

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 15, 2015**



**FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY SON,
SO THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM MIGHT NOT PERISH
BUT MIGHT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.**

**THE BASILICA PARISH OF THE SACRED HEARTS OF JESUS AND MARY
SOUTHAMPTON, NY**



Welcome to the Basilica Parish of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary

Pastoral Team:

Rev. Michael A. Vetrano, Pastor

In Residence: Rev. Msgr. William J. Gill

Carl Sanfilippo, Deacon

Jennifer Ferrantino, Director, Religious Education

Suzanne Marchisella, Parish & Cemetery Secretary

Jo Ann Morse, Director of Music

Bill Kunzer, Plant and Facilities Manager

Daily Mass

Mon. Wed. Thurs. Fri. at 12 noon

Tue. at 8:00 am

First Saturday 8:00 am

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5 PM

Sunday: 8 AM, 9:30 AM,

11 AM, 12:30 PM (in Spanish)
and 5 PM

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4 PM - 4:45 PM

Ministry to the Sick

For communion at home or Anointing
please contact the Parish Office.

Baptism

Please contact the Parish Office
to schedule an appointment.

Marriage

Arranged at least six months in
advance, please call the Parish Office.

Becoming A Catholic

We welcome those who would like to
become Catholic and adult Catholics
who have never received formal
religious education and/or sacraments.
Contact the Parish Office.

Parish Leadership:

Finance Committee

Fred Weinfurt (trustee)

Pat Jordan (trustee)

Jay Diesing

Charlene Kagel

John Neknez

Pastoral Council

In formation

Liturgy

Deacon Carl Sanfilippo

Jack Hanlon

Consolation

Sr. Barbara McKenna, RSM

Adult Faith Formation

Contact Us

Parish Office

168 Hill Street Southampton, NY

P: 631-283-0097, option 0

F: 631-283-3836

W: www.shjmbasilica.org

E: parishoffice@shjmbasilica.org

M-F 9 AM - 4:00 PM

Weekend by appointment

Fr. Mike Vetrano

E: pastor@shjmbasilica.org

Religious Education Office

P: 631-283-0508

E: jferrantino@shjmbasilica.org

Our Lady of Hamptons School

Sister Kathy Schlueter, CSJ

160 North Main Street

Southampton, New York 11968

P: 631-283-9140

E: olh@hamptons.com

Human Resources of the Hamptons

Kerry Lewendoski, Director

P: 631-283-6415

Apostolado Hispano

Rev. Steve Grozio

631-283-4379 Cell: 631-375-1001

Vincentian Fathers

631-283-9647

Human Resources of the Hamptons — Help for those in Need

The Human Resources Program volunteers reach out to meet the temporal needs of the elderly, the housebound, and the poor of our parish and community. Our parish Care for the Caregiver Program delivers hot meals to families in need of this kind of help on Wednesday evenings. Call the Human Resources Office for information and assistance.

BASILICA PARISH OF SACRED HEARTS OF JESUS & MARY

Fourth Sunday in Lent :: March 15, 2015

Readings: 2 Chr 36:14-16; eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21

Mission Statement: We are a Eucharistic centered people, who by following Christ's teaching, join together to love and serve those in spiritual and physical need in our community.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Saturday Mar 21 5 PM Father Bill Gill

SERVERS W. Bellucci, J. Terry
E.M.'S M. Adamczyk, T. Cavallaro, A. Fiore
LECTORS J. Clarke, Katherine King-Bush

Sunday Mar 22 8 AM Father St. Vil

SERVERS L. Martin
E.M.'S J. Taranto, M. Muller, P. Mackey
LECTORS M. Mackey, A. Enstine
GREETERS

9:30 AM Father Joe Finnerty

SERVERS A. Cuccia, Malone Bros., M. Terry
E.M.'S G. Arresta, J & A Cuccia,
Sr. M. Assunta, Sr. B. McKenna
LECTORS H. Bennett, J. Kearney
GREETERS C. Szafranski, M. Cirillo, J. Navan

11 AM Father Bill Gill

SERVERS May Family
E.M.'S S. Adelante, L. Robins
LECTORS J. Hanlon, G. Bauer
GREETERS C. Brown, C. Butler

