Fr. Tom)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>February 8</b>
8:00am	Patricia & Robert Hinck, Sr. (Msgr. Mirro)
9:30am	Michael Thomas Triolo (Fr. Tom)
11:00am	Lita DeMotica (Fr. Tom)
6:00pm	The People of the Parish (Fr. Jose)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>February 9</b>
8:00am	Alixandra M. Merkel
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>February 10</b>
8:00am	Robert E. Mims
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>February 11</b>
8:00am	(Guild Mass) Angelo J. Santomassimo; Intentions of Adelaide Rego
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>February 12</b>
8:00am	John P. Heffernan
<b>Friday</b>	<b>February 13</b>
8:00am	Janet Berger
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>February 14</b>
<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>Confessions</b>
5:00pm	John Ansalone (Fr. Tom)
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>February 15</b>
8:00am	Peter Vincelli (Fr. Tom)
9:30am	Michael T. Triolo (Fr. Tom)
11:00am	Claudio Bottero (Fr. Tom)
6:00pm	The People of the Parish (Fr. Jose)

## PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

Michel Laforgue

## CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

### The 2025 Catholic Ministries Appeal

The 2025 Catholic Ministries Appeal is happening 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	\$ 29,425.00
Payments Received	\$ 29,200.00
Donors:	85
	% of Goal: 47.38%

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 5pm  
631-288-4188

### A PRAYER FOR FEBRUARY

Dear Lord,  
Thank you for the gift of a new month and the opportunities it brings. As we begin this February, we pray that you will fill our hearts and homes with your Joy. May we embrace the beauty of each day, finding delight in the little things. Help us to cultivate gratitude for all you have given us. Let our spirits be uplifted, and may we spread joy like a warm light in the world. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*This is my commandment:  
love one another as I love you.  
~ John 15:12*

### DATES TO REMEMBER FOR FEBRUARY

#### February 9 – 11

Mass 101 - Parents attend class with children this week - Church

#### Wednesday, February 11

Level 8 Retreat Form Due

#### February 15 - 18

NO CLASSES - Winter Break

#### Wednesday, February 18

Ash Wednesday - Lent begins  
Please attend a Mass or Service today

#### Saturday, February 28

Level 8 Retreat - PC

**St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School** invites families to learn more about our faith-centered, student-focused community through a variety of admissions experiences.

Families may:

- Attend a virtual information session
- Participate in our “Cougar for a Day” student shadowing program
- Schedule a personal campus tour

These opportunities are designed to help families explore academics, faith life, student activities, and the strong sense of community that defines SJB. To learn more or to register for an upcoming experience, please visit: <https://stjohnthebaptistdhs.net/visitsjb>

## REFLECTIONS

### Living Stewardship

Live a life that shows the world that you are a Christian. How you treat others, how hospitable you are, is one way to spread the Word through your works.



### Bulletin Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us to let our light shine before others.

## SACRAMENTALS

### The BREAD & WINE, ALTAR FLOWERS, & SANCTUARY LAMP

There are many opportunities to have the Sanctuary Lamp burn a week in memory of ... or perhaps having the Bread & Wine in someone's honor for a week. We also have Altar Flowers that can be admired in your loved ones name for the week. Visit the Parish Office to arrange yours today!

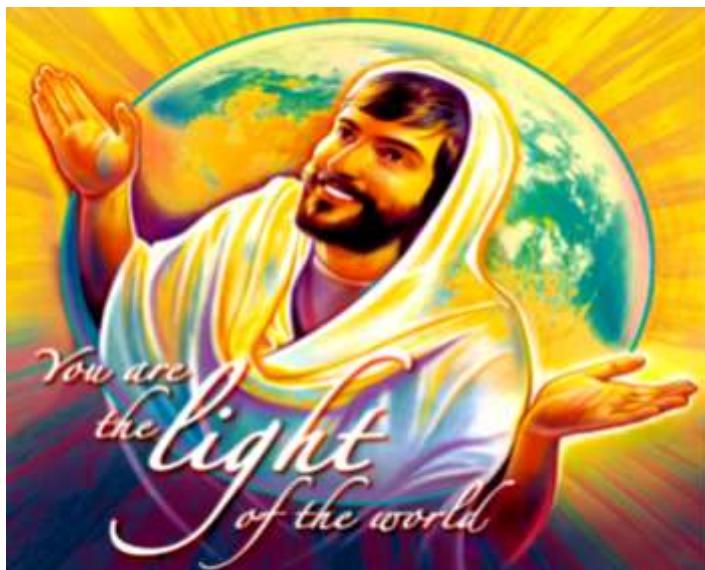
Available Dates:

