

# Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

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*Every tree is known  
by its own fruit.*

Luke 6:44a

**THE EIGHTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
February 27, 2022**

## PASTORAL STAFF

**Pastor:** Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco

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

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

**Business Manager:** Mr. William D'Alessio

**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 each Saturday at 4:00 p.m.,  
each Sunday at 7:00 p.m., and  
Morning Prayer each Sunday at 9:15 a.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, Saturday and Sunday:**  
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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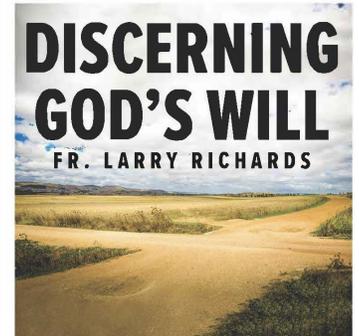
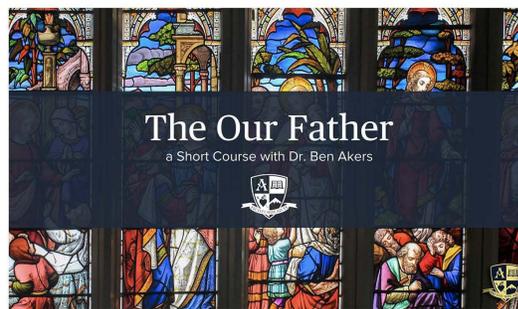
PICK OF THE WEEK

February 27, 2022

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## PASTOR'S PAGE

### *Ash Wednesday—Lent 2022 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 be administering ashes using the method introduced last year, namely, by sprinkling them on the top of the head, and not by the usual smearing on the forehead. This will allow for ashes to be given easily without making physical contact, which will make many people feel more comfortable. This method has officially been approved by Bishop Barres as a valid option here in the Diocese of Rockville Centre.

Although still new to us here in the United States, this method is actually the ancient practice of the Roman Rite, and it is the common practice currently observed in Rome, in many other places throughout Europe, and throughout the world. In fact, this is how our Holy Father, Pope Francis, receives his ashes!

Sprinkling ashes on the crown of the head recalls the biblical method of putting on sackcloth and ashes as a sign of penance. A number of accounts in the Bible mention people sprinkling or pouring ashes over their head (for example, Numbers 19:17, Jonah 3:6, Nehemiah 9:1, Judith 4:11, & Esther 4:1). The gesture, while not leaving the visible mark we are accustomed to, recalls that Biblical penitential practice. The ashes not being visible can also remind us that the whole point of doing penance is the interior conversion to which we are called during Lent; the very way we are receiving the ashes can be a challenge that echoes the Gospel we hear on Ash Wednesday, which exhorts us to carry out our penance in private, and not for show.

Additionally, we should recall that when baptized as an infant, we are anointed with Sacred Chrism on the crown of the head. The ashes to be imposed on the crown now can signify our repentance from the sin which has marred the grace of Baptism.

Here's one final thought concerning our undertaking of 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'm sure will have rippling beneficial spiritual effects in our 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!

### *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.

Also, don't forget that we will once again have an extended period of Confessions on Monday of Holy Week, this year on April 11 (as will every other Catholic parish) — that would be a great day to go! The hours for this year, by directive of the Diocese, have been slightly modified: Confessions on Monday of Holy Week here and in every parish 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 am grateful to Deacon Robert Becker who coordinates these Stations of the Cross each year, and I thank all the groups and group leaders who step up to the plate and respond to Deacon Robert's request 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, take note of a special Easter Time devotion we are adding this year, the *Via Lucis*, the Stations of the Resurrection. These will be prayed on Friday within the Octave of Easter ("Easter Friday"), April 22.

### ***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, or when the procession is completely out, down the aisle and at the exit, if there is no Closing Song.

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 would be because of illness or some serious personal problem which suddenly arose. 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.

### ***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,



## **REST IN PEACE, SISTER CATHERINE BENEDICT HAGENS, OP**



Our Lady of Perpetual Help mourns the loss of Sister Catherine Benedict Hagens, OP, who entered into eternal life on February 15, 2022. Sister Catherine was a vital part of the life of OLPH for many, many years. The ministry she offered here, with her incredible devotion and her beautiful witness of faith, helped make OLPH what it is today!

