

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
Mary Bruballa	Parish Secretary
Fran Bursztyń	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
Ellen Sullivan	St. Vincent de Paul President ellen92601@aol.com
Tara Turnow	Parish Accountant
Finance Committee	
Felix J. Grucci, Jr.	Chairman/Trustee
Dr. Joseph Graskemper	Trustee
Fr. Bill Hanson	
Jim Renehan	
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
July 15, 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

July 15, 2018 The 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	July 14		Wednesday	July 18
5:00 pm	Mac Alonso	by Hwasoon Mullaney	9:00 am	No intention
Sunday	July 15		Thursday	July 19
9:00 am	Patricia Wakim	by Lorraine Rickman	9:00 am	No intention
11:00 am	Mary Jane Mahon	by Family	Friday	July 20
	Thomas Swengros	by John Derby	9:00 am	Alfred Nolan Sr. by Mary Immaculate Parish
Monday	July 16		Saturday	July 21
9:00 am	No intention		5:00 pm	For the parishioners of Mary Immaculate
Tuesday	July 17			
9:00 am	No intention			

"We have loved them during life, let us not abandon them in death"

When we have a Mass said in memory of a friend or loved one, we follow these words of St. Ambrose and perform one of the Spiritual works of Mercy. To have a Mass said for a friend or relative who has passed, contact the rectory or stop by the weekend office at the kitchen after all Masses.

Bulletin Reflection:

Today's readings are about being chosen and sent. The prophet Amos was chosen by the Lord and sent to use his talents for the people of God. The Gospel recounts the story of the sending of the 12 disciples. St. Paul reminds us that we too are chosen.

To **whom** have *I* been sent?

For **what** have *I* been chosen?

Living Stewardship:

We are grateful this week for all the stewards in our parish who develop their talents to the fullest and serve our community in ministries ranging from computers to religious education, from Outreach to parish choir, from prayer groups to youth groups, etc.

Weekly Collection: \$ 4,433

Faith Direct: \$2,250

This Week's Readings



Monday: Isaiah 1:10-17; Matthew 10:34-11:1

Tuesday: Isaiah 7:1-9; Matthew 11:20-24

Wed. Isaiah 10:5-7, 13b-16; Matthew 11:25-27

Thursday: Isaiah 26:7-9; 12, 16-19; Matt. 11:28-30

Friday: Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Matt. 12:1-8

Saturday: Micah 2:1-5; Matthew 12:14-21

Sunday: Jeremiah 23:1-6; St. Paul to the Ephesians 2:13-18; Mark 6:30-34

For the Month of July

Flowers & Candles

are in loving memory of

Larry Gerolami & Scott Stelmok

Requested by Susan Stelmok

For the Month of July

Eucharist & Wine

are in loving memory of

Mary Jane Mahon

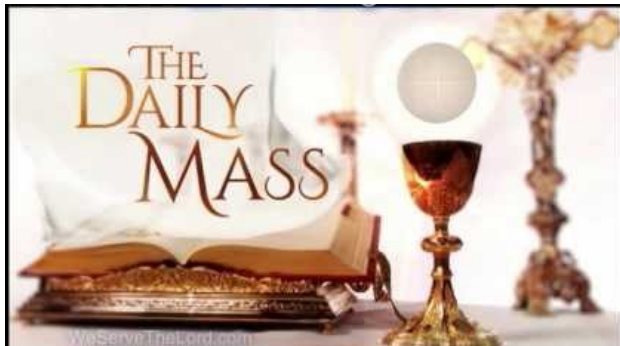
Requested by the Quinlan family

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 and 11:00 am Mass on Sundays during the school year. In summer as possible. 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.
7:00 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 upstairs in Auditorium. This meeting is open to anyone with the desire to stop drinking.
- **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**



9am in the Little Church

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. You can also fill out a registration form found at both entrances to the Large Church, and drop them in the collection basket.



SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Celebrated either at a weekend Mass or once a month at 1:00 pm in the Little Church. Please register three months before the baptism calling the rectory. An appointment will then be scheduled with Deacon Bob. If this is your first child, 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 the rectory..