**Sanctuary Lamp:** February 16, 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

**Bread & Wine:** February 16, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

**Altar Flowers:** February 15, April 26

Please contact the Parish Office for more information.



## 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.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

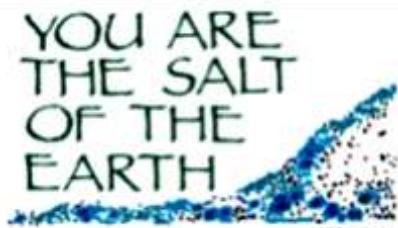
During the long winter we become keenly aware of the value of sunshine. The sun rises later in the morning and sets earlier in the afternoon; quite often it's gray and cloudy all day. Today we hear Jesus tell his disciples that they are to shine their light for all to see, as a lamp on a lampstand does. This winter, may we spread Christ's light to the world, bringing joy and life to darkness and gloom.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Around this table we are given a mere glimpse of the light that will fill the halls of the heavenly banquet. Here, we are called to become light for this world, giving everyone we meet a glimpse of the glory of God.

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK

 How can I and my parish increase the light we shine in our community?



## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

**NAVY:** Ethan Bentley, Julia Blake, Michael J. DiLeo, William Robesch, RJ Ruggiero, Matthew Worden, & Cameron Worden

**MARINES:** Christopher Fencel

**AIR FORCE:** Joseph Ferraro III

**USSF:** Thomas Hellman

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

## MEDITATION with Deacon Joe

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

## PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Jeffrey Davis, Jake Ekhart, Millie Ferrin, Eve McNeil, Fay Mack, & Nancy Ruffell

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

## PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



### FOOD PANTRY

Some items our Food Pantry needs are: TOILETRIES, HEARTY-TYPE SOUPS & JELLY. But ANY food/toiletry is welcomed!

## 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!

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

**Sunday:** Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day

**Tuesday:** St. Scholastica

**Wednesday:** Our Lady of Lourdes; World Day of the Sick

**Saturday:** Ss. Cyril & Methodius



## GOD'S WORD IS LIVING AND EFFECTIVE

*A Reflection on Father Simeon Leiva-Merikakis, O.C.S.O.'s Commentary Fire of Mercy, Heart of the Word: Meditations on the Gospel according to Saint Matthew and its Contribution to Contemplative Catholic Biblical Theology, Scholarship, and Lectio Divina*

This new pastoral letter from Bishop Barres can be found on their website: DRVC.org

## ASH WEDNESDAY

### Mass Schedule

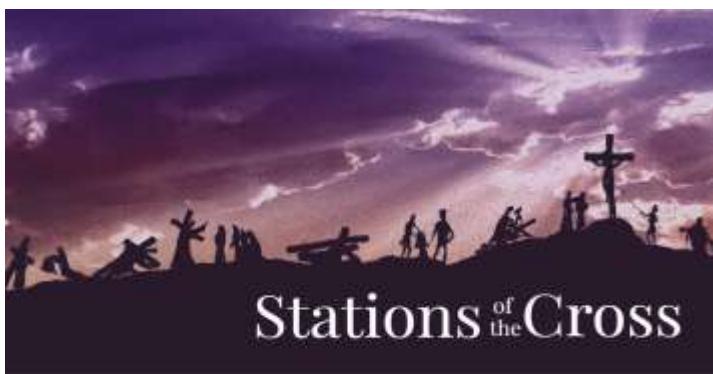
### February 18, 2026

Ashes will be distributed  
at all Masses & Liturgies on Ash Wednesday

8:00am	Mass
12:00pm	Mass
4:00pm	Liturgy of the Word
5:30pm	Spanish Mass
8:00pm	Liturgy of the Word

**Ash Wednesday** is the first day of Lent, a Christian season of repentance and preparation for Easter, marked most visibly by the placing of ashes on the forehead as a reminder of human mortality and the call to spiritual renewal. It's observed by many Western Christian traditions, including Catholics, Anglicans, Lutherans, and others.

