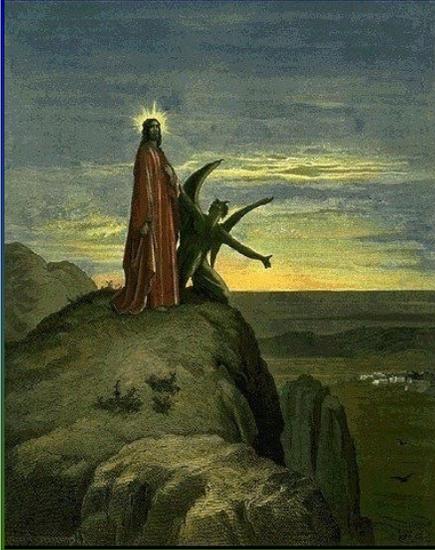


Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

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



*The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert,
and he remained in the desert for forty days,
tempted by Satan.*

Mark 1:12-13

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

February 18, 2018

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco

Parochial Vicars: Reverend Fidelis Ezeani, Reverend Frank Zero

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

Business Manager: Mr. Frank Pokorney

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

Music Director: Mr. Christopher Ferraro

Pastor Emeritus: Reverend Monsignor Daniel S. Hamilton

Deacon Frank Odin, Retired

COME IN AND PRAY...

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

Come in and spend some time in prayer.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday

6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Saturday Morning:

8:00 a.m.

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated):

5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,

12:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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

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

OLPH NOVENA DEVOTIONS

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday Evening: after OLPH Novena Devotions

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

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

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Stations of the Cross



Fridays during Lent

February 23

March 2, 9, 23

at 7:30 p.m. in the Church

We are continuing the custom of having different groups from the parish lead the Stations of the Cross on the Friday nights during Lent as a great way to highlight the traditional Lenten devotion of the Stations of the Cross.

February 23: led by Community of Praise and RCIA

March 2: Youth Service Corps

March 9: Family Life

March 23: Knights of Columbus and Catholics for Freedom of Religion

Stations of the Cross will also be held at 3:00 p.m. on March 16 led by Fr. Fidelis.



CONFESSIONS

MONDAY—FRIDAY

following the 12:15 p.m. weekday Mass

SATURDAYS, FEBRUARY 24,

MARCH 3, 10, 17:

4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

SATURDAY MARCH 24:

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK, MARCH 26: 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.



DIocese OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

READ BISHOP BARRES' LETTER FOR LENT 2018

Go to our website www.olphlindenhurst.com
and find the link to read the special letter from
Bishop Barres for Lent, 2018.

How to Go to Confession...

May the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ,
the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of all
the saints,
whatever good you do and suffering you endure,
heal your sins,
help you grow in holiness,
and reward you with eternal life.
Go in peace.

—*Rite of Penance*, no. 93

- 1 PREPARATION:** Before going to confession, take some time to prepare. Begin with prayer, and reflect on your life since your last confession. How have you—in your thoughts, words, and actions—neglected to live Christ’s commands to “love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind,” and to “love your neighbor as yourself” (Mt 22:37, 39)? As a help with this “examination of conscience,” you might review the Ten Commandments or the Beatitudes (Ex 20:2-17; Dt 5:6-21; Mt 5:3-10; or Lk 6:20-26).
- 2 GREETING:** The priest will welcome you; he may say a short blessing or read a Scripture passage.
- 3 THE SIGN OF THE CROSS:** Together, you and the priest will make the Sign of the Cross. You may then begin your confession with these or similar words: “Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been [*give days, months, or years*] since my last confession.”
- 4 CONFESSION:** Confess all your sins to the priest. If you are unsure what to say, ask the priest for help. When you are finished, conclude with these or similar words: “I am sorry for these and all my sins.”
- 5 PENANCE:** The priest will propose an act of penance. The penance might be prayer, a work of mercy, or an act of charity. He might also counsel you on how to better live a Christian life.

- 6 ACT OF CONTRITION:** After the priest has conferred your penance, pray an Act of Contrition, expressing sorrow for your sins and resolving to sin no more. A suggested Act of Contrition is:

My God,
I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.
In choosing to do wrong
and failing to do good,
I have sinned against you
whom I should love above all things.
I firmly intend, with your help,
to do penance,
to sin no more,
and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.
Our Savior Jesus Christ
suffered and died for us.
In his name, my God, have mercy.
(Rite of Penance, no. 45)

- 7 ABSOLUTION:** The priest will extend his hands over your head and pronounce the words of absolution. You respond, “Amen.”
- 8 PRAISE:** The priest will usually praise the mercy of God and will invite you to do the same. For example, the priest may say, “Give thanks to the Lord for he is good.” And your response would be, “His mercy endures for ever” (*Rite of Penance, no. 47*).
- 9 DISMISSAL:** The priest will conclude the sacrament, often saying, “Go in peace.”

If it has been a while since your last confession, remember, “Do not fear” (Is 41:10). The priest will help guide you. And feel free to take this how-to guide with you! (For more information, visit www.usccb.org/confession.)

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Publication No. 7-412
Washington, DC
ISBN 978-1-60137-412-7

ISBN 978-1-60137-412-7



PASTOR'S PAGE

First Sunday of Lent

Off we go with another season of Lent! If we're taking it seriously, then maybe we feel a little intimidated at the seriousness of the task that lies ahead of us: for the next 40 days, we are to journey with Jesus through the desert, struggling with our sinfulness. The Gospel for the First Sunday of Lent is always one of the accounts of Jesus going into the desert and being tempted; this year we hear St. Mark's very stark version. As we are confronted with that Gospel and with undertaking the Lenten journey, the goal which we must keep ever before us is that of **conversion** — namely, letting go of our sinful and destructive ways and finding new life with Christ. Moving closer to this goal does not just happen on its own, though; we have to make conscious and deliberate choices so that we can make the most of this precious and grace-filled time in the desert with the Lord.

As we have been doing for a number of years now at OLPH, we have marked this First Sunday of Lent with an ancient custom of singing of the Litany of the Saints during the Entrance Procession. Notice, too, our stark worship environment in the church; this reminds us of the simplicity and seriousness we are called to during this season, and it creates a hunger for the blossoming of new life we will experience at Easter. As always, the prayers of the Mass provide the central focus for us in our Lenten spirituality. I invite you to explore their spiritual depth and richness, and to use those prayers to ground your reflections during this first week of Lent.

The Collect (Opening Prayer) sets the agenda for us and very much gives us the sense that we are beginning something significant. We pray that *"through the yearly observance of holy Lent...we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects."* Notice how the emphasis is that our observance of Lent should have a concrete effect in our behavior — our conduct should be worthy of our life in Christ.

The Prayer over the Offerings also acknowledges the beginning of Lent as *"we celebrate the beginning of this venerable and sacred time,"* but, like the Collect, the prayer also reminds us of a change that is supposed to occur in us: *"Give us the right dispositions, O Lord, we pray, to make these offerings..."* We must always strive to present ourselves to the Lord with the acceptable sacrifice of a life that is good and holy and true.

The Prayer after Communion speaks of the nourishment that comes to us in the Eucharist by referencing the three traditional virtues of faith, hope and charity. Also, the prayer goes on to ask *"that we may learn to hunger for Christ, the true and living Bread, and strive to live by every word which proceeds from your mouth."*

Finally, the Preface (the first part of the Eucharistic Prayer, before the *Holy, Holy*) echoes the

Gospel as it makes reference to Jesus' fast of forty days in the desert and the temptations he faced. It reminds us that we, too, are to go into desert during Lent and confront our temptations and our sins, strengthened in that spiritual combat by our union with Christ.

