

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



myParish app!

Daily Readings - Parish Updates - Weekly Bulletin & more!

Download instructions on page 2

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*And Mary kept all these things,
reflecting on them in her heart.*

Luke 2:19

**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD,
THE OCTAVE DAY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

January 1, 2023

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

Business Manager: Ms. Jill Marie Delano

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

Music Director: Mr. Christopher Reilly

Deacon Frank Odin, Retired

COME AND PRAY...

Our church is open **each day until 6:30 p.m.**,
except on Thursdays (closed after the
12:15 p.m. Mass, for cleaning)
and on holidays (closed after the 12:15 p.m. Mass).

Come in and spend some time in prayer!

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. (live-streamed), 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

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.*

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.

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.

SUPPORT OLPH THROUGH AMAZON.COM



AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support OLPH every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to OLPH.

Use our custom link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/11-1797184>.

Support
**Our Lady of Perpetual
Help Church.**

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)



DOWNLOAD THE OLPH APP

Text **App** to **55321**
to download
our parish app

- 1) Download **myParish App**
- 2) Select our Parish after opening



myparishapp.com/appstore

Made with ♥ by Diocesan

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!
Cards are available on the pew ledges
as long as supply lasts.*



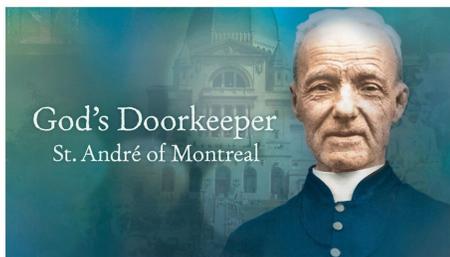
THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of January 01, 2023

WATCH

LEARN

LISTEN



Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

PASTOR'S PAGE

Happy New Year!

I take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy, healthy and holy New Year! May the upcoming year of 2023 be filled with an abundance of blessings and good health for all of us!

I know that OLPH will continue to be “the place to be” in 2023 because TOGETHER we will continue to be open to the Lord’s will for us, and we will allow the Holy Spirit to guide us as we seek to do our part in building up the Kingdom of God here in Lindenhurst. Remember in the year ahead to always be grateful for the many blessings God constantly showers upon on us; to my mind, gratitude is the primary and indispensable Christian spiritual attitude from which all else flows.

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

This Sunday, January 1, aside from being New Year’s Day, is the Octave (Eighth Day) of the Nativity of the Lord, and it is also the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Falling on a Sunday this year, of course we’re obligated to attend Mass, although this day is a Holy Day of Obligation when it’s not on a Sunday.

How beautiful it is to have a feast of the Blessed Mother so prominent during Christmas Time! One of the most outstanding characteristics of Mary is her willingness to know and do God’s will. While we would like to follow her example, we often find it difficult to do so, don’t we? Do we have a clue that could help us imitate Mary more perfectly? I think the Gospel for the Mass of this Solemnity gives us that clue, words that I am always struck by: “*And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.*” She reflected on events that had happened and that were unfolding before her eyes. In other words, she meditated! Don’t we need to do that more — to stop, reflect, meditate, ponder, and even, at times, just wonder (with a sense of awe!) at what God has done and is doing? God is always manifesting Himself, but we often miss it. Often we simply just don’t spend as much time in prayer as we should. It can be a wonderful source of spiritual nourishment for us to quiet down, to pray and to

meditate a little more, and so to rediscover a sense of wonder and awe about being in a never-ending love relationship with God. Hmm...rediscovering and renewing our love relationship with God, through daily prayer — talk about a great New Year’s resolution to make! Would you be willing to make that yours?

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

I take this opportunity to offer a tremendous THANK YOU to EVERYONE who gave so much of themselves in helping us to celebrate such reverent and prayerful Christmas Masses. To all of you who offered your time and your service in tasks such as serving in a liturgical ministry, cleaning, decorating, arranging, and any of the other behind-the-scenes or in-front-of-the-scenes tasks: you are to be commended for your devotion to OLPH and for your good work during those days! Our liturgical life together is one of the main things that makes OLPH “the place to be,” and everyone who offers their time and talent in service to our worship is an important part of that. THANK YOU to all!

Thank you for all the Christmas gifts and goodies!

Fr. Fidelis, Fr. Frank, Fr. Emmanuel and I take this opportunity to thank all of you who sent goodies and other Christmas gifts and greetings to the rectory, and to us individually. We are very grateful for your thoughtfulness and generosity. Thanks to everyone for taking such good care of your priests!

First Penance

This coming Saturday, January 7, 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.

Baptism at 10:00 a.m. Mass next Sunday, January 8, the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Normally we try to celebrate Baptism at the 10:00 a.m. Mass on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, but this is one of those years when the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord will be celebrated on a Monday (January 9). However, I'm thrilled that we'll have the opportunity to celebrate an infant baptism at the 10:00 Mass on the Solemnity of the Epiphany — another very appropriate day for baptizing! — which is next Sunday, January 8.

