

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



*At the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.*

Philippians 2:10-11

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 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, Deacon James Totino

Business Manager: Ms. Jill Marie Delano

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

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., 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.

DOWNLOAD THE OLPH APP

Catholic Life Every Day

with the Our Lady of Perpetual Help App

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

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



Available on the App Store

ANDROID APP ON 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 October 01, 2023

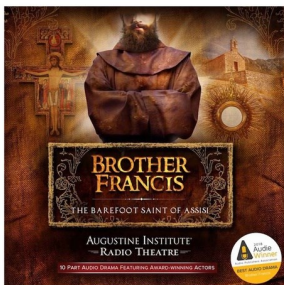
WATCH



Faustina and the Spread of Divine Mercy | Divine Mercy | Episode 4

This episode of Divine Mercy and the Second Greatest Story Ever Told, reveals how a saint from Poland embarked on one of the greatest missions in the history of the Church, becoming a catalyst for the message of Divine Mercy.

LEARN



Brother Francis: The Barefoot Saint of Assisi

In this 10-part audio drama, listeners can dive into the life of St. Francis of Assisi as he goes from being a son of wealth and privilege to a man who gave up everything for the sake of Christ.

LISTEN



The Feast of St. Thérèse

In celebration of the feast of St. Thérèse, Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Scott Hefelfinger sit down to discuss the life and writings of this great saint and Doctor of the Church.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.
Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



PASTOR'S COLUMN

Respect Life Sunday, and Respect Life Month

This Sunday, October 1, is designated “Respect Life” Sunday, which kicks off “Respect Life Month” in October. It is vitally important for every Catholic to understand and appreciate the necessity for us as Christians to do our part to build a culture that cherishes every human life, especially since assaults on the dignity of life, from conception until natural death, are so prevalent in our society today. The work of the Respect Life Ministry is mainly carried out through grassroots parish efforts.

OLPH has a very active Respect Life Ministry, headed by Louise Perrotta, and our Respect Life Ministry, through prayer and information gathering and dissemination, has a presence in the parish, at Village of Lindenhurst functions, and at other places. Perhaps most visible in our parish is the Baby Bottle Campaign, which is a highly successful undertaking each year here at OLPH. This campaign, as you know, benefits the Life Center of Long Island.

I am very grateful for the wonderful work done, and witness given, by our Respect Life Ministry, and I urge you to consider joining — new members are always welcome — if you are interested in giving a Catholic voice and Catholic witness to issues dealing with the dignity and sanctity of human life, from conception to natural death.

Children's Liturgy of the Word begins this week

This week we are resuming the Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 10:00 a.m. Mass for children first grade and older. The Children's Liturgy of the Word will take place at that Mass on the first and third Sunday of each month, unless otherwise announced. I hope all families will take advantage of this special liturgical outreach to children. Ads will appear in the bulletin to remind you when the Children's Liturgy of the Word will be occurring the following week.

Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi and the Blessing of Animals

Wednesday, October 4, is the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. In St. Francis we have one

of the most popular saints in Church history, and a man of God whose holiness resonates even with those who are not Christian, as well as with those who do not consider themselves religious.

Francis (born 1181 or 1182; died 1226) was the son of a wealthy Assisi merchant, and the “good life” (a luxurious home, the finest clothes, and superb cuisine) was certainly his for the taking. However, after a conversion experience, he relinquished the trappings of this world to minister to lepers and to preach to the spiritually hungry. He became known for his humility and his embrace of poverty. Many young men joined St. Francis in his way of life, leading to the foundation of the *frati minori*, or “lesser brothers,” which eventually became known as the Friars Minor. St. Francis is also known for his love of creation, as exemplified in his famous “Canticle of the Sun,” and hence the association of this saint's feast day with the blessing of animals.

As announced elsewhere in this bulletin, we are holding our annual Blessing of Animals on this Wednesday, October 4, at 5:30 p.m., on the rectory lawn (weather permitting; otherwise, we're in the auditorium). Be sure to bring your pet of any kind — dog, cat, bird, iguana, ferret, horse, chicken, turtle, snake...whatever! (Just watch where you step when you come...if you know what I mean!) As I always say, though: remember, this is a blessing, not an exorcism — I cannot make your pet behave!

