Taste and see the goodness of the Lord!

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 9, 2017

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord!
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

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.
**Gentle Summer**

*E-mail Father Ralph: shepherd@StBernardChurch.org*

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**Sommer in the Summer**

Dates are available for a visit from your pastor during the summer months. Check out the details and the calendar online: [www.stbernardchurch.org/sommer](http://www.stbernardchurch.org/sommer).

And don't hesitate to invite any of our priests to local block parties, 4th of July BBQ's, family festive events. We love to go out among the “flock”.

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**Bombs Bursting in Air**

On July 4th I went to the roof of the school to take a panoramic video of Levittown’s street fireworks. You can view this scene by going to St. Bernard’s home page online: [www.stbernardchurch.org](http://www.stbernardchurch.org).

And while you’re there you can also:

- Order some St. BernardWear t-shirts
- Sign up for our weekly blog (we just hit the 600th subscriber mark)
- Start using our online contribution service (Faith Direct) -- especially useful for when you’re away for the summer.

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**If** you were to pick a summertime quality, which word would you pick from this list: relaxing, cranky, festive, hot-and-bothered, gentle, impatient, generous, painful, fun, argumentative, lazy, rushed, happy...?? May I suggest that the quality called for in today’s readings (Zechariah 9:9-10; Matthew 11:25-30) is gentleness. Zechariah speaks of a king coming to town, not to be “boss” of the people, but as gentle servant. And Jesus speaks to people who are feeling overwhelmed by life's burdens and offers them rest and gentle help.

**If** we made our summer time goal to be gentle with ourselves and with others, I’m sure it will be among our favorite summers ever. The alternative is a summer filled with some of the scenes I’ve witnessed already: parents screaming at their children in the store, road-rage drivers who create dangerous conditions on our streets, couples who snipe at each other and have forgotten how to listen; people using holiday parties to “self-medicate” to try to get past their disappointments, loneliness or stresses.

**We** could begin our reflection by first thinking about the gentle people we have known in our lives. Whether it was a parent, grandparent, uncle or aunt, a boss or co-worker, a teacher or coach, there is probably someone we admired because he or she was gentle with us when we erred. They were “wired” in such a way that they were kind even when they felt upset. As we think of those gentle people, we could imagine ourselves acting like them in the stressful situations of our lives.

**Next**, we could take some quiet time -- whether it’s at the beach or backyard -- and listen to the inner voice of the Holy Spirit speak gently to us. Sometimes people approach God and prayer with a sense of guilt, thinking that God first pays attention to what we did wrong, or what we failed to do. But if we realize the gift of God’s gentleness, we can quickly be filled with God’s peace and then we can take that a step further and offer that peace and gentleness to others.

**Finally**, we can spend some time considering who it is who could use some gentleness in their lives right now. Inspired by the example of gentle people, blessed by the peace given us by God, we can make a plan to reach out to those folks who need that kind of blessing in their own lives. Perhaps they are the people living under our roof, or maybe someone who you could invite over for iced tea.
The Rosary Society members will meet in the church on **Monday, July 10 at 12:30 PM** for the recitation of the rosary. We will pray for our own personal intentions and those of all rosarians. We will also pray for our parish, our priests, bishops, and Pope Francis, for peace in our hearts, our families, our country, and the world. The USA has Mary under the title of The Immaculate Conception as its patron, so it is fitting that we ask for her help in guiding our leaders. All women of the parish are welcome.

**Blood Drive**

**Sunday, July 23**

[see page 12]

**Sign up next Sunday, July 16**

**PARISH NEWS**

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**PARISH CALENDAR (Subject to change)**

**Monday, July 10**

12:30 pm Rosary Confraternity Prayer Group, *Prayer Room*
2:00 pm Zumba Gold, *Parish Center*
7:30 pm Miraculous Medal Novena, *Church*

**Tuesday, July 11**

10:00 am Our Lady of Consolation, *Parish Center*
11:00 am Alzheimer Caregiver Support Group, *Parish Center*
7:00 pm Vivitrol Support Group, *School Room 206*
7:00 pm Spanish Rosary, *Prayer Room*
7:30 pm AA Meeting, *School Room 207*
7:30 pm God and Mammon, *Parish Center*

**Wednesday, July 12**

2:00 pm Zumba Gold, *Parish Center*
7:00 pm CFFR, *Parish Center*
7:30 pm Faith in Film, *Parish Center*
8:00 pm Bread of Life Prayer Group, *Parish Center*

**Thursday, July 13**

10:00 am Shawl Ministry, *Parish Center*
2:15 pm St. Vincent Meeting, *Clairvaux House*

**Saturday, July 15**

11:00 am Women’s AA Meeting, *Cafeteria*

**Sunday, July 16**

After all Masses Blood Drive Sign-up
6:30 pm Youth Ministry Meeting, *YM Room (School)*
7:00 pm Men’s Catholic Fellowship, *Prayer Room*
8:00 pm AA Meeting, *Cafeteria*
**Mass Intentions**

This listing may not reflect recent changes or additions.

