

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 5th

8:30 AM: Mass of multiple intentions

5:00 PM: Angela Barilla [family]

Sunday, January 6th

Epiphany of the Lord

8 AM: Living and deceased of the parish

9:30 AM: Michael McDonnell [US Custom Service]

11 AM: Hilda Tschinkel [Maria Eppich]

12:30AM: Pauline Marshburn [Crystal & Thomas Fearon]

5 PM: Feliciano S. Binaso, Sr. [Anita & Family]

Monday, January 7th

7 AM: Anne & Ralph Ferro [Father Ferro]

8:30 AM: Joseph Corio [Corio family]

Tuesday, January 8th

7:AM: Martin Murray [Joe Caspary]

8:30 AM: Ray Scardapane [wife]

Wednesday, January 9th

7:AM: Florence Frudden [family]

8:30 AM: Jack Lowe & family [Mary Duggan & family]

Thursday, January 10th

7:AM: Maurice Fitzgerald [Dampman family]

8:30 AM: Patrick Biggins [Eileen & Joe Castro]

Friday, January 11th

7:AM: Eric Ascitutto [Schiraldi family]

8:30 AM: Constantz Valdez [Mary Duggan & family]

Saturday, January 12th

8:30 AM: *Living:* Rocca Caringella

Deceased: Father Pat Branigan, Monsignor Joe Lawlor, Alice Bryant, Juana Melida Estrella, Jose & Rosa Olivo, Richard Palazzolo, Marge, Anna & Pasquale Bianco, Joseph Umile, Ivan Marfisi

5 PM: Michael McDonnell [US Custom Service]

Sunday, January 13th

Baptism of the Lord

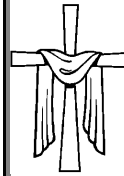
8 AM: Living and deceased members of the parish

9:30 AM: Adolf Wachswender [wife & family]

11 AM: Florence Donnelly [Mary Conlon & family]

12:30PM: Pauline Marshburn [Joyce & James McCabe]

5 PM: John Andersen [Catherine & Joe Bellacicco]



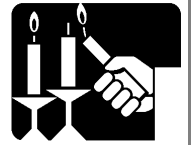
FROM DEATH TO NEW LIFE

Please keep in your prayers the members of our parish family who have recently died: Geraldine Rose Binder and Peter Sawchuck.



The gifts of bread and wine to be used at all the Masses this week have been donated in memory of Brennan David Smith at the request of Grandma & Grandpa Smith.

The Sanctuary and Altar Candles to be used at the Masses this week have been donated in memory of Edward Bizub at the request of his daughter.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL: Patricia Belyus, Anthony Casillo, Walter and Randy Schlegel, Catherine D'Amelio, Nancy Gentile, Karen Iraggi,

Joseph Wlodarczyk, Michael Onerato, Dominic Barilla, Carmela BosoReale, Peggy O'Neill, Elizabeth Wissinger, Matthew Raible, John Foppiano, Lester Fogel, Carol Beaumet, Sean Rooney, Richard Philips, Edward Casey, Rosemary Amato, Stephen D'Amato, Helen Chilarski, Victor Doto, Frank Porcaro, Evan Poelker, Agnes and Ann Brennan, Robert Heinssen, Lena Gambitsky, James Carbo, Victoria Cioffi, John Fasse, Shirley Lally, Joyce Daino, Joseph Scarfo, Vincent Amato, Joan Kinckiner, Virginia Metacarpa, Charlie Campbell, Frances Cantreva, Alejandro Senn, Mike Tumulty, Roseann Menekou, Dorothy Neuman, and Diane Lloyd.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