5 PM Father St. Vil

SERVERS H. Reyes
E.M.'S S. Oldakowski, K. Maple
LECTORS G. Reisig, N. Conroy

ALTAR MINISTRY

ALTARS: J. Ripalone
ALTAR CLOTHS: G. Bauer
HAND LINENS - March 15-21—H. Reister

SOUTHAMPTON HOSPITAL

March 15—D. Podlaski
March 22—M. Lynch

HAMPTON CENTER

March 15—T. Alegria, M. McDonald
March 22—N. Conroy, P. Mackey
Rosary— March 19—M. Lane



Mass Intentions for the Week of March 16-22

Monday	12:00	James Clark (L)
Tuesday	8 AM	Angela Burke
Wednesday	12:00	Bruce Peterson
Thursday	12:00	Douglas Borucke
Friday	12:00	John Borucke
Saturday	5 PM	Thomas Quatroche
Sunday	8:00	Brian F.X. Fitzgerald
	9:30	People of the Parish
	11:00	James Robbins, John Borucke
	12:30	Mass in Spanish
	5 PM	Emil Norsic

Financial Realities and Stewardship

The March 8th collection was \$7440.00.

Mission Collection was \$2602.00.

Thank you for your generosity.

Memorial donations

To donate the flowers on the altar or bread and wine and/or candles offered at Mass each week, please contact the parish office. No flowers during Lent.

Pastor's Letter

March 14/15

Pride in our Scouts

Dear Parish Family,

Last week we celebrated Girl Scout Sunday. It is a national event and I have to thank Marsha Terry for making sure we gave our young women the opportunity to be recognized for their participation in this great organization. More than 30 scouts took part in the mass including all our lectors, ushers, greeters, cantors, and many choir members. After mass I received so many notes from our parishioners telling me how proud they felt to see all of them living out their faith in such a beautiful way. So as they say — one picture is worth a thousand words.



Fr. Mike Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Michael A. Vetrano



A Note from Religious Education Director Jennifer Ferrantino



As we venture into the Fourth Sunday of Lent we are beginning to see signs of new life, small buds are blooming and the temperature is warming just a bit. We are reminded that Easter will be here and we will rejoice. It is not too late to try something new for Lent, have you planted anything? Have you made dinner as a family? Veggie Soup Supper on Friday? These are things that help draw our attention to how we live and the example we set for our children, this Lent let it be one that is spirit filled.

Did you enjoy the Living Stations last year? Want to be a part of this great Parish event? Please contact me if you can help, students and all parishioners are invited to be a part of this wonderful Good Friday event. One rehearsal Saturday, March 28th at 10AM in church.

Confirmation Families please be sure to hand in all your paperwork and mark your calendars for Confirmation retreat Saturday April 25th. Confirmation will be Thursday May 14th with Bishop Brennan.



Please contact me with any questions 631-283-0508 or jferrantino@shjmbasilica.org



Youth Ministry!

On Friday March 20th we will have Stations of the Cross lead by our young people at 7 PM in our church and a Lenten soup supper gathering for 8th graders and up.

**Bring a friend! For a spirit filled fun evening.
Contact Jen Ferrantino with any questions.**

Cold Weather Financial Realities

It has been a winter of record cold and some very bad weekend weather. Already this winter our maintenance staff has used almost 4000 pounds of rock salt to keep our walkways as safe as possible. **But no matter how much we do, a weekend storm or icy weather keeps people away and has negative impact on our collections!**



If you stayed home the last couple of weeks out of an abundant concern for safety, you certainly did the right thing. If you could **help us make up the collections for the last few weeks** we would be even more grateful! Parish life and financial realities never head south or take a vacation. Your help is appreciated.

2015 Catholic Ministries Appeal Serving God by Serving Others



"No vocation is born of itself or lives for itself. A vocation flows from the heart of God and blossoms in the good soil of faithful people"

-Pope Francis

Answering the Call to Serve

Father James Shelton, ordained in June of 2014, remembers the day he entered the Seminary.

"From the first moment that I walked into the Seminary, I knew immediately that being a priest was what I wanted to do; I knew I was going to be happy and joyful serving God's people."

The Catholic Ministries Appeal helps seminarians devote themselves fully to their studies as they prepare to serve as our priests.

