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 Bob Lyon Baptism/

RCIA Coordinator

deaconbob@miparish.net

Rev. Charles Okonkwo

Chaplain, in Residence

Mary Bruballa Fran Bursztyn

Parish Secretary

Religious Education Coordinator fran@miparish.net

Mary Pat Lyon Leslie O'Connor Ministry of Consolation Business Manager/Liturgical

Music Coordinator leslie@miparish.net Parish Maintenance

Alfredo Sobalvarro Ellen Sullivan

St. Vincent de Paul President

ellen92601@aol.com

Tara Turnow

Parish Accountant

Finance Committee

Felix J. Grucci, Jr. Dr. Joseph Graskemper Fr. Bill Hanson

Jim Renehan Tom Derby Frank Lento Patricia Panatier Chairman/Trustee

Trustee

Holy Angels Regional School

Principal: Mr. Michael Connell

631-475-0422

Business Office: 631-475-2641 www.holyangelsregional.org



Sunday October 14, 2018

16 Browns Lane, Bellport, NY 11713 631-286-0154 / 631-286-2937 (fax)

www.miparish.net



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

Religious Education Office: 631-286-0154

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

October 14, 2018 The 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, 5 pm: George Gamaldi

By Claudia Wallen-Logalbo

Patricia Butler

By The Racaniello Family

Kay Ford

By Parish Family of Mary Immaculate

Sunday, 9 am: Bob Maletta

By Rosalyn Hassell

Doris Noehren

By Patricia Coleman & Family

11 am: Doris Noehren

By Sheila Henck

Mary Jane Mahon

By the Family

Monday, 9 am: Mary Leary

By the Ferrigno Family

Patricia Trainor

By Parish Family of Mary Immaculate

Tuesday, 9 am: No intention

Wed. 9 am: Patricia Butler

By Lin and David Schlyer

Doris Noehren

By Lin and David Schlyer

Thursday, 9 am: No intention No intention

Saturday, 5 pm: Patricia Butler

By Hwasoon & Michael Mullaney

George Gamaldi

By Marllyn & Dale Justice & Family

Kay Ford

By the Murphy Family

This Week's Readings

Monday: Galatians4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1; Luke 11:29-32

Tuesday: Galatians 5:1-6;; Luke 11:37-41
Wednesday: Galatians 5:18-25; Luke 11:42-46
Thursday: Timothy 4:10-17b; Luke 10:1-9
Friday: Ephesians 1:11-14; Luke 12:1-7
Saturday: Ephesians1:15-23; Luke 12:8-12

Sunday: Isaiah 53:10-11; Psalm 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22

Hebrews 4:14-16; Mark 10:45

Bulletin Reflection:

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks the rich young man to give away all that he has in order to have treasure in heaven. But he is unable to free himself from his possessions, and so he goes sadly away. Does what *I* own keep *me* from following Jesus?

Weekly Collection: \$4,888

Faith Direct average weekly: \$2,200 2nd Collection: Respect Life: \$982

Parishioners may honor a loved one by sponsoring the altar flowers & candles, or the wine & hosts for the month. We ask for a donation of \$50 for the wine and hosts and \$100 for altar flowers and candles. Their name and yours will be listed in the bulletin for the entire month.

To remember a friend or relative in this very special way, please contact the Rectory office.

For the Month of October

Wine & Hosts

are in loving memory of

MaryAnn & Michael

Auletti

Requested by Christine Auletti

Sor the Month of October



are in loving memory of

Ratricia Butler

Requested by Kathy Butler

Mary Immaculate Parish www.miparish.net

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH



ON THE NEWS: Part 2 MAD? SAD? SCARED?

Fr. Bill Hanson

Last week I wrote about facing a dilemma 28 years ago when I realized there were administrative decisions in the church, which I thought were simply wrong. These were about how decisions were made and how planning and participations was virtually non-extant, I needed another way to separate myself from the things I wanted no part of, without hurting the people who really do get the help they need from a church that is both sinful and full of grace. Frankly I'm glad I faced this dilemma over issues of church administration that were a far cry from the abuse and cover-up that was revealed later. Learning this lesson would have been a lot harder!

