



ST. BERNARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

3100 HEMPSTEAD TURNPIKE • LEVITTOWN, NEW YORK 11756

A COMMUNITY OF FAITH  HOPE  AND LOVE 



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 23, 2017

The Lord is gracious and merciful!



ST. BERNARD'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH

516-731-4220 Phone/516-731-4355 Fax
Email: Parish@StBernardChurch.org
Website: www.StBernardChurch.org

PASTORAL TEAM

Father Ralph Sommer, Pastor
Shepherd@StBernardChurch.org
ext. 130

Father Joe Nohs, Associate Pastor
FrNohsBest@StBernardChurch.org
ext. 128

Father Innocent Mbaegbu
ebere1212@yahoo.com

Father Innocent Duru, Chaplain In Residence
onyeduru@yahoo.com

Deacon John Blakeney
DeaconJohn@StBernardChurch.org
516-731-4220

Deacon James Flannery
Aquinas69@gmail.com
516-731-4220

Mrs. Susan Martin, Director of Religious Education
RelEd@StBernardChurch.org
516-731-8511 Phone/516-731-7860 Fax
The Religious Education Center is closed on Fridays.

**Sr. Christine Sammons, O.P.,
Coordinator of Parish Social Ministry**
PSM@StBernardChurch.org
516-731-6074

Ms. Sarah Kropac, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
skropac@stbernardchurch.org

Mrs. Mary Jane Witte, Director of Liturgical Music
MJWitte@StBernardChurch.org
ext. 142

Ms. Diane Vella, Pastoral Associate
DVella@StBernardChurch.org
ext. 143

Mrs. Rose Marie Rotondo, Sacristan
Sacristan@StBernardChurch.org
516-731-4220

Mr. Len Lanzi, Facilities Manager
facilitiesmanager@stbernardchurch.org
ext. 120

Mr. Dimas Carbajal, Head of Maintenance
Maintenance@StBernardChurch.org
ext. 126

CYO Basketball: email: info@stbernardcyo.org
website: www.stbernardcyo.org

Would you like to join our vibrant community of Faith, Hope and Love at St. Bernard's? Sign-up and get to know us at one of our monthly New Parishioner Registration and Welcome evenings! For information, call the parish office at 516-731-4220, or download a form from our website www.stbernardchurch.org. Click on "Join St. Bernard's" on the bottom of the home page form. If you move away, please notify us as well.

MISSION STATEMENT
With faith, hope, and love the people of St. Bernard's parish family are on a mission to bring the gospel of Jesus to the Levittown Community and beyond.

SPIRITUAL LIFE
Schedule of Masses:
Saturday: 8:00 am and 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am (*Family Mass*), 10:30 am, 12 Noon, 5:30 pm (*Youth Mass*)
Weekdays: 8:00 am
Holy Days: see website: www.StBernardChurch.org

Confessions:
Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00 pm. Weekdays: After the 8:00 am Mass
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Novena and Benediction:
Monday: Check schedule on page 4.
Morning Prayer:
Monday through Saturday, 8:30 am, Prayer Room. Books are available.

Baptism of Children: *We welcome infants and children to our Christian community!* Baptisms are held on select Sundays at 1:30 pm. **Please contact the parish at least 3 months before an anticipated baptism – even before a new child is born – to ensure enough time to complete the baptism preparation process.** Our three-step preparation process includes: 1) at-home reading and preparation by the parents; 2) an intake conversation with a member of our parish staff; and 3) participation with other parents in a Sunday morning gathering, which begins with attendance at our 9:00 am "Family-friendly" Mass. Please call 731-4220 or e-mail parish@StBernardChurch.org to request a Baptism information and preparation packet.

Marriages: Church arrangements should be made at least **6 months before the marriage and before making any contracts with restaurants or caterers.** Please call the Rectory to set up an appointment with a priest, 731-4220.

Ministry to the Sick and Aging: If you are, or know of someone who is homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the rectory at 731-4220.

St. Vincent De Paul Society: 735-3218
Usher Coordinator: John Lyons (516) 390-5150 or Jlyons8234@gmail.com

Bulletin Deadline: Friday, 5:00 pm, nine days prior to publication. You may email us at Bulletin@StBernardChurch.org or leave a printed copy in the inbox on the bulletin desk in the Parish Office. Thank you for your cooperation!



The Place Wins

E-mail Father Ralph: shepherd@StBernardChurch.org

Returning the Survey

By this weekend, you should have received our survey as part of the feasibility study that was mailed to all households this week. Please help us make this a most valid study by quickly sending in your survey --or even more conveniently, complete it online at: www.stbernardchurch.org/quicksurvey

Still Time to Donate

If you're reading this on Sunday, you still have time to stop by the parish center from 8:30am-2:30pm to help alleviate the blood shortage by donating a pint of life-giving blood today.

Sommer in the Summer

A few August dates are still available for a visit from your pastor during the summer months. Check out the details and the calendar online: www.stbernardchurch.org/sommertime

And don't hesitate to invite any of our priests to local block parties, family festive events. We love to go out among the "flock".

For over thirty years Freeport boat-builder Al Grover has donated his dock on the "Nautical Mile" so that the local parish -- Our Holy Redeemer -- could celebrate Sunday Mass there during the summer months. If you don't see me at St. Bernard's this Sunday it's because I'm returning to my first parish as a priest to celebrate Mass under Al Grover's tent as part of my "vacation tour."

