

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



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*Love your enemies
and pray for those who persecute you.*

Matthew 5:44

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
February 19, 2023

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco

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

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

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.

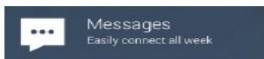
Friday: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

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

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*New number to download
the Parish App!*

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The old number 88202 is no longer in effect!



THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of February 19, 2023

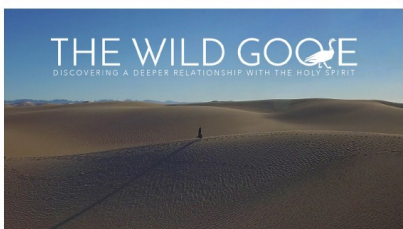
WATCH



Whole 40: Making a Spiritual Plan for Lent

Sit down with Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein to discuss the purpose of the season of Lent, how to prepare for it, and why it is such a fruitful season in our life of faith.

LEARN



The Spirit and the Desert

Sometimes we might feel like we're stuck in spiritual deserts. In this episode of The Wild Goose, Fr. Dave Pivonka shares how the Holy Spirit is present even in these times of desolation.

LISTEN



Love—Sacrifice—Trust: He Showed Us the Way by Fr. Mike Schmitz

In this talk, Fr. Mike Schmitz shares with us the need to pick up our crosses and embrace Christ in our own suffering. He reminds us that love often means sacrifice!

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PASTOR'S PAGE

Ash Wednesday—Lent 2023 begins!

We're getting ready to launch another Lent! This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. Take a look at our schedule of liturgies for Ash Wednesday and be sure to attend one of them. Read through our special insert in this bulletin about the meaning and significance of Ash Wednesday, and spend some time reflecting on and praying about the power of the day. Remember that Ash Wednesday is a day of fast and abstinence, so try to observe the laws of the Church concerning fast and abstinence in order to mark the holiness of the day; in fact, pay attention to the rules about fasting on all the Fridays throughout Lent. Most importantly, take the time to ponder how you will make the most of this Lent, and make it a special time of grace and renewal. As I frequently say, holiness and growing in grace do not just happen on their own, automatically, simply because we wish them to happen; it takes decision-making and concrete action in cooperating with God's grace.

Take note that this year we will return to the more customary practice of smearing ashes on the forehead, rather than sprinkling them on top of the head, which we did the past two years as a concession to the pandemic.

Here's one final thought concerning Lent this year. Many times we think about giving up something for Lent, although I, and many people, prefer to take on an additional spiritual practice rather than just give something up. What about doing penance this Lent by **ADDING SILENCE** to your life every day, and being still and listening to God? This might include giving something up — putting the phone down or fasting from social media. I think we would be amazed at what will happen if we are faithful to a Lenten discipline of silence. Try it!

While we're on the subject of silence...

We'll try to cultivate a greater sense of silence during our Lenten liturgies this year, a practice we have done in the past. About five minutes before Mass is to begin, the Cantor will announce a call to silence, asking everyone to quiet down and sit in silence and in prayer for the remaining minutes before Mass begins. This simple practice can greatly enhance our celebration of the Eucharist, and I hope, will also have rippling beneficial spiritual effects in our entire life. Please join with everyone in sitting in prayerful silence in the few minutes before Mass begins. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Please do not park in the bank parking lot on Ash Wednesday

Please remember that Ash Wednesday is a regular business day, so please do not park in the bank parking lot on the north side of the church during business hours when you come here on Ash Wednesday. We need to be a good neighbor and respect the need for the bank to have parking available for its customers. Your cooperation with this is appreciated. What a great way to begin a season of Lenten charity...by being concerned about the needs of our neighbor!

LIVING THE EUCHARIST begins this week

Our special program of LIVING THE EUCHARIST begins this week. This special program of faith formation, which is centered on the connection between our participation in Sunday Eucharist and our daily life, has met with great success in prior years, and we're very happy to be offering it again. Let's keep in our prayers all who are participating in this program, and let's pray that it will bear great spiritual fruit and new life in our parish.

Go to Confession during Lent—don't wait until the last minute!

Don't forget to make plans to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) during Lent. Why not schedule it as an actual appointment in your calendar? Our Confession times during Lent are listed in the bulletin in a special ad, and will be 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. Individual appointments can be made with one of us priests, also.

Also, don't forget that we will once again have an extended period of Confessions on Monday of Holy Week, this year on April 3 (as will every other Catholic parish) — that would be a great day to go! The hours for this will be 2:00-4:00 p.m. and 6:00-9:00 p.m.

One way or another, make your plans NOW as to when you will go to Confession during Lent.

Stations of the Cross during Lent

Also take note in our bulletin of the times for Stations of the Cross throughout Lent. I love the idea that here at OLPH various groups in the parish take responsibility for leading a service. That's another example of what it means to be a parish family, and of what makes OLPH "the place to be." I thank all

the groups and group leaders who have stepped up to the plate to take a turn. Do make sure you make it a point to attend the Stations of the Cross during Lent if it is at all possible.

