

## Masses

**Saturday Evening:** 5:00 pm

**Sunday:** 9:00 am, 11:00 am

### **Daily Mass:**

Monday - Friday 9:00 am

### **Holy Days:**

7:00pm (Vigil on the eve)

9:00 (on the day)

## Confessions

**Saturday:** 3:30 - 4:00 pm (Large Church)

or by appointment with a priest

## Pastoral Team

Rev. Msgr. William A. Hanson Pastor

frbill@miparish.net

Deacon Robert Lyon

Baptism/

RCIA Coordinator

deaconbob@miparish.net

Rev. Charles Okonkwo

Chaplain, in Residence

Fran Bursztyn

Religious Education Coordinator

fran@miparish.net

Mary Pat Lyon

Ministry of Consolation

Leslie O'Connor

Business Manager/Liturgical

Music Coordinator

leslie@miparish.net

Alfredo Sobalvarro

Parish Maintenance

Karen Stanganelli

Religious Education Secretary

karen@miparish.net

Ellen Sullivan

St. Vincent de Paul President

ellen92601@aol.com

Tara Turnow

Parish Accountant

Michelle Yalamas

Parish Secretary

michelle@miparish.net

### **Finance Committee**

Felix J. Grucci, Jr.

Chairman/Trustee

Dr. Joseph Graskemper

Trustee

Fr. Bill Hanson

Jim Renahan

Tom Derby

Frank Lento

Patricia Panatier

### **Holy Angels Regional School**

**Principal:** Mr. Michael Connell

631-475-0422

Business Office: 631-475-2641

www.holyangelsregional.org

# *The Parish Family of Mary Immaculate*

**Sunday  
February 4, 2018**

16 Browns Lane, Bellport, NY 11713

631-286-0154 / 631-286-2937 (fax)

www.miparish.net



**Rectory Office Hours:** Monday - Friday, 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
(Closed 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM)

**Religious Education Office / Youth Ministry:** 631-286-3504

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul / Food Pantry:** 631-286-3795

**Food Pantry Hours:** Wednesday, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
Friday, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

# February 4, 2018 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>February 3</b>		<b>Monday</b>	<b>February 5</b>
5:00 pm	Charles Meinhold	by Kalinowski Family	9:00 am	Concetta Grucci by Pat & Bill Perry
	Diane Bitetti	by Family		
	Michael John Bitetti	by Family		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>February 4</b>		<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>February 6</b>
9:00 am	Colleen Nicols	by Frank & Marie Trotta	9:00 am	No Intention Requested
11:00 am	Des Burke	by Pat & Bill Perry	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>February 7</b>
			9:00 am	Parishioners of Mary Immaculate
			<b>Thursday</b>	<b>February 8</b>
			9:00 am	Helen M. Derby by Family
			<b>Friday</b>	<b>February 9</b>
			9:00 am	No Intention Requested

**Bulletin Reflection:** Like St. Paul in the second reading, the good stewards say, "I do all that I do for the sake of the Gospel in the hope of having a share in its blessings."

**Living Stewardship:** We are grateful this week for all stewards in our parish who use their gifts of healing and forgiveness to help repair relationships in families beset with divorce, death, dysfunction or abuse.

**Weekly Collection:** \$5,841.00

**Faith Direct Weekly:** \$2,409.00

**Total:** \$8,250.00



## *For the Month of February*

*Our Eucharist & Wine*

*are in Loving Memory of*

**Maria Curreri**

*Requested by Lucille McElroy*

*Our Altar Candles & Flowers*

*are in Loving memory of*

**Eleanor Rodier**

*Requested by Sullivan family*



## **This Week's Readings**

**Monday:** 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13 / Mk 6:53-56

**Tuesday:** 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30 / Mk 6:1-13

**Wednesday:** 1 Kgs 10:1-10 / Mk 7:14-23

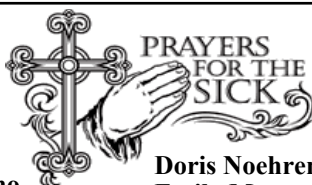
**Thursday:** 1 Kgs 11:4-13 / Mk 7:24-30