Last week I spoke about learning from lay people how my gratitude in financial giving couldn't stop because God's gifts to me hadn't stopped. Yet I had to find a way to support God's work in the church without condoning things I thought were mistaken and hurtful.

Now I choose my charities in a more focused way, and Mary Immaculate is the biggest beneficiary of all. I know that the money I give back out of gratitude here and elsewhere is not supporting evil and denial. In fact I feel closer to God for helping him help others here at Mary Immaculate and the other charities I have selected for their transparency and integrity. Since God's gifts to me haven't stopped, and have never stopped, I've decided to take another step up in my giving, and increase my weekly contribution to Mary Immaculate from \$40 to \$50.

As our parishioner Judy Travers said about her contributions, "In small faith-sharing groups I built friendships and connections with my fellow parishioners. I began to understand and embrace my identity as a Catholic...not as something I could take out on Sunday and then put away. My faith permeated and informs my whole life. As I increasingly felt this...it led me to understand that "the church isn't just Rome's church, it's also my church. This physical building is my home, not just Fr. Bill's. I found that I wanted to contribute more to my church, in greater involvement in service to others, in worship, and in financial support."

This year's Grateful Giving renewal is coming up along with Thanksgiving. You'll be receiving mailings from me about the process we have followed for three years. You'll be hearing more from parishioners about how they deal with the failed parts of church life by supporting the healthy parts through their grateful giving back to God at Mary Immaculate.

As part of our healthy ministry to each other, we are moving ahead in planning opportunities for us to meet and share our love for the church and our disdain for the really wrong things that have hurt all of us. As these plans develop further you will learn about a process to share your anger, sadness, and anxiety in a spirit of openness and shared concern with other parishioners.

Here's the key for me: No support for wrongdoing where it originates, yet giving back to God in gratitude where it really helps people. This gives me another kind of feeling: peace.

Why? Because I don't want to blind myself to the string-less gift God is always giving me. And you!

Sincerely, Fr. Bill Hanson

South Country Churches Thanksgiving Service Sunday November 18th, 4:30 pm at St. James Episcopal Church

260 Beaver Dam Road, Brookhaven, NY

St. James Episcopal, Brookhaven + Old South Country Presbyterian, Brookhaven + Bellport Methodist, + Mary Immaculate, Bellport Ruth AME Zion, Bellport + Christ Episcopal, Bellport + St. Joseph the Worker, East Patchogue Patchogue Church of the Nazarene, + Lutheran Church of Our Savior, Patchogue

Mary Immaculate Welcomes You!

Ongoing Programs/Meetings:

Parish Library

Open weekends after each Mass in Large Church.

• Children's Liturgy of the Word

9 am and 11 am Mass on Sundays during the school year. Children are 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 pm to 8 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Cottage.

• Rosary Altar Society

7 pm every 2nd Tuesday of the month in the Little Church.

• Ministry of Consolation

Please call the Rectory for more information.

• AA Meeting

7:30 pm on Sundays & 7 pm Thursdays upstairs in Auditorium. This meeting is open to anyone with the desire to stop drinking.

• Icon Painting Class

10 am - 3 pm on 2nd Thursday of every month in the Large Church. Please call Jim Fuchs at 631-286-1643.

Camera Club

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



MARY'S MANTLE PRAYER SHAWLS

On the 2nd full weekend of each month, Mary's Mantle Prayer Shawls are available by the Ministry.

You can also stop by the rectory and someone in the office can help you. Also, you can inquire at the weekend office after all Masses.

The Parish Family of Mary Immaculate prays for the recipients of our Mary's Mantles. If you know of someone who is suffering - physically, mentally or spiritually - perhaps they would appreciate receiving one of these lovingly-made prayer shawls.



stopping by the Rectory or visiting the Church Office after any weekend Mass or by contacting us at 631-286-0154. You can also fill out a registration form found at both entrances to the Large Church, and drop them in the collection basket.

SACRAMENTS

<u>Baptism</u>: Celebrated either at a weekend Mass or once a month at 1 pm in the Little Church. Please register at least 3 months before the baptism by calling the rectory. A baptism preparation class is also required.

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

<u>Marriage</u>: 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 the rectory.