Celebrating Mass in such a public place is quite thrilling. It's in the midst of the hustle and bustle of a marketplace that Jesus comes in the Eucharist and people who walk by poke their heads in, and when they see what's going on, they often stay. Yet Mass in the tent can be quite uncomfortable -- there's no air conditioning and sometimes the scent from the canal isn't what you would call a refreshing sea breeze. And of course this would never work in the winter. Still as a temporary site, it's really a great place and I know it will bring back many happy memories for me.

I'm thinking about how our current church vestibule can also be considered a "temporary site" -- though it's less wonderful than Al Grover's tent. It's only been here for 32 years of the nearly 70 years our parish has been in existence and it's time to make things better. I think of this every time there is a funeral (and we have a LOT of funerals) and families can't fit into the vestibule as the opening rites take place.

Icertainly thought of this over the past week. We had a fine wedding celebration of Nick and Jessica. All fine, except that it rained. Their guests stood outside under umbrellas after greeting the couple on the way out of church. And we had another great wedding celebration of Tom and Darlene -- great except for the close to 100 degree weather. The vestibule is not air conditioned (the wedding party knows this as they wait in the heat) and outside in the sun is worse, especially when you're dressed for a wedding!

So with future funeral, weddings, baptisms, communions, confirmations, etc. in mind, we are setting out to make our small temporary vestibule into a permanent larger lobby. With space for people to gather, with air conditioning in the summer and heat in the winter -- and dry all year 'round -- this can be a more welcoming and functional entrance to our church. It's part of the major renovation we're hoping to raise funds for in the months ahead. Your children and grandchildren will thank you.



**Blood Drive
Today,
Sunday, July 23**
[see page 12](#)

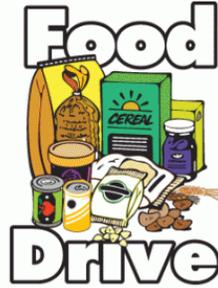
Slate Lane Swim Team & Girl Scout Troop 3637
will be holding a

Food Drive

for the benefit of
St. Bernard's pantry

On Tuesday, August 1,
1pm—4pm

At King Kullen, Levittown



Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group. Every Tuesday, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm held in St. Bernard's Parish Center. This program is designed to help each other cope with the challenging situation of dealing with someone with dementia. For more information, please call Mike Bartholomew at 516-735-1685.



SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <u>July 16, 2017</u> | <u>July 17, 2016</u> |
| \$ 12,956.45 | \$ 13,057.35 |
| 514 envelopes | 561 envelopes |
| <u>Faith Direct</u> | |
| \$ 2,145.00 | \$ 2,388.00 |
| <u>Total Collection</u> | |
| \$ 15,101.45 | \$ 15,445.35 |

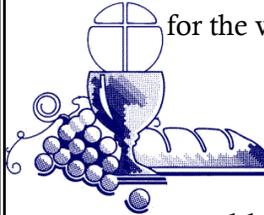


Faith Direct

Have you enrolled yet?

www.faithdirect.net Code = NY272

THE GIFTS OF BREAD AND WINE



for the weekend of July 22nd and July 23rd
have been requested by

Cathy & Frank Lawlor

In thanksgiving for all the blessings bestowed on our family

PARISH CALENDAR *(Subject to change)*

- Monday, July 24**
10:0 am Fr. Augustine's Watercolor Lessons for Kids, Parish Center
2:00 pm Zumba Gold, Parish Center
7:30 pm Miraculous Medal Novena, Church
- Tuesday, July 25**
10:00 am Our Lady of Consolation, Parish Center
11:00 am Alzheimer Caregiver Support Group, Parish
6:30 pm Fr. Augustine's Returning Students Water color Lessons, Parish Center
7:00 pm Spanish Rosary, Prayer Room
7:00 pm Vivitrol Support Group, School Room 206
7:30 pm AA Meeting, School Room 207
7:30 pm Renaissance Group, Parish Center

- Wednesday, July 26**
2:00 pm Zumba Gold, Parish Center
7:30 pm Faith in Film, Parish Center
8:00 pm Bread of Life Prayer Group, Parish Center
- Thursday, July 27**
9:30 am Padre Pio Meeting, Parish Center
2:15 pm St. Vincent Meeting, Clairvaux House
6:30 pm Fr. Augustine's Watercolor Lessons for new adult students, Parish Center
- Saturday, July 29**
11:00 am Women's AA Meeting, Cafeteria
- Sunday, July 30**
6:30 pm Youth Ministry Meeting, YM Room (School)
8:00 pm AA Meeting, Cafeteria



MASS INTENTIONS

This listing may not reflect recent changes or additions.

- Saturday, July 22**
5:00 pm Donald Gancio
- Sunday, July 23**
7:30 am Mary Barbarito
9:00 am For all parishioners
10:30 am Maria Della Monica,
Gerard J. Valinoti,
Alan Hodgson,
Frank Squillace, Sr.
- 12 Noon Marie Visconti
5:30 pm Andrew Mongiardo
- Monday, July 24**
8:00 am Nancy Gillin– *Birthday Remembrance*
- Tuesday, July 25**
8:00 am Nancy Gillin
- Wednesday, July 26**
8:00 am Thomas P. Fitzgerald
- Thursday, July 27**
8:00 am Frances Rotondo–*Birthday Remembrance*
- Friday, July 28**
8:00 am Kevin McKinney–*Birthday Remembrance*
- Saturday, July 29**
8:00 am Julius Nowak,
Kenneth Kudrena– *30th Anniversary*,
Thomas M. Gatto,
Carol Buchauer
- 5:00 pm Marie Collins
- Sunday, July 30**
7:30 am Brett Alexander Billings
9:00 am Yolanda Dunne
10:30 am For all parishioners,
Eileen Gonyon,
Marge Foley–*3rd Anniversary*,
Lorraine Kojac,
Gerard Valinoti
- 12 Noon Vincenza "D" Ruckdeschel–*6th Anniversary*
5:30 pm John Giordano



PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED
AND THOSE WHO MOURN FOR THEM

Clara M. Curtis Stephen Greco Orlino Q. Tabag



SACRAMENTS

BANNS OF MARRIAGE



First Time

Nicholas Monaco, Most Precious Blood, Denver Co.
(formerly of St Bernard's)

Kamila Maslowiec, Most Precious Blood Denver Co.

Third Time

Paul Joseph Stanko

Erin Colleen McMenemy, St. Bernard Parish , Levittown

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Justine Bischof Michael Giampetruzzi Martin Logan

All names will remain on the list for 4 weeks after you call in.

After that time we ask, if necessary, to call again.

Thank you for cooperating and God bless all.

Please pray for all those on our Long-term Sick List

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| | Baby Mason Francis Combs | |
| Susan Arena | Brian Austin | Arlene Barsch |
| Kathleen Biscardi | Irene Boyce | Jean Caprera |
| Rosemary Clark | Ed Costello | Monica DeLaRosa |
| Debra Dowdell | Margaret Dowdell | Gerry Finlan |
| Jim Finlan | Linda Fitz | Kathleen Flaherty |
| Rich Fuleki | Teresita Gallego | Regina Gorman |
| Colleen Grasing | John Guiffre | Mike Hach |
| Patricia Hafner | Carolyn Hakim | Cynthia Hansen |
| Donna Hare | John Hartofil | Vicki Jacona |
| Ann Johnson | Steve Jugan | Jerome W. Kalkhof |
| Anne Kalman | Claudia Kwasnik | Katherine Anne Kwestel |
| Violet Kwestel | Tia Mabanta | Andrew Mahoney |
| Lucy Marconi | Gene McDonagh | William McDonagh |
| Teresa McDonald | Dr. John McLaughlin | Mary McLean |
| Mary Messina | Irmgard Montanino | Kerri Orlando |
| Johnny Perdue | Rosina Perri | Catherine Pipinou |
| Joan Rampolla | Fred Rappa | Lauren Quinn-Sturge |
| Deanne Reilly | John Rotondo, Jr. | John Rotondo, Sr. |
| Flore Rowe | Federico Rueda | Terri Saccente |
| Eve Saint | Thomas Saint | Angela Scilla |
| Terry Sherwood | Norma Steiger | Louis Steinberg |
| David Testa | Rosalie Travers | Theresa Votta |
| Brendan Wagner | Richard Yankowski | |

Help Us Keep the Sick List Up-to-date

When your loved one's health improves, please call the rectory at 516-731-4220 to let us know so their name can be removed from the sick list. It is important that the list remain current.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Our Mission:
**Bringing the Gospel to the Levittown
Community and Beyond!**

Religious Education for Children



*Do you love children and
are you passionate about sharing faith with them?*

Do children respond well to you?

*Do you have teaching experience, or are you willing
to learn?*

St. Bernard's offers the opportunity for the right
people to serve in our catechetical
ministry for children as teachers, teaching
assistants or hall monitors during classes.

Contact Susan Martin at 516-731-8511 or
smartin@stbernardchurch.org for information.



**Do you enjoy our
Hospitality Sundays?
Can you help??**

Lots of folks enjoy our monthly Hospitality
Sundays when we serve bagels, coffee and
other goodies, and provide fun arts and craft
activities for kids after the Sunday morning
Masses. More folks are needed to assist with
hosting to ensure we can continue this
opportunity for fellowship!



Contact parish@stbernardchurch.org
for information



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

The Catholic Faith and the Common Good: **HEALTHCARE REFORM**

*This is the latest in our series of articles to keep
parishioners informed about what the United States
Conference of Catholic Bishops is saying about the
current issues affecting the common good. More
information is available at*

<http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/health-care/index.cfm>

REVISED SENATE HEALTH CARE REFORM BILL STILL "UNACCEPTABLE," SAYS U.S. BISHOPS CHAIRMAN

WASHINGTON, JULY 13, 2017—Bishop Frank J.
Dewane of Venice, Florida, Chairman of the U.S.
Bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human
Development, reacted strongly to the revised Senate
health reform bill, the "Better Care Reconciliation
Act" (BCRA).

"The USCCB is reviewing carefully the health care bill
introduced by Senate leadership earlier today. On an
initial read, we do not see enough improvement to
change our assessment that the proposal is
unacceptable. We recognize the incremental
improvement in funding the fight against opioid
addiction, for instance, but more is needed to honor
our moral obligation to our brothers and sisters living
in poverty and to ensure that essential protections for
the unborn remain in the bill."

In an earlier letter concerning the draft of the BCRA
that was introduced in draft format on June 22, 2017,
Bishop Dewane had warned that, "[t]he BCRA's
restructuring of Medicaid will adversely impact those
already in deep health poverty. At a time when tax
cuts that would seem to benefit the wealthy and
increases in other areas of federal spending, such as
defense, are being contemplated, placing a 'per capita
cap' on medical coverage for the poor is
unconscionable."