We'll have one infant, Luke Steven Cassidy, being baptized. Parents Patrick and Leslie, along with their oldest child Finn, are regulars at the 10:00 a.m. Mass, so this will be a real occasion of joy and communal faith for our parish. All the children present at the 10:00 Mass next week will be invited to come forward into the sanctuary to witness the Baptism up close!

Come join us in this special celebration at the 10:00 a.m. Mass next Sunday if you are able.

Ministry Directory

We have released an updated edition of our parish Ministry Directory, a booklet listing all the different ministries, societies and organizations in the parish, giving a brief description of each one and also giving the information as to how anyone can become involved. Its purpose is to be a tool to increase involvement and engagement in the life of the parish. In an effort to use resources in the most cost-effective way possible, we have printed only a small number of hard copies, to keep on hand

in the rectory (stop in and ask for one if you would like one). The Ministry Directory is always available online at our website, and everyone is invited to refer to it there, or to download it and print it out from there. It is also available on our Parish App. So, look for the 2023 Ministry Directory!

Brick Memorialization

Finally, I'll take this opportunity to remind you that our brick memorialization program is ongoing. You can memorialize a brick in our "Let the Children Come to Me Prayer Garden" as a great way to start the new year! The flyer and the form are in this bulletin, so take advantage of the opportunity as soon as you can. It's a great way to memorialize a prayer intention, or to honor a deceased loved one. The profits from the bricks are an important component in working toward a healthy financial picture for the parish. Tell family and friends about this; remember, you don't have to be a parishioner of OLPH, or even be Catholic, to memorialize a brick!

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,



EPIPHANY PROCLAMATION NEXT WEEK

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. Next weekend, after the Gospel at Mass, our cantors will chant this ancient announcement.



SPECIAL CARDS FOR THE EPIPHANY BLESSING OF YOUR HOME

It is traditional for families to bless their home on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, which takes place next Sunday, January 8, 2023. In next week's bulletin we will have special information about blessing your home on Epiphany. We will also have available special cards which may be used in the blessing and placed above your doorway, to remain there for the entire upcoming year. Please look for these special cards available throughout the church next weekend.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

**NEXT SUNDAY A CHILDREN'S HOMILY WILL BE ON OUR
YOUTUBE CHANNEL - OLPH CHURCH LINDENHURST.
LISTEN TO THE READINGS AND A REFLECTION ON THE
GOSPEL!**



**Participating in the
Children's Liturgy of the
Word continues to teach
children how to participate
in Mass, since they do the
same things that are being
done in the main body of
the church**



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

*Mass for all People
With Special Needs*

*All are welcome to
come celebrate Mass with us
the first Saturday of each month!*

Next Mass:
Saturday, January 7
4:00 p.m.
in the School Auditorium

Please join us at our Special Needs Mass, a Mass for those who have Special Needs and for those who care for them.

After Mass we have hospitality to introduce the ministry members to the people who attend the Mass.

We can use some help in preparing for our monthly Mass and other special needs events. How about you? Contact Jessica Paolo at 631-226-7725 X 252 or email to jbecker@oloph.org

GLUTEN-FREE HOSTS

Gluten-free hosts are available for those with Celiac Disease who cannot receive Holy Communion using the usual bread. If you need to receive Holy Communion using a gluten-free host, please stop in the sacristy before Mass to discuss this with the priest. We will be happy to accommodate you.



FIRST FRIDAY

AND

SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

*All are invited to come
and pray with our parish community.*

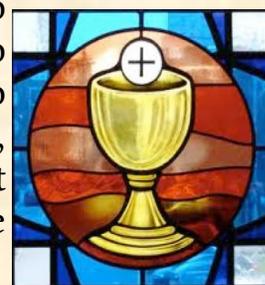
First Friday Devotions will take place **January 6** after the 6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Masses.

First Saturday Devotions—in honor of Our Lady of Fatima—will be conducted Saturday, **January 7** beginning with the Rosary at 7:40 a.m., Mass at 8:00 a.m. and continued devotion following Mass.

Each month, all are invited to join the members of the Nocturnal Adoration Society for Eucharistic Adoration beginning at 6:30 p.m. Reflecting the diverse community present at OLPH, each hour of the evening is celebrated in different languages (English, Spanish, Polish). The evening concludes with Benediction at 9:30 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.



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.



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.

LIVE-STREAM MASS

We live-stream the **10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass** each week.