Away we go with another season of Lent!

Stations of the Cross

We continue with our Friday night series of Lenten Stations of the Cross this Friday, February 23 with this second evening being led by our Community of Praise Prayer Group and RCIA ministry. (Look for the ad in the bulletin each week for Friday Stations of the Cross.) I am so pleased that we celebrate the Stations of the Cross this way, making it truly a devotion that involves many different aspects of the parish. I am grateful to Deacon Robert Becker who coordinates this each year. I ask everyone to seriously consider making Friday night Stations of the Cross a regular part of their Lenten devotions, and to join us each Friday night. Do it together as a family, taking the opportunity for family prayer time together!

When will you go to Confession during Lent? Don't wait until the last minute!

So, I raised the question to you last week: when will you go to Confession during Lent? Have you put a date and time in your calendar, to set it as an actual appointment?

Our confession times during Lent will be listed in a special ad throughout all of Lent. Don't wait until the last minute and find that you can't get to Confession! There are plenty of times available, especially from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Monday of Holy Week, March 26 — that would be a great day to go! Also, you can call or e-mail one of the priests and make a separate appointment to see him for Confession! We'll be happy to see you that way, too! What could be easier than that?

Make your plan NOW to go to Confession; it's important enough to plan ahead for, right?

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Lent is a special time not only for those of us who are already fully-initiated Catholics, but also for those who are preparing to become Catholic — those who are unbaptized, and those who are baptized in other Christian traditions, who are seeking to enter the full communion of the Catholic Church. I hope you have noticed the special RCIA blurbs we have been running, explaining certain rituals these people will be celebrating with us during Lent; please take a moment to read them, and especially to keep our elect and our candidates in your prayers. We look forward with excitement to the Easter Vigil this year, when Nicholas

PASTOR'S PAGE

will be baptized, confirmed and receive First Holy Communion, and to a Mass during Easter Time when Carlton and Kayla will be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church, be confirmed and receive First Holy Communion.

Catholic Ministries Appeal

Thanks to all those who have already sent in their pledges to this year's Catholic Ministries Appeal, starting us toward achieving and even, I sincerely hope, surpassing our goal of \$109,400. Please remember, we cannot do without the income we receive from the Catholic Ministries Appeal rebate. We need that income to keep from "going under," so we need your support.

I give to the Appeal each year, and I am asking you to join me and your fellow parishioners, if you have not already done so, in giving at a minimum what you gave last year, but also even giving more (as I will do). If you have never given in the past, then this is the year to do so; OLPH needs you more than ever. Thank you for your generosity!

Pope Francis' Catecheses on the Holy Mass

We continue our series printing Pope Francis' catecheses on the Holy Mass, given at his Wednesday audiences. Since Mass is so central to our life as Catholics, we can never learn enough about it. The selection below is taken from the Holy Father's audience of January 10, 2018; here he is speaking about the Collect (Opening Prayer) of the Mass. I present his words *verbatim*.

With the invitation "Let us pray," the priest exhorts the people to recollect themselves with him in a *moment of silence*, in order to be conscious of being in the presence of God and to have arise, in each one's heart, the personal intentions with which he takes part in the Mass. The priest says, "Let us pray," and then comes a moment of silence, and each one thinks of the things of which he is in need, what he wishes to ask for in prayer.

The silence isn't reduced to the absence of words, but rather in disposing oneself to listen to other voices: that of our heart and, especially, the voice of the Holy Spirit. In the liturgy, the nature of the sacred silence depends on the moment in which it takes place. During the Penitential Act and after the invitation to prayer, it helps recollection; after the reading or the homily, it's a call to meditate briefly on what one has heard; after Communion, it fosters interior prayer of praise and supplication. Therefore, before the initial prayer, silence helps to recollect ourselves in ourselves and to think why we are there. See then the importance of listening to our spirit to then open it to the Lord. Perhaps we come from days of toil, of joy, of sorrow, and we want

to say it to the Lord, to invoke His help, to ask that He be close to us; we might have sick relatives and friends or who are going through difficult trials; we want to entrust to God the fate of the Church and of the world. And for this the brief silence is useful, before the priest, *gathering the intentions of each one*, expresses in a loud voice to God, in the name of all, the common prayer that ends the Introductory Rites, doing in fact the "Collect" of the individual intentions.

The priest recites this supplication, this Collect prayer, with his arms spread, which is the attitude of the worshiper, assumed by Christians from the first centuries — as the frescoes of the Roman catacombs attest — to imitate Christ with His arms open on the wood of the cross. And there, Christ is the Worshiper and is at the same time the prayer! In the Crucified we recognize the Priest who offers to God the worship that pleases Him, namely, filial obedience.

In the Roman Rite the prayers are concise but rich in meaning — beautiful meditations can be made on these prayers, which are so beautiful! To return to meditate on the texts, also outside of Mass, can help us to learn how to address God, what to ask for, what words to use. May the liturgy be able to become for all of us a true school of prayer.

Presidents' Day holiday

Finally, allow me to wish everyone a very happy and relaxing Presidents' Day holiday; it's nice to have a "three-day weekend" again, right? For schools, this is also the week of Winter Recess. May we use this day and/or this week for wholesome relaxation and renewal! Hey...since it's Lent, how about using any extra time you have to attend weekday Mass and/or to engage in additional spiritual practices? What a great gift to the Lord that would be!

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,



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

ADULT ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED TO SERVE AT FUNERAL MASSES

We are in need of adults who will serve as altar servers at Funeral Masses. Your commitment would be once or twice a week, depending on the number of funerals we have. This is a great opportunity to serve your fellow parishioners at a very sensitive and touching time — when they have experienced the loss of a loved one. Your service as an altar server will make an important contribution to the dignity and reverence of the Funeral Mass. The main requirement is that you be available weekdays during the day; full training will be provided for you! Men or women, younger or older...we'll be happy to have you! Please contact Msgr. Joe at msgrio@oloph.org or at the rectory phone number, ext. 206, to sign up. Thank you!

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**

ATTENTION ALL WEEKDAY AND SUNDAY READERS:

Our spring meeting will take place on **Wednesday, February 21, 2018 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Room 18** of the school building. All readers are expected to attend. If you would like to place an item on the agenda, please send it to Deacon Robert at rabecker@optimum.net.

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help



Each Monday, parishioners pray to seek the help and assistance of the Lord for healing, family, children and the needs of the world, seeking the intercession of the Blessed Mother. Following the Novena prayers, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place. The evening concludes with veneration of a relic of St. Catherine Laboure. Take some time each Monday to join in the OLPH Novena.

**Monday, February 19—No Devotions
due to Presidents' Day Holiday**

Monday, February 26—7:00 p.m.

Monday, March 5—7:00 p.m.

ABSTINENCE AND FASTING

All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth (14th) year are bound to abstain entirely from meat on all the Fridays of Lent. All Catholics between the ages of eighteen (18) and fifty-nine (59) inclusive are also bound to observe the law of fast on Good Friday. This means limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Two other light meals, which together do not equal a full meal, may be taken during the day. Those whose work or health would be impaired are excused from fast and abstinence. Individual conscience should decide proper cause for excuse. A more serious reason is required to excuse oneself from the Good Friday fast and abstinence.