**Friday:** 1 Kgs 11:29-32, 12:19 / Mk 7:31-37

**Saturday:** 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34 / Mk 8:1-10

**Sunday:** Lv 13:1-2, 44-46 / 1 Cor 10:31-11:1 / Mk 1:40-45

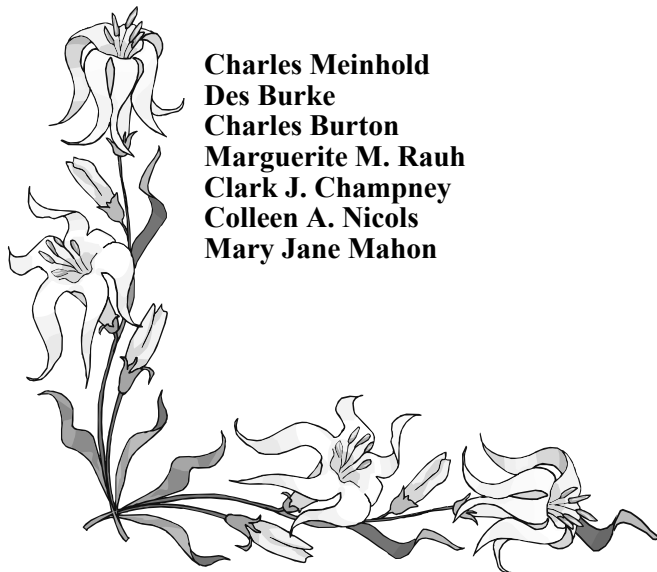
# Mary Immaculate Prays For One Another



Gina DiMartino  
Kate Cox  
Nora Cetchell  
Michael Matthews  
Roz Hassell  
Nancy Cavaliere  
Jose Llanes  
Emily Straub  
Claudia Horst  
Philip J. McSweeney  
Frank C. Harris  
Joanne Klonoski  
Vincent Racaniello  
Jennifer Lombardi  
Dana Hertzovitz  
Linda Sherwood

Doris Noehren  
Emily Magnani  
Lorraine Schordine  
Jennifer Bennett  
Richard Colli  
Luhur Budiarjo  
Teimor Tamadon  
Theresa Venturino  
Maureen Gjertsen  
James Leung  
Thomas Nolan  
Alice Nolan  
John Rocco  
Kevin Williams  
Therese Hopper  
Helen May

## *Please Pray for Our Deceased*



Charles Meinhold  
Des Burke  
Charles Burton  
Marguerite M. Rauh  
Clark J. Champney  
Colleen A. Nicols  
Mary Jane Mahon

## PRAY FOR OUR ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ MILITARY

Gregory Azzara - Navy  
Gunnery Sgt. John Scott Dowdell - USMC  
SSgt Matthew Pica - Army  
John Paul Redmond - Army  
PFC Robert Temple - Army  
SSgt. Shawn Weismiller - Air Force  
Sgt. Jason Ramos - Army  
Pvt Jonathan Salvestrini - Army  
PFC Shane Gibney - USMC  
Cpl Mark Anthony Barone - USMC  
Lt. Philip J. Granati - U.S. Coast Guard  
WO1 Nalita Sellers - Army  
LC Amanda Knepper - USMC  
SFC Edward Kusa - Navy  
Bryan Thurston - Army  
Sean Thomas Vignato - USMC  
Mgr. David Matthew Butler - Army  
Chief Richard J. Vanderhoof - U.S. Coast Guard  
Thomas C. Lennon - USMC

*Please pray for the safe return of our troops.*  
The families wish to thank you for your prayers,  
and ask that you please continue to pray.  
**God Bless you all.**