Today, serving as an Associate Pastor at Good Shepherd in Holbrook, Fr. Shelton hopes to reach out to others so they can ***"experience the joy and peace that the Lord provides."***



Reconciliation in the Season of Lent

Receiving the Sacrament of reconciliation is an excellent practice in the season of Lent. Our parish celebrates this sacrament every Saturday from 4:00 to 4:45PM before our Saturday evening mass. Our pastor and priests who assist here are also available by appointment to celebrate the sacrament. During Holy Week we will join with all the parishes of our diocese to celebrate reconciliation from 3 PM to 9 PM on Monday, March 30. Be sure to take some time to experience the miracle of God's healing forgiveness.

Holy Week at SHJM

Holy Thursday

7:30 PM—Evening Mass of the Lords Supper
Presentation of Holy Oils, The Washing of the Feet,
Eucharistic Procession and Adoration
Evening Adoration

Good Friday

3:00 PM — The Passion of the Lord
Reading of the Passion, Communion, Adoration of the
Cross
7:30 PM — Living Stations of the Cross

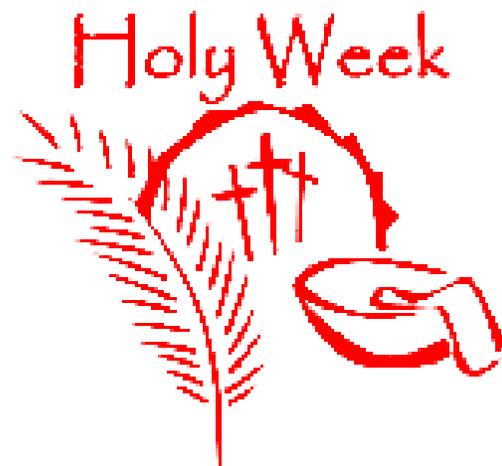
Holy Saturday

Sacrament of Reconciliation — 10 to 11 AM
Easter Vigil Mass 7:30 PM
Blessing of New Fire, Baptism and Reception of Adults, Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Easter Sunday

8:00 AM
9:30 AM
11:00 AM
12:45 Mass in Spanish

No 5 PM on Easter Sunday





Stations of the Cross

We remember the road to Jesus' death and link his journey to our own as our parish deacons lead us through this beautiful devotion. Come and pray with us...

Each Friday during Lent— at 7 PM

Living Stations of the Cross

Good Friday, April 3rd, at 7:30 PM in the Church

This is a wonderful opportunity for your Lenten and Holy Week journey! Our parish community comes together—led by our young people, our Music Ministries and members of our parish community—who share their own personal experiences on this most holy and solemn night. The celebration includes the Veneration of the Cross.

Blood Drive - *Donate Blood* - People can't live without it!

Where: Southampton Fire Department, Hampton Road Fire House

When: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 12 noon—7: PM

Contact: Jim Frankenbach 283-2431



Dear Friends,

Although the official end of our In Nomine Domini renewal was Thanksgiving, donations and pledges continue to come in and many parishioners found the Christmas season a wonderful time to make a gift. The In Nomine Domini fund is an ongoing part of our parish. Parishioners and friends are welcome to support it at any time. You will find a full listing of all those who have pledged their support on our website and in this bulletin you will find those whose pledges were received since mid-

In Nomine Domini Fund Preserving our Heritage Building our Future

I would like to make my gift in ____ payments over One Year Two Years
Name _____ Address: _____

Telephone: _____

A check payable to Sacred Heart Church – In Nomine Domini is enclosed or please charge \$ _____ to MC Visa Amex

Card Number _____ Exp: _____
Signature _____ Security Code _____

Founders

- \$100,000
- \$75,000
- \$50,000

In Nomine Domini Members

- \$25,000
- \$15,000
- \$10,000

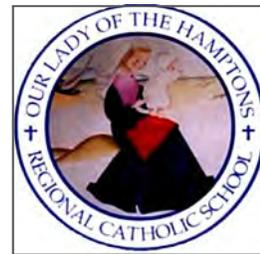
Stewards

- \$5000
- \$2500
- \$1000

Supporters

- \$500
- \$250
- Other _____

Our Lady of the Hamptons



In this last week of the 2015 Bucks for Books Drive, OLH is reaching out to the parishes and community to help meet the goal of the campaign. The drawing of the BUCKS FOR BOOKS grand raffle will be held on March 19. The raffle of prizes from \$500-\$20,000 is a major fund raiser to benefit the programs at the regional school. Please call 283-9140 to secure your tickets.



