MASS TIMES: Monday to Friday: 6:30 and 9:00 AM
Saturday: 8:00 AM See the Bulletin for the Holy Day Schedule
Saturday Vigil: 4:30 and 7:00 PM
Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, 10:30 AM, 12:00 Noon and 5:00 PM
10:15 AM in the Holy Family Chapel

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the second, third and fourth Sundays of the month. The Pre-Baptism Class is held in the Church on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. Please contact the rectory for an appointment with a priest.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturday from 12:30 to 1:30 PM or by appointment with a priest.

For the Sacrament of Matrimony contact the rectory for an appointment with a priest.

The Sacrament of the Sick is celebrated on the fourth Saturday of every month following the 8:00 AM Mass. To arrange a visit to a sick person by a priest, contact the rectory.
St. Barnabas the Apostle

Fourth Week of Lent

Monday, March 7
6:30 AM  Robert Doud
9:00 AM  Florence Lee
         James B. Spillane
         Nicholas A. Lucas

Tuesday, March 8
6:30 AM  Joseph King
9:00 AM  Brian Dione

Wednesday, March 9
6:30 AM  Walter Ruger
9:00 AM  Clinton Fitkin

Thursday, March 10
6:30 AM  Richard Kuhn
9:00 AM  Jeannette Sullivan

Friday, March 11
6:30 AM  Rita Mistretta
9:00 AM  G. Joyce Clifford

Saturday, March 12
8:00 AM  Maria Oyarzun San Martin
1:30 AM  Wedding:  
          Brian Heepke & Jennifer Collella
Fr. Adrian  4:30 PM  Steve Tarpinian
          Edward Nallan
          Raymond Vogts
          Joseph Miksits
          William D. Christiansen
          Gerard Curley, Sr.
Fr. Charles  7:00 PM  June Zalud

Sunday, March 13 Fifth Sunday of Lent
Fr. Adrian  7:00 AM  Isabelle Starke
Fr. Francis  9:00 AM  Teresa Hennessy Scarcella
Fr. Adrian  10:15 AM  Vincent Sampino
Fr. Charles  10:30 AM  Charlie & Ann Klika
Fr. Francis  12:00 PM  Richard & Elizabeth Lanigan
Fr. Charles  5:00 PM  For the People of Our Parish

We pray for our recently deceased and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time. May they rest in peace.

Bread & Wine
The Eucharistic Bread & Wine is offered in memory of Dorothy Camilleri from her husband Louis & all her children.

Sanctuary Lamp
The Sanctuary Lamp Candle will be lit this week in loving memory of Dorothy Camilleri from her husband Louis and all her children.

Parish Mission Statement
Our parish is a vibrant and spirited Catholic Community. Through our Eucharistic worship and daily lives, we are strengthened by our liturgical and sacramental celebrations which are always at the heart of Catholicism. These solemn ceremonies help to shape the faith of children and adults alike. There are numerous opportunities for service that allow us to love one another as Christ commanded. May our Patron Saint, Saint Barnabas, whose name means Son of Encouragement, allow this community to be for you a faithful friend, a sturdy shelter and a treasure beyond price.
St. Barnabas

Three Tuesdays in March

7:00 PM—8:00 PM

Reflection & Prayer

Guest Speakers

March 1st:
Sr. Joann Bonauro
'Change Our Hearts'

March 8th:
Ms. Leeann Graziose
'Table of Plenty'

March 15th:
Ms. Jan Jamroz
'Blest are They'

Followed by Benediction

All Are Welcome

In Honor of St. Patrick Himself
St. Barnabas Church &
The Bellmore Knights of Columbus

Present:

St. Patrick's Day

At

SEAS Gym
Saturday March 19, 5:30-9:30 PM

Following 4:30 Mass
Corned Beef & Cabbage
Beer, Wine & Soda

$25 per Adult and $5 per child
Up to 12 years, teenagers $10

Babysitting service available for younger children
Bring the family to 4:30 Mass
Then enjoy some
Food, Dancing and Fun

For Reservations Please Contact
Austin Cannon Jr or Austin Cannon III or Thomas Ancona

516-221-7186  516-710-8256  516-849-7600

Please RSVP By Saturday March 12
We are all familiar with the parable of the prodigal son. In a nutshell: the younger son of a farmer asks for his inheritance, leaves his father’s house, spends the entire inheritance, hits rock bottom, and has an idea that thousands of young folks have had before him and millions after him to this very day: ‘I’ll call on dad.’ ‘This is what I’m going to tell dad: ‘Look dad, I have sinned against you and God. I’m not even worthy of being called your son anymore. But don’t send me away, please. At least treat me like one of your hired hands. Give me what I need and I promise, I’m going to pay you back.’