In order to truly celebrate the Franciscan spirituality, you are asked to bring an item for the poor. The items needed for our food pantry are listed on the St. Vincent de Paul page in the Parish Social Ministry section of this bulletin; please be sure to bring this donation to the Blessing of Animals, or drop it off at some other time.

Taizé Prayer Around the Cross

We're thrilled to be resuming our celebration of Taizé Prayer Around the Cross twice a year, and our next one is occurring on this Thursday, October 5 at 7:30 p.m. I do hope you'll make it a point to be there. This is a beautiful service of meditative music and

prayerful reflection; it's an opportunity to take a spiritual pause for a little less than hour — and don't we all need to make that kind of space in our life, to refocus and reorient amidst all the craziness? If you have attended before, you know what I'm talking about. If you have not, then I urge you to give it a try. I'm sure you will find it worthwhile and nourishing to your spiritual life. I wish to thank our Director of Music, Erin Barrett, for resuming our celebration of this beautiful devotion.

The GOLDEN TICKET

This year's **GOLDEN TICKET Raffle** is now underway, and tickets are on sale; see the flyer in this bulletin. Tickets will also be sold outside of all Masses next weekend, October 7-8, so be prepared to buy them next weekend as you leave Mass!

This is always a huge success here at OLPH, in addition to being a great deal of fun. It's an important big money-maker for the parish, and I'm sure with a little effort on everyone's part, it will be again this year. Make sure you are a part of it!

There are a limited number of tickets — exactly 500 — sold at \$100 per ticket; that's a total of \$50,000. Cash prizes will total \$20,000, leaving a \$30,000 profit for the parish (I need not tell you again how desperately we need that income...it's the ongoing story here at OLPH). The drawing for winners is done at the fun-filled and exciting party on Saturday, November 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium, hosted by me, as I use my best game show hosting skills to keep everything moving along in a fun way. Each ticket purchased entitles the ticket holder to attend the party and to bring one (1) guest. We'll provide refreshments; you bring whatever snacks or foods (or dinner!) you want to eat, to make it festive and jovial.

Buy your own ticket, and then go in with others on several tickets, so as to maximize your chances to win. Help us out by spreading the word to family and friends; you don't have to be a parishioner of OLPH (heck, you don't even have to be Catholic!) in order to purchase a ticket and win a prize.

Don't forget about the special way you can help out: take a batch of, say, five or ten tickets, and commit to selling them yourself — for

example, among family members, or friends outside the parish, or at work. This would be a great way for all of us to do our part to get all 500 tickets sold. We have to ask you to make sure to follow through on the commitment to get the tickets sold — it would be disastrous if one week before the event we found out we had unsold tickets we thought were sold. If you think you could do this, please let Chairs and Ticket Coordinators Bob Meade or Meg Danaher know, and they'll be more than happy to work with you.

Keep watching the bulletin each week for full information about The **GOLDEN TICKET** for 2023!

We're looking for more Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Ushers

We're continuing to push to add to the ranks of our Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion — both to assist in the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass, and, if you wish to do so and go on for further training, to bring Communion to the sick and the homebound — and Ushers. It might just be the time for YOU to step forward and make this important offering of liturgical service to the parish. Pray about it and consider it seriously. It is a tremendous blessing to do this. Full details are elsewhere in the bulletin, and yes, I'm looking for YOU!

Last chance to become an Altar Server!

This is the **last chance** for girls and boys 4th grade and older to sign up to become Altar Servers — the deadline is this Monday, October 2. Don't miss out! Moms and dads, grandmas and grandpas — encourage your son or daughter to become an Altar Server. You'll find that through your child's service your entire family will be drawn deeper into the graces and blessings of the celebration of the Eucharist, and this is a much-needed gift to offer to the parish. I look forward to receiving any last-minute responses, but you'll have to do it NOW!

Offerer Appreciation Party is this Friday, October 6

Lastly, I'll mention that, to those who responded that they will be attending, I look forward to seeing you this Friday night at the

Offerer Appreciation Party, our bi-annual event to say **THANK YOU** to all who offer their time and talent in our various ministries and organizations. I know it will be a good time for everyone!

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

Sincerely,



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.

OUR LADY OF SORROWS MASS



A special thanks to Msgr. Joe, Fr. Fidelis, Linda Setti and to all who participated in or attended the Our Lady of Sorrows Mass held here on Friday, September 15. It was beautiful because of you!