LENT: ITS MEANING, STRUCTURE, AND OUR CHURCH ENVIRONMENT

THE MEANING OF LENT



We're going on retreat! True, we may not physically be traveling to a far-off place, but we are nonetheless going on retreat. The solemn season of Lent may be seen as a time of retreat for the entire Church, as we prepare to celebrate Easter and the new life which comes to us through Jesus' death and resurrection. In fact, three focal points can form the basis for our Lenten spiritual journey:

- focusing on the mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection;
- final preparation of those in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults to receive Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist;
- rediscovery of and recommitment to Baptism by those already baptized, through their penance, spiritual renewal, and ongoing conversion.

The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy of Vatican II explains:

The two elements which are especially characteristic of Lent — the recalling of baptism or the preparation for it, and penance — should be given greater emphasis in the liturgy and in liturgical catechesis. It is by means of them that the Church prepares the faithful for the celebration of Easter, while they hear God's word more frequently and devote more time to prayer. More use is to be made of the baptismal features which are proper to the Lenten liturgy....The same may be said of the penitential elements. But catechesis, as well as pointing out the social consequences of sin, must impress on the minds of the faithful the distinctive character of penance as a detestation of sin because it is an offense against God. The role of the Church in penitential practices is not to be passed over, and the need to pray for sinners should be emphasized. During Lent, penance should be not only internal and individual but also external and social.

THE STRUCTURE OF LENT

Most people know that Lent is 40 days long, but they think that the 40 days are the six weeks plus the four days of the week of Ash Wednesday (which totals 46 days) minus six Sundays, which equals 40 days. But Lent does not end on Holy Saturday; it ends on Holy Thursday evening. The Triduum, or Three Days, beginning with the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and concluding with evening Vespers on Easter Sunday, is a three-day season unto itself, and not merely the final three days of Lent. The span of days from Ash Wednesday to Holy Thursday is 44 days, but the ancient fathers of the Church calculated 40 days by beginning the count with the First Sunday of Lent, and continuing until Holy Thursday. This practice has been kept to the present time, hence the 40 days of Lent.

At least four phases of the season can be discerned:

1. Ash Wednesday and the next three days: These four days form a solemn preview of the season; the Scriptures and Mass prayers announce the major aspects of the observance and call us to enter into the season. The First Sunday of Lent begins the period of 40 days, with the Rite of Election for the catechumens being one expression of this.

2. The 28 days from the First Sunday until the Saturday of the Fourth Week: Scripture readings and penitential rites provide the structure for these days. Penance services, the Penitential Rite for candidates for reception into the full communion of the Church celebrated on the Second Sunday, and the first two scrutinies for the elect on the Third and Fourth Sundays, are all a part of this time. Only one feast day, the Feast of St. Peter the Apostle, on February 22, breaks this violet period in 2018. The Fourth or "Laetare" Sunday (March 11) brings its own nuances, and rose-colored vestments may be worn that day.

3. *From the Fifth Sunday and following:* Attention becomes focused on the passion of Christ during this period of Lenten time. The Third Scrutiny for the elect is celebrated on the Fifth Sunday of Lent. One feast day occurs during the Fifth Week of Lent this year, allowing for festivity in the midst of this last week of Lenten seriousness: the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, on March 19.

4. *The last days, called Holy Week, beginning with Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord:* These days are given the highest liturgical precedence so the Church will not be distracted from final preparations for the Triduum. Focus on the passion of Christ becomes intensified. March 25, which is usually the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, falls on Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, and so Palm Sunday takes precedence; thus, the Solemnity of the Annunciation will be transferred to April 9 this year.

Remembering that Lent is primarily about baptismal preparation and conversion, let us be aware of the structure and movement of this season as we journey toward Easter.

CHURCH ENVIRONMENT AND OTHER RITUAL ELEMENTS DURING LENT



Our church environment will look different during the Lenten season. The environment in which we worship helps us to enter into a Lenten spirituality — what we see (and don't see) and smell and hear is all a part of the way we pray. Here are some things you will notice during Lent:

THE ASHES USED ON ASH WEDNESDAY WILL BE ON DISPLAY ALL DURING LENT, in the Divine Mercy Chapel area. This will be an ongoing reminder of the spiritual journey of Lent, a journey of dying and rising, a journey of changing our lives to be closer to Christ. The ashes come from burned palms saved from the previous year's Palm Sunday.

THERE WILL BE NO FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH. The Roman Rite is specific about flowers for this penitential season: they are not allowed! The only exceptions this year are the feasts mentioned above and "Laetare" Sunday, the Fourth Sunday of Lent.

OUR BAPTISMAL FONT WILL HAVE A "LENTEN LOOK" TO IT. Our baptismal font will be decorated with purple bands, as a reminder that these forty days of penance and conversion lead to a renewal of our baptismal promises at Easter. We are thirsting for the new Easter water which will flow at the celebration of the Lord's Resurrection!

FOR THE PENITENTIAL ACT AT ALL SUNDAY MASSES DURING LENT WE WILL RECITE THE *CONFITEOR* (THE "I CONFESS TO ALMIGHTY GOD...") AND THEN SING THE *KYRIE ELEISON* ("LORD, HAVE MERCY"). This will highlight for us the penitential nature of the season and help us to more intently "acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries." It also gives us the chance to use the *Confiteor* ("I confess to almighty God...") which is not often heard at Sunday Masses.

WE WILL USE THE APOSTLES' CREED INSTEAD OF THE NICENE CREED. The Roman Missal tells us, "Instead of the Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed, especially during Lent and Easter Time, the baptismal Symbol of the Roman Church, known as the Apostles' Creed, may be used." So, to highlight the sacredness of the season, we will use the Apostles' Creed instead of the Nicene Creed, the one we usually use, for all of Lent and Easter Time. This will highlight for us the baptismal character of both the Lenten and Easter seasons.

THERE WILL BE NO SINGING OR INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC AT THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS DURING LENT. This will help create a mood of prayerful quiet and reflection appropriate to the season. The Priest may continue to pray the preparation prayers silently, or he may recite them out loud, giving the people the opportunity to respond, "Blessed be God forever."



CROSSES AND IMAGES IN THE CHURCH WILL BE COVERED STARTING WITH THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT. This custom becomes yet another stark visual reminder of the seriousness of Lent and helps us to truly experience heavenly joy and resurrected life when the images of the saints, who are in heavenly glory, are seen once again come Easter.

There are other ritual aspects that go into the celebration of Lent:

- the omission of the *Glory to God in the highest* at the beginning of all Masses;
- the omission of the Alleluia before the Gospel, replaced by another Gospel acclamation;
- less use of the organ and more singing without the accompaniment of instruments
- traditional Lenten practices such as prayer, fasting, and almsgiving;
- Lenten devotions such as Stations of the Cross and our Parish Mission (look for details elsewhere in the bulletin).

As we journey through the days of Lenten springtime together, let us enter into its spirit by anticipating the new life which comes to us through Jesus' resurrection at Easter.

A WORD ABOUT LITURGICAL PRACTICES AND GOOD HEALTH

As we come to celebrate Mass together each week during these winter days, it's a good time to review some common-sense liturgical practices and issues, to help everyone stay healthy and to care for one another.

