

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

210 South Wellwood Avenue + Lindenhurst, New York 11757 +

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

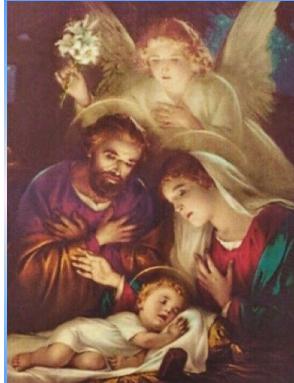
www.olphlindenhurst.com + Facebook: Our Lady of Perpetual Help 



Download the **myParish** app today!

Daily Readings - Parish Updates - Weekly Bulletin & more!

Download instructions on page 2



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Our Lady of Perpetual
Help Church.**

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

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

amazon smile

The angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel.”

Matthew 2:19-20

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

December 29, 2019

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. Thomas Crennan

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

Music Director: Mr. Christopher Ferraro

Deacon Frank Odin, Retired

COME 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 afternoons
at 12:45 p.m. in the church

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

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

First Saturday: 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 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.

DOWNLOAD 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!



FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

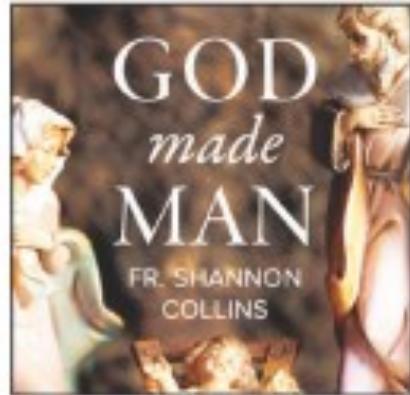
God Made Man

By Fr. Shannon Collins

Rediscover the True Meaning of Christmas

Fr. Shannon Collins sheds new light on the biblical narratives of the birth of Jesus Christ, as well as the beautiful traditions of the Church during Christmas. Listen before the Christmas season ends!

[Listen on formed.org](#)



Q: How do new parishioners register for an account?

A: Registering for FORMED is easier than ever:

Go to formed.org/signup

Select your parish

Register with your name and email address

Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED

Q: Do parishioners still need to use our parish code or custom registration URL?

A: Registering has become a lot easier and parish codes and custom registration urls are no longer needed for your parishioners to register for FORMED through your parish! Now, parishioners simply need to go to formed.org/signup and find your parish to register.

Q: Will parishioners user emails and passwords still work?

A: Passwords are being phased out. Parishioner emails will still work. Parishioners do not need to re-register to sign in.

PASTOR'S PAGE

Merry Christmas!

Allow me to offer my greetings of rich Christmas Time blessings to come upon you and your family! The Church continues to celebrate the shining days of Christmas, as we celebrate that the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us — God became man and lived a human life. Jesus of Nazareth is Emmanuel, God-with-us, revealing to us the fullness of the invisible God. As one of the Mass prayers for Christmas Time in the Roman Missal reminds us, *"On the feast of this awe-filled mystery, though invisible in his own divine nature, he has appeared visibly in ours; and begotten before all ages, he has begun to exist in time; so that, raising up in himself all that was cast down, he might restore unity to all creation and call straying humanity back to the heavenly Kingdom."* Those are beautiful words for us to pray on over and over again, in order to explore the richness and depth of the meaning of Christmas!

Don't let all the "after-Christmas" stuff you're hearing fool you — it's still Christmas, and will be for Catholics until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which this year is on Sunday, January 12 (a nice, long season of Christmas Time!). These days are the days that are appropriate for Christmas parties, Christmas visiting and Christmas cheer; our own OLPH Pastoral Staff and Support Staff Christmas Party will be on Thursday evening of this week, January 2. Keep the joy and meaning of Christmas Time alive and well through all these days up until January 12. Keep your house lit and your decorations up until then! Let's celebrate the fullness of Christmas Time!

Merry Christmas!