## Stewardship in Action

### Mass Servers for the Following Week:

#### February 10th:

5:00 PM

Servers: J. Maler, B. Maler, T. Wilson

Lector: K. Hawkins

Host Ushers: T. Derby, P. Morrison

Eucharistic Ministers: F. Grucci, C. Strickland,  
K. Desmond

#### February 11th:

9:00 AM

Servers: C. Eisenberg, Mia Eisenberg, Mark Eisenberg

Lector: J. Panarello

Host Usher: C. Miller, P. Dastis, D. Sullivan

Eucharistic Ministers: A. Messina, E. Sullivan, A. Martinez

Children's Liturgy of the Word: T. Umbarila

11:00 AM

Servers: D. Walsh, S. Macioce, T. Macioce

Lector: M. Lingat

Host Ushers: G. Moriarty, H. Zengen

Eucharistic Ministers: H. Zengen, L. Budiarjo, O. Miller



Fr. Bill Hanson



### *The Hands of Christ's Mercy* **Fast...**

***Why Fast?*** *Changing our food habits and leaving an intentionally emptier space within us is an ancient practice in virtually all religions. It helps us to physically feel our gratitude for God as our true source of fulfillment, and allows us to voluntarily share the hunger of our neighbors in need, and spur us to act on their behalf.*

***What is Fasting?*** *A day on which a person eats one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal.*

***What is Abstinence?*** *A day on which a preferred food is not eaten, traditionally meat.*

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

***When Do We Fast?*** Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Fridays of lent

***How can we fast in other ways?***

**Fast from doing other things so you can do...**

❑ **"THE MASS: *What we do and Why we do it!*"** On the first four Wednesdays of Lent (Feb. 21, 28, Mar. 7, 14) Msgr. Don Hanson will take us through each part of the Mass and show us what it means and how it got that way

❑ **"40 Cans For Lent"** Donate a can-a-day of food for our neighbors in need. Canned: soup, beans, vegetables, fruit, pasta. You can drop off your cans before or after Mass on Saturdays and Sundays in the St. Vincent de Paul blue wagon in the foyer.

# Mary Immaculate Welcomes You!

## Ongoing Programs/Meetings:

- **Parish Library**

Open weekends after each Mass in Large Church.

- **Children's Liturgy of the Word**

9:00 am & 11 am Masses on Sundays. Children dismissed to break open The Word on a level appropriate for them.

- **Society of St. Vincent de Paul**

10:15 am to 11:15 am on the 1st Sunday of the month in the Cottage.

7:00 pm to 8:00 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Cottage.

- **Rosary Altar Society**

7:00 pm every 2nd Tuesday of the month in the Little Church. All are welcome!

- **Ministry of Consolation**

Please call the Rectory for more information.

- **AA Meeting**

7:30 pm on Sundays & 7:00 pm Thursdays in Auditorium. This meeting is open to anyone who desires to stop drinking.

- **Respect Life**

6:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month in the Large Church.

- **Icon Painting Class**

10:00 am - 3:00 pm on 2nd Thursday of every month in Auditorium. Please call Jim Fuchs at 631-286-1643.

- **Camera Club**

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of month in the Cottage except for holidays and scheduled field trips.

**For more information please call the Rectory:  
286-0154.**

# Welcome!



*If you have recently moved into this area, kindly register by stopping by the Rectory or visiting the Church Office after any weekend Mass or by contacting us at 631-286-0154.*

## **Religious Education & Youth Ministry:**

All children grades 1 through 8 must register **EVERY YEAR** for the program by calling the Religious Education Office at 286-3504.

## **Sacraments:**

**Baptism:** Celebrated once a month at 1:00 pm in the Little Church. Registration is required. Parents should schedule an appointment with Deacon Bob at least 3 months before the desired date of baptism by calling the Rectory. A baptism preparation class is also required.

**Reconciliation:** Confessions are heard on Saturdays at 3:30 - 4:00 pm in the Large Church or by calling the Rectory for an appointment with a priest.

**Marriage:** Couples should make arrangements at least 6 months in advance by appointment with the pastor. No date for a wedding will be set over the phone. Pre-Cana classes are required.

## **Adult Sacraments: (RCIA)**

Are you an adult who wishes to be prepared for Baptism, Confirmation, and/or Eucharist? RCIA is the Rite of Christian Initiation by which adults become members of the Roman Catholic Church. All those who would like to begin this journey, please contact Deacon Bob at the Rectory.