- **Holy Communion:** Priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion are especially encouraged to wash and sanitize their hands before Mass begins. If Communion ministers need to clean their hands during Mass, it must be done discreetly. The best way for extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion to clean their hands during Mass is to use a sanitizing liquid in the pew before coming into the sanctuary (sanitizing liquids have no place on the altar or among the Communion vessels and other sacred items on the credence table).
- **Communion from the Chalice:** The faithful should refrain from drinking from the chalice when one has a cold or is fearful of being infected.
- **Receiving on the Tongue:** Faithful who normally receive Holy Communion on the tongue should refrain from receiving on the tongue and instead receive in the hand when one has a cold or is otherwise contagious. Do not spread your saliva to the hand of the Communion minister if you are sick; receive Communion in the hand instead.
- **Greeting of Peace:** Use your own discretion and best judgment when invited to exchange the greeting of peace during the liturgy; limit physical contact with others if necessary. If a handshake is not advisable, a simple bow of the head is acceptable. Do not be insulted if someone prefers to avoid shaking your hand.

Mass Attendance: MOST IMPORTANTLY, IF YOU ARE SICK, PLEASE DO NOT COME TO MASS! There is no obligation to attend Mass if you are sick; it is not a sin to miss Mass for this reason. (Also, there is no need to go to Confession if you miss Mass because you are sick.) Personal prayer and reflection on the Sunday Scripture readings is encouraged; many people also enjoy viewing the Mass on television.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR PARISHIONERS TO OFFER TO HAVE THEIR FEET WASHED ON HOLY THURSDAY

The Washing of Feet is one of the most beautiful and powerful moments in the Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper. The action ritualizes the humble service of Jesus who came to serve and to lay down his life for us. The rite is also a powerful reminder of Jesus' command for us to imitate his humble service, and to wash each other's feet through acts of generous, self-emptying love.



Each year we select twelve (12) parishioners to have their feet washed, and we try to represent a good cross-section of the parish. **We would like to ask you to offer to have your feet washed at our Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper this year, on March 29.** This is a great opportunity for you to offer to be part of our Sacred Paschal Triduum in a very powerful way. Don't be shy about nominating yourself or someone else! It's OK for more than one member of the same family to be included! It's a great offering you would be giving to OLPH. If you are interested, simply return the response coupon below.

Young or old; long-time parishioner or new; male or female; involved in the parish or not-so-involved—we want to get a good cross-representation, and so we want YOU to come forward and offer yourself. Because we are trying to have a representative balance among the twelve, please do not worry or be insulted if you submit your name but are not called this year—we'll hold on to your name for future years! Return the response form today!

 YES! I would like to have my name included among those willing to have my feet washed on Holy Thursday, either this year or in a future year.

Name _____

Phone Number _____

E-mail _____

Age _____ (needed so we can include a variety of ages)

If more than one member of your family would like to offer, you can make a copy of this or send in the information on your own paper.

KEEP THE CHURCH CLEAN! LEAVE IT NICER THAN YOU FOUND IT!

We have been having a problem in recent months of all sorts of litter being left in pews throughout the church. Used tissues, other papers, food items, empty water bottles, and litter in general, are being left behind, and it is making the church look a mess, which is highly disrespectful to the Lord and to each other. It is essential for us to maintain a dignified space in which we can give God due honor, worship and reverence.

Your cooperation is greatly needed! Please be conscious of not dropping or leaving litter in the church. If something does drop, please be sure to pick up after yourself and your children before leaving the church. Let's give each other this gift of respect and caring! Keep the church clean, and leave it nicer than you found it! Thank you.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



Congratulations to our brother, **Nicholas Sherman** who is in formation to become Catholic through the process of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults! Today, the First Sunday of Lent, he enters the final stage of his journey in preparation for initiation into the Church at the Easter Vigil. Today at *3:00 p.m.* he will attend **The Rite of Election** at St. Anne's Church in Brentwood, presided over by Bishop Robert Brennan. At this liturgy, Nicholas (who will then become **the elect**) will be formally recognized and accepted by our diocese as one preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation this coming Easter. In preparation for this joyous celebration, our parish is celebrating **The Parish Celebration for Sending the Catechumens for Election** at the *12:00 p.m.* Mass.

Please remember our catechumen (soon-to-be elect) *Nicholas James Sherman* in your prayers as he enters this final stage of Lenten preparation for reception of the Easter sacraments.

Our brother **Carlton Mitchell** and our sister **Kayla Rhodes**, who are in formation to become Catholic through the process of the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**, will enter a new stage in their journey. Just as Lent is a time for all Catholics for intense renewal, conversion, and purification, the same is true for those preparing to become Catholic at Easter. Our candidates Carlton and Kayla, who are already baptized in other Christian traditions but who are seeking to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church, will undergo a period of more intense preparation during the Lenten season. The ritual for them to begin this period is called **The Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion**, and this will be celebrated here at OLPH next Saturday, **February 24**, at **the 5:00 p.m. Mass for the Second Sunday of Lent**. With this ritual, Carlton and Kayla will be formally recognized and accepted as candidates to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church this Easter Time.

Please keep Carlton and Kayla in your prayers as they enter this Lenten season, their final preparation before joining the Catholic Church and receiving Confirmation and First Holy Communion at a Sunday Mass during Easter Time.

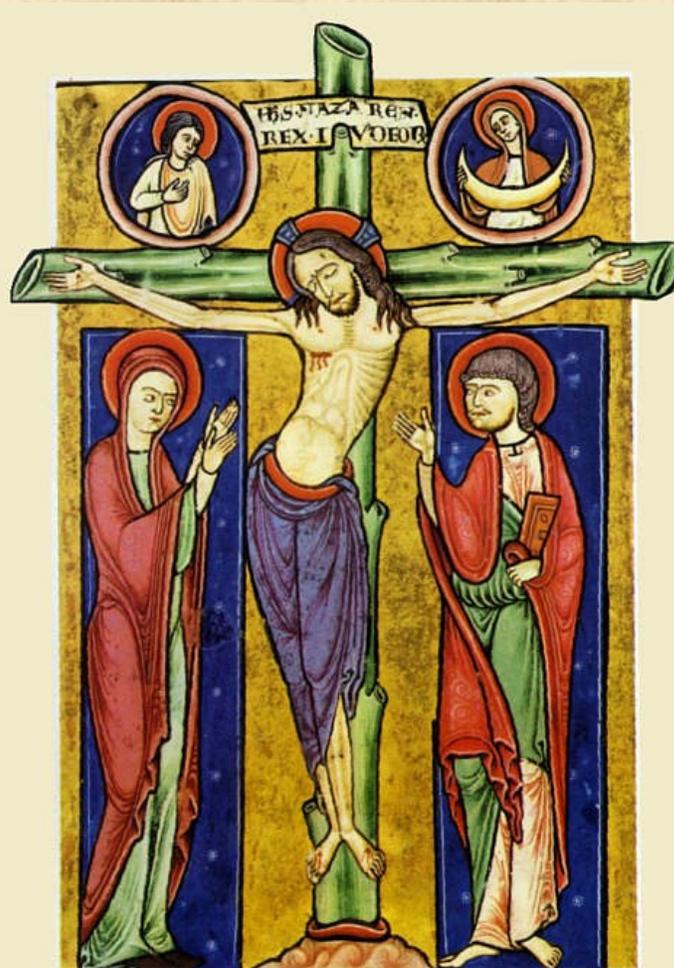


Our Lady of Perpetual Help Music Ministry Presents

PASSION, PRAISE AND PASCHAL MYSTERY

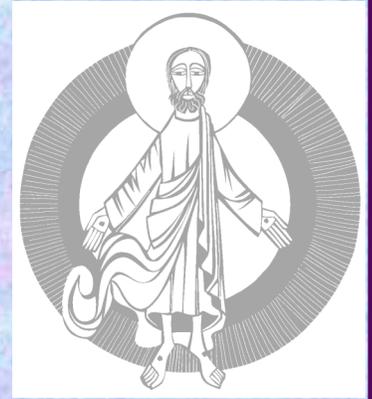
An Evening of Choral Music and Meditations
on Christ's Passion and Death

Friday, March 16, 2018
7:30 p.m.



