

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

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



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*Repent,
for the kingdom of heaven
is at hand!*

Matthew 3:2

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 4, 2022

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco

Parochial Vicars: Reverend Fidelis Ezeani, Reverend Frank Zero, Reverend Emmanuel Okonkwo

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

Business Manager: Ms. Jill Marie Delano

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

Music Director: Mr. Christopher Reilly

Deacon Frank Odin, Retired

COME AND PRAY...

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

Come in and spend some time in prayer!

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday: 6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Saturday Morning: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated): 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (live-streamed), 12:00 p.m.

Special Needs Mass:

First Saturday of the month at 4:00 p.m.
in the auditorium (Sunday Anticipated Mass)

Holy Days of Obligation: Consult the bulletin

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

We pray Evening Prayer communally, in person,
each Saturday in the church immediately following
the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Each Sunday, we pray Morning
Prayer at 9:15 a.m. and Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m.
on the Zoom video platform. Click on the Zoom link
on the home page of our website.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

*Also available by individual appointment
with one of the priests.*

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

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

DEVOTIONS

OLPH Novena: Mondays following 12:15 p.m. Mass

Rosary: Weekdays following 6:30 a.m. Mass
Saturdays and Sundays following 8:00 a.m. Mass

The Holy Face of Jesus: Tuesdays following
12:15 p.m. Mass

First Fridays and First Saturdays:

As announced in bulletin

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Friday: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

SUPPORT OLPH THROUGH AMAZON.COM



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with the Our Lady of Perpetual Help App

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

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



myparishapp.com/appstore

Made with by DioCESan

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

The old number 88202 is no longer in effect!
Cards are available on the pew ledges as long as supply lasts.



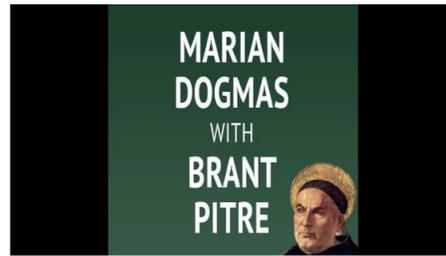
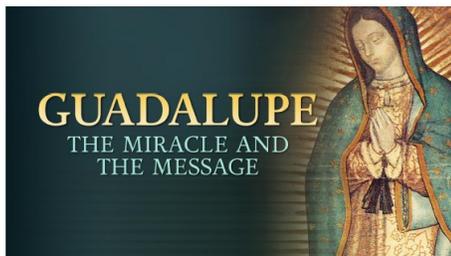
THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of December 04, 2022

WATCH

LEARN

LISTEN



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

PASTOR'S PAGE

Second Sunday of Advent

As we continue our celebration of this beautiful Advent season of hope-filled longing, expectation and preparation, the Mass prayers for the Second Sunday of Advent give voice to our desire that we may be able to live in a whole new, transformed way in order to see the salvation that is coming.

The Collect (Opening Prayer) of the Mass speaks both of the urgency of our Advent journey and of the need to think in new ways: *“Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company.”* What is it that we are busy about and in haste about during these days: is it really over spiritual things that prepare our hearts and our homes for Christ, or is it over things less important? Are the things that are tiring us out really worth the time and energy, or could our time and energy be better spent on deeper, more meaningful pursuits?

Also, as we “set out in haste” to meet Christ this season, we can encounter Christ only through hearts and minds that are attuned to Him, and so we need the gift and grace of “heavenly wisdom.” Advent, as a time of wonder and longing, is a time for us to change our thinking so that God’s ways become our ways. Our minds and thoughts should be expanded to trust more in the wonders that God can and will do for us.

I think a large component of “heavenly wisdom” involves the ability to be silent and to focus on spiritual realities. Are we taking the time to be silent — to listen for God, and to be more alert and watchful to the many ways He is present? Can we unplug from all our devices long enough to rediscover the joy of simply being a human being, a person created for the purpose of having God speak to us in the depths of our heart? There are all sorts of new things we will discover about God’s grace and the presence of Christ in our life if we take the time to stop and be silent. Have we made the most of those times when we have had the opportunity to slow down and be silent, and, as those opportunities present themselves, can we make them into opportunities for spiritual growth?

Admittedly, being silent can be very difficult. In addition to that, if you look around, it seems as though the world is proclaiming to us that Christmas is here already! Now, of course there are preparations that we rightly have to undertake now, preparations that are in no way bad or wrong in and of themselves — things like shopping, baking, and preparing in other ways for loving and wholesome

family time.

However, in the midst of it all, making it a priority to find time to be silent and to unplug from things will really help to accomplish what we pray for in the Prayer after Communion in the Mass for the Second Sunday of Advent, when we ask that God *“...may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth and hold firm to the things of heaven.”* What a great perspective on life that is — to know the difference between what is passing and what is eternal, and to live accordingly.

Consider making the above-quoted prayers for the Second Sunday of Advent a part of your prayer time every day during the upcoming week — maybe you can make that the reason to stop and take a little time out!

Remember, no matter what our consumer-driven society tells us, it’s not Christmas yet! We have once again included some special pages in this bulletin to help you and your family keep an Advent spirituality and to pray Advent at home; I hope you make use of this material. We are urged to “Keep Christ in Christmas,” but in order to do that well, we must first **“Keep Advent in Advent.”**

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—A Holy Day of Obligation

This Thursday, December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It’s a HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION, so we’ll see you back at Mass either Wednesday night or sometime on Thursday! We have printed the schedule of Masses elsewhere in this bulletin.

What a wonderful Solemnity this is, especially since it occurs during Advent and fits so beautifully into our Advent spirituality! What we celebrate is Mary’s total freedom from original sin from the moment of her conception. This freedom from the sin of Adam and Eve is shown in the Gospel for the Mass of the day, as Mary proclaims to the angel Gabriel, *“Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.”* Mary shows her willingness to place herself fully in God’s hands, even when it promises to be difficult and requires great faith and trust.