Welcome New Parishioners

Lili and Byron
Elizabeth, Paola and Family
April and Family
Erica, Daniel and Charlotte
John and Kristina
Craig, Michelle and Cameron

Welcome the newly Baptized in September

Claire Alice Covelle Charlotte Grace Derby Matteo Caradonna Liam Robert Scaturro

Mary Immaculate Prays For One Another

PRAY FOR OUR *** MILITARY

Robert Vasquez - Navy Gregory Azzara - Navy Gunnery Sgt. John Scott Dowdell - USMC SSgt Matthew Pica - Army PFC Robert Temple - Army SSgt. Shawn Weismiller - Air Force Sgt. Jason Ramos - Army Pvt Jonathan Salvestrini - Army Cpl Mark Anthony Barone - USMC Lt. Philip J. Granati - U.S. Coast Guard LC Amanda Knepper - USMC Petty Officer 1st Class Edward Kusa - Navy 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 thank you for your prayers, and ask that you please continue to pray. God Bless you all.

"Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress. He sent out his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave. Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind."

Psalm 107:19-21

Bishop Barres asks us to join in praying for survivors of clergy sexual abuse and for the reform, purification and sanctification of the Church. To report a past abuse or a suspected abuse, call the Hotline at 516-594-9063.





Marilyn Stanions
Nancy Cavaliere
Claudia Horst
Philip J. McSweeney
Vincent Racaniello
Jennifer Lombardi
Linda Sherwood
Mary Kinsley
Helen Sidoti
Thomas Nolan
Alice Nolan

George McCombs
Gina DiMartino
Michael Matthews
Roz Hassell
Emily Magnani
Lorraine Schordine
Luhur Budiarjo
Teimor Tamadon
Theresa Venturino
Kevin Williams
Therese Hopper
Helen May
Irene Ball
Christine Barden

PEACE AND HEALING THROUGH THE EUCHARIST

I encourage families in particular to draw inspiration and strength from this sacrament. The love between man and woman, openness to life, and the raising of children are privileged spheres in which the Eucharist can reveal its power to transform life and give it its full meaning.

-Pope Benedict XVI



FAITH FORMATION NEWS



Catechists are needed For Levels 2, 3 and 4

Please contact Fran if you can help in this very important ministry.

Grade Level Liturgies in October

Levels 5 and 6: October 20 at 5 PM Mass or October 21 at 9 or 11 AM Mass

<u>Levels 3 and 4:</u> October 27 at 5 PM Mass or October 28 at 9 or 11 AM Mass

Registration Closes October 31st

Faith Formation Classes this week				
Level 2:	Tuesday	4:30 - 5:30		
Level 3:	Wednesday	4:30 - 5:30		
Level 4:	Wednesday	4:30 - 5:30		
Level 5:	Tuesday	5:45 - 6:45		
Level 6:	Tuesday	5:45 - 6:45		
Level 7:	Monday	7:00 - 8:20		
Level 8:	Monday	7:20 - 8:20\		
I				

Community Service Opportunities

- Eastern Farm Workers Association is holding a HALLOWEEN PARTY for their workers and families at Christ Episcopal Church in Bellport. The event is on Saturday, October 27th, from 6 to 8 pm. 8th graders and older are needed to assist with set-up, clean-up and to help with games for the children. Please speak with Fran if you can help. Note that all children must be accompanied by an adult.
- <u>Food Collection</u> for St. Vincent de Paul's Thanksgiving Food Drive: Sign up and reserve your preferred date/time for collecting food at local grocery stores. Collection dates are 10/27, 11/28, 11/3, 11/4, 11/10, 11/11 and 11/17. Collection times begin at 9 am and end at 5 pm, in one -hour time slots. Sign up after Masses beginning on October 13th. If you can't sign up after Mass, call Ken Hawkins at 631-286-2559.
- <u>CYO needs volunteers</u>: If any 8th graders or high schoolers are interested in volunteering, we could always use your help keeping the scorebook or running the scoreboard. Please contact John Mackie at 631-335-1025 or email him at jm@cherrylanelitho.com

If you volunteer for any community service outside of Church, bring documentation from the group to Miss Fran, and she will record your hours in your file.

THE PARISH FAMILY OF MARY IMMACULATE

GIRLS NIGHT OUT RSVP TODAY!