Let us lift up in prayer our brave men and women who fight for freedom and justice throughout our world: *Rory Kent, Mike Panza, Daniel Hudson, Rafael Lopez, Larry Provost, Ian Robertson, Michael Scotto, Thomas J. Bova, Thomas Niemczyk, Arnaldo Albornod, Raphael Albornod, Adam Przybyszewski, Jonah Biddick, Matthew Geremia, Deborah K. Hollinger, Joseph Strong, Christopher Dede, Jean Pierrenoel, Anthony Caruso, Joseph Richman, Lloyd Blackburn, Christopher Hayes, Jason Scarlata, John and Scott Ianno, Evan Poelker, Michael Wendleken, Douglas Cianchetta, Robert Ryan, James Barlow, Thomas Sadlo, Raymond Boiano, John Young.*

STEWARDSHIP

Last weekend's collection: **\$12,241.95**. We thank those who truly respond to the invitation of Jesus to make sacrifices for the sake of the mission of his Church.

NEWS FROM ADULT SINGLES' GROUP

Wednesday, January 9th - Annulment Information Evening - Diocese of Rockville Centre Office of Faith Formation. The time is 7:30pm at St Frances de Chantel, Wantagh Ave, Wantagh. The cost: \$10. For info Kathleen Logan (516) 678- 5800 ext 236 or klogan@drvc.org.

Friday, January 11th - General Meeting - Holy Spirit Singles, Parish Center, 16 South 6th Street, New Hyde Park, from 7:30 - 9:30pm. We will be discussing future social plans and volunteer opportunities. We then head over to the diner afterwards to socialize (cost your own). We will also be collecting items to send to our troops so please bring something with you. Call Mary for more information (516) 775-0858.



WELCOME TO THE NEW MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY:

Those baptized in the month of December:
Michael Ryan Fields, Isabel Francisca Barrett, Christopher Thomas Munge, Emelia Grace Chambers, Anthony Christopher Flood, Andrew James McWilliam, Diana Berenise Sumba, Jessica Lisette Sumba, and Jailene Lisette Sumba.

READINGS OF THE WEEK

- Monday:** 1 John 3:4:6 Matthew 4: 12-17
- Tuesday:** 1 John 4:7-10 Mark 6: 34-44
- Wednesday:** 1 John 4:11-18 Mark 6: 45-52
- Thursday:** 1 John 4: 19-5:4 Luke 4: 14-22
- Friday:** 1John 5: 5-13 Luke 5: 5-13
- Saturday:** 1John 5:14-21 John 3: 22-30

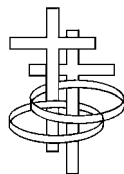
Banns of Marriage

Second Announcement

- Donna Damato (*Holy Spirit*) and Al Vetter (*Holy Spirit*)

Third Announcement:

- Maricris Silva (*Redemption Church, Philippines*) and Jesus Abelarde Jr. (*Holy Spirit*)



COMING UP THIS WEEK

Monday, January 7th

- 7:15 & 8:30 PM: AA Meeting-Cafeteria & Auditorium
- 7:30PM: St. Vincent De Paul Soc. Mtg - Ctrl Mtg Rm.

Tuesday, January 8th

- 6:30PM: "Take Off Pounds Sensibly" North Mtg. Rm
- 7:15PM: Legion of Mary Mtg - Ctrl. Mtg. Rm
- 7:15PM: Religious Ed.- 7 & 8 Gr. - School
- 7:30PM: Taize Prayer - Church
- 7:30PM: Parents w/o Partners - Cafeteria

Wednesday, January 9th

- 9:40AM: Adult Scripture Study - Central Meeting Rm.
- 7:30PM: Pastoral Formation Institute Class -Martin Hall
- 7:30PM: Committee of Inclusion - Ctrl. Mtg. Rm.