However, Mary is always seen as the model disciple, the model of our faith, and so this day should be a day when we pray that our faith and trust may be the same as Mary’s. This is expressed in the prayers of the Mass of the day, as in the Collect (Opening Prayer) we will pray that *“...through her intercession, we, too, may be cleansed and admitted to your [God’s] presence”* and in the Preface of the Eucharistic

Prayer we will refer to Mary as “*a model of holiness.*”

Allow this Solemnity to be for you a day to reflect on the place of Mary in your prayer life and as a model of faith for you.

Get to Confession during Advent!

Here’s your weekly reminder: make concrete and specific plans to go to Confession during Advent, and then follow through on those plans! Take note of the times we are offering the sacrament, as listed in this bulletin and in the special mailing that was sent out. Celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation is the perfect way to “prepare the way of the Lord” during Advent so that we are spiritually ready for the great feast of Christmas. We priests want nothing more than to celebrate with you the great gift of God’s forgiveness. *See you at Confession!*

Advent Mini-Mission with Msgr. Joe

It’s here — this week! On Monday and Tuesday, December 5 and 6, I am offering an Advent “Mini-Mission.” The topic for both nights will be Pope Francis’ recent Apostolic Letter on the liturgical formation of lay people. It’s a beautiful and insightful letter that teaches us how to get more out of our liturgical celebrations, especially the Mass. We’ll look at and discuss excerpts from the letter (which we have been presenting in serialized form each week in the bulletin).

I hope you’ll be able to join us, at 7:30 p.m. each evening. We’ll begin with the Liturgy of the Hours, Evening Prayer, each night.

Return of offering the Precious Blood to the assembly

I cannot tell you how thrilled I am that as of next weekend, December 10-11, we will return to offering the Precious Blood to the assembly at our weekend Masses. It has been a real detriment that, due to the pandemic, this fullness of the Eucharistic sign had to be suspended for a time, but we are returning to it now, both because we have received numerous requests for it, but also because the very nature and dignity of the liturgical celebration demands that we celebrate Mass in all its beauty and fullness. I have been edified and uplifted by the number of people who have been thirsting to be able to receive the Precious Blood of Christ again, and who feel so spiritually nourished and affirmed that we will be offering this again.

There is a complete catechesis and explanation elsewhere in this bulletin, so be sure to read it. I invite everyone to join me in thanking the Lord that we are now able to return to this.

Christmas Spiritual Bouquet cards

You can join in the Mass intentions for the Masses of Christmas by using the Christmas Spiritual Bouquet cards which are 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.

So-called “Respect for Marriage” Act

Finally, let me call your attention to a piece of legislation that is currently making its way through Congress, the “Respect for Marriage Act.” I urge you to read up on it, because it is problematic for religious freedom. As this Act seeks to codify the legality of same-sex marriage, it could wind up impinging on religious freedom. In any context in which conflicts between religious beliefs and same-sex civil marriage arise, the Act will be used as evidence that religious believers must surrender to the state’s interest in recognizing same-sex civil marriages. This means that wedding cake bakers, faith-based adoption and foster care providers, religious employers seeking to maintain their faith identity, and faith-based housing agencies are all at greater risk of discrimination under this legislation. The bill is a bad deal for many courageous Americans of faith, and even of no faith, who continue to believe and uphold the truth about marriage in the public square today. The Act does not strike a balance that appropriately respects our nation’s commitment to the fundamental right of religious liberty.

Read up on it and become informed. Pray that religious freedom will continue to be protected in the United States, and throughout the whole world.

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,



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Lighting Your Advent Wreath During the Week



Each day during the second week of Advent, at the evening meal, two purple candles 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. Amen.

Thoughts to Ponder during Advent....

Almighty and merciful God, may no earthly undertaking hinder those who set out in haste to meet your Son, but may our learning of heavenly wisdom gain us admittance to his company. 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 Second Sunday of Advent

Father in heaven, the day draws near when the glory of your Son will make radiant the night of the waiting world. May the lure of greed not impede us from the joy which moves the hearts of those who seek him. May the darkness not blind us to the vision of wisdom which fills the minds of those who find him. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

— Another prayer for the Second Sunday of Advent

What keeps you from giving now? Isn't the poor person there? Aren't your own warehouses full? Isn't the reward promised? The command is clear: the hungry person is dying now, the naked person is freezing now, the person in debt is beaten now—and you want to wait until tomorrow? "I'm not doing any harm," you say. "I just want to keep what I own, that's all." You own! You are like someone who sits down in a theater and keeps everyone else away, saying that what is there for everyone's use is your own....If everyone took only what they needed and gave the rest to those in need, there would be no such thing as rich and poor. After all, didn't you come into life naked, and won't you return naked to the earth?

St. Basil, Fourth century



Thoughts to Ponder during Advent...



On December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we honor holy Mary, and celebrate her conception in the womb of St. Anne. As we praise God, who kept her sinless from the first moment of her life, we remember God's mercy, which has freed us from sin in baptism.

O God, who by the Immaculate conception of the Blessed Virgin prepared a worthy dwelling for your Son, grant, we pray, that, as you preserved her from every stain by virtue of the Death of your Son, which you foresaw, so, through her intercession, we, too, may be cleansed and admitted to your presence. 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 Immaculate Conception

Father, the image of the Virgin is found in the Church. Mary had a faith that your Spirit prepared and a love that never knew sin, for you kept her sinless from the first moment of her conception. Trace in our actions the lines of her love, in our hearts her readiness of faith. Prepare once again a world for your Son who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

—Another Prayer for the Immaculate Conception

Hail Mary, the most beautiful dove, which carried the word of God for us; we greet you with the Archangel Gabriel saying: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Hail, O Virgin, the glory of our race; you have borne Emmanuel for us. We pray that you will remember us before the Lord Jesus Christ, that he will forgive us our sins.

