

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 7.



*“Rejoice in the Lord always.
I shall say it again: rejoice!”*

Philippians 4:4

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 16, 2018

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco

Parochial Vicars: Reverend Fidelis Ezeani, Reverend Frank Zero

Deacons: Deacon William Crosby, Deacon Douglas G. Smith, Deacon Robert A. Becker

Business Manager: Mr. Frank Pokorney

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

Music Director: Mr. Christopher Ferraro

Pastor Emeritus: Reverend Monsignor Daniel S. Hamilton

Deacon Frank Odin, Retired

COME IN AND PRAY...

Our church is open **6:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.** seven days a week, except for Thursdays when it closes after the 12:15 p.m. Mass for cleaning. 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. & 5:00 p.m.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

We pray Evening Prayer each Saturday and Sunday after the 5:00 p.m. Mass.

We pray Daytime Prayer each Wednesday at 1:50 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Mondays following the 12:15 p.m. Mass (except on Holy Days of Obligation)

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is always available by making an appointment with one of our priests.

OLPH NOVENA DEVOTIONS

Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Church (unless otherwise announced)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday Evening: after OLPH Novena Devotions

Wednesday: 12:45 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sunday: 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

First Saturday: 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

THE CHRISTMAS SEASON AT OLPH

Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24

5:00 p.m. and
12:00 Midnight Mass

*Christmas Carols begin
at 4:30 & 11:15 p.m.*

Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 25

8:00 a.m.,
10:00 a.m.
and 12:00 Noon

*The 5:00 p.m. Mass will not be
celebrated on Christmas Day.*

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: December 22:
3:00—4:30 p.m.

Mondays:
following the 12:15 p.m. Mass

Tuesday, December 18:
7:00—8:00 p.m.



**Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God
(Holy Day of Obligation)**

Tuesday, January 1, 2019

Mass Schedule:

Eve of the Solemnity,

Monday, December 31: 5:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, January 1, 2019:
10:00 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.**

PASTOR'S PAGE

Third Sunday of Advent

As we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, we mark an important point in our liturgical season and in our journey of spiritual preparation and vigilance.

It is Advent joy that is the overwhelming and prominent characteristic of this Third Sunday of Advent, which is also known as *Gaudete Sunday*. The expression of that joy was evident right at the beginning of Mass, as we sang the Entrance Antiphon during our Entrance Procession: *"Rejoice, again I say rejoice. The Lord is near and coming soon. Your gentleness be shown to all. Rejoice, again I say, rejoice."* (How fortunate we are that we are singing these beautiful texts of the Roman Catholic Mass, the Entrance Antiphons! Thank you, Chris Ferraro, our Director of Music, for adding this element to our Advent season this year!)

The theme of joy can also be found in the lighting of the rose-colored candle on the Advent wreath and in the rose-colored vestments the priest and deacon might wear. Also, this theme of joy is especially evident in this Sunday's second reading, as St. Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, bids us to "Rejoice in the Lord always" — a sentiment so important that he repeats it again for emphasis: "I shall say it again: rejoice!" It might be a good spiritual exercise in the week ahead to reflect on the presence of joy in your life: What makes you joyful? What should you be joyful and thankful about in your life, because of the gifts God has given you?

The theme of rejoicing is echoed in the Collect (opening prayer) of the Mass as well, as we pray that as we are faithfully awaiting the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord, we may be enabled *"to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing."*

Elsewhere in this bulletin we have a special insert for the Third Week of Advent, and, as I hope you have been doing for the previous two weeks, please refer to those pages and use them as a basis for your Advent prayer and spiritual reflections throughout the upcoming week.

Late Advent and the "O Antiphons"

On Monday of this week, December 17, we enter into the second phase of Advent, to more directly prepare for the way the Lord will come into our hearts and our lives at Christmas; the reference to the feast of the Lord's Nativity in the Collect of the Mass gives evidence of this.

The Church marks the days of late Advent time by praying the "O Antiphons." The "O Antiphons" are the antiphons that accompany the *Magnificat*

canticle that is prayed as part of Evening Prayer (Vespers) from December 17 to December 23. The Roman Catholic Church has been singing the "O Antiphons" since at least the eighth century, so they have a long history for us! In these antiphons we have a magnificent theology that uses ancient Biblical imagery, drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament, to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but also of present ones as well. Notice how the antiphons repeatedly use the imperative "Come!" That sums up for us our longing for the Divine Messiah.

We have listed the "O Antiphons" for the upcoming week in our special bulletin insert which I previously mentioned; be sure to use these antiphons in your prayer this week. *Come, Lord Jesus!*

You must come to Mass TWICE in a short period of time next week!

Keep in mind that you'll be in church a couple of times in a short amount of time next week, so plan accordingly. Our obligation is to participate in Mass for Sunday, December 23, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, either on Saturday night December 22 or Sunday December 23, and then again for Christmas, December 23, either on Christmas Eve, Monday evening, December 24, or Christmas Day, December 25. Check the information elsewhere in this bulletin for our special schedule of Christmas Masses (Sunday follows the usual Sunday schedule).

Fr. Fidelis renewed for another term

Fr. Fidelis' assignment as Associate Pastor here at OLPH was scheduled to conclude as of December 31, 2018. Several months ago, in anticipation of that date. Fr. Fidelis and I discussed our mutual desire to have him request another term here at OLPH, and I am thrilled to say that Bishop Barres has granted this request. Fr. Fidelis has been reappointed as Associate Pastor here through October, 2021. Indeed, "God is good, all the time!"