Thursday, January 10th

- 3:30PM: Religious Ed. - Gr. 1, 2, & 3 - School
- 7:15 & 8:30 PM: AA Meeting - Cafeteria& Auditorium
- 7:00PM: World Youth Day Leaders Mtg- Martin Hall

Friday, January 11th

- 4:00PM: MusikGarten - Martin Hall
- 7:00PM: Teen Scene - Auditorium
- 7:00PM: Holy Spirit Singles Mtg.- Martin Hall
- 7:30PM: Divine Mercy Cenacle - Church

Saturday, January 12th

- 7:00AM:& 2:00PM: AA Meeting - Cafeteria
- 9:00AM: Defensive Driving - Martin Hall

Sunday, January 13th

Hospitality After 9:30 & 11:00 Masses

- 8:30AM: Holy Spirit Winter Blood Drive - Auditorium
- 9:30AM: Early Childhood Liturgy #10
- 10:30AM Religious Ed - Gr. 4, 5, 6 & SRE - School
- 1:00PM: New Hyde Park Curia Meeting - Martin Hall

SERVICE OF PRAYER AROUND THE CROSS

Are you run ragged these days? Would you like some peace and quiet as you begin this New Year of 2008? Do you have burdens you would like to place before Jesus?

Then we encourage you to attend a prayer service around the San Damiano Cross, modeled after the Brothers of Taize in France, an ecumenical community.

The icon of the Cross is in the sanctuary of the Church surrounded by candles. The prayer includes meditative chants, a reading from scripture and some silence. While the meditative singing continues, those who wish come to the Cross and pray.

This prayer reminds us that now Christ accompanies every human being in his/her suffering. This service is filled with peace and encouragement. It lasts less than one hour. You are invited to come on **TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, AT 7:30 PM**. We hope you can join us.

HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL OF RELIGION



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Holy Spirit School of Religion provides religion classes for children in grades one through eight and preparation for the Sacraments of Eucharist (First Communion), Penance and Confirmation for children who attend public schools. Holy Spirit's children are welcome to receive these sacraments here at their home parish regardless of where they attend school, public, parochial or private. For children attending religion classes regularly, only immediate preparation for the sacraments is necessary.

Our **Special Needs Program** is dedicated to meeting the catechetical needs of children who have physical or developmental challenges.

The weekly class schedule during the school year can be found here in the bulletin under "**Coming Up this Week,**" or on our website www.holyspiritchurch.com listed under "**Upcoming Events.**" Please call 354-2363 for further information.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF HOLY SPIRIT PARISH CHILDREN WHO ARE CURRENTLY IN 7TH GRADE!

All young people of the parish who are in 7th grade are welcome to begin preparation for reception of the sacrament of Confirmation here at Holy Spirit Parish. This includes children in public, private or parochial schools who are our parishioners. Parents are invited to a meeting with our pastor, Fr. Tony, and our Confirmation Coordinators.

For your convenience, we will offer this meeting on two occasions. You need only attend one time. This meeting is for parents/guardians only - no children, please. **You may attend on Sunday, January 6 at 12 noon, OR Tuesday, January 15 at 7:30pm.** Both meetings will be held in Martin Hall which is located in the Parish Center. Please call 354-2362 if you have questions, or need further information. We are looking forward to welcoming you!

HOLY SPIRIT ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Because the journey never ends!



In the vestibule of the Church, there is a special pamphlet rack containing a publication called "Catholic Update." Each week, we will be providing a special *Catholic Update* that will help further our understanding of our faith. Next week's feastday is the Baptism of the Lord. Our *Catholic Update* entitled "The Sacrament of Baptism" will renew our understanding of the theology of the sacrament and the meaning of living out this sacrament in our daily lives.

SCRIPTURE STUDY FOR ADULTS

All are welcome to join our group which meets weekly to read the Scripture readings for the coming Sunday's Mass, and to pray and reflect on their meaning in our daily lives. Please join us next Wednesday, January 9th 2008, from 9:45 until 11:15am, in the Central Meeting Room which is located on the 2nd floor of the Parish Center.

A SPECIAL BEREAVEMENT MASS

A parent's loss of a child is a very unique kind of loss. No matter how many years ago the loss has occurred, and no matter how old or young the child, the loss is still a heavy one for parents to bear. Recognizing that the Christmas season can be a particularly difficult season for parents who have lost a child, we would like to offer a special Mass of Remembrance for all parents who have suffered this loss in their lives. **The Mass will take place on this coming Saturday, January 12, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. in our church.** You may wish to pass this word to others who may not otherwise see this bulletin announcement. We hope to be able to reach out to many through the healing that is brought to us through the Eucharist.