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

This Sunday is the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. This liturgical feast has been on the Church calendar for about one hundred years, although it has been celebrated on different dates throughout its history. The feast celebrates the unity and love so evident in the family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, and one of the main things the Church prays for on this feast is that our families might imitate the virtues of the Holy Family.

For example, the Collect (opening prayer) for Mass praises the Holy Family as a shining example, and it asks that *"we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity."* The Prayer over the Offerings makes another petition for our families when it asks that *"through the intercession of the Virgin Mother of God and Saint Joseph, you [God] may establish our families firmly in your grace and your peace."* Imitation of the Holy Family is invoked a third time, in the Prayer after Communion, as that prayer asks that we might *"imitate constantly the example of the Holy Family,"* adding the petition that *"after the trials of this world, we may share their company for ever."*

No family is perfect; all families have conflict and all families deal with less-than-ideal situations. Don't get caught up in the idea that your family cannot live up to the ideal of the Holy Family; just put into practice as best you can the Christian virtues of love, compassion, forgiveness and sacrifice. Pray for your family, using the thoughts and words of those prayers of the Mass for the Holy Family; ask for the grace for you and all the members of your family to imitate the virtues lived by Jesus, Mary and Joseph as the Holy Family. Ask Our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph to intercede for your family members. Perhaps a great gift we could all give to our families would be to do the hard work of soul-searching and examining our conscience, to try to discern what we could change about ourselves in order to better imitate the love and self-giving of the Holy Family.

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God—a Holy Day of Obligation!

This Wednesday, January 1 (aside from being New Year's Day) is the Octave (Eighth Day) of the Nativity of the Lord, and it is also the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation. So, we are required to attend Mass for the Solemnity. Masses for the Holy Day will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 31 at 5:00 p.m., and at 10:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. on Wednesday, January 1; be sure to attend one of them.

How beautiful it is to have a feast of the Blessed Mother so prominent during Christmas

Time! One of the most outstanding characteristics of Mary is her willingness to know and do God's will. While we would like to follow her example, we often find it difficult to do so, don't we? Do we have a clue that could help us imitate Mary more perfectly? I think the Gospel for the Mass of this Solemnity gives us that clue, words that I am always struck by: *"And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart."* She reflected on events that had happened and that were unfolding before her eyes. In other words, she meditated! Don't we need to do that more — to stop, reflect, meditate, ponder, and even, at times, just wonder at what God has done and is doing? God is always manifesting Himself, but we often miss it. Often we simply just don't spend as much time in prayer as we should. It can be a wonderful source of spiritual nourishment for us to quiet down, to pray and to meditate a little more, and so to rediscover a sense of wonder about being in a never-ending love relationship with God. Talk about a great New Year's resolution! Would you be willing to make that yours?

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

I take this opportunity to offer a tremendous **THANK YOU** to EVERYONE who gave so much of themselves to make our Christmas Masses so beautiful. To all the liturgical ministers, to all who in any way gave their time to assist in and around the church, by cleaning, decorating, arranging, and many other behind-the-scenes and in-front-of-the scenes tasks, and to all who work here, you are to be commended for your devotion and good work during those days! Our liturgical life together is one of the main things that makes OLPH "the place to be," and everyone who offers their time and talent in service to our worship is an important part of that. THANK YOU to all!

Thank you for all the Christmas gifts and goodies!

Fr. Fidelis, Fr. Frank, Fr. Emmanuel and I take this opportunity to thank all of you who sent goodies and other Christmas gifts to the rectory. We are very grateful for your thoughtfulness and generosity. Thanks to everyone for taking such good care of your priests! It's a challenge to not put on weight at

this time of year! So far, I'm keeping the weight off, and you have probably noticed that Fr. Fidelis has been dieting and has lost weight. In fact, I've told him that if he loses any more weight, people will probably start getting the two of us confused with each other! Be that as it may...thank you again for thinking of and taking such good care of your priests.