The full letter from June 27 can be found at: [http://
www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-
dignity/health-care/upload/senate-discussion-letter-
health-care-reform-2017-06-27.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/health-care/upload/senate-discussion-letter-health-care-reform-2017-06-27.pdf)

*As Catholic Christians we are called to carefully consider
the guidance of our bishops on this matter, and to use our
power as citizens to ensure that the bishops' goals of
proclaiming the Gospel of life, protecting the least among
us, and pursuing the common good are honored.*



St Bernard's Fifth Annual Summer Faith in Film Festival

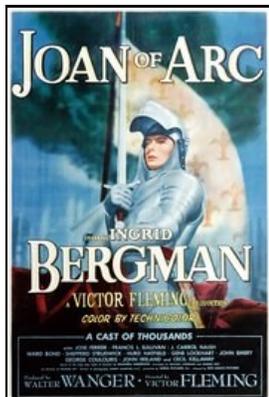
an exploration of faith themes in modern film



Wednesday evenings, **7:00 p.m. (note change)**

in St. Bernard's Air-Conditioned Parish Center

Hosted by resident film critics Deacon John Blakeney and Father Augustine!



July 26 Joan of Arc (film switched from last week)

During the Hundred Years' War, peasant girl Joan of Arc hears voices instructing her to save France from the English. Convinced that these unsummoned murmurings are divine messages from God, Joan consults the uncrowned Charles VII who, startled by the accuracy of her clairvoyance, assembles an army and installs her as its leader and spiritual guide. Her victorious forces reclaim much of their homeland from the English, but she herself falls into enemy hands. This 1948 classic stars Ingrid Bergman as the saint.

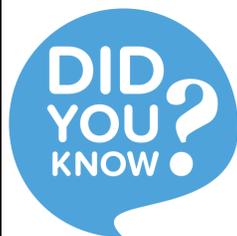
Aug 2
Aug 9

A Man Called Ove
Swing Street

Aug 16
Aug 23

Land of Mine
Gran Torino

For information contact Deacon John at 516-731-4220 or deaconjohn@stbernardchurch.org.



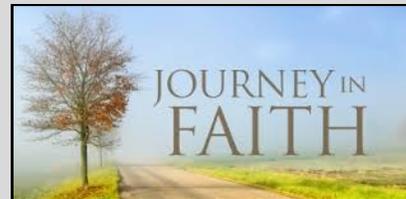
CATHOLICISM 101 BASICS OF THE FAITH

by Diane Vella, Pastoral Associate

I met with a great couple this week to arrange the Baptism of their child. They, like many couples who bring children for Baptism, are not yet married. They would like to get married in the Catholic Church, but he was hesitant because he had been married before in the Church, and didn't want to have his first marriage annulled because he thought his children from that marriage would be considered "illegitimate" by the Church. **NOT!!!! There is no way that the Church considers children from an annulled marriage "illegitimate."** Don't believe everything you hear about the Catholic Church in the hair salon or on the soccer field. Come and ask us; you may be surprised!

Questions? Contact Diane Vella at 516-731-4220 or dvella@stbernardchurch.org

Maybe it's Time to Belong



- ◆ Going to church but not baptized?
- ◆ Baptized, going to a Catholic church but not Catholic?
- ◆ Baptized Catholic, going to church, but not confirmed in the faith?

Join the journey to adult faith!

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Best time to call: _____

Place form in collection basket,
or contact Diane Vella: 516-731-4220 or dvella@stbernardchurch.org



LITURGY CORNER

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

July 23, 2017

The Collect, in asking God to “mercifully increase the gifts of your grace,” can be seen as setting a tone for hearing the parables in today’s Gospel.

First Reading: This passage from the Book of Wisdom is addressed directly to God. We can sense the wonder of the inspired writer, who recognizes that God’s power is seen most clearly in God’s gentleness and mercy. And God’s people must strive to become more like God—our justice, too, must be joined with great kindness.

Responsorial Psalm 86: Like the First Reading, Psalm 86 praises the forgiving mercy of our all-powerful God.

Second Reading: As we continue our reading of Romans, we come to a wonderful passage about prayer. We are weak, and we struggle to pray as we ought. But we do not need to be discouraged or afraid, since the Holy Spirit, dwelling in each of us through Baptism, is

praying, not with words, but with “groaning” beyond the power and speech—a language God understands better than any other.

Gospel: Last Sunday we had the parable of the sower; today we have three parables of the Kingdom : the weeds and the wheat, the mustard seed, and the yeast. Each of these parables gives us a glimpse of what God’s reign is like. It is not tidy: rather, good and bad grow together, like the weeds and the wheat, and there is no way to remove the one without also destroying the other. God’s Kingdom starts small: like the mustard seed, something tiny, almost infinitesimal, leads to extraordinary results. And the kingdom is mystery: like yeast in dough, it is invisible, yet makes all the difference.



Saints of the Week



Monday, July 24. St. Sharbel Makhlūf Joseph Zaroun was a Maronite Catholic, born and raised in a small Lebanese mountain village. As a child he led a pious life of prayer and solitude. His favorite book was *The Imitation of Christ* by Thomas à Kempis. When he entered the Monastery of St. Maron at 23, he took the name Sharbel after the second-century martyr of the Antioch Church. He lived an austere life as a hermit, eating only one meal of vegetables each day, sleeping on a willow of wood and a duvet filled with dead leaves. His time was devoted to prayer, contemplation, and manual labor. Many came to him for counsel and blessing. He died in 1898 on Christmas Eve.