If you are able to attend this liturgy, we ask you to call the rectory and give us the name of the child you wish to have mentioned at this special Mass of Remembrance.

LONG ISLAND CATHOLIC SUNDAY

This weekend is *The Long Island Catholic Sunday*. On this day, we take a collection to help defray the cost of sending you our diocesan newspaper each week. You are asked to contribute the \$20 annual price of the paper to help your parish cover this expense. If you missed placing your envelope in this weekend's collection, you may bring it with you next weekend. Thank you for supporting your parish's efforts to make sure that our parishioners are able to receive the *Long Island Catholic*.

Reflection by Father Tony

Who ever said that men will never stop in order to ask for directions? The astrologers of today's gospel (assuming that they were wise *men*) do in fact stop at the royal palace and ask the reigning King Herod to tell them where they can find the new born king of the Jews. Notwithstanding the fact that they were somewhat naive in believing that they could have the cooperation of the existing king to tell them news about a future king, the astrologers are at least savvy enough to know that they can't find Christ by the power of their own wits.

However, even Herod does not know where the new King will be – he too has to find out for himself. And where do inquiring minds go? What is the source of direction for both wise men and tyrannical kings? The scripture – pure and simple. Herod's advisors search the scriptures and find the passage where it is written "And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel."

The point is simply this: If you are lost and looking for direction in your life, look through the scriptures. "But where do I begin? How do I manage to find answers in what seemingly is such a large and complex book?" You can try to read the Bible systematically – from beginning to end – but after you get past the floods and the plagues, you might be as hopelessly lost in the Bible as Moses was lost in the desert. Perhaps the best way to read the Bible is by making a simple act of faith: the Holy Spirit that inspired the sacred author to pen these words is the same Holy Spirit that is available to you to receive the very word as God's direction for you. In other words, pray to the Holy Spirit to guide you to the passage that you need to hear in order to receive God's direction for you in your life. Or perhaps you might start with the daily Mass readings that are listed in the bulletin. What better new year's resolution could there be than to desire to spend more time reading the scripture as part of your daily routine in prayer.

HOLY SPIRIT TO PARTICIPATE IN MARCH ON WASHINGTON



For the last thirty years, abortion-on-demand has been the law of the land since the Supreme Court decision *Roe v. Wade*. On the anniversary of this decision, thousands upon thousands of people have marched each year in Washington to say to our legislators that murder is not a choice that can be guaranteed by our Constitution.

Each year as busloads of pro-life people pour into Washington, the media has made it appear that only a few demonstrators are gathering in Washington. And yet the outcry on behalf of the defenseless is deafening. Won't you be part of that outcry? Will you be a voice for the voiceless?

This year, Holy Spirit Church is sharing a bus with Father Charles Mangano and the people of Cure of Ars Church, Merrick. Both Father Tony and Father Charles will provide spiritual leadership for our group as we make our way to our nation's capital (Actually, Father Charles will be providing prayer cards, videos, music, leading us in the scriptural rosary, an extremely moving poster for our marchers, special maps etc. Father Tony will provide donuts). **Our bus will leave Holy Spirit on Tuesday morning, January 22nd at 5:30 a.m.** The cost for the trip is only \$10.00. To reserve a space on the bus, please call the rectory at 516-354-0359.

HOLY SPIRIT BLOOD DRIVE

Please mark your calendar now to remind yourself that Holy Spirit Parish will have their semi-annual Blood Drive on **Sunday, January 13th from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM**, in the auditorium of our School. The Long Island Blood Services depend on this particular blood drive as the winter months are very critical.

If you are between the ages of 17 and 75, in good health, and weigh at least 110 pounds, you are eligible to give the gift of life. All you need to bring on that Sunday is some form of ID, a pair of reading glasses (if you use them) and the desire to make a difference in this world. We also ask you to know your social security number.