**Monday, July 10**
- 8:00 am Peggy Byrnes – 1st Anniversary

**Tuesday, July 11**
- 8:00 am Maryann Trabucco Lanzi

**Wednesday, July 12**
- 8:00 am John Crawford

**Thursday, July 13**
- 8:00 am Peter Thearle

**Friday, July 14**
- 8:00 am Rudolph P. DiLorenzo

**Saturday, July 15**
- 8:00 am Donna Vollaro, Elaine DiGiacomo, Cynthia Simpson
- 5:00 pm Anna and Louis Scarpa, Saveria Criscuolo and Jean Madeya

**Sunday, July 16**
- 7:30 am For all parishioners
- 9:00 am Sara Bernardo
- 10:30 am Nicholas John Ellis, Gerard J. Valinoti, Daniel Huggard, James Meury
- 12 Noon Donald Gancio
- 5:30 pm Yolanda Dunne

**SACRAMENTS**

**Banns of Marriage**

**First Time**
- Paul Joseph Stanko
- Erin Colleen McMenemy, St. Bernard Parish, Levittown

**Second Time**
- James Wyka - St. Francis of Assisi, Haskell, NJ
- Rose Harrington - St. Bernard Parish, Levittown
- Thomas McDermott – St. Bernard Parish, Levittown
- Darlene Studiner

**Third Time**
- Lisandro Santacruz - St. Theresa, New York City
- Katie-Lyn Talbot - St. Bernard Parish, Levittown

**Pray for the Sick of Our Parish**

Eddie Flecker       Michael Giampetruzzi  Martin Logan
Michael Scharff     Orlino Tabag

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**

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Baby Mason Francis Combs</td>
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<td>Susan Arena</td>
<td>Kathleen Biscardi</td>
<td>Rosemary Clark</td>
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<td>Brian Austin</td>
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<td>Gerard J. Valinoti</td>
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<td>Claudia Kwasnik</td>
<td>Katherine Anne Kwestel</td>
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<td>Rosina Perri</td>
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<td>Joan Rampolla</td>
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<td>Laureen Quinn-Sturge</td>
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<td>Deanne Reilly</td>
<td>John Rotondo, Jr.</td>
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<td>Flore Rowe</td>
<td>Federico Rueda</td>
<td>John Rotondo, Sr.</td>
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<td>Eve Saint</td>
<td>Thomas Saint</td>
<td>Teri Saccente</td>
<td>Angela Scilla</td>
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<td>Norma Steiger</td>
<td>Louis Steinberg</td>
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<td>David Testa</td>
<td>Rosalie Travers</td>
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<td>Brendan Wagner</td>
<td>Richard Yankowski</td>
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**Pray for Our Beloved Deceased and Those Who Mourn for Them**

Kevin Carrigan Sr.       Wade Hulings Jr.
Sharon Natoli           Brian Rockwood         Barbara Steffens
ADULT FAITH FORMATION

St Bernard's Fifth Annual
Summer Faith in Film Festival
an exploration of faith themes in modern film
7 Wed. evenings starts July 12, 7:30 p.m.
St. Bernard’s Parish Center

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

**July 12  A Man For All Seasons**
The story of Thomas More, who stood up to King Henry VIII when the King rejected the Roman Catholic Church to obtain a divorce and remarriage. From the play and screenplay by Robert Bolt, and starring: Paul Scofield, Wendy Hiller, Robert Shaw. This film won the 1966 Best Picture plus five other Academy Awards.

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>Joan of Arc</td>
<td>Aug 9</td>
<td>Swing Street</td>
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<td>July 26</td>
<td>Thérèse</td>
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<td>Aug 2</td>
<td>A Man Called Ove</td>
<td>Aug 23</td>
<td>Gran Torino</td>
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For information contact Deacon John at 516-731-4220 or deaconjohn@stbernardchurch.org.

**SUMMER AWAKENING FAITH IN THE SUN!**

AWAKENING FAITH is an informal study and discussion program for people in their 20s-40s wondering whether faith fits into their lives. Topics include: Are You Spiritual? Does Jesus Matter? Does the Church Matter?

*We will meet on the lawn next to the Parish Center! Bring strollers & kids; they can play on the lawn.*

4 Thurs. mornings starts July 6
10-11:15 a.m.

For information, or to schedule an AWAKENING FAITH group at your convenience, contact Diane Vella at 516-731-4220 or dvella@stbernardchurch.org.

