

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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*“Destroy this temple
and in three days I will raise it up.”*

John 2:19

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

March 3, 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

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with the Our Lady of Perpetual Help App

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to download
our parish app

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- 2) Select our Parish after opening



Available on the **App Store** and **Google play**

myparishapp.com/appstore

Made with ❤️ by Diocesan

*New number
to download
the Parish App!*
Text to 55321

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is no longer in effect!*

 Calendar Events, Locations, RSVP	 Readings Daily Readings from USCCB
 Messages Easily connect all week	 Bulletin Convenient mobile access



THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of March 03, 2024

WATCH



Liturgical Living | Catholic All Year at Home w/ Kendra Tierney

Join the Tierney family as they celebrate the feast of Saint Frances of Rome, patroness of homemaking! Learn about practicing the corporal works of mercy in the home, the very Catholic Lenten history of pretzels and beer, and watch Kendra and three-year-old Barbara make something they like to call "trash can soup." Find this episode's feature recipes and more about liturgical living in the home at Catholic All Year. <https://catholicallyear.com/at-home/>.

LEARN



The Faithful Departed | Eternal Rest | Episode 4

What is left for the living to do after someone dies? In this session, we talk about the final ways in which those still living on earth care for the body and soul of the dead. We discuss the work that remains for the living to do as we grieve for the deceased and as we turn to the work of preparing for our own death, and the hope in which we live and die as Christians.

LISTEN



Death, Where is Your Sting? Sarah Kirchner's Story | Fearless | Episode 4

Despite our attempts to cheat it, we all must face death eventually. Listen as Chris shares the powerful story of Sarah Kirchner and her courageous battle against pediatric bone cancer. Who can bring us victory in the face of such significant trials? Find out in this lesson.

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



PASTOR'S COLUMN

Third Sunday of Lent

We're a good way into Lent now. Simplicity, a focus on conversion, renewal and new life, and a journey of thirsting for the waters of baptism at Easter — either renewing our baptism, or actual baptism for those being initiated into the Church — are all elements that should characterize these days in the desert with the Lord. Let's once again turn to the prayers of the Mass to express for us the meaning of the journey we are on.

In the Collect (Opening Prayer) for the Third Sunday of Lent, we petition God that *"we who are bowed down by our conscience may always be lifted up by your mercy."* Notice how clearly the prayer reminds us that God always runs to meet us with His forgiveness, lifting us up out of sin, when we are weighed down by our wrongdoing. God's grace is stronger than our sin, and God's power to bring us back is stronger than our waywardness when we stray from Him.

The Prayer over the Offerings reminds us of an important aspect of receiving God's forgiveness: that as recipients of forgiveness and mercy, we must also then become, in turn, agents who bestow that same mercy and forgiveness on others. In that prayer we pray, *"Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbor."* In order to rightly bring our "sacrificial offerings" — *i.e.*, in order to celebrate Mass worthily, which involves making a suitable and authentic offering of self — we must be reconciled with our brothers and sisters with whom we celebrate. We who have been forgiven must in turn forgive others.

This mercy and forgiveness of God, and sharing that mercy and forgiveness with others, leads to new life, now and in the life to come. We can never forget that the Eucharist is always a pledge of the life to come; thus, in the Prayer after Communion we pray, *"As we receive the pledge of things yet hidden in heaven and are nourished while still on earth with the Bread that comes from on high, we humbly entreat you, O Lord, that what is being brought about in us in mystery may come to true completion."* The Eucharist we celebrate here on earth is always a foretaste of the eternal banquet of which we hope to partake one day in heaven.

As always, there are so many rich spiritual themes to be derived from reflecting on and praying over the prayers we use at Mass, and I

encourage you to do so as a part of your Lenten meditations this week.

Parish Lenten Mission

This is it! It's here, and it begins this Sunday night: our PARISH LENTEN MISSION, this year being offered by Msgr. Jerry Ringenback. See the full details in the ad elsewhere in this bulletin. You heard Fr. Jerry speak at Mass this weekend, so you have a preview of what an amazing, uplifting, rewarding and enriching experience this will be. I personally look forward to being there and to hearing Fr. Jerry speak. Remember, he was the Spiritual Director of the Seminary when I was a seminarian studying for the priesthood, so we go way back, and I can attest that you will be glad you came to hear him and to participate in the Mission. Come for as many nights as you can — all three, I hope! It's Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, March 3, 4 and 5, at 7:30 p.m. in the church. Give yourself the treat of doing something spiritual by coming to the Mission — it's easy! All you have to do is show up with an open heart and a readiness for the Holy Spirit to touch you during these nights.

Of course, I have to hope that Fr. Jerry does not tell any stories about me! (Come and find out!)

Adult Faith Formation: The Responsorial Psalms of Lent

Remember to attend our sessions focused on the Responsorial Psalms during Lent. It's never too late to hop on board; each week is its own little session, so you can come at any time. What a great way to enrich your celebration of Sunday Mass! The sessions take place between the 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon Masses (so, it starts at about 11:15 a.m.) in the North Sacristy in the church. Look for the information about this elsewhere in this bulletin, and be sure to come to one or more of the sessions.