Had there been cell phones around, the story would surely have ended something like this: ‘Hello dad. Listen, I’m real sorry for letting you down, but I really need your help. I’m stuck in this little town, with no money and I’m starving. Can you send me some dough? I’ll pay you back later. Promise!’

So Junior returns home to a hug and a kiss — and wouldn’t you know it, Dad throws him a party.

Well, the older brother is furious! How come the baby of the family always gets away with things I never could have gotten away with! Sure little brother can come home - but don't throw him a party! Nobody ever threw a party for me. Make him grovel a little. He asked to be a servant. Let him do that for a while. He doesn't deserve to wear your fine robes and party.

Sound familiar?

It should - because that older brother is that responsible part in all of us. Let the penitent return, there's nothing wrong with that. Both Judaism and Christianity allow for that. But to Jesus' listeners 2000 years ago, and perhaps to us today, the party is what is really offensive in the story. Let him return to bread and water not the fatted calf; to sackcloth and ashes not to expensive robes and rings and merriment. Make them grovel a little.

Who are you in this story? Are you the older son, jealous that somebody else is receiving God's love? Are you the younger son, afraid to come home and ask for God's love? Are you like the Pharisee, so aware of what you have done and what others have failed to do that you can't enjoy the party? That you resent your God for being loving and forgiving?

In our lives here it sometimes seems that love is limited. That our parents, spouses, children, simply don't have enough love to go around. But that is not so in the family of God. Hear again the Good News. God's love is for you. Let your heart soften a little. Throw away the things that are blocking you from receiving the fullness of the love that God is aching to give you - and party a little.
The Week at a Glance

**Sunday:**
10:00 AM  Girl Scout Communion
          Breakfast, School
7:30 PM   Al-Anon Meeting,
          School Cafeteria

**Monday:**
8:00 PM   Charismatic Prayer
          Meeting, Holy Family Chapel

**Tuesday:**
10:00 AM  L2 Parent Meeting,
          Holy Family Chapel
7:00 PM   Lenten Reflection
          & Benediction
          Ms. Leeann Graziose,
          “Table of Plenty”
          Church
3:00 PM   Family Music Practice,
          Holy Family Chapel
7:00 PM   RCIA Meeting,
          Convent Meeting Room
7:30 PM   Al-Anon Meeting,
          Rectory Meeting Room
8:00 PM   Choir Rehearsal, Church

**Wednesday:**
7:00 PM   L7 Parent Meeting,
          School Cafeteria
7:00 PM   RCIA Meeting,
          Convent Meeting Room
7:30 PM   Al-Anon Meeting,
          Rectory Meeting Room
8:00 PM   Choir Rehearsal, Church

**Thursday:**
7:00 PM   Bible Study,
          Rectory Meeting Room
8:00 PM   Choir Rehearsal, Church

**Friday:**
1:30 PM   Stations of the Cross,
          Church
7:00 PM   Youth Ministry, School

**Saturday:**
10:00 AM  Camps R Us Open House
          School Lobby
11:00 AM  L8 Reconciliation, Church
12:30 PM  Reconciliation, Church

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**Financial Reports**

**Weekend Collections**
3/1/15:  $17,583.00
2/28/16: $16,550.00

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**Parish Families Registered** 5,005
**# Envelopes Mailed** 1,463
**# Envelopes Used** 634
**# Envelopes 3/1/15** 635

**2016 Catholic Ministries Appeal**
Goal Amount:  $107,900
Total Pledged: $38,258
Total Received: $22,032
Total # of Donors: 200

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**Second Collections**
Beginning this weekend the second collection will be taken up after communion.