Brick Memorialization

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

Pastoral Staff and Support Staff Christmas Party

As I mentioned earlier, this Thursday night, January 2, we'll be having our annual Pastoral Staff and Support Staff Christmas Party — in other words, it's for the full-time pastoral ministers and everyone who is employed at OLPH. It's still Christmas Time, and we've found this to be a great time to have our Christmas party each year. Please note that the rectory will be closed that night; there will be no evening hours for the reception desk.

Let me take this opportunity to say that I continue to be extremely grateful for the hard work and dedication shown by everyone on the Pastoral Staff and Support Staff. They all keep OLPH running smoothly, some of them working directly with parishioners and some of them working more behind-the-scenes, but all working very hard and all with great devotion and dedication.

No matter what job one has here, as Pastor I deeply value each employee's presence and work, and I am pleased and proud to be working with them to carry out the mission of the parish. They work here out of their love for the Church and for the Lord, and they are to be commended

for it. Thanks to all!

Can you help take down the Christmas decorations?

No, no, no, I am not rushing Christmas Time — this is just a kind of “mark your calendar” reminder so that you can plan ahead. We’ll be taking down the Christmas decorations on Sunday, January 12, immediately following the 5:00 p.m. Mass (that is, after the last Mass of Christmas Time), so, if you’re free, you’re invited to come on down and help out. In addition to doing some good work for the parish, you’ll have the chance to share some fun with your fellow parishioners.

Happy New Year!

Finally, I wish everyone a very happy, healthy and holy New Year. May the upcoming year of 2020 be filled with an abundance of blessings for you and your family! I know that OLPH will continue to be “the place to be” in 2020 because TOGETHER we will continue to be open to the Lord’s will for us and we will allow the Holy Spirit to guide us as we seek to do our part in building up the Kingdom of God

here in Lindenhurst. Remember in the year ahead to always be grateful for the many blessings God constantly showers upon on us; to my mind, gratitude is the primary Christian spiritual attitude from which all else flows.

To all who will be celebrating New Year’s Eve in any way: Be safe!

Also coming in 2020: the start of the 150th Anniversary Year of the Parish!!! Much excitement, fun and celebration is being planned already. Watch for details in the coming months.

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,

JANUARY 1— SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD



**Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God
(Holy Day of Obligation)
Wednesday, January 1, 2020**

Mass Schedule:

**Eve of the Solemnity,
Tuesday, December 31, 2019:
5:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, January 1, 2020:
10:00 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.**

EPIPHANY PROCLAMATION NEXT WEEK

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



SPECIAL CARDS FOR THE EPIPHANY BLESSING OF YOUR HOME

It is traditional for families to bless their home on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, which takes place next Sunday, **January 5, 2020**. In next week's bulletin we will have special information about blessing your home on Epiphany. We will also have available special cards which may be used in the blessing and placed above your doorway, to remain there for the entire upcoming year. Please look for these special cards available throughout the church next weekend.

Peace be with this house and all who live here

20 + C + M + B + 20

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
Lindenhurst, New York

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Mass for All People With Special Needs January 4

The *Special Needs Ministry* hosts a monthly celebration of the Eucharist in a smaller setting designed to provide a fulfilling worship experience for all adults and children who may be uncomfortable in a larger setting.

Please join us on **Saturday, January 4 at 4:00 p.m. in the auditorium**. Let's all come together and worship together! After Mass we have Hospitality!

Levels 6—8 and Teens may join us early to help the ministry with set up and to gain Confirmation Service hours. Call Jessica at the Religious Education office 631-226-7725 X 252 to let her know you are coming.

We can always 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

After this month our next Special Needs Mass is February 1 at 4:00 p.m.



FIRST FRIDAY &
FIRST SATURDAY
DEVOTIONS

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

First Friday Devotions will take place **January 3** after the 6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Masses.

First Saturday Devotions—in honor of Our Lady of Fatima—will be conducted Saturday, **January 4** beginning with the Rosary at 7:40 a.m., Mass at 8:00 a.m. and continued devotion following Mass.

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

ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASS STARTING SOON!



Are you missing something?