July 26. Sts. Joachim and Anne. Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The information we have regarding Sts. Joachim and Anne, the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary, comes from an unreliable source known as the Gospel of James. They are portrayed as an old and barren couple who longed to bring life into the world. Through an angelic messenger they are told they will bear a child—not just any child, but one who will be revered for all time. A following developed around both

of them, but it seems that St. Anne had a stronger following, which continues to flourish, especially in Canada. She is the patron of childless women, expectant mothers, and women in labor.

Saturday, July 29. St. Martha was the sister of Lazarus and Mary, friends of Jesus. She appears to have been a practical-minded woman, for she seems to have organized the dinner in Luke 10:38-42, and she protests when Jesus commands that the stone be rolled from the entrance to her brother’s tomb after he’d been dead for three days. At the same time, however, she is one of the few in the Gospel to profess her faith in Jesus as the Messiah: “Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world” (John 11:27). St. Martha is shown in art bearing the tools of a housekeeper—keys or a broom—and is a patron saint of domestic servants, homemakers, cooks, and single laywomen.

Sourcebook 2017

Readings for
July 23, 2017—July 30, 2017

IT'S NOT TOO SOON TO START!



Sunday, July 23. Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary

Time. Wisdom 12:13, 16-19; Romans 8:26-27; Psalm 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16; Matthew 13:24-43.

Monday, July 24. Exodus 14:5-18; (Ps) Exodus 15:1-6; Matthew 12:38-42.

Tuesday, July 25. Feast of Saint James, Apostle.
2 Corinthians 4:7-15; Psalm 126:1-6; Matthew 20:20-28.

Wednesday, July 26. Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Exodus 16:1-5, 9-15; Psalm 78:18-19, 23-28; Matthew 13:1-9.

Thursday, July 27. Exodus 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20; (Ps) Daniel 3:52-56; Matthew 13:10-17.

Friday, July 28. Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19:8-11; Matthew 13:18-23.

Saturday, July 29. Memorial of Saint Martha.
Exodus 24:3-8; Psalm 50:1-2, 5-6, 14-15; John 11:19-27.

Sunday, July 30. Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary
Time. 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12; Romans 8:28-30; Psalm 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130; Matthew 13:44-52.



ST. BERNARD'S CENTER FOR
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Mrs. Susan Martin, M.A., Director,
516-731-8511

Catechists Needed

Would you like to become involved in an important ministry? Consider sharing faith weekly with a small group of children this Fall as catechists are needed. Presently we have openings in levels 3, 4 and 5, Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays from 4:15-5:30pm. Grandparents, college students, retirees, parents of these grade levels are welcome to contact the Religious Education Office at 731- 8511. Please leave your name and phone number. Lesson plans and guidebooks are given.

"The harvest is great but the laborers are few" thus consider doing "something beautiful for God."

(St. Teresa of Calcutta)



**Catholics For Freedom
of Religion**

www.cffor.org

**Pro-life Doctors Denied Free-Speech
& Freedom of Conscience**

Illinois: A pro-life doctor and two Christian pregnancy centers are challenging a 2016 Illinois law that requires all doctors, pharmacists, and pregnancy centers to assist women in obtaining abortions, regardless of whether the medical professionals are opposed to the procedure. The law also requires doctors with gender dysphoria patients to counsel on the "benefits" of sex reassignment. Also, doctors must counsel terminally ill patients on assisted suicide, despite their moral opposition to it.

"It is well established that the First Amendment protects not only the right to speak, but also the right not to be forced to be a mouthpiece for a message you reject."

Notre Dame law professor Rick Garnet

THE RIDE HOME

This feature is for families to share their thoughts as they travel to and from Church.

Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

July 23, 2017

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43



Adults: What weakness can the power of the Spirit help you overcome?

Children: When will you need the help of the Holy Spirit this week?

**St. Vincent de Paul:**

We are grateful for each and every donation to our food pantry, and especially appreciate receiving the items we request in the bulletin! This week, our pantry needs include:

- ✓ Grape jelly
- ✓ Chunky soups
- ✓ Cup o' noodles
- ✓ Ramen Noodles
- ✓ Canned tomatoes (any kind)
- ✓ Canned pasta ('Chef Boyardee' type)
- ✓ Dry or canned beans
- ✓ Oatmeal (canisters or envelopes)

*Please remember the poor boxes
and to "buy one, get one free!"*

Thanks!

- ❖ Levittown's Lazy Days of Summer committee collected food and toiletries for our pantry.
- ❖ Thanks, too, to the family of NYFD **Raymond Pfeifer** for donations in memory of our local hero!
- ❖ **Levittown Kiwanis** brought a large donation of food, toiletries and paper goods! Thanks to everyone!

We appreciate the support of individuals and local groups who help us help our Levittown neighbors!

National Grip HEAT Program:

Most Levittown homes are heated with oil, so this may not apply here, but your friends and neighbors in other communities may benefit from a National Grid initiative which will convert entire heating systems from oil to natural gas, as well as providing efficiency upgrades.

There are broad eligibility requirements, but are certainly worth investigating. Call Susan Montano at National Grid: 516-545-4192, or our office if you are interested.

Did you know that the East Meadow Farmers' Market (832 Merrick Avenue) accepts EBT cards and WIC vegetable and fruit checks for the purchase of their fresh produce? The market is open Fridays from 3-6 p.m. and Saturday 9-12 noon through October 8th. Cash is also accepted! Also, the **Fresh Produce Program for Seniors** for income-eligible residents (60+) is open at 832 Merrick Avenue, East Meadow. Seniors can receive a one-time coupon book worth \$20 to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables, call the Nassau County Office for the Aging at 516-227-8919 for further information.