Join us for Italian Night at Café Castello in Bellport on Tuesday, October 16 at 6 PM

The cost is \$26 per person which includes a glass of wine
Appetizers: Clams, Fried Calamari
Choice of Entrée with Pasta:
Chicken Parmigiana, Veal Parmigiana or
Eggplant Rollatini
Coffee/tea with dessert (chef's choice)

Please RSVP on or before October 14th to Lee Long, 286-0673; Judy Hester, 286-0782; Carolyn Barnett, 286-8109 or email jhester516@aol.com or jllong@optonline.net

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

CYO CORNER

The Mary Immaculate Saints CYO basketball clinic for grades 1 – 3 started Friday, October 5th

The clinics will be every Friday at the Bellport Middle School (east gym) from 6 to 7 pm, and they will run for 8 weeks. The fee is only \$75 and that includes a clinic tee shirt. The only things needed are sneakers and a basketball (a small one for their tiny hands...27.5") Please spread the word and come on down!

Also if any 4th graders are interested in playing for the Mary Immaculate Saints, we have openings. Please contact me, John Mackie, at im@cherrylanelitho.com, or call me at 631-335-1025.

Weekend Ministry Schedule

October 6, 7

5 PM Mass

Altar Servers: B. Maler, J. Maler, K. Price

Lector: S. Hammer Ems: C. Strickland.

F. Grucci, K. Hawkins

Ushers: G. Zanazzi, J. Palo

9 AM Mass

Altar Servers: M. Murphy, P. Schortemeyer, E. Rauch

Lector: N. Cassone

Ems: E. Sullivan,

A. Messina, A. Martinez **Ushers:** M. Comiskey,

D. Sullivan

11 AM Mass

Altar Servers: J. Aragona, D. Walsh, N. Ponter

Lector: E. Russo

Ems: L. Budiarjo,

J. Renehan, O. Miller

Ushers: P. Morrison, J. Ryan

October 13, 14

5 PM Mass

Altar Servers: E. Ciavatta, K. Ciavatta, H. Sponton

Lector: K. Hawkins Ems: D. Berberich.

C. Barnett, J. Barnett

Ushers: P. Morrison,

9 AM Mass

Altar Servers: T. Stanganelli, T. Sica, D. Walsh

T. Derby

Lector: C. Kusa

Ems: K. Stanganelli,

J. Langer, V. Langer

Ushers: C. Miller,

P. Dastis, D. Sullivan

11 AM Mass

Altar Servers: T. Ocasio, J. Schmidt, S. Zengen

Lector: M. Lingat

Ems: K. Hawkins, K. Hawkins, M. Brown

Ushers: G. Moriarty, H. Zengen

October 20, 21

5 PM Mass

Altar Servers: E. Mehrkens, C. Murphy, N. Ponter

Lector: F. Lento Ems: J. Cronin,

K. Hawkins, L. Ferraro

Ushers: P. Attanasio, T. Derby

9 AM Mass

Altar Servers: A. Sullivan, C. Fiori, B. Fiori

Lector: H. Sidoti

Ems: S. Rauch, J. Barry, S. Barry

Ushers: J. Springhorn, E. Sullivan

11 AM Mass

Altar Servers: T. Wilson, L. Wilson, C. Wilson

Lector: P. Morrison

Ems: G. Moriarty,

J. Renehan, H. Zengen

Ushers: M. Umbarilla, D. Sullivan

October 27, 28

5 PM Mass

Altar Servers: J. Aragona, A. Caroli, W. Caroli

Lector: P. O'Connor

Ems: B. Berberich,

K. Desmond, C. Strickland

Ushers: D. Sullivan, M. Simon

9 AM Mass

Altar Servers: G. Comiskey, J. Comiskey, K. Comiskey Lector: J. Panarello

Ems: T. Fiori, M. Lyon,

H. Sidoti

Ushers: P. Atanasio, M. Klein Sr.

11 AM Mass

Altar Servers: S. Schildgen, S. Macioce, T. Macioce

Lector: J. Renehan

Ems: O. Miller, M. Simon, D. McDowell

Ushers: J. Deutsch,

M. Deutsch, F. Lento

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

In today's Gospel Jesus says: "Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then, come follow me."

Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?



We NEED you. Can you HELP?