Also, we're once again praying the special Easter Time devotion, the *Via Lucis*, the Stations of the Resurrection. These will be prayed on Friday within the Octave of Easter ("Easter Friday"), April 14.

A great Lenten resolution: Don't leave Mass early

I'd like to take a moment to discuss the topic of leaving Mass early. We should be staying in the pew and not leaving until Mass is fully over, which is when the singing of the Closing Song is finished, and when the procession is completely out, down the aisle and at the exit. Please do not get right out of your pew as soon as the priest passes your row, as though you are on his heels following him out!

Now, of course there may be the occasional time when there is a legitimate need to leave Mass early, perhaps even as early as immediately after Communion, the most obvious examples of legitimate reasons being because of illness or some serious personal problem which suddenly arises. So, if we see someone leaving Mass early, we should never be judgmental toward them; there may be a good reason.

However, I would be so bold as to say that the majority of the time there probably is not a good reason to leave Mass early, especially considering the frequency and regularity with which some people leave early, again, for example, leaving right after receiving Holy Communion, or leaving immediately after the final blessing. We all need to examine our behavior and challenge ourselves to do better if we are the ones leaving Mass early. Isn't it disrespectful to God and to everyone else there to leave early? Doesn't it convey the message, "Well, I got what I want (e.g., Communion), so now I can leave?" Don't we all have the responsibility to each other for our common worship together to all stay until Mass has completely ended? I have heard of some churches that have a sign posted at the exit, "Judas left early, too." While I think this is perhaps a little harsh and, as I said, a little judgmental toward those who might have a legitimate reason, it does kind of starkly challenge us to make sure we do indeed have a legitimate reason. Personally, I don't think "because I have somewhere else to go" or "I don't want to be part of the traffic" are good enough reasons. Mass is not just some ordinary activity we do like we do everything else. We all need to take to heart that the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist is the most important thing we do, and it should be the center of

our week and the center of our life. So, does our behavior at Mass, including our attitude about when and the way we exit, really convey that centrality?

I ask everyone to pray over and reflect on these thoughts.

Men's Retreat

Men of the parish: take note of the day of retreat being sponsored by our Knights of Columbus Council; details are elsewhere in this bulletin. I urge all men of the parish to take advantage of this spiritual activity as part of your Lenten journey. It will be a very fulfilling and enriching day!

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, especially if you are able to actually take the day off from work, regardless of whether you are working in-person or virtually, at home. If I'm not mistaken, for many schools, this week is also the week of Winter Recess. So, may we use this day and/or this week for wholesome relaxation and renewal. Maybe we could even take a little extra time for prayer, or for Scripture reading — that would be a great way to "rehearse" taking some time out for spirituality every day during Lent! If nothing else, since Lincoln's birthday and Washington's birthday are the Presidents' birthdays being commemorated, perhaps we could take some time to pray for our country and to renew in ourselves and our family a sense of patriotism. After all, the USA has been richly blessed; we must always use wisely the gifts of freedom and prosperity that God has bestowed on our nation. God bless America!

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,



ASH WEDNESDAY

THE MEANING OF ASHES

Lent begins with our being marked with ashes, reminding us of fundamental truths about ourselves. The dust of the ashes reminds us that death is inevitable for each of us. The ashes speak of repentance and of our need to convert our lives. The words at the imposition of ashes call us to repent and to believe in the Gospel. The ashes speak of a fire that has grown cold, a fire that needs to be rekindled within us by the time we gather around the new fire at the Easter Vigil. We seek to rise from the ashes of our sinfulness to a fuller life with Christ.

But before we can embrace the new life of the resurrection, we must embrace the cross. Before coming to the font of life-giving water, we must travel the desert. To embrace new life, we must be willing to embrace death. To become our true selves, we must leave the false selves behind which we have been hiding. Though it sounds negative, the dying to self to which we are called is the only way to fullness of life, and thus it is a profoundly positive step in our spiritual life, a step that begins with being signed with ashes.

COMMUNAL MEANING OF ASH WEDNESDAY AND LENT

We make our Lenten journey through the desert in the company of the catechumens preparing for the initiation sacraments at Easter. This is the origin of Lent.

What we have come to call Lent developed in the fourth century, when three intersecting movements coalesced. The first was a paschal fast that gradually developed from two days into a forty-day observance. The second was the pattern of initiation that gradually developed into a full catechumenate with an intense period of spiritual formation leading to the sacraments at Easter. The third was the order of penitents, which sought a second conversion for those who sinned seriously after baptism. Modeled on the catechumenate, this process of the order of penitents culminated with reconciliation just before Easter.

