Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

210 South Wellwood Avenue + Lindenhurst, New York 11757 +

Telephone: 631-226-7725 + Fax: 631-225-9597 +

www.olphlindenhurst.com + Facebook: Our Lady of Perpetual Help



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Download instructions on page 2



Behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews?"

Matthew 2:1b-2a

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 7, 2024

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco

Parochial Vicars: Reverend Fidelis Ezeani, Reverend Frank Zero, Reverend Emmanuel Okonkwo

Deacons: Deacon William R. Crosby, Deacon Douglas G. Smith,

Deacon Robert A. Becker, Deacon James Totino

Business Manager: Mr. Gerry Chille

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. April Kleinlaut Music Director: Miss Erin Barrett

COME AND PRAY...

Our church is open Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays until 6:30 p.m. The church closes after the 12:15 p.m. Mass on Thursdays and Fridays, after the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturdays (except First Saturdays, when there is Nocturnal Adoration until 9:30 p.m.) and after the 12:00 Noon Mass on Sundays (or after the 2:00 p.m. Baptisms when those are celebrated). Also, the church will close after the last Mass on all holidays and holy days when parish offices are closed, regardless of the day of the week. Come in and spend some time in prayer whenever the church is open!

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday: 6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Saturday Morning: 8:00 a.m. Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated): 5:00 p.m. Sunday Masses:

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

Special Needs Mass:

First Saturday of the month at 4:00 p.m. in the auditorium (Sunday Anticipated Mass)

Holy Days of Obligation: Consult the bulletin

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Wednesdays: 12:45 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. First Saturdays: 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

We pray Evening Prayer communally, in person, each Saturday in the church immediately following the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Each Sunday, we pray Morning Prayer at 9:15 a.m. and Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m. on the Zoom video platform. Click on the Zoom link on the home page of our website.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday, 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. Also available by individual appointment with one of the priests.

DEVOTIONS

OLPH Novena: Mondays following 12:15 p.m. Mass Rosary: Weekdays following 6:30 a.m. Mass Saturdays and Sundays following 8:00 a.m. Mass The Holy Face of Jesus: Tuesdays following 12:15 p.m. Mass

First Fridays and First Saturdays:

As announced in bulletin

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Friday: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

DOWNLOAD THE OLPH APP

Catholic Life Every Day

with the Our Lady of Perpetual Help App



New number to download the Parish App!

Text to 55321

The old number **88202** is no longer in effect!





Week of January 07, 2024





What Do You Seek? | The Search | Episode 1

What is that deep longing in our hearts all about? We're all living for something, and we all strive for that something out there that is ultimately going to make us happy. But what is it? Watch Episode 1 of The Search to begin to answer this question.





Arianism

Is Jesus truly God? Learn about the fourth-century heresy, Arianism, and the derivative heresy of Apollinarianism.

LISTEN



Who Are the Magi?

In this FORMED Now! special episode, Dr. Michael Barber sits down to reflect on the Magi from the Gospel accounts and what spiritual lessons can be learned from this historical event recorded in Scripture.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.

Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.





PASTOR'S COLUMN

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. We are, of course, still in Christmas Time (we will be up to and including this Monday, January 8, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord), and with the Epiphany we celebrate that the child born in the darkness of night in a lowly manger is revealed as the manifestation ("epiphany") of God. Christ is revealed in many different ways, among them as Lord, as King, and as the One in whom God is present and acting. All of these manifestations are "lights" that shine in our midst, revealing a deeper understanding of who Christ is. All the readings for the Mass of this day reveal, in a way, a different manifestation of who Christ is for all who believe. Traditionally, the visit of the Magi takes center stage in the Gospel reading assigned for this day.

The meaning of this Solemnity is summed up well in the Preface assigned for Mass for the Epiphany (the Preface is the beginning section of the Eucharistic Prayer, which comes after the Introductory Dialogue, but before the Holy, Holy): "For today you have revealed the mystery of our salvation in Christ as a light for the nations, and, when he appeared in our mortal nature, you made us new by the glory of his immortal nature." Those words capture for us the meaning of Christmas, and of all the liturgical celebrations, including the Epiphany, that occur during Christmas Time: because God became human, because the Word became flesh, human nature - you and I - have been made new because we have been made sharers in the divine! What a powerful, yet challenging, spiritual reflection that is for us to ponder! Notice, too, how the imagery of light plays such a prominent role in our Christmas prayers.

As is our custom at OLPH, at all Masses for the Epiphany the ancient Epiphany Proclamation will be chanted. This ancient chant reminds us of how the mystery of the Lord's Paschal Mystery is manifested and unfolded for us in time throughout the upcoming liturgical year. What a beautiful ancient custom this is! I'm so glad that we do this here at OLPH!

Epiphany Blessing of the Home

It is traditional for families to bless their homes on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, and I hope your family will take part in this beautiful expression of family faith life. We have printed in this bulletin an insert with a simple prayer service that can be used, and we have provided cards this weekend that can be used at home; look for them around the church. (The blessing can also be done without the card if for any reason you do not have one.)

What a great Christmas tradition this is to have in your home! For families with children, what a great way this is to continue to impress upon them the central place God should have in family home life! What a great way to connect liturgy and everyday life!