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**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.
### Readings for July 9, 2017—July 16, 2017

#### Sunday, July 9. Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Zechariah 9:9-10; Romans 8:9, 11-13; Psalm 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14; Matthew 11:25-30.

#### Monday, July 10

#### Tuesday, July 11. Memorial of Saint Benedict, Abbot
Genesis 32:23-33; Psalm 17:1-3, 6-8, 15; Matthew 9:32-38.

#### Wednesday, July 12

#### Thursday, July 13

#### Friday, July 14. Memorial of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

#### Saturday, July 15. Memorial of Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Genesis 49:29-32; 50:15-26; Psalm 105:1-4, 6-7; Matthew 10:24-33.

#### Sunday, July 16. Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 55:10-11; Romans 8:18-23; Psalm 65:10-14; Matthew 13:1-23.

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### THE RIDE HOME

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

#### Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time

July 9, 2017

**Gospel:** Matthew 11:25-30

**Adults:** When has Jesus refreshed you when you felt burdened by problems?

**Children:** What burden do you need Jesus to help you carry?

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### Catholics For Freedom of Religion

www.cffor.org

#### Religious Freedom Victory at Supreme Court:

The Supreme Court ruled decisively on June 26 in a 7-2 decision, that denying a church "an otherwise available public benefit on account of its religious status," violates the Free Exercise Clause of the First Amendment to the Constitution.

The State of Missouri had prohibited a Lutheran preschool from participating in a public benefit program that provided school playgrounds with recycled rubberized material made out of old tires in order to resurface their playground. State officials believed this benefit would be an unconstitutional state endorsement of religion.

In his majority decision, Chief Justice Roberts wrote, "the exclusion of Trinity Lutheran from a public benefit for which it is otherwise qualified, solely because it is a church, is odious to our Constitution and cannot stand."

Sadly, Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg argued that Christian groups should be denied access to these programs - unless and until - they give up their religious identity. ([courts.mo.gov](http://courts.mo.gov); [washingtonpost.com](http://washingtonpost.com), 6/26/17; [colsoncenter.org](http://colsoncenter.org), 6/27/17)

"When our Founding Fathers passed the First Amendment ... they never intended to construct a wall of hostility between government and the concept of religious belief itself."

President Ronald Reagan
Have Fun~Be Fit:

We thought you might enjoy some pictures from our summer program. Each day had a special theme (earth, water, air and fire) food, activity and learning. We made blueberry and zucchini muffins, ate watermelon, apples and celery with peanut butter (with raisins, they were called ants on logs!), parfaits, burgers on the grill, and on the last day had pizza and treats from different countries. Activities included making volcanos and kites, planting vegetables, Latin dancing, and experiencing water pollution! Again, we thank Tami Cruz, Sally Cook and Denise Lownie for providing five days of learning and fun for our children.

Thank you!
St. Vincent de Paul:

We are most grateful to the many people who help us to assist our low-income neighbors! They are very grateful for all of the “staples” provided by the pantry, and which help stretch their food dollars. This week, our pantry needs include:

- Canned tuna
- Cake frosting
- Chef Boy-ar-dee style canned pasta
- Canned fruit/fruit cups

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

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**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.

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**Saints of the Week**

**Tuesday, July 11.** Saddened by the immoral state of society, St. Benedict of Nursia (480-553) left the city to live as a hermit at Subiaco. In time, more and more men were attracted to his charismatic personality as well as to his way of life. They eventually moved to Monte Cassino where he completed the final version of his Rule now known as The Rule of Saint Benedict, on the fundamentals of monastic life, including day-to-day operation of a monastery. The Rule asserts that the primary occupation of the monk is to pray the Divine Office in tandem with a vowed life of stability, obedience, and conversion. The whole of the monastic vocation can be summarized in the opening line of his Rule, “Listen carefully.”

**Friday, July 14.** St. Kateri Tekakwitha (1656-1680), called the “Lily of the Mohawks,” is the first Native American to have been beatified and was recently canonized a saint. She eventually decided to convert to Christianity after a few encounters with Jesuit missionaries. St. Kateri was a pious woman who attended daily Mass, fasted twice a week, taught children, and cared for the sick. After she died, a number of miracles and visions were attributed to her intercession. Tekakwitha was canonized in 2012.

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**LITURGY CORNER**

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

July 9, 2017

**First Reading:** Zechariah proclaims the coming of the Messiah in striking imagery. The king will not come on a warhorse, with a display of military might, but meekly, on a beast of burden. And yet, his power is beyond question, as he sweeps away chariots, horses, and weapons of war, and proclaims peace to the whole earth.