Thus the forty-day fast was understood as the

final stage of preparation for those called to baptism and also as a time for reconversion for the already-baptized. As the whole community accompanied the elect and the penitents through this season, it came to be seen as a time for baptismal renewal for all the members of the church.

In subsequent centuries, however, both the catechumenate and the order of penitents gradually disintegrated. Lent was still seen as a penitential season, but the emphasis was on individual works of self-denial and on personal identification with the passion and cross of Christ. Lent was still a preparation for Easter, but the baptismal focus was largely lost, and the communal nature of conversion was ignored. Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving were held up as Lenten activities, but they became private rather than corporate. The liturgical reforms of the Second Vatican Council called for a recovery of the ancient tradition of a communal understanding of Lent.

We are to journey through Lent together, then, as though we were all catechumens. We are to listen to the readings and pray the prayers as though we were approaching the waters of life for the first time. We seek to understand and thus to enter into the experience of the elect, those called to enter into the paschal mystery of Christ Jesus through the waters of the font. Thus we all prepare together to come to the water again, to be more deeply converted to Christ and to renew our baptismal promises with conviction.

DON'T JUST "RECEIVE" ASHES

As a parish, we wish to highlight that ashes are never just *received*, but rather that being branded with ashes is a sign of a **commitment** we make. The ashes are a sign that together we are all enrolled in the "order of penitents" and that we are committing ourselves to cooperate with God in **changing our life**. Ashes should not be passively received, but **actively accepted as a challenge** — a challenge to die and to rise with Christ, a challenge to embark on the Lenten journey with ones' brothers and sisters, a challenge to seriously undertake the traditional Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

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 Order 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 and the first two scrutinies for the elect on the Third and Fourth Sundays are all a part of this time. Two feast days — the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (March 19, but moved to March 20 this year since March 19 is a Sunday) and the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord (March 25) — break this violet period in

2023. The Fourth or Laetare Sunday (March 19) 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.

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.

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!

MUSIC WILL BE MUCH SIMPLER DURING LENT. For example, the organ will be used only to accompany singing, which means there will not be any prelude or postlude instrumental music, except on Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent), when the liturgy has a more joyful tone. In a sense, then, you could say that we are fasting with our music. Don't worry, though; we'll make up for it in the exuberance and joy of Easter Time!

ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT, WE WILL KEEP THE CHURCH'S ANCIENT TRADITION OF SINGING THE LITANY OF THE SAINTS AS WE BEGIN OUR LENTEN PILGRIMAGE. We invoke the names of the saints who accompany us on our journey to Jerusalem.

ON THE OTHER SUNDAYS OF LENT WE WILL SING THE ENTRANCE ANTIPHON. In place of an Entrance Hymn, we will sing the proper (or assigned) text for the Entrance Antiphon as found in the Roman Missal. These antiphons set the tone for the liturgy and express the theology of the particular Sunday being celebrated. The antiphon and the accompanying psalm verses will be sung to a Lenten psalm tone.

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 WON’T BE HEARING “ALLELUIA!” Instead of singing “Alleluia” before the Gospel, we sing a different acclamation in its place. Also, we won’t sing the word “alleluia” in any of our hymns. We look forward to Easter Time when we celebrate the newness of life and will again sing the “alleluia” with new joy and praise.

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.” The exception to this will be Laetare Sunday (the Fourth Sunday of Lent), when the liturgy has a more joyful tone.

SIMPLE CHANT TONES WILL BE USED FOR THE EUCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS. The Holy, Holy, the Mystery of Faith, and the Great Amen will be sung to very simple chants, without accompaniment. Also, the Lamb of God chant will be sung using the Latin text (“Agnus Dei...”).

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 Sunday Lenten Masses;
- traditional Lenten practices such as prayer, fasting, and almsgiving;
- Lenten devotions such as Stations of the Cross;
- our Living the Eucharist program, which is taking the place of our usual Parish Lenten Mission this year.

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.



PRAYER AND WORSHIP**ASH WEDNESDAY****February 22****6:30 a.m.— Mass****12:15 p.m.—Mass***(Note: No Exposition following Mass)***3:00 p.m.—Word Service****4:30 p.m.—Word Service****6:00 p.m.—Word Service****7:30 p.m. — Word Service***Ashes will be distributed only during, and not outside of, these times.***Stations of the Cross****Fridays****February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31****at 7:30 p.m. in the church****April 7 at 12:00 Noon**

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 24 will be led by the Liturgy Committee.**And also, save the date... Friday, April 14—Stations of the Resurrection!***LITTLE BLACK BOOKS FOR LENT ARE NOW AVAILABLE**

Please take home a *Little Black Book*, new for 2023, which contains daily reflections for the Lenten season. This book provides the opportunity for prayerful sacred reading for every day of Lent. Books are available throughout the church on the pew ledges. Let God speak to you during this special and holy time of the liturgical year by taking a few minutes for quiet reflection using the *Little Black Book*.

THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK
2022Six-minute meditations on the
parables of Jesus

L Turn away
E
N
T from sin

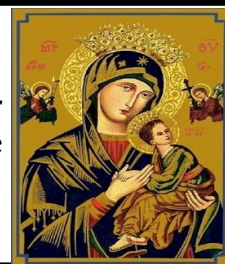
CONFESSIONS**Saturdays: February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25****4:00 p.m.—4:45 p.m.****Saturday April 1: 3:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.****Monday of Holy Week, April 3:****2:00—4:00 p.m. and 6:00—9:00 p.m.**

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

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

Mondays at 12:45 p.m.



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:

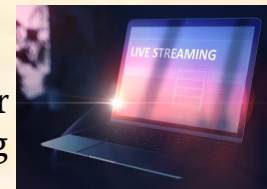
- The link at the top of the OLPH website:
www.olphlindenhurst.com
- OLPH YouTube Channel: OLPH Church Lindenhurst



JOIN OUR LIVE-STREAM TEAM

We need new members to join our Live-Stream Team either for weekdays or weekends. If you are tech savvy, interested in broadcasting techniques and are willing to help record our liturgies, please contact Fr.

Frank Zero at the rectory office at (631) 226-7725 or email fzero@oloph.org.



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



ABSTINENCE AND FASTING — ASH WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAYS OF LENT

All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth (14th) year are bound to abstain entirely from meat on Ash Wednesday and 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 Ash Wednesday and 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 Ash Wednesday and Good Friday fast and abstinence.

**REMINDER: CHILDREN'S BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE
AT THE 10:00 A.M. MASS EACH WEEK**

Remember that we have Children's Bulletins available at the end of the 10:00 a.m. Mass each week! These special Children's Bulletins are handed out at the end of the 10:00 a.m. Mass, or you can ask one of the Ushers for one. There are two bulletins for children, corresponding to two different age groups: one bulletin is for younger children, aged 3-6, and the other is for older children, aged 7-12. The idea is to take the bulletin home to reinforce the message of the Gospel. Ideally, after the child completes the bulletin, the family can talk about it together, as a way of bringing home the Gospel message and connecting our liturgical celebration in church with your family's faith life at home.

MEETING FOR ALL ALTAR SERVERS

All Altar Servers are required to attend an important meeting on **Tuesday, March 7 at 4:30 p.m. in the church**. Among other items, we will discuss assignments for Holy Week, the Sacred Paschal Triduum and First Communions and Confirmation. All servers are expected to attend. **You are expected to attend even if you will be away for Easter; other things will be discussed besides Easter.** If you absolutely cannot be there, you must contact Msgr. Joe as soon as possible. Thank you. (Note: this meeting applies only to the young people who serve; it does not apply to the adults who serve at weekday Masses and Funerals.)

SILENCE BEFORE MASS DURING LENT

**WE'RE HIGHLIGHTING THE LENTEN SEASON
BY FOCUSING ON SILENCE BEFORE MASS BEGINS**

During the holy season of Lent, we're emphasizing that the time before Mass should be a time for silent prayer, when we prepare our hearts for an encounter with the Lord. Pope Francis once pointed out in one of his teachings, "When we go to Mass, maybe we arrive five minutes before, and we start to chitchat with those in front of us...[However,]... "it is not meant for chitchat. It is a moment of silence for preparing ourselves for dialogue, a time for the heart to collect itself in order to prepare for the encounter with Jesus." He added, "Silence is so important." The Pope also spoke about how the Mass is not a show, but a place where we encounter the Lord. In this encounter, he said, silence is what "prepares us and accompanies us."

During Lent, the Cantor will call everyone to silence five minutes before Mass begins. Let's all give each other the gift of silence, being quiet together in those last moments before Mass begins to prepare ourselves for Mass. Out of respect for each other, let's give each other that special gift. Maybe we can cultivate that habit inside us, and it will continue even after Lent! Thank you for your cooperation.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN BANK PARKING LOT ON ASH WEDNESDAY

We ask that you kindly not park in the bank parking lot on the north side of the church on Ash Wednesday. Remember that Wednesday 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 on Ash Wednesday. Thank you.



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

60. It is the celebration itself that educates the priest to this level and quality of presiding. It is not, I repeat, a mental adhesion, even if our whole mind as well as all our sensitivity must be engaged in it. So, the priest is formed by presiding over the words and by the gestures that the Liturgy places on his lips and in his hands. He is not seated on a throne because the Lord reigns with the humility of one who serves. He does not rob attention from the centrality of the altar, *a sign of Christ, from whose pierced side flowed blood and water, by which were established the Sacraments of the Church and the center of our praise and thanksgiving.*

Approaching the altar for the offering, the priest is educated in humility and contrition by the words, “With humble spirit and contrite heart may we be accepted by you, O Lord, and may our sacrifice in your sight this day be pleasing to you, Lord God.” He cannot rely on himself for the ministry confided to him because the Liturgy invites him to pray to be purified through the sign of water, when he says, “Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.”