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.

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.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



Feast of St. Francis Blessing of the Animals

Wednesday, OCTOBER 4
5:30 p.m. on the rectory lawn
(in auditorium in case of inclement weather)



The Church celebrates the Feast of St. Francis. St. Francis has contributed so much to the life of our Church, in so many ways. One of the things he is noted for is recognition of God’s presence in all of creation, including animals.

We invite all members of our parish community (even those that crawl, fly and have four legs) to come for a special prayer service and blessing. Following the service, there will be refreshments for all, including our human family members and friends.



And, in the spirit of St. Francis, we ask all who attend the prayer service to bring a food or non-food donation for our food pantry. Please see page 14 for specific needs.



Taizé Prayer Around the Cross

**Thursday,
October 5th**

7:30 p.m. in the 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.

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.

FIRST FRIDAY, & FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS



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

First Friday Devotions will take place **October 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, **October 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. **Adoration will be held on Saturday, October 7 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 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.



SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

*Mass for People
with Special Needs
and for those who care for them*

This vital ministry offers experiences for those with special needs and their families, including special Masses, various activities and opportunities to come together as a parish community in a smaller setting.

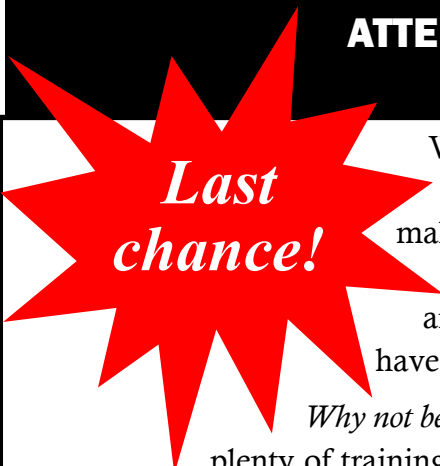
Saturday, October 7

4:00 p.m. in the School Auditorium

*All are welcome.
Come celebrate Mass with us!*

*We can use some help in preparing for our monthly Mass and other special needs events. How about you?
Contact Jessica Becker at 631.226-7725 X 252 or
email to jbecker@oloph.org
Our Special Needs Mass is celebrated on the first Saturday of every month unless otherwise noted.*

BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER: ATTENTION BOYS AND GIRLS OF THE PARISH, FOURTH GRADE AND OLDER



**Last
chance!**

We are in the process of **recruiting new Altar Servers!** Being an altar server is a great way to be involved at Our Lady of Perpetual Help. You make an important contribution to the life of the parish and you perform an important ministry. Besides, it's fun!!! You serve at weekend Masses and other special events, attend some meetings throughout the year, and have fun parties!

Why not become an altar server? We would love to have you, and we will provide plenty of training — no prior experience is necessary!! If you are a boy or girl who is in the 4th grade or older (it's o.k. if you are in 5th, 6th, 7th or 8th grade, or even older!), you are invited to become an altar server. Parents, why not mention it to your daughter or son to get them interested? Training will start soon, so sign up now. If you are interested, **mail or drop off the coupon below to Monsignor Joe at the Rectory, 210 South Wellwood Avenue.** *No phone calls, please; you must let me know in writing! It's OK to scan this page and send it electronically with all the info to msgjoe@oloph.org*

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, RESPOND BEFORE MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023, SINCE THE FIRST TRAINING MEETING WILL BE SOON AFTER THAT (you will receive a letter giving you specific information). ***Sorry...no responses can be accepted after October 2!***

Yes, I am interested in becoming an Altar Server! **RETURN THIS BEFORE OCT. 2!**

Name _____

Address _____

Town/Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

E-mail _____@_____

Date of Birth (month/day/year) ____/____/____

Family Envelope/Registration Number _____ *****Required: Your family must be registered parishioners of OLPH.**

Year You Received First Holy Communion _____

School Grade you are in as of September 2023 _____

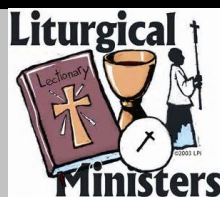
Check one: _____ I go to public school; Name of School _____

_____ I go to Catholic school; Name of School _____

_____ I am Home Schooled



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?