Each year Mary Immaculate Parish collects food for approximately 130 families for Thanksgiving dinners. In order to accomplish this great feat and to help replenish our Food Pantry, we have a Food Drive at local grocery stores.

We need approximately **240 volunteers** to spend one to two hours accepting food donations at the doors of the local stores listed below.

The Mary Immaculate/St. Vincent de Paul 2018 Thanksgiving Food Drive schedule is as follows:

- IGA Cirillo's, Bellport: 11/3, 11/4, 11/10, 11/11
- Best Market, Shirley: 10/27, 10/28, 11/4, 11/17
- King Kullen, Patchogue: 11/3, 11/4, 11/10, 11/11

Sign-ups for collecting at these locations will be at every Mass beginning Saturday, October 13th through Sunday November 11th.

In addition, "**Turkey Feathers**" will be for sale after each Mass for \$20 each to support our Thanksgiving Food Baskets.

If you are unable to sign up after Mass, please call

Ken Hawkins at 631-286-2559
for available dates and times





St. Vincent de Paul elves have already started planning for the upcoming Christmas Giving Tree.

In the past, parishioners have requested to adopt their own family and found this to be a truly rewarding undertaking.

Once again, this year, the Giving Tree will be set up in the foyer of the Large Church and also in Classroom #7 on a poster board tree beginning

November 24th.

If you are interested in adopting a family, **NOW IS THE TIME TO CALL.**

Please contact Rita Buckley at 631-654-3442.

Thank you in advance for keeping Christ in Christmas.



You may help feed the needy in our area by dropping off non-perishables on Saturday or Sunday before Mass in our little blue wagon located in the fover of the Large Church.

Our food pantry is in need of peanut butter, jelly, canned yellow and green vegetables, pasta, spaghetti sauce, macaroni & cheese, soup, and tuna.



Blessing of animals

feast of st. francis of assisi Mary Immaculate Parish





o god you love our animals even more than we do! Bless these we love so much. protect them from all harm. amen.













Impact



Bring faith to life. Find life in faith.

Impact this month

PRAY

Pray this prayer throughout the coming month:

Lord, may your Holy Spirit
make your good will and call
for my life clear and present
amidst the noise and clutter of
my modern life. Help me to
see moments where I can
practice putting you and your
Gospel first.

DISCERN

What desires do you perceive in the depths of your heart? How might this desire lead you to follow Jesus more fully with your life? If you are weighed down by material things or concerns, invite God to free you from these burdens.

ACT

What one or two things will you do this month to respond to the Lord? Resolve to put your faith into action.

Is something weighing you down?

"Children, it is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."

Anyone who has moved from a long-time home can likely relate to the man whose story we hear in the gospel on October 14. We seem to acquire material possessions without thinking. Then we prepare to move, and find all that stuff we have not used in years (or ever). We face a decision: will we pack the stuff and move it with us, knowing it may never come out of the box, or will we give it away, knowing someone else may truly need it, and feel free in the giving?

Jesus looked on the man with love, told him to give what he had to the poor, and then to follow him. Jesus knew that in letting go, the man would be set free. The man went away sad. He was weighed down by his many possessions. Many of us, like the man in today's gospel, are burdened by the pursuit of worldly things. Much of our days and weeks is spent trying to get ahead, to have all the things we want, thinking that in the things, we will find security and freedom.

Jesus uses the outlandish image of a camel passing through the eye of the needle to illustrate how burdened we may become.

In the kingdom of heaven, no one is weighed down. No one is poor. All are free to live as God's children. All know, find meaning and security in, and share God's love.



Learn from the camel - don't be weighed down!

What weighs you down? As Jesus looks into your life and heart with love, what does he see? Is much of your time focused on the things you want or on gaining financial wealth? Do you find yourself eying the possessions of a friend or neighbor with envy? Do you find yourself consumed by a Pinterest image or someone else's seemingly perfect Instagram account? Learn from the man in the gospel. Don't be possessed by your possessions.

Are you burdened by financial concerns, physical difficulties, mental or emotional illness? When things are hard, remember that Christ looks on you with love and is ready to set you free.

Your heart's desire

What we desire may be a sign of faith and trust in God, or a glimpse of God's call and will.