- Beginning of Lent: It starts a 40-day period (excluding Sundays) of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving leading up to Easter.
- Symbol of Ashes: The ashes—usually from burned palm branches from the previous year's Palm Sunday—are placed on the forehead in the shape of a cross. They symbolize repentance, humility, and the biblical reminder "you are dust, and to dust you shall return."
- Biblical Roots: While Ash Wednesday itself isn't commanded in Scripture, the use of ashes as a sign of repentance appears throughout the Old Testament (e.g., Job, Daniel, Jonah). Early Christian communities adopted this symbolism over time.



**ENGLISH:**  
Every Friday at 4pm during Lent  
**SPANISH:**  
Every Friday at 7:30pm during Lent

## LENTEN REGULATIONS

### FAST AND ABSTINENCE

There is a limit of one full meal on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday for all between the ages of 18 and 59 inclusive. All who have reached their 14<sup>th</sup> year are bound to abstain totally from meat on that day and ALL Fridays in Lent.

## EASTER DUTY OBLIGATION

After they have received their First Holy Communion, Catholics are bound by the obligation of receiving Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept should be fulfilled during the Easter Season. Catholics are also bound to confess serious (mortal) sins at least once a year, but this is not limited to the Lenten/Easter Season.

## EASTER FLOWERS

**Easter Flowers** can be dedicated to or in memory of your loved ones. Their names will be printed in the bulletin after Easter. A minimum suggested offering is \$25. You may use the envelopes you receive in the mail or use envelopes you may find in the lobby of the Church and you can place them either in the collection baskets during Mass or drop off at the Parish Office. Thank you!

## RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday from 4-4:45pm

### Special Day of Reconciliation

Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>  
2-4pm & 6-9pm

## GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION

Our Collection on Good Friday supports the Christian communities in the Holy Land. Thank you for your generosity.

## LENTEN SUGGESTED PENANCE

**Sunday:** Do something kind for someone you love.

**Monday:** Spend a few minutes saying the prayer, "Jesus, I trust in you."

**Tuesday:** Call or visit a homebound person or nursing home resident.

**Wednesday:** Offer a prayer of thanksgiving to God, trusting that he is guiding your life.

**Thursday:** Reconnect with someone who was responsible for helping you grow in your faith.

**Friday:** Give counsel to the doubtful.

**Saturday:** Pray with special devotion to your patron saint(s).



# Lenten

READING  
PLAN



## Lenten Reading Plan: A Countdown of Hope

Get ready for Easter with this family Bible Reading Plan. From Ash Wednesday to Resurrection Sunday, read a promise from God each day. May God bless you as you discover his love and faithfulness through Scripture.

- The Promise of a Savior, *Genesis 3:15*
- The Promise to Never Again Flood the Earth, *Genesis 9:13-15*
- The Promise to Bless Abraham, *Genesis 12:1-3*
- The Promise to Multiply Abraham's Offspring, *Genesis 22:17-18*
- The Promise of Deliverance, *Exodus 3:7-8*
- The Promise of God's Presence, *Exodus 33:14*
- The Promise of Blessing for Obedience, *Leviticus 26:3-12*
- The Promise to Raise Up a Prophet, *Deuteronomy 18:15*
- The Promise of Strength Through God, *Joshua 1:6-9*
- The Promise of an Everlasting Covenant, *2 Samuel 7:12-16*
- The Promise of a Shepherd, *Psalm 23*
- The Promise of Wisdom, *Proverbs 2:1-6*
- The Promise of a Messiah, *Isaiah 9:1-7*
- The Promise to Strengthen and Help, *Isaiah 41:9-10*
- The Promise of a Suffering Servant, *Isaiah 53*
  - The Promise of Restoration, *Jeremiah 29:10-14*
    - The Promise of a New Covenant, *Jeremiah 31:31-34*
      - The Promise of Renewal, *Ezekiel 37:1-14*
        - The Promise of the Spirit, *Joel 2:28-29*
        - The Promise of Jesus, *Luke 2:1-20*
        - The Promise of Provision, *Matthew 6:25-34*
        - The Promise of Rest, *Matthew 11:28-29*
        - The Promise of Eternal Life, *John 3:16-17*
        - The Promise of Christ's Return, *John 14:1-3*