# Mary Immaculate News & Events

## THE MASS: WHAT WE DO AND WHY WE DO IT

From the Entrance Procession to the Final Blessing and everything in between, the Order of the Mass has changed many times over hundreds of years. Have you ever wondered why? Or how?

Msgr. Don Hanson will lead us on a journey through the evolution of the Mass, explaining not just what changed, but also why it changed. Msgr. Hanson will be using a book entitled The Mystery of Faith by Lawrence J. Johnson. We will have a limited number of copies for sale for \$15 each. You can also purchase a copy on-line at [fdlc.org/publications/44510](http://fdlc.org/publications/44510).

We will meet on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, March 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Large Church. Come to any one or all four of the discussions.

## *Mary Immaculate Prayer Shawl Ministry*



*Give the gift of prayer and comfort  
with a handmade Prayer Shawl.*

*Those who have received these blessed shawls have  
been comforted, affirmed and enveloped in the  
hugs and prayers of our parishioners.*

*Shawls are on display the 2nd weekend of the  
month and donations are accepted for yarn.*

*If you like to crochet, please join us on the  
1st Wednesday of the month  
at 10:00 am in the Large Church.*



*February 26, 2018  
6:00 PM*

*Café Castello  
Main St., Bellport*

*Cost: \$35 includes salad, side of pasta,  
choice of veal marsala, chicken  
francese or eggplant parmigiana, glass  
of wine, coffee or tea, dessert, tax & tip.*

*RSVP: Connie Albin 631-286-9105*

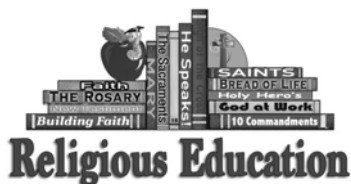
*Hope You Can Join Us!*

## Communion for the Homebound

If you know of anyone that is  
homebound and in need of communion,  
please contact the Rectory.



# Mary Immaculate Religious Ed. News



## The Week of February 5, 2018

Level 1: Monday, February 5th 4:15-5:15 pm  
Level 2: Tuesday, February 6th 4:15-5:15 pm  
Levels 3 & 4: Weds, Feb. 7th 4:15-5:15 pm  
Levels 5 & 6: Thurs. Feb. 8th 4:15-5:15 pm  
Levels 7 & 8: Mon., Feb. 5th 7:00-8:15 pm



Hello Parents,

Please note the following Parent Meetings:

♦ **Level 1 Parent/Child Gathering:**  
(Lent Theme)

Saturday, February 24th 2:30 –3:30 PM

♦ **Level 2 Parent Meeting:**

Wednesday, February 28th 7:00 PM

## Service Opportunities Levels 7 & 8

- **Helpers Needed!** Sunday, February 11th immediately following the 11 AM Mass to begin decorating both Churches for Lent.
- **Faith Buddies Needed!** During the 9 AM & 11 AM Masses, children go upstairs for Liturgy of the Word for Children with a Catechist. We would like to invite you to be a "Faith Buddy" that will assist the catechist and the children.



## **Taste and See the Goodness of God**

Our Grade Level Liturgies are as follows for the Month of February:

• **Level 5:**

Saturday, February 10th at the 5 PM Mass or  
Sunday, February 11th at the 9 AM or 11 AM Mass

**Mary Immaculate Blood Drive**  
**February 11, 2018**  
**at**  
**Bellport Community Center**  
**9:00 AM—3:00 PM**



**BE A HERO...  
SAVE 3 LIVES!**

**JUST 1 PINT MAY  
SAVE UP TO 3 LIVES!!**

**Please donate! Blood is Life!**

**Eligibility Criteria:**

- Bring ID with signature or photo
- Minimum weight 110 lbs.
- Age 16-75 (16 years olds must have parental permission. Age 76 and over must have a doctor's note).
- Eat well (low fat& drink fluids)
- No Tatoos within past 12 months

For additional questions concerning eligibility, please call 1-800-688-0900.