Job Opportunities:

Merry Maids, Levittown is hiring house cleaners. Paid training (\$12/hr.) to start; competitive pay, room for advancement. For further information, call Jennifer at 516-931-0758.

Help!! Please!!

Every once in a while, we find our front porch filled with used personal belongings, clothing, and/or household items. Besides getting our day off to a bad start, it takes time and energy to dispose of these items. We cannot bring them in because we don't know the "what," "where," "when," "who," and "why" they were left. We have no room for storage, and cannot give these items away since we know nothing about them.

If there are things you no longer need, please consider donating them to a **thrift shop** (such as St. Frances de Chantal) or to **Goodwill** or **Big Brothers/Big Sisters**. They all have the staff and means to turn them around for other's use. We do have two **St. Vincent de Paul clothing bins** at the back of our property for new or gently used clothes.

We hope you will receive this message in the spirit in which it was written. Usually, we aren't "cranky!"
Thanks!

Water Color Art Show



Selected watercolor paintings by Father Augustine are being displayed in the Prayer Room of St. Bernard's Church, Levittown, from July 9-23 for viewing and acquisition through silent auction. This silent auction will end on July 23 before the 5.30 mass (Sunday).



The proceeds of the sale of paintings go to help the ministry of the Little Sisters of the Poor for the aged and the destitute.

The Little Sisters of the Poor provide service to the poorest of the poor in all the impoverished areas of the world. They pick up the homeless and destitute from the streets and offer them quality dedicated service absolutely free. It is their charism to live by the providence of God without receiving big donations but sustain their ministry by begging day by day. This art show is only a little effort to afford them small help to support their mission. By buying one of these paintings you are adding your tiny mite to the great work of God for the poor that Pope Francis has been consistently promoting the faithful to do.

All the pictures are matted and framed and are ready to decorate your homes or to be presented as gifts.

This will be a Silent Auction and here is the procedure:

1. Please choose the painting that you are interested in and note the number.
2. From the plastic box pick the card that bears that number.
3. Write your name, phone number, and your offering for the painting.
4. The highest bidder gets the picture.
5. The last date for the auction will be July 23.

Thanks to the Peck Family for donating the picture frames.

Saint Bernard Blood Drive



EMERGENCY BLOOD SHORTAGE  **New York**
Blood Center

Sunday, July 23, 2017
8:30am - 2:30pm
3100 Hempstead Turnpike, Levittown



Your donation will help to **save up to THREE lives.**
Our community hospitals need your help.
Please share this lifesaving gift!

**ALL DONORS WILL RECEIVE A MCDONALDS COUPON FOR A FREE
LARGE SANDWICH OR SALAD WITH ANY PURCHASE**

THANK YOU FOR CARING!

Eligibility Criteria:

- Bring you Blood donor Card or ID with signature or photo.
- Minimum weight 110 lbs.
- Age 16 — 75 (16 year olds must have parental permission).
- Eat well (low fat) & drink plenty of fluids
- No tattoos for past 12 months

For questions concerning medical eligibility call 1-800-688-0900

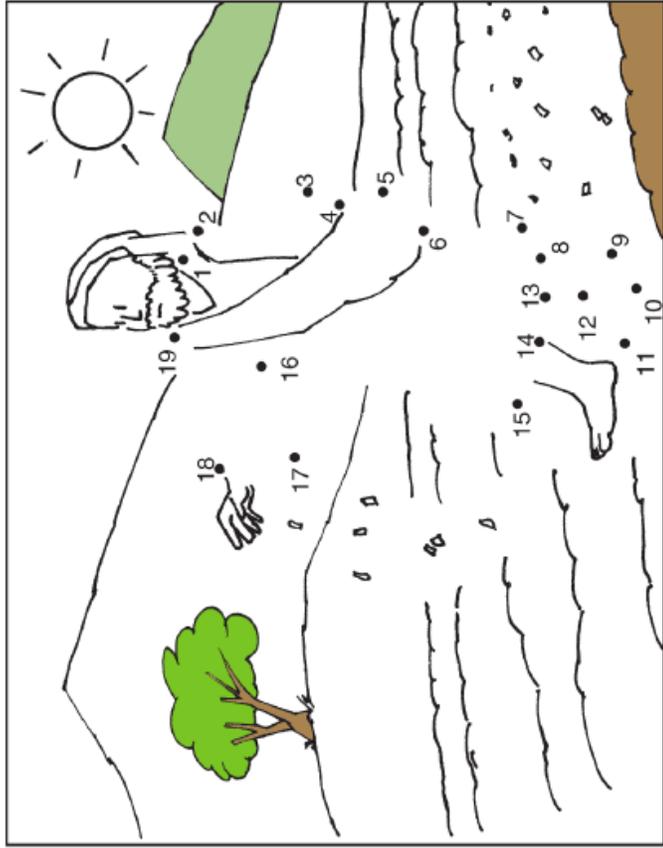
www.nybc.org.