- The Promise of Peace, *John 14:27*
- The Promise of Answered Prayer, *John 15:7*
- The Promise of Guidance, *John 16:13*
- The Promise of Power from on High, *Acts 1:8*
- The Promise of Grace, *Romans 6:14*
- The Promise of Freedom from Condemnation, *Romans 8:1-4*
- The Promise of Adoption, *Romans 8:15-17*
- The Promise of Purpose, *Romans 8:28*
- The Promise of Victory Over Death, *1 Corinthians 15:54-57*
- The Promise of Comfort, *2 Corinthians 1:3-4*
- The Promise of New Life, *2 Corinthians 5:17*
- The Promise of God's Faithfulness, *2 Thessalonians 3:3-5*
- The Promise of Eternal Glory, *2 Timothy 2:11-13*
- The Promise of Perseverance, *James 1:2-4*
- The Promise of a New Heaven and a New Earth, *Revelation 21:1-4*

Try the bonus activities to make Lent more meaningful

### Family Lenten Activities

Make promise stones. Paint and display small stones that remind you how God keeps his promises.

Fill a jar with blessings. During Lent, jot down ways that God is faithful to you. On Easter, read aloud the slips of paper as a family.





The Joseph Slomski Knights of Columbus Council #7423 recently held a free-throw shooting contest at the Westhampton Beach Middle School. Boys & girls, ages 9 to 14, were invited to participate. The winners in each age group now move on to the county competition. The local winners were: Theodore Carty, Griffin Grasso, Shay Magner, Tino Santonocito, Camile Neuendorf, Davey Owens, Harper Kruk, Patrick Marran, Riley Magner, Michael Zullo, & Anya de Boer.



The Fair Trade Movement, begun just a few years after the end of World War II, is a trade arrangement designed to help producers in developing countries, in particular coffee and cocoa bean growers, achieve sustainable and equitable conditions. The Fair Trade Movement urges the paying of higher prices to exporters and improving social and environmental standards. Not only are agricultural cooperatives helped, but local villages are as well, through the implementation of good drinking water, among other initiatives.

**A Fair Trade table of coffee will be available for your support after the Sunday morning Masses this weekend during our Hospitality in the Narthex of the Church. We look forward to seeing you there!**

The Fair Trade Movement, begun just a few years after the end of World War II, is a trade arrangement designed to help producers in developing countries, in particular coffee and cocoa bean growers, achieve sustainable and equitable conditions. The Fair Trade Movement urges the paying of higher prices to exporters and improving social and environmental standards. Not only are agricultural cooperatives helped, but local villages are as well, through the implementation of good drinking water, among other initiatives.

### GIVING

When you give, see that you give that which multiplies in giving.  
~ Raymond Lull

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A LECTOR?

Do you like to read? Volunteer your time and talents to join the Lector group! You'll receive a Lector book that gives you a deeper dive into the day's readings as well as pronunciation guides. You will be scheduled for the Mass time you prefer, and you'll read on average 2 Masses a month, possibly more during holidays and holy days. You'll read the announcements, the readings, and the Prayers of the Faithful.

Please contact Beth at 631-495-5931 or [bethflanagan@optonline.net](mailto:bethflanagan@optonline.net) if you'd like to participate in this ministry.

# Start Your New Year Right — Get Your Estate Plan Done!

Turning the page on a new year is the perfect time to take care of what matters most. Protect your loved ones and ensure your wishes are honored with a complete estate plan — and now you can do it for **free** using the online FreeWill tool.

The Diocese of Rockville Centre has partnered with FreeWill to make simple will and estate planning easy and accessible for everyone.