—Coptic liturgy

John the Baptist's first major theme is: Reflect, repent, convert! In every age people fall prey to the temptation to overturn the proper order of values. What is important is degraded to a minor matter, what is minor or even wrong is raised to a principal theme, the central issue of one's life. It can be greed. It can be ambition with its exhibitionistic and ruthless careerism. It can be quarrelsomeness and the insistence on always being right, or envy and a desire to dominate, or the unmastered desire for pleasure that Paul at one point so powerfully describes: "their god is their belly" (Phil 3:19). These are all products of egoism, which places one's own self in the center and degenerates into idolatry. John sees this clearly and therefore calls for reflection: Admit your offense, confess your sin and let yourself be cleansed. As a symbol of such purification he offers a baptism of repentance in the Jordan.

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

Listen, a clear voice is calling. / It pierces the night and the darkness: / Awake and leave behind sleep and dreams — / Christ is shining in the heavens. / This is the bright time of hope. / The dawn approaches; the day begins: / A new star begins to beam, / Before whose glow the darkness flees. / From heaven is sent one as a lamb / Who will take all our sins upon himself. / In faith we turn our faces to him / And ask his forgiveness. / So that, when again he comes in light, / And his brilliance strikes the world with terror, / He may not avenge sin with punishment, / But gently gather us to himself.

— A hymn for Advent, Author unknown



SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Thursday, December 8
Holy Day of Obligation**

Mass Schedule:

**Wednesday, December 7 at 5:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 8 at 6:30 a.m.,
12:15 p.m. (Livestreamed) and 7:30 p.m.**

**PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN BANK PARKING FOR 12:15 p.m. MASS
ON IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
HOLY DAY**

We ask that if you come to the 12:15 p.m. Mass on *Thursday, December 8, the Holy Day of the Immaculate Conception*, please do not park in the bank parking lot on the north side of the church. Remember that Thursday is a normal business day for the bank, and the bank lot is not our property. Let's be a good neighbor! Please do not park in their lot during business hours. Thank you.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Prepare Your Heart for the Coming of the Lord

How well do you know Jesus? Do you know how and what he prayed?

One certainty is that Jesus studied and prayed the Book of Psalms from his youth until his death. This Advent season, as we prepare for the Incarnation of the Lord, the Adult Faith Formation program at OLPH is offering an uplifting experience to make ready for the Solemnity of Christmas. Every Sunday **through December 18**, we will offer parishioners the opportunity to study the Responsorial Psalms used in each Sunday's celebration of the Eucharist during Advent. We will meet in the church's North Sacristy from 11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. to examine and discuss the joyful message of Christ's coming. Each session will feature a discussion of the themes of the Responsorial Psalm of the day, led by a member of the Pastoral Staff. Attend all of the sessions, or select those that fit your schedule. Join us to break open the Word of the Lord.

CHRISTMAS SPIRITUAL BOUQUET CARDS NOW AVAILABLE

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.

RETURN TO OFFERING THE CHALICE!

TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND DRINK FROM IT...



The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* states: “Holy Communion has a fuller form as a sign when it takes place under both kinds. For in this form the sign of the Eucharistic banquet is more clearly evident and clearer expression is given to the divine will by which the new and eternal Covenant is ratified in the Blood of the Lord, as also the connection between the Eucharistic banquet and the eschatological banquet in the Kingdom of the Father.” (281)

There is a richness to the theology of the Eucharistic Chalice, including: its meaning as the cup of the new covenant in the Lord Jesus (*cf.* 1 Cor 10:21; Lk 22:20); that to drink from the Chalice is to be filled with the Holy Spirit (as we hear in Eucharistic Prayers III and IV); that the Chalice expresses the festivity of the Eucharistic meal (*cf.* Ps 23:5; Ps 104:15); that drinking from the Chalice is an explicit way of uniting oneself to Christ’s redemptive suffering (Mk 10:38-39; Mk 14:36); and that the Chalice expresses the meaning of the Eucharist as the heavenly banquet of eating and drinking (Mk 14:25; Lk 22:18; Mt 26:29; 1 Cor 11:26; also, the second acclamation of “The Mystery of Faith” in the Eucharistic Prayer).

Finally and perhaps most importantly, the Institution Narrative in all Eucharistic Prayers is very clear: “*Take this, all of you, and eat of it, for this is my Body, which will be given up for you*” and “*Take this, all of you, and drink from it, for this is the chalice of my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in memory of me.*”

For all these reasons, we are happy to announce that beginning next weekend, December 10-11, we will return to offering the Chalice at all Saturday night and Sunday Masses, and at other selected Masses, so that the members of the assembly might have the opportunity, if they so choose, to receive the Precious Blood of the Lord.

We have been receiving requests for this for some time now, as things have more and more returned to normal after the pandemic. Many people strongly desire to receive Holy Communion by sharing in the fullness of the Eucharistic sign by both eating and drinking. Keep in mind that the rim of the chalice is purified after each person drinks from it, and the cup is given a slight turn so that the same place on the rim is not used over and over again, and there is alcohol present in the wine. Nonetheless, this is, of course, completely optional; if you do not choose to receive the Precious Blood, you do not have to. You are still receiving the full Eucharistic Lord, His Body and Blood, if you receive only the consecrated Host. For those who desire this, however, this option will now once again be available.

We will begin with only two Chalices, one at the head of each of the two side aisles — in front of the Blessed Mother Chapel and in front of the Divine Mercy Chapel. Communicants returning from both the center aisle and the side aisle will pass by the Chalice Minister and may stop to receive the Precious Blood if they so choose.

Thanks be to God that we are now able to restore this full sign of Eucharistic celebration!



ADVENT MINI-MISSION WITH MSGR. JOE



Do something special for Advent! Come to the...

