



Our Lady of the Snow

***175 Blue Point Avenue
Blue Point, New York 11715***

Telephone: 631-363-6385

Rev. Kevin M. Smith, Pastor

September 17, 2023 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion



DAILY MASSES:

Monday - Friday 8:30 AM
in Mother Church

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday 5:00 PM in Large Church
Sunday 7:30 AM in Large Church
9:00 AM and 11:00 AM in Large Church

First Friday Adoration 4-7

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM
in Large Church

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Monday 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
in Mother Church

ROSARY:

Sept 20, 4:45 pm
Mother Church

Rev. Kevin M. Smith, Pastor

ksmith@olsbp.com

Rev. Lawrence Chadwick,

In residence (retired)

Deacon Edward Karan

Pastoral Associate

ekaran@olsbp.com

Office of Faith Formation:

Mrs. Loren Christie, DRE

lchristie@olsbp.com

Monday - Thursday

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Director of Music:

Mrs. Theresa Martin

Parish Outreach:

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

outreach@olsbp.com

Monday - Thursday in the cottage

Mrs. Diana Mongan, Director

dmongan@olsbp.com

Ms. Loraine Drake,

Office Manager., ext. 1

ldrake@olsbp.com

Parish Office: (631) 363-6385

Fax: (631) 363-2416

rectory@olsbp.com

Hours: Mon. - Thur. 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Pray for Our Sick

We pray for all who are sick, for their healing in both body and spirit....

Genevieve Hasemann

In Sympathy

For all who have died this past week, that they rejoice in the heavenly banquet...

Marjorie Martin

***Catholic Marriage for couples
married outside the Church:***

If you have a civil marriage but now desire a Catholic sacramental marriage, call the Parish Office for more information about a Convalidation.

Marriage:

Arrangements must be made at least **six to twelve months in advance**. It is advisable to call the church prior to arranging the reception.

Rite of Christian Initiation (R.C.I.A.):

Persons interested in becoming Catholic and adults who have not received Confirmation or First Eucharist, please contact the Parish office.

Communion for the Homebound:

To make arrangements to have Communion brought to the home, please call the parish office at 363-6385, ext. 110. For emergency sick calls, please call the parish at any time.

Baptisms:

Call the rectory office to schedule a Baptism or check our website.

God Bless our Troops

Please keep them in your prayers

Lt. Col. Meghan Ederle

Major Kyle Brown

Major Robert Gervasio

Capt. Evan Bernstein

Capt. Robert Fleming

Lt. Sean Brown

Lt. Ross Oley

Lt. Matthew Fish

LT Shannon Wojciechowski

LT Douglas Wojciechowski

LT Thomas Adair

DO,CPT,MC Kate Desmond-Baker

TSgt. Mark C. Erickson

SMSgt Harold L. Erickson

E3/ACAN Connor Rooney USN

Sgt. Samuel Campanella

Ens. Scott Brown

Lance Corp Zachary Giglio

MA2 Justin Fitje

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT:

Weekend of 9/3/2023 \$ 7,036

Weekend of 9/10/2023 \$ 8,528

Faith Direct

June \$10,704

July \$ 9,250

August \$9,165

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

1 in 10 people on Long Island are suffering from food insecurity.

Thank you for helping your neighbors in need in our community.

Our current food pantry needs are:

Soup
 Canned potatoes/carrots/peas/mixed veg.
 Jelly
 Stew
 Regular coffee
 Yellow mustard/ketchup/mayonnaise
 Oatmeal
 Pancake mix/syrup
 Canned fruit
 Juice/juice boxes
 Deodorant
 Cleaning supplies
 Laundry detergent
 Paper Towel/Toilet Paper/tissues



We are also in need of Staple and Target gift cards for back to school assistance

Please check expiration dates before donating

All donations may be left outside the pantry doors in the large church before mass on the weekends, or during the week during our hours Monday– Thursday 10am—1pm.

Thank You !!!