**Responsorial Psalm 145** praises God, the great king, who is full of kindness, compassion, and mercy towards all he has made.

**Second Reading:** Those who have been baptized into Christ are no longer “in the flesh” but rather “in the spirit.” Through Baptism, we have become the dwelling-places of the Holy Spirit, and everything we do must take this great reality into account. We no longer live for this life only: we look to the life yet to come, which has already begun for us through Baptism.

**Gospel** Jesus praises God who reveals his wisdom not to the usual suspects—the wise, the learned, the important—but to those no one would expect: the little ones, the childlike. This passage ends with a wonderful invitation, as Jesus calls all who carry heavy burdens to come to him and find rest. Jesus is “meek and humble of heart,” the king of gentleness and power that Zechariah foretold.

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**The Girl Scouts dropped by the pantry last week.**

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**Sourcebook 2017**
One of St. Bernard's favorite activities returns this summer! Join us as Father Augustine brings his art to life, and helps you to do the same!

Children's Class: Monday mornings 10:00—11:30 AM

July 17th, 24th, 31st & August 7th, 14th, 21st

Adult Class for Returning Students: Tuesday evenings 6:30—8:00 PM

July 18th, 25th & August 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd

Adult Class for New Students: Thursday evenings 6:30-8:00 PM

July 20th, 27th & August 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th

All classes located in the Parish Center.

Each class is limited to 12 students: first come, first served. There is no registration fee. NO walk-in students, please. Supplies are not provided. Visit the parish Rectory Office to receive a copy of the supplies list.

To register, call 516-731-4220 or send an email to parish@stbernardchurch.org.
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

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
Jesus said, “Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me ... For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

“My yoke is easy.”

Jesus Speaks and Prays

Jesus said, “I praise you, Father. You have hidden things from the wise and shown them to little children.”

Find 6 scrolls hidden in the picture.
Then Jesus said, “No one knows the Son except the Father ...”

Use the code to write in the missing letters.

\[ \star = a \quad \heartsuit = e \quad \dagger = o \]

“... _nd  n_

_  kn_ ws

th__ F__th_r

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th__ S__n.”

Jesus said, “Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”

Follow the 4 paths to help all the people get to Jesus.
CATECHIST TRAINING: come join four sessions which will give the new and seasoned catechist ideas and materials toward your ministry. The instructor is Jen Menneci, Associate Director of Office of Faith Formation. Place: Our Lady of Loretto in Hempstead. The dates include July 24 and July 31, August 7 and August 14 for only $20.00. For a night of renewal and fun, come join us. For more information, contact Mrs. Susan Martin at Smartin @stbernardchurch.org OR Jen Menneci at jmenneci@drvc.org.

SPANISH FOR PASTORAL MINISTRIES: learn some useful vocabulary to communicate Spanish in your ministry or for personal gain for 5 sessions from 9:30am -12:30pm at St. Frances Cabrini, in Coram. For more information, contact Mrs. Diana Pizarro, Associate Director for Spanish Apostolate at dpizarro@drvc.org or 516-678-5800 ext., 592. The dates include July 13, 20, 27, and August 3, 10. Fee for materials is $40.00.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Ready to quit Smoking?
Join Freedom from Smoking program at St. Francis Hospital, which uses the latest approach to smoke cessation. Classes are held at The DeMatteis Center for Cardiac Research and Education, Northern Boulevard, Greenvale, New York, 11548. No fee. Call 516-629-2013 to register.

An invitation: For Young Adults in their 20s and 30s
A time to meet new friends and re-connect with old friends! Join us for our Young Adult BBQ Social & Talk “God Makes the Ordinary … Extraordinary”. After enjoying some burgers and hotdogs, join us as we listen to our presenter, Jay Asparro and join in the discussion!
When: July 18, 2017, 7:00 PM
Place: Starfish Coffee House
St. Francis of Assisi Church, 29 Northgate Drive
Greenlawn, New York 11740. Private Entrance on the Side of the Rectory
Questions? Or to rsvp please contact Marianne Sheridan at msheridan@drvc.org. Please rsvp by July 16.

Save the Date: Friday, July 21, 2017
Holy Innocents Council Columbiette Luau
6:00 pm-10:00 pm at
3581 Jeffries Road
Levittown
$25.00 PER PERSON INCLUDES FOOD, DJ, BEER, WINE, & SODA

TICKETS ON SALE AT THE COUNCIL OR CALL EDITH AT 516-993-0643, MARIE 516-735-0037, OR FRAN AT 516-735-7746 FOR RESERVATIONS.
TICKETS AT THE DOOR ARE $30.00

Come celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel with the community of Lay Carmelites at Holy Family Parish on Friday evening, July 14, 2017!
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