ADVENT MINI-MISSION WITH MSGR. JOE MONDAY AND TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5 and 6 7:30 p.m. in the church

Last June, Pope Francis released a new Apostolic Letter on the topic of the liturgical formation of the People of God.

It is an exquisite summary of what liturgy is all about, and how all of us can be formed to more deeply participate in the liturgy.

Over the two nights, Msgr. Joe will offer presentations discussing the Pope's letter, covering topics such as:

- how we encounter Christ in the sacraments;
- entering into the symbols of the liturgy;
 - the art of liturgical celebration;
- how everyone participates in the Paschal Mystery.



Let this Advent be a time for you to discover anew the richness and depth of our Catholic liturgy!

Each evening will begin with Evening Prayer.

*We request that you let us know if you are coming, so we can prepare hand-outs accordingly.
RSVP to the rectory, 631-226-7725, if you will be attending.*

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

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



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



CHRISTMAS MASSES AT OLPH

Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24

4:00 p.m.,

(Carols begin at 3:40 p.m.)

12:00 Midnight

(Carols begin at 11:40 p.m.)

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25

8:00 a.m.,

10:00 a.m. *(live-streamed)*

and 12:00 Noon

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



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

Mass Schedule:

Eve of the Solemnity,

Saturday, December 31, 2022:

5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1, 2023:

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. *(live-streamed)*

and 12:00 Noon

CONFESSIONS DURING ADVENT

Saturdays:

December 10: 4:00—4:45 p.m.

December 17: 3:00—4:30 p.m.

Monday, December 19: 7:00—8:30 p.m.



BAMBINELLI SUNDAY AT OLPH

We will again be celebrating our own “Bambinelli Sunday” here at OLPH on the **Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 17-18**. 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 17-18!



THE MUSIC MINISTRY OF OLPH

The Music Ministry of OLPH
prepares for the coming of the Lord!

Carol Sing
Tuesday, December 20th
at 7:30 p.m. in the church

In recent years, we have celebrated an Advent *Lessons and Carols* service early in Advent to set a tone for the season in preparation, looking toward Christmas.

This year, the Adult and Youth Choirs, Schola, and Instrumentalists are preparing a *Carol Sing* on **Tuesday, December 20th at 7:30 p.m.** Though there are still some readings and choral music, the *Carol Sing* is a brief program focused more on the assembly's singing of Carols, both Advent and Christmas, as we take a focus toward the end of the Advent season and the immediate coming of Christmas in the following days.

Please join us by taking a break from the hustle and bustle of the tasks that we all associate with our own preparations for Christmas – bring the family, a friend, a neighbor, or maybe someone who may not have stepped into a church in a while – to celebrate the coming of our Savior at our *Carol Sing*. We hope to see and hear you there!

LIVE-STREAM MASS

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

You can join us virtually using one of the following:

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



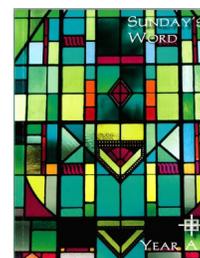
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Each Monday, parishioners pray to seek the help and assistance of the Lord for healing, family, children and the needs of the world, seeking the intercession of the Blessed Mother. Take some time each Monday to join in the OLPH Novena.

Mondays at 12:45 p.m.

NEW SUNDAY'S WORD BOOKS AVAILABLE

The new *Sunday's Word* books for the new liturgical year (Cycle A) which started the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, are now available at the rectory for purchase, for \$5.00.



POPE FRANCIS ON LITURGICAL FORMATION

APOSTOLIC LETTER OF POPE FRANCIS

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

Each week we are presenting a small selection of the letter for your reading and reflection and this will continue until the entire text has been presented. The full text can be found on the Vatican website at https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/20220629-lettera-ap-desiderio-desideravi.html

38. For ministers as well as for all the baptized, liturgical formation in this first sense is not something that can be acquired once and for all. Since the gift of the mystery celebrated surpasses our capacity to know it, this effort certainly must accompany the permanent formation of everyone, with the humility of little ones, the attitude that opens up into wonder.

39. One final observation about seminaries: in addition to a program of studies, they must also offer the possibility of experiencing a celebration that is not only exemplary from a ritual point of view, but also authentic and alive, which allows the living out of a true communion with God, that same communion toward which theological knowledge must tend. Only the action of the Spirit can bring to completion our knowledge of the mystery of God, for the mystery of God is not a question of something grasped mentally but a relationship that touches all of life. Such experience is fundamental so that, once seminarians become ordained ministers, they can accompany communities in the same journey of knowledge of the mystery of God, which is the mystery of love.

40. This last consideration brings us to reflection on the second sense that we can understand in the expression “liturgical formation.” I refer to our being formed, each one according to his or her vocation, from participation in the liturgical celebration. Even the knowledge that comes from studies, of which I was just speaking, for it not to become a sort of rationalism, must serve to realize the formative action of the Liturgy itself in every believer in Christ.

ARE YOU MISSING SOMETHING?



Every year on Pentecost, a group of adults completes their initiation into the Church by receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. By 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.

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 **Tuesday, December 6**. For more information contact Deacon Robert Becker at DeaconRobert@oloph.org or by leaving your contact information at the rectory.