Mary Immaculate Prays For One Another



Gina DiMartino
 Kate Cox
 Michael Matthews
 Roz Hassell
 Nancy Cavaliere
 Claudia Horst
 Philip J. McSweeney
 Joanne Klonoski
 Vincent Racaniello
 Jennifer Lombardi
 Dana Hertzovitz
 Linda Sherwood
 Christine Barden
 Mary Kinsley
 Helen Sidoti

Doris Noehren
 Emily Magnani
 Lorraine Schordine
 Luhur Budiarjo
 Teimor Tamadon
 Theresa Venturino
 Thomas Nolan
 Alice Nolan
 John Rocco
 Kevin Williams
 Therese Hopper
 Helen May
 Irene Ball
 S. Richard Materia

Please Pray for Our Deceased



Rita Straub
 Evelyn Haibon
 Patricia Wakim
 Charles Burton
 Colleen Nicols
 Des Burke
 William Collins

Hans Schambach
 Joseph R. DeMaio Sr.
 Agnes Regalmuto
 Charles Meinhold
 Marguerite M. Rauh
 Clark J. Champney
 Mary Jane Mahon
 Mary Louise Vitale

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.



MARY'S MANTLE PRAYER SHAWLS

On the second full weekend of every month, Mary's Mantle Prayer Shawls are made available by the Ministry.

You can also stop by the rectory and someone in the office can help you. Or you can call the rectory, leave your name and phone number, and a member of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will get back to you.

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.

You could win a classic Sunfish Sailboat!



**Father Bill is donating his classic AMF Sunfish
Similar to the one pictured, but with a beautiful
green hull, new green & white North Sail,
new cover and new trolley!
In fabulous condition - ready to sail!**

**All Proceeds go to Mary Immaculate
Only \$10 per chance!**

**The winning ticket will be picked at the clambake!
You don't need to be present to claim your prize!**

Raffle Tickets available at the rectory or at Church after Mass.

**Picture yourself sailing along the Great South Bay!
Great for Adults or Teens!
Don't miss this amazing opportunity!!**

CLAMBAKE - July 21st - 6:00 PM

To be a successful fundraiser and not just a great party,

The Clambake needs Sponsors!

The money raised by the Clambake helps make up the difference between the weekly collection and the actual cost of running the parish.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP

- ♦ Be a sponsor or ask your employer or business you frequent for support.
- ♦ Donate a raffle basket or raffle items
- ♦ Invite a friend or 2 and buy tickets
- ♦ If you can't attend, make a donation
- ♦ Buy chances to win Fr. Bill's sailboat
- ♦ Take on one of the tasks on this page
- ♦ When you come to the clambake, be sure to bring some mad money so you can take part in the raffles and maybe win the 50/50 prize!

- ♦ **Clam Shuckers:** *pry open those delicious clams!*
- ♦ **Beverage Coordinator:** *accept donations of beverages and drop off the day of the clambake*
- ♦ **Registration Table:** *volunteers needed to check people in to the event and distribute beverage tickets and name tags.*
- ♦ **Children Activities Coordinator:** *will create fun games and activities to keep the younger ones part of the fun. Enlist some teens to lend a hand!*
- ♦ **Raffle Ticket Sales People:** *collect money and distribute tickets throughout the event. Many hands are needed!*
- ♦ **Set-up Volunteers:** *beginning at 10 am on the day of the event.*
- ♦ **Clean-up Volunteers:** *beginning at the end of the event and continuing after Sunday 9am Mass.*

CALLING ALL BAKERS!!

Show off your skills by making one (or two) of your favorite desserts!

Call Ellen Sullivan at 631-286-5351 or 631-553-0463

To lend a hand, contact the rectory or speak to
Stephanie Barry (631-627-6373 or slbarry@optonline.net) or
John Deutsch (631-379-8290) or jd@circolutions.com

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!!

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT ENDS 7-15

Use this form for
Sponsorships & Tickets

Special Sponsorships

_____ ANGEL SPONSOR **\$25,000**

As event underwriter, your name/company logo is listed on appropriate signage and on a special promotional banner. 25 tickets are included.

_____ LITTLE CHURCH SPONSOR **\$10,000**

Along with 10 tickets to the event, your name/company logo listed on appropriate signage.

_____ BIG CHURCH SPONSOR **\$5,000**

Your name/company logo on signage at the event and you will receive 5 tickets.

_____ ALTAR SPONSOR **\$1,000**

Along with 2 tickets to the event, your name on appropriate signage at the event.