RIP Deacon Frank Odin

Unfortunately, the requirement of early printing deadlines around Christmas and New Year's often means that some important items cannot appear in the bulletin in as timely a way as we would like. Such is the case with this acknowledgment in this column of the death of our beloved Deacon Frank Odin. I want to take this opportunity to express, on behalf of the entire Pastoral Staff and the parish, our deepest and prayerful condolences to Deacon Frank's wife Barbara and his entire family.

This loss has been felt deeply by the parish, as evidenced by the outpouring of love and the many beautiful reminiscences during the days of Deacon Frank's wake and funeral in December. His smile, his warmth, his good humor, his witness of faith and his ministry as a Deacon will truly be missed.

We have included in this bulletin two special tribute pages to Deacon Frank, so please be sure to peruse them, and offer a prayer for the repose of his soul, and for peace and comfort for his loved ones.

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest Awards

This Sunday I'm pleased to be a part of the Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest Awards, which will take place immediately following the 10:00 a.m. Mass. The Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest is offered each year as a joint effort by the Knights of Columbus and the Holy Name Society, and it is always supported by our Religious Education Program under the direction of April Kleinlaut, and I thank everyone for their great efforts in doing this.

What an important message we are sending to our children by giving them the opportunity to participate in this activity! We pray that the important message to "Keep Christ in Christmas" makes a deep impression on the children. This year's response and participation was the best ever! I am always amazed at the quality of work the children submit. Great job, everyone! I love being part of this every year!

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

The liturgical season of Christmas Time comes to a close with this Monday's Feast of the Baptism of the Lord — yes, this year the feast again falls on a Monday, as it did last year, and not on a Sunday, as it does most of the time. The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord proclaims to us what is known as a "theophany," i.e., a revelation or manifestation of God in our midst. In this particular case, what is revealed is the divine Sonship of Jesus as, after His baptism, according to St. Mark's Gospel, heaven is "torn open" and the Holy Spirit descends upon Him "like a dove." As the voice from heaven proclaims, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased," Jesus is anointed and appointed to His Messianic office, and His public ministry commences.

However, we as baptized Christians cannot help but remember that our baptism elevates us to the status of sons and daughters of God and gives us a share in Christ's mission, that of bringing the good news to the poor.

On this feast on Monday, we should all take a few moments to ponder the richness and depth of what it means to be baptized. Reflect on these statements which come from the General Introduction concerning Christian Initiation:

• "Baptism incorporates us into Christ and forms us into God's people. This first sacrament pardons all our sins, rescues us from the power of darkness, and brings us to the dignity of adopted children, a new creation through water and the Holy Spirit. Hence we are called and are indeed the children of God." (2)

- "Baptism is the sacrament by which its recipients are incorporated into the Church and are built up together in the Spirit into a house where God lives, into a holy nation and a royal priesthood. Baptism is a sacramental bond of unity linking all who have been signed by it." (4)
- "Those who are baptized are united to Christ in a death like his; buried with him in death, they are given life again with him, and with him they rise again. For baptism recalls and makes present the paschal mystery itself, because in baptism we pass from the death of sin into life." (6)

Pope Francis has encouraged all Catholics to know the date of their baptism, and to celebrate that day. Do you know yours? Mine is September 24!

Then, starting this Tuesday, the Church returns to the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, when the entire Paschal Mystery in general occupies our attention, instead of a particular lens or focus for that Mystery (see the next section of this column). This segment of Ordinary Time will continue until February 14, Ash Wednesday — the date for which was announced in the chanted Epiphany Proclamation this weekend. (By the way since Ash Wednesday is on February 14 this year, maybe all you lovebirds out there should make plans ahead of time to celebrate Valentine's Day on another day, and not on a day of fast and abstinence!)

The Liturgical Year: Return to Ordinary Time

So, as Christmas Time concludes and we return to the liturgical season of Ordinary Time this coming week, we must remember that when we use the term "Ordinary Time" it does not mean "ordinary" in the sense of "run-of-the-mill" or "banal;" instead, the term "ordinary" derives from the word "ordinal," which means "numbered," as the Sundays in Ordinary Time are numerically ordered.

Spiritually, the liturgical time of these winter weeks should be anything but empty or unproductive; it should be a time in which our faith flourishes and grows, "greening," as it were, to echo the liturgical color green which is worn. During Ordinary Time, the entire Paschal Mystery in general occupies our attention, instead of celebrating that mystery through a

particular lens or focus as we do during Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter Time. One of the Prefaces (i.e., one of the beginning parts of the Eucharistic Prayer) that the priest might use during Ordinary Time summarizes well our focus during these five-and-a-half weeks before Lent begins; that prayer says, "For in you we live and move and have our being, and while in this body we not only experience the daily effects of your care, but even now possess the pledge of life eternal." During this segment of Ordinary Time, our focus is the beginning of Jesus' public ministry and our call to live, move and have our being in Him, to follow His example, and to make Him known in our life. The Collect (Opening Prayer) we will pray on January 21, the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (the "Sunday of the Word of God"), expresses this call: "Direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son we may abound in good works."

Pleasing God by abounding in good works: the weeks ahead can be a great opportunity to make our discipleship visible not only through our words, but also through our deeds. Let's make the most of these winter weeks of Ordinary Time by truly putting into practice the concrete acts of love and charity the Lord Jesus calls us to do.

First Penance

This coming Saturday, January 13, will be a special day for many of the children in our parish: it will be their day to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) for the first time. The Church's usual practice is that children make their First Confession in Level 2

of religious formation, the same year they also celebrate First Holy Communion.