Every year on Pentecost, a group of adults complete their initiation into the Church by receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Through Confirmation, the baptized are joined more perfectly to the Church and strengthened in their faith. Catholics who have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation should receive it before being married. Prospective godparents and sponsors for youth Confirmation must also have received this sacrament.

Preparation for receiving Confirmation as an adult includes ten hours of classroom meeting, weekly attendance at Mass and additional study through Catholic instructional material such as the Formed multimedia platform. Classes meet in the evenings, usually twice a month, with some outside reading and preparation required. A fee of \$20 covers the cost of books and materials.

Classes begin on Monday January 13, 2020. For more information contact Deacon Robert Becker at DeaconRobert@oloph.org or by leaving your contact information at the rectory.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

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

GLUTEN-FREE HOSTS

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



REMINDER REGARDING THE COMMUNION FAST

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

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, concluding with veneration of a relic of St. Catherine Laboure. Take some time each Monday to join in the OLPH Novena.

Monday, December 30—12:45 p.m.

Monday, January 6—12:45 p.m.

Monday, January 13—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.





“LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME” PRAYER GARDEN Engraved Bricks

Memorialize your loved ones or your prayer intention!

Bricks may be memorialized in our

“Let the Children Come to Me” Prayer Garden.

*Brick locations will be assigned in the order in which they are received
in front of the “Let the Children Come to Me” statue.*

Your Name(s) _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

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

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

Mail or return form in person to:
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
Attn: Brick Memorialization
Linda Coppola
210 South Wellwood Avenue
Lindenhurst, NY 11757

*Please print the inscription as it is to appear on the brick (3 lines/16 characters per line maximum).
Each box represents one letter, number, character or space. The pavers will be engraved in all capital letters.
If you would like to add a heart or a cross to your brick, it will be engraved on the left hand side.*





OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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

OFFICE HOURS

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

On Wednesday January 1st there are no classes
 due to New Year's Day
 and the Solemnity of Mary.
 Enjoy the day with your family,
 and don't forget to attend Mass on this
 Holy Day of Obligation!



**Solemnity
of Mary**

On Saturday January 4th Level 5 will be having its Open House!
Students go to class while the parents
meet in the auditorium for a quick
meeting. After the meeting the parents
will go to the classrooms to see what
the students have been learning!



**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR EVERYONE WHO
 HELPED WITH THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT!
 WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOUR
 SERVICE, TALENTS, AND PRAYERS!**

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

St. Jerome is the patron saint of archaeologists, biblical scholars, librarians, students and translators. He was born in 342 AD in Dalmatia (modern day Croatia or Slovenia). Around the age of 12, Jerome traveled to Rome to study grammar, philosophy and speech. A friend help him become baptized around 366 AD to help change his troubling behavior. Pope Damasus insisted he become a priest. He worked with St. Valerian translating various books, which included translating the Bible into Latin. His Feast Day is September 30th!

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- † Bereavement Ministry: Linda Arpino—631.592.1062—forubabe77@gmail.com
- † Blue Door Thrift Boutique: Tricia Buckley—631.561.5790—thebluedoor@oloph.org
- † Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Kathy Feldman—631.225.9864—cdefeldman@optonline.net
- † Community Meal: 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. Vincent de Paul Society: Deborah Deasy—631.226.7725, x. 234
- † Senior Moments/Spirituality: Virginia Beyer—631.226.6635
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker—631.226.6175—jbecker@oloph.org

Food Pantry List!

**CANNED MEATS
WHITE RICE
BAKED BEANS
COFFEE
SHELF STABLE MILK
PANCAKE MIX/SYRUP
CANNED FRUIT
SOUP WITH MEAT
TOILETRIES
PAPER PRODUCTS**

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 the parking lot located on the corner of
Gates & High Streets

631.226.7725 x. 234

The office is open:

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

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

Today is the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Jesus grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him. During this New Year may we also grow in wisdom, and have the favor of God upon us by remembering to take care of our suffering brothers and sisters.