_____ CO-SPONSOR **\$500**

Your name on appropriate signage at the event.

_____ **\$250** *Signage and listing on placemats at seats*

_____ **\$100** *Signage and listing on placemats at seats*

_____ **\$50** *Listing on placemats at seats*

Individual Tickets

Each ticket includes two non-alcoholic beverages and dessert

Adults: \$25 in advance, \$50 at the door

Children: \$15 in advance, \$25 at the door

12 and under

Children 3 and under are free

Advance Ticket Sales will end on Sunday, July 15.

Sorry, no exceptions.

Additional non-alcoholic beverages and raffle tickets may be purchased at the event, or you may bring your own.

Beer and wine will be available as well.

We have a 50/50 raffle too!

Or you can do it all
on-line at miparish.net

YES! I want to support the Mary Immaculate Clam Bake!

Please count me in for the following:

_____ Adult tickets @ \$25 each

_____ Children's tickets @ \$15 each

I cannot attend but I want to support my parish. Enclosed is my donation.

\$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Come join in the fun!

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Leslie or Mary at 631-286-0154 or email mary@miparish.net or leslie@miparish.net

All completed forms can be dropped off or mailed to the parish office at 16 Browns Lane, Bellport, NY 11713

Impact

Bring faith to life. Find life in faith.



"Let us not forget that Jesus asked his disciples to pay attention to details.

The little detail that wine was running out at a party.

The little detail that one sheep was missing.

The little detail of noticing the widow who offered her two small coins.

The little detail of having spare oil for the lamps, should the bridegroom delay.

The little detail of asking the disciples how many loaves of bread they had.

The little detail of having a fire burning and a fish cooking as he waited for the disciples at daybreak.

A community that cherishes the little details of love, whose members care for one another and create an open and evangelizing environment, is a place where the risen Lord is present, sanctifying it in accordance with the Father's plan."

(Pope Francis, Rejoice and Be Glad, 144)

God provides

By Amberly Boerschinger

Even when things get difficult or look bleak, God provides, and does so generously. Pay attention.

The Sunday readings this month invite us to see the abundance of God in our midst - life, knowledge, faith, love, honesty, conversation, healing, vision for the future, grace, forgiveness, mercy, and even things like weakness and humility. On July 15, St. Paul tells the people of Ephesus, and each of us, that we have already received part of our inheritance. Did you know that you have an inheritance? Our inheritance is the gift of the Holy Spirit, the advocate, the guide! We see this gift in so many ways - skills and talents in the right moments, inklings and promptings for which we cannot quite finger the source, and of course the little "God moments", "God-incidences" or as our pastor likes to call them "God winks." Through the power of the Spirit, we more readily recognize the abundance of Christ's life and love and share it with others.

Jesus instructs the disciples in the Gospel, and us, to go out to the community to preach and teach, taking nothing. We must trust that our heavenly Father will provide for our needs through those we encounter. At our parish this summer, our council decided to welcome the local homeless program COTS (Churches Providing Temporary Shelter) to use our facility to shelter individuals sheltered at another local facility during the winter. Staffed by the shelter staff and volunteers, we, along with about 10 other local churches, provide overnight shelter for 5-15 guests. Individuals who stayed with us shared how much they appreciated our beautiful grounds and our hospitality. Our little village board was "inspired" to discuss their welcoming and readiness to accommodate the homeless in our midst - something they have not had to reflect on as we are some distance from the downtown area typically frequented by the homeless population. Our overnight guests came with nothing other than what they carried and all we offered was an empty space for sleep. Yet the Lord provided so much beauty and unique opportunities to know God's abundant love, for the recipients of care as well as those offering it.

Our God is a God of great love. God knows our needs, our wants, and our most intimate desires. In this month of vacations, popsicles, family and fresh sweet corn, take a moment to notice and note God's abundance. If this month is one of challenge, spend an extra few minutes with the Sunday scriptures. Pay attention! Let the words of God's consistent and reliable legacy of love, even in times of difficulty, wash over you.

For timely articles, encouragement, and inspiration, like Everyday Impact on Facebook: www.Facebook.com/faithimpactslife.

We are blessed!