## Don't have a Will or Trust yet?

We've partnered with FreeWill to make it easy for you to create a Will or Trust at no cost.

1. Fill out online
2. Print out forms
3. Sign & keep safe
4. Call us with any questions any time throughout the process!

Go to: [www.freewill.com/drvc](http://www.freewill.com/drvc) to get started

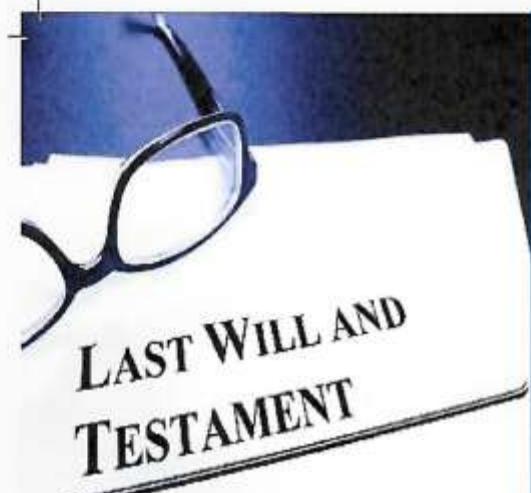


For more information or to receive a how-to manual on **FREEWILL**, call Barbara Kilarjian at 516-678-5800 ext. 257 or email her at [bkilarjian@drvc.org](mailto:bkilarjian@drvc.org)

# ¡Empiece su Nuevo Año de la mejor manera – Prepare su Plan Patrimonial!

Empieza un nuevo año y es el tiempo perfecto para cuidar de lo que *verdaderamente importa*. Proteja a sus seres queridos y asegúrese que sus deseos sean cumplidos completando un plan patrimonial -y ahora puede hacerlo de manera **gratuita** mediante la herramienta en línea de FreeWill.

La Diócesis de Rockville Centre se ha asociado con FreeWill para facilitar la preparación de su testamento y plan patrimonial de forma sencilla y accesible para todos.



¿Aún no tiene un testamento o fideicomiso? Nos hemos asociado con FreeWill para facilitarle la creación de su testamento o fideicomiso sin ningún costo.

1. Complételo en línea
2. Imprima los formularios
3. Firmelos y guárdelos en un lugar seguro
4. Durante este proceso no dude en llamarnos si tuviera alguna pregunta.

Go to: [www.freewill.com/drvc](http://www.freewill.com/drvc)

Para más información o para recibir una guía práctica sobre cómo utilizar **FREEWILL**, comuníquese con Barbara Kilarjian al 516-678-5800 Ext. 257 o a su dirección electrónica [bkilarjian@drvc.org](mailto:bkilarjian@drvc.org).



Our Lady Queen of Apostles  
Regional Catholic School

Contact Us!

631-878-1033

olqany.org

## SEE WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO!



From hands-on learning experiences and service projects to field trips and faith-filled activities, we've had a wonderful first half of the school year for Pre-K thru 8th grade at OLQ A! Come and see the difference a Catholic education can make!



SCAN QR CODE TO SCHEDULE A TOUR! | 2 ST. JOHN'S PLACE, CENTER MORICHES, NY 11934

# Our Lady Queen of Apostles Regional Catholic School

## Spring Basket and Food Extravaganza



Saturday, March 21st  
6:00 PM

Doors open at 5:30  
at

Our Lady Queen of  
Apostles Auditorium

(Ticket price includes food to try from various restaurants)

Tickets \$50 each

*CALL TO PURCHASE YOUR  
TICKETS!*

 **(631) 878-1033**

[www.olqany.org](http://www.olqany.org)

Tickets available till February 25th  
or we are sold out



20  
26

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*"Together, as one people, as brothers and sisters, let us walk towards God and love one another."*  
- Pope Leo XIV

SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH OTHERS

As we prepare for the season of Lent, and then journey through the holy season of Lent, let us hear the call to deepen our faith through the traditional practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Our parish and our Diocese offer many opportunities for prayer throughout this season, and we are encouraged to practice fasting to strengthen our relationship with God.