The eighteen members of the Hamptonix, the boys' show choir for grades three to six, traveled to St. Joseph's Convent and performed for the retired nuns. The boys entertained after having a tour of the magnificent Sacred Heart Chapel and sharing the noon meal in the convent refectory.

March Madness was truly present during the first week of the month, with students participating in the CYO Cheerleading competition, SCMEA music festival, diocesan Honor Band, the Brookhaven Lab Science Bowl, and the first two play-off rounds of CYO basketball.

Mrs. Valerie Hanley and her Prep 7 students presented an original play "Super-Heroes of the Bible" as their class assembly.

Registration for the September 2015 year at the OLH pre-school at St. Rosalie's Parish Center in Hampton Bays is now open. A fully licensed program for three and four year olds in preparation for elementary school is available with extended hours. Call 283-9140 to arrange tours and interviews. Space is limited.

Our Lady of the Hamptons, the East End's premier Catholic school, chartered by the State of New York, accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools is also recipient of a Blue Ribbon for Excellence from the U.S. Department of Education. OLH serves parishes and communities extending from Quogue to Montauk.

Information packets and registration materials are available at the school now, leading toward September 2015 enrollment. Registration for prospective kindergarten students (must be 5 years old prior to November 30, 2015), and grades one through five must be completed before March 15. Admission to the OLH prep (grades 6,7,8) in the newly constructed complex is limited but available.

We invite parishioners and friends to learn more about Our Lady of the Hamptons by visiting the website www.olh.org. Tours can be arranged at any time, by calling 283-9140.

The community is advised to circle the dates for three special events sponsored by OLH: Friday, March 28 **EVENING BINGO (adults only)**, Friday, April 17: **SENIOR CITIZENS' LUNCHEON**, sponsored by the Class of 2015, and the annual **LADIES' LUNCHEON AND CHINESE AUCTION** Sunday, May 17 at The Muses in Southampton.

Mission Talk

Next weekend, **Father Romane St. Vil** of the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, will speak at all the masses. Father St. Vil has served as a missionary in Cambodia and Tanzania, and will invite us to take part in the vital work of bringing Christ and His Gospel to all people.

While here, Father St. Vil will be happy to talk with any parishioners who are interested in doing overseas mission work.



Father St. Vil

Life Corner :: SHJM Respect Life Ministry

RESOURCES FOR THOSE SEEKING AN ALTERNATIVE TO ABORTION:

Rockville Centre Diocese, 516-678-5800, ext.626, www.drvc.org/respectlife

Priests for Life, 888-735-3448, www.priestsforlife.org

Birtright, 631-728-8900, 800-550-4900

Healing post-abortion: Rachel's Vineyard, 877-467-3463,
www.rachelsvineyard.org

Did you know ... for every one child adoption in America, there are approximately thirty (30) couples waiting to adopt. Although exact estimates are difficult to determine, there are

probably over one million couples waiting to adopt in the USA.

The ratio of **abortions-to-adoptions** is about **12-to-1** ---

There are many sources providing adoption services; for more information visit www.heartbeatinternational.org, or almost any pro-life website.



Reflections On the Gospel from Pax Christi March 15, 2015



Evil and good. Dark and light. These are at the heart of Sunday's readings. The people have stocked up infidelity upon infidelity. God has reached out with mercy over and over again, but the people don't change. If anything, they get even worse. Punishment follows, but also more mercy. We are all guilty of infidelities, and there are times when we simply don't want to heed correction and open ourselves up to God's mercy. We prefer to keep our dirty little secrets in the dark, even when we know how wonderful the light can be (especially after a long, gloomy winter). Let's embrace these readings as an incentive to abandon the darkness of our sins be they individual like lying and cheating or communal like war and environmental abuse. Let's shine a light on the good that is in each of us instead. And let's thank God for the infinite mercy bestowed on us if we would only welcome it.



Angel Tea

Sunday, April 19, 2015

2:30 p.m.

Sacred Hearts Church - Parish Hall

Tea, Sandwiches, Raffles, 50/50 & Fun with Sr. Pat Duffy, OP

\$10 donation

RSVP by April 12 – 516-635-2638 Mary Welker
Presented by the Adult Faith Formation

Please call Patricia Sheerin 287-7864 if you would like to volunteer to make sandwiches or desserts.