**Second Collection This Weekend**
Catholic Relief Services
This week, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. This Collection supports six Catholic agencies benefiting millions of vulnerable, displaced, and impoverished families and individuals around the world. From direct humanitarian service to helping victims of human trafficking and working to reunify families, the funds from this Collection make a real difference in lives across the globe. How will you help? Please support The Catholic Relief Services Collection and Jesus in disguise.

**Second Collection Next Weekend**
Maintenance & Repair of our Parish.

**Year End Contribution**
Call the Rectory to receive a contribution statement for 2015.
Bake Sale
The Catholic Daughters of the Americas are having a bake sale on Sunday, March 13th following the 9:00 AM, 10:15 AM, 10:30 AM and 12 Noon Masses in the lobby of the Holy Family Chapel. Your support is appreciated.

Volunteer Drivers Wanted for Veterans
Nassau County will provide vehicles to transport residents to and from the Northport VA, East Meadow, Valley Stream and Hicksville Clinics. The hours needed are Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Contact the Veteran’s Service Agency at 572-6526.

Blood Drive - March 13th
The Bellmore Knights will be sponsoring a blood drive on Sunday, March 13th from 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM in the South Cafeteria of the school.

Eagle Scout Project
Altar server and youth group member Thomas Ham is a member of Boy Scout Troop 285 and is currently working on his Eagle Scout project. Thomas’ project is to renovate the St. Barnabas Youth Group Room situated in St. Elizabeth Ann Seton School. He is an active member of the Parish as well as the youth ministry program. His plan is to buy shelving for storage, replace the rug and the seating area (couches), purchase an entertainment center with television and a DVD player. The approximate cost of this project is $1,650. He is asking for donations of money and materials. If you can help, please send checks payable to “Troop 285” and in the memo section note, “Thomas Ham Eagle Scout Project” and send it to 332 Frederick Ave., Bellmore, NY 11710. Contact Thomas Ham at 804-0012 or email thoham285@outlook.com with questions or donations.

Help Wanted
Part-time Housekeeper position is available at St. William the Abbot Rectory, Seaford. The duties will include general housekeeping and laundry. Please contact Msgr. Robert Hayden at information@stwilliam.org or by calling the St. William’s Rectory at 785-1266.

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 13th. Don’t forget to “Spring Forward” next weekend.

Naloxone Training Program
Thursday, March 31st from 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM at Brookside School, 1260 Meadowbrook Road, North Merrick. Learn overdose facts and statistics, recognize the signs and symptoms of Opioid abuse and how to identify & prevent an overdose. Learn how to administer the antidote Narcan. Those 18 and over will receive a free nasal Narcan kit. Registration is required: http://goo.gl/forms/Tok0GGlz9W.

Bereavement Counseling and Support
St. Bernard’s Parish in Levittown and St. Bridgid’s in Westbury are offering general bereavement groups this spring, as well as ongoing groups for bereaved parents and survivors of suicide. Contact Alice Witt in Social Ministry for information.

Camps R Us Open House
Open house will be on Saturday, March 12th; 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon in the school lobby. Since 1993 Camps R Us has offered a private day camp for a fraction of the cost of other camps, and for less than the cost of a babysitter. These award winning camp programs offer the children a diverse summer experience, including sports, arts & crafts, gaming, swimming, bowling, trips, special events and much more. Premier facilities, top-notch staff and unique affordability have earned us the reputation as one of the best summer camps on Long Island. For more information please call 935-2267 or visit www.CampsRUs.org.
We welcome the newest members of our parish to our celebration of the sacraments and our shared life.