Stations of the Cross

Friday night Stations of the Cross continues this coming Friday, March 8; look for the information elsewhere in this bulletin. Our thanks go to all the parish groups who are taking turns to lead Stations of the Cross on Friday nights. This is a great Lenten spiritual practice to participate in. Come to Stations together as a family each Friday night, making it an opportunity for family prayer

time together!

Also, plan to attend the special Easter Time devotion, the Stations of the Resurrection, on Friday within the Octave of Easter ("Easter Friday"), April 5.

Sacramental forgiveness is available for sinners!

This coming week we'll reach the half-way point of Lent. What are your plans for getting to Confession if you have not already gone? I'll highlight Monday of Holy Week, March 25, as possibly the best time to go to Confession, because all the priests will be available constantly from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and then again 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on that day. However, there are still plenty of other opportunities to go, at the Saturday times, too, and starting this coming weekend we'll be having three (count 'em, three!) priests, and, at times, even all four of us, available, to make it easier for you to go and to accommodate what will be, I hope, an increase in the number of penitents. Of course, as always, you can also call or e-mail one of the priests and make a separate appointment to see him for Confession.

So...one way or another, see you for Confession!

Offer to have your feet washed on Holy Thursday

You can still offer to have your feet washed at our Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper. Don't be shy or embarrassed about this; there are many spiritual blessings that come your way by participating in the Mass in this manner.

We always try to get a good cross-representation of parishioners, so we're looking for young and old, boys and girls, men and women, actively-involved and not-so-actively-involved...you name it! You can respond by returning the response coupon found elsewhere in this bulletin. Keep in mind that since we always try to have a cross-representation of the parish, you may not get called this year because we want to balance out our representation of ages, gender, parish involvements, etc. If you're not asked this year, don't worry, and please don't be insulted; we will hold on to your name and keep it in the "pool" to be called in a future year.

Looking ahead to the Palm Sunday Procession

Finally, let me call your attention to a change this year from our usual routine; we're highlighting it in the bulletin box, but I'll mention it here for your long-range planning, since it is a

change from what we have done for many years now.

Our special Palm Sunday Procession, with Mass beginning in the auditorium, will take place at the 12:00 Noon Mass on Palm Sunday, not at the 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass, as it has in the past. This change was necessitated by the Lindenhurst St. Patrick Parade taking place on that Saturday of Palm Sunday weekend; given the use and closure of streets in the Village, including right in front of OLPH, in connection with the parade, it would not have worked to try to have a solemn and important liturgical event that afternoon. So, we moved it to the 12:00 Noon Mass on Sunday this year.

Actually, there's something to be said for this move beyond the simple practicality of it. The Solemn Procession is supposed to take place at the parish's principal Mass, and the 12:00 Noon has become comparable to (if not having surpassed) the 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass as (one of) the parish's principal Masses in terms of attendance. So, this change is hardly detrimental; it's just something different. We'll see how it goes; we might actually leave it at this Mass in the future, regardless of other factors.

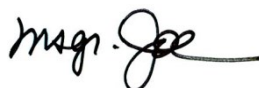
But do take note: this year, the 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass for Palm Sunday will be a regular Palm Sunday Mass, and the 12:00 Noon Sunday Mass on Palm Sunday will be our special Solemn Procession Mass beginning in the school auditorium. I hope you will make every effort to participate in the Solemn Procession Mass, whether or not you usually attend the 12:00 Noon Mass. This is one of the major parish liturgies of the year, and we should all make the extra effort to participate in these special liturgies, which should be seen as special family faith events for us as a parish community.

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,



PARISH LENTEN MISSION



**STARTS
TONIGHT!**

Parish Lenten Mission “Homecoming”

Sunday, March 3—Coming Home to Oneself

(How we see ourselves before God—our successes and failures)

Monday, March 4—Coming Home to God

(When and where we experience God’s presence and absence)

Tuesday, March 5—Coming Home to the Church

*(Reflection on the current issues facing the Church
and how we might respond)*

7:30 p.m. in the church

We need to come home to that place in our heart where God dwells, and where we are loved by God and others. This Parish Lenten Mission will take us on a journey—a Homecoming—which will bring us closer to ourselves, our God and our Church.

Given by Msgr. Jerry Ringenback
Retired Pastor of Good Shepherd Parish, Holbrook

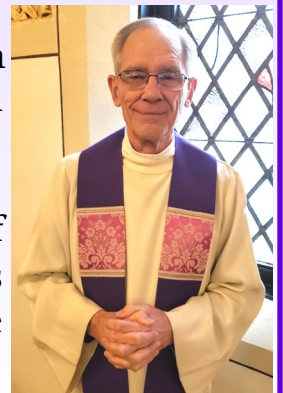
Why Make the Mission?

The Lenten Season—a time when we get our spiritual life in shape and prepare for Easter by prayer, fasting and acts of charity. Giving up 3 evenings in March is certainly a Lenten sacrifice given the busyness of life.