PARISH LENTEN MISSION

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
Lindenhurst, New York



Lenten Mission 2018

Are You Willing to Walk
With Jesus This Holy Week:

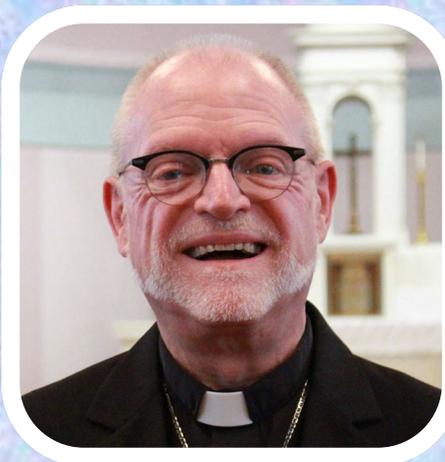
Are you willing to serve?

Are you willing to die?

Are you willing to rise?

Sunday, March 18 · Monday, March 19 · Tuesday, March 20

7:30 p.m. Prayer Service each evening



Fr. Paul H. Colloton, OSFS, D.Min. is a member of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, Wilmington-Philadelphia Province. Paul is the Priest Chaplain and Associate Director of Campus Ministry for Ohio Dominican University in Columbus, OH. He served as the Director of Continuing Education for the National Association of Pastoral Musicians for a little over thirteen years. Paul holds a D.Min. with a concentration in Word and Worship from Catholic Theological Union, Chicago. He has over 40 years experience in pastoral ministry as preacher, presider, liturgist, musician, educator, spiritual director, workshop presenter, retreat director, and author.

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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

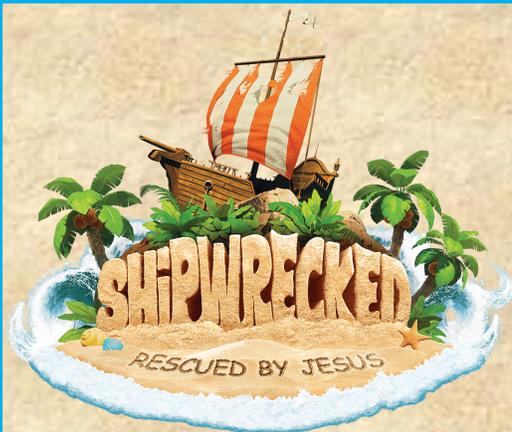
OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
 Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Wednesday: 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Friday: **CLOSED**
 Saturday: By Appointment

Here are some great pictures from the recent Level 5 Open House!



ALL LEVELS: There are NO CLASSES
the week of February 19-24



Vacation Bible Camp

July 16th- July 20th

Bible Camp Preview Day

Sunday, March 18th

after the 10:00 a.m. Mass
in the Auditorium

Come join us as we learn about this year's
 Bible Camp Theme—**Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus.**

There will be hospitality, games, crafts, and singing. Middle School Campers will discover Service Camp as they make sandwiches for those in need.

Early Registration for Bible Camp will be available.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- † Blue Door Thrift Boutique: Tricia Buckley—631.561.5790—thebluedoor@oloph.org
- † Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Kathy Feldman—631 225-9864—cdfeldman@optonline.net
- † Community Meal: Gigi Gracey—631.943.0095—gigigracey1962@gmail.com—Mary Leon—mleon719@yahoo.com
- † Golden Age Society: Dolores Barone—631.957.3432
- † Homeless Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com—Peggy Pannullo—631. 921.5994—justin97@aol.com
- † Hospital Visitors: Peter O’Neill—631-226-6340—oneillp@optonline.net
- † Middle Ages: Gail Tonnessen—631.957.1449—gtonness@optonline.net
- † Nursing Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com
- † Respect Life Committee: Louise Perrotta—631.412.3831—louiseperrotta@optonline.net
- † St. Bernard League: Deacon Doug Smith—631-226-7725—dsmith4475@aol.com
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Deborah Deasy—631.226.7725, x. 234
- † Senior Moments/Spirituality: Fran Grasso—631.956.3003—sixfingers13@gmail.com
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker—631.226.6175—jbecker@oloph.org—Caroline Grogan—631.225.7688—straightclaw@optonline.net

NEW Food Pantry List!

PASTA SAUCE
CANNED MEATS
CANNED FRUIT
PEANUT BUTTER
JELLY OR JAM
COFFEE
PANCAKE SYRUP
SHELF STABLE MILK
(Not evaporated milk, please)
SMALL BOTTLES OF WATER
SHAMPOO

NO PASTA AT THIS TIME, PLEASE.

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 Room 24 of the School

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.—12:00 Noon

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

In today’s Gospel, Jesus overcomes the temptations to wealth, power and esteem. As we begin Lent, may we open our hearts to the grace of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Your almsgiving in the St. Vincent de Paul poor box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God’s love this Easter.

† A LIVING MEMORIAL

THANK YOU!!! The Society of St. Vincent de Paul OLPH Conference wishes to thank those who have supported our Living Memorial Card program. Your donations are used to offer person-to-person service to the needy and suffering within our parish.

Memorial donation envelopes are available on the pew ledges, in the SVDP Food Pantry (M-W-F, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon and 1st & 3rd Saturdays, 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.) or at the Rectory. A beautiful memorial card acknowledging your donation is sent to the bereaved.

Please contact Janet Hume at the SVDP Office at 631-226-7725 X 234 for further information.

OUR MISSION

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Long Island is part of an international organization of Catholic laymen and women who join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to the needy and suffering in the tradition of our founder, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, and patron, Saint Vincent de Paul.



"Those who love the poor in life will have nothing to fear in death..."
- Saint Vincent de Paul

*As a Living Memorial
to the life of*

A donation has been made by

To the
Society of St. Vincent de Paul
of Long Island

Please accept our sincere condolences for your loss.

OLPH YOUTH MINISTRY

**THIS
SUNDAY!**



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

WHO: 9th – 12th Graders

WHEN: Sunday, Feb. 18, 2018

TIME: 6:00 p.m.– 9:00 p.m.

WHERE: School Gym



IMPORTANT NOTICE AFFECTING ALL CHILDREN OF THE PARISH

As required by the Diocese of Rockville Centre, Sacraments of Initiation are to be celebrated in the home parish of the child. Therefore, all families of OLPH with children celebrating First Communion and Confirmation are to have their children **celebrate those sacraments at OLPH**. As Catholics, our faith identity is centered in our Eucharistic identity, namely, the Sunday worshipping community we belong to (where we celebrate Mass Sunday after Sunday). This community is our primary community and the community in which our faith is lived, day in and day out.

Because of this, and because each year of religious formation builds on the prior one, **all school-aged children who are parishioners of OLPH, regardless of where they attend school, must be registered with our Religious Education Office for all years of religious formation (not only for sacrament-preparation years).**

- Children **in all grades** who attend **public school** attend religion classes in our Religious Education Program, and they and their parents also participate in various non-classroom religious formation experiences.

- Children **in all grades** who attend a **Catholic elementary school** need not attend the Religious Education classes, but they must be registered with us, and they and their parents participate in all the non-classroom religious formation experiences, especially but not only in sacrament-preparation years.