Mrs. M. Agnello
Mr. & Mrs. N. Mortimer
Mrs. L. Brienza
Mr. & Mrs. K. Ross
Mr. M. Brumfield
Mr. & Mrs. J. Novoni
Ms. L. Bartfield
Ms. C. Moran
Mr. & Mrs. M. Altenburg
Ms. D. Dellitalia
Mr. & Mrs. D. Mezier
Ms. D. Andrade
Mr. & Mrs. S. Pennisi
Mr. & Mrs. D. Mezier
Mr. & Mrs. S. Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. M. Pugliese
Mr. & Mrs. T. Rakeman
Ms. L. Falcetta
Miss A. Duggan
Mr. & Mrs. K. Talbot
Mr. & Mrs. J. Toledo
Ms. L. Falcetta
Mr. & Mrs. P. Lentini
Mr. & Mrs. K. Reggio
Mr. R. Igneri
Mr. & Mrs. K. Ross
Mr. & Mrs. J. Loyal
Mrs. K. Reggio
Mr. & Mrs. J. Novoni
Mr. & Mrs. K. Ross
Mr. & Mrs. S. Johnson
Mrs. L. Bartfield-Katechis
Ms. L. Bartfield-Katechis
Ms. D. Dellitalia
Mr. & Mrs. T. Rakeman
Mr. & Mrs. S. Pennisi
Mr. & Mrs. C. Kolosov
Ms. D. Andrade
Mr. & Mrs. S. Johnson
Ms. D. Dellitalia
Mr. & Mrs. C. Kolosov
Mr. & Mrs. T. Rakeman
Mr. & Mrs. S. Pennisi
Mr. & Mrs. T. Rakeman
Ms. L. Falcetta
Mr. & Mrs. C. Kolosov
Mr. & Mrs. J. Santasiero
Mr. & Mrs. G. Luciano
Mr. & Mrs. J. Santasiero
Mr. & Mrs. G. Luciano
Mr. & Mrs. J. Toledo
Mr. & Mrs. W. McCaw

Social Ministry will begin preparing Easter Food Baskets for many members of our community during the next few weeks. Your help is a sure and visible way to share the Good News of Jesus’ Resurrection and celebrate His Gift of New Life.

Our baskets get packed with the usual items:
- Canned Hams
- Instant Potatoes
- Canned Soups & Vegetables
- Canned Fruit
- Pancake Mix & Syrup
- Cookies
- Coffee & Tea
And of course...Easter Candy!

If you can help, please bring these items to church or leave them at the rectory. Food cards are also a tremendous help to our families. God bless you for the generous love you always show to those in need!

**St. Vincent de Paul**
Help is available for low income families and the needy who have trouble paying their electric bills. You can contact PSE&G Long Island Advocacy at 454-4331. For more information call our parish social ministry at 785-6243. This week please pray for the poor and needy of the parish. Thank you.

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St. Barnabas Social Ministry
Easter Baskets

St. Vincent de Paul
Help is available for low income families and the needy who have trouble paying their electric bills. You can contact PSE&G Long Island Advocacy at 454-4331. For more information call our parish social ministry at 785-6243. This week please pray for the poor and needy of the parish. Thank you.
**We Pray for the Sick**

Nicoletta Russo, Meghan Alice Roach, Debbie Cain, Stephen Rich, Patrick Hoyne, Jerry Hefner, Rosemary Grandwilliams, Barbara Cannon, George Donohue, Lillian Rocco, Pat Simone, Don Davis, Louis Romano, Kristin O’ Halloran, Patricia Merget, Mildred Scalesi, Rita Lemma, Mary Grimes, Donald Grimes, Jacob Daniel Haubeil, Damon Capobianco, Eugene Ryan, Carol Chiasera, Francis G. Noonan, Terri-Ann Clarke, Charlie Riiska, Natalie Martin, Patrick Clarke, Kevin Keegan, Jason Todhunter, John Nalick, Dolores Young, Corinne Capozzi, Barbara O’Neil, Diane LaBianca, Theresa Anselmo, John C. Hannan Sr., Clarence Anspake, Dr. Lawton Manderson, James Hoare, Terrie Manderson, George Stockerl, James P. Corliss, Jr., Vic Caliguiri, Lottie Smakowski, Dominick Schiavone, Nicole & Baby Ella McKernan, Raffaele Esposito

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**We Pray for the Military**

- **US Army:**

- **National Guard:**

- **US Navy:**

- **US Marines:**

- **US Air Force:**
  Capt. McLean G. Bethea, Nicholas P. Wright, Rev. Major Timothy Hirten

- **US Merchant Marine:**
  Lt. J.G. Eric Stumpel.

- **US Coast Guard:**
  Ensign Robert M. Scaduto, Jr.

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Remember your loved ones, living and deceased, at Easter by having Easter flowers on the altar in their honor. The offering is $15. To arrange for this, fill out this form and drop it off at the rectory or in the collection basket.