The Mission Talks—the theme of homecoming is meant to bring us to a deeper appreciation of ourselves as holy people, draw us into a deeper relationship with the Lord as healer, and renew our relationship with the church as human and divine.

A Moment of Grace—rarely is something we hear at a parish mission life-changing, but one insight, one awakening, one moment of grace can have an enduring impact on our lives.

The Presenter—Fr. Jerry Ringenback comes to us with many years of parish experience and retreat work as a priest of our diocese. He hopes to be an instrument of the Holy Spirit that will touch the hearts of the faithful.



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

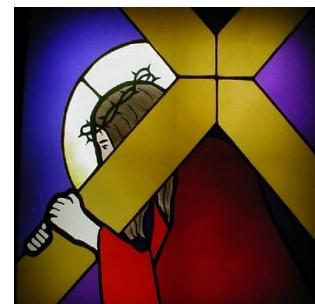
Stations of the Cross

Fridays

March 8, 15, 22

at 7:30 p.m. in the church

March 29 at 12:00 Noon



We are continuing the custom of having different groups from the parish lead the Stations of the Cross on the Friday nights during Lent as a great way to highlight the traditional Lenten devotion of the Stations of the Cross.

Friday, March 8 will be led by the Family Life Ministry & Children's Liturgy of the Word.

And also, save the date... Friday, April 5—Stations of the Resurrection!

L Turn away
E
N
T from sin

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays: March 9, 16

4:00 p.m.—4:45 p.m.

Saturday March 23: 3:00 p.m.—4:45 p.m.

Monday of Holy Week, March 25:

2:00—4:00 p.m. and 6:00—9:00 p.m.



Prepare Your Heart for the Coming of the Lord

This season of Lent, as we prepare for the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord, the Adult Faith Formation program at OLPH is offering an uplifting experience to make ready for the Solemnity of Easter. **Continuing every Sunday through March 17**, we will offer parishioners the opportunity to study the Responsorial Psalms used in each Sunday's celebration of the Eucharist. We will meet from 11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. each Sunday in the north sacristy of the church. Each session will feature a discussion of the themes of the Responsorial Psalm of the day, led by a member of the Pastoral Staff. Attend all of the sessions, or select those that fit your schedule. Handouts of the psalms will be provided. Come join us in breaking open the Word of the Lord.

MEETING FOR USHERS—HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

All Ushers are required to attend a special meeting on **Saturday, March 16 at 11:30 a.m.** in the church. At this very important meeting, we will review all the schedules and special information concerning all the Holy Week liturgies (Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday), in addition to reviewing other important business items. We will also formally install our new Ushers in their ministry. All Ushers are expected to attend, as this is one of the required semi-annual meetings for ongoing formation. Thank you. We look forward to seeing you there!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PARISHIONERS TO OFFER TO HAVE THEIR FEET WASHED ON HOLY THURSDAY

The Washing of Feet is one of the most beautiful and powerful moments in the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper. The action ritualizes the humble service of Jesus who came to serve and to lay down his life for us. The rite is also a powerful reminder of Jesus' command for us to imitate his humble service, and to wash each other's feet through acts of generous, self-emptying love.



Each year we select parishioners to have their feet washed, and we try to represent a good cross-section of the parish. **We would like to ask you to offer to have your feet washed at our Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper this year, on March 28.** This is a great opportunity for you to offer to be part of our Sacred Paschal Triduum in a very powerful way. Don't be shy about nominating yourself or someone else! It's OK for more than one member of the same family to be included! It's a great offering you would be giving to OLPH. If you are interested, simply return the response coupon below.

Young or old; long-time parishioner or new; male or female; involved in the parish or not-so-involved — we want to get a good cross-representation, and so we want YOU to come forward and offer yourself. Because we are trying to have a representative balance, please do not worry or be insulted if you submit your name but are not called this year — we'll hold on to your name for future years! Return the response form today!



YES! I would like to have my name included among those willing to have my feet washed on Holy Thursday, either this year or in a future year.

Name _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail _____

Age _____ *(sorry to ask...but we want to include a variety of ages!)*



If more than one member of your family would like to offer, you can make a copy of this or send in the information on your own paper, or list several names, if you would like to do it together.

SILENCE BEFORE MASS DURING LENT

WE'RE HIGHLIGHTING THE LENTEN SEASON BY FOCUSING ON SILENCE BEFORE MASS BEGINS

During the holy season of Lent, we're emphasizing that the time before Mass should be a time for silent prayer, when we prepare our hearts for an encounter with the Lord. Pope Francis once pointed out in one of his teachings, "When we go to Mass, maybe we arrive five minutes before, and we start to chitchat with those in front of us...[However,]... "it is not meant for chitchat. It is a moment of silence for preparing ourselves for dialogue, a time for the heart to collect itself in order to prepare for the encounter with Jesus." He added, "Silence is so important." The Pope also spoke about how the Mass is not a show, but a place where we encounter the Lord. In this encounter, he said, silence is what "prepares us and accompanies us."