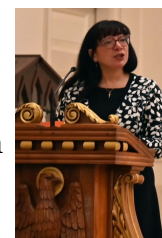
1. You must contact Barbara McPhail at 631-226-1354 or e-mail to gospa254@gmail.com.
2. You must send a letter to Msgr. Joe at the Parish Office or e-mail to msgrjoe@oloph.org requesting to become a minister.
3. You must meet with Msgr. Joe for an interview.
4. You must attend one of the diocesan training 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, October 10, 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 October 10!)

Wednesday, November 29,

7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

at St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Brookville

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

Tuesday, October 10,

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 October 10!)

Wednesday, November 29,

7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

at St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Brookville

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

Tuesday, October 24,

6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.,

St. Elizabeth Parish, Melville

What do Ushers do?

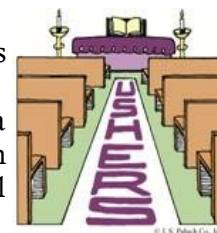
Ushers serve an important role in the liturgy! First and foremost, they are ministers of hospitality who welcome all those who come to liturgy. They help create an environment conducive to worship by the way they greet people with warmth and friendliness. Ushers also serve by guiding the movement of 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.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help THE GOLDEN TICKET

Saturday, November 18, 2023

7:00 p.m.

in the OLPH Auditorium

Are you wondering, "What is The Golden Ticket?"

It's a major and much needed fundraiser,
with an excellent chance of winning a monetary prize!
Unlike a typical raffle...the last ticket pulled is the \$10,000 grand prize winner!
The excitement builds as the drawing goes on!

Winner need not be present! Golden Ticket Holders and one guest may attend.

Refreshments will be served including beer, wine, soda and water and we recommend and encourage attendees to bring some homemade favorite foods/snacks for their friends and fellow parishioners to share.

- 1st ticket drawn - \$500
- 50th ticket drawn - \$200
- 100th ticket drawn - \$200
- 150th ticket drawn - \$200
- 200th ticket drawn - \$200
- 250th ticket drawn - \$200
- 300th ticket drawn - \$200
- 350th ticket drawn - \$200
- 400th ticket drawn - \$200



- 450th ticket drawn - \$200
- 491st ticket drawn - \$300
- 492nd ticket drawn - \$400
- 493rd ticket drawn - \$500
- 494th ticket drawn - \$600
- 495th ticket drawn - \$700
- 496th ticket drawn - \$800
- 497th ticket drawn - \$900
- 498th ticket drawn - \$1000

499th Ticket drawn - \$2,500 500th Ticket drawn - \$10,000

Golden Tickets are on sale at the rectory during regular office hours. Tickets will also be available outside the church after all Masses the weekends of October 7/8 and 21/22 and after the 12:15 p.m. Mass on November 1. You can also enclose bottom portion of this form with a check made payable to OLPH and return to rectory at 210 S. Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst, NY, 11757 Attn: Golden Ticket.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Number of Golden Tickets @\$100 each _____

The Golden Ticket coordinators are Meg Danaher (631) 704-1201 & Bob Meade (631) 455-3916

"OLPH is a Section 501©3 nonprofit. Please consult with your tax advisor to determine if your contribution is deductible.

Winners are responsible for all taxes."

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

LEVEL 2:

On Saturday, October 20,
 there will be a Penance video
 during your regular class time.
 Meet in your classrooms!

LEVEL 6:

Your Covenant Mass is
 Sunday, October 15,
 10:00 a.m. Mass.



Saint of the Day! St. Padre Pio

St. Padre Pio was born Francesco Forgione on May 25, 1887. His family were farmers. Padre Pio was a religious man and became a priest in Italy. He was known for his charitable works and for performing miracles. In 1915 he was able to serve for one year in World War I but had to leave because of his failed health.

Did you know he experienced the Stigmata? It was a mystery to all that Padre Pio received similar wounds on his hands and feet of the crucified Christ. Padre Pio died on September 23, 1968. He is the patron saint of civil defense volunteers, adolescents, and the village of Pietrelcina.

Blessing of the Catechists on Sunday, September 17.



Levels 1 and 2 Commitment Service on Saturday, September 23.



OLPH CHURCH FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY'S ANNUAL PUMPKIN PATCH



\$5.00
Per Pumpkin

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 14, 2023
AT 11:15 a.m.