I know, because I hear it often and can see it in you, how fond all of you are of Fr. Fidelis. His gentleness, compassion and good humor are wonderful additions to our parish life and to our rectory, and we are enriched by his priestly presence. As Pastor, I am grateful for his spirit of cooperation and his kindhearted presence to parishioners. We welcome and look forward to Fr. Fidelis' continued ministry, and the gift of his spirituality and his priesthood, for at least another three years.

Brick Memorialization

Allow me to call your attention to the fact that

our brick memorialization program is ongoing. You can still memorialize a brick in our “Let the Children Come to Me Prayer Garden.” We are continuing to run the flyer and the form in our bulletin, so take advantage of the opportunity as soon as you can. It would make a great Christmas gift, wouldn't it? Of course, it's also a great way to memorialize a prayer intention or to honor a deceased loved one. The profits from the bricks continue to be an important help in easing our ongoing financial struggles.

We get free shipping when we order bricks in batches of 100, so we will wait until we have 100 orders, and then we will send them out for engraving and, upon their return, have them installed. Tell family and friends about this; remember, you don't have to be a parishioner of OLPH, or even Catholic, to memorialize a brick!

Bambinelli Sunday—Bring your figure of the Christ Child NEXT WEEKEND, to be blessed at Masses on the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Remember that next weekend is “Bambinelli Sunday” at OLPH, at all the Sunday Masses. Bring your figure of the Christ Child from your crèche (Nativity scene) at home and bring it forward when requested during Mass to be blessed.

Extra times for Confessions

Notice elsewhere in the bulletin that we are making available extra times for Confessions: 7:00-8:00 p.m. on Tuesday night, December 18, and an extended period on Saturday, December 22, 3:00 to 4:30 p.m., when all the priests will be available (note the special time, which is different from a usual Saturday).

I do hope that you will take advantage of one of these times, or one of our usual times, to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, especially if you have been away for a long time. What a wonderful way to “prepare the way of the Lord” and to get ready to celebrate Christmas! Nothing will feel better than being relieved of the burden of the sins we carry around by experiencing God's forgiveness and grace! Nothing will bring more Christmas joy than knowing that God has embraced us and taken away our sins through the grace of the sacrament! I promise you: the priests are there simply to proclaim to you God's love, mercy and forgiveness. There will be no scolding, no judgement, and certainly no shock at what you might say. If you haven't been to Confession in a long time, we'll help you and make it easy for you. Please, please, please come and know the joy of God's forgiveness in your life!

Christmas Pageant

This Friday night, December 21, is our annual Christmas Pageant, this year run under the auspices of

our Religious Education Office — thank you, April Kleinlaut and Bridget Jordan, for picking up the reins on this! This is always such a fun-filled and heart-warming presentation, and I thoroughly enjoy being a part of it each year. It starts at 7:00 in the church, so be sure to set the night aside to join us.

Ministry Directory

Last year at Christmas we released the first edition of the 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.

An update of this Directory is being prepared in time for Christmas this year (thanks for your continued work on this, Chris Ferraro!), but this time, in an effort to use resources in the most judicious way possible, we will be printing only a small number of hard copies, to keep on hand in the rectory; the new version will be available on line at our website (as the current one is), and everyone is invited to refer to it there or download it and print it out from there. It will also be available on our Parish App. So, look for the announcement of the release of our updated Ministry Directory soon.

Prepare now to be kind to the crowds!

It's not too early for my annual reminder: let's be kind to all the extra folks who will be coming to Christmas Masses. Yes, the crowds can be a little inconvenient, but we have to be glad that the people are coming, and we “regulars” must do all we can to create a climate of hospitality and welcome. We hope and pray that all the folks will come to Mass more regularly, and we can say for sure that if they receive a rude comment or look from us, chances are they will definitely not be back. So, let's do all we can to come to our Christmas Masses with good cheer, smiles on our faces, and an attitude of welcome and greeting — even if someone comes in and sits in “your” seat!

Let's all continue to pray for the day when we have to deal with the “problem” of such high attendance numbers on a weekly basis, instead of just a few times each year!

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.

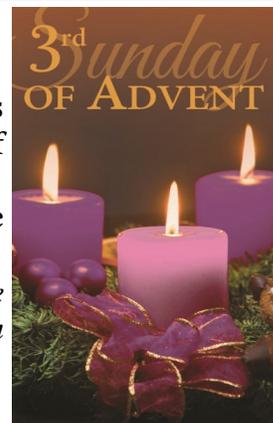
And let's always remember: LOVE IS A GIFT.

Sincerely,



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Lighting Your Advent Wreath During the Week



Each day during the third week of Advent, at the evening meal, two purple candles and one pink candle are lighted. The following prayers accompany the lighting of the candles.

All make the sign of the cross: **In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Someone at table reads the Scripture assigned to the liturgy of the day (one or both of the readings may be used). See the list of daily readings printed elsewhere in this bulletin. Then the Leader continues:

Leader: **Lift up your hearts.**

All respond: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

The Leader prays: **God, the Father of mercies, you willed your Son to take flesh, in order to give life back to us. Bless these your gifts with which we are about to nourish our bodies, so that, receiving new strength, we may wait in watchfulness for the glorious coming of Christ. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

After the meal, the Leader says: **Let us live soberly, justly, and devoutly in this world as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.**

All respond: **For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

Thoughts to Ponder during Advent....

The weekdays from December 17 up to and including December 24 are ordered in a more direct way to preparing for the Nativity of the Lord.

— Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar

Advent is the season of hope and longing. Jesus is the One who fulfills our hopes and satisfies the longings of our hearts. As our hopes and longings intensify, even the prayer of the Church takes on a special sense of urgency. Throughout the world, Christians invoke Jesus' coming by praying the "O Antiphons." These short but powerful petitions use the ancient Messianic titles to describe who Jesus truly is and what He will do for His people.

***On December 17 pray:* "O Wisdom, O holy Word of God, you govern all creation with your strong yet tender care. Come and show your people the way to salvation."**

***On December 18 pray:* "O sacred Lord of ancient Israel, who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush, who gave him the holy law on Sinai mountain: come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free."**

***On December 19 pray:* "O Flower of Jesse's stem, you have been raised up as a sign for all peoples; kings stand silent in your presence; the nations bow down in worship before you. Come, let nothing keep you from coming to our aid."**

***On December 20 pray:* "O Key of David, O royal Power of Israel controlling at your will the gate of heaven: come, break down the prison walls of death for those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death; and lead your captive people into freedom."**

***On December 21 pray:* "O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death."**

***On December 22 pray:* "O King of all the nations, the only joy of every human heart; O Keystone of the mighty arch of man, come and save the creature you fashioned from the dust."**

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

—Collect of the Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent



Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to your promises and ever close to your Church: the earth rejoices in hope of the Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow, for he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

—Another prayer for the Third Sunday of Advent

The glory of God is a living person and the life of each living person is the vision of God.

—Irenaeus of Lyons Second century

Our brokenness is the wound through which the full power of God can penetrate our being and transfigure us in God. Loneliness is not something from which we must flee but the place from where we can cry out to God, where God will find us and we can find God. Yes, through our wounds the power of God can penetrate us and become like rivers of living water to irrigate the arid earth within us. Thus we may irrigate the arid earth of others, so that hope and love are reborn.

—Jean Vanier

Rise up, Lord, with mercy for Sion, for the time of mercy has come, the time has come at last.

—Cistercian liturgy

In the annual celebration of the approaching birth of the Savior this solidarity with Christ will not only be recalled in memory, but indeed will be newly established and secured through the presence of the Lord. Every Christian celebration is indeed not just a remembrance and memorial, somewhat like an annual birthday celebration. Rather, the celebration of Christmas becomes a faith-filled and loving encounter with the Lord of salvation and thereby a true coming of the Messiah into our own time. Thus Advent is not just a make-believe play, a pious piece of devotional theater, but a true approach of the Lord.

—from *The Key to Faith: Meditations on the Liturgical Year* by Adolf Adam

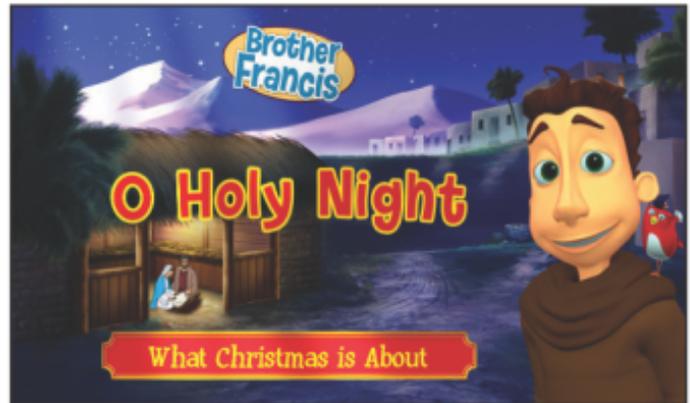


FORMED PICK

Brother Francis: O Holy Night

Celebrate the Birth of Jesus

Recall the wonder and joy of Christmas with Brother Francis in this heartwarming presentation that will remind you Who we celebrate during the Christmas season!



Watch on formed.org

As a parishioner of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, you have complimentary access to FORMED, an incredible gateway to Catholic content, all in one place. Visit our FORMED community website at <https://olphlindhurst.formed.org>. Click on the "Register Now" icon and create an account. Once registered, you will have free access to the website and also their smart phone app.

THE OLPH APP

Catholic Life Every Day

with the Our Lady of Perpetual Help App

Step 1: Open App Store or Google Play

Step 2: Search "myParish app" & press download 

Step 3: Open up the myParish app and type in "Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church"

Step 4: Set OLPH as your main parish

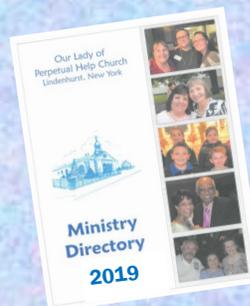
Step 5: Explore the great features in our parish app!

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING? CHECK OUT OUR NEW DIRECTORY!

*Watch for
the updated
2019 Ministry Directory*

*available soon on
our OLPH website
www.olphlindhurst.com*

*& on our
OLPH App!*



PRAYER & 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. Following the Novena prayers, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place. The evening concludes with veneration of a relic of St. Catherine Laboure. Take some time each Monday to join in the OLPH Novena.

Monday, December 17—7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 24—

No Devotions due to Christmas

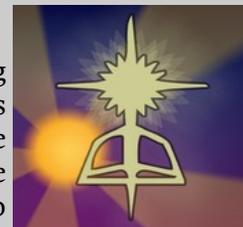
Monday, December 31—

**No Devotions due to
the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

Evening Prayer

All are invited to pray Evening Prayer on Saturdays and Sundays after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Here we pray the psalms, listen to the Word of God and give thanks to God for the blessings of the day.