GOLDEN TICKET 2022 PRIZE WINNERS

The winning tickets for our GOLDEN TICKET RAFFLE were drawn at a fun-filled and exciting cocktail party on Saturday night, November 19. Everyone had a great, great time and it was another "OLPH Moment" of great enjoyment with great community spirit! Here are the winners of the money prizes:

1st Ticket drawn, \$500 prize: Ticket # 072 Kathy Whittaker

50th Ticket drawn, \$200 prize: Ticket # 234 Judy & Ken DeGrocco

100th Ticket drawn, \$200 prize: Ticket # 093 Sue & Pete Reynolds

150th Ticket drawn, \$200 prize: Ticket # 113 Steve Strigaro – K of C

200th Ticket drawn, \$200 prize: Ticket # 357 Frank Trotta

250th Ticket drawn, \$200 prize: Ticket # 196 MaryEllen & Dave Barrett

300th Ticket drawn, \$200 prize: Ticket # 129 Regina Muir

350th Ticket drawn, \$200 prize: Ticket # 278 Meadow Mustachio

400th Ticket drawn, \$200 prize: Ticket # 031 Joe Cardinale

450th Ticket drawn, \$200 prize: Ticket # 110 Peter Curto

491st Ticket drawn, \$300 prize: Ticket # 224 Mike Lavorata

492nd Ticket drawn, \$400 prize: Ticket # 311 June McGowan

493rd Ticket drawn, \$500 prize: Ticket # 237 Michelle Crosby - Ladies Auxiliary K of C 794

494th Ticket drawn, \$600 prize: Ticket # 079 Noreen Koudelka

495th Ticket drawn, \$700 prize: Ticket # 458 Lena Farrugia

496th Ticket drawn, \$800 prize: Ticket # 242 Beatriz Leon

497th Ticket drawn, \$900 prize: Ticket # 107 Kevin Sabella/ Joe Mcguire

498th Ticket drawn, \$1,000 prize: Ticket # 147 Tom Romano

499th Ticket drawn, \$2,500 prize: Ticket # 348 Joe Gibbons

500th Ticket drawn, \$10,000 prize: Ticket # 159 John & Barbara McPhail

50/50 Drawing run by The Knights of Columbus: Nancy Chille won \$1,090!

OUR THANKS also go to these *GENEROUS* donors:

For the donation of our Consolation prizes: Ridgewood Savings Bank, Patsy's Bakery, Linden Florist, all bottles of Wine presented with consolation prizes courtesy of Barbara McPhail and Family, Restoration Kitchen & Cocktails, Goccia D'Oro, Village Florist, Sand City Brewery, Louise Perrotta, Linda Matera, and Danaher Wealth Management for the \$1,000 cash consolation prize!



GOLDEN TICKET 2022



OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION**OFFICE HOURS:**

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

LEVEL 7

On Wednesday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m. there will be a Parent/Student Meeting in the church. This time of Exposition is an opportunity to be with Jesus this Advent season. There is a reflection in your Workbook to complete at this prayer experience (Project #3).

**LEVEL 5**

On Saturday, December 10, at 11:15 a.m. your Penance Service will be in the church. You must attend with a parent or guardian. Let's prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ during this holy and special time of Advent!

Happy Saint of the Day!

St. Ambrose of Milan was born in the year 340. His feast day is December 7. It has been believed that a swarm of bees landed on him and left only a drop of honey, and that is why he is the Patron Saint of beekeepers! His father believed that St. Ambrose would be a great speaker. People wanted him to be bishop, even though St. Ambrose thought he wasn't ready. He gave many possessions to the poor. His compassion for the poor can be shown in this quote: "If you have two shirts in your closet, one belongs to you, and the other to the man with no shirt."



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION and MUSIC MINISTRY

Children's Christmas Pageant



Friday, December 23, 2022
7:00 p.m. in the Church



We would like to involve as many members as possible of our parish community, especially all parish children! We have many speaking parts for children who can memorize a few lines and speak loudly and clearly. There are roles for: Mary, Joseph, Herod, Three Wise Men, Innkeepers, the Little Drummer Boy, Angels and of course the shepherds.

Please indicate if your child is interested in having a speaking role. Parts will be given out at the tryouts on Saturday, December 3, at 11:30 a.m. in the auditorium. Anyone wishing to have a speaking part must be able to attend all rehearsals. There is something for children first grade and up!

College Students (especially those coming home for Christmas) and Adults: We need help with supervision of angels and shepherds, assistance with hospitality and more! If you can help, please contact Bridget Jordan at bjordan@oloph.org or (631) 226-7725 X 253.



**Tryouts for speaking roles will take place on Saturday, December 3rd,
 at 11:30 a.m. in the auditorium!**

Pageant Practices

Tuesday, December 6th 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. in the church

Thursday, December 15th 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. in the church

Tuesday, December 20th 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. in the church

Wednesday, December 21st 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. in the church

Dress Rehearsal: Thursday, December 22nd 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in the church

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SIGN UP!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Grade _____ My child wants to be a stagehand for service hours _____

My child is interested in having a speaking role! _____ My child wants to be in the Ensemble! _____

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
- † Homeless Ministry: Regina Muir—631-226-2709—rmuir11@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—louiseperrotta123@gmail.com
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Bill Stysiack—631-226-7725 x 234
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker Paolo—631-226-6175—jbecker@oloph.org

NEW Food Pantry List!

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

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

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

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

631.226.7725 x. 234

The office is open:

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

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist urges us to “Prepare the way of the Lord.” This is what Advent is all about, for we are called to help—prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family, and to reach out to those in need.

Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.

THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY



“The Society of St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank everyone who either adopted a family for Thanksgiving or donated to our efforts to provide a meal to a family for the holiday. Thanks to your help we were able to provide meals for 46 families, and still counting. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!”

ADVENT GIVING TREE

“Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?” And the king will say to them in reply, “Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”
-Matthew 25

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 **Sunday, December 11**. Below are descriptions of some of the agencies we will be supporting this year. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Doug Smith at dsmith081553@gmail.com. Gifts for St. Vincent de Paul (green tags) should be wrapped. All other gifts should not be wrapped.

St. Vincent de Paul

Each year, our parish supports many families at Christmas with food, toys and clothing. Read more in our bulletin about our parish's outreach efforts.

LIFE CENTER

The Life Center assists pregnant women as they prepare to give birth to the gift of life in their own lives. Learn more about the life center at www.lifecenterli.org

SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

Support the work of our Middle Ages group in providing Christmas gifts and necessities for our local veterans.