For many weeks now the children have been working hard learning about the sacrament, and the catechists have been doing a great job of teaching them about it. We are very proud of the children!

Allow me to encourage the parents of the children celebrating First Penance to make a fairly big deal out of this significant occasion in their child's life; it's the first time they are celebrating a sacrament that, we hope, will be a regular part of their life for the rest of their life. It's a great thing for the child to dress up for the occasion, and the family should celebrate in some festive way at home or even in a restaurant.

It's also a significant moment in the liturgical life of the entire parish, so I invite all of us to take a little time this week to pray for the children who will be celebrating First Penance on Saturday.

In conclusion...

Together, let's aim high in Christ. Together, let's bring out the best in each other. Together, let's be the best we can be in Christ.

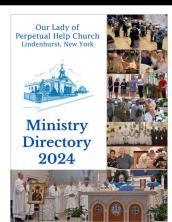
And let's always remember: LOVE IS A GIFT.

Sincerely,

magn. See

2024 MINISTRY DIRECTORY NOW AVAILABLE

The updated Ministry Directory for 2024 is now available electronically on our website (click on the "Get Involved" tab) and on our Parish App, and paper copies are available at the rectory. This Ministry Directory lists all our parish ministries, groups and organizations, describing what they are all about and how to get involved in them. Read it and you'll see why OLPH is "the place to be!"



Blessing of the Home and Household on the Epiphany

Use this ritual to bless your home on the Feast of Epiphany, January 7, 2024

The household gathers at the manger scene, or at some other suitable place. The parish card with the inscription to be placed above the doorway (if available) is used at the end of the ritual. (Instructions on how to make the inscription if the card is not available are given at the end of the ritual.) All make the sign of the cross, and the Leader begins:

Leader: Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace. Blessed be God forever.

All respond: Blessed be God forever.

Leader: During these days of Christmas Time, we keep this feast of Epiphany. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling place among us. It is Christ who enlightens our hearts and homes with his love. May all who enter this home find Christ's light and love.

Then someone proclaims the Scripture reading:

Reader: Listen to the words of the holy gospel according to Matthew.

After Jesus' birth in Bethlehem of Judea during the reign of King Herod, astrologers from the east arrived one day in Jerusalem inquiring, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We observed his star at its rising and have come to pay him homage." At this news King Herod became greatly disturbed, and with him all Jerusalem. Summoning all of the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem of Judea," they informed him. "Here is what the prophet has written: 'And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the princes of Judah, since from you shall come a rule who is to shepherd my people Israel." Herod called the astrologers aside and found out from them the exact time of the star's appearance. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, after having instructed them: "Go and get detailed information about the child. When you have found him, report it to me so that I may go and offer him homage too."

After their audience with the king, they set out. The star which they had observed at its rising went ahead of them until it came to a standstill over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house, found the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their coffers and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. They received a message in a dream not to return to Herod, so they went back to their own country by another route.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All respond: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The intercessions are then said:

Leader: The Son of God made his home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him. Our response will be, Stay with us, Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, with Mary and Joseph you formed the Holy Family: remain in

our home, that we may know you as our guest and honor you as our Head. We pray: R/.

Lord Jesus Christ, you had no place to lay your head, but in the spirit of poverty accepted the hospitality of your friends: grant that through our help the homeless may obtain proper housing. We pray: R/.

Lord Jesus Christ, the three kings presented their gifts to you in praise and adoration: grant that those living in this house may use their talents and abilities to your greater glory. We pray: R/.

After the intercessions, all pray the Lord's Prayer: Our Father...

<u>Leader</u>: Let us pray. Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill us with the light of Christ, that our concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:

<u>Leader</u>: May Christ Jesus dwell with us, keep us from all harm, and make us one in mind and heart, now and forever.

All respond: Amen.

Now the custom of making an inscription above the main door of the house, on the inside, is done. Use the card provided by the parish. If the card is not available, then you can make your own inscription. Written in chalk, or in some other way, the inscription should read:

$$20 + C + M + B + 24$$

The letters represent the Magi, traditionally named Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar; the "20" and "24" represent the year, signifying the timeless God; each cross marks a point of the compass, or "all the nations."

Peace be with this house and all who live here

$$20 + \boxed{0} + \boxed{1} + \boxed{1} + 24$$

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church Lindenhurst, New York

THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF EASTER AND THE MOVEABLE FEASTS

The Solemnity of the Epiphany is a traditional time to announce the major feasts and celebrations of the Church for the upcoming year. Before the advent of online calendars, iPhones, perpetual calendars, and handheld organizers, the formal announcement at Epiphany was the usual way the Church made known the date of Easter and all the celebrations that are dependent upon its date.

In the Roman Catholic Church, the date of Easter moves each year because it is affected by the lunar and solar cycles. The Council of Nicaea (325 AD) determined that Easter would be celebrated on the Sunday following the first full moon after the vernal equinox, or first day of spring (in the northern hemisphere). (The Orthodox Churches use a different calendar system, and so their date for Easter is different.)

Although calendars now give the date of Easter and the other feasts in the liturgical year for many years in advance, the Epiphany proclamation still has value. It is a reminder of the centrality of the resurrection of the Lord in the liturgical year and the importance of the great mysteries of faith which are celebrated each year.



Know, dear brothers and sisters, that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Savior.

On the fourteenth day of February will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the thirty-first day of March you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the ninth day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the nineteenth day of May the feast of Pentecost.