Evening Prayer is usually about ten to fifteen minutes in length. So come and pray...



Saturdays and Sundays After the 5:00 p.m. Mass

“The Liturgy of the Hours is intended to become the prayer of the whole People of God. In it Christ himself ‘continues his priestly work through his Church....Pastors of souls should see to it that the principal hours, especially Vespers (Evening Prayer) are celebrated in common in church on Sundays and on the more solemn feasts.’”

-Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1175

Lord, Have Mercy: Prayer Intentions for Your Faith Community

You may notice the book *Lord, Have Mercy: Prayer Intentions for Your Faith Community* displayed in the Divine Mercy Chapel.

This book is used to record the intercessions and prayer requests for the sick, the homebound, the suffering, the local and universal Church, the needs of the world, and anyone else in need of prayer. The prayers contained in this book are referenced during the Universal Prayer at Sunday Mass.

This new book replaces the marble notebooks that were used in the past, giving more dignity to the prayers that are written. Quotations from the Bible are beautifully inscribed in English and Spanish and are meant to be a source of prayer and inspiration. Take the opportunity to record your intercessions. Remember in your own prayer the needs expressed on the pages of this book. Pray for them individually or when you gather with others for prayer.

If you would like to memorialize this book in memory of a loved one who has died or to mark a special occasion, please contact Chris Ferraro at the rectory - cferraro@oloph.org or (631) 226-7725 ext. 210. The cost is \$75. We envision using several books throughout the course of the year.



You may have noticed that we now have a music supplement in the back of our *Gather* hymnals. These supplements, which will change periodically according to the seasons of the liturgical year, allow us to use additional seasonal music that is not contained in the hymnal. These supplements are placed inside the back cover and held in place by a plastic sleeve. On the hymn boards, whenever you see the letter S, followed by a dash (-) and a number, that refers to the supplement. For example, the Entrance Hymn for this Sunday is listed as “S-1” which means that the hymn is the first hymn in the supplement.

Throughout Advent, in place of a hymn, we will be using the proper text for the Entrance Antiphon from the *Roman Missal*. These antiphons set the tone for the liturgy and express that theology of the particular Sunday being celebrated. The text of each antiphon have been adapted to fit an ancient and well known Advent tune, Creator of the Stars of Night (CREATOR ALME SIDERUM). The assembly sings the antiphon while the choir or cantor sings verses of a particular Advent psalm. The antiphons can be found in the Advent/Christmas Music Supplement in the back of the *Gather* hymnal.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
Larchmont, New York

**Advent/
Christmas
Music
Supplement**





*Sunday,
December 30th,
Feast of
The Holy Family*

Our Knights of Columbus Council will be sponsoring a devotional prayer following the 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., and 12:00 Noon Masses on December 30. The theme will be "Consecration to the Holy Family." We will pray for the intercession of Jesus, Mary and Joseph to help our families become more perfect and to be a "Domestic Church."

Prayer cards will be available the weekend of December 22/23 for those who want to fast and pray before the Consecration.



BAMBINELLI SUNDAY
AT OLPH

We'll again be celebrating our own "Bambinelli Sunday" here at OLPH on the **Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 22-23**. You are invited to bring to Mass that weekend your figure of the Christ Child from your home crèche (Nativity scene). We'll offer a blessing of these figurines at all the Masses for the Fourth Sunday of Advent that weekend. Don't forget to bring your Christ Child figure to Sunday Mass December 22-23!



*Christmas Spiritual
Bouquet Cards*

Join in the Mass intentions for the Masses of Christmas by using the Christmas Spiritual Bouquet cards which are now available throughout the church. These cards are a wonderful and meaningful way for you to remember your loved ones at Christmas and to have them prayed for at our Christmas Masses. Return the envelope with your donation in the collection basket or bring it to the rectory, and keep the card to send your Christmas Spiritual Bouquet.

Prayer for Peace

Please join us for a special Holy Hour devoted to praying for world peace within our own country and throughout the world. **This Holy Hour for Peace, with prayers focusing on the intention of peace, will be held on the second, third and fourth Sunday evenings of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** The Holy Hour of Reparation which has been held on the first Sunday of the month will continue every first Sunday evening as usual, with the prayers that are usually said for that first Sunday Holy Hour.



*Lord Jesus Christ,
who are called the Prince of Peace,
Who are yourself our peace and our reconciliation,
Who so often said 'Peace to you', Grant us peace!
Make all men and women witnesses
of truth, justice and brotherly love.
Banish from their hearts whatever might endanger peace.
Enlighten our rulers that they may guarantee
and defend the great gift of peace.
May all peoples of the earth
become as brothers and sisters.
May longed-for peace blossom forth
and reign always over us all.
AMEN
Mary, Queen of Peace, Pray for us!
(Pope Saint John XXIII)*

ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASS

CHRISTOLOGY

Instructors: Mrs. April Kleinlaut, Fr. Fidelis Ezeani
and Deacon Robert Becker

5 nights, Thursdays and Tuesdays –
January 17, 24, 31 and February 5 & 12

Time: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Place: Room 3 in OLPH School



This course provides a basic understanding of the person of Jesus Christ revealed through Scripture and doctrine. Foundations such as Jesus’s teaching ministry, the Resurrection stories, and the full humanity of Jesus will be presented. The course will also develop an understanding of the image of Christ presented by St. Paul in his epistles as well as other historical representations.

Credit may be obtained as a Basic Course toward completion of a diocesan Basic Religious Studies Certificate.