- Children **in all grades** who are **homeschooled** must also be registered with the Religious Education Office; they may or may not be required to attend the Religious Education classes, depending on their homeschool curriculum, but regardless, the homeschooled children and their parents are to attend the various non-classroom formation experiences, especially but not only in sacrament-preparation years.

If you are a parishioner with children in a Catholic elementary school or who are homeschooled and you are not yet on record with our Religious Education Office, please contact the office immediately. If you know of anyone who should be registered, please let them know of this policy. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

HOMELESS MINISTRY DONATIONS

We are in need of the following items:

Men's pants (jeans & sweat pants) - larger sizes
 Women's new underwear (sizes 5,6,7)
 Heavy hoodies - L to 3 XL
 Winter hats (skull type)/gloves - men & women
 Sneakers - 10, 11, 11.5, 12, 13, 15
 Work boots (in good condition)
 Gently used tents

*If it is easier, we can always use **Kmart gift cards** (and the like) or financial donations, and we'll do the shopping.*

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 woman
in your late 40s, 50s, or early 60s?

Tuesday, February 20
Game Night
in Room 24 at 7:00 p.m.

Meetings are usually held on the first and third weeks of the month in Room 24 of the "new" school. For more information, call Gail Tonnessen at 631-957-1449 or e-mail at gtonness@optonline.net

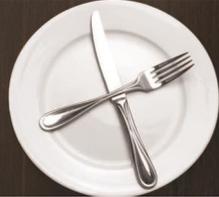
SENIOR MOMENTS

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

Tuesday, March 13
9:00 a.m. in Room 24

Fran Grasso—631-956-3003
sixfingers13@gmail.com

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



COMMUNITY MEAL MINISTRY

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

*Our next Community Meal is
Sunday, February 18.*

*Come and pray with us at the
12:00 p.m. Mass then join us
for "Sunday Dinner" at 1:00 p.m.*

Our next Meal is March 4

BLUE DOOR BOUTIQUE

It's NEW to YOU!



Our prices are the lowest around. Clothing, bags, dishes, decorative items, candles, shoes, New merchandise every week.

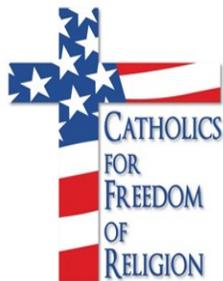
THE
*blue*door
BOUTIQUE

HOURS OF OPERATION

M, W, F 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
SAT. 1:30-3:00 p.m.

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

CATHOLICS FOR FREEDOM OF RELIGION



Focus on Religious Freedom

www.cffor.org

Punished for Religious Beliefs in the Military—Part 2

In 2017, USAF Colonel Michael Madrid's law firm demanded that the Air Force rescind Col. Madrid's punishment and attempt to destroy his career or face further legal action. Col. Madrid is a decorated Air Force veteran, former Naval aviator, and a flight surgeon who has served the military for 26 years and is a Christian with traditional beliefs about marriage.

In 2014, an Airman who was court-martialed and found guilty of serious misconduct accused Col. Madrid of making derogatory comments about homosexuality. Col. Madrid denied this charge and submitted to a thorough Air Force investigation, which found the allegations unsubstantiated; he was cleared of all charges, and the investigation was closed.

However, two years later, without any new evidence or new investigation, a new commander, Maj. Gen. McCoy, decided that Madrid had lied in 2014 when he denied making derogatory comments. As a result, he placed a Letter of Admonishment in Col. Madrid's stellar permanent record that now guarantees he will never be promoted to Brigadier General.

"Colonel Madrid is the latest victim of extreme political correctness..." said First Liberty Institute. "We are concerned that Maj. Gen. McCoy judged and punished Madrid because he became aware of his traditional religious views. If so, that not only harms the military, it is illegal." (prnnewswire.com, 3/29/17; MadridCaseFacts.com)

"As the world faces terrorist threats to freedom and America prepares a response, the U.S. military is facing challenges to its own freedom here at home."—*Barbara Samuells, President, Catholics For Freedom of Religion*

FR. FIDELIS NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Move Around With Us, Inc.

is a non-profit organization created by Fr. Fidelis to help young Nigerians who are in desperate need of wheelchairs, crutches, canes, walkers, etc. but cannot afford such luxuries. **You can help!** If you have (in good condition) and no longer need such items please contact Fr. Fidelis at the rectory who, with the Pastor's permission, will collect and arrange for the items' transport overseas.



(Charitable donation tax letter available upon request)



PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

WE CELEBRATE

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

-Rite of Baptism



Sabrina Lynn Sullivan
Logan Kai Christensen
Luna Ellen Johnson
Joseph Thomas Kwong

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

WE REMEMBER

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

Frank Criscuolo
Catherine Laszewski

“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.”

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.

PERPETUAL HELP MASS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018

AT 6:30 A.M. MASS

Mr. & Mrs. Patrick O'Brien	Requested by Michael & Eileen Salvi
Frank Parise	Requested by The Payne Family

WE BELIEVE

We pray for the sick of our parish...

<i>Peter Masak</i>	<i>Kevin Reid</i>
<i>Noreen Bucala</i>	<i>Susan LaSala</i>
<i>Mary Doran</i>	<i>Bonnie & Richard Rieger</i>
<i>Colin Czekaj</i>	<i>Ralph Assario</i>
<i>Charles Wendland</i>	<i>Joseph Pugh</i>
<i>Teobaldo Santo</i>	<i>Charlotte O'Kobrick</i>
<i>Bruce Levy</i>	<i>Alberta Zero</i>
<i>Christopher Macchia</i>	<i>Peter Leyden</i>
<i>Rose Macchia</i>	<i>Isabella Belen</i>
<i>Carmela Sannartino</i>	<i>Cynthia Breitfeller</i>
<i>Nicolina Baily</i>	<i>Marjorie Santoli</i>
<i>Lisa Marie Hulsen</i>	<i>Beata Konopka</i>
<i>Paul Madonia</i>	

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 having their name printed in the bulletin.** The name will remain on the list for about four weeks depending upon space.

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.

If you or a family member are ill and wish to receive Holy Communion, please contact the parish office. One of our parish priests will come visit you and an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Community will then visit each week.

We pray for the sick and the homebound of our parish at each and every Mass.



MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, February 19, 2018—
Lenten Weekday

6:30 Peter Windishman

12:15 Terry Caltabiano

TUESDAY, February 20—
Lenten Weekday

6:30 Perpetual Help Mass (listing on p. 20)

12:15 Theresa Caltabiano

WEDNESDAY, February 21—
Lenten Weekday
(Saint Peter Damian, Bishop & Doctor of the Church)

6:30 Barbara De Somma

12:15 Arthur Lombardi

THURSDAY, February 22—
The Chair of Saint Peter the Apostle

6:30 Jimmy Schiavone

12:15 George Wagner

FRIDAY, February 23—
Lenten Weekday
(Saint Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr)

6:30 Jimmy Schiavone

12:15 Eleanor Zacher

SATURDAY, February 24—
Lenten Weekday

8:00 Merle Lee Iannucci

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated):
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00 Dominick DeGirolamo

Sunday, February 25
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 For the People of the Parish

10:00 Frank Denzel

12:00 Santa & Joseph Cincotta

5:00 George O'Hanlon

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, February 19, 2018

**ALL PARISH AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICES
WILL BE CLOSED AND ALL PARISH ACTIVITIES
CANCELLED FOR PRESIDENTS DAY. THE RECTORY
WILL RE-OPEN TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 AT 9:00 A.M.**