Sister ministered at OLPH as a teacher for 10 years and as principal for 20 years, and then she continued to do pastoral care work in the parish after that. Sister continued to be part of many of the special events at OLPH, even as recently as being present at the special Mass, in conjunction with the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year, on August 15, 2021, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at which one of her former students, Bishop Robert Brennan, presided! Sister Catherine celebrated her 70<sup>th</sup> Jubilee as a Sister of St. Dominic of Amityville in 2020. Her Funeral Mass was at the Motherhouse in Amityville on February 19, 2022.

*Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon her.*

*May she rest in peace. Amen.*

*May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

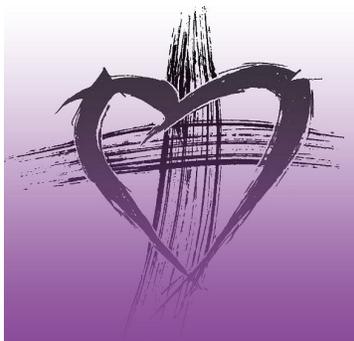


## ASH WEDNESDAY

### 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.

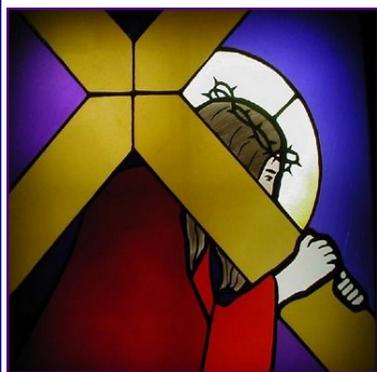
We are to journey through Lent together, then, as though we were all catechumens. We are to listen to the readings and pray the prayers as though we were approaching the waters of life for the first time. We seek to understand and thus to enter into the experience of the elect, those called to enter 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.

**PRAYER AND WORSHIP****ASH WEDNESDAY****March 2****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**

*This year we are continuing the method of distributing ashes we used last year. Ashes will be sprinkled on the head of each person, rather than smeared on the forehead. Although new to us here in the United States, this is actually the ancient practice of the Church and is still common in Europe and elsewhere. Also, this is the way Pope Francis receives ashes! Let's remember that ashes, although a powerful sign, are only an exterior sign of our interior conversion. It is our interior conversion and deepening faith that should be the focus of our Lenten journey.*

**Stations of the Cross****March 4, 11, 18, 25, April 1 and 8****at 7:30 p.m. in the church****and Good Friday, April 15 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.

**March 4 will be lead by the Liturgy Committee.***And also, Save the Date... Friday, April 22—Stations of the Resurrection!*

**L** Turn away  
**E**  
**N**  
**T** from sin

**CONFESSIONS****Saturdays: March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2****4:00 p.m.— 4:45 p.m.****Saturday April 9: 3:00 p.m.— 4:00 p.m.****Monday of Holy Week, April 11****2:00—4:00 p.m. and 6:00—9:00 p.m.**

## 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 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) and the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord (March 25) — break this violet period in 2022. The Fourth or *Laetare* Sunday (March 27)

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. The text for the antiphons and psalm verses and music for the psalm tone can be found in the Music Supplement in the back of the *Gather* hymnal.

**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 instead: “Praise and honor to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.” 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, which can be prayed either in person or virtually, on our website;
- 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.



## 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.*

## ABSTINENCE AND FASTING – ASH WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAYS OF LENT

All Catholics who have reached their fourteenth (14<sup>th</sup>) 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.

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION



### *Prepare Your Heart for the Coming of the Lord*

This season of Lent, as we prepare to celebrate 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, **March 6** and continuing every Sunday **through April 3**, 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.

# CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

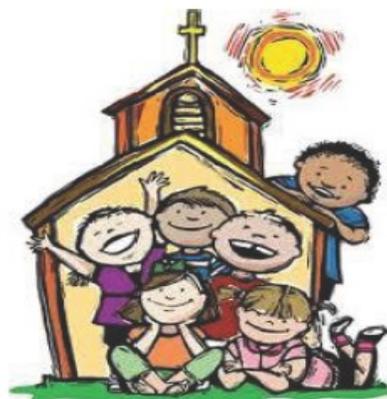
## CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Join us Next Sunday at the 10:00 a.m. Mass



Children 1st Grade and older can join in the Children's Liturgy of the Word every 1st and 3rd Sunday during the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

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.



## FIRST FRIDAY AND SATURDAY DEVOTIONS

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

**First Friday Devotions** will take place **March 4** after the 6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Masses.