RAIN OR SHINE
on the Rectory lawn
or School auditorium



PLEASE BRING A FOOD ITEM FOR THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY



Pumpkin Patch RSVP

TEXT THE # OF PEOPLE TO EILEEN
AT 631-682-4853
Or EMAIL EILEEN AT
KENCORT36@GMAIL.COM

NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, October 8, 2023



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: Valerie Baxter—631.226.7725 x. 234
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker Paolo—631.226.6175—jbecker@oloph.org

NEW Food Pantry List!

JELLY
WHITE RICE (SMALL BAG)
APPLE JUICE
SOUPS
INSTANT MASHED POTATOES
CANNED VEGETABLES
BROWNIE MIX
BAKED BEANS
PASTA
SPAGHETTI SAUCE

Thank you
 for your continued generosity.
 Cut out this list and bring it with you
 when you go shopping!

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

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

631.226.7725 x. 234

The office is open:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
 9:00 a.m.—12 Noon

1st & 3rd Saturdays 1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

The Gospel today is a great example of saying, “actions speak louder than words.”

As you put your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul’s poor box, know that you are putting your faith into action.

THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY
THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

15TH ANNUAL SVDPLI



Friends of the Poor 5K Walk

TOGETHER
WE GO FAR
2023

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to say thank you, thank you, thank you to all who contributed to make our annual Friends of the Poor Walk collection a success with a total of \$1,420.00 collected. Thanks to all of you, the Society is able to continue with our mission to help those in need within our parish boundaries. God bless you all!

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE



Thank You, LORD!

Greetings Fellow Parishioners,

Each year around this time **The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul** asks for donations for our neighbors in need within the OLPH parish boundry for a Thanksgiving dinner. Each year we are amazed at the generosity of our fellow parishioners!

In lieu of having the Adopt-A-Family program, we are going to do things a little different this year. Below is a list for up-to-date canned foods and boxed items that we will need for the Thanksgiving baskets that we'll be assembling and giving out. Whatever you donate will be greatly appreciated.

Items needed for the Thanksgiving food baskets:

*****Please, nothing that needs refrigeration*****

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Cranberry Sauce jellied | Peas | Apple Cider/Juice |
| Apple Sauce | Corn | Cookies |
| Boxed Turkey Stuffing Mix | Chocolate Pudding or Jello | Boxed Muffin Mixes |
| Green Beans | Yams | Comstock-Type Pie filling |
| Carrots | Soups | Cake mix & Frosting |
| Boxed Instant Potatoes | Ready made Pie Crust | Ready made dinner rolls |

**** Local Grocery Store Gift Cards up to \$25 will be greatly appreciated this year!
Checks made out to SVDP are always appreciated!**

If you can, please bring your donations to our office.

Office hours are Mon., Wed., Fri., 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1st and 3rd Sat. (1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.)
Or call 631 226 7725 X 234 or email Carol Stysiack at: carolstys@verizon.net

Thank you and God bless you all!

THE BLUE DOOR BOUTIQUE

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE ON HALLOWEEN?



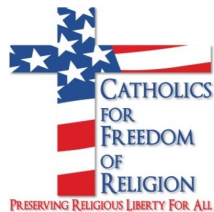
Looking for the perfect Halloween Costume?
Need a vintage dress or inexpensive pair of boots to complete your home made creation?
Or would you prefer a "store-bought" costume?
We have a large selection of new and gently used costumes, knick-knacks, and decorations.
Shop with us before going anywhere else.

THE
*blue*door
BOUTIQUE

HOURS OF OPERATION
M, W, F: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Donations gratefully accepted whenever the shop is open. Please no toys, stuffed animals, books or electric items.

CATHOLICS FOR FREEDOM OF RELIGION



FOCUS ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

"Conscience is the most sacred of all property."
—James Madison, 1792

New Hope for Religious Freedom in the United States

Those who insist there is no problem with America's religious liberty are uninformed and unaware of the daily encroachments and denials of First Amendment rights to follow the faith of one's choice, not beliefs chosen by government, and to live and exercise that faith openly free from government restraint. An American who believes that the ability to "go to church on Sunday" is evidence of religious freedom has no understanding of the critical difference between freedom of worship and freedom of religion. Such ignorance of the fullness of the protection intended by our founders and built into the First Amendment endangers freedom of religion for all as well as the full array of our liberties whose basis is freedom of conscience.