For more information please contact Ernie Meditz 516-731-1809

The Parable of the Weeds

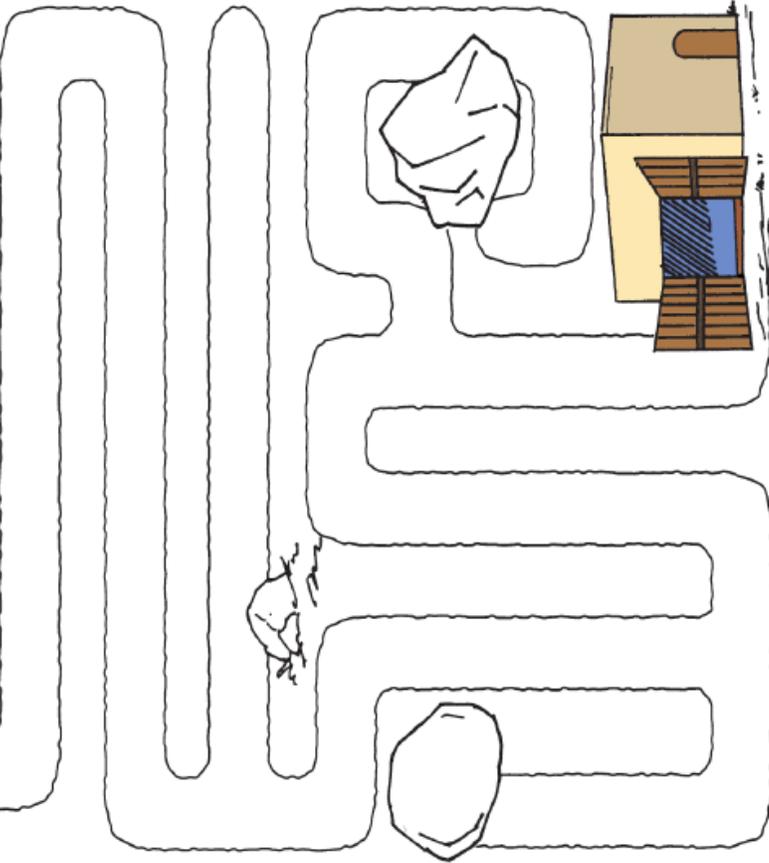
Jesus told a parable – a teaching story – about a man who planted good seeds in his field.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19



The owner of the field said,
 “Do not pull the weeds
 until the harvest or you might
 pull up some of the wheat too.”

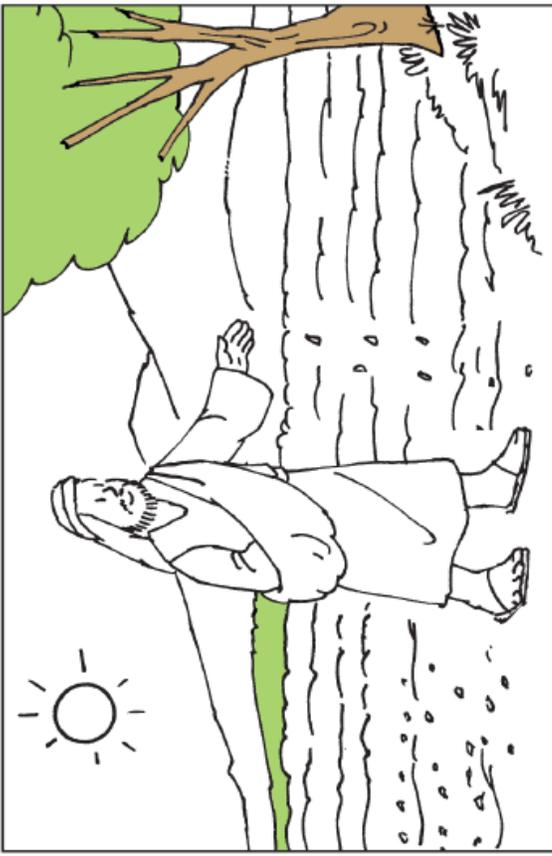
Help the harvesters take the
 wheat to the barn.



Jesus explained, “The field is the world,
 and the good seed stands for the
 people of God’s kingdom.”

During the night, his enemy planted weeds.

Circle 5 differences in the 2nd picture.



The good seeds and the weeds both grew together.

Count how many wheat stalks, 5 or 6, and weeds, 4 or 5.



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Fall Driver Education - Holy Trinity High School, Hicksville September 2017 – January 2018

Classes offered before school, after school (2:40 and 4pm) and on Saturdays. For info and application: Call 433- 4852 or go to holyltrinityhs.org (click on Student Life/Driver Education). Open to students 16 years and older from all high schools.



Our Lady of Mercy School Community invites you to join our school community for the 2017-2018 school year and beyond. Nursery-Grade 8 programs are offered. Tours are available during school hours, evenings, and weekends by appointment. Our Lady of Mercy School, 520 South Oyster Bay Road, Hicksville, NY 11801. Please contact us for a tour. 516-433-7040 or jharrigan@olmshicks.org

BECOME A BAYHAWK FOR THE DAY

Calling All 7th & 8th Graders to Shadow Or Schedule a Personalized Tour

Please contact 516-922-4888 x5325 or admissions@stdoms.org



St. Dominic High School

One Journey Through Faith & Education

110 Anstice Street | Oyster Bay, NY 11771 | hs.stdoms.org

Suffolk County Location

EAST MEADOW

2515 N. Jerusalem Road
516-826-1010



WANTAGH

603 Wantagh Avenue
516-731-5550



EAST ISLIP
62 Carleton Ave
(631) 581-2828

Serving Proudly the St. Bernard Parish for over 50 Years

QUICK EMERGENCY RESPONSE 24 HR. 7 DAYS

And
Holidays

PHIL CEPARANO PLUMBING & HEATING

All Leaks Repaired • Floods Pumped
Repair or Replace: Faucets • Toilets • Sinks • Drains • Heat
Waste & Water Lines - Residential Specialist
ALL WORK PERFORMED BY OWNER
Highly Recommended By His Customers
TRY ME ONCE

YOU'LL BE IMPRESSED WITH THE SERVICE

35 YEARS EXPERIENCE
www.ceparanoplumbing.com
Serving the Parish Area

516-454-6557

ASK ABOUT MY 2 YEAR GUARANTEE

Lic. Master Plumber
Serving all Nassau
No Job Too Small
Insured



Experience • Consistency • Reliability

Long Island Hearing, Inc.