Our goal is to collect 70 pints of blood -- we did 61 pints last winter so it's not impossible! Sadly, even if we meet our goal, we will only be supplying a small portion of the 1,000 pints needed on Long Island that day for people afflicted with leukemia, hemophiliacs or burn victims.

To those who have never donated blood before: Giving blood is *safe* and quite *painless* and takes little time. A friendly and well trained medical staff is on hand to give you a brief examination before you donate.

To those who have donated blood before: It is safe to give blood every 56 days (up to five times a year). If you haven't given blood since November 19th, you are eligible to give the gift of life again on Sunday, January 13th!

UNDERSTANDING MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

The question of Accountability

Accountability is a tough word in our culture. On the one hand, we know that accountability is an important ingredient if you want to have a sense of belonging. Without accountability, there are no real bonds of relationship. On the other hand, accountability sounds like you are surrendering your freedom, having to check in, becoming answerable to someone else (putting on the ball and chain!).

Let's take a moment to look at accountability from the perspective of being a member of the Catholic Church. Father Tony is pastor of the parish, right? Surely he is accountable to the bishop for the ministry that he performs in the parish. He is also accountable to the parishioners about how he disburses the money that is collected, how he structures the organization of the parish so that the mission of the Church can be accomplished. But even beyond the structures of the Church as a bureaucracy, Father Tony is accountable to be a good spiritual leader – that is, the parishioners have a *right* to his doing everything he can to be a holy man of God. If he fails to pray, to read the scripture, to spend quiet time with God, then he has not lived up to his responsibilities as a spiritual shepherd, and he needs to be held accountable for that!

Wouldn't that be interesting if we demanded that same sense of accountability from each other? If we are members of the one body of Christ, then every part of the body needs to function at its optimal capacity in order for the other parts to function at all. Therefore I have a right to expect (and even demand?) the good example, the piety and the spiritual & moral maturity of the other members of the body of Christ. Holding each other accountable for what we have a right to receive brings a vitality and a growth to our parish – and increases a sense of member engagement in our community.

Last week, we looked at the question, "As a member of my parish, I know what is expected of me." If I am clear as to what others expect (that is have a right) of me, then I will make myself more accountable to them. If we, as a parish, grew in clarity of knowing what is expected of each person, then we would become increasingly more accountable to each other so that we can help one another to grow. Next week, we will look at how we ought to come up with a list of expectations to which we hold one another accountable.

A GREAT WINTER WEEKEND

Saints Peter & Paul Spirituality Center at the Immaculate Conceptions in Douglaston, is offering a women's Cursillo weekend: January 31 - February 3, 2008. The Cursillo is a structured weekend. It consists of a series of talks and discussions. It offers you the opportunity to work at getting to know yourself, discover your strengths, figure out what place God plays in your life, and get closer to Him. The weekend offers you the guidance to blend your love of God with your environment when you reenter your everyday world. You will be giving yourself a precious gift. Call either of the following two contacts and request additional information: Dorothy Baudry 718/229-8001 ext. 309 or Maureen Powers 718/229-8001 ext. 310.

DIVORCE AND BEYOND

Divorce and Beyond is a ten-week program for those separated, going through the process of divorce or recently divorced designed to help men and women explore the emotions and experiences often associated with separation and divorce. The program begins Friday, January 11, 2008 at 7:30 PM in St. William the Abbott Church, 2000 Jackson Avenue, Seaford. Cost for the 10 week program is \$20. For further information and registration, please contact: Angie at (516) 868- 2503 or Carol at (516) 432 - 2241 or email us at DivorcednBeyond@aol.com

HOLY SPIRIT SINGLES CROCHET DAY

Holy Spirit Singles will sponsor another Crochet Day on Saturday, January 19th from 10am to 4pm. Our projects this time will be to crochet scarves for the Veterans in the VA Hospital and make 6 inch squares that will be put together for children attending a special camp this summer for Children with Cancer.