On the second day of June, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the first day of December the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to who is honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Excerpts from the English translation of *The Roman Missal*.
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CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS DECEMBER 25, 2023





















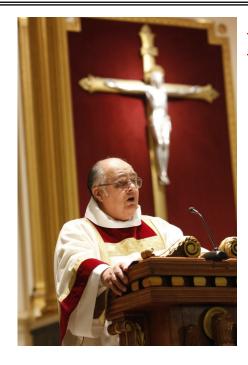








IN MEMORIAM



Deacon Frank Arthur Odin, Jr.

Born October 24, 1936

Ordained a Deacon May 19, 1984

Died December 14, 2023

Deacon Frank, 87 years old, beloved son of Frank and Ruby, and devoted husband of his childhood sweetheart Barbara (née Mebes) for 67 years, went to his heavenly reward on December 14, 2023. Born in Queens, NY, he served his country in the U.S. Army Reserve, the city of his birth as a police officer for 20 years, and his spiritual community as a deacon, and for the past 40 years served at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church in Lindenhurst, NY. He was an inspiring witness to the faith and his brother deacons while engaged in many church ministries. A man of many hobbies from model trains to ham radios to racing homing pigeons, Frank loved nothing more than recounting a good story, often comedic, surrounded by friends and family. Through the years, he worked at many jobs but most memorable were his years as a police officer in the NYPD. His life was a wonderful mix of faith, fun, and family.

In addition to Barbara, he is survived by five of his children, eleven grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren, many of whom he had the joy of baptizing personally as well as quite a few children of his numerous grandnieces and grandnephews. He is predeceased by his sisters, Marilyn and Ruby, and his cherished daughter, Theresa.

He belonged to the Boy Scouts as a leader and founder of OLPH Troop 54, Lindenhurst Pigeon Club, Marriage Encounter, Charismatic Renewal Prayer Groups of Love and Hope, OLPH Pre-Cana instructor, Baptismal Prep instructor, Life in the Spirit Seminar core team leader, Sons of Norway, NYPD and Norden Lodges Knights of Columbus 3rd order, Holy Name Society, Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults leader, American Legion Post 1120 chaplain and Cops for Christ.

Grant, we pray, O merciful God, a share in eternal happiness to the soul of Frank, your servant and Deacon, on whom you bestowed the gift of ministering in your Church.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

God, for ever and ever. Amen.

—Collect, Mass for the Dead, For a Deacon

REMEMBERING DEACON FRANK ODIN



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Each Monday, parishioners pray to seek the help and assistance of the Lord for healing, family,



children and the needs of the world, seeking the intercession of the Blessed Mother. Take some time each Monday to join in the OLPH Novena.

Mondays at 12:45 p.m.

BRINGING FORWARD THE OFFERINGS OF BREAD AND WINE

If the announced intention at Mass is for your intention, or if you have memorialized the bread



and wine, and you would like to carry those offerings forward at the Presentation of the Gifts during Mass, please be sure to let the ushers know this before the Mass begins. They will be happy to have you do this. If no one steps forward to specifically request this, then they will select people from the assembly.

FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT COME FORWARD IN PROCESSION TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

If you are, or if someone you are with is, unable to walk in procession to receive Holy Communion, please alert one of the Ushers **before Mass begins**. The Usher will be glad to arrange to have one of the ministers bring Holy Communion to the pew. Please remember to inform an Usher before Mass begins; do not wait until the time of Communion. Also, if at all possible, please sit in the front half of the church, to make it easier for the minister to come to you. Thank you.

A WORD ABOUT RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION AND GOOD HEALTH

As we come to celebrate Mass together each week during these days when respiratory illnesses are at their peak, it's a good time to review some common-sense liturgical practices and issues, to help everyone stay healthy and to care for one another.

- Mass Attendance: MOST IMPORTANTLY, IF YOU ARE SICK, PLEASE DO NOT COME TO MASS! There is no obligation to attend Mass if you are sick; it is not a sin to miss Mass for this reason. Also, there is no need to go to Confession if you miss Mass because you are sick. Personal prayer and reflection on the Sunday Scripture readings is encouraged; many people also enjoy viewing the Mass on television. Your weekly monetary offering may be mailed to the rectory, or simply added to your offering the next time you come to Mass.
- Receiving Holy Communion in the Hand Rather Than on the Tongue: All are encouraged to receive Holy Communion in the hand rather than on the tongue; this is vastly a more sanitary method. If it is necessary for you to receive on the tongue, we ask you to wait and come up at the end of the line, to be the last communicants to receive Holy Communion. Your cooperation with this is appreciated.
- <u>Communion from the Chalice</u>: The Precious Blood will continue to be available for those who wish to receive the Precious Blood of Christ in addition to the Body of Christ. Obviously, communicants should refrain from drinking from the chalice when one has a cold or is fearful of being infected.

LIVING THE EUCHARIST

A GIFT IS WAITING FOR YOU IN THE NEW YEAR:

Living the Eucharist 2024

"THE EUCHARIST IS THE SOURCE AND SUMMIT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE"

——Lumen Gentium (Light to the Nations)



February 13 – March 19, 2024 Tuesday evenings 7:00 p.m.–8:30 p.m.

Join a **Living the Eucharist** small group during Lent.
Participation will enrich your life in subtle and amazing ways.