Easter flowers in memory of:

_____________________________________________

_____________________________________________

_____________________________________________

Easter Memorial Flowers

**Easter flowers in memory of:**

_____________________________________________

_____________________________________________

_____________________________________________
Holy Thursday Service for Children, Thursday, March, 24th, 3:00 PM in the Holy Family Chapel - Please join us for this moving service where children will reenact the Last Supper. Children ages 3 and up are invited to participate as followers of Jesus. Practice will be held on Tuesday, March 22nd at 6:00 PM in the Holy Family Chapel. If you are interested in participating please contact stbarnabasfamilyliturgy@gmail.com or sign up after the 10:15 Family Mass.

Easter Egg Hunt – Will take place outdoors in a grassy area immediately following the 10:15 Family Mass on Sunday, March 13th – weather permitting.

Palm Sunday, March 20th - Children will participate in the entrance procession at the 10:15 Family Mass. Palms will be blessed and distributed after Mass.

Easter Sunday, March 27th - Following the 10:15 Family Mass small bottles of holy water will be available to take home.

Paper hearts will be available for children to color and complete, filling in how they will open their heart to Jesus during Lent. Each Sunday at the 10:15 AM Family Mass, children can present their completed hearts in the Offertory Procession. These hearts will then be placed on the cross with hopes of being transformed for Easter.

During this Lenten Season we lift up, take up, and give up our hearts to Jesus. How will you open your heart to Jesus this Lenten season? What special sacrifices will you make or what special deeds will you do?
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Regional Catholic School

Where we “LIVE” with Respect, Responsibility & Reverence
Visit www.steas.com for all news and current events

Sweetheart Dance
February 26, 2016
“A Magical Night to Remember”

AMBASSADORS OF CHRIST & FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

Please join in congratulating the March recipients:

Followers of Jesus:
Sophia Buono, Julia Carreddu,
Josie DiFranco, Gabriella Erskine,
Christopher Gallegra, Brody Hoffman,
Samuel Johnson, Giavanna Luca,
Michael Murphy, Lorenzo Naclerio,
Roisin O’Brien, Frankie Patruno,
Kendall Pollitt, Nicholas Scalice,
Ella Szymanski, Gianni Vidas,
Robert VanHolderbeke, Ryan Weber &
Dylan Wolken

Ambassadors of Christ:
Mason Cain, Arthur Erskine, Lola Lechleider,
Ryan Lopano & Thomas O’Kane
Hi Everyone,

Today the readings speak to us about reconciliation. The Gospel talks about the father with two sons. The Prodigal son is a great story of reconciliation. It can be hard to say we’re sorry. In the Gospel, the son was afraid that his father would not take him back as a son so he was willing to ask to be able to work for him. While he was sorry, he didn’t think his father could fully forgive him.

How about us? Do we ask God to forgive us, or are we sure he won’t be able to forgive us fully? God can and will forgive us anything. I love to ask teens how are you with God right now? Sometimes things happen and before we know it, we are not connecting to God the way we should. Lent is great time to work on that!

How are we reconciled with each other? Is there someone you’re holding a grudge against? Is there someone you need to forgive? Lent is also a great time to work on forgiving others. If we don’t, it will end up hurting us.

In this Year of Mercy, forgiveness and reconciliation are great things to work on! Hopefully these ideas will help you have a good Lent!

Have a blessed week!

Peggy

If you are a teen or an adult who might enjoy working with our middle schoolers, maybe you would like to be a part of our Core team! Email Peggy for information!! We need you! basyouthministry@gmail.com

Tuesday, March 8th – Level 2 Parent Meeting 10:00 AM in the Holy Family Chapel OR 7:00 PM in the Church – The theme is “Table of Plenty” and Communion details.

Saturday, March 12th – Level 8 Reconciliation 11:00 AM.

Thursday, March 17th – No classes – please note they were not scheduled for the 17th.

NO CLASSES – March 21st through 31st – Easter Recess. Classes resume on Monday, April 4th!

Confirmation will be held on Monday, May 23rd.

Check the Religious Education calendars and the website to keep informed of dates of classes, homework assignments, and requirements. As well as when classes are not in session.