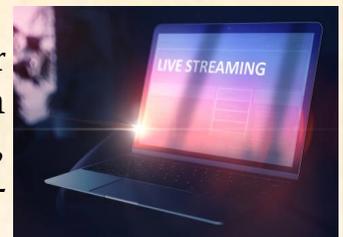
You can join us virtually using one of the following:

- The link at the top of the OLPH website:
www.olphlindenhurst.com
- OLPH YouTube Channel:
OLPH Church Lindenhurst



JOIN OUR LIVE-STREAM TEAM

We need new members to join our Live-Stream Team either for weekdays or weekends. If you are tech savvy, interested in broadcasting techniques and are willing to help record our liturgies, please contact Fr. Frank Zero at the rectory office at (631) 226-7725 or email fzero@oloph.org.



LIVING THE EUCHARIST

A GIFT IS WAITING FOR YOU IN THE NEW YEAR: PARISH LENTEN MISSION 2023

“THE EUCHARIST IS THE SOURCE AND SUMMIT OF CHRISTIAN LIFE”
——*Lumen Gentium* (Light to the Nations)



February 21 – March 28

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.

See the sign-up sheet in our upcoming bulletins.

For more information, contact Jim Totino at jtotino01@gmail.com

Deadline to join is February 5, 2023

Living the Eucharist 2023 LENTEN SIGN-UP FORM

To be completed by each participant.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: HOME _____ CELL _____

EMAIL: _____

AGE (if under 21): _____

Six Weekly Small Group Gatherings:

Dates: Tuesdays - February 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21, and 28

Location: School building (classrooms to be assigned)

Time: 7:00–8:30 p.m.

Yes, I will attend the six sessions _____

No, I cannot attend but am interested in participating in the program _____

Please return this form to the Rectory. **The material will be distributed on the first day of Class.**

View the introductory video for *Living the Eucharist* at <https://www.pemdc.org/programs/living-the-eucharist/>

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

POPE FRANCIS ON LITURGICAL FORMATION

APOSTOLIC LETTER OF POPE FRANCIS

On June 29, 2022, the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Pope Francis released his Apostolic Letter Desiderio Desideravi, On the Liturgical Formation of the People of God. It is an exquisite summary of liturgical theology and a call for serious and vital liturgical formation for all Catholics. In this letter, the Holy Father addresses the nature of sacramental encounter, of symbols and symbolic language, of the art of celebration, and the need to engage all the baptized in the fruitful celebration of the Paschal Mystery.

Each week we are presenting a small selection of the letter for your reading and reflection and this will continue until the entire text has been presented. The full text can be found on the Vatican website at

https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/20220629-lettera-ap-desiderio-desideravi.html

46. Above all we must reacquire confidence about creation. I mean to say that things — the sacraments “are made” of things — come from God. To Him they are oriented, and by Him they have been assumed, and assumed in a particular way in the Incarnation, so that they can become instruments of salvation, vehicles of the Spirit, channels of grace. In this it is clear how vast is the distance between this vision and either a materialistic or spiritualistic vision. If created things are such a fundamental, essential part of the sacramental action that brings about our salvation, then we must arrange ourselves in their presence with a fresh, non-superficial regard, respectful and grateful. From the very beginning, created things contain the seed of the sanctifying grace of the sacraments.

47. Still thinking about how the Liturgy forms us, another decisive question is the education necessary to be able to acquire the interior attitude that will let us use and understand liturgical symbols. Let me express it in a simple way. I have in mind parents, or even more perhaps, grandparents, but also our pastors and catechists. Many of us learned the power of the gestures of the liturgy from them, as, for example, the sign of the cross, kneeling, the formulas of our faith. Perhaps we do not have an actual memory of such learning, but we can easily imagine the gesture of a larger hand taking the little hand of a child and accompanying it slowly in tracing across the body for the first time the sign of our salvation. Words accompany the movement, these also said slowly, almost as if wanting to take possession of every instant of the gesture, to take possession of the whole body: “In the name of the Father... and of the Son... and of the Holy Spirit.... Amen.” And then the hand of the child is left alone, and it is watched repeating it all alone, with help ready nearby if need be. But that gesture is now consigned, like a habit that will grow with Him, imparting to it a meaning that only the Spirit knows how. From that moment forward that gesture, its symbolic force, is ours, it belongs to us; or better said, we belong to it. It gives us form. We are formed by it. Not many discourses are needed here. It is not necessary to have understood everything in that gesture. What is needed is being small, both in consigning it and in receiving it. The rest is the work of the Spirit. In this way we are initiated into symbolic language. We cannot let ourselves be robbed of such richness. Growing up we will have more ways of being able to understand, but always on the condition of remaining little ones.