Move from a mindset of scarcity to abundance

Abby was anxious and worried about many things. It had been a long time since she felt relaxed. She did more than her fair share, Abby thought, at work, and at home. Most days, she rushed about from task to task and detail to detail, hoping to just get through the days. Last week, Abby decided she needed to talk to someone about all of this. She called her parish, and was connected with a somewhat older, caring woman, Lori. The two women sat over coffee and in just a few moments, Abby found herself describing all of the anxiety she had been holding in for many months. Lori listened, acknowledging Abby's feelings, and she quietly made a list of all of the stressful areas of Abby's life. Then Lori asked something remarkable. "For what are you thankful?" At first, Abby was dismayed. "Did she not hear a word I just said?" she wondered. But then, she got the point. Surely in the midst of all of this worry and stress, there are also blessings to be acknowledged. Lori's list spilled down the left side of her tablet. The right side was blank for a few poignant moments as Abby thought about her life. Then, almost as quickly as the worry-list had spilled out, now so did the blessings. Lori thanked Abby for her honest appraisal of her life, and offered one additional thought: "You came today, worried and focused on all that is wrong. And there are difficulties, no doubt. I hope you leave today with a reminder that you also have much for which to be thankful. Let your awareness of the blessings fill your heart, and ask Christ to walk with you. That is the better way!"



The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.

The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.

You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.

The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings.

The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

PS 145:10, 13-18

Impact this month

1. Be honest with yourself and with God. What concerns, anxiety, or worry do you have? Make a list of these things. Note when they most especially take hold.
2. Make a list of all that you are thankful for. Carry your list with you and add to it as you notice blessings and unexpected gifts.
3. When worry or anxiety threaten to overtake you, prayerfully read your list of blessings, and ask God to provide you with what you need.

Weekend Ministry Schedule

July 7, July 8

5 PM Mass

Altar Servers: O. Ingrassia,
S. Quatrala, N. Ponter

Lector: F. Lento

Ems: K. Desmond, and
TBD

Ushers: P. Morrison,
T. Derby

9 AM Mass

Altar Servers: A. Sullivan,
M. Murphy, D. Walsh

Lector: C. Kusa

Ems: K. Stanganelli,
T. Fiori, M. Lyon

Ushers: P. Dastis,
C. Miller, D. Sullivan,

11 AM Mass

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

Lector: M. Lingat

Ems: J. Renehan, M. Brown,
D. McDowell

Ushers: G. Moriarty,
H. Zengen

July 14, 15

5 PM Mass

Altar Servers: E. Mehrkins,
C. Murphy, K. Wilson

Lector: Susan Hammer

Ems: D. Berberich,
L. Ferraro, J. Cronin

Ushers: B. Berberich,
K. Hawkins

9 AM Mass

Altar Servers: T. Stanganelli,
B. Fiori, E. Rauch

Lector: J. Panarello

Ems: A. Messina, L. Pergola,
A. Martinez

Ushers: J. Springhorn,
A. Stelmok, E. Sullivan

11 AM Mass

Altar Servers: J. Aragona,
E. Campau, E. Campau

Lector: E. Russo

Ems: G. Moriarty,
O. Miller, L. Budiarjo

Ushers: D. Sullivan,
M. Umbarilla

July 21, 22

5 PM Mass

Altar Servers: B. Barry,
A. Sullivan, T. Sica

Lector: P. Morrison

Ems: E. Sullivan,
C. Strickland, C. Barnett

Ushers: D. Sullivan,
M. Simon, J. Barnett

9 AM Mass

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

Lector: J. Travers

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

Ushers: P. Attanasio,
M. Klein

11 AM Mass

Altar Servers: S. Zengen,
N. Ponter, T. Ocasio

Lector: J. Renehan

Ems: K. & K. Hawkins,
E. Russo

Ushers: F. Lento,
J. Deutsch, M. Deutsch

July 28, 29

5 PM Mass

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

Lector: K. Hawkins

Ems: J. & C. Barnett,
F. Gucci

Ushers: P. Morrison,
T. Derby

9 AM Mass

Altar Servers: D. Walsh,
C. Fiori, P. Schortemeyer

Lector: H. Sidoti

Ems: J. & V. Langer,
H. Sidoti

Ushers: D. Sullivan,
P. Dastis, C. Miller

11 AM Mass

Altar Servers: A. Fielding,
K. Price, J. Schmidt

Lector: R. Rossteuscher

Ems: D. McDowell,
J. Renehan, M. Simon

Ushers: G. Moriarty,
H. Zengen

FAITH FORMATION THANKS YOU!

Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus, VBS was a success!

All present discovered that when we are lonely, worried, struggling, doing wrong and/or feeling powerless; Jesus rescues! The Parish Staff would like to thank you, the parishioners of Mary Immaculate, for supporting VBS this year by picking a tag and bringing in much needed supplies.

A BIG THANK YOU

- to our Area Leaders, who took the time to make each experience a memorable one!
- to all our counselors who participated with great enthusiasm and made the experience fun for the children in their crew!
- to the parents and care-givers who brought their children to VBS daily and watched our closing program to see the joy on the faces of their children!
- and most importantly, to the children that participated, for their openness and energy!

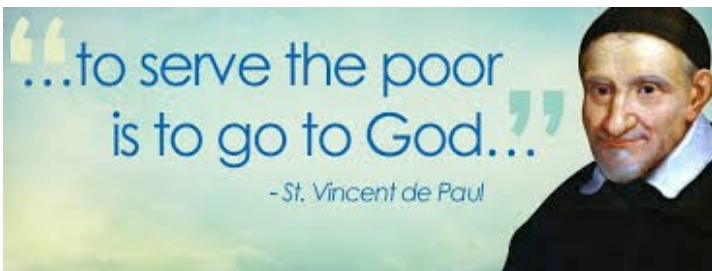
Kudos to the VBS children who raised \$60 for Operation Kid-to-Kid helping deliver much-needed agricultural supplies to families in Haiti

I can't wait till next year to be with all of you again!

Have a great summer!

Your friend in Jesus, *Fran Bursztyn*

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

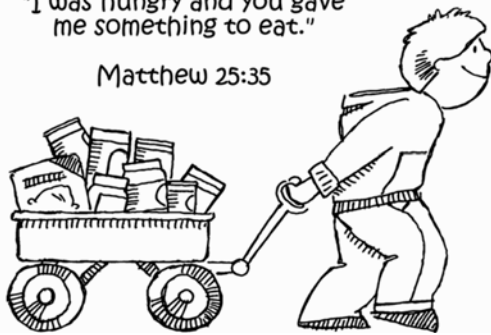


In today's Gospel we see how Jesus sent his Apostles out two by two. From the beginning of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, members visit in pairs "two by two", those who are poor and needy in their homes. It is there, in the family setting, that Vincentians listen, offer humble advice, and render assistance. Many "miraculous deeds" are accomplished for the poor.

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

"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."

Matthew 25:35



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 foyer of the Large Church.

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



TODAY!



SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR THE NEEDY

St. Vincent has a new project—helping those needy students get the essential school supplies they need before September begins. You can help by stopping by the tables which will be set up after all the Masses this week. Please help our young children in need.

WALK FOR THE POOR

The annual St. Vincent de Paul Walk for the Poor coming this September has an exciting new twist!

An official 5K run has been added!

There will be official timers, age classifications and medals awarded.

More details to come!

Events

Save the Date: Blood Drive

Sunday, August 19th

at the Bellport Community Center

GIVE BLOOD If you would like to help, call Ken Hawkins



631-286-2559

Sign ups begin
July 28th

Sister Pat Duffy's Summer Porch Chats are Back!

Every Thursday in July at 7pm
in front of the Mary statue

July 19th: **What's It All About?**

July 26th: **On the Road Again**

Bring a lawn chair



The Parish Family of Mary Immaculate
[@maryimmaculatebellport](#)

Local Assistance Information

- ♦ AA Hotline 24 Hours: 631-669-1124
- ♦ Al-Anon and Al-Ateen: 631-669-2827
- ♦ Birthright: 631-821-9727
- ♦ Catholic Health Services Pregnancy Support: 1-855-301-4CHS; www.chsli.org/giannacenter
- ♦ Child Abuse Hotline: 800-342-3720
- ♦ Epic (NYS Program for Seniors): 1-800-332-3742
- ♦ Family Counseling Service: 631-669-2827
- ♦ Hope House: 631-473-6030
- ♦ Narcotics Anonymous: 631-689-6262
- ♦ Poison Control: 800-222-1222
- ♦ Shelter the Homeless: 631-854-9100
- ♦ Suffolk County Coalition Against Domestic Violence (Shelter): 631-666-8833
- ♦ Suffolk County Office of the Aging: 631-853-8200
- ♦ Suffolk County Handicapped Services: 631-853-8333
- ♦ Suffolk County Veteran Services: 631-853-8387
- ♦ Suffolk Perinatal Coalition: 631-475-5400
- ♦ Suicide Hotline: 631-751-7500
- ♦ Town of Brookhaven Adult Day Programs: 631-451-9142