The words which the Liturgy places on his lips have different contents which require specific tonalities. A true *ars dicendi* is required of the priest by the importance of such words. These give shape and form to his interior feelings, in one moment in supplication of the Father in the name of the assembly, in another in an exhortation addressed to the assembly, in another by acclamation in one voice with the entire assembly.

In the Eucharistic prayer — in which also all of the baptized participate by listening *with reverence and in silence* and intervening with the acclamations (IGMR 78-79) — the one presiding has the strength, *in the name of the whole holy people*, to remember before the Father the offering of his Son in the Last Supper, so that that immense gift might be rendered newly present on the altar. In that offering he participates with the offering of himself. The priest cannot recount the Last Supper to the Father without himself becoming a participant in it. He cannot say, “Take this, all of you and eat of it, for this is my Body which will be given up for you,” and not live the same desire to offer his own body, his own life, for the people entrusted to him. This is what happens in the exercise of his ministry.

From all this and from many other things the priest is continually formed by the action of the celebration.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Prepare Your Heart for the Coming of the Lord

This season of Lent, as we prepare for the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord, the Adult Faith Formation program at OLPH is offering an uplifting experience to make ready for the Solemnity of Easter. **Beginning on Sunday, February 26 and continuing every Sunday through March 26,** we will offer

parishioners the opportunity to study the Responsorial Psalms used in each Sunday’s celebration of the Eucharist. We will meet from 11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. each Sunday in the north sacristy of the church. 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. Handouts of the psalms will be provided. Come join us in breaking open the Word of the Lord.





Mens' Retreat Saturday, March 4th

Sponsored by Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Knights of Columbus Council #794
185 North Broadway, Lindenhurst
FEE: \$25

PROGRAM:

9:00 a.m.: Registration and Breakfast

10:00 a.m.: **SILVER ROSE PRAYER SERVICE**

includes story of Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe
recitation of the Glorious Mysteries of the Holy Rosary
Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Scripture readings

11:00 a.m.: **SAINT JOSEPH PILGRIM ICON PROGRAM**

includes Catechesis of St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, Pope Francis
recitation of the Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary
Litany of Saint Joseph
Scripture readings

Noon: **LUNCH**

1:00 p.m.: Presentation by **Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco**

“Getting More Out of Liturgy: What is Pope Francis Saying About the Liturgical Formation of Lay People”
(this session will include a 15 minute break)

4:00 p.m.: **Sacrament of Reconciliation in OLPH Church** *(optional)*

5:00 p.m.: **Mass** *(optional)*

OLPH/K of C Mens' Retreat March 4

Name: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

Send completed application and check payable “*OLPH KofC #794*” to:

STEPHEN STRIGARO, 131 North 7th Street, Lindenhurst, NY , 11757
call 631-747-4929

A TIME WILL COME FOR SINGING

Here at OLPH, there are two excellent opportunities to come together and raise your voice to the rafters, besides the primary and most important choir of the assembly at song.

Youth Choir

For our young people from third grade through high school, the Youth Choir is an excellent chance to gather in community and develop a love for music through sung prayer and friendship with their peers.

Led by **Samantha Free**, rehearsals are held generally on Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and sing at most 10:00 a.m. Masses on Sundays. In the program, sight reading and rhythmic skills are developed as well as some light voice training. And it's fun!



Adult Choir

If you're old enough to vote, you're certainly old enough to join the choir!

The Adult Choir has a long-standing tradition of excellent music here at the parish, and our goal is to develop that further. Through training of sight reading and regular times of rehearsal, a balanced choral sound will be developed to heighten the prayer experience of both the one who makes music and the one who hears it.

Rehearsal are regularly held on Thursdays at 7:15 p.m. and the choir most often leads the singing at the Noon Mass on Sunday and other holidays.

A hallmark of the OLPH choir is their sense of community and care for one another, in times of joy, healing, and sorrow, true companions in ministry.

Won't you consider joining your voice to praise God in song and make music to support and uplift your community?



If you are interested in joining the Adult Choir or have questions of any aspect of the music program, please contact Christopher Reilly at creilly@oloph.org or 631-226-7725 X 210.



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

LEVELS 6, 7 and 8

On Wednesday, February 23, there will be no class due to your Winter Break. Have fun and be sure to take the time to catch up on any missing Mass Reflections or projects!

**Vacation Bible Camp Needs You!**

Our Planning Meeting will take place Saturday, February 18, at 11:30 a.m. in the school auditorium. Please consider being a part of our Space Ranger Team!

Contact April for more information.