Thankfully, the Supreme Court has recently issued several opinions critical to the integrity of true religious freedom. The Court's explanations clarify Constitutional religious freedom and empower Americans of all faiths to understand and defend what the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops frequently calls our first freedom.

The opinions from the highest court impact Catholic social services, the Little Sisters of the Poor, Catholic schools, extreme government restrictions on the right to worship during Covid, and more.

Read about some of the opinions: bit.ly/3EH4HII bit.ly/45UIfbk bit.ly/3RnBjyJ

Read about support for religious freedom increasing in America: bit.ly/3PCqisg

*"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion,
or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."*
—The Constitution, First Amendment



*September 27 - November 5 -
Please pray, fast and offer sacrifices
for the intention of respect for life at all stages.*

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL 2023 OPEN HOUSES!

Our Lady of Mercy Academy	-	Sunday, October 1 - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Kellenberg Memorial High School	-	Saturday, October 14 - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Chaminade High School	-	Saturday, October 14 - 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Academy	-	Saturday, October 14 - 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School	-	Sunday, October 15 - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Holy Trinity Diocesan High School	-	Saturday, October 21 - 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
St. Dominic High School	-	Sunday, October 22 - 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

TEST FOR ADMISSION TO CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS NOVEMBER 4, 2023
REGISTER TODAY AT WWW.TACHSINFO.COM REGISTRATION DEADLINE OCTOBER 26, 2023

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
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Pastor	206	msgjrjoe@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	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
 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

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



**Brendan Peter Avolio
Joseph Paul Benkert
Emma Marie Bopp
Juliette Reign Viafore**

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

WE BELIEVE

We pray for the sick of our parish...

<i>Diane Schneider</i>	<i>John Steel</i>
<i>Gina Virgilio</i>	<i>Laurell Desner</i>
<i>John Leyden</i>	<i>Vincent Crisostomo</i>
<i>Monica Ortiz</i>	<i>John Steel Sr.</i>
<i>Lina Avila</i>	<i>Martin Lafferty</i>
<i>Anthony Cassio</i>	<i>Farmingdale Students and Families</i>
<i>Christine Ajello-Larsen</i>	<i>Monica Pulla</i>
<i>Sandra McGuckin</i>	<i>Lina Avila</i>
<i>Vincenza Camusa</i>	<i>George DiSalvo</i>
<i>Carl Zoccali</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.

PERPETUAL HELP MASS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023 8:00 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 Rev. Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton</i>

WE REMEMBER

We remember those who have died in our parish.

**Annette Walsh
Patricia Hosey
Michael DiMaggio**

“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.”

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.

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PROGRAM

MONTH 6 - Developing Baby -

Your spiritually adopted baby is developing quite beautifully now. Her weight is approaching 2 pounds. She sits up straight now to accommodate her internal organs which have moved into their final place in her little body. Babies born prematurely at this time have a very good chance of surviving. The medical advances in caring for extremely small newborn infants are extraordinary indeed. Don't forget to pray for your baby. Abortion is legal through all nine months and her mom might still feel pressure to abort.



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>

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, October 2— The Holy Guardian Angels	
6:30	Harold Nantista
12:15	Reynold Ruiz
TUESDAY, October 3— Weekday	
6:30	Frank Kowalski
12:15	Josie Whiston
WEDNESDAY, October 4— Saint Francis of Assisi	
6:30	Edward Riley
12:15	Paul Markowitz
THURSDAY, October 5— Weekday <i>(Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin; Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest)</i>	
6:30	Diane Wilmarth
12:15	Andrew Ruggiero
7:30	Taizé Prayer
FRIDAY, October 6— <i>(Saint Bruno, Priest; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin)</i>	
6:30	Luigi No
12:15	Louis Fernandez
SATURDAY, October 7— Our Lady of the Rosary	
8:00	Living & Deceased Members of the Brancato Family
Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated): TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
4:00	Rev. Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton <i>(Special Needs Mass—Auditorium)</i>
5:00	Zygmunt S. Zdunczyk
Sunday, October 8— TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
8:00	John M. & Vincent Treanor
10:00	Gordon G. Hinds
12:00	For the People of the Parish