Around the Diocese

- ♦ **Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** October 13-22, 2018
Fr. Peter is our Spiritual Guide (206TOURS)
Price \$3,999.00 All inclusive - Double Occupancy.
Call Fr. Peter at 631-757-7435 Ext.5 or 206Tours at 1-800-206-8687. Ask for Color Brochure.
**Information Night: St. Francis Church Rectory
29 Clay Pitts Road, Greenlawn, NY;
8pm on June 20th, & July 23rd**
- ♦ **Present Moment** The key to inner peace is living in the Present Moment and embracing life with compassion for others and ourselves. Come join other faith-filled people as we deepen our relationship with God through a combination of a themed discussion, silent prayer, reflection and sacred sharing. Dates: August 7 & 21. To register, please call the Cenacle Retreat Office or Joan McGovern at 631-588-8366. \$20 per session. Held at the Cenacle Retreat Center, 30 Cenacle Rd., Ronkonkoma.

*It's never too soon to prepare
for the Catholic High School Entrance Exam.*



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taught by experienced teachers from
St. Anthony's High School

CALL DACTEST PREP
for an application **631-663-3303**

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TO DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION

VISIT US AT: www.dactestprep.com

DAC TEST PREP, P.O. Box 134, Kings Park, NY 11754



Consecrated Celibacy – An Apologia

Huston Smith, the renowned commentator on world religions, submits that you should not judge a religion by its worst expressions, but by its best, its saints. That's also true in terms of judging the merits of vowed, consecrated celibacy. It should be judged by its best, not perverse, examples, as is true too for the institution of marriage.

I write this apologia because today consecrated celibacy is under siege from critics in almost every circle. Celibacy is no longer understood or deemed realistic by a culture which basically refuses to accept any restrictions in the area of sexuality and in effect sees all celibacy, lived for whatever reason, as frigidity, naiveté, or a misfortune of circumstance. Our culture constitutes a virtual conspiracy against celibacy.

More critical still is how consecrated celibacy is being judged in the wake of the clerical sexual abuse scandal. More and more, there's a popular conception both within society and within church circles that sexual abuse in general and pedophilia in particular is more prevalent among priests and religious than in the population at large and that there's something inherent in consecrated celibacy itself that makes priests and vowed religious more prone to sexual misconduct and emotional ill health. How true is this? Are celibates more prone to sexual misconduct than their non-celibate contemporaries? Are celibates more likely to be less healthy and happy in general than those who are married or who are sexually active outside of marriage?

This must be adjudicated, I believe, by looking at the deepest intentions of sex itself and, from there, assessing where both married persons and celibates for the most part tend to end up. What's the ultimate intention of sex? What is this powerful archetypal energy meant to do in us? Generically, the answer is clear: Sex is meant to lead us out of ourselves, out of aloneness, out of selfishness, into altruism, into family, into community, into generativity, into mellowness of heart, into delight, into happiness, and ultimately (perhaps not always this side of eternity) into ecstasy.

Viewed through the prism of this criterion how do marriage and vowed celibacy compare? Mostly we see parallels: Some people get married, become healthily generous and generative, remain faithful to their spouses, and age into wholesome, happy, forgiving persons. Others write a different chronicle. They get married (or are sexually active outside of marriage) but do not become more generous and generative, do not remain faithful to their commitments in love, and age instead in sullenness, bitterness, and unhappiness. The same is true for vowed celibates: Some make the vow and become healthily generous and generative, remain faithful to the vow, and age into wholesome, happy, forgiving persons. For some others, most everything in their lives belies the transparency and fruitfulness that should stem from their celibacy and they do not become more selfless, generative, mellow, or happy. Instead, like some of their sexually active contemporaries, they also grow sullen, bitter, and unhappy. Sometimes this is the result of breaking their vow and sometimes it's the result of an unhealthy repressed sexuality. In either case, their vow isn't fruitful and generally leads to unhealthy compensatory behaviors.