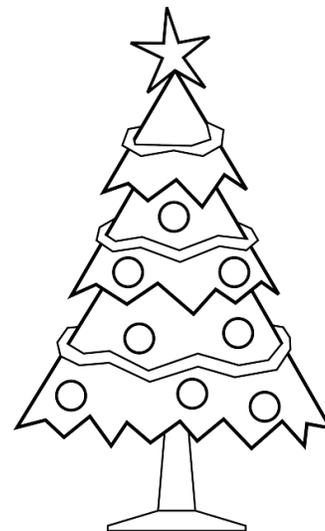
The Giving Tree



BLUE DOOR BOUTIQUE

BLUE DOOR BOUTIQUE CHRISTMAS SHOPPE IS NOW OPEN!!

Need a Christmas tree, ornaments or other holiday decorations? Shop at the **Blue Door Boutique** Christmas Shoppe **first** for the lowest prices on everything you need to make your home perfect for Christmas.



Artificial Trees * Ornaments * Christmas Dishes * Tree Skirts
* Stockings * Light sets * Christmas village houses * Angels
* Cookie Plates * Candy Dishes * Wreaths * Christmas
mugs * Gift sets



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

We are located in Room 12
in the basement of the school.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

2022 OLPH GOAL:
\$114,600

Total pledges: \$111,953.35
of pledges: 440
Total payments: \$106,815.85
% of Goal: 97.69%
As of 11/28/22

Make checks payable to: **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

Parish _____

Pledge: \$ _____

Name _____

Down payment: \$ _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____

To donate, you can also visit drvc.org/CMA or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296. Thank You!

PLEASE HELP !

Support in carrying out the Lord's corporal work of mercy to care for the dead. Please donate used, but operational, gas-powered lawn mowers for maintaining the former church grounds and cemetery. For more information contact Frank Odin, President, Holy Name Society at 631-988-2054 or fr_odin@yahoo.com.

SERVING AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Phone: (631) 226-7725 Parish Fax: (631) 225-9597

Directory of Phone Extensions

Name	Ext	Email
Carmel Becker, Bulletin	246	cbecker@oloph.org
Carole Carrano, Parish Secretary	212	ccarrano@oloph.org
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Pastor	206	msgrjoe@oloph.org
Jill Marie Delano, Business Manager	204	jdelano@oloph.org
Fr. Fidelis Ezeani, Associate Pastor	226	fadaprince4christ@yahoo.com
Faith Formation Office	253	religioused@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@oloph.org
Fr. Emmanuel Okonkwo, Associate Pastor	223	emmaokons@yahoo.com
Rectory Reception Desk	200	
Christopher Reilly, Director of Music	210	creilly@oloph.org
St. Vincent de Paul	234	stvincentdepaul@oloph.org
Josephine Vagelatos, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor	206	jvagelatos@oloph.org
Fr. Frank Zero, Associate Pastor	203	fzero@oloph.org

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism ceremonies are held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Parents wishing to have a child baptized must attend a baptism preparation session before the baptism; these sessions are held on the first and third Thursdays of the month excluding holidays. Contact the Parish Office to begin the process of having your child baptized.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Those who are seriously ill or facing surgery, as well as those in danger of death, should receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. Please call the Parish Office and ask for one of our priests.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Adults who wish to be baptized, or who have been baptized in another Christian faith and wish to become Catholic, or who have been baptized Catholic and wish to be confirmed and receive Holy Communion, are invited to join the process of the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. Please contact Jeffrey Gaab at (631) 965-0076 or e-mail at jsg375@gmail.com to begin the process.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Adults who have been baptized Catholic and who have received Holy Communion but who still need the Sacrament of Confirmation should enroll in our Adult Confirmation Classes. Please contact Deacon Robert Becker at 631-226-6175 or e-mail to DeaconRobert@oloph.org.

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact the Parish Office at least SIX MONTHS before the desired date of your wedding.

YOUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

Eileen Corticchia
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Jeffrey Gaab
Gregory Guido
Sonia Hansen
Joselyn Kalt
Mary Leon
Rachelle Louis-Jacques
Carlton Mitchell
James Totino

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

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

Bill Bendernagel
Gerry Chille

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

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

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

Fauvette Auguste
Deacon Robert Becker
Mark Costantino
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Kenneth Hale
Jenine Jimenez-Spina
Denise Martinez
Barbara McPhail
Chris Reilly
Deacon Doug Smith
Mike Williams
Fr. Frank Zero

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

PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

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

First Announcement:

Anthony Pizza & Dorothy McManus

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



Brayden Joseph Nocella

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

MASS MEMORIALS

A beautiful way to remember a loved one!
Memorials used during the Masses for the week of December 4-10:

The Altar Candles

In Memory of

Sean James Varela

Requested by

The Gerdau Family

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

WE REMEMBER

We remember those who have died in our parish.

Adeline Camera

Anthony Carrano

Corey Goodermote

Marianne Lentini

Grace Twiford

Thomas Marcantonio

Luciano Francese

Francis Coppola

Ralph Sofio

“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...

***John Caliendo
Judith Coffin
Anthony Pastore
Andres Flores
Mary Gallagher
Patricia McQueen
Cecelia Pastore
Lois Rydzewski
Sylvana Picinich
Rachel Lohr***

***Baby George Elefterion
Ann-Marie Giarratano
Mary Ann Trigg
John Jordan
Linda Arpino
Bob Mehm
Jack Mazalatis
Catherine Fucci
Gail Tonnessen
Diane Wilmarth***

If a family member or close friend is ill, please let us know so our community can pray for them. Please call the Parish Office to have the name of the person added to the list. **Please make sure the person is aware the request has been made and that they are agreeable with their name printed in the bulletin.** The name will remain on the list for four weeks **and will be announced at Mass the first week only.** You don't need to make the request again until after the name is removed from the list.