A \$20 donation is requested to cover the cost of materials will be collected during the class. To register, please contact the Rectory at 631.226.7725 x 200 or return the coupon below no later than January 12, 2019.

YES, PLEASE SIGN ME UP FOR CHRISTOLOGY!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Return no later than January 12, 2019.



WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE IN LIFE?

DO YOU LOVE YOUR JOB?

ARE YOU FULFILLING YOUR CAREER DREAMS?

Would you like to help others go after their hopes and dreams?

If you enjoy helping people and mentoring others, it will be rewarding to share your professional knowledge and success. Come and join our Professional Mentorship Ministry and together let’s help others find their purpose in life.



LET’S HELP EACH OTHER FIND OUR PURPOSE IN LIFE

If you are interested in sharing your knowledge call OLPH Church at (631) 226-7725 or email PMM@oloph.org



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



Levels 1-5 & Special Ed:
On Saturday, December 22,
there is NO CLASS
due to Christmas Break!
We will see you in
the New Year!

Happy Saint of the Day!**St. Rita**

St. Rita is the patron saint of impossible cases, because most of her life she went through exactly that. When she was twelve years old she had asked to join a convent, but instead her parents arranged a marriage for her with a cruel man, and she had two sons with him. Her husband's family had been caught up in a feud with another's. Rita was able to dissuade her husband from continuing the feud, but he still fell victim to one of his enemies and died. Her brother-in-law wanted revenge for his brother's death even though Rita had forgiven the murderer. Her sons soon became obsessed with avenging their father's death as well. Rita prayed that they would be stopped before they lost their souls to murder, and her prayers were answered when they died a year later from natural causes. After this, Rita sought to finally become a nun. She was told no at first, because of the feud between the families. She prayed that it would be stopped, and with the coming of the plague it did. Thus, Rita was finally able to become a nun. What caused most of Rita's suffering in her life was something that she prayed for from God, and that was to suffer as Jesus Christ had. The answer to her prayers was a wound that appeared on her forehead, made by Jesus' crown of thorns. She lived with this mark for the rest of her life, dying at the age of 91 from tuberculosis.



INTERESTED IN
OFFERING YOUR TIME
AS AN ASSISTANT
CATECHIST?
WE NEED YOU!!!

Our program relies on the generous time and talent offered by our dedicated teachers. At this time, we are in need of assistant catechists to help students with special needs in the classroom. Training is provided! Please call us for any questions or stop by our office!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, FAMILY LIFE, &
MUSIC MINISTRY

Cordially invites you to our

Annual Christmas Pageant!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2018

At 7:00 P.M. in the Church

Celebrate Late Advent Time and prepare to celebrate Christmas right as we “Keep Christ in Christmas”! Come see the story of Jesus’ birth brought to life by children of all ages at this wonderful parish event!

Bring your friends and family to celebrate in a truly blessed and spiritual presentation, and then join us after for hot chocolate and baked goodies!

Come join us outside as we bless our new outdoor Nativity scene following the pageant.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- † 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
- † Community Meal: Gigi Gracey—631.943.0095—gigigracey1962@gmail.com—Mary Leon—mleon719@yahoo.com
- † Homeless Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com—Peggy Pannullo—631. 921.5994—justin97@aol.com
- † 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—louiseperrotta@optonline.net
- † St. Bernard League: Deacon Doug Smith—631-226-7725—dsmith4475@aol.com
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Deborah Deasy—631.226.7725, x. 234
- † Senior Moments/Spirituality: Fran Grasso—631.956.3003—sixfingers13@gmail.com
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker—631.226.6175—jbecker@oloph.org—Caroline Grogan—631.225.7688—straightclaw@optonline.net

NEW Food Pantry List!

**PASTA SAUCE
CANNED FRUIT
HOT CHOCOLATE
COFFEE
TOOTHPASTE
TOILETRIES**

PLEASE NO PASTA AT THIS TIME.

Because of your generosity our pantry is BULGING and only the listed items are needed at this time.

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.

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, “Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise...”

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving...please share your abundance by giving a gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.

OUR ADVENT GIVING TREE

**All gifts
due
Today!**

The Final Judgment in the Gospel of Matthew should serve as a call to action for each and every one of us. Our parish Advent Giving Tree is one way to respond! Our parish social ministries are working together to support life at all stages. There are tags on our Giving Tree to help the hungry, the unborn, the sick, the immigrant and those in prison. You need to empty the tree of the tags and return them no later than today **Sunday, December 16**. *If you have any questions, please contact Diane Ronessi at dronessi@verizon.net or 631.225.4115. (Gifts for SVdP were due last week). All gifts should not be wrapped.*



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

HOMELESS MINISTRY

DONATIONS:

We can use gift cards (Visa, Amazon, etc.) or financial donations, and we'll do the shopping for items most often needed.

We are in need of the following:

- Sweat shirts
- Sweat pants
- Jeans (30-42)
- New women's underwear (5,6,7)
- New men's underwear (L, XL, 2x, 3x)
- Hoodies
- Thermal underwear
- Blankets
- Clean, gently used sneakers
- Gloves
- Winter berets/skull caps

Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Office from 9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m. daily and 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. on the weekends.

MIDDLE AGES

*Are you a lady in your 40s, 50s, or 60s?
Are you looking to meet other women who
share your interest in spirituality,
socializing and social action?*

Please be patient.

We are taking a little break from our gatherings.