**For more information, please call Ken Hawkins at 631-286-2559.**



# Mary Immaculate News & Events

## Why do we offer a Mass for our deceased friends and relatives?

Prayer is a powerful way we can help others, and when a Mass is said for the repose of a soul, it benefits both the living and the dead. St. Ambrose preached about remembering our departed, “We have loved them during life, let us not abandon them in death.” St. Augustine related the words of his mother, St. Monica, writing “One thing only I ask you, that you remember me at the altar of the Lord wherever you may be.” When we have a Mass said in memory of a friend or loved one, we perform one of the Spiritual Works of Mercy which have long been a cherished part of the Christian tradition.

To have a Mass said for a friend or relative who has passed, contact the rectory or visit the Weekend Office after any weekend Mass.



## Facebook Users!!

Did you know that the Parish Family of Mary Immaculate has a facebook page?



Just search for the “Parish Family of Mary Immaculate” and “like” our page!

Stay up to date with the what’s happening in the parish and the Catholic world, discover opportunities to help you in your spiritual life, and become part of the greater Catholic community.

Please join our facebook page.

# Society of St. Vincent de Paul



## Tax Statements from SVDP for 2018

Anyone needing a 2018 Tax Statement for their SVDP donations, please contact Jim Renehan, SVDP treasurer, at 770-597-2942 (cell).

## 40 Cans for Lent 2018



**Lent Begins February 14th!!**

**SVDP is asking parishioners to donate 1 can of food for each day of Lent to our Food Pantry.**

**You may drop the cans off on Saturday or Sunday before Mass in our blue wagon located in the foyer of the Large Church.**

**Items needed are  
canned vegetables, soup,  
beans, canned fruit & pasta.**

**Thank you for your  
continued support!**



In the Gospel today, we find that Jesus would rise very early before dawn and go to a deserted place to pray and then he went out to preach and to heal.

**Please pray for the poor and suffering, knowing that you are bringing the love and peace of Jesus to those who live in fear and doubt, loneliness and dread.**



**St. Vincent De Paul  
Helps People!!**

**"Extend mercy towards others, so that there can be no one in need whom you meet without helping. for what hope is there for us if God should withdraw His mercy from us?"**

**Our Pantry is in Need  
of the Following:**

***Spaghetti Sauce, Beans,  
Macaroni & Cheese, Soup,  
Cereal, Tuna, Canned Pasta,  
Canned Yellow Vegetables,  
Peanut Butter & Jelly***



**Thank You!!**

# **Altar Server Training 2018**



**Are you interested in becoming an Altar Server?  
Mary Immaculate is in need of Altar Servers!**

**Grades 3 and Up  
Wednesdays at 5:15 PM – 6:15 PM  
February 28, March 7, 14, 21, April 11, 18**

**For more information, questions or to register,  
please contact:**

**Kathie Hawkins at 631-286-2559 or  
Carolyn Barnett at 631-286-8109**

**Ron Rolheiser Column**  
**Week of January 28 2018**  
**How does God Act in our World?**



There's an oddity in the gospels that begs for an explanation: Jesus, it seems, doesn't want people to know his true identity as the Christ, the Messiah. He keeps warning people not to reveal that he is the Messiah. Why? Some scholars refer to this as "the messianic secret", suggesting that Jesus did not want others to know his true identity until the conditions were ripe for it. There's some truth in that, there's a right moment for everything, but that still leaves the question unanswered: Why? Why does Jesus want to keep his true identity secret? What would constitute the right conditions within which his identity should be revealed?

That question is center-stage in Mark's gospel, at Caesarea Philippi, when Jesus asks his disciples: "Who do you say that I am?" Peter answers: "You are the Christ." Then, in what seems like a surprising response, Jesus, rather than praising Peter for his answer, warns him sternly not to tell anyone about what he has just acknowledged. Peter seemingly has given him the right answer and yet Jesus immediately, and sternly, warns him to keep that to himself. Why?

Simply put, Peter has the right answer, but the wrong conception of that answer. He has a false notion of what means to be the Messiah.

In the centuries leading up to the birth of Jesus and among Jesus' contemporaries there were numerous notions of what the Christ would look like. We don't know which notion Peter had but obviously it wasn't the right one because Jesus immediately shuts it down. What Jesus says to Peter is not so much: "Don't tell anyone that I'm the Christ" but rather "Don't tell anyone that I am what you think the Christ should be. That's not who I am."