During Lent, the Cantor will call everyone to silence five minutes before Mass begins. Let's all give each other the gift of silence, being quiet together in those last moments before Mass begins to prepare ourselves for Mass. Out of respect for each other, let's give each other that special gift. Maybe we can cultivate that habit inside us, and it will continue even after Lent! Thank you for your cooperation.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE

All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth (14th) year are bound to abstain entirely from meat on all the Fridays of Lent. All Catholics between the ages of eighteen (18) and fifty-nine (59) inclusive are also bound to observe the law of fast on Good Friday. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day. Those whose work or health would be impaired are excused from fast and abstinence. Individual conscience should decide proper cause for excuse. A more serious reason is required to excuse oneself from the Good Friday fast and abstinence.

REMINDER: CHILDREN'S BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE 10:00 a.m. MASS EACH WEEK

Remember that we have Children's Bulletins available at the end of the 10:00 a.m. Mass each week! These special Children's Bulletins are handed out at the end of the 10:00 a.m. Mass, or you can ask one of the Ushers for one. There are two bulletins for children, corresponding to two different age groups: one bulletin is for younger children, aged 3-6, and the other is for older children, aged 7-12. The idea is to take the bulletin home to reinforce the message of the Gospel. Ideally, after the child completes the bulletin, the family can talk about it together, as a way of bringing home the Gospel message and connecting our liturgical celebration in church with your family's faith life at home.

HELP NEEDED TO WATER THE EASTER FLOWERS

Help keep our beautiful Easter plants and flowers alive! We need people to offer to take turns to come in and water the Easter plants and flowers during the seven weeks of Easter Time, starting the week of April 1. It will take only a little while once or twice a week, starting on Tuesdays at 12:45 p.m., and Saturdays with times to be announced, so your commitment will be minimal. Your responsibility will end when we return to Ordinary Time after May 19 (Pentecost). It's a great way to do something helpful for the parish that does not require a huge ongoing commitment. It's something you can bring your child with you to do! Won't you help us out? Please contact Denise Martinez at countrydec02@gmail.com or by TEXT ONLY at (631) 575-9519 and she'll give you all the details and sign you up. Thank you!



THE PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

Special Procession to Commemorate the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem SUNDAY, MARCH 24 — 12:00 P.M. MASS



On Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, the Church recalls the entrance of Christ the Lord into Jerusalem to accomplish his Paschal Mystery. This is always such a great celebration for the parish!

Procession is at the **12:00 Noon Mass**

(not 5:00 p.m. — the 5 p.m. Mass will be a regular Mass for Palm Sunday)

For Sunday, March 24, please note:

- At 11:00 a.m., we are closing the church to all but the handicapped; people will be directed to the auditorium
- 12:00 Noon Mass begins in the auditorium, continues with the Procession, and continues in the church
- What a wonderful experience this has been in prior years, and will be again this year
- What a great way to pray and celebrate the mystery of Palm Sunday—with a Procession!
- In case of inclement weather, we will begin in the church



Even if you do not usually attend the 12:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, consider attending as together we begin the celebration of Holy Week.

PALM SUNDAY and EASTER SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULES:

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULES FOR THESE DAYS

Palm Sunday

Saturday, March 23

5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 24:

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

and 12:00 p.m. with Procession

(12:00 p.m. Mass begins in the auditorium)



SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR

Easter Sunday Masses

Saturday, March 30:

8:00 p.m. only

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

(NO 5:00 p.m. Mass)

Sunday, March 31:

7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

and 1:00 p.m.

*** note special times**



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.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

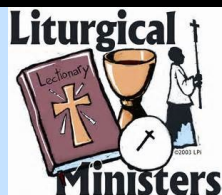


This weekend we celebrate at the Sunday 10:00 a.m. Mass the **First Scrutiny** of our elect preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist). These special prayer rites, called Scrutinies, are rites for self-searching and repentance. These Scrutinies are meant to heal all that is weak or sinful in the hearts of those about to be baptized and to strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good. These Scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ who is the way, the truth, and the life. These rites, therefore, should complete the conversion of the elect and deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all. For their part, the elect are expected particularly to progress in genuine self-knowledge through serious examination of their lives and true repentance.

Thus, three Scrutinies are celebrated, on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent, in order to inspire in the elect a desire for purification and redemption by Christ. The Scrutinies will be held at various parish Masses on those Sundays. Please remember to pray for our elect, Ameira, Helen, Diego, and Ailen, as they undergo this final stage of Lenten preparation for reception of the Easter sacraments.

THE NEXT SCRUTINY WILL BE CELEBRATED NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 10, AT THE 10:00 a.m. MASS.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY TRAINING



WE NEED YOU! WE WANT YOU!

OLPH IS RECRUITING NEW LECTORS, USHERS AND EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

What do Extraordinary Ministers do?

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion assist the priests and deacons in the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass. Those who wish can also go on for extra training to bring Holy Communion to our homebound sisters and brothers.

How Do I Become An Extraordinary Minister?