RESPECT LIFE NEEDS YOUR HELP!



LIFE CENTER
OF LONG ISLAND
A Voice for the Unborn on Long Island

The *Life Center* has put out an urgent call for winter clothing for boys and girls - infant to 4 yr. They can be dropped at the Life Center (35 E Willow, Massapequa).

Call Louise Perrotta at 631-412-3831 for more information.



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, December 5—
Advent Weekday

6:30 Mark McLaughlin

12:15 Gennie Gigante

TUESDAY, December 6—
Advent Weekday
(Saint Nicholas, Bishop)

6:30 Rev. Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton

12:15 Joan & William McCowan

WEDNESDAY, December 7—
Saint Ambrose, Bishop
and Doctor of the Church

6:30 Sean Williams

12:15 Alex Polanco

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

5:00 Sean James Varela

THURSDAY, December 8—
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

6:30 For the People of the Parish

12:15 Lisa Cantelmo

7:30 John Sureau, Sr.

FRIDAY, December 9—
Advent Weekday
(Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin)

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

12:15 Fran DiPalma

SATURDAY, December 10—
Advent Weekday

8:00 Mary Jo Breitfeller & Family

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated):
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

5:00 Dominick & Ann DeGirolamo

Sunday, December 11—
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 Living & Deceased Members of the Holy
Name Society

10:00 For the People of the Parish

12:00 George Greenhalgh

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, December 5, 2022

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

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

12:45 p.m. Devotions Church

7:30 p.m. Advent Mini Mission Church

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

4:30 p.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal Church

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

7:30 p.m. Advent Mini Mission Church

7:30 p.m. Adult Faith Formation:
Confirmation St. Mark's
Room

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

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

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

12:45 p.m. Exposition Church

2:30 p.m. Legion of Mary (631-412-3831) Off Campus

5:30 p.m. Level 6: Classes School

7:00 p.m. Levels 7 and 8: Classes School

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

Thursday, December 8, 2022

**ALL PARISH ACTIVITIES EXCEPT FOR MASSES ARE
CANCELLED FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY. THE
RECTORY RECEPTION DESK WILL BE OPEN ONLY UNTIL
2:00 P.M.**

8:15 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal Church

8:30 p.m. Adoration- Respect Life Night
of Prayer for the Unborn Church

Friday, December 9, 2022

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

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

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

Saturday, December 10, 2022

8:30 and 10:00 a.m. Levels 1, 2, 3, 4: Classes School

11:15 a.m. Levels 5: Penance Service Church

12:30 p.m. CYO Basketball Auditorium

4:00 p.m. Confessions Church

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Church

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

Sunday, December 11, 2022

11:00 a.m. OCIA Room 18

11:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation: Psalms North Sacristy

12:30 p.m. CYO Basketball Auditorium

2:00 p.m. Baptisms Church

8:00 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.

SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

REFLEXIONES DE LAS LECTURAS DEL DOMINGO 4 DE DICIEMBRE DEL 2022

SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO (CICLO A)

Bautizados con el Espíritu de Fuego. Preparen el Camino del Señor

Primera Lectura (Isaías 11,1-10): Un Salvador Lleno del Espíritu de Dios

El gran profeta Isaías anuncia que vendrá un Salvador, como un hombre que transformará el mundo y le traerá la paz de Dios, porque está lleno del Espíritu del mismo Dios.

Segunda Lectura (Romanos 15,4-9): Sigamos a Cristo, Salvador de Todos

Las Escrituras del Antiguo Testamento conservaron viva la esperanza del pueblo de Dios. Nosotros participamos de la misma fe, y rogamos que esa misma esperanza se extienda a todos los hombres y a todos los pueblos. Porque la salvación está seca.

Evangelio (Mateo 3,1-12): Y en este domingo el evangelio de Mateo nos relata claramente el anuncio de Juan Bautista. Juan Bautista que proclama el desierto y hace invitación a la conversión. “Conviértanse porque el Reino de los Cielos está cerca”. Esta predicación de Juan Bautista tiene que ver con un bautismo del arrepentimiento, un bautismo de la conversión. Sobre todo, marcando un nuevo camino para aquellos que se acercan a recibir la gracia del bautismo. Pero Juan Bautista al encontrarse en la fila, a los Fariseos y saduceos les aclara y les dice, con un término muy fuerte: “raza de víboras quién les enseñó a escapar de la ira de Dios que se acerca, produzcan frutos de una sincera conversión”.

San Juan Bautista se refería a los escribas y fariseos de este modo porque seguramente entendían que no había una conversión profunda. Seguramente veían ellos que no había un deseo de cambio, un deseo para ser verdaderos hijos de Dios. Como dice el evangelio: “verdaderos hijos de Abraham”. Sin embargo, después el relato sigue más abajo y pone de manifiesto lo que indica esta propuesta de Juan Bautista y lo usa con la imagen del hacha puesta en la raíz de los árboles, aquel que no da frutos serán cortados y aquellos que frutos producirán mucho más y, sobre todo, mientras va relatando estas imágenes habla, sobre todo, de la grandeza de Jesús y del nuevo bautismo que nos dice Jesús. Si bien el bautismo de Juan, es el bautismo de la conversión el bautismo de Jesús es a través de la fuerza del Espíritu Santo y por medio del fuego del amor de Dios. Es la novedad que trae Jesús, un bautismo de la paz, un bautismo del amor, un bautismo de la misericordia, un bautismo que de alguna manera nos hace sentirnos hijos en el Hijo.



Bueno que este tiempo sea un tiempo de renovación, tiempo de esperanza y que podamos llegar a la navidad con un corazón bien dispuesto.