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, October 2, 2023		
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
4:30 p.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Church
6:00 p.m.	Wedding Rehearsal	Church
Tuesday, October 3, 2023		
6:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
6:30 p.m.	CYO Track	South Parking Lot
Wednesday, October 4, 2023		
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
5:30 p.m.	Blessing of the Animals	Rectory Lawn
6:30 p.m.	Levels 6, 7 and 8 Classes	School
Thursday, October 5, 2023		
3:30 p.m.	Wedding	Church
6:30 p.m.	CYO Track	South
7:00 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Group	Cafeteria
7:30 p.m.	Baptismal Prep Class for Parents	Room 18
7:30 p.m.	Taizé Prayer	Church
8:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church
Friday, October 6, 2023		
9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 23
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Room 12
1:00 p.m.- on	Church closed for cleaning	Church
Saturday, October 7, 2023		
8:30 and 10:00 a.m.	Levels 1—5 and Sp. Ed. Classes	School
9:30 a.m.	CYO Basketball Registration	Cafeteria
11:30 a.m.	Bereavement Ministry	Room 22
1:30 p.m.	Altar Server Training	Church
1:30 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 23
4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
6:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
Sunday, October 8, 2023		
10:00 a.m.	O CIA	Room 18
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 26° del Tiempo Ordinario - Ciclo A Domingo, 1ro de Octubre del 2023

Concede, Señor, a los que vivimos oprimidos por la antigua esclavitud del pecado, ser liberados por el nuevo y esperado nacimiento de tu Hijo. Que vive y reina....

Primera Lectura (Ez 18,25-28): Somos Responsables de Lo Que Hacemos

El profeta Ezequiel insiste en nombre de Dios sobre nuestra responsabilidad personal por el bien o el mal que hacemos. Dios busca perdonarnos y quiere que vivamos en su amor.

Segunda Lectura (Fil 2,1-11): Sean Humildes como Cristo

Tenemos que tener la misma disposición fundamental que Cristo nuestro Señor, a saber, ser modestos y humildes ante Dios y ante los hermanos.

Evangelio (Mt 21,28-32): ¿Cuál de Estos Hijos Soy Yo?

Los líderes farisaicos y santurriones del pueblo rechazan a Jesús y condenan a los pecadores. -- Los pecadores acogen a Jesús y se convierten. ¿Quién de ellos hace la voluntad de Dios? ¿Con quiénes nos identificamos?

A veces, Nuestro Sí no es sincero

Con bastante frecuencia sentimos en nosotros la tensión entre lo que sabemos es correcto y nuestros propios intereses e inclinaciones. Normalmente sabemos lo que exige nuestra fe y, sin embargo, actuamos en contra o damos solamente un Sí sin un deseo de conversión. Pidamos a Jesús en esta eucaristía que sepamos decir siempre Sí con Jesús y como Jesús

DEMANDA OBEDIENCIA de sus hijos. Espera que acatemos su voluntad con gozo, que asumamos con humildad sus designios para que vivamos cediendo el control de nuestro ser a su Santo Espíritu. Como toda familia también en la familia de Dios hay hijos desobedientes. Los primeros actúan de acuerdo a la voluntad de su Padre, los segundos encubren con sus palabras su falsedad y terminan por vivir en sentido contrario a la voluntad del Padre.

Dios como Padre, tiene un propósito para la vida de sus hijos y espera que la acatemos con gozo en nuestro corazón. Para que nuestras palabras hagan eco a las del salmista "Enséñame a hacer tu voluntad, porque tú eres mi Dios" (Salmo 143:10)

¿Cuál es la voluntad de Dios para nuestra vida? ¿A niveles personales, familiares y eclesíasticos?



OFFERING UPDATE September 23/24			
Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	192	84	\$2,451.00
8:00 a.m.	168	77	2,563.00
10:00 a.m.	275	75	2,417.00
12:00 p.m.	330	93	2,442.00
Total coin:			5.29
Faith Direct			3,471.00
Children's Env.		5	10.00
Mail-ins:			172.00
TOTAL	965	334	\$13,531.29
2022	974	316	\$14,042.59
Candles			\$789.00
Poor Box			\$225.53

RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY

Today, Sunday, October 1 is *Respect Life Sunday*. As we celebrate Respect Life Sunday, we are reminded that the assaults on human dignity come in many forms. The Respect Life Office is charged with deepening our already strong commitment to pro-life activities and parish education. Please support this vital work through participation in the special Respect Life envelope collection. Your prayers and assistance are greatly appreciated.