In the month of December, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought the spirit of Christmas to those who are suffering: 170 children, 266 adults and 74 seniors, for a total 510 people in 137 households.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

TO OUR ANONYMOUS SUPPORTERS WHO LEAVE FOOD ON THE SANCTUARY STEPS AND MONEY IN THE POOR BOXES...THANK YOU!

*....when you give to the poor, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing
(Matthew 6:3)*

This teaching of Jesus is lived and practiced by so many of our fellow parishioners at OLPH. We are blessed by secret benefactors who anonymously make regular donations of food and other necessities, leaving them on the steps of the sanctuary, or dropping off at the Pantry during office hours. Also, take a look in the Sunday bulletin weekly collection breakdown. The contributions put into the poor boxes as you leave church add up and are the major source of our funding. You know who you are, but we're not sure that you realize how much your quiet acts of charity mean to the members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul at OLPH, and to those whom we strive to serve. Thank you and may God bless you!!!

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

HOMELESS MINISTRY

DONATIONS:

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

We have a DESPERATE need for:

New packages of men's underwear S-3XL
 New packages of men's socks
 Hats and gloves
 Clean, gently used men's jeans,
 hoodies, waterproof coats and sneakers

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?*

Our next meeting:
Tuesday, January 21
7:00 p.m. in Room 24

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

WELCOME NEW OLPH PARISHIONERS



December 2019

*Mary Ellen Cunningham
 Joseph, Christina & Austin Cucinotta
 Ronaldi, Karen & Rosebella Vargas
 Daniel, Melanie & Sarah Murphy
 Christopher & Jacqueline DeNigris*

DONATE TO THE BLUE DOOR BOUTIQUE!

When can I drop off a donation?

We accept donations any time the Boutique is open.
 Our hours of operation are M, W, F 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and
 1st & 3rd Saturdays 1:30—3:00 p.m.

What do you accept?

We have limited space in the Blue Door, so we can only accept clothing in new or very good condition, household items (dishes, glasses, serving pieces), decorative items (frames, candles, artwork, etc.). **Nothing electric, no toys, games, stuffed animals, books, bedding.**

PLEASE NOTE: We are also UNABLE to accept holiday items AFTER the holiday has passed as we no longer have space to store these items until the next year.



Entrance to Blue Door Boutique is located by the driveway between the Village Museum and the Convent.

**THE
bluedoor
BOUTIQUE**

HOURS OF OPERATION
 M, W, F 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
 1st & 3rd SAT 1:30-3:00 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
Carole Carrano, Parish Secretary	212	ccarrano@oloph.org
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Thomas Crennan, Business Manager	204	tcrennan@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Pastor	206	msgrijoe@oloph.org
Fr. Fidelis Ezeani, Associate Pastor	226	fadaprince4christ@yahoo.com
Faith Formation Office	253	religiousued@oloph.org
Christopher Ferraro, Director of Music	210	cferraro@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@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 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

Vincent Boccanfuso
Eileen Corticchia (Chair)
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Jeffrey Gaab
Joselyn Kalt
Mary Leon
Rachelle Louis-Jacques
Carlton Mitchell
Kevin Sabella, Jr.
Kevin Sabella, Sr.
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)
Thomas Crennan
Meg Danaher, CFP®, CLU®
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Christine Donovan
Marie Gagneron
Kenneth Hale
Bob Meade
Bob Mehm
John Reynolds
Kevin Sabella, Sr.

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

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

Fauvette Auguste
Deacon Robert Becker
Mark Costantino
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Chris Ferraro
MaryAnn Haas
Jenine Jimenez-Spina
Denise Martinez
Barbara McPhail
Deacon Doug Smith
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

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

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

Third Announcement:

**David Miller, Jr. & Grace Moran
Dylan Kort & Christina Chille**

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

Santino Andrew Rosario Belding



Isla Simone Cahalin

Samuel Asher Tarkowski

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

PERPETUAL HELP MASS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020

12:00 P.M. MASS

Dolores Celentano	Requested by The Kuhn Family
Stephen Corcoran	Requested by Carol Corcoran
Mary Cotter	Requested by John J. Campon

WE REMEMBER

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

Lawrence Santo Pancamo

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

WE BELIEVE

We pray for the sick of our parish...