*Altar Bread and Wine
 In Memory of
 Christopher Coluccio*

*Sanctuary Candle in Mother Church
 In Memory of John Hunt*



Mass Intentions

Saturday	Sept 16,
5:00 PM	Kenneth Carignan Jr. † Intentions of Tiernay Family
Sunday	Sept 17, 24th Sunday
7:30 AM	Parishioners of OLS
9:00 AM	Robert Allen †
11:00 AM	Theresa Reilly † Laszlo Birinyi †
Monday	Sept 18,
8:30 AM	Paul Stelmaszyk †
Tuesday	Sept 19,
8:30 AM	Intention of Fr. Joseph Gaspar
Wednesday	Sept 20,
8:30 AM	Bob & Carol Gallagher †
Thursday	Sept 21,
8:30 AM	Christopher Coluccio †
Friday	Sept 22,
8:30 AM	Theresa Reilly †
Saturday	Sept 23,
5:00 PM	Kathryn Scottaline † Theresa Reilly † John W. Hunt †
Sunday	Sept 24,
7:30 AM	Parishioners of OLS
9:00 AM	Josephine & Frank Scarpa Anniversary †
11:00 AM	Theresa Reilly †

Wedding Banns

*Robert Sconone
 &
 Emma Nolan*

Faith Formation News

Registration for the upcoming 2023-2024 Faith Formation Program year is now wrapping up, as classes are set to begin this fall. If you have not yet registered and would like to do so, please fill out the form online as soon as possible, via the Parish Website.

Thank you to those who recently volunteered to teach religious education!

Onsite and Home Study classes for the 2023-24 school year will begin in October, 2023. Those registering or registered for home study classes in 2023-24 have been sent a code via Remind and email to access the fall online program in late summer.

Upcoming Fall Dates:

Sunday, September 17th, 11 a.m. Mass is Catechetical Sunday. All our catechists will be honored and blessed. Folders, lesson plans and rosters will be distributed. Reception to follow on the stage.

Sunday, September 24, 11 a.m. Mass: Level 1 Bible Blessing and Welcome Mass. (Required for Level 1 Families) Students receive their Bibles.

Sunday, October 1, 11 a.m. Mass: Enrollment Mass for Level 9 Confirmation students. (Sponsors must also attend.) Students hand in their Confirmation Information Form and Enrollment Pledge. Sponsors return their Testimony Form.

Sunday, October 8, 4:30 p.m. at Corey Beach: OLS Rosary Coast to Coast. Join our parish and others across the country as we pray a rosary for our nation. (All parishioners are invited.)

October 16th week: Onsite Classes begin

October 29, 11 a.m. Mass we will have a Saint Parade. All students in Levels 1-2 are required to attend dressed as their favorite Saint. All Faith Formation students in every level, and catechists are invited to participate in a simple costume. A procession will be held at the beginning of Mass.

Faith Formation Contact: The Faith Formation Office is located in the Large Church and can be accessed by pressing the Ring to the left of the front doors of the Large Church. The Office is open Monday through Thursday. The office is closed on Fridays.

Because no marriage is beyond hope...

A marriage-saving program here in the New York/Metropolitan Area.

- Is your marriage tearing you apart?
- Do you feel hurt and angry?
- Does talking make it worse?
- Thought of leaving or divorce?
- Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction?

Retrouvaille can help.

**Our Next Weekend is
November 3-5, 2023
at The Immaculate Conception Seminary, Huntington**

**To register or for more information:
1-800-470-2230
HelpOurMarriage.org**

Retrouvaille is a practical program for married couples facing difficult challenges. It is not a marriage retreat, or counseling. You will not be asked to share the personal details of your story.

Retrouvaille is different; it's a way to improve your communication, help you reconnect, and build a healthy, happier, stronger marriage.

Catholic in origin, couples of all faiths, or no faith background, are welcome to attend. We are a Christian Peer Ministry offering tens of thousands of marriages hope in over 160 communities world-wide.



SEMINARY COMMUNION BREAKFAST SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

The Friends of the Seminary invite you to their Annual Communion Breakfast on Sunday, September 24, 2023. Mass at 10 am followed by brunch and presentation by Fr. Matthew Browne, Director,

Office of Evangelization & Catechesis, Diocese of Rockville Centre. Reservations required (\$60 per guest). Information/reservations, Seminary Development Office, bmalone@icseminary.edu, (631)423-0483 x 102, www.icseminary.edu/events.

Gospel Reflection by Michael Dawidziak

“Give me time!” This is the plea of the servant to the king in today’s reading from Matthew’s gospel. He owes a huge debt to his master that he cannot possibly repay. Yet he says, “Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.” Notice he doesn’t ask for absolution, only time. He cannot conceive of anyone being so merciful that they would simply forgive such an enormous amount. He must have been shocked when, instead of granting his request, the king “moved with compassion” forgave the entire debt. He sold his master short in not believing he could be that gracious and generous. We often act the same way towards God. We think, “my sins are too great, the Lord could never just simply forgive me for such egregious behavior. Give me more time and I’ll do better.” But we can’t earn our way into Heaven. Even if we had all the time in the world, it wouldn’t be enough to repay the debt. Only Jesus’ life, death and resurrection can do that. Our challenge is to believe in a God who is so awesome that He is, in fact, that merciful and gracious.