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

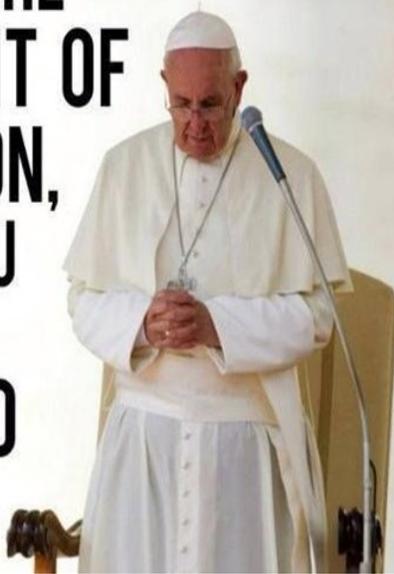
Located in the Rectory
 Phone # 631.226.7725 x. 253
 Email: religioused@oloph.org
 Director: Mrs. April Kleinlaut
 (akleinlaut@oloph.org)

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: 9:00 a.m. –5:00 p.m.
 Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Wednesday: 12:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m.
 Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Friday: CLOSED
 Saturday: By Appointment

**DON'T BE AFRAID
 TO GO TO THE
 SACRAMENT OF
 CONFESSION,
 WHERE YOU
 WILL MEET
 JESUS WHO
 FORGIVES YOU.**



Pope Francis

LEVEL 2

Your Penance Service Rehearsal is on Tuesday, January 3, at 5:00 p.m. in the Church. A parent or guardian must attend. On Saturday, January 7, you will celebrate your First Penance, at 11:15 a.m. in the Church. A parent or guardian must attend the Penance Service on Saturday.

LEVEL 8

On Wednesday, January 4, 2023 your Saint Report is due in class. Be sure to hand this in to your teacher along with any other missing work from this year so far. You **DO NOT** want to fall behind in Level 8!

Happy Saint of the Day!

St. Genevieve was a very passionate young girl when it came to her faith. When she was seven years old she dedicated her life to Christ. When she turned fifteen she met with the bishop of Paris and told him she wanted to become a nun. While she lived in Paris, Atilla the Hun was on his way to attack Paris. Genevieve convinced the Christians to stay in the city and repent, fast, and pray for God’s protection. Then Atilla turned around and did not go after Paris! She continued to pray to God and help the poor throughout her life. She died at 89 years old and is the Patron Saint of Paris!



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
- † Middle Ages: Gail Tonnessen—631-957-1449—gtonness@optonline.net
- † Nursing Ministry: Regina Muir—631-226-2709—rmuir11@aol.com
- † Respect Life Committee: Louise Perrotta—631-412-3831—louiseperrotta123@gmail.com
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Bill Stysiack—631-226-7725 x 234
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker Paolo—631-226-6175—jbecker@oloph.org

NEW Food Pantry List!

- RICE**
- SHELF STABLE MILK**
- BAKED BEANS**
- TUNA**
- CANNED CHICKEN**
- MEAL SOUPS**
- PASTA**
- PASTA SAUCE**
- INSTANT POTATOES**
- TOILET PAPER**

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

Today is the feast of Mary, Mother of God. Like Mary may we always treasure the events in our life and reflect on them in our heart.

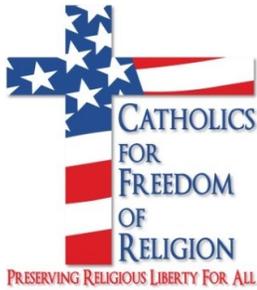
Please remember to support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in 2023 so that together we can continue to bring comfort and peace to our brothers and sisters who are poor and suffering. May the peace and joy of the New Year be yours!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

A special thank you to all parishioners who responded to the call of the Giving Tree to help make this year a little brighter for so many. Your overwhelming generosity is much appreciated and proves that OLPH is truly “The Place to Be.”



CATHOLICS FOR FREEDOM OF RELIGION



From Catholics for Freedom of Religion

www.cffor.org

2023 — A Year for Faith and A Year for Concern for Religious Liberty

Misnamed "Respect for Marriage Act" Rejects Meaning of Marriage and Jeopardizes Religious Freedom

The so-called "Respect for Marriage Act," signed into law on December 13, 2022, overturns the 1996 Clinton-era "Defense of Marriage Act" that said marriage is between one man and one woman. The legislation also codifies same-sex marriage by reinforcing the 2015 Supreme Court ruling making same-sex marriage legal. The Catholic Church is one of several Christian denominations and religions (Orthodox Jewish, Muslim, etc.) that only recognize marriage as a union of one man and one woman. The authors of the newly- signed bill claim that it provides protections for religious freedom, but most faith leaders dispute this claim.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops criticized the Respect for Marriage Act as being contrary to the common good. "The bill fails to include clear, comprehensive, and affirmative conscience protections for religious organizations and individuals who uphold the sanctity of traditional marriage that are needed," said Bishop Robert Barron, chairman of the USCCB Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth.⁽¹⁾ This concern is not unfounded since there have been dozens of instances of government persecution of religious practice in America over the past few years.