CLASS CANCELLATIONS are posted on our website under the “Announcements” tab, as well as on KJOY98.3FM; Cablevision Channel 12 and Verizon Fios 1. You can also check the parish Facebook page.

First Holy Communion Dresses have been donated to us; many of them are brand new with the tags, as well as gently used boys’ suits. If you are interested in looking at the dresses or suits call the Office of Christian Formation at 785-0130. After March 11th, all dresses and suits will be donated to neighbors in need.

Lost and found is located in Religious Education Room in the school building.

An e-mail has been sent to all the Level 7 parents regarding the cancellation of the meeting for Wednesday, March 9th. A letter will be sent to Level 7 families explaining the Level 7 Welcome Ceremony that will be taking place during ALL Masses the weekend of April 16th and April 17th.
Faith ’n Fun
Father Charles Mangano and his sister Laurie are presenting a program at Cure of Ars Church in Merrick this Lent entitle, “Faith ’n Fun with Father Charles and Laurie.” The Faith night is Thursday, March 10th from 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM in the Church. This presentation “Heart to Heart; growing in intimacy with the Father who loves us.” They will be singing and preaching on this theme and the night will include a time of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. The night will include songs from their new album, “Heal Me.” The Fun night will be, Friday, March 11th from 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM in the Msgr. Leonard Hall at Cure of Ars, (doors open at 7:30 PM). Fr. Charles & Laurie will be doing a 20 minute skit, followed by a sing-a-long and refreshments. No cost. A free-will offering will be taken up at the Night of Recollection.

Golden Wedding Jubilee Celebrations
Couples that have been married fifty years or more will be honored at liturgies on Sunday, April 10th at the Church of St. Lawrence the Martyr in Sayville and on Sunday, April 24th at the Church of Maria Regina in Seaford. Both liturgies will begin at 2:30 PM. Couples may register for ONE liturgy. Registration forms and complete instructions can be obtained at the rectory. Registration must be received by March 25th for the April 10th liturgy and by April 8th for the April 24th liturgy. If you have any questions call 678-5800 ext. 207.

The Long Island Catholic Magazine
In the March edition you will read about how women who have had an abortion are experiencing God’s mercy through special retreats conducted by the Sisters of Life here in our own diocese. Bishop Murphy reflects on the process for selecting a new shepherd. Read about ways to celebrate the Easter Triduum with your family and so much more. Please support the monthly magazine of the Diocese of Rockville Centre - Subscribe today. One year of 10 issues for $20. Sign up today online at licatholic.org or call 1-800-443-2155.

2016 Catholic Men’s Conference
The Long Island Catholic Men’s Ministry will proudly present its 7th Annual Men’s Conference on Saturday, March 12th at Holy Trinity High School in Hicksville from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. This year’s theme is “Science and Catholicism”. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Murphy at 11:00 AM. The speakers are: Barrie Schwartz (the Shroud), Tim Francis (Eucharistic Miracles) and Dan Lynch (The Tilma of Our Lady of Guadalupe). Confessions from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

4th Annual Women’s Conference
The Voice of Catholic Women
Reflecting on The Message of Pope Francis
Saturday, March 19th, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Seminary of the Immaculate Conception
Featuring Carol Dunning, Esq., Dr. Joann Heaney-Hunter, and Elizabeth M. Keihm. Join us for presentations, conversation with other women, and a festive luncheon. Offering is $25, for more information visit the website www.drvc-faith.org.

Faith on Tap
Faith on Tap is a forum engaging young adults in straight talk and honest answers to questions of faith where young adults can meet others who are also living out their faith. The next Faith of Tap will be on Tuesday, March 8th at 7:30 PM at Lily Flanagan’s, 345 Deer Park Ave., Babylon. Our talk will be “The Ripple Effect of Lent, Faith and Easter” presented by Brother Richard Contino, OSF, a Franciscan Brother of Brooklyn. Brother Richard has many stories and much insight to share from his more than 20 years of experience as an educator in St. Anthony’s High School, a member of the Council for the Brothers and Director of Vocations. Brother Richard is a dynamic, humorous and passionate speaker who you won’t want to miss! The talk begins at 7:30 PM, but come earlier - have something to eat - meet new friends - catch up with old ones.
EM’s & Lectors
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and Lectors are needed for our Easter Sunday Masses. Sign up sheets are available in the sacristy or call the rectory during the week.