1. You must contact Barbara McPhail at 631-226-1354 or e-mail to gospa254@gmail.com.
2. You must send a letter to Msgr. Joe at the Parish Office or e-mail to msgrjoe@oloph.org requesting to become a minister.
3. You must meet with Msgr. Joe for an interview.
4. You must attend one of the diocesan training sessions (see below). If you wish to also bring Holy Communion to the sick and homebound, you must attend a separate "Part B" training session. Information about that session can be obtained in your interview with Msgr. Joe.

What do Lectors do?

Lectors proclaim the Scriptures and sometimes the Intercessions at Sunday and daily Mass and at other liturgies.



How Do I Become A Lector?

1. You must contact Robert Becker at 631-226-6175 or email to DeaconRobert9550@gmail.com
2. You must attend one of the diocesan training sessions.

LECTORS

Tuesday, April 16, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
at St. Elizabeth Parish, Melville
(Our own Msgr. Joe will be the presenter at this one on April 16!)

Saturday, April 27, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
at Immaculate Conception Parish, Westhampton Beach*

Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
at St. Christopher Parish, Baldwin

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, "PART A" FOR ALL MINISTERS

Tuesday, April 16, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
at St. Elizabeth Parish, Melville
(Our own Msgr. Joe will be the presenter at this one on April 16!)

Saturday, April 27, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon
at Immaculate Conception Parish, Westhampton Beach*

Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
at St. Christopher Parish, Baldwin

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, "PART B" FOR THOSE WHO WILL BRING COMMUNION TO THE SICK

Saturday, April 27, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.,
at Immaculate Conception Parish, Westhampton Beach*

Tuesday, May 14, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
at St. Elizabeth Parish, Melville

Tuesday, June 4, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
at St. Christopher Parish, Baldwin

**Same day, Parts A and B—bring lunch or leave for lunch and return*

What do Ushers do?

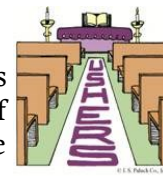
Ushers serve an important role in the liturgy! First and foremost, they are ministers of hospitality who welcome all those who come to liturgy. They help create an environment conducive to worship by the way they greet people with warmth and friendliness. Ushers also serve by guiding the movement of the assembly during processions such as the reception of Holy Communion and at other times. Taking up the collection is another way Ushers serve the assembly.

Who Should Become an Usher?

Anyone, including teens who have received Confirmation, can become an Usher. This is a great ministry for families to do together...the young ones can do this with parents and older children!

How Do I Become an Usher?

You should contact Mike Williams at olphushersministry@gmail.com or, if you don't have e-mail, leave a message for Msgr. Joe at the Parish Office, 631-226-7725 and he will pass the message along to Mike.



All liturgical ministers must complete a Volunteer Registration Form, have Virtus training and be a registered parishioner. For information about becoming Virtus compliant: contact Helene Calabrese at hcalab2@optonline.net.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Taizé Prayer Around the Cross

**Thursday, March 14th
7:30 p.m. in church**



Join us for a candlelight prayer service to help us reflect on the mystery of the Cross and the glory of Christ's resurrection. Consider setting aside 45 minutes to join in this beautiful and contemplative form of prayer.

SAVE THE DATE

**Our Annual Spring Concert Returns
May 10th, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.**

We are in need of empty baskets as well as items to be raffled off or even completed baskets with raffle prizes. We are looking for baskets to be worth at least \$50. Items must be brand new. Gift cards of any amount and scratch off lottery tickets are also most welcome. If you have an extra bottle of wine laying around the house, we'll take that too. Items can be brought to the rectory anytime before Sunday, May 5.

Thank you for your support of our Ministry

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)

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

BIBLE CAMP:

Remember that the Bible Camp Preview Day is next Sunday, March 10, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. A registration discount is available! There is also a Bible Camp Planning Meeting on March 7 at 4:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

LEVEL 2 and SPCOM:

Remember that there is the Parent Meeting for First Holy Communion, this Saturday, March 9, during the child’s class time.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!!

Early Registration for returning families began March 1st. There is a \$30 discount for all families that register before May 31st. After June 1st, the regular registration fee will be in effect for ALL registrations. For any late registrations that come in after July 31st there will be an additional \$30 late fee. We continue to encourage all families with children who will be beginning 1st grade (or older) who have not yet begun religious education to register for religious education. All new families must schedule an appointment in order to register and must come with a baptismal certificate.

Saint of the Day!

St. Mark

St. Mark is one of the four Gospel writers. His Gospel is the second in the four Holy Gospels. According to the New Testament, he was close to St. Paul, St. Barnabas, and St. Peter. He is not one of the Holy Apostles; however, many people believe that he was there when Jesus was put under arrest on Holy Thursday. St. Mark was martyred in Alexandria by being dragged through the streets for preaching the Word.



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—cdfeldman@optonline.net
- † Hospital Visitors: Peter O’Neill—631.226.6340—oneillp@optonline.net
- † Respect Life Ministry: Louise Perrotta—631.412.3831—louiseperrotta123@gmail.com
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Valerie Baxter—631.226.7725, x. 234
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker Paolo—631.226.6175—jbecker@oloph.org

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.