Like virtually all of his contemporaries and not unlike our own fantasies of what a Savior should look like, Peter no doubt pictured the Savior who was to come as a Superman, a Superstar who would vanquish evil through a worldly triumph within which he would simply overpower everything that's wrong by miraculous powers. Such a Savior would not be subject to any weakness, humiliation, suffering, or death and his superiority and glory would have to be acknowledged by everyone, willingly or begrudgingly. There would be no holdouts; his demonstration of power would leave no room for doubt or opposition. He would triumph over everything and would reign in a glory such as the world conceives of glory, that is, as the Ultimate Winner, as the Ultimate Champion – the winner of the Olympic medal, the World Cup, the Super Bowl, the Academy Award, the Nobel Prize, the winner of the great trophy or accolade that definitively sets one above others.

When Peter says: "You are the Christ!" that's how he's thinking about it, as earthly glory, worldly triumph, as a man so powerful, strong, attractive, and invulnerable that everyone would simply have to fall at his feet. Hence Jesus' sharp reply: "Don't tell anyone about *that!*"

Jesus then goes on to instruct Peter, and the rest of us, who he really is a Savior. He's not a Superman or Superstar in this world or a miracle worker who will prove his power through spectacular deeds. Who is he?

The Messiah is a *dying and rising Messiah*, someone who in his own life and body will demonstrate that evil is not overcome by miracles but by forgiveness, magnanimity, and nobility of soul and that these are attained not through crushing an enemy but through loving him or her more fully. And the route to this is paradoxical: The glory of the Messiah is not demonstrated by overpowering us with spectacular deeds. Rather it is demonstrated in Jesus letting himself be transformed through accepting with proper love and graciousness the unavoidable passivity, humiliation, diminishment, and dying that eventually found him. That's the dying part. But when one dies like that or accepts any humiliation or diminishment in this way there's always a subsequent rising to real glory, that is, to the glory of a heart so stretched and enlarged that it is now able to transform evil into good, hatred into love, bitterness into forgiveness, humiliation into glory. That's the proper work of a Messiah.