Training for New Extraordinary Ministers
Session “A” is required of ALL New Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Those who minister in hospitals, nursing homes and to homebound persons are required to attend Session “B” in addition to Session “A”. Call The Rectory to Register.

In Nassau:
EM “A” Session and Lectors
April 2nd, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM in Kellenberg Memorial High School, Uniondale
“B” Session Extraordinary Ministers
May 14th, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM in Kellenberg Memorial High School, Uniondale

In Suffolk:
EM “A” Session and Lectors
March 12th, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM in McGann Mercy High School, Riverhead
“B” Session Extraordinary Ministers
April 23rd, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM in McGann Mercy High School, Riverhead

Evening Sessions for Extraordinary Ministers at St. Elizabeth, Melville
Session “A” - Wednesday, April 13th, 7-10 PM
Session “B” - Wednesday, April 27th, 7-10 PM

EXAMINING YOUR CONSCIENCE

The spiritual exercise of examining our conscience is something that every Christian should do on a regular basis. The habit of reviewing our actions or behaviors each day to see how our life is, or is not, in accord with the way God asks us to live can be a wonderful opportunity for spiritual discernment and growth.

Of course, the way for us to begin to examine our conscience and to uncover the areas of sin in our life that need to be healed by God’s forgiveness is to start with God’s love. God has created each and every one of us, redeemed us through the death and resurrection of His Son Jesus, and has given us all that we need to live a good and moral life.

When going to the Sacrament of Penance, it is important to spend time examining our conscience before we go to Confession. It’s not helpful to think about our sins for the first time only while we are waiting on line, for example. If examining our conscience is a regular part of our prayer life, this preparation for the sacrament will come easy.

In examining our conscience, we should look at our relationships both with God and with other people. We should ask ourselves if we are really growing to be a better, more loving, and less self-centered person, and if we are growing closer to God. We should pray to the Holy Spirit for the Spirit’s guidance to see those areas of our life where sin has damaged our relationship with God and with others.

Sometimes we will discover that our sins are quite specific and have to do with concrete actions; other times we will discover that our sinfulness is related to a general pattern of behavior or attitude. To help us in discerning what our sins are, the Ten Commandments are a great place to start, as are the Beatitudes, as found in Matthew 5:1-12, for example. There are also many guides to examining one’s conscience that can be found in spiritual reading and in other Catholic resources. For example, the Bishops of the United States have provided some guides for the examination of conscience on their website: http://www.usccb.org

Remember that not all sin is equally serious. Sin might be serious enough such that I have broken off my relationship with God (mortal sin), or it might be less serious and only damage my relationship with God (venial sin). Whichever it is, we should never hesitate to confess all our sins openly. Our celebration of the Sacrament of Penance will be all the more fruitful and beneficial to the degree we have done the work ahead of time in examining our conscience.
The movie ‘Spotlight’ won best picture at the Academy Awards last weekend. It recounts the story of the investigative reporters from the Boston Globe who made public the sex-abuse scandal in the Catholic Church in January, 2002.

I have viewed the movie and affirm that this is not a Church-bashing movie, even though it easily could have been. This movie is a reminder of our need to remain vigilant. I assure you that the Parish of St. Barnabas and the Diocese of Rockville Centre continues to remain vigilant in its efforts to provide safe environments in all our institutions.

First, the ‘Virtus’ program teaches us that we are all responsible for creating and maintaining safe environments and therefore anyone volunteering or employed by the Parish and Diocese is required to attend a Virtus class.

Second, the Parish continues to background screen all employees & volunteers and requires a signed code of conduct from all volunteers and employees. The Parish provides annual submissions of Safe Environment Compliance reports to the Diocese.

If allegations are received a report to the District Attorney is made within 48 hours. The Hotline number for reporting abuse is 516-594-9063.

Why should you see this movie? To honor the victims and to understand that the Church has done many things since the sexual abuse scandal first broke. The suffering of the children, teens and their families has led to a much greater awareness of the sexual abuse of minors all over the world, and new laws have been created to protect young people where there were none.

NEVER AGAIN.