In today’s Gospel Jesus is asked, “What sign can you show us?” Every day we can see signs of how God has visited us in the blessings of our lives. Let us be a sign of God’s love by being a blessing to others.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can be a sign of God’s love to the suffering and poor.

NEW Food Pantry List!

- SHELF STABLE WHOLE MILK**
- SOUPS WITH MEAT**
- CANNED MEAT**
- CANNED MEALS**
- GRAVY/BROTH**
- INSTANT POTATOES**
- PASTA**
- PREPARED PASTA SAUCE**
- CEREAL**
- CANNED FRUIT**

Thank you
for your continued generosity.

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

THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

*During Lent please remember the Poor Boxes.
Each week the amount collected in the Poor Boxes
is listed in our bulletin.*

*You may wonder where that money goes.
Every coin, bill or check goes directly to our parish’s St. Vincent
de Paul Society to help serve those in need within our parish.
We use the funds to directly serve our neighbors who need food,
rent assistance or help paying a utility bill.
We are grateful to those who remember the Poor Boxes weekly.
Thank you for helping us help others.*



IS THE **BLUE** DOOR BOUTIQUE THE MINISTRY FOR YOU?

Perhaps you feel you are way too busy to add anything to your crowded schedule, so you feel you cannot offer your time and talents to the many ministries at OLPH.

Or perhaps you are more of a “background person”.

Well, here’s a ministry to consider: *The **Blue Door Thrift Boutique***.

The time requirement is minimal, just three hours every two weeks, and the rewards are great.

WE NEED YOU!

The **Blue Door Thrift Boutique** is a hidden gem. It is decorated with style and grace and is a warm and welcoming shop. We serve the local community, selling gently used clothing, dinnerware, glassware, linens, accessories, home décor, jewelry, gift items and knickknacks at literally the lowest prices in our area.

We also work hand in hand with St. Vincent de Paul Society to provide clothing vouchers for their clients. Everything is donated, and all proceeds go directly for social service programs of OLPH. In fact, since our opening we have generated over \$67,000 for our parish!

Over the years, some of us have moved, retired or are no longer able to continue, so we need more people to keep and maybe even increase this level of charitable donations to our parish community.

The **Blue Door** is open from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Why not stop by to check us out? Maybe you can help in a ministry after all!



Save the Date
Auction/ Trivia Night
April 19th, 7:00 p.m.
Admission \$5



RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Creating Dialogue on Abortion to Reach Hearts and Minds



Long Island Coalition for Life

Learn to create a productive abortion conversation with anyone. **March 9:** Sons of Italy Hall (2075 Deer Pk Ave, Deer Park, NY 11729) Part I: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (Check in at 8:45 a.m.) Part II: 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. (Check in at 12:45 p.m.) *Note:* Each part includes different content. You may attend one or the other, or attend both for the best experience. Lunch is provided free for any participant, but please register if planning to eat. For more information contact the special LICL link below. Cost: no entrance fee but a donation of \$10 or any amount at the event will help defray costs

and support LICL. Learn More and Register: www.jfaweb.org/2024/03-09-ny Sponsored by Long Island Coalition for Life 631-243-1435 • info@prolifeLI.org

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	210	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	206	msgrjoe@oloph.org
Fr. Fidelis Ezeani, Associate Pastor	226	fadaprince4christ@yahoo.com
Faith Formation Office	253	religioused@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@oloph.org
Fr. Emmanuel Okonkwo	223	emmaokons@yahoo.com
Rectory Reception Desk	200	
St. Vincent de Paul	234	stvincentdepaul@oloph.org
Josephine Vagelatos, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor	206	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

WE CELEBRATE

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, has freed you from sin, given you new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and joined you to his people.—Order of Baptism of Children



Giuseppe Micheal Attaguile

We welcome the newest members of the Catholic community here at OLPH!

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.

PERPETUAL HELP MASS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024 6:30 A.M. MASS

<i>For the Repose of the Souls of the McCarthy Family</i>	<i>Requested by the Estate of Rev. Thomas J. McCarthy</i>
<i>Rev. Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton</i>	<i>Requested by the Estate of Rev. Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton</i>

WE REMEMBER

*We remember those who have died in our parish.
"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...

<i>Robin Kaufman</i>	<i>Genevieve Popiel</i>
<i>Laurell Desner</i>	<i>Little Joanie Giarratano</i>
<i>Marge Sheehan</i>	<i>James Gridley</i>
<i>Lisa Byme</i>	<i>Erin Kelly</i>
<i>Christopher Santiago</i>	<i>Catherine Wharry</i>
<i>Tyler Qualls</i>	<i>Mary Doran</i>
<i>Raffaella Laurice</i>	<i>John Jordan</i>
<i>Lina Avila</i>	<i>Thomas Volpe</i>
<i>Evelyn Pulla</i>	<i>Nora McMahan</i>
<i>Anthony Pokorney</i>	<i>Patricia & Richard Kleczekowski</i>
<i>Tom Ferris</i>	<i>Susan Walters</i>
<i>Christine Ajello-Larsen</i>	<i>Ritchie and MaryAnn Haas</i>
<i>Michael Murphy</i>	

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.