"Helping People Hear Better"® Since 1985

LEVITTOWN
516.735.9191

NESCONSET/SMITHTOWN
631.972.5211

HICKSVILLE
516.933.HEAR

Need a Hearing Test?
Hearing Aid? Repair?

DISCOVER A **FAST & NATURAL** WAY TO LOSE WEIGHT

The Sadkhin Complex

For a Free Consultation: 516-280-7070
300 Garden City Plaza, Suite 250
(located near Roosevelt Field Mall)
GardenCity@Sadkhin.com

No Medications,
No Special Foods,
No Surgeries,
No Heavy Exercise.

Comforting families Since 1924

Family Owned and Operated by Timothy J. Dalton and Beth Dalton-Costello



LEVITTOWN

2786 Hempstead Tpk.
(516) 796-0400

www.thomasdaltonfuneralhomes.com

HICKSVILLE

47 Jerusalem Avenue
(516) 931-0262

Floral Park • 29 Atlantic Avenue
New Hyde Park • 125 Hillside Avenue
Williston Park • 412 Willis Avenue

RAYMOND NARDO
ATTORNEY AT LAW
129 Third St., Mineola, NY 11501
Are You Selling Your Home?
Do You Need a Will?
516-248-2121



HOLY INNOCENTS COUNCIL #3581
3581 Jeffries Rd., Levittown, N.Y.
For Membership info Call **(516) 731-9018**

Banquet Facility available (516) 735-1724



**CLASS "A" ROOFING & SIDING
ROOFING SPECIALIST**

"We Live Here, We Worship Here"

(516) 826-5514 Lic/Ins

- ❖ Impressive New Home
- ❖ Convenient Location
- ❖ Family Owned & Operated
- ❖ Preplanning & Prefinancing



20 Hicksville Rd, Bethpage (516) 731-5600

- ❖ Ample Parking
- ❖ Competitive Pricing
- ❖ Children's Playroom
- ❖ Handicap Accessible

John A. Spiegelman
Licensed Financial Services Professional
*Insurance *Investments *College Funding
*Business Planning *Retirement Planning
(516) 495-2931
jspiegelman@ft.newyorklife.com
www.JohnASpiegelman.com

SPECIALTY CAKES
BIRTHDAY • SWEET 16 • WEDDING • ANNIVERSARY
OR ANYTHING ELSE YOU CAN THINK OF
LET US BE AT YOUR NEXT PARTY!
2374 HEMPSTEAD TPKE., EAST MEADOW
516-261-9320 • VALENCIABAKERY.NET

Law Office of Roy A. List
Wills • Trusts • Elder Law
Medicaid Planning • Medicaid Applications
Free Consultation
109 Newbridge Road, Hicksville
516-822-4100
www.elderlawyersny.com

DIVISION CAR CARE
"All Repairs Guaranteed"
Foreign & Domestic
N.Y. State Inspections
40 Division Ave.
Levittown
731-8900



VERNON C. WAGNER FUNERAL HOMES, INC.



125 Old Country Road
Hicksville, NY 11714
(516) 935-7100

655 Old Country Road
Plainview, NY 11803
(516) 938-4311

"Our Service Speaks For Itself"

\$50 off any Service or IN STORE PURCHASE

**KENS FAUCET
& TOILET REPAIRS INC.**

FOR ALL YOUR PLUMBING REPAIR NEEDS
FAUCETS • TOILETS • SINKS
All Sewer Drain Lines Cleared
Lic/Inc Master Plumber
Specializing in All Plumbing Repairs.
Expert Leak Finder
PLUMBING & HEATING REPAIR
For a Great Service Experience Call:

516-796-2100

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM:
2586 HEMPSTEAD TPKE., EAST MEADOW, NY 11554

www.kensfaucetandtoiletrepairs.com

Email: kensfaucetappts@gmail.com



COME IN AND CHOOSE YOUR FIXTURE, WE'LL DO THE REST!



John Satriano, ABR, SRES
N.Y.S. Lic. R.E. Broker Associate
Notary Public

Prevete Real Estate
3705 Hempstead Turnpike
Levittown, New York 11756
Business (516) 520-3838
Fax (516) 520-5738
Cell (516) 330-9940

"YOU'LL BE AMAZED"
CALL FOR FREE Market Analysis
Your Personal Realtor
- Member Long Island Board of Realtors
- Member New York State Association of Realtors
- Member National Association of Realtors
Each Office is Independently Owned And Operated



**PAT DOLAN
PLUMBING**



Licensed Master
Plumber
24 HR.
EMERGENCY
SERVICE

798-8943

#172 FOR ADVERTISING: THE CHURCH BULLETIN INC., 200 DALE ST., W. BABYLON, NY 11704-1104 (631) 249-4994 • www.thechurchbulletin.com