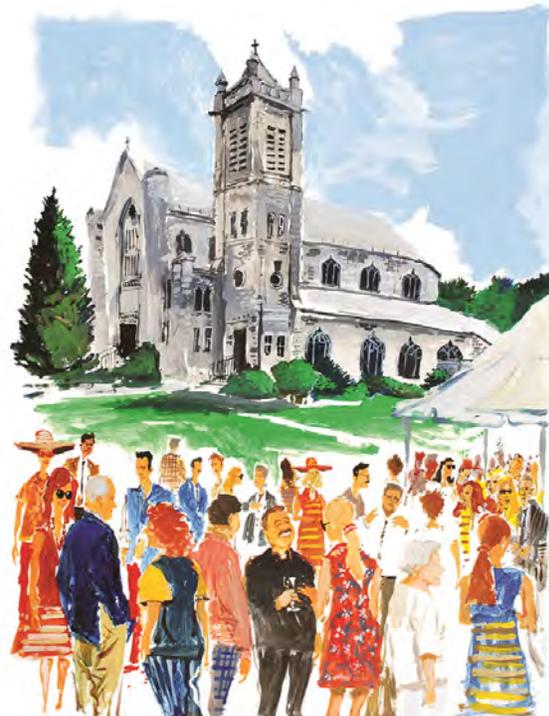
If you can help setup on Friday, April 17, or breakdown on Sunday, April 19, please call Pam Culver 516-445-2669..

Think Warm Thoughts The Tent Party is Coming! Be Part of the Plan

Yes, we all need some warm thoughts. So start to think about the summer. The new date for our Tent Party is Saturday August 29. We need committee members on every level to make this a success. Some opportunities are:

- Our Sponsorship Committee
- Food and Beverage Committees
- Tent and Property Committee
- Service and Decoration Committee
- Prize and Entertainment Committee
- Publicity Committee
- Ticket Sales and Reservation Committee

If you are ready to help make this event a success please contact Fr. Mike by phone (283-0097) mail (pastor@shjmbasilica.org) Summer is on its Way



Ministries in Need of Your Help: Lectors, Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers

Just about every one of our masses can use additional Lectors, Ushers, and Eucharistic Ministers. I would especially love to see some of the youngest members of our parish be of service in this way.

Our 5 PM mass on Sunday needs the most support right now. We are often very short of all three ministries at this mass. If you are interested please contact Fr. Mike pastor@shjmbasilica.org

Training will take place in April.



Altar Servers Needed!

We are looking for more young people to become Altar Servers. If your child is in grades 3-8 and would like to become an altar server please contact Mary



Bereavement Support

Grief: Coping with reminders after a Loss Bereavement Group meets on Wednesdays at noon.

Grief doesn't magically end at a certain point after a loved one's death. Reminders often bring back the pain of loss. Here's help coping – and healing. To continue on the path toward healing, know what to expect – and how to cope with reminders of

loss, a 6 week Bereavement Group meets on Wednesdays. Anyone interested please call the parish office at 283-0097 Ext 0.

Adult Faith Opportunities for Prayer & Study

Bible Study :: meets every Tuesday at 1 PM in the upper meeting room of the Parish Center. New members are always welcome!

Spiritual Book Group :: meeting every Tuesday at 1 PM in the dining room of the Parish Center. New members are always welcome!

Secular Franciscans :: meet on the second Sunday of the month in the dining room of the Parish Center after the 11 AM Mass. Would you like to know more about us? Please come to our meeting. Bring a bag lunch and we will supply the coffee.

Resurrection Prayer Group meets on Thursdays at 7 PM in the Parish Center. Come share your healing gifts with us. All are welcome.