Call Gail Tonnessen at 631-957-1449
or email her at gtonness@optonline.net

SENIOR MOMENTS

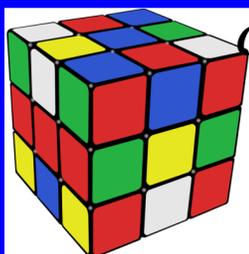
GIVE YOURSELF A CHALLENGE

The Senior Moments Ministry is a committed spiritual family who meet once a month on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Our next meeting:

**Tuesday, January 8
9:00 a.m. in Room 24**

CYO EVENT



Organized by OLPH CYO
**CAN YOU SOLVE
A RUBIK'S CUBE?**

**LONG ISLAND WINTER 2019
SPEED SOLVE
COMPETITION**

Saturday, February 23, 2019
in the OLPH Auditorium

Registration to compete costs \$25,
and must be completed through
the WORLD CUBE ASSOCIATION

[https://www.worldcubeassociation.org/
competitions/LongIslandWinter2019](https://www.worldcubeassociation.org/competitions/LongIslandWinter2019)

There is a limit of 80 competitors.
OR JUST STOP BY AND WATCH !

Contact Luke Farrell for information
or questions olphcyo11757@gmail.com
516-343-5434

There is a
place for
you at
our table...



COMMUNITY MEAL MINISTRY

OLPH's Community Meal Ministry has served hundreds of meals to members of our parish community. Generally held on one Sunday each month, the Community Meal seeks to provide a place of good food, good fellowship and good times for all who come!

**Our next Community Meal is
Sunday, December 16
Come pray at the 12:00 p.m. Mass
then join us for
"Sunday Dinner" at 1:00 p.m.**

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
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Pastor	206	msgjrjoe@oloph.org
Jacqueline Dwyer, Parish Secretary	212	jdwyer@oloph.org
Fr. Fidelis Ezeani, Associate Pastor	226	fadaprince4christ@yahoo.com
Faith Formation Office	253	religioused@oloph.org
Christopher Ferraro, Director of Music	210	cferraro@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@oloph.org
Frank Pokorney, Business Manager	204	fpokorney@oloph.org
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 Rite 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 rabecker@optimum.net.

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 (Chair)
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Jeffrey Gaab
Gregory Guido
Sonia Hansen
Joselyn Kalt
Mary Leon
Kevin Sabella, Jr.
Kevin Sabella, Sr.
James Totino
Adele Venezia

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

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

Gerry Chille
John Reynolds

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

David Barrett
Bill Bendernagel
Gerry Chille (Chair)
Meg Danaher, CFP®, CLU®
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Christine Donovan
Marie Gagneron
Kenneth Hale
Bob Meade
Frank Pokorney
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
Deacon Robert Becker
Lynn Bergin
Mark Costantino
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Chris Ferraro
MaryAnn Haas
Jenine Jimenez-Spina
Barbara McPhail
Deacon Doug Smith
Rosaleen Walters
Mike Williams

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

God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin, given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and welcomed you into his holy people.



-Rite of Baptism

Marjorie Emily Garcia

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

WE BELIEVE

We pray for the sick of our parish...

Stephanie Scarpa

John Jordan

John Pius

Anne Wildner

Kelly Cahill

John Manning

Marilyn Abbott

Laurel Norstedt

Marie Molina

David Dentici

Betty Cunningham

Lucille Sullivan

Marie D'Angelo

Carl D'Angelo

Tom Willumson

Marge Heldeman

Joanne Hernandez

Ginny Gala

Joseph Pugh

Peter Masak

Natalie & Lew Yugel

Gail Tonnessen

Roberta Fifield

Jeanne Calise

Loretto Dinardo

Teresa Pirolo

Patricia Goertz

Debbi Triola-Curiale

Louise Perrotta

Dr. Alan Lloyd Steinberg

If a family member or close friend is ill, please let us know so our community can pray for them. To have your name or the name of a loved one listed in our parish bulletin, please call the Parish Office. **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 about four weeks.

WE REMEMBER

We remember those who have died in our parish community this week:

Thomas A. Donnelly

Patricia Boehringer

Michela Colombo

Aurolio Maniscalco

“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.”

MASS MEMORIALS

A beautiful way to remember a loved one!
Memorials used during the Masses for week of
December 16-22:

Altar Bread & Wine

In Memory of

Canzoneri

& Pecoraro Families

Requested by

Liz & Agostino Pecoraro

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

PERPETUAL HELP MASS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2018

5:00 P.M. MASS

Jeanette & Edwin Monge (Living)	Requested by Jeanette Monge
John Stoker	Requested by Stoker Family
Michael Pentaleri	Requested by Josephine Lopresti
Joseph Juliano	Requested by Debra Seeley
Eileen M. Fister	Requested by Barbara Aiello
Barbara Pfluegner	Requested by Shirleyann Watson

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, December 17— LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:30 Mascio Family

12:15 John J. Casey

TUESDAY, December 18— LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:30 Maureen Heuer

12:15 Matthew Cronin

WEDNESDAY, December 19— LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:30 Billy Higgins

12:15 Paul Santoro

THURSDAY, December 20— LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

6:30 Michael Marchetti

12:15 Maria & Gaspare Piazza

FRIDAY, December 21 LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY (*Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church*)

6:30 Dominick Barone

12:15 William (Bud) Sullivan, Patrick &
Cecilia Flynn

SATURDAY, December 22 LATE ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:00 William Sullivan

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated): FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 Joann Vitti

Sunday, December 23 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 The Pecere-Taliercio Families