During the six-week program you will:

Gain a better understanding of the mystery of the Eucharist
Participate more fully in Sunday Mass
Leave Mass in a renewed zeal to let the light of Christ shine
Nourish your spiritual life by enhancing your relationship with Jesus Christ.

For more information, contact Deacon Jim Totino at DeaconJimOLPH@gmail.com

Deadline to join is January 24, 2024

To be completed by each	Living the Eucharist 2024 LENTEN SIGN-UP FORM ch participant.	•
NAME:		Living
ADDRESS:	CEL I	the Eucharist.
PHONE: HOME	CELL	
EMAIL:		
AGE (if under 21):		
	Six Weekly Small Group Gatherings: Dates: Tuesdays - February 13—March 19 Location: School building (classrooms to be assigned) Time: 7:00–8:30 p.m.	
Yes, I will atten	d the six sessions	
No, I cannot att	end but am interested in participating in the program	
Please return th	nis form to the Rectory. The material will be distributed on the f	irst day of Class.
View the introductory	video for Living the Eucharist at https://www.pemdc.org/program	ms/living-the-eucharist/

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and may the Lord bless you on this journey!



"LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME" PRAYER GARDEN Engraved Bricks

Memorialize your loved ones or your prayer intention in our "Let the Children Come to Me" Prayer Garden!

The memorializations do not have to be only for children, though; the prayer garden is for all prayers, intentions and memorializations for loved ones of any age.

Or, you can offer a prayer intention.

Your Name(s)			
Street:			_
City:	State:	Zip:	_
Phone:	Email:		_

Please enclose full payment of \$125 with this completed form.

Make checks payable to: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Mail or return form in person to:

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

Attn: Brick Memorialization

Linda Coppola

210 South Wellwood Avenue

Lindenhurst, NY 11757

Please print the inscription as it is to appear on the brick (3 lines/15 characters per line maximum). Each box represents one letter, number, character or space. The pavers will be engraved in all capital letters. If you would like to add a heart or a cross to your brick, it will be engraved on the left hand side.

THE	34111	ons
TIM 8	KA	RED
STEPHE	n E	UAL



OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

Located in the Rectory
Phone # 631.226.7725 x. 253
Email: religioused@oloph.org
Director: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

(akleinlaut@oloph.org)

FIRST PENANCE!!!

Remember that there will be a First Penance Rehearsal on January 8th at 5 p.m.in the church. Parents and children need to attend!

LEVEL 7:

Remember that there will be a Student Meeting on the topic of Chastity, this Wednesday, January 10. This meeting will occur during your normal class time.

Scripture of the Day!

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life?"

-Matthew 16:24-26

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION REGULAR OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Wednesday: 12:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m. Thursday: 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday: CLOSED

Saturday: By Appointment Only

Saint of the Day!

The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Jesus loves the world so much that His heart is on fire for us! His heart was pierced twice: once by the love He felt for everyone, and then by the hatred of the people that had crucified Him. This Feast is celebrated on the 19th day after Pentecost, so the date changes every year. Jesus hopes that people will remain devoted to His Sacred Heart. One way to do that is to go to church and receive the Eucharist on the first Friday of the month. How do you think that you can take the time to show Jesus that you love Him in this crazy world?



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- Bereavement Ministry: Linda Arpino—631.592.1062—forubabe77@gmail.com
- Blue Door Thrift Boutique: Tricia Buckley—631.561.5790—thebluedoor@oloph.org
- † Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Kathy Feldman—631.225.9864—cdefeldman@optonline.net
- † Hospital Visitors: Peter O'Neill—631.226.6340—oneillp@optonline.net
- Prespect Life Ministry: Louise Perrotta—631.412.3831—louiseperrotta123@gmail.com
- \$\frac{1}{2}\$ St. Vincent de Paul Society: Valerie Baxter—631.226.7725, x. 234
- \$\frac{1}{2}\$ Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker Paolo—631.226.6175—jbecker@oloph.org

NEW Food Pantry List!

PEANUT BUTTER
JELLY OR JAM
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PREPARED PASTA SAUCE
COOKIES
HOT CHOCOLATE
FRUIT JUICE
SHELF STABLE MILK
SHAMPOO
TOOTHPASTE

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Cut out this list and bring it with you when you go shopping!

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Located in the "New" School Building
Use Parking Lot located on corner of
Gates & High Streets

631.226.7725 x. 234

The office is open:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
9:00 a.m.—12 Noon
1st & 3rd Saturdays 1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.

THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU!



Thanks to your generosity,
during Thanksgiving 2023
we were able to help
56 families: 101 adults, 57 children
and 15 elderly.
God bless you all!

SERVING AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Phone: (631) 226-7725 Parish Fax: (631) 225-9597 Directory of Phone Extensions

Name	Ext	Email
Erin Barrett, Director of Music		ebarrett@oloph.org
Carmel Becker, Bulletin	246	cbecker@oloph.org
Carole Carrano, Parish Secretary	212	ccarrano@oloph.org
Gerry Chille, Business Manager	204	gchille@oloph.org
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Pastor		msgrjoe@oloph.org
Fr. Fidelis Ezeani, Associate Pastor		fadaprince4christ@yahoo.com
Faith Formation Office		religioused@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation		akleinlaut@oloph.org
Fr. Emmanuel Okonkwo		emmaokons@yahoo.com
Rectory Reception Desk		
St. Vincent de Paul		stvincentdepaul@oloph.org
Josephine Vagelatos, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor		jvagelatos@oloph.org
Fr. Frank Zero, Associate Pastor	203	fzero@oloph.org