Save the Date: Vacation Bible Camp July 10th - July 14th

Preview Day: Sunday, March 19,
 after the 10:00 a.m.
 Mass in the auditorium.

Are you looking to save BIG?!
For one day only register at this event and get the early bird special!

LEVELS 1-5 and SPECIAL ED.

On Saturday, February 26, there will be no class due to your Winter Break. Have fun!

Happy Saint of the Day!

St. Louis de Montfort was born in Montfort, France in 1673. He became a priest in 1700 and was assigned to a hospital as their chaplain. He was very devoted to Mary, the Mother of God, and spoke about the importance of praying the Rosary. He founded the Sisters of Divine Wisdom and the Missionaries of the Company of Mary.



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- † Bereavement Ministry: Linda Arpino—631-592-1062—forubabe77@gmail.com
- † Blue Door Thrift Boutique: Tricia Buckley—631-561-5790—thebluedoor@oloph.org
- † Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Kathy Feldman—631-225-9864—cdfeldman@optonline.net
- † Hospital Visitors: Peter O'Neill—631-226-6340—oneillp@optonline.net
- † Middle Ages: Gail Tonnessen—631-957-1449—gtonness@optonline.net
- † Nursing Ministry: Regina Muir—631-226-2709—rmuir11@aol.com
- † Respect Life Committee: Louise Perrotta—631-412-3831—louiseperrotta123@gmail.com
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Bill Stysiack—631-226-7725 x 234
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker Paolo—631-226-6175—jbecker@oloph.org

NEW Food Pantry List!

**TOMATO SAUCE
CEREAL
CANNED FRUIT
COOKIES
JELLY
PORK AND BEANS
PANCAKE MIX
SYRUP
CANNED PASTA
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

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

In today's Gospel, Jesus challenges us by saying: “You must be perfected as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

In the month of January, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist 99 adults, 54 children, and 18 seniors, for a total of 69 families. Thank you!

THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

† AN EXPANSION OF OUR MEMORIAL CARD PROGRAM

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul has expanded our Memorial Card program. In addition to updated *Living Memorial* cards, we offer *Special Occasion* cards. These are a great way to commemorate a special occasion (birthday, anniversary, get well, thank you, holiday, etc.) while supporting SVDP's efforts to provide not just food, but also financial, material and spiritual aid to our neighbors.

Memorial/Special Occasion card envelopes are available 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. The Memorial or Special Occasion Card acknowledging your donation will be sent to the person/family indicated on the form.

Please contact the SVDP Office at 631-226-7725 X 234 for more information.



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

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

Coastyl Matthew Ramirez



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

FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT COME FORWARD IN PROCESSION TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

If you are, or if someone you are with is, unable to walk in procession to receive Holy Communion, please alert one of the Ushers **before Mass begins**. The Usher will be glad to arrange to have one of the ministers bring Holy Communion to the pew. Please remember to inform an Usher before Mass begins; do not wait until the time of Communion. Also, if at all possible, please sit in the front half of the church, to make it easier for the minister to come to you. Thank you.

PERPETUAL HELP MASS TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023 12:15 P.M. MASS

<i>For the Repose of the Souls of the McCarthy Family</i>	<i>Requested by the Estate of Rev. Thomas J. McCarthy</i>
<i>Franciszek Wegrzynowski</i>	<i>Requested by Christina Wegrzynowski</i>
<i>Susan Joerger</i>	<i>Requested by Diane & Bill</i>

WE REMEMBER

We remember those who have died in our parish.

***Robert Michael Peretta
Virginia Denise Murray
Arsenio (Sam) Mangieri***

“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...

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <i>Wolfgang Unterschuetz</i> | <i>Baby Nicolas Gabriel Moccio</i> |
| <i>Patty Santopadre</i> | <i>Frank Juliano</i> |
| <i>Rolanda Pulla</i> | <i>Rosemary Weigel</i> |
| <i>Elvira Treanor</i> | <i>Patricio Torres</i> |
| <i>Donald Wright</i> | <i>Monica Pulla</i> |
| <i>Christopher De Palma</i> | <i>Santiago Segovia</i> |
| <i>Mary Elizabeth Setti</i> | <i>Angela Gleixner</i> |
| <i>Donna Hosey</i> | <i>Baby Antonio James Kienle</i> |
| <i>Catherine Lang</i> | <i>Kristin Goetze</i> |
| <i>James Santoli</i> | <i>John Leyden</i> |
| <i>Henry Batz</i> | <i>Giuseppe Ferrarelli</i> |

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

The Bereavement Ministry assists anyone who has experienced a loss of a loved one and helps the person grow through their grief.

Joining a Support Group, with the help of trained facilitators, will help the person strengthening their faith in themselves and God.

Our next group starts **April 29 to July 1** from **11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.**

Please contact Linda Arpino 631-592-1062 or Forubabe77@aol.com for information.