10:00 Michele Quevedo

12:00 For the People of the Parish

5:00 Terry Dorso

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, December 17, 2018

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
5:00 p.m.	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal	Church
7:00 p.m.	Devotions	Church

Tuesday, December 18, 2018

6:45 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
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Wednesday, December 19, 2018

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
12:45 p.m.	Exposition	Church
5:30 p.m.	Level 6 & 7 Classes	School
6:00 p.m.	Van Run	Room 12
7:00 p.m.	Level 8 Classes	School

Thursday, December 20, 2018

1:00 p.m.-on	Church closed for cleaning	Church
4:30 p.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Church
5:00 p.m.	Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal	Church
6:00 p.m.	CYO Basketball	Auditorium
7:00 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Group	Cafeteria
7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church
7:30 p.m.	Baptismal Prep Class for Parents	Room 16
7:30 p.m.	RCIA	Room 18
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous	Room 24

Friday, December 21, 2018

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
7:00 p.m.	Christmas Pageant	Church

Saturday, December 22, 2018

	No Religious Ed. Classes	
12:00 p.m.	Altar Server Rehearsal	Church
1:00 p.m.	CYO Basketball	Auditorium
1:30 p.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
3:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
7:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria

Sunday, December 23, 2018

9:15 a.m.	RCIC Meeting	Room 18
1:00 p.m.	CYO Basketball	Auditorium
2:00 p.m.	Baptisms	Church
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
7:00 p.m.	Holy Hour for Peace	Church
7:00 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 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.

Lecturas y reflexiones del domingo 12/23/18 cuarta semana de adviento.

Escucha, Señor, la oración de tu pueblo, alegre por la venida de tu Hijo en carne mortal, y haz que cuando vuelva en su gloria, al final de los tiempos, podamos alegrarnos de escuchar de sus labios la invitación a poseer el reino eterno. Por nuestro Señor.

Primera lectura (Miqueas 5,1-4) *Belén de ti saldrá el jefe de Israel el hijo del hombre. Un rey humilde que traerá paz y salvación. El que anunciaron los profetas. Descendiente del Rey David cuyo reino no tendrá fin.*

Segunda lectura. (Hebreos ,5- 4,4-7) *vengo para cumplir tu voluntad. Jesús se entrega completamente a la voluntad de su padre. El día antes de ser entregado Lucas 22:42 pide al Padre, si es posible aparta de mi esta copa, pero que no se haga mi voluntad sino la tuya. Que en nuestro si, se haga en nosotros también su voluntad y no la nuestra*

El sato Evangelio (Lucas 1:39-45) *he aquí la esclava del señor hágase en me según tu palabra. ¡Como respuesta Dios a los hombres! No los salva sin que ellos mismos quieran. El salvador ha sido deseado y acogido por una Madre. Una jovencita acepta libre y conscientemente ser la servidora del señor y llega a ser la Madre de Dios.*



Nuestro mundo está lleno de gente ordinaria, humilde, que vive en oscuros pueblecitos, y sin embargo algunas personas como éstas han cambiado el curso de este mundo. Dentro de la historia de la Iglesia honramos hoy a la primera persona que procede de ese medio ambiente. Humilde "Sí", cambió el curso del mundo y de la futura Iglesia y derriba el poder del mal con la aparente debilidad, humildad, obediencia y servicio. Una mujer sencilla y un niño frágil están en el origen de nuestra salvación. Reconozcamos la forma sorprendente y asombrosa de la venida de Dios. María Su SÍ a Dios, cambio la historia de la humanidad. El SÍ de María y el de Jesús nos llama a nosotros y a toda la Iglesia hoy a dar nuestro SÍ incondicional a Dios. Pidamos en esta eucaristía que podamos unirnos a Jesús y a María en su SÍ. Y de ese modo podremos cambiar el curso del mundo hoy.

OFFERING UPDATE - December 8/9

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	317	139	\$2,891.00
8:00 a.m.	253	117	2,839.00
10:00 a.m.	515	138	3,823.00
12:00 p.m.	405	109	2,798.00
5:00 p.m.	215	57	1,461.00
Total coin:			24.53
Faith Direct			2,247.75
Children's Envelopes		15	42.25
Mail-ins:			1,138.00
TOTAL	1,705	575	\$17,264.53
2017	1,809	423	\$17,633.72
Candles			\$1,089.90
Poor Box			\$425.05
Religious Retirement			\$1,705.00
Immaculate Conception			\$4,661.88

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Saturday, **December 22 at 1:30 p.m.** We would love to have lots of folks come on down to pitch in. Why not join the fun and come down to help? It's a great thing to do together as a family! It should not take much longer than an hour or so. We appreciate whatever help you can give us.

DEADLINES FOR BULLETIN
 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* no later than the dates listed below to Carmel Becker at cbecker@oloph.org.
Editing and sizes are at the discretion of the editor.

December 23—passed
December 30—passed
January 6—December 28

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER = GREAT OPPORTUNITY UNDER NEW TAX LAWS



Whether you itemize or not in 2018, this unique opportunity allows you to make a charitable contribution through a direct IRA transfer while reducing your adjusted gross income.

If you would like to make a gift to our Parish using your IRA and if:

1. You are at least 70 1/2 years old on the date you make your gift
2. Your IRA is a traditional (some Roth IRA's may qualify)
3. You don't exceed your personal maximum of \$100,000 per year in qualified charitable distributions

You will not have to report your distribution as income. It will be free of federal and New York State income tax, and it will count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD).