Celibacy, admittedly, comes fraught with some extra dangers because marriage and sex are the normal path that God intended for us. As Merton once put it, in celibacy we live inside a loneliness which God, himself, has condemned: *It is not good for the man to be alone!* Sex and marriage are the norm and celibacy deviates from that. But that doesn't mean celibacy cannot be highly generative, meaningful, and healthy and make for wholesomeness and happiness. Some of the most generative and wholesome people that I know are vowed celibates, aging into an enviable mellowness and peace. Sadly, the reverse is also true for some celibates. Of course, all of this is equally true, both ways, for the married people that I know.

By their fruits you shall know them. Jesus offers us this as a criterion for judgment. But in judging celibacy and marriage (just in judging religions) we might add Huston Smith's counsel that we should judge each by its best expressions, by its saints, and not by its unhealthy expressions. Looking at marriage and celibacy, we see in each both healthy and unhealthy manifestations; and it doesn't seem that either side trumps the other in terms of manifesting sanctity or dysfunction. That's not surprising since, in the end, both choices demand the same thing, namely, a willingness to sacrifice and sweat blood for the sake of love and fidelity.

Some celibates are unfaithful, and some are pedophiles, but some become Mother Teresa. It's worth mentioning too that Jesus was a celibate. Some married persons are unfaithful, some are abusive, and some murder their spouses, but some give tangible, embodied, holy expression to God's unconditional love for the world and Christ's unbreakable bond with his church.

Sexuality is a reality that can be lived out in different modalities, and both marriage and celibacy are holy choices that can, sadly, go wrong.

Ralph Waldo Emerson calls the stars in the night sky "envoys of beauty, lighting the universe with their astonishing smile" an *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. Now on Facebook www.facebook.com/ronrolheiser*

Herod promised to have John killed. The deed was done, but the king was very sad.

Which face shows how Herod felt when John died?

Circle the correct one.



angry



afraid



sad



happy

Children's Worship Bulletin

Ages 3-6

July 15, 2018 • Mark 6:14-29

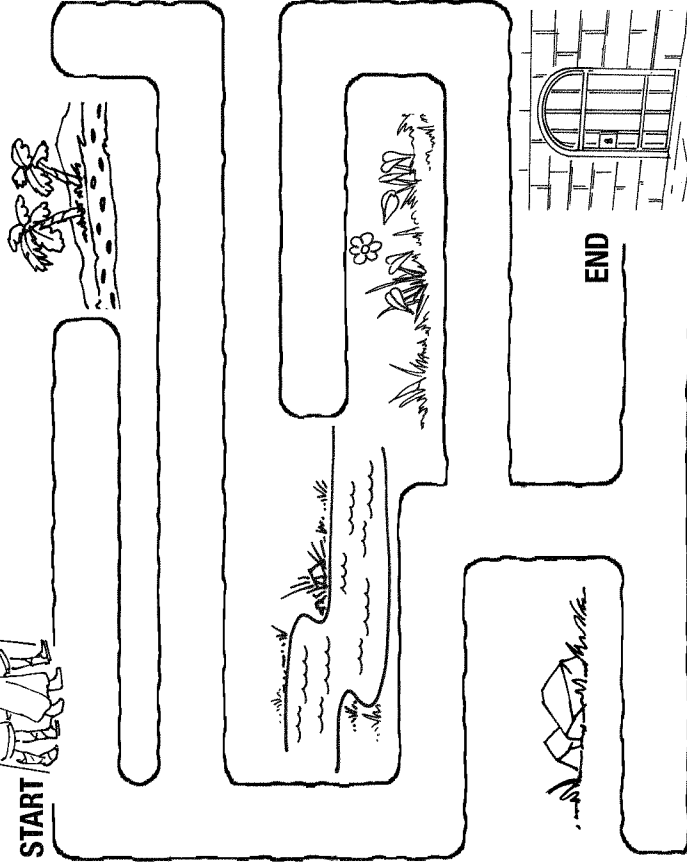
King Herod's Foolish Promise

King Herod liked John the Baptist. But when John said something the king didn't want to hear, Herod put John in prison.