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.*

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



CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

<h1 style="margin: 0;">2023 OLPH GOAL: \$114,600</h1>	<p>Total pledges: \$97,199.00 # of pledges: 354 Total payments: \$84,790.50 As of 9/25/23</p>
---	--

Please make checks payable to *Catholic Ministries Appeal*.

Parish _____ Total Pledge: \$ _____

Name _____ Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

For more information visit www.drvc.org/CMA or call 516-678-5800- ext. 296 Thank You!

PREPARING FOR

Sunday, October 8, 2023

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

Matthew 21:42a

Isaiah 5:1-7

Isaiah is prophesying in Jerusalem prior to the destruction of the Northern Kingdom. Israel is God's vineyard which he transplanted from Egypt into the land of Canaan and carefully cared for and cultivated. There was nothing that he did not do for his vineyard. "What more could I have done . . ." Isaiah's listeners were compelled to admit that absolutely nothing had been wanting in God's dealings with them. The Planter and Cultivator of the vineyard naturally expected the vineyard to produce good fruit. But, all that it produced was "sour grapes" -- bloodshed, oppression and infidelity. God sowed peace, but got violence from his people. God looked for true worship and got idolatry. God sowed seeds of justice, but injustice grew up. The message was clear. Yahweh had given all; Israel had yielded nothing. As a result, the owner is going to withdraw his protecting hand and Israel will be transplanted into exile and subjected to a drought and given the opportunity to repent and make a new choice for God.

Philippians 4:6-9

This second reading is a portion of Paul's advice to the Philippians concerning their life together. Anxiety and worry accomplishes nothing except the frittering away of energy and hope. Paul urges his readers to give their worries to God and to place their trust in him. This trust will lead them to experience a peace that surpasses understanding. This divine peace is rich beyond our imagination and one that the world can't give us. Only Jesus can.

Matthew 21:33-43

This is a story about a good, patient landlord and wicked tenants, a story about God's dealings with his people. The landowner is God. The vineyard is Israel. The wicked tenants are the people of Israel, but more especially, the religious leaders who were given charge of the vineyard by God. The servants are the prophets sent by God and so often rejected and killed. Despite Israel's rejection of his representatives, God never gave up on Israel. He continued to reach out to her, even sending her his only Son. But she even rejected God's Son. As in last week's Gospel, this parable was intended as a warning to the religious leaders. Once again they are offered a choice to accept or reject God's servant in their midst. Rejection will have dire consequences. But the warning went unheeded. The tenants came to a bad end, Jerusalem was destroyed and the Gentiles took the chosen people's place at God's table.

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, October 2, 2023:

Zechariah 8:1-8 + Matthew 18:1-5, 10

Tuesday, October 3, 2023:

Zechariah 8:20-23 + Luke 9:51-56

Wednesday, October 4, 2023:

Nehemiah 2:1-8 + Luke 9:57-62

Thursday, October 5, 2023:

Nehemiah 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12
+ Luke 10:1-12

Friday, October 6, 2023:

Baruch 1:15-22 + Luke 10:13-16

Saturday, October 7, 2023:

Baruch 4:5-12, 27-29
+ Luke 10:17-24

Sunday, October 8, 2023:

Isaiah 5:1-7
+ Philippians 4:6-9
+ Matthew 21:33-43

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. Who are God's messengers right now? What changes in society do they advocate? How can you somehow be God's envoy in your community, work, Church or the world? Can you move toward changes in society?

2. In his morning meditation on the Wicked Tenants, the Pope suggested that we think about "what we can do so as not to kill the Word of God, ... to not lock up the Holy Spirit." Would his words at the end of the meditation help you? How?

"[May] the Lord grant us the grace of humility to look upon Jesus as the Savior who speaks to us: he speaks to me! Each one of us ought to say: he speaks to me! When we read the Gospels: he is speaking to me!"

The Imprisoned Word

March 21, 2014

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OLPH parishioner

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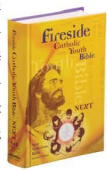
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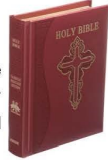


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