Tuesday, February 20, 2018

10:00 a.m.	Census Committee	Room 3
6:00 p.m.	Census Committee	Room 3
6:45 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
7:00 p.m.	Middle Ages	Room 24
7:30 p.m.	Adult Confirmation	St. Mark
8:00 p.m.	Community of Praise	Room 16

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
12:45 p.m.	Exposition	Church
1:45 p.m.	Legion of Mary	Room 24
6:00 p.m.	Van Run	Room 10
7:00 p.m.	Reader Meeting	Room 18
8:00 p.m.	Christian Mothers	Cafeteria

Thursday, February 22, 2018

10:00 a.m.	Census Committee	Room 3
1:00 p.m.-on	Church closed for cleaning	Church
6:00 p.m.	CYO Basketball Practice	Auditorium
6:00 p.m.	Census Committee	Room 3
7:00 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Group	Cafeteria
7:30 p.m.	RCIA	Room 19
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous	Room 24

Friday, February 23, 2018

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
7:30 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	Church

Saturday, February 24, 2018

1:00 p.m.	CYO Basketball	Auditorium
1:30 p.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church
5:00 p.m.	RCIA	Church
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
7:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria

Sunday, February 25, 2018

10:00 a.m.	RCIC	Room 18
12:45 p.m.	Junior Legion of Mary	Room 24
1:00 p.m.	CYO Basketball	Auditorium
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer/Holy Hour	Church
8:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria

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
Patti Chavis, Parish Secretary	212	pchavis@oloph.org
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Pastor	206	msgjrjoe@oloph.org
Fr. Fidelis Ezeani, Associate Pastor	226	fadaprince4christ@yahoo.com
Faith Formation Office	253	religioused@oloph.org
Christopher Ferraro, Director of Music	210	cferraro@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@oloph.org
Frank Pokorney, Business Manager	204	fpokorney@oloph.org
Rectory Reception Desk	200	
St. Vincent de Paul	234	stvincentdepaul@oloph.org
Josephine Vagelatos, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor	206	jvagelatos@oloph.org
Fr. Frank Zero, Associate Pastor	203	fzero@oloph.org

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

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

ADULT CONFIRMATION

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

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

YOUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

Jean Bjork
 Tricia Buckley (Chair)
 Eileen Corticchia
 Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
 Greg Guido
 Sonia Hansen
 Joselyn Kalt
 Melissa McLaughlin
 Kevin Sabella, Jr.
 Kevin Sabella, Sr.
 James Totino
 Peter Triolo
 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)
 Ed Cirella
 Meg Danaher, CFP®, CLU®
 Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
 Bob Meade
 Frank Pokorney
 John Reynolds
 Sandra Tandoi

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

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

Fauvette Auguste
 Deacon Robert Becker
 Lynn Bergin
 Mark Costantino
 Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
 Chris Ferraro
 MaryAnn Haas
 Jenine Jimenez-Spina
 Barbara McPhail
 Deacon Doug Smith
 Rosaleen Walters
 Mike Williams

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

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

EL MINISTERIO ISPANO 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 PM en adelante en un ambiente familiar. Comenzando con el Santo Rosario. Le ofrecemos el cuidado de los niños, también les enseñamos la doctrina de la iglesia.

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

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

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

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

Lecturas previas del domingo 25 de febrero.

Invitándonos a una preparación previa. Hoy es el 2nd domingo de cuaresma. Tiempo de meditación y conversión

Primera Lectura (Génesis 22,1-2, 9-13, 15-18): Sin Rehuser Nada a Dios

Como hombre de fe profunda, Abrahán estaba dispuesto a sacrificar su propio hijo a Dios. Pero el Dios de la vida le devolvió su hijo como señal de la Alianza.

Segunda Lectura (Romanos 8,31-34): Dios Sacrificó a Su Propio Hijo por

Si Dios está con nosotros, ¿quién estará contra nosotros? El que no perdonó a su propio Hijo, sino que lo entregó por todos nosotros, ¿cómo no nos dará todo con él? ¿Quién acusará a los elegidos de Dios? ¿Dios, el que justifica? ¿Quién condenará? ¿Será acaso Cristo, que murió, más aún, resucitó y está a la derecha de Dios, y que intercede por nosotros?

Evangelio (Marcos 9,2-10): Antes de la Cruz, una Visión Fugaz de Gloria.

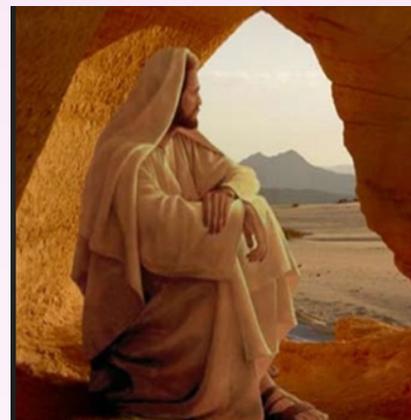
Jesús y sus apóstoles más íntimos experimentan una visión de la gloria que Jesús mismo gozará en su resurrección. Esta visión fugaz les mantendrá durante la pasión del Señor.

«Este es mi Hijo amado, en quien tengo mi complacencia; escuchadlo» (Mt 17, 5).

"La invitación que el Padre dirige a los discípulos, testigos privilegiados del extraordinario acontecimiento de la transfiguración, resuena de nuevo hoy para nosotros y para toda la Iglesia. Como Pedro, Santiago y Juan, también nosotros estamos invitados a subir al monte Tabor junto con Jesús y a quedar fascinados por el resplandor de su gloria. En este segundo domingo de Cuaresma contemplamos a Cristo envuelto en luz, en compañía de los autorizados portavoces del Antiguo Testamento, Moisés y Elías. A él le renovamos nuestra adhesión personal: es el «Hijo amado» del Padre."

"Escuchadlo. Esta apremiante exhortación nos impulsa a intensificar el camino cuaresmal. Es una invitación a dejar que la luz de Cristo ilumine nuestra vida y nos comunique la fuerza para anunciar y testimoniar el Evangelio a nuestros hermanos. Como bien sabemos, es un compromiso que implica a veces muchas dificultades y sufrimientos. También lo subraya san Pablo, al dirigirse a su fiel discípulo Timoteo: «Toma parte en los duros trabajos del Evangelio» (2 Tm 1, 8)."

"La experiencia de la transfiguración de Jesús prepara a los Apóstoles para afrontar los dramáticos acontecimientos del Calvario, presentándoles anticipadamente lo que será la plena y definitiva revelación de la gloria del Maestro en el misterio pascual. Al meditar en esta página evangélica, nos preparamos para revivir también nosotros los acontecimientos decisivos de la muerte y resurrección del Señor, siguiéndolo por el camino de la cruz para llegar a la luz y a la gloria. En efecto «sólo por la pasión podemos llegar con él al triunfo de la resurrección» (Prefacio)." (Homilía de S.S. Juan Pablo II, Misa del Segundo Domingo de Cuaresma.



Oración

Señor, Padre Santo, tú que nos has mandado escuchar a tu Hijo, el predilecto, alimenta nuestro espíritu con tu palabra; así con mirada limpia contemplaremos gozosos la gloria de tu rostro. Por Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Amén.

DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NEWS

Bereavement Support Group: St. Mary's Parish in East Islip is offering a free 8 week support group for adults who are struggling to cope with the death of a loved one. Registration is required for this group, which begins on Wednesday, **March 7** from 7:00 p.m.—9:00 p.m. The group will run for 8 consecutive weeks through April 25th. Refreshments will be served. For information and/or registration, please call the rectory @ (631) 581-4266, x 100. Please note the groups are open to people of all faith denominations. In order to participate in this group, the death must have occurred prior to Dec. 13, 2017.