Through our support of the Catholic Ministries Appeal (CMA), we participate in almsgiving as we join with fellow Catholics across the Diocese and make a gift to serve others in our Faith community. There is no better time to reflect on God's infinite love and to open our hearts and hands to those around us who are in need. Because of you and your gifts to the CMA, we can touch the lives of so many people in our community.

Gifts to the Catholic Ministries Appeal assist seminarians and those in the diaconate program with their education costs. The CMA also funds various youth and young adult programs across our Diocese, including campus ministry programs at Long Island colleges. Catholic Charities of Long Island receives funding from the CMA as well so that they can help the community in need, such as seniors, veterans, and the families who are struggling.

Whatever your plans are for the upcoming Lenten season, I ask that you also consider adding a gift to the CMA as a part of your almsgiving. This important appeal helps so many people across Long Island. We cannot do this work without you!

So, I ask you to please join me and all your brothers and sisters within our diocese in making a gift to the 2026 Catholic Ministries Appeal. Please do so to the best of your ability as all gifts matter, regardless of the amount.

**Please also remember, 100% of every dollar raised is restricted to fund the objectives, programs, and mission supported by the Catholic Ministries Appeal.**

Finally, if you are unable to make a gift at this time due to circumstances in your life, please reach out at any time, so that we may help you in any way that we can. You are never alone, and your church community is always here to support you.



Al prepararnos para la Cuaresma e iniciar nuestro recorrido por el sagrado tiempo de Cuaresma, escuchemos el llamado a profundizar nuestra fe realizando las prácticas tradicionales de hacer oración, ayuno y dar limosna para ayudar a los demás.

Durante este tiempo sagrado nuestra parroquia y nuestra Diócesis ofrecen muchas oportunidades para la oración y nos animan a practicar el ayuno para así fortalecer nuestra relación con Dios.

Con nuestro donativo a favor de la Campaña de Apoyo a los Ministerios Católicos -CMA por sus siglas en inglés- participamos en la práctica de dar limosna y nos unimos con otros católicos de nuestra Diócesis para así ayudar a las personas de nuestra comunidad de fe. Es un buen momento para reflexionar sobre el amor infinito de Dios y abrir nuestros corazones y nuestras manos para ayudar a las personas más necesitadas. Gracias a cada uno de ustedes y a sus donativos a favor de CMA podemos tocar las vidas de muchas personas de nuestra comunidad.

Los donativos a la Campaña de Apoyo a los Ministerios Católicos ayudan a los seminaristas y a los que participan en el programa de diaconado con los costos de su educación. CMA también financia diversos programas para jóvenes y adultos jóvenes en toda nuestra Diócesis, incluyendo ministerios en campus en universidades de Long Island. Caridades Católicas de Long Island recibe fondos de CMA para así ayudar a los más necesitados, como son los ancianos, veteranos y familias que están enfrentando dificultades.

Sean cuales sean sus planes para la próxima Cuaresma, le pido que considere también añadir una donación a favor de CMA como parte de su limosna. Esta importante campaña ayuda a muchas personas en todo Long Island. ¡Sin usted no podemos realizar esta labor!

Por eso, le pido que se una a mí y a todos nuestros hermanos y hermanas de nuestra diócesis haciendo un donativo a favor de la Campaña de Apoyo a los Ministerios Católicos 2026. Hágalo en la medida de sus posibilidades, ya que todas las donaciones cuentan, sin importar el monto.

Recuerde también que el 100% de cada dólar recaudado se destina exclusivamente a financiar los objetivos, programas y misión de la Campaña de Apoyo a los Ministerios Católicos.

Finalmente, si en este momento no puede hacer un donativo debido a diferentes circunstancias en su vida, comuníquese con nosotros para que podamos ayudarle en lo que esté a nuestro alcance. Recuerde que nunca está solo, y su comunidad parroquial siempre está aquí para apoyarle.

# The Impact of Alzheimer's in the Community



Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging. Join us as we provide an opportunity for individuals to learn about the impact of Alzheimer's, the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia, stages and risk factors, current research and treatments available for some symptoms, and Alzheimer's Association resources.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the New York State Department of Health.



Sunday, March 22, 2026  
12:30-1:15 p.m.



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Refreshments provided.



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