We pray for the sick of our Parish and Community

Winnie Chin	John Bishop	Robert O'Shea	Suzanne Parillo
Gwendolyn Porter	Eileen Finlay	Roger Williams	Robert Melter
Daniel Sheerin	Stan Witkowski	Anne O'Brien	Anna Norsic
J T Welker	Marcelle Enne	Peg Jordan	Paul Beatty, Sr.
Philip Masi	Patricia Kahl	Dorothy Higgins	Michael Kelley
Aubrie Press Rodecker	Christina Haag	Susan Katzer	Drew Bodin
Perry DeLalio	Macario Yat de Leon	Dottie Brown	Eileen Birnholz
Bobby & Caroline Parillo	Mary Ann Tupper	Patricia Jordan	



IV Domingo de Cuaresma, Año B. Ilustración © 1999 S. Erspamer. Printed from www.Liturgy.com

El Templo – Ciro, el gran rey de Persia, mandó construir un templo para la presencia de Dios en Jerusalén. Jesús, el Hijo de Dios, es el nuevo templo y la presencia de Dios para cada uno de los creyentes. Él es la señal de salvación y fe que nos alivia. Es el don que Dios nos entrega por su incomparable riqueza y bondad. Su cruz florida es la obra de arte que Dios creó en Jesucristo, la vid. Y nosotros podemos ser las ramas de la vid que dan flor durante la Cuaresma. *Texto: Philip J. Sandstrom, S.T.D. © 2000, OCP. Derechos reservados.*

Ayuno, Abstinencia y Actos de Penitencia para la Cuaresma: Los obispos de los Estados Unidos prescriben, como obligación mínima, que todas las personas que han cumplido los catorce años y los mayores de catorce están obligados a abstenerse de comer carne de res, de pollo, de cerdo, etc., todos los viernes de cuaresma. Además, todas las personas desde los dieciocho años de edad hasta los cincuenta y nueve años, inclusivos, están obligadas a ayunar limitándose a una sola comida completa el viernes santo, mientras las otras dos comidas en esos días deben ser ligeras.

Seguro de Salud para Niños - La representante de *Fidelis Care*, Konny Tapias, estará en el Apostolado Hispano los miércoles de las 10 AM hasta la 1:00 PM, para ayudar con seguro de salud para los niños.

Intenciones del Papa para Marzo

Universal: Para que quienes se dedican a la investigación científica se pongan al servicio del bien integral de la persona humana.

Por la Evangelización: Para que se reconozca cada vez más la contribución propia de la mujer a la vida de la Iglesia.

Noches de confesiones en la Cuaresma

Jueves, 19 de marzo a las 7:00 PM – Greenport
 Jueves, 26 de marzo a las 7:00 PM – Riverhead
 Viernes, 27 de marzo a las 7:00 PM – Montauk
 Lunes, 30 de marzo a las 7:00 PM – Bridgehampton
 Martes, 31 de marzo a las 7:00 PM – Hampton Bays
 Martes, 31 de marzo a las 7:00 PM – Southampton
 Miércoles, 1° de abril a las 7:00 PM – East Hampton

Vía Crucis - Todos están invitados al Vía Crucis en nuestra basílica todos los viernes de la cuaresma a las 8:00 PM. Esta semana el Grupo Guadalupano nos guiará en la devoción.



Rincón de Información

Curso Pre-Bautismal

Domingo, 29 de marzo a la 1:30 PM en el Apostolado o las 5 PM en la iglesia en East Hampton. Favor de llevar la copia del acta de nacimiento del niño. Bautizos en Southampton serán el 5 de abril, el 3 de mayo, el 7 de junio y el 5 de julio.

El Asesor de Inmigración de Caridades Católicas

En el Apostolado el 12 de Marzo, de las 2:00 a las 5:00 PM.

Comunidad de Oración para Adultos y Familias

Los martes a las 7:30 PM en la el salón parroquial. El tercer martes de cada mes se reúne en la iglesia para la hora santa.

Divina Misericordia - Misa en la Basílica el cuarto miércoles de cada mes a las 8:00 PM.

Preparación Pre Matrimonial – Para casarse por la iglesia, haga una cita para una entrevista con el P. Marvin o el P. Esteban. El curso pre-matrimonial se da por seis domingos, de las 9 AM al mediodía comenzando el primer domingo de junio, octubre o febrero.

Requisitos para el Bautismo de un Niño

Curso: Para bautizar a su hijo, es necesario que los padres y padrinos asistan al curso pre-bautismal.

Padrinos: Debe escoger a los padrinos conscientes de los requisitos. Los padrinos tienen que ser católicos bautizados, confirmados y que han hecho su Primera Comunión y deben poder comulgar. El padrino (madrina) debe ser un(a) soltero (a) o debe ser casado por la iglesia.