Often, when we think about what we want, we are gauging if the object is necessary and needed, or simply something that is nice to have.

This is a good practice for us to adopt. We grow as good stewards of our lives and resources when we learn to separate our wants from our needs.

It is good for us to be attentive to our deeper desires, too, as these often point to our readiness to do God's will. If we want to follow Jesus, for example, we will grow in

the desire to spend time in prayer, at Mass, in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and in service of others. If our hearts feel shaky and we seek solitude or we find ourselves craving time away, even from our spouse and children or good friends, perhaps God is calling us into a deeper relationship with him where only true peace can be found.

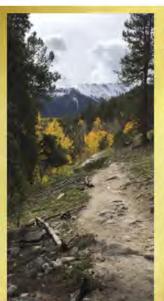
At times, our desires help us to discern God's call and will for us. When we find ourselves drawn to another person in relationship, to a career, a desire to care for family, or a particular form of service, we may perceive God's hand in the desire, and through it, be led to live fully, meaningfully as people of faith.

James and John asked Jesus to do what they wanted, that, in his glory, they would sit at his right and left. Bartimaeus humbly called out to Jesus, trusting the Lord with his life. Jesus called Bartimaeus to himself, asking, "What do you want me to do for you?"

How might your desires be a sign of your faith and trust in God, or

of God's call and will for you in your life? Invite God to speak to you through the desires of your heart. Learn from the example of Bartimaeus. Be assured that as you grow in the desire to know and follow God's will, Christ hears you when you call out to God in humble trust.





One word changes everything

Did you catch that?

Jesus said, "Amen, I say to you, there is no one who has given up house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not receive a hundred times more now in this present age: houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and eternal life in the age to come." (MK 10:17-30)

Notice that Jesus includes persecutions in the many things those who follow him will be given.

Jesus tells us that when we put life, gifts, and resources in perspective, and give to others as stewards, our lives will be filled with rich blessings we can only dare to imagine. But there is more. In giving up for the sake of the gospel, we will be drawn into Christ's very life. Jesus endured attempts to trap him, persecution, and ultimately crucifixion as a result of living his mission in the world. The path is sometimes rocky, but when we live as disciples, we are assured that we will experience the fullness of life in Christ, now and for eternity.

Diocesan Events

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS - OPEN HOUSES

You are invited to explore the benefits of a Catholic High School Education Please feel free to visit our schools during the times and dates listed below.

DATE	TIME	SCHOOL	
<u>OCTOBER</u>			
Sunday the 14th	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM	ST. MARY'S H.S.	
Saturday the 20th	11:00 AM - 2:00 PM	HOLY TRINITY DIOCESAN H.S.	
Sunday the 21st	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM	ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST DIOC. H.S.	
	1:00 PM - 3:30 PM	ST. DOMINIC H.S.	



CATHOLIC SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAM

Students who plan to apply to one or more Catholic high schools on Long Island must take the Catholic High School Entrance Examination.

The exam will be administered without accommodations on **Saturday**, **October 27 at 8:30 am** for students applying for admission to freshman classes beginning in the **Fall of 2019**.

There is a \$60 non-refundable registration fee.

To register or for more information, visit chsee.org/gallery/registration/

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE STRUGGLING WITH CHEMICAL ADDICTION?

Catholic Charities may be able to help. Talbot House is a facility for men and women over the age of 18 and is a voluntary chemical dependence residential stabilization center for withdrawal from alcohol and/or drugs. Assistance is also offered individuals entering into long-term treatment after their initial withdrawal phase. Medical and clinical staff are present 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

There are also "outpatient" facilities in Hampton Bays (631-723-3362) and Commack (631-543-620). Family members can also receive counseling services at these sites, whether or not their loved one is in treatment.

For more information about Talbot House, call 631-589-4144. Talbot House staff can assist you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Each call is confidential.

No fees are necessary - only the desire to become well by becoming "clean and sober."