Gordon G. Hinds

Nora R. Mc Mahon

Patricia &

Richard Kleczkowski

Marjorie Santoli

Joe Juliano

Robert Scott

Linda Baffa

Richard DeVilla

John Pius

Maren Tormey

Joann Puleo

Loretto Dinardo

Anna Commarato

Lauren Mule

Gian Marino

Arthur Jones

John McPhail

Mary Martin

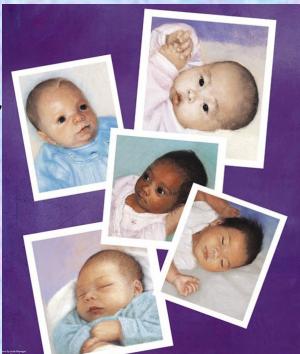
If a family member or close friend is ill, please let us know so our community can pray for them. To have your name or the name of a loved one listed in our parish bulletin, please call the Parish Office. Please make sure the person is aware the request has been made and that they are agreeable with their name printed in the bulletin. The name will remain on the list for about four weeks.

"Here I am!"

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SPIRTUALLY ADOPTED BABY!

Your spiritually adopted baby was born this month -- nine months after her mother conceived her. The only change at birth is a change in the external life support system of the baby. She is no different now than before birth except that she breathes and eats differently. She is truly a miracle. She began as a 46-chromosome cell and has grown over the past nine months into this unique human baby we now can see. Never before in history, nor ever again, will anyone exist who is exactly like your spiritually adopted baby. Your prayers saved her life. Thank you on behalf of all of the little babies and their mothers for your loving prayers that helped to bring them to birth "so that they might have life and have it to the full!"



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, December 30—

SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

6:30 Dr. William Herbold

12:15 Francesco Stancati

TUESDAY, December 31—

SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

(Saint Sylvester I, Pope)

6:30 Cecelia Malerba

12:15 For the Repose of the Souls of the McCarthy Family

EVE OF THE OCTAVE DAY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD; SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

5:00 Dominick M. Barone

WEDNESDAY, January 1, 2020—

THE OCTAVE DAY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD; SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

10:00 For the People of the Parish

12:15 Anthony Gerrato

THURSDAY, January 2, 2020—

SAINT BASIL THE GREAT AND

GREGORY NAZIANZEN,

BISHOPS AND DOCTORS OF THE CHURCH

6:30 For the Repose of the Souls of the McCarthy Family

12:15 Agostino Pecoraro

FRIDAY, January 3, —

CHRISTMAS WEEKDAY

(Holy Name of Jesus)

6:30 Courtney Hopkins

12:15 Maureen DiMaria

SATURDAY, January 4, —

SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON, RELIGIOUS

8:00 Nina Cortina

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated):

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

4:00 Special Needs Mass—Auditorium

5:00 Maria Drago

**Sunday, January 5,
THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

8:00 Shirley Warnken

10:00 For the People of the Parish

12:00 For Those Enrolled in the Perpetual Help Mass Intentions (List on p.14)

5:00 Angelo DiGulielmo

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, December 30, 2019

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
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10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
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12:45 p.m.	Devotions	Church
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Tuesday, December 31, 2019

2:30 p.m.	Wedding	Church
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THE RECTORY AND ALL PARISH OFFICES WILL CLOSE AT 3:00 P.M. NO PARISH ACTIVITIES AFTER 3:00 P.M.

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

THE RECTORY AND ALL PARISH OFFICES WILL REMAIN CLOSED AND WILL REOPEN THURSDAY JANUARY 2 AT 9:00 A.M. NO PARISH ACTIVITIES.