"In recent years, the list of parties with religious objections to same-sex marriage who have lost their court battles include Catholic adoption agencies, Jewish universities, and Christian wedding vendors," wrote The Washington Stand.⁽²⁾ This bill would only multiply the occasions whereby people and organizations of faith could be discriminated against or sued.

*"Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist on the evil day,
and having done everything, to stand firm."*

Ephesians 6:13

(ncregister.com, 12/13/22(1); washingtonstand.com, 11/28/22(2))

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
Carmel Becker, Bulletin	246	cbecker@oloph.org
Carole Carrano, Parish Secretary	212	ccarrano@oloph.org
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Pastor	206	msgrjoe@oloph.org
Jill Marie Delano, Business Manager	204	jdelano@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, Associate Pastor	223	emmaokons@yahoo.com
Rectory Reception Desk	200	
Christopher Reilly, Director of Music	210	creilly@oloph.org
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
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
Gerry Chille

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

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

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

Fauvette Auguste
Deacon Robert Becker
Mark Costantino
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Kenneth Hale
Jenine Jimenez-Spina
Denise Martinez
Barbara McPhail
Chris Reilly
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

PERPETUAL HELP MASS SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023 10:00 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 Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton</i>

MASS MEMORIALS

A beautiful way to remember a loved one!
Memorials used during the Masses for week of
January 1-7, 2023:

Altar Bread & Wine

In Memory of

Thomas W. Bast

Requested by

Linda Coppola

& Josephine Vagelatos

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

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.

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

WE BELIEVE

We pray for the sick of our parish...

*Gail Tonnessen
Diane Wilmarth
Pat Bendernagel
John Caliendo
Tommy Langan
Catherine Fucci*

*Megan Kelly
John & Pat Hosey
Henry Batz
James Santoli
Baby Antonio James Kienle
Joseph Castelli*

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 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.

WE REMEMBER

We remember those who have died in our parish.

Lorraine Grabinsky

Marie Tatara

"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."

NOTICE CONCERNING THE BUS TRIP TO THE MARCH FOR LIFE

Due to the excessive cost of hiring a bus this year, and the lack of other buses headed down to Washington D.C., this year OLPH will not be traveling as a group to the **March for Life**. We're still firmly pro-life, however! Keep in mind that although *Roe v. Wade* has been overturned due to its illegality, abortion has not been outlawed. Witnessing to life and advocating for the right to life continue to be extremely important on the New York State level, and so we will continue to keep up the fight in Albany. Please pray for an end to the disrespect for life at any stage of existence. Contact our parish Respect Life Ministry if you would like more information or if you would like to become involved.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, January 2—

**Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen,
Bishops & Doctors of the Church**

6:30 Edward Cafiero

12:15 Agostino Pecoraro

TUESDAY, January 3—

Christmas Weekday
(The Most Holy Name of Jesus)

6:30 Harry Colon

12:15 Rev. Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton

WEDNESDAY, January 4 —

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

6:30 Thomas W. Bast

12:15 Jeffery Wilkens

THURSDAY, January 5—

Saint John Neumann, Bishop

6:30 Elizabeth Lornez

12:15 Peter & Athina Vagelatos

FRIDAY, January 6—

Christmas Weekday
(Saint André Bessette, Religious)

6:30 Andrzej P. Krasnicki

12:15 Charles Mangano Sr.

SATURDAY, January 7—

Christmas Weekday
(Saint Raymond of Peñafort, Priest)

8:00 Laura Cumia

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated):

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

4:00 Christine Keogan
(Special Needs Mass—Auditorium)

5:00 Angelo DiGuglielmo

Sunday, January 8—

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:00 For the People of the Parish

10:00 Perpetual Help Mass *(Listing on p. 15)*

12:00 Darrin Lack

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, January 2, 2023

**ALL RECTORY AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICES
ARE CLOSED. REGULAR OFFICE HOURS RESUME
TUESDAY 9:00 A.M.**

12:45 p.m. Devotions Church

Tuesday, January 3, 2023

5:00 p.m. Rehearsal for First Penance Church

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

Wednesday, January 4, 2023

9:00 a.m. St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Room 24

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) Off Campus

5:30 p.m. Levels 6, 7 and 8: Classes School

7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group Board Meeting Cafeteria

Thursday, January 5, 2023

1:00 p.m.-on Church closed for cleaning Church

6:00 p.m. CYO Basketball Auditorium

7:00 p.m. Respect Life Meeting (631-412-3831) Off Campus

7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group Cafeteria

7:30 p.m. Baptismal Prep Class for Parents Room 18

Friday, January 6, 2023

9:00 a.m. St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Room 24

10:00 a.m. Blue Door Boutique Room 12

6:30 p.m. Eagle Scout Honors Auditorium

Saturday, January 7, 2023

8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Levels 1, 3, 4 and 5: Classes School

11:15 a.m. First Penance Church

1:30 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Room 24

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Church

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

6:30 p.m. Exposition Church

Sunday, January 8, 2023

11:00 a.m. K of C Awards Ceremony Auditorium

2:00 p.m. Baptisms Church

3:00 p.m. CYO Basketball Auditorium

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

Important Diocese of Rockville Centre Information

Information regarding a new deadline to file proofs of claim for victims of sexual abuse who were over 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>

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 al PADRE, al HIJO, y al ESPIRITU SANTO, todos los jueves de 7:00 p.m. en adelante en un ambiente familiar. Comenzando con el Santo Rosario. Le ofrecemos el cuidado de los niños, también les enseñamos la doctrina de la iglesia.