MASSES FOR THE WEEK**MONDAY, February 20—**
Weekday

6:30 Stanley Ping Wong

12:15 Maryann McMahon

TUESDAY, February 21 —
Weekday*(Saint Peter Damian,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church)*

6:30 Jessica Ianello

12:15 Perpetual Help Mass *(Listing on p. 18)***WEDNESDAY, February 22 —**
Ash Wednesday

6:30 Catherine Butler

12:15 George Wagner Sr.

3:00 *(Word Service)*4:30 *(Word Service)*6:00 *(Word Service)*7:30 *(Word Service)***THURSDAY, February 23—**
Thursday after Ash Wednesday
(Saint Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr)

6:30 Eulogio Baez Batista

12:15 Joan Paciello

FRIDAY, February 24 —
Friday after Ash Wednesday

6:30 Millie Puglisi

12:15 Helene Jicinac

SATURDAY, February 25—
Saturday after Ash Wednesday

8:00 Maria Aliano

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated):
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00 For the People of the Parish

Sunday, February 26 —
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT8:00 Living & Deceased Members of the
K of C Council 794

10:00 Stephanie Guidice

12:00 Helen Messina

PARISH CALENDAR**Monday, February 20, 2023****ALL RECTORY AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICES
ARE CLOSED AND, EXCEPT FOR MASSES, ALL
ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELLED FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY.**

12:45 p.m. Devotions Church

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

6:45 p.m. Christian Mothers Meeting Room 18

7:00 p.m. Middle Ages Room 24

7:00 p.m. Living the Eucharist School

7:30 p.m. Adult Faith Formation
Confirmation St. Mark's
Room**Wednesday, February 22, 2023**

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

5:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal Church

6:00 p.m. Youth Service Corps Bible
Camp meeting Auditorium

8:15 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal Church

Thursday, February 23, 2023

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

7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group Cafeteria

Friday, February 24, 2023

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

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

7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross Church

Saturday, February 25, 202310:00 a.m. Youth Service Corps Rice
Bowl Project Room 1812:00 p.m. Children's Liturgy of the
Word Recording North
Sacristy

12:30 p.m. CYO Basketball Auditorium

4:00 p.m. Confession Church

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Church

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

Sunday, February 26, 2023

10:00 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

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL PERPETUO SOCORRO,

El grupo de oración Jesús es el camino la verdad y la vida.

Le invita a alabar y glorificar a Dios todos los jueves a las 7:00PM en la cafetería, en un ambiente familiar. Comenzando con el Santo Rosario. Únete a nosotros en oración, por ti y por tu familia en Alabanzas y reflexión de la palabra de DIOS.

Todos los martes llevamos el Santo Rosario a los hogares para orar en familia Interesados favor llamar a Alina Patrón al (516) 263-9401

Para más información sobre los sacramentos del bautizo matrimonio y servicio pastorales Unción de los enfermos y la Eucaristía, llamar a la rectoría 631) 226-7725/ en español a Irma González al (631) 620-2401.

Reflexiones de las lecturas del domingo 19 de Febrero del 2023

Lectura del libro del Levítico (19,1-2.17-18):

EL Señor habló así a Moisés:

«Di a la comunidad de los hijos de Israel:

“Sed santos, porque yo, el Señor, vuestro Dios, soy santo. No odiarás de corazón a tu hermano, pero reprenderás a tu prójimo, para que no cargues tú con su pecado. No te vengarás de los hijos de tu pueblo ni les guardarás rencor, sino que amarás a tu prójimo como a ti mismo. Yo soy el Señor”»

Segunda lectura. Lectura de la primera carta del apóstol san Pablo a los Corintios (3,16-23): ¿No saben que son templo de Dios? Cristo es en adelante EL UNICO TEMPLO verdadero en el que reside la plenitud de Dios (Juan 2,19); templo de Dios es también la Iglesia en la que actúa el Espíritu de Dios. Templo de Dios es el hogar creyente lo son todos aquellos en los que habita el Espíritu de Dios (6,19)

Lectura del santo evangelio según san Mateo (5,38-48)

Hoy, el evangelio toca un tema muy difícil para todos, porque viene a decirnos: “querido enemigo a ti también Te amo”. La llamada al amor es siempre seductora. muchos acogían con agrado la llamada de Jesús a amar a Dios y al prójimo. Era la mejor síntesis de la Ley. Pero lo que no podían imaginar es que un día les hablara de amar a los enemigos.

Sin embargo, Jesús lo hizo. Sin respaldo alguno de la tradición bíblica, distanciándose de los salmos de venganza que alimentaban la oración de su pueblo, enfrentándose al clima general de odio que se respiraba en su entorno, proclamó con claridad absoluta su llamada: “Yo, en cambio, os digo: Amad a vuestros enemigos, haced el bien a los que os aborrecen y rezad por los que os calumnian”.