After being forgiven by the king, one might think this servant would have wanted to emulate his master, no? But upon meeting a fellow servant who owed him “a much smaller amount”, he refuses to forgive him. Even worse, his fellow servant asks for the same thing he did: time. He won’t even give him that. He has his fellow servant put in prison. What emotion stops him from being merciful and forgiving? Anger. He is so angry with his fellow servant that “he seized him and started to choke him”. Perhaps today’s readings could be described as a Biblical course in anger management! As followers of Jesus, our constant challenge is to forgive as He did. Jesus even prayed to His Father to forgive His executioners while they put Him to death. (Luke 23:34) We are commanded to emulate the attributes of God. To be as “Godlike” as possible. He is “gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in loving kindness.” (Psalm 145:8)

But yet, anger often gets the best of us. When we feel hurt or harmed by others’ words or actions we get angry and that anger leads us to seek retribution. In our Old Testament reading from the Book of Sirach, we hear, “Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight.” There’s a bit of Biblical wisdom from 2200 years ago that is so true today. People just love to hold on to slights, grievances and injuries (real or imagined). Next comes a warning that “the vengeful will suffer the Lord’s vengeance” and “Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the Lord?” Anger is equated with sin that leads to “death and decay” and will prevent the forgiveness of all our sins. Mark Twain wisely commented, “*Anger* is an acid that can do more harm to the vessel in which it is stored than to anything on which it is poured.” Today’s Psalm (# 103) is a celebration of God’s mercy and graciousness. “Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all my being bless his holy name.” Why this introductory exaltation? Because “He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills. He redeems your life from destruction, he crowns you with kindness and compassion.” This is a God we *want* to love and serve. “Not according to our sins does he deal with us”. Thank God!

Can we treat each other in the same way? In his letter to the Romans, Paul tells us we have to. Paul says, “None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself.” “Whether we live or die, we are the Lord’s.” Paul’s appeal is a plea for unity. If we can see each other as fellow members of the Body of Christ, we are far more likely to put anger aside and forgive. After all, we’re all in this together, united by the love of Christ. Getting back to our gospel reading, the king is understandably furious with the unforgiving debtor and revokes his mercy. Jesus ends the narrative with a dire warning on the consequences of not forgiving. He makes it crystal clear that the king in the parable is God the Father and we are the fellow servants. Jesus says that the king handed over the unforgiving servant “to the torturers until he should pay back the whole debt.” If all the time in the world is not enough to pay the debt, that sounds like eternity.

Jesus doesn’t give us any wiggle room here. He says, “So will my heavenly Father do to you unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart.” This isn’t the first time Jesus made this point. Earlier, when He finished reciting the Lord’s prayer He said, “Yes, if you forgive others their failings, your heavenly Father will forgive you yours; but if you do not forgive others, your Father will not forgive your failings either.” (Matthew 6:14-15) For followers of Jesus, forgiveness is non-negotiable. Jesus also stressed that none of us knows how much time we have. He said He will return “at an hour you do not expect.” (Matthew 24:44) We have been forgiven a debt we could never repay ourselves. We make ourselves worthy of God’s forgiveness by forgiving each other. Our time may not be limitless but God’s forgiveness is.

BLOOD DRIVE

DONATIONS SAVE LIVES

**OUR LADY OF THE SNOW RC CHURCH
MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023
10:30 AM - 7:30 PM**

The Mother Church Basement

175 Blue Point Ave. Blue Point, NY 11715

Appointments Preferred
Walk-ins welcome if capacity permits

For more information, or to schedule an appointment:

- Contact Parish Outreach: 631-363-2417
- **Call 1.800.933.2566**

Please have your donor ID # available if you have one

Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your donor ID card or ID with name and photo. For full list of COVID-19 safety protocols, please visit nybc.org/coronavirus.



800.933.BLOOD • nybc.org    [#nybloodcenter](https://nybc.org)



DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE
Saturday, October 7, 2023 @ 9:00 A.M.
The Saint Lawrence Knights of Columbus will be hosting a defensive driving course at the Bethany Center, St. Lawrence Church. Save money on your insurance, remove points from your license. Good for three years. Class is \$45.00 in advance or \$50.00 at the door. Class limit is 40, registration is required. Please call 631-589-4839 or email drivingclass2458@gmail.com. Please make checks payable to: "St. Lawrence Council # 2458".