Thursday, January 2, 2020

1:00 p.m.-on	Church closed for cleaning	Church
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4:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	Room 16
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**THE RECTORY WILL BE CLOSED AS OF 5:00 P.M. DUE TO THE STAFF CHRISTMAS PARTY.
IT WILL REOPEN AT 9:00 A.M. FRIDAY.
NO EVENING ACTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE.**

Friday, January 3, 2020

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
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10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
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7:30 p.m.	CFFR	Room 18
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Saturday, January 4, 2020

8:30, 10:00	Religious Ed. Classes	School
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10:00 a.m.	Level 5 Open House	School
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12:00 p.m.	Bereavement Ministry	Room 22/24
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1:00 p.m.	CYO	Auditorium
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1:30 p.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
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1:30 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Pantry	Room 24
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3:00 p.m.	Wedding	Church
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4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church
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6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
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6:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
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6:30 p.m.	Nocturnal Adoration	Church
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Sunday, January 5, 2020

9:15 a.m.	RCIC	Room 18
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6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
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6:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
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OFFERING UPDATE December 21/22, 2019

Mass Time	Attendance	# of	W
5:00 p.m.			
7:30 a.m.			
9:00 a.m.			
11:00 a.m.			
Poor Box			

*Due to early printer deadlines
the final totals for
Dec. 21/22,
Christmas Day,
and Christmas Flowers
will be published
at a later date.*

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

All offices will be closed and all parish activities are cancelled on Wednesday, January 1, 2020 for New Year's Day and will re-open Thursday, January 2 at 9:00 a.m.



LAST CHANCE FOR THE LOST & FOUND

Are you missing something? Keys, wallet, glasses...

Check the "Lost & Found."

All items found after Masses and events in the church must be picked up in the sacristy no later than December 31 — this Tuesday!

All remaining items will be donated.



DEADLINES FOR BULLETIN

All requests for items printed in the bulletin must first have approval from Msgr. DeGrocco or 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.*

January 5—passed
January 12—January 3
January 19—January 10

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PREPARING FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

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

Matthew 2:1-2a

Isaiah 60:1-6

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

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

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

Matthew 2:1-12

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

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, December 30, 2019:

1 John 2:12-17 + Luke 2:36-40

Tuesday, December 31, 2019:

1 John 2:18-21 + John 1:1-18

Wednesday, January 1, 2020:

Numbers 6:22-27

+ Galatians 4:4-7 + Luke 2:16-21

Thursday, January 2, 2020

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

Friday, January 3, 20201 John 2:29—3:6
+ John 1:29-34**Saturday, January 4, 2020:**

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

Sunday, January 5, 2020:Isaiah 60:1-6
+ Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
+ Matthew 2:1-12

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

While a coordinator of interns in Washington, DC, the long resumes of recent high school graduates amused me.

These three- and four-page resumes brought to mind my college professor's saying, "The greater your credentials, the shorter your resume will be." He was right. The more an individual does, the less the person needs to say.

For Mary's role in salvation history, she is honored January 1 as Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Though she is venerated for bearing the Messiah, she speaks few words in the Gospel accounts.

Her words modeled discipleship in two sentences at the Annunciation: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). With many more words, she proclaimed God's greatness in the prayer that we call the Magnificat (Luke 1:46–55). In John 2:3, she is direct with Jesus, stating, "They have no wine."

Throughout the liturgical year, the Blessed Mother is a prominent figure. Not only do half the Holydays of Obligation in the United States honor Mary (besides Mary, the Holy Mother of God, the Immaculate Conception on December 8, and the Assumption on August 15), dozens of other days, including most Saturdays in Ordinary Time, mark some aspect of her life.

Devotion to Mary began in the early centuries of the Church. After the Council of Ephesus in 431, many churches were built in Mary's name, and a number of liturgies honoring her developed. By the Middle Ages, a strong devotion to Mary was expressed in art, pilgrimages, and prayer. Prayers such as the Angelus, the Hail Mary, and the Memorare all emerged during this time. All of this for a woman of few words.

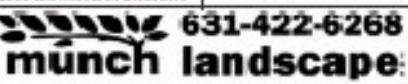


Mary, the Holy Mother of God, is honored on January 1 for her role in salvation history.

Mary did not need to use many words. She said all that was needed at the Annunciation. May we begin this new year looking to Mary and saying yes to bearing God in our actions and words.

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