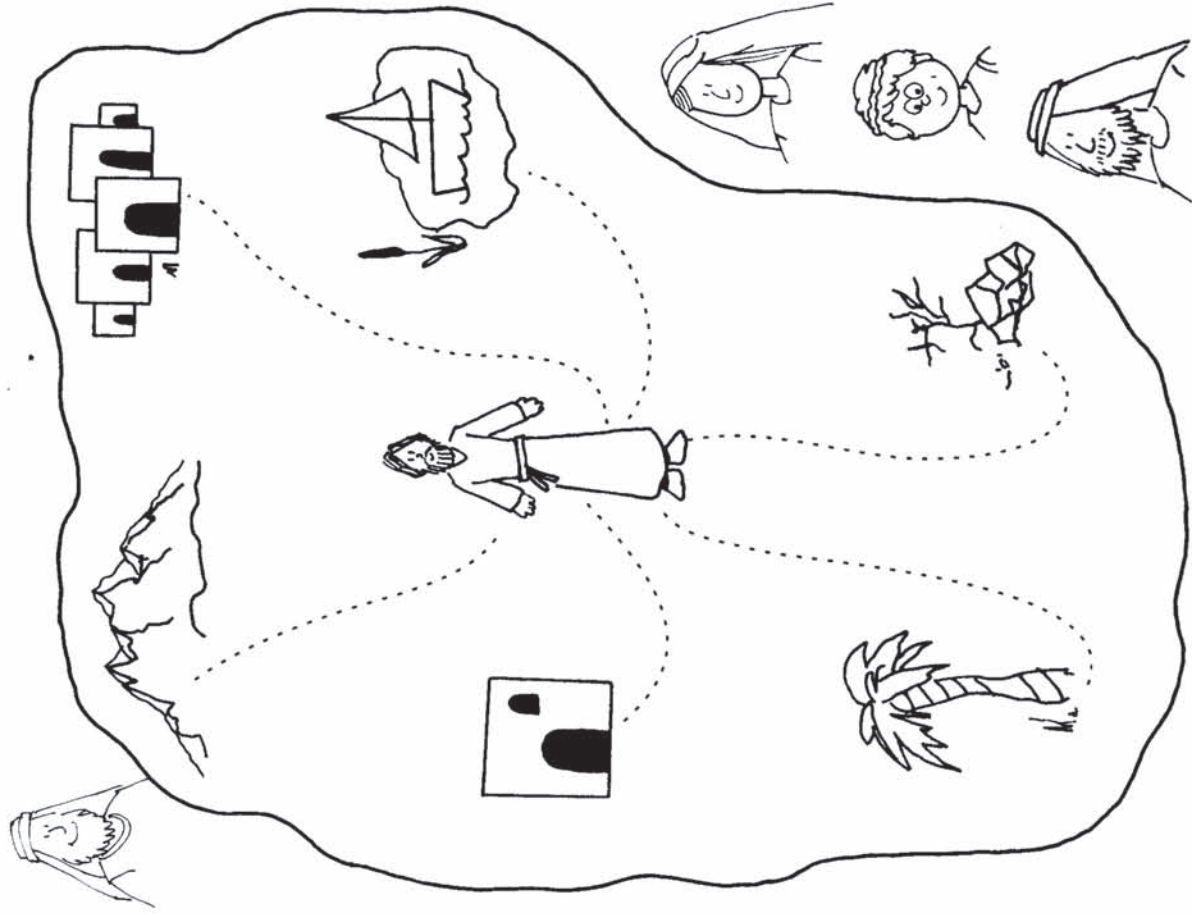
In Matthew's Gospel this same event is recorded and this same question is asked and Peter gives the same response, but Jesus' answer to him here is very different. In Matthew's account, after Peter says: "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God", rather than warn him not to talk about it, Jesus praises Peter's answer. Why the difference? Because Matthew recasts the scene so that, in his version, Peter does understand the Messiah correctly.

How do we imagine the Messiah? How do we imagine triumph? Imagine Glory? If Jesus looked us square in the eye and asked, as he asked Peter: "How do you understand me?" Would he laud us for our answer or would he tell us: "Don't tell anyone about that!"

*Oblate Father Ron Rolheiser, theologian, teacher, and award-winning author, is President of the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, TX. He can be contacted through his website [www.ronrolheiser.com](http://www.ronrolheiser.com). Now on Facebook [www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser](https://www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser)*

Jesus traveled all over Galilee,  
preaching and healing the people.

Follow the lines and help Jesus travel.



# Children's Worship Bulletin

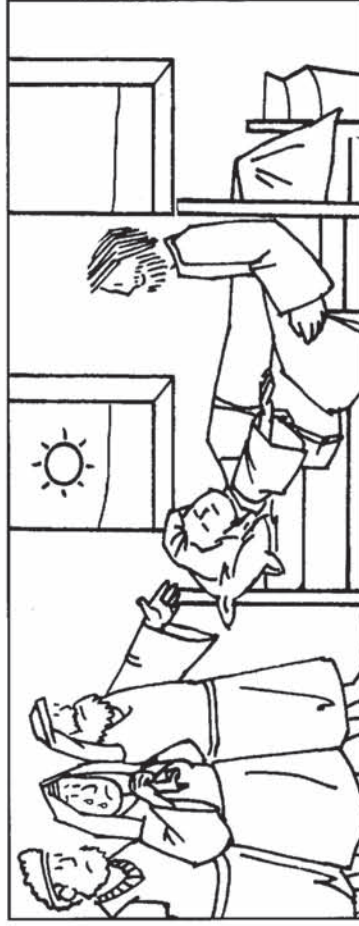
Ages 3-6

February 4, 2018 • Mark 1:29-39

Jesus Heals Many People

Simon's mother-in-law  
was in bed with a fever. Jesus took her  
hand, and she was healed.

Circle 9 differences in the 2nd picture.





That evening, people brought the sick to Jesus. He healed many of them.