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism ceremonies are held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Parents wishing to have a child baptized must attend a baptism preparation session before the baptism; these sessions are held on the first and third Thursdays of the month excluding holidays. Contact the Parish Office to begin the process of having your child baptized.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Those who are seriously ill or facing surgery, as well as those in danger of death, should receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Please call the Parish Office and ask for one of our priests.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Adults who wish to be baptized, or who have been baptized in another Christian faith and wish to become Catholic, or who have been baptized Catholic and wish to be confirmed and receive Holy Communion, are invited to join the process of the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. Please contact Jeffrey Gaab at (631) 965-0076 or e-mail at jsg375@gmail.com to begin the process.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Adults who have been baptized Catholic and who have received Holy Communion but who still need the Sacrament of Confirmation should enroll in our Adult Confirmation Classes. Please contact Deacon Robert Becker at 631-226-6175 or e-mail to DeaconRobert@oloph.org.

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact the Parish Office at least SIX MONTHS before the desired date of your wedding.

YOUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

Eileen Corticchia
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Jeffrey Gaab
Gregory Guido
Sonia Hansen
Joselyn Kalt
Mary Leon
Rachelle Louis-Jacques
Carlton Mitchell
Deacon James Totino

Please feel free to speak to any member of the Pastoral Council with any questions you might have.

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

Bill Bendernagel Bob Meade

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

David Barrett
Bill Bendernagel (Chair)
Gerry Chille
Meg Danaher, CFP®, CLU®
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Marie Gagneron
Kenneth Hale
Bob Meade
Bob Mehm
John Reynolds
Jackie Totino

Please feel free to speak to any member of the Finance Committee with any questions you might have.

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

Fauvette Auguste
Erin Barrett
Deacon Robert Becker
Mark Costantino
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Kenneth Hale
Jenine Jimenez-Spina
Denise Martinez
Barbara McPhail
Deacon Doug Smith
Mike Williams
Fr. Frank Zero

Please feel free to speak to any member of the Liturgy Committee with any questions you might have.

PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Please pray for the following members of our parish community preparing for the Sacrament of Matrimony.

First Announcement:

Gerard Carollo & Kimberly Bethell

FOR THOSE WITH CELIAC DISEASE

Special hosts are available for those with Celiac Disease who cannot receive Holy Communion using the usual bread. These hosts contain less than 0.001% gluten content and are approved for the Roman Catholic Church by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. If you need to receive Holy Communion using one of these hosts, please stop in the sacristy before Mass begins to discuss this with the priest. We will be happy to accommodate you.

REMINDER REGARDING THE COMMUNION FAST

Please remember that we are supposed to observe a Communion Fast before receiving Holy Communion. This means we do not eat any foods or drink any liquids for one hour before receiving Holy Communion, the only exception being water or medicine. This also means that we are not to chew gum during Mass, and certainly not while we are coming forward to receive Holy Communion. Let's be sure we are appropriately prepared to receive Holy Communion by observing this important rule of the Church.

WE REMEMBER

We remember those who have died in our parish.

Frank Papp
Eileen McMahon
Stephen John Kostik
Nancy Frances Ciccone
Teresa Pirolo
Carlo Caputo
Anthony DeVito
Palma Angieri

"O God, who through the ending of present things open up the beginning of things to come, grant, we pray, that the soul of your servant may be led to you to attain the inheritance of eternal redemption."

WE BELIEVE

We pray for the sick of our parish...

Baby Liam Michael Bentley
Bill Stysiack
Nora McMahon
Patricia & Robert Koezkowski
Diane Schneider
Grace Germano
Rose Colonna
Cindy Lavorata
Christine Ajello-Larsen
Gus Garofalo
Britta Perna
Nick Bulone

Sebastiano Treppiedi Anthony Grasso Mary Elizabeth Setti Kathleen Bofinger David Rowe Sheila Cormier Susan Wilson Theresa Rowe John Leyden Robin Kaufman Laurell Desner Marge Sheehan

If a family member or close friend is ill, please let us know so our community can pray for them. Please call the Parish Office to have the name of the person added to the list. Please make sure the person is aware the request has been made and that they are agreeable with their name printed in the bulletin. The name will remain on the list for at least four weeks and will be announced at Mass the first week only. You don't need to make the request again until after the name is removed from the list.

Our Spring Bereavement will start up on March 16 to May 18 from 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Registration required. Please call Linda Arpino 631-

592-1062 or email forubabe 77@ gmail.com.

MASS MEMORIALS

A beautiful way to remember a loved one! Memorials used during the Masses for week of

January 7-13: Bread & Wine In Memory of

Joseph & Ella Fraser

Requested by

Elizabeth Pecoraro

Please contact the Parish Office at 631.226.7725 for other options for memorials.