Su lenguaje es escandaloso y sorprendente, pero totalmente coherente con su experiencia de Dios. El Padre no es violento: ama incluso a sus enemigos, no busca la destrucción de nadie. Su grandeza no consiste en vengarse sino en amar incondicionalmente a todos. Quien se sienta hijo de ese Dios, no introducirá en el mundo odio ni destrucción de nadie.



**OFFERING UPDATE
February 11/12**

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	266	102	\$2,983.00
8:00 a.m.	193	77	3,030.00
10:00 a.m.	302	83	2,601.00
12:00 a.m.	330	76	2,185.00
Total coin:			3.14
Faith Direct			3,132.60
Children's Env.		7	13.00
Mail-ins:			1,516.00
TOTAL	1,091	345	\$15,463.74
2022	888	297	\$16,186.67
Candles			\$800.90
Poor Box			\$199.24

**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.*

February 26—deadline passed
 March 5—February 24 deadline
 March 12—March 3 deadline

**Important Diocese of Rockville Centre
Information**

Information regarding a new deadline to file proofs of claim for victims of sexual abuse who were over 18 or older when the alleged conduct occurred, and the forms to use, can be found by clicking on the following link to the Diocese's bankruptcy website and scrolling down the page: <https://dm.epiq11.com/drvc>

**MONDAY,
February 20th**

All Rectory and Parish Offices will be CLOSED, and all parish activities, except for Masses, will be cancelled on Monday, February 20, for the Presidents' Day holiday. The Rectory Office will re-open Tuesday, February 21 at 9:00 a.m.



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**CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR
FEBRUARY WINNERS**

- \$1000** - Charles Zerbo
- \$250** - Paola Aivazian
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- \$100** - Ken Hale
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**WELCOME TO OUR
NEW OLPH PARISHIONERS**

*Nicholas, Jessica, Noah, Adam,
 & Natalie Messina
 James, Alison, Dylan & Avery Scarfo
 Christine Bogdahn
 Travis & Jillian Baucage
 Jennifer Gately
 William & Gabrielle Marinaro*

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023 THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

*One does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.* Matthew 4:4

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

We begin this first Sunday of Lent with a reminder of the fundamental sin of the whole human race: trying to seize equality with God. Our first parents, Adam and Eve, whom God created in his own image and likeness, were not content with the wonderful place God had made for them. They were entrusted by him with the cultivation and care of the garden at Eden and lived in a glorious and innocent intimacy with him. God gave them everything they needed and only forbade them to do one thing, eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, to protect them from death. Yet this they did. Immediately they experienced the consequences of their choice: once completely free and open to God, they now separated themselves from him. This is sin and sin brings death.

Romans 5:12-19

If the story ended with the first reading, it would be sad indeed. But Paul tells us that this was not the end. The wondrously good news, the Gospel, is that while the first Adam brought death to humankind, the New Adam (Jesus) brought life to us all! By his death and resurrection, Jesus brought us justification and righteousness, paying the debt for the sins of our first parents and restoring our relationship with his Father. We are no longer condemned by the actions of the first Adam to death and separation from God. Christ restored for us that first relationship wherein we can truly become what we were intended to be – sons and daughters created in the image of our loving Father!

Matthew 4:1-11

The readings come full circle today. While in the first reading Adam and Eve fail miserably when tempted by the devil, in the Gospel reading we see Jesus resist and triumph over the temptations of the devil. Three times Jesus is tested with crafty words and empty promises. Three times Jesus turns to God's Word in Scripture to stand fast and to rebuke temptation. How about us? Will we rely on God alone or on our own power in response to the lure of sin or the glamour of evil? What better model can we have for how we should behave when we are tested and tempted than Jesus!

Gospel Reflection Questions....

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

1. Right after Jesus was baptized and heard the Father's voice calling him "My Beloved Son," the Spirit led him to the desert. Jesus probably wanted to think about what those words meant, and to pray about his ministry. The Spirit wanted him to be tested. How does it make you feel to think he had to fight temptation the same way you do?

2. What desert images hold Lenten meanings for you? Do you ever hear the Spirit calling you to pray when you feel you are in the wilderness? What part did the Spirit play in this Gospel story? What part will you let the Spirit play in your Lent this year?

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, February 20, 2023:

Sirach 1:1-10 + Mark 9:14-29

Tuesday, February 21, 2023:

Sirach 2:1-11 + Mark 9:30-37

Wednesday, February 22, 2023:

Joel 2:12-18 + 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2
+ Mark 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday, February 23, 2023:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 + Luke 9:22-25

Friday, February 24, 2023:

Isaiah 58:1-9a + Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday, February 25, 2023:

Isaiah 58:9b-14 + Luke 5:27-32

Sunday, February 26, 2023:


Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7 + Romans 5:12-19
+ Matthew 4:1-11



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