Todos los martes llevamos el Santo Rosario a los hogares para orar en familia. Familias interesadas favor llamar a Virginia Constantino al (631) 957-1149.

Para información sobre los sacramentos de El bautizo, Matrimonio y servicios pastorales, tales como llevarle la Eucaristía los enfermos, la última unción de los enfermos.

Las charlas de bautizo se llevan a cabo cada segundo y cuarto domingo del mes, los padres interesados en bautizar a sus hijos deben atender a una serie de charlas. Estas charlas son cada primer y tercer lunes del mes

Para más información llamar a la rectoría (631) 226-7725. En español a Alejandro Campos teléfono (631) 671-9257 correo electrónico saitjoseph98@gmail.com.

Reflexiones de las lecturas del domingo 1 de Enero del 2023

Feliz Año Nuevo a todos ustedes.

Que la gracia y la paz de Dios

les acompañe a lo largo de todo el año

que hoy comenzamos

y que el Señor Jesús esté siempre con ustedes.

Primer Lectura (Números 6,22-27): Dios Bendice a Su Pueblo

Dios bendice al pueblo con el que había sellado una alianza: él era para ellos la fuente de toda bendición. Que sus bendiciones y su gracia descendán sobre nosotros, su nuevo pueblo, a través de este nuevo año que hoy comenzamos.

Segunda Lectura (Gálatas 4,4-7): Hijos e Hijas de Dios por Medio del Hijo de María.

Dios nos ha dado a Jesús su Hijo por medio de la Virgen María. hemos llegado a ser, nosotros también, hijos e hijas de Dios.

Evangelio (Lucas 2,16-21): Encontraron a María y al Niño

Los pastores vieron a Jesús y le aceptaron con fe. Alabaron a Dios y no pudieron permanecer silenciosos sobre lo que habían visto. María atesoraba estos acontecimientos en su corazón.

Introducción por el Celebrante

Hoy comienza un nuevo año y sinceramente nos deseamos unos a otros todas las bendiciones de Dios: buena salud, bienestar, armonía en la familia, felicidad... Este día, al celebrar la fiesta de María, Madre de Dios, incluimos también, con seriedad e insistencia, deseos y plegarias por una paz, profunda y duradera, en un mundo acosado por la violencia, conflictos y luchas fratricidas, ya que María nos dio a Jesucristo, Príncipe de la Paz. Que nuestro sentido de justicia y unidad, de perdón y aceptación mutua, cree la atmósfera propicia en la que la paz pueda crecer en nuestros corazones, en nuestros hogares, en el mundo entero.

Acto Penitencial

Busquemos en Dios y en los hermanos

la paz que procede del perdón y de la reconciliación,

para participar más profundamente en esta eucaristía

que nos une a todos en Cristo.



¿Recibisteis a Jesús, abriste el corazón para que él sea el rey de tu vida, le diste posada a María para que naciera su hijo en tu corazón? Has que este año el sea la piedra angular de tu vida.

**OFFERING UPDATE
December 17/18**

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	243	108	\$3,305.00
8:00 a.m.	175	90	3,540.00
10:00 a.m.	304	83	2,940.00
12:00 a.m.	290	76	1,839.00
Total coin:			14.20
Faith Direct			3,453.50
Children's Env.		18	85.00
Mail-ins:			1,290.00
TOTAL	1,012	375	\$16,466.70
2021	1,028	374	\$14,952.34
Candles			\$842.44
Poor Box			\$314.01

**UPCOMING OFFICE HOURS
AND EARLY CLOSING:**

Please note our upcoming special office hours:

- Sunday, January 1—CLOSED
- Monday, January 2—CLOSED
- Tuesday, January 3—Normal
WeeklyHours Resume



*The collection totals for Christmas
will be printed at a later date.
Thank you for your understanding.*

**2023 OLPH CONTRIBUTION
TAX LETTERS**

Tax letters for the 2022 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 and 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.*

January 8—deadline passed
January 15—January 6 deadline
January 22—January 13 deadline

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Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/NY286, or text 'Enroll' to (631) 201-5664.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

God Bless You,

**PREPARING FOR
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

*When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,
“Where is the newborn king of the Jews?”*

Matthew 2:1-2a

Isaiah 60:1-6

Today the Church celebrates the epiphany, or manifestation, of Christ to all the world, Jew and Gentile alike. All three readings make that clear. This first reading is from hundreds of years before Jesus' birth at a time when the holy city of Jerusalem had been conquered and many of its inhabitants deported to a foreign land. They longed for the day when they would return to their homeland. The reading overflows with light, brightness, and radiance as it prophesies how glorious that day will be for the Jewish people. But it goes on to say that this saving act of the Lord will also be the marvel of other nations and their rulers who will bring gifts to Jerusalem such as gold and frankincense. People from all nations will come to know and praise God.

