



## From the Pastor's Desk:

There are two dates that are special to Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. The first date is June 27<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The second is the date is August 15, 1871, the day of the dedication of **the first church, "Sancta Maria de Perpetuo Succursu" or, as we know and love her, Our Lady of Perpetual Help.** Next year, 2011, will be the celebration of **the 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the dedication of the parish.** It is time to plan to celebrate.

I would like to bring together interested parishioners, young and old, who would like to brainstorm some ideas as to how we can celebrate our 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with an opening Mass of celebration on the weekend of June 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> and a closing celebration of the 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the weekend of August 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> 2011.

Two years ago, the Haitian Community asked to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help (patroness of Haiti) here at our parish church which honors her name. It is an event that I welcome along with parishioners who join the Haitian families on their evening of celebration. We can learn from their enthusiasm as they continue this yearly celebration.

In this upcoming year 2011 and its reminder of 140 years of faithful service to God and community, we can **enkindle the flame of enthusiasm and great love** that all of us, the parishioners and clergy of Our Lady of Perpetual Help have for this wonderful and blessed parish.

There are many events, like the International Feast, parish dances, raffles, and I'm sure others that have gone by the wayside for lack of workers or the fact that many people had done these for so long that they just "burned out". However, I believe that it is always good to celebrate, especially when you have something special to celebrate. **The 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of a parish is testimony to the community,** near and far, of the strength of the Catholic Faith on Long Island. We need to let each other, all of Lindenhurst and Long Island know that we are proud of who we are and where we have come from and where we are at the present time, 140 years later. We may have tough times, but like any family, we have worked hard together to keep the faith alive at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

There is a lot of **"Young Blood"** out there in the pews and **I need you to join the faithful elders of the parish** to get the ideas for these events on the table, into committees and into reality. For now I'm asking you to prayerfully consider coming to this meeting. I do not have a date right now until our Parish Calendar is finalized by the end of August. Once I have the calendar, I will choose a date in late September and let you know through the "Pastor's Desk" and "Announcements at Mass."

For right now, if you are interested I would ask that you give me your name, address, telephone number and e-mail address (if you have one) so that I can begin to get an idea of who and how many parishioners are interested in getting this 140<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration off the ground. I look forward to working with a fresh team of faith filled parishioners. Thank you in advance.

May God +bless you and yours now and forever.

*Father Anthony*

**Please Read... Please Pray... Please Come,  
Celebration time is near!**