The Bereavement Ministry assists anyone who has experienced a loss of a loved one and helps the person grow through their grief.

Joining a Support Group, with the help of trained facilitators, will help the person strengthening their faith in themselves and God.

Our Spring Bereavement will start up on **March 16 to May 18**
from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Registration required.

Please contact Linda Arpino 631-592-1062 or Forubabe77@aol.com for information.

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, March 4— Lenten Weekday <i>(Saint Casimir)</i>	
6:30	Ronald R. Scudder
12:15	Barbara Governale (Living)
TUESDAY, March 5— Lenten Weekday	
6:30	Ronaldo Y. Abesamis
12:15	Brittany Marie Evans
WEDNESDAY, March 6— Lenten Weekday	
6:30	Perpetual Help Mass <i>(Listing on p. 18)</i>
12:15	Dolores P. Otten
THURSDAY, March 7— Lenten Weekday <i>(Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs)</i>	
6:30	Joseph Abbamonte
12:15	Lucy Bennardo
FRIDAY, March 8— Lenten Weekday <i>(Saint John of God, Religious)</i>	
6:30	Sylvia Ingrao
12:15	Alice & John Manning (Living)
SATURDAY, March 9— Lenten Weekday <i>(Saint Frances of Rome, Religious)</i>	
8:00	Arthur Joseph Randazzo
Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated): FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	
5:00	For the People of the Parish
Sunday, March 10— FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	
8:00	Frank Farrugia
10:00	Anthony Cassio
12:00	Maria Laura Barberio

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, March 4, 2024		
9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 23
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Room 12
12:45 p.m.	Devotions	Church
5:00 p.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Church
7:30 p.m.	Parish Mission	Church
Tuesday, March 5, 2024		
6:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
7:30 p.m.	Parish Mission	Church
Wednesday, March 6, 2024		
9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 23
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Room 12
12:45 p.m.	Exposition	Church
2:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary (631-412-3831 for information)	Off Campus
6:30 p.m.	Level 6, 7 and 8 Classes	School
Thursday, March 7, 2024		
1:00 p.m.-on	Church closed for cleaning	Church
4:00 p.m.	Bible Camp Meeting	Auditorium
5:30 p.m.	CYO	Auditorium
7:00 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Group	Cafeteria
7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous	Room 24
Friday, March 8, 2024		
9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 23
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Room 12
7:30 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	Church
Saturday, March 9, 2024		
8:30 and 10:00 a.m.	Levels 1-5 and Sp. Ed. Classes	School
4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
6:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
Sunday, March 10, 2024		
10:00 a.m.	Bible Camp Preview Day	Auditorium
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.

Lecturas del Domingo 3º de Cuaresma - Ciclo B 03-03-2024

Primera Lectura (Ex 20,1-17): Los Mandamientos: Carta de la Fidelidad a la Alianza

Dios dio sus diez mandamientos a su Pueblo, no tanto como leyes a obedecer, sino como carta de su libertad. Siguiendo los mandamientos, expresarían su lealtad y fidelidad al Dios altísimo siempre fiel, al Dios de la Alianza.

Segunda Lectura (1Cor 1,22-25): ¿Es Cristo una Piedra de Escándalo?

Para los que observan desde fuera, la muerte de Jesús en la cruz es una locura o un escándalo Pero para los que creen, es fuente de vida.

Evangelio (Juan 2,13-25) Jesús se encuentra con un mercado, un comercio de animales y monedas (no tenía sentido cargar con bueyes desde los lugares de origen y eran necesarios cambistas porque se podía hacer la ofrenda con monedas propias del tiempo, sin efigies de dioses extranjeros). Imaginemos la escena. Jesús, ante lo que ve, no habla, actúa (los verbos de los vv. 14-15 tienen a Jesús por sujeto) y las acciones descritas se suceden vertiginosamente. Después de actuar, habla. Sus palabras y sus hechos alteran el jolgorio del ambiente. Jesús le da al templo un nuevo nombre, lo llama *casa de mi Padre*, donde tiene su morada. La casa de su Padre no es un mercado. La presencia del Padre debe ocupar el corazón; todo lo demás sobra. La dignidad de la casa del Padre explica su actuación. Realiza un acto de purificación del templo, que estaba siendo profanado. Jesús tiene una idea muy distinta de lo que es la *casa del Padre*; no permanece indiferente ante los abusos. Jesús llama a Dios *mi Padre*.

Jesús contestó: «Destruid este templo, y en tres días lo levantaré».

Los judíos replicaron: «Cuarenta y seis años ha costado construir este templo, ¿y tú lo vas a levantar en tres días?». Es el típico recurso Juanico del malentendido en el que se habla de lo mismo pero cada uno se refiere a una cosa. Jesús expresa la verdad más profunda del templo y de los sacrificios ligándola a sí mismo. Jesús presenta su gran signo: su muerte violenta y su resurrección. Al matarlo van a dar cumplimiento a lo que ha dicho. Las autoridades malinterpretan las palabras de Jesús. La meta del camino de Jesús es la muerte, pero la última palabra será la que pronuncie el Padre levantando y resucitando, a Jesús. Jesús es la perfecta casa del Padre. Los judíos no podrán impedir que el celo de Jesús por su Padre llegue hasta la máxima expresión de amor: dar la vida. En el misterio pascual se realizará *la adoración en espíritu y verdad*.