- ◆ <u>St. Sylvester Church</u> is holding a Community Social and Dance on Saturday, October 20, 2018 from 7 pm to 10 pm at 68 Ohio Avenue in Medford. Bill Wilkinson and his "Savoy Swing Band" will be performing with a live 20pc. band for your listening and dancing entertainment. Admission: \$15.00 pp snacks and beverages included For more information, call 631-730-3333 or visit www.goodolddanceband.com
- ◆ The Cenacle Retreat Center in Ronkonkoma offers many programs every month. Call 631-588-8366 or visit their website at www.cenaclesisters.org/ronkonkoma.
- ▶ Desert Bread Lecture Series w/ Prof. Annbelle.Moseley: Catholic Theology & the Arts. Each session nourishes faith through presentations on the classic Catholic Arts (Visual Arts, Music, Literature). Lecture concludes with a delicious shared meal, so we may break bread in community of faith. Bring optional canned goods to donate to local pantry to feed others. In an all-too-hectic and secular world, it can be a desert out there! "Desert Bread" offers the sustenance of following Pope Saint John Paul II's call to "make your life a masterpiece" as we discover through the Catholic arts how our lives can be transformed into works of art, too. Sundays − 2:00 to 4:30 PM at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, 440 West Neck Rd., Huntington. Session #3 Oct 14th: The Art of the Rosary: Beautiful Mysteries. Session #4 Dec 2nd: The Art of Advent. Fee: \$25 per session; \$90 in advance for all four. Information & reservations: (631) 423-0483 x 102 or email bmalone@icseminary.edu.
- **The Sisters of St. Dominic of Amityville,** will host their Annual Dominican Gala on November 2, 2018 at The Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury, NY. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m followed by dinner and dancing. This year the Congregation is proud to honor Al Roker, NBC's Meteorologist, and S. Ave Clark, author and founder of the Heart to Heart Ministry in Bayside, NY. Raised in Queens, NY, Al and his 5 siblings attended S. Catherine of Siena Elementary School in St. Albans, where the Dominican Sisters taught. Currently the co-host and weatherman of The Today Show. The Dominican Gala raises critical funds to support the ministries of the Sisters of St. Dominic. For more information about tickets or how you can support the event, please contact Mary Fuchs, Director of Advancement at (631) 842-6000 ext. 241 or email mfuchs@amityop.org.

Suicide and the Soul

More than fifty years ago, James Hillman wrote a book entitled, *Suicide and the Soul*. The book was intended for therapists and he knew it wouldn't receive an easy reception there or elsewhere. There were reasons. He frankly admitted that some of the things he proposed in the book would "go against all common sense, all medical practice, and rationality itself." But, as the title makes clear, he was speaking about suicide and in trying to understand suicide, isn't that exactly the case? Doesn't it go against all common sense, all medical practice, and rationality itself? And that's his point.

In some cases, suicide can be the result of a biochemical imbalance or some genetic predisposition that militates against life. That's unfortunate and tragic, but it's understandable enough. That kind of sickness goes against common sense, medical practice, and rationality. Suicide can also result from a catastrophic emotional breakdown or from a trauma so powerful that it cannot be integrated and simply breaks apart a person's psyche so that death, as sleep, as an escape, becomes an overwhelming temptation. Here too, even though common sense, medical practice, and rationality are befuddled, we have some grasp of why this suicide happened.

But there are suicides that are not the result of a biochemical imbalance, a genetic predisposition, a catastrophic emotional distress, or an overpowering trauma. How are these to be explained?

Hillman, whose writing through more than fifty years have been a public plea for the human soul, makes this claim: *The soul can make claims that go against the body and against our physical wellbeing, and suicide is often that, the soul making its own claims.* What a stunning insight! Our souls and our bodies do not always want the same things and are sometimes so much at odds with each other that death can be the result.

In the tension between soul and body, the body's needs and impulses are more easily seen, understood, and attended to. The body normally gets what it wants or at least clearly knows what it wants and why it is frustrated. The soul? Well, its needs are so complex that they are hard to see and understand, not alone attended to. As Pascal so famously put it: "The heart has it reasons of which reason knows nothing." That is virtually synonymous with what Hillman is saying. Our rational understanding often stands bewildered before some inchoate need inside us.

That inchoate need is our soul speaking, but it is not easy to pick up exactly what it is asking of us. Mostly we feel our soul's voice as a dis-ease, a restlessness, a distress we cannot exactly sort out, and as an internal pressure that sometimes asks of us something directly in conflict with what the rest of us wants. We are, in huge part, a mystery to ourselves.

