

## Illinois Catholics donate gold for crowns

Tom Gallagher | Jun. 29, 2009 NCR Today

[Illinois parishioners donate 15 pounds of gold for Catholic crowns](#) [1]

When I saw this story I had a Twilight Zone moment. Parishioners are actually donating gold jewelry to melt into a crown for a statue of the Blessed Mother?

"Many parishioners at the parish in Melrose Park gave wedding bands, gold watches, bracelets and religious medallions. The crowns were to be put on statues of the Virgin Mary and baby Jesus at the church on Sunday. Church officials say Italian Catholics from around the United States also contributed gold pieces for the crowns."

Meanwhile, [back on Long Island](#) [2] one poor soul was caught red-handed stealing cash from another less poor soul who was kneeling and praying.

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### Links:

[1] <http://www.bnd.com/326/story/825419.html>

[2] [http://www.nydailynews.com/news/ny\\_crime/2009/06/29/2009-06-29\\_thief\\_preying\\_in\\_church.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/news/ny_crime/2009/06/29/2009-06-29_thief_preying_in_church.html)