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

In this letter to the Church at Ephesus, Paul stresses that with the coming of Jesus the new Israel will expand to include the Gentiles as well as the Jews. This “mystery” was made known to him by revelation, an act of God's grace as he puts it, and was unknown to people in the past, namely the prophets such as Isaiah. It is a part of God's plan for the salvation of all people that was revealed to him by the Spirit: “the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.” God desires all people, Jews and non-Jews alike, to be saved by Jesus. Good news indeed!

Matthew 2:1-12

The author of this Gospel, Matthew, was a Jew who came to believe in Jesus as the Messiah. As such, he wrote primarily to an audience of Jewish Christians like himself, telling them the story of Jesus and trying to persuade them to believe in him. He does this by frequently quoting or alluding to passages from the Old Testament, which they would know and revere, and explaining how they point to Jesus and are fulfilled by him. Prominent in this account of the birth of Jesus is a passage from the ancient prophet Micah (5:1) which prophesies that a ruler “who is to shepherd my people” will come from the town of Bethlehem. Witnesses to this wondrous birth are “magi from the east.” While many have debated the exact nature of the magi, what is more important for us today is that they come “from the east,” that is to say, they are non-Jews who recognized that Jesus came as Messiah for all people. Matthew makes it apparent that God, not the Roman emperor or his designated ruler Herod, has crowned the real “King of the Jews” and that even though he first appeared to the Jewish people all people will welcome their true ruler and Savior.

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, January 2, 2023:

1 John 2:22-28 + John 1:19-28

Tuesday, January 3, 2023:

1 John 2:29—3:6 + John 1:29-34

Wednesday, January 4, 2023:

1 John 3:7-10 + John 1:35-42

Thursday, January 5, 2023:

1 John 3:11-21 + John 1:43-51

Friday, January 6, 2023:

1 John 5:5-13 + Mark 1:7-11

Saturday, January 7, 2023:

1 John 5:14-21
+ John 2:1-11

Sunday, January 8, 2023:

Isaiah 60:1-6
+ Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
+ Matthew 2:1-12

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

2022 OLPH GOAL:
\$114,600

Total pledges: \$112,705.00
of pledges: 452
Total payments: \$109,9547.35
% of Goal: 98.35%
As of 12/19/22



Please remember that all **CMA** pledges must be completed by **January 31, 2023**.

OLPH LEGACY GIVING

“FOR WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS, THERE YOUR HEART WILL ALSO BE”



Wills and Bequests



IRA's and Retirement Plans

AN OPPORTUNITY OF WHAT A LEGACY MEANS TO YOUR CHURCH!

We want to bring to your attention different ways that parishioners can financially support OLPH. The parish can be named as a beneficiary to different types of financial products such as life Insurance policies, IRAs, and gift annuities, to name a few. There are also ways to give to the parish in the form of appreciated stock, where you can avoid or reduce your own Income tax bill while also providing for the parish. These types of approaches are generally referred to as “Planned Giving” or “Legacy Giving.” You have worked hard during your working years, and you saved and invested wisely so that your loved ones can have a secure financial future via your will and estate planning. We'd like to ask you to consider having your estate planning include OLPH, so that all of the great work that has been ongoing here for over 150 years can continue long into the future. Planned Giving can make that happen. You can assist the parish in a significant way by including OLPH as a beneficiary in your planning. If you are interested in learning more about Planned Giving, your tax accountant, your lawyer, or your financial advisor will be familiar with this topic. You may also call the rectory and ask to speak to the Parish Business Manager, Jill Delano. Thank you for supporting OLPH in this way!

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

The Church of St. Patrick, Bay Shore, is in need of a *part-time sacristan* to work 10-12 hours per week. Responsibilities include opening and closing the church, setting up for daily Masses, funerals and weddings. Flexibility in scheduling is important. Interested parties should send their resume to Chris Ferraro, cferraro@stpatrickbayshore.org.

The Babylon Chorale will hold auditions on **Monday, January 9, 2023** beginning with rehearsal at 7:30 p.m. at Sisters of St. Joseph Brentwood Campus. All voice parts are welcomed. For further information and current protocols, visit www.babylonchorale.org or email info@babylonchorale.org

THE LITURGICAL YEAR

In every family, it helps to have a calendar. We keep track of our appointments and activities; we mark birthdays and special events; and we set deadlines and goals. A calendar also helps us look back — to commemorate anniversaries, to be mindful of someone's passing, to remember the days we spent on vacation, or to recall the weeks we were ill.