Recordando con mucho cariño a nuestra querida e inolvidable Cira. Rogando a Dios por su descanso eterno y Fortaleza para sus Padres familiares y amigos.

OFFERING UPDATE February 24/25			
Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	272	91	\$2,446.00
8:00 a.m.	175	82	2,453.00
10:00 a.m.	324	87	3,059.00
12:00 p.m.	360	93	2,655.00
Total coin:			9.68
Faith Direct			3,420.75
Children's Env.		17	45.00
Mail-ins:			558.00
TOTAL	1,131	370	\$14,646.43
2023	1,136	366	\$16,044.74
Candles			\$696.43
Poor Box			\$221.90



Next week, **March 10**, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

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.



**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.

- March 10—deadline passed
- March 17—March 8 deadline
- March 24—March 15 deadline



**TO OUR NEW OLPH
PARISHIONERS**

- Patricia Graff and Stanley Graff*
- Robert & Nicole Gut*
- Alfredo & Marly Nieto*
- John, Melissa, Gianna & Samantha Morales*
- Carol Leeds*
- Nicolo & Marian Cuison Sabio*
- Julianna Muscietta*
- Jason & Marina Vides Molina*

Important Diocese of Rockville Centre Information

Information regarding a new deadline to file proofs of claim for victims of sexual abuse who were 18 or older when the alleged conduct occurred, and the forms to use, can be found by clicking on the following link to the Diocese's bankruptcy website and scrolling down the page: <https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc>

PREPARING FOR Sunday, March 10, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

*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.*

John 3:16

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23

In this reading we hear how God acted with compassion when the Jewish people sinned. In particular, the kingdom of Judah was being led by kings and priests who ignored God's words by worshipping idols and being unjust in their affairs. Worse still, they mocked the prophets and messengers he sent to call them back. They were stuck in their sin. Then God did what appears to be a harsh thing – he allowed them to be conquered by their enemies and taken captive. For seventy long years they languished in Babylon until God used King Cyrus to allow them to return home and rebuild the Temple. God not only justly punished the people for their obstinate sin but gave them a second chance. It's good to know that God will have compassion on us and offer us a second chance when we sin.

Ephesians 2:4-10

We hear again in this section of Paul's letter how God is "rich in mercy" and compassion because of the great love he has for us. For when we are spiritually dead in our sins God will raise us to new life through Christ. He gives us "the immeasurable riches of his grace in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus." Just like God allowed the Israelites a second chance through no effort of their own, God will save us through no efforts of our own: "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works, so no one may boast." What good news indeed!

John 3:14-21

A Pharisee named Nicodemus came to Jesus with questions at night because he was too afraid to come during the day for fear of what others might think. Jesus tells him to walk in the light of the truth because only those who love evil prefer the darkness. The light of the truth can be summed up in that one famous sentence we see at football games and elsewhere – John 3:16 – which says that "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." Wonderful news indeed!

Gospel Reflection

After reading next Sunday's readings take some time to pray on them before you come to Mass. Use the questions below to aid your reflection.

1. "For God so loved the world that he sent his only Son ..." So what is your job? Are you one who will tell the world about this love? Name some ways (other than preaching) that you can do this. Might you run into difficulties at times? Is it true that you are not alone and that you will always receive the grace you need?

2. Nicodemus had been searching quietly for God in his life. Jesus said to him, "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." According to Pope Francis, Jesus told Nicodemus that God was seeking Nicodemus first, loving him first and waiting for him to return love. Does that hold true for us too?

"Today's Gospel 'sets the stage' for Nicodemus, who, while playing an important role in the religious and civil community of the time, has not ceased seeking God. He did not think: 'I have arrived'; he did not cease seeking God ... In the nighttime dialogue with the Nazarene, Nicodemus finally understood that he had already been sought and awaited by God, that he was personally loved by Him. God always seeks us first, awaits us first, loves us first. ... In fact Jesus speaks to him in this way: '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'(John 3:16)."

*Angelus, Saint Peter's Square
Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity
Sunday 11 June 2017*

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, March 4, 2024:

2 Kings 5:1-15ab + Luke 4:24-30

Tuesday, March 5, 2024:

Daniel 3:25, 34-43
+ Matthew 18:21-35

Wednesday, March 6, 2024:

Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9
+ Matthew 5:17-19

Thursday, March 7, 2024:

Jeremiah 7:23-28 + Luke 11:14-23

Friday, March 8, 2024:

Hosea 14:2-10 + Matthew 12:28-34

Saturday, March 9, 2024:

Hosea 6:1-6 + Luke 18:9-14

Sunday, March 10, 2024:

2 Chronicles 36:14-16, 19-23
+ Ephesians 2:4-10
+ John 3:14-21

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