START

Trace the path to the prison.



Herod promised to have John killed. The deed was done, but the king was very sad.

Which face shows how Herod felt when John died?

Circle the correct one.



angry



afraid



sad



happy

King Herod gave a great party
on his birthday.

But during the party,
he made a foolish promise.

Circle

these things in the picture:

1



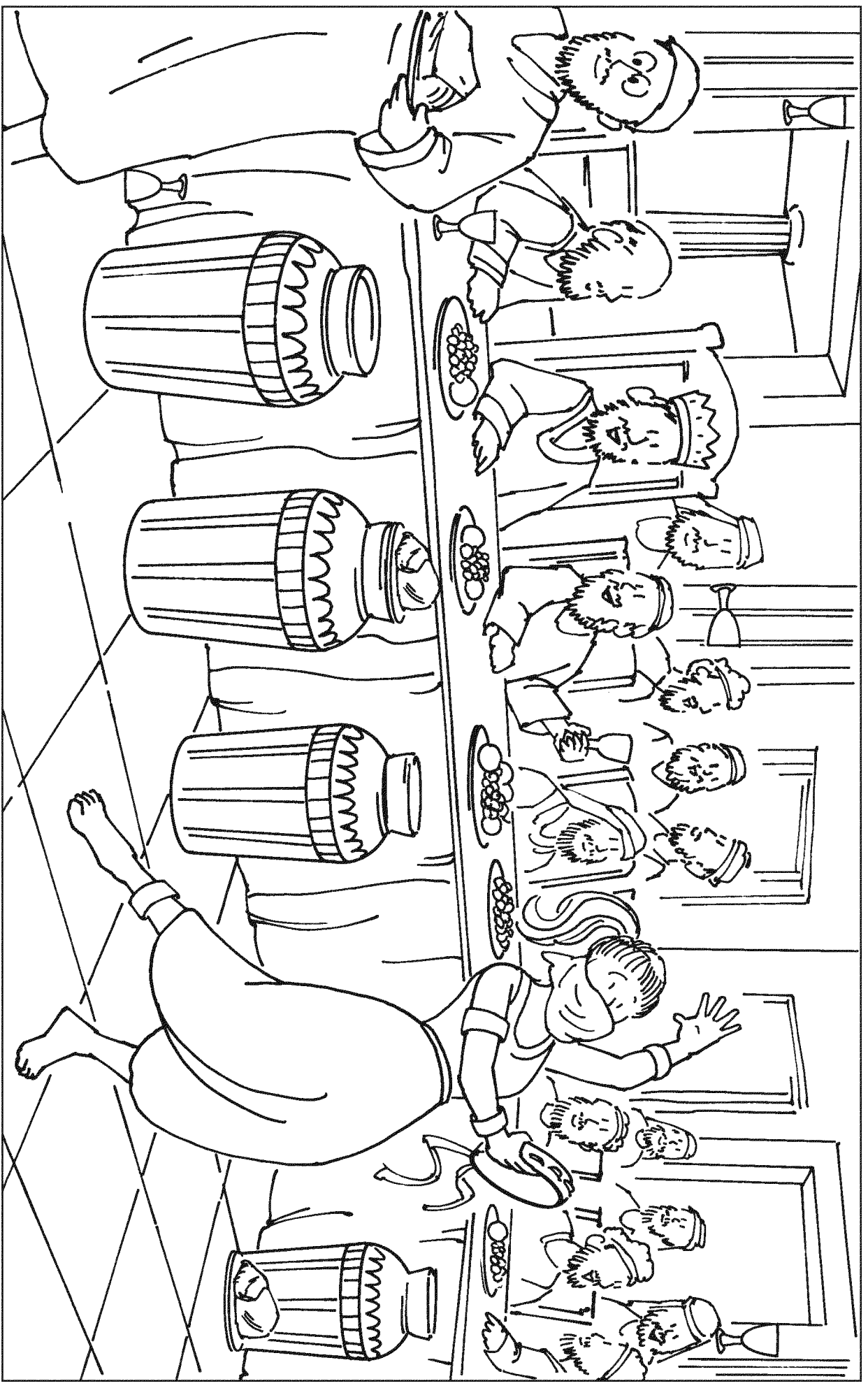
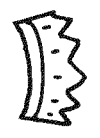
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