Permisos: Si viven afuera de la zona servida por el Apostolado Hispano, necesitan una carta de su párroco dándonos permiso para bautizar su hijo.

Padre Esteban: Cel: 631-375-1001; Fax: 631-287-0986

Apostolado Hispano: 631-283-4379; Fax: 631-287-7123

Horas del Apostolado: Miércoles, Jueves y Viernes -2-4 PM

This scripture verse tells us what a great gift God has given to us, and why it was given. Perhaps you have seen it on billboards or even homemade signs. Find it in your Bible and mark the lists below to tell where it is written.

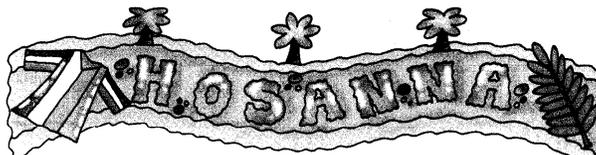
"For God so loved the world that he gave his only son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."

Put a check by the book	Put an "X" by the chapter	Put a heart by the verse
Moses	Ten	4
John	Seven	7
Noah	Three	25
Esther	Two	16

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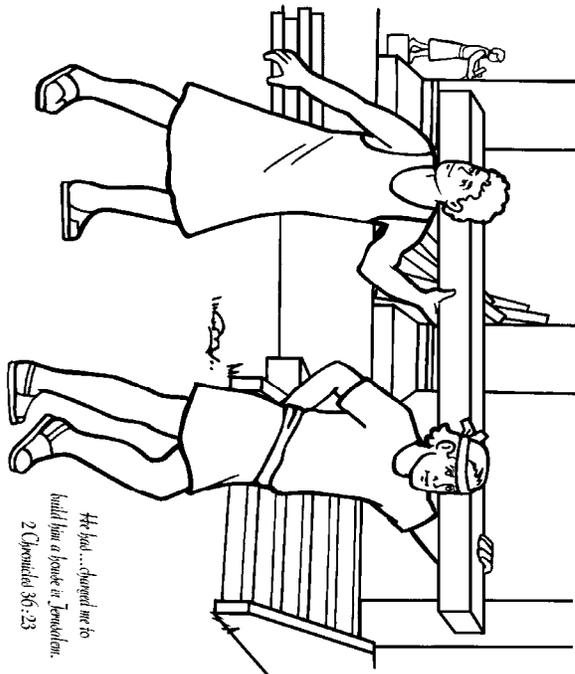
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Scripture excerpts from the New American Bible with revised New Testament and Psalms © 1991, 1986, 1970. Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, D.C. Used with permission. All rights reserved.



Fourth Sunday of Lent

Paul's letter to the Ephesians (2:10) tells us what we are. Color only the capital letters in the quilt to find out.



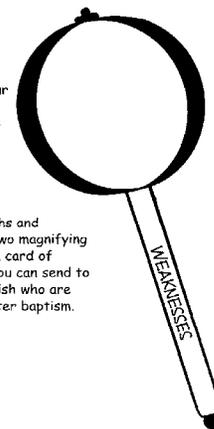
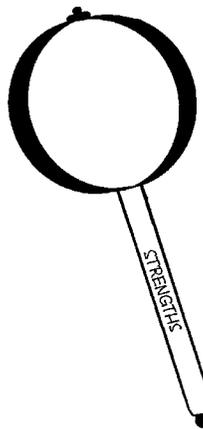
He had... charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem. 2 Chronicles 36:23

CATHOLIC CORNER

SCRUTINIES

Adults in Catholic churches all over the world are preparing for their baptism at the Easter Vigil. Will any adults in your parish be baptized this year? Part of their preparation will include a *scrutiny*. The word *scrutiny* means "a close examination." On the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent these men and women examine their lives very closely. They look for weaknesses, things that keep them from Jesus or times when they are not strong enough to stay away from what they know is wrong. They also think about their strengths, their good actions or times when they have the strength to resist

temptation. As we pray for them while they do this hard work, their scrutinies remind us to examine our own lives, too, so we can renew our baptismal promises and live as better followers of Jesus.



Write your strengths and weaknesses in these two magnifying glasses. Then create a card of encouragement that you can send to the people in your parish who are getting ready for Easter baptism.