OFFERING UPDATE November 19/20			
Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	196	80	\$2,187.00
8:00 a.m.	182	83	3,231.00
10:00 a.m.	359	75	2,590.00
12:00 a.m.	328	73	1,995.00
Total coin:			7.05
Faith Direct			3,207.40
Children's Env.		12	37.00
Mail-ins:			2,900.00
TOTAL	1,065	323	\$16,154.45
2021	1,077	382	\$15,642.20
Candles			\$685.57
Poor Box			\$259.86

OFFERING UPDATE November 26/27			
Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	243	108	\$2,946.00
8:00 a.m.	189	81	2,876.00
10:00 a.m.	328	74	2,563.00
12:00 a.m.	277	65	1,788.00
Total coin:			5.51
Faith Direct			3,453.50
Children's Env.		17	61.00
Mail-ins:			1,100.00
TOTAL	1,037	345	\$14,793.01
2021	1,039	367	\$14,576.46
Candles			\$665.05
Poor Box			\$242.81

Holy Name Society

Here is the list of this year's turkey raffle winners:

1. Saint Vincent de Paul Society
2. Saint Vincent de Paul Society
3. Fred Fuessel
4. Sonia Hansen
5. Diane Segretto
6. Roseto
7. Deacon Bill
8. Saint Vincent de Paul Society
9. Mary Renick
10. Margret Hoffman



Thank you to all who supported our annual fundraiser!

SPECIAL OFFICE HOURS

All parish activities except for Masses are cancelled on **Thursday, December 8,** for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Rectory Reception Desk will be open only until 2:00 p.m.; no other afternoon or evening rectory office hours that day.

DEADLINES FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

All requests for items printed in the bulletin must first have approval from Msgr. DeGrocco or the ministry moderator. *All material must be submitted as a Word document* to Carmel Becker at cbecker@oloph.org no later than the dates listed below. *Editing and sizes are at the discretion of the editor.*

December 18— deadline passed
 December 25—December 9
 January 1— December 16 deadline

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND DECEMBER 10/11

A donor to the *Retirement Fund for Religious* writes, "I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our faith." Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift to next week's second collection helps provide care, medicine, and more. Please be generous.

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God!

Isaiah 35:4

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

The first section of the Book of Isaiah collects numerous oracles the prophet proclaimed over a span of nearly forty years. Included in the collection are calls to repentance, warnings of impending destruction, and visions of God's ultimate deliverance. Today's reading is one of the last type, a hopeful vision that at some time in the future God will bring unimaginably great new life to his people. So great will be this new life that even the land itself will be renewed with lavish growth. Not only will God's people be free, but they will be whole, which is the way they were created to be. There will be no more sickness, infirmity, lameness, or blindness. God will come to set all things back into right and proper order. That truly is a time to look forward to!

James 5:7-10

This letter, attributed to James, the leader of the Jewish Christian community in Jerusalem after Jesus' resurrection, focuses primarily on how people should act, that is, on right and ethical conduct. The reading today explains the reason for acting properly: the return of Christ is not far away. When Christ returns, he will bring final judgment with him – "Behold, the Judge is standing before the gates." James tells Christians, then and today, to be patient and not to complain about one another, lest we will be judged and found unworthy. He drives home this point by telling us four times to be patient. Although it may be really hard to be patient sometimes, it seems that it's pretty important.

Matthew 11:2-11

Last week, we heard how John the Baptist called for repentance in order to prepare for the arrival of God's final rule which he described as "the coming wrath." This week he questions if Jesus is the Messiah, maybe because Jesus' ministry emphasized healing and mercy rather than wrath. But Jesus refers John back to the reading from Isaiah we just heard, where the blind will regain their sight and all manner of sick people will be cured, as a way of indicating that he is indeed "the one who is to come." Jesus then goes on to clarify John's role in all of this. Was he a "reed swayed by the wind" who followed every false Messiah? No. Did he come from a royal family wearing fine clothing? No. Jesus tells the crowds and us that John is the new and final prophet, the return of Elijah, announcing the arrival of the Messiah, just as it was written about by the Old Testament prophet Malachi. Jesus makes clear that his kingdom, the one John is prophesying about, will be one of mercy, justice and healing for all.

Gospel Reflection

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. Explain in both the literal and metaphorical senses "the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised." John asked Jesus if he was "the one who is to come." Jesus answered with the above statement. The people who came to John were seeking the deepest desires of their hearts. How was Jesus' response an answer to those desires?

2. John the Baptist might have expected a mighty one and was confused at the gentle, healing Jesus. Pope Francis invites us into the cell of John the Baptist to look into his soul, which was weighed down not only by chains, but by "the shackles of doubt." Does God always come into your life the way you expect?

[John the Baptist] suffered in prison—let us say the word—the interior torture of doubt, saying: "But maybe I made a mistake? This Messiah is not how I imagined the Messiah would be." And he invited his disciples to ask Jesus: "But tell us, tell us the truth: are you he who is to come?" because that doubt made him suffer. "Was I mistaken in proclaiming someone who isn't who I thought?" The suffering, the interior solitude of this man. "I, on the other hand, must diminish, but diminish thus: in my soul, in my body, in everything."

... Let us ask the Lord for the grace of humility that John had, ... the grace that there [be] always space in our lives for Jesus to grow and that we abase ourselves, to the very end.

Pope Francis: God Triumphs through Humility; Mass at the Casa Santa Marta.

May 2, 2016

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, December 5, 2022:

Isaiah 35:1-10 + Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday, December 6, 2022:

Isaiah 40:1-11 + Matthew 18:12-14

Wednesday, December 7, 2022:

Isaiah 40:25-31 + Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday, December 8, 2022:

Genesis 3:9-15, 20

+ Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12 + Luke 1:26-38

Friday, December 9, 2022:

Isaiah 48:17-19 + Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday, December 10, 2022:

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11

+ Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday, December 11, 2022:

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10 + James 5:7-10

+ Matthew 11:9-11

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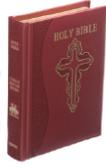


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