Sometimes the claims of the soul that go against our physical wellbeing are not so dramatic as to demand suicide but in them, we can still clearly see what Hillman is asserting. We see this, for example, in the phenomenon where a person in severe emotional distress begins to cut herself on her arms or on other parts of her body. The cuts are not intended to end life; they are intended only to cause pain and blood. Why? The person cutting herself mostly cannot explain rationally why she is doing this (or, at least, she cannot explain how this pain and this blood-letting will in any way lessen or fix her emotional distress). All she knows is that she is hurting at a place she cannot get at and by hurting herself at a place she can get at, she can deal with a pain that she cannot get to. Hillman's principle is on display here: The soul can, and does, make claims that can go against our physical well-being. It has its reasons.

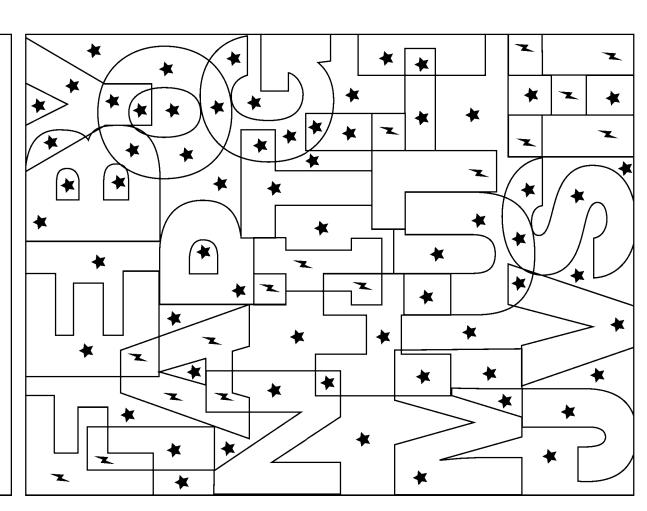
For Hillman, this is the "root metaphor" for how a therapist should approach the understanding of suicide. It can also be a valuable metaphor for all us who are not therapists but who have to struggle to digest the death of a loved one who dies by suicide.

Moreover this is also a metaphor that can be helpful in understanding each other and understanding ourselves. The soul sometimes makes claims that go directly against our health and well-being. In my pastoral work and sometimes simply being with a friend who is hurting, I sometimes find myself standing helplessly before someone who is hell-bent on some behavior that goes against his or her own well-being and which makes no rational sense whatsoever. Rational argument and common sense are useless. He's simply going to do this to his own destruction. Why? The soul has its reasons. All of us, perhaps in less dramatic ways, experience this in our own lives. Sometimes we do things that hurt our physical health and well-being and go against all common sense and rationality. Our souls too have their reasons.

And suicide too has its reasons.

Job said, "I know God is testing me, and I will come forth as gold."

What did Job have? Shade in the 🖊 's



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Job Tells of His Troubles

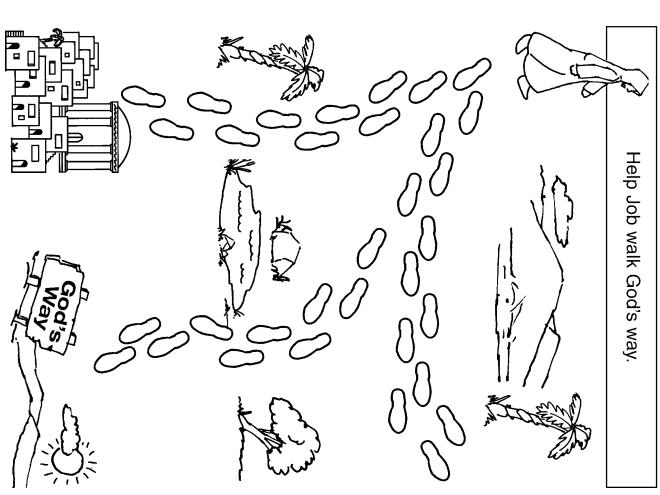
Job had done what was right. But he had many troubles.



Job told his friends, "If I could go before God and plead my case, I would listen to Him and do whatever He wants."



Job said, "My feet have followed God's steps, and I have kept His ways without turning aside."





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