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, January 8—					
WICH	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD				
6:30	Joseph Kevin Collins				
12:15	Patricia Hosey				
TUESI	DAY, January 9— Weekday				
	(First Week in Ordinary Time)				
6:30	George Tiganitakis				
12:15	Ron Musehello				
WEDN	JESDAY, January 10—				
	Weekday				
6:30	Kathy McGrath				
12:15	George Riedener				
THUR	SDAY, January 11—				
	Weekday				
6:30	Eileen Whittaker				
12:15	Christine Huff				
FRIDA	AY, January 12— Weekday				
6:30	Rocco Versace				
12:15	John Pramataris				
SATUI	RDAY, January 13—				
(Sair	Weekday nt Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church)				
8:00	Michael DiMaggio				
Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated): SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME					
5:00	For the People of the Parish				
Sunday, January 14—					
SEC	SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME				
8:00	Rebecca Reilly				
10:00	Carol Greenhalgh				
12:00	Michelle Esposito				

PARISH CALENDAR

	Monday, January 8, 2024					
9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 23				
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Thrift Shop	Room 12				
12:45 p.m.	Devotions Church					
2:30 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Business Meeting	Room 23				
5:00 p.m.	First Penance Rehearsal	Church				
5:00 p.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Church				
7:00 p.m.	Liturgy Committee Meeting	St. Lucy Room				
7:00 p.m.	Family Life Meeting	Room 3				
	Tuesday, January 9, 2024	•				
6:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria				
7:00 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Board Meeting	Room 21				
7:15 p.m.	Adult Confirmation	St. Mark Room				
1	Wednesday, January 10, 20	24				
9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24				
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Thrift Shop	Room 12				
12:45 p.m.	Exposition	Church				
2:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary (631-412-3831 for information) Off Car					
6:30 p.m.	Levels 6, 7 and 8 Classes	School				
	Thursday, January 11, 202					
1:00 p.mon	Church closed for cleaning	Church				
5:30 p.m.	CYO	Auditorium				
7:00 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Group	Cafeteria				
7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church				
	Friday, January 12, 2024					
9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 23				
	Saturday, January 13, 2024	4				
8:30 and 10:00 a.m.	Levels 1, 3, 4, 5 and Sp. Ed Classes	School				
11:15 a.m.	First Penance	Church				
1:00 p.m.	CYO	Auditorium				
4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church				
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church				
6:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria				
Sunday, January 14, 2024						
10:00 a.m.	OCIA	Church				
1:00 p.m.	CYO	Auditorium				
2:00 p.m.	Baptisms	Church				
6:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria				

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL PERPETUO SOCORRO,

El grupo de oración Jesús es el camino la verdad y la vida.

Le invita a alabar y glorificar a Dios todos los jueves a las 7:00PM en la cafetería, en un ambiente familiar. Comenzando con el Santo Rosario. Únete a nosotros en oración, por ti y por tu familia en Alabanzas y reflexión de la palabra de DIOS.

Todos los martes llevamos el Santo Rosario a los hogares para orar en familia Interesados favor llamar a Alina Patrón al (516) 263-9401

Para más información sobre los sacramentos del bautizo matrimonio y servicio pastorales Unción de los enfermos y la Eucaristía, llamar a la rectoría 631) 226-7725/ en español a Irma González al (631) 620-2401.

Reflexiones de las lecturas del domingo 7 de enero del 2024

La epifanía del señor.

Primera Lectura del libro de Isaías (60,1-6):

El mundo que estaba en tinieblas ha recibido una gran luz Segunda Lectura de la carta del apóstol san Pablo a los Efesios (3,2-3a.5-6)

La misericordia de Dios fue revelada como nunca antes atreves del Espíritu santo a los Santos Apóstoles para que los gentiles fuéramos coherederos y parte de la promesa.

Lectura del santo evangelio según san Mateo (2,1-12)

avísenme para que yo también vaya a adorarlo.

Los reyes Magos se marcharon y la estrella que habían visto en el Oriente, iba delante de ellos hasta que fue a pararse sobre el lugar donde estaba el Niño. Al ver la estrella, sintieron una gran alegría. Entraron en la casa y vieron al niño con María su madre. Se hincaron y lo adoraron. Abrieron sus tesoros y le ofrecieron regalos: oro, incienso y mirra.

Luego, habiendo sido avisados en sueños que no volvieran a Herodes, (pues él quería buscar al Niño para matarlo), regresaron a su país por otro camino".

Podemos aprovechar esta fiesta de la Iglesia para reflexionar en las enseñanzas que nos da este pasaje evangélico:

- *Los magos representan a todos aquellos que buscan, sin cansarse, la luz de Dios, siguen sus señales y, cuando encuentran a Jesucristo, luz de los hombres, le ofrecen con alegría todo lo que tienen.
- * La estrella anunció la venida de Jesús a todos los pueblos. Hoy en día, el Evangelio es el que anuncia a todos los pueblos el mensaje de Jesús.
- * Los Reyes Magos no eran judíos como José y María. Venían de otras tierras lejanas (de Oriente: Persia y Babilonia), siguiendo a la estrella que los llevaría a encontrar al Salvador del Mundo. Representan a todos los pueblos de la tierra que desde el paganismo han llegado al conocimiento del Evangelio.
- * Los Reyes Magos dejaron su patria, casa, comodidades, familia, para adorar al Niño Dios. Perseveraron a pesar de las dificultades que se les presentaron. Era un camino largo, difícil, incómodo, cansado. El seguir a Dios implica sacrificio, pero cuando se trata de Dios cualquier esfuerzo y trabajo vale la pena.
- * Los Reyes Magos tuvieron fe en Dios. Creyeron, aunque no veían, aunque no entendían. Quizá ellos pensaban encontrar a Dios en un palacio, lleno de riquezas y no fue así, sino que lo encontraron en un pesebre y así lo adoraron y le entregaron sus regalos. Nos enseñan la importancia de estar siempre pendientes de los signos de Dios para reconocerlos.