Nature has a calendar, too. We can recognize the changing of the seasons, the cycles of the moon, the length of the days, and the proper times for planting and harvesting.

The Church also has a calendar. It recounts the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ — recalling his Passion Death, and Resurrection and that “dying he destroyed our death and rising he restored our life” (SC 5). This Paschal Mystery is so central to our faith that we need an entire liturgical year to break open all the facets of this mystery. This gift of God is so awesome that we need seasons, weeks, days, and even hours to even begin to explore this mystery and to fully participate in it.

But we do not just remember historic events. We do recollect the day that Jesus was born or the day that he died on Calvary. But we recall in a way that makes his salvific acts present again (anamnesis). In this time and this place, on our parish altar and around our family table, we rejoice that God continues to save his people.

Within the cycle of a year... [the Church] unfolds the whole mystery of Christ, from the incarnation and birth until the ascension, the day of Pentecost, and the expectation of blessed hope and of the coming of the Lord. Recalling thus the mysteries of redemption, the Church opens to the faithful the riches of her Lord's powers and merits, so that these are in some way made present for all time, and the faithful are enabled to lay hold upon them and become filled with saving grace (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, 102).

SUNDAY

A formal liturgical calendar took centuries to develop. In the early Church, Christians gathered each Sunday, on the Lord's Day. It was a tradition handed down from the Apostles and commemorated the day of Christ's Resurrection. “This Sunday must be ranked as the first holy day of all” (SC 108).

EASTER TRIDUUM

The Sacred Paschal Triduum [“three days”] of the Passion and Resurrection of Christ is the culmination of the whole liturgical year. It begins with the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday evening and concludes with evening Prayer on Easter Sunday night. “Keeping watch “ during the holy night of the Easter Vigil, the Church awaits Christ's resurrection and celebrates it in the sacraments (cf. GNLYC, 18-21).

EASTER SEASON

The fifty days of this season, “from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated with joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one great Sunday” (GNLYC 22). It includes the Octave of Easter (the first eight days) and the celebration of the Ascension of the Lord. It culminates in the celebration of the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (pente = fifty).

LENT

Lent is a period of preparation for Easter. It runs from Ash Wednesday to the afternoon of Holy Thursday, though the first four days have traditionally been called “the Porch of Lent” when on Ash Wednesday and the days that follow it, the readings instruct us on how to enter into the season. It is a time of intense spiritual preparation for the catechumens as they near the Easter Sacraments and a time for those already baptized to focus on their own baptism. It is a time of penitence, especially around the traditional practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

CHRISTMAS SEASON

Second only to the Paschal Triduum, “the Church holds most sacred the memorial of Christ’s birth and the early manifestations” of his earthly ministry (GNLYC 32). There are four distinct sets of readings and prayers for the Masses of Christmas and its Vigil — each focusing on a part of the Nativity story. Christmas, too, has an octave, which includes special days and concludes with the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Epiphany follows soon after and the holy season concludes with the Baptism of the Lord.

ADVENT

Advent has a two-fold character — a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ first came to us and “as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time” (GNLYC 39). The First Sunday of advent marks the beginning of each new Liturgical Year! The readings and prayers from December 17 to 24 prepare us most directly for the Savior’s birth.

ORDINARY TIME

This season begins after the Baptism of the Lord, is “interrupted” by Lent, the Triduum, and the Easter Season, and continues until Advent begins. This period is anything but “ordinary” — indeed, it recalls Jesus’ most important messages and miracles in his public life. The name comes for the same word “ordinal” — the days are “counted.”

MARY AND THE SAINTS

Within the yearly cycle, the Church ‘also venerates with a particular love Mary, the Mother of God. Special days are set aside in her honor, including some that are ranked as solemnities because of her special role in the life of Christ.

While what has been described above can be called the ‘temporal cycle’ of the Church year, we also have a concurrent “sanctoral cycle” in which we memorialize the martyrs and saints for their special contributions to the life of the Church and their great witness to the Gospel of Christ. “By celebrating the passage of these saints from earth to heaven the Church proclaims the paschal mystery achieved in the saints who have suffered and been glorified with Christ; she proposes them to the faithful as examples drawing all to the Father through Christ, and through their merits she pleads for God’s favors” (SC 104).

MISAL ROMANO, tercera edicion

The new USA edition of the *Misal Romano* will include the saints who were recently named by Saint John Paul II and Pope Francis. It will also recognize patronal feasts of various countries of origins for Spanish-speaking Catholics. ■

All time belongs to God. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.

Adapted from an original series of articles written by Father Thomas Dente © FDLG 2007.

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