The best way for you to start is with your IRA custodian. Tell them you want to make a "qualified charitable distribution". In most cases you will only have to fill out a simple form.

VERY IMPORTANT!! Your gift must go directly from your IRA to our Parish. If you receive the money first then you'll be taxed on it like any other distribution.

Bill has a \$125,000 in a traditional IRA and would like to contribute \$5,000 as his yearly gift to his Parish. Upon hearing of the **Charitable IRA Rollover** opportunity, he directs the custodian of his IRA to transfer this amount not later than December 31, 2018 directly to the Parish as the family's 2018 gift. He will not be subject to income tax on the \$5,000 donation.

This information is not intended and should not be construed as legal, tax or investment advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney, tax advisor or investment professional.

I BANK CATHOLIC

Ocean Financial - the Catholic credit union -

is a financial institution owned by its members with a common bond that is our Catholic faith. Become a member today and see the difference our values can make to your banking, your parish... and your life.

Help support **Our Lady of Perpetual Help** – open your account online* at OceanFinancial.org or in a branch today.

Once you are a member, enjoy the convenience of shared branching by conducting your transactions at any other credit union near you.

Call (516) 469-3455 or visit OceanFinancial.org to find a branch near you.



Ocean Financial Federal Credit Union
 Catholic Values You Can Bank On®

OceanFinancial.org
 516.469.3455

*Membership conditions apply.

FEDERALLY INSURED BY NCUA  Like us on Facebook

PREPARING FOR

Sunday, December 23, 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.”

Luke 1:42

Micah 5:1-4a

Salvation will come through a “messiah,” an anointed ruler. The Book of Micah shares with Isaiah the expectation that God will deliver Israel through a king in the line of David. Bethlehem-Ephrathah is the home of the Davidic line. The Messiah will bring about peace and reconciliation between God and humankind through his very person.

Hebrews 10:5-10

The Christian faith professes that the sacrifice of Christ is the only true atoning act for sin. The Old Testament sacrifices could not bring about true spiritual benefits but only prefigured this work of Christ. Jesus knew that accomplishing the will of the Father—reconciling God with his people—meant the complete sacrificial offering of his humanity back to God.

Luke 1:39-45

Luke’s “infancy narrative” presents parallel scenes of angelic announcements of the birth of John the Baptist and of Jesus, and of the birth, circumcision, and presentation of John and Jesus. In this parallelism, the supremacy of Jesus over John is stressed: John is *prophet* of the Most High while Jesus is *Son* of the Most High; John is great *in the sight of the Lord* while Jesus will *be* great, which is an attribute of God alone; John will *go before the Lord* while Jesus will *be* Lord. This contrast is captured in the visitation scene and the dialogue between the mothers of John and Jesus that we hear today.

Readings for the Week*Take time each day to read the daily readings of the Church.***Monday, December 17, 2018:**

Genesis 49:2, 8-10
+ Matthew 1:1-17

Tuesday, December 18, 2018:

Jeremiah 23:5-8
+ Matthew 1:18-25

Wednesday, December 19, 2018:

Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a
+ Luke 1:5-25

Thursday, December 20, 2018:

Isaiah 7:10-14 + Luke 1:26-38

Friday, December 21, 2018:

Song of Songs 2:8-14
+ Luke 1:39-45

Saturday, December 22, 2018:

1 Samuel 1:24-28
+ Luke 1:46-56

Sunday, December 23, 2018:

Micah 5:1-4a
+ Hebrews 10:5-10
+ Luke 1:39-45

Gospel Reflection Questions....

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

1. The infant “leaped for joy” in Elizabeth’s womb at the recognition of the soon to be born savior. Discuss this moment as mankind’s welcome to the savior. How close do you come to leaping for joy when you recognize God’s presence in your life?

2. Pope Francis says Mary not only carries the gift of Jesus to Elizabeth, but to all of humanity. Jesus takes human flesh from Mary for his mission of salvation because she is humble. How is my humility?

... When Mary arrives, joy overflows and gushes from their hearts, because the invisible but real presence of Jesus fills everything with meaning: life, family, the salvation of the people. Everything! This joy is expressed in the *Magnificat*. It is a song of praise to God who works great things through humble people, unknown to the world, as is Mary herself, as is her spouse Joseph, and as is the place where they live, Nazareth.

The great things God has done with humble people, the great things the Lord does in the world with the humble, because humility is like a vacuum that leaves room for God. ... I would like to ask you—and also myself—but do not answer out loud—each of you respond in your heart: “How is my humility”?

*Pope Francis Angelus Saint Peter’s Square
Tuesday, August 15, 2017*





1st Prize: \$1,000 2nd Prize: \$250 3rd - 6th Prize: \$100
Extra \$250 Drawing at Christmas and \$150 at New Years

“SUPER 72 IS BACK”

It's time to get your new tickets!

Mail back the parish portion of the ticket with your check payable to

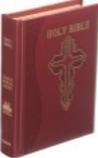
“OLPH SUPER 72”

or drop it in the collection basket.

Tickets and envelopes are available at the rectory.

“DRAWING FROM December 2018 THROUGH May 2019”

Raffle Tickets courtesy of Johnstons' Wellwood Funeral Home

	 <p>LINDENCREST DINER Steaks • Chops • Seafood Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner Late Night Snacks 226-1010 330 W. Montauk Hwy., Lindenhurst Serving our community with pride since 1985!</p>			<p>Donald H. Zuber <i>Painting</i> Inside and Out Paper Hanging (631) 225-9452</p>
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