¿Ha brillado en mi vida la "estrella" del Señor?

- .- ¿Qué ilusión alimento en la Epifanía de Jesús?
- .- ¿Es mi espiritualidad la del "buscador" de la Luz?



OFFERING UPDATE December 30/31

	Deceille	er 30/3	
Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	262	87	\$2,287.23
8:00 a.m.	180	73	3,192.00
10:00 a.m.	277	59	2,250.00
12:00 p.m.	380	84	2,552.00
Total coin:			9.96
Faith Direct			3,289.20
Children's Env.		17	102.00
Mail-ins:			2,403.00
TOTAL	1,099	320	\$16,085.39
2023	927	440	\$15,290.85
Candles			\$1,085.44
Poor Box			\$266.58
Solemnity of Mary			\$4,778.00

2023 OLPH CONTRIBUTION TAX LETTERS

Tax letters for the 2023 tax year will be prepared upon request only. Requests can be made by calling the Rectory: 631-226-7725 X 200. The Secretary will take your name, address & envelope number. The letters will be sent out *only upon request*. Thank you for your cooperation.



The new year is filled with hope and promise as we seek to grow our vital ministries, explore new ways to share the good news of Christ's love, and reflect His care and mercy to those in need throughout the community. To continue to make a difference in 2024, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish is reaching out to our parishioners.

Begin the new year with eGiving to help sustain and build ministries throughout 2024 that reflect the steadfast promise of God's loe. The need is great in our community, and your generous online gifts will help people all around us.

We prayerfully request that you consider signing up for eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet. You can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift by by visiting **faith.direct/NY286** or calling **866-507-8757**. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

mign. See_

God Bless You,

DEADLINES FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests for items printed in the bulletin must first have approval from Msgr. DeGrocco or the ministry moderator. *All material must be submitted as a Word document* to Carmel Becker at cbecker@oloph.org. no later than the dates listed below. *Editing and sizes are at the discretion of the editor.*

January 14—deadline passed January 21—January 12 deadline January 28—January 19 deadline



One Family - Tourneying together in Communion Participation and Mission



Thank you for your generous support of the 2023 Catholic Ministries Appeal.

Completing your 2023 pledge ensures that our Parish will benefit by receiving our full rebate. If you have not yet had the opportunity to give, please prayerfully consider making a donation to the Appeal. To give securely on line, please go to: https://www.drvc.org/donate/cma/

There's still time to make a gift.

Please remember that all pledges must be paid in full by January 31, 2024.

PREPARING FOR

Sunday, January 14, 2024 SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The next day John was there again with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God."

John 1:35-36

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19

We hear today how Samuel as a young man was called by God. At first, Samuel does not recognize the call as coming from God, something that we may have trouble with ourselves in our own lives. But the repetitiveness of God's calling to Samuel assures us that he does not easily quit on us. He keeps calling. He can call at any time or place, as he did while Samuel slept in the temple sacristy. We should always be ready to respond to God's call since active cooperation with God can yield astounding results.

1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20

Paul addresses the question of how to live as faithful disciples in a world that has other values. Sexual promiscuity is one of the problems Paul encounters in the port town of Corinth. Some Corinthian Christians believe that their bodies, like all mortal things, will pass away and they can therefore do anything they want. Paul thinks otherwise. He reminds them that in baptism, our body (and spirit) is given to Christ; hence, it belongs to Christ and is the temple of the Holy Spirit for that reason. We are reminded then of just how close we are to Christ and how much he loves his church.

John 1:35-42

Just as Eli introduced Samuel to the Lord, John the Baptist, in this Gospel, introduces two of his disciples to Jesus. John's ministry is (as is ours) to introduce others to Christ. When the two disciples begin to follow Jesus their eyes were opened to his true identity. Just so with us: when our eyes are opened to who Jesus truly is, we are invited to come and stay with Jesus and share his relationship with the Father. Having had their eyes opened, one of the two disciples, Andrew, seeks out his brother, Simon, and introduces him to Jesus. Jesus immediately changes Simon's name to Cephas, meaning "rock." Henceforth, Peter will have a key and central role in the new community of believers. Who knows what will happen when we introduce others to Christ?

Readings for the Week

Take time each day to read the daily readings of the Church.

Monday, January 8, 2024:

Isaiah 55:1-11 + Mark 1:7-11

Tuesday, January 9, 2024:

1 Samuel 1:9-20 + Mark 1:21-28

Wednesday, January 10, 2024:

1 Samuel 3:1-10, 19-20 + Mark 1:29-39

Thursday, January 11, 2024:

1 Samuel 4:1-11 + Mark 1:40-45

Friday, January 12, 2024:

1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a + Mark 2:1-12

Saturday, January 13, 2024:

1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1a + Mark 2:13-17

Sunday, January 14, 2024:

1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19

+ 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20

+ John 1:35-42

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Easton Properties Cell 631-374-1443

Joe Perrone

Licensed Assoc. Real Estate Broker

A life-long Lindenhurst resident helping friends and neighbors with their real estate needs for over 4 decades while being actively involved in our Church ministries and helping fellow Parishioners. A teacher/catechist for over 2 decades.

Joe.perrone@coldwellbanker.com

homas A. Brennan

Vincent Ayers Director

424 South Wellwood Ave., Lindenhurst, NY 11757 (631) 957-0300

Eileen Roque

Lindenhurst rlavorataesq@gmail.com 631-376-1301

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