Match the shapes.



Early in the morning,  
Jesus went off alone to pray.

Trace the lines.  
Find the quiet place where Jesus prayed.





# Community and Diocesan Events

## ♦ Parent-Child Home Program

If you are a parent of a two or three year old child, you may be eligible for a special program that helps prepare your child for school success. The **Parent-Child Program sponsored by the Family Service League**, provides a home visitor to come to your home twice a week. The home visitor will bring **FREE educational books and toys that your child gets to keep**, and will demonstrate fun ways for you to use them for the educational benefit of your child. There is **no cost to you**. For more information, please contact the Program Coordinator, Deirdre Borghi, MS, at 631-926-0733.

## ♦ Run for Tomorrow's Hope Foundation 5K

Join Tomorrow's Hope Foundation and Long Island Catholic Elementary schools for the **3rd Annual 5k & Fun Run for Tomorrow's Hope Foundation on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 8:30 AM with Fun Run Start / 9:00 AM 5K Start at 450 Franklin Ave. & Fourth St., Garden City**. Please visit [tomorrowshopefoundation.org](http://tomorrowshopefoundation.org) to sign up, learn about sponsorship opportunities, registration and more! The mission of **Tomorrow's Hope Foundation** is to ensure the excellence as well as the continuance of Catholic schools on Long Island by increasing awareness and by providing scholarship and program funding for the needs of students and schools. The **Tomorrow's Hope Foundation** gives hundreds of children each year the opportunity to attend Catholic elementary school.

## ♦ Eucharistic Adoration– St. Joseph the Worker

Every Friday morning from 9:45 AM—10:45 AM St. Joseph the Worker will have **1 Hour of Eucharistic Adoration** praying for Christians throughout the world being persecuted for their faith. St. Joseph the Worker Church is located at 510 Narragansett Ave., East Patchogue. All are welcome.

## ♦ Bereavement Support Group

St. Mary's Church in East Islip is offering a **FREE 8 week support group for adults who are struggling to cope with the death of a loved one**. Registration is required for this group, which begins on **Wednesday, March 7th from 7:00 – 9:00 PM**. The group will run for **8 consecutive weeks through April 25th**. Refreshments will be served. For more information/registration, please call the Rectory at 631-581-4266, ext. 100. Please note groups are open to people of all faith denominations. In order to participate in this group, the death must have occurred prior to December 13, 2017. St. Mary's Church is located at 20 Harrison Ave., East Islip.

## ♦ Overnight Retreat for Educators—"Let Your Life Speak"

There will be an overnight retreat from **Wednesday, February 21st –Thursday, February 22nd from 12 Noon –12 Noon** at the **St. Joseph Renewal Center at Montfort Spiritual Center**. "Our deepest calling is to grow into our own authentic selfhood, whether or not it conforms to some image of who we ought to be. As we do, we will not only find the joy that every human being seeks, we will also find our path of authentic service in the world." (Frederick Buechner quote) During this time, we will explore the meaning behind the quote and how it effects how and what we do as educators. **Offering:** \$90.00 (Bring your own towels). The Montfort Spiritual Center is located at 26 South Saxon Ave., Bay Shore. For more information, please contact 631-647-8673.

## ♦ St. Joseph Renewal Center at Montfort Spiritual Center

The following programs will be offered at the St. Joseph Renewal Center at Montfort Spiritual Center located at 26 S. Saxon Ave., Bay Shore. Anyone interested in these programs, please call the office at 631-647-8683.

Wednesday, February 7th from 7:30 PM –9:00 PM. "Surviving the Loss of a Loved One on Valentine's Day."  
**Offering:** \$15.00.

## ♦ Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"Remember that my life is like the wind." let us make the best of our time together with our spouses by attending a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend**. The next **WWME Weekends** are the weekend of **February 9-11, 2018 in Huntington, NY and April 27-29, 2018 in Huntington, NY**. For more information, call John & Toni Torio at 718-344-3700 or visit at [www.wwmeli.org](http://www.wwmeli.org).

*For more information on any diocesan-sponsored events /programs, please visit [www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org).*

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