Bereavement Support Group: for Widows & Widowers, an 8 week program for age 50 and over starting Friday, **March 9**, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. St. Joseph Parish Center, 39 N. Carl Ave., Babylon. For more information and registration, please call: Terry Hoffmann 631-669-0198 or Geri Olson 631-661-8994.

Silent Lenten Retreat at the Montfort Spiritual Center, Bay Shore, Friday—Sunday, **March 23-25** “Let Us Consider Gentle Jesus in His Dying.” Retreat begins Friday, 6:00 p.m. Space is limited. \$175 per person (shared rooms). Payment in full (checks payable to Montfort Missionaries) mailed to Kathy Roeder, 26 South Saxon Ave., Bay Shore, NY 11706 by March 16. For information call 631-666-7500 or email montfort06@gmail.com.

Bereavement Support Groups, for those who have lost a loved one and are grieving: General Bereavement Groups will be meeting weekly at St. Bernard's Parish, Levittown, Thursdays, April 5-June 7, 6:30-7:45 p.m.—contact Sister Christine Sammons, 516-731-6074; and at St. Brigid's Parish, Westbury, Tuesdays, April 3-June 5, 7:00-8:15 p.m.—contact Maria Piniero, 516-334-0021. Also, a Group for Bereaved Parents will meet on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month, ongoing, starting Monday, March 5, at St. Bernard's Parish, Levittown, 7:00-8:15 p.m.—contact Sister Christine Sammons at 516-731-6074.



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Saint Catherine of Siena Medical Center, Smithtown

Bereavement Conference
Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
St. Frances de Chantal Parish 1309
Wantagh Ave, Wantagh, New York 11793

A Retreat Day for the Elect
St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish
Sunday, March 11, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Bereavement Ministry Facilitator Training
St James Parish, Pastoral Center, Room 104
Saturday, March 3 & 17, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Bereavement Ministry Facilitator Training Level II
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish
Tuesday, March 20, April 10, and Jun 5, at 10:00 a.m.
to 11:00 a.m.

For more information visit our website
www.drvc-faith.org



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in the collection boxes located by the front and side doors of the school. You can also drop off items at Religious Ed. Office now located at the rectory.

The collection is for Father Ignance Loleke, formerly of OLPH, who has started a youth center in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Father has made a huge impact in his community using the love of soccer to unite children of different cultures, political beliefs and religions to play on one field, together in harmony.

Contact Maria at 631.882.9887 or KicksForTheCongo@gmail.com

OFFERING UPDATE February 10/11, 2018

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	357	147	\$3,412.00
8:00 a.m.	225	102	2,963.00
10:00 a.m.	348	100	3,233.00
12:00 p.m.	425	129	3,076.00
5:00 p.m.	201	3	948.00
Coin			28.73
Mail-ins:			70.00
Children's Env.		26	104.70
Faith Direct			2,423.00
TOTAL	1,556	507	\$16,258.43
2017 total	1,745	511	\$16,202.50
Candles			\$927.92
Poor Box			\$265.48

2017 OLPH CONTRIBUTION TAX LETTERS

Tax letters for the 2017 tax year will be prepared upon request only. Requests can be made by calling the Rectory: 631-226-7725 X 200. The Secretary will take your name, address & envelope number. The letters will be sent out *only upon request*. Thank you for your cooperation.

DEADLINES FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

February 25—passed
March 4—February 23
March 11—March 2



Sisters of St. Dominic Irish Night Raffle Sales

This weekend February 18/19
On Saturday, March 3rd the Dominican Sisters of Amityville will be hosting their annual Irish Night at St. Brigid's parish in Westbury. The proceeds from this celebration are used for the needs of their retired sisters. As was done last year, Sisters will be selling chance book raffles after all the Masses here in OLPH this weekend. Please consider buying some chances!

MONDAY, February 19th

All parish offices will be closed
and all activities cancelled.
Weekday 6:30 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.
Masses will be celebrated as usual.
However, the Monday night
Devotions *will not be held.*



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Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

God Bless You,

**PREPARING FOR Sunday, February 25, 2018—
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

*Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves.
And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white.*

Mark 9:2-3a

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

The story of Abraham began when God told him to go forth from his native land on a journey requiring faith in facing the unknown. In the story we hear today of Abraham's testing, God again calls him to go forth on a journey requiring even greater faith. It is a painful story as Abraham faces sacrificing his only son Isaac whom he loves dearly. Shocking as this may sound to our modern ears, we shouldn't miss the point: Abraham's total devotion to God. Without knowing how, he trusted that God would ultimately be faithful to his promise to make him the father of a great nation. Because of such devotion, God blessed Abraham abundantly.

Romans 8:31b-34

Paul asks several rhetorical questions in this reading, such as "If God is for us, who can be against us?" It is interesting to think not only about how his original listeners, the early Christians in Rome, might have answered but also to think about how we would answer. If God is for us, why do such bad things happen to us sometimes? Though we may not understand, we can be sure God does. God spared Abraham's son Isaac but he did not spare his own son Jesus from suffering and death. In all circumstances, no matter how troubling, Jesus is at God's right hand to intercede for us. What better news can there be?

Mark 9:2-10

The account of the Transfiguration, which we hear today, is a key passage in portraying the identity of Jesus. When Jesus is outwardly transformed and his clothes made dazzlingly white, his three friends then and we today get a glimpse of Jesus' inward divine form. There are many elements of the story that harken back to the Old Testament to show that Jesus is the fulfillment of all that has been foretold: Moses the Lawgiver, Elijah the Prophet, the three tents reminiscent of the harvest festival, even the setting on the mountain itself. We heard in the first reading how Abraham went up on the mountain to sacrifice his only son Isaac. Jesus tells his friends on this mountain how he must rise from the dead. It is clear that in every age, that of the Old Testament, or New Testament, or our own, Jesus is God's beloved Son and the surest sign of God's love for us.

Gospel Reflection Questions...

After reading next Sunday's Gospel take some time to pray on it before you come to Mass. Use the questions below to aid your reflection.

1. It took a blinding light for Peter, James and John to begin to see some hint of who Jesus was. Think of some problems in your country that need such illumination (for instance, immigration, human trafficking, environment). What needs to happen in these areas before you would be able to see something divine in them?

2. Pope Francis speaks about the Transfiguration. In his view, what needs to happen when we climb the mountain? Come down from the mountain?

"We all need to go apart, to ascend the mountain in a space of silence, to find ourselves and better perceive the voice of the Lord. This we do in prayer. But we cannot stay there! Encounter with God in prayer inspires us anew to "descend the mountain" and return to the plain where we meet many brothers weighed down by fatigue, sickness, injustice, ignorance, poverty both material and spiritual."

Pope Francis, Angelus, Second Sunday of Lent, 16 March 2014



Readings for the Week

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

Monday, February 19, 2018:

Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18
+ Matthew 25:31-46

Tuesday, February 20, 2018:

Isaiah 55:10-11 + Matthew 6:7-15

Wednesday, February 21, 2018:

Jonah 3:1-10 + Luke 29-32

Thursday, February 22, 2018:

1 Peter 5:1-4 + Matthew 16:13-19

Friday, February 23, 2018:

Ezekiel 18:21-28 + Matthew 5:20-26

Saturday, February 24, 2018:

Deuteronomy 26:16-19
+ Matthew 5:43-48

Sunday, February 25, 2018:

Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18
+ Romans 8:31b-34
+ Mark 9:2-10

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