**First Saturday Devotions**—in honor of Our Lady of Fatima—will be conducted Saturday, **March 5** beginning with the Rosary at 7:40 a.m., Mass at 8:00 a.m. and continued devotion following Mass.

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



## Special Needs Mass

for those who have Special Needs and for those who care for them.

**Saturday,  
March 5**

**4:00 p.m.**

**in the School Auditorium**

Please join us at our Special Needs Mass, a Mass for those who have Special Needs and for those who care for them.

We meet the **first Saturday of each month.**

After Mass we have hospitality to introduce the ministry members to the people who attend the Mass.

If you would like to join our ministry or help before or after Mass or with our hospitality table please contact Jessica Paolo at [jpaolo@oloph.org](mailto:jpaolo@oloph.org) or call 631-226-7725 X 252.

## FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

### 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](http://www.olphlindenhurst.com)
- OLPH YouTube Channel: OLPH Church Lindenhurst



## LIVE-STREAM MINISTRY NEEDS YOU!

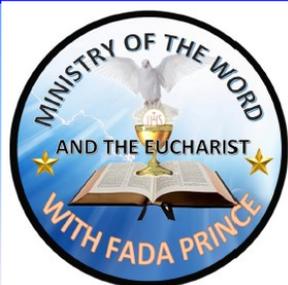
### JOIN OUR LIVE-STREAM TEAM

Our live-stream camera system enable us to live-stream Masses, weddings, funerals and other sacramental and ritual moments. When the weather is bad in the winter or for parishioners who are homebound, we offer them a digital presence.

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](mailto:fzero@oloph.org).



## FR. FIDELIS HAS A YOUTUBE CHANNEL



Hear Fr. Fidelis give weekly reflections and more on his YouTube channel!

You can go to YouTube and search for **FADA PRINCE** (with the logo at left) and click on the **SUBSCRIBE** button.

## LITTLE BLACK BOOKS FOR LENT ARE NOW AVAILABLE

Please take home a *Little Black Book*, new for 2022, 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  
2022

Six-minute meditations on the parables of Jesus



## OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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

## OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION 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, March 2, there will be no class, because it will be Ash Wednesday. Be sure to take the time to catch up on any missing Mass Reflections or projects — and receive ashes!



### LEVEL 5

On Saturday, March 5, you will meet in the church at 11:15 a.m. for your Penance Service. Parents must attend with students. Do not go to your normal class time. The Penance Service counts as class, and attendance will be taken!

### HELP NEEDED!

We are in need of classroom helpers for Levels 1-5 on Saturday mornings from 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. and/or 10:00 a.m.-

11:00 a.m., and hall monitors on Wednesday nights from 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Do you have the time to give one hour and share your God-given gifts with the youth of OLPH? This is a great way for high school and middle school students to get hours required

for school

or other

extracurricular activities!



### Happy Saint of the Day!

St. Benedict of Nursia had a twin sister named Scholastica. Both of them are saints and lived very religious lives. St. Benedict went to school and was taught a special way to speak in order to persuade people. When he saw his classmates using this skill to take advantage of people, he left the school and became a hermit in the mountains. Monks heard of his holiness and asked to learn from him. They followed the Benedictine Rule!



# PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- † Bereavement Ministry: Linda Arpino—631.592.1062—forubabe77@gmail.com
- † Blue Door Thrift Boutique: Tricia Buckley—631.561.5790—thebluedoor@oloph.org
- † Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Kathy Feldman—631 225-9864— cdefeldman@optonline.net
- † Homeless Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com—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@optimum.net
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Bill Stysiack—631.226.7725, x. 234
- † Senior Moments/Spirituality: Virginia Beyrer—631-226-6635
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker Paolo—631.226.6175—jbecker@oloph.org

## Food Pantry List

### ITEMS MOST NEEDED:

**COFFEE AND TEA**  
**HOT CHOCOLATE**  
**SHELF STABLE MILK**  
**CANNED TUNA**  
**CANNED MEATS (CHICKEN ETC.)**  
**PASTA SAUCE**  
**PEANUT BUTTER**  
**JELLY OR JAM**  
**CANNED FRUIT**  
**FRUIT JUICE**  
**TOILET PAPER**

*Please bring items to the SVdP office:*

*Wednesday and Friday*

*9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.*

*and on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays*

*1:30 – 3:00 p.m.*

**Thank you**  
**for your continued generosity.**

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

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

**631.226.7725 x. 234**

*Our regular office hours:*

**Monday, Wednesday and Friday**

**9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and**

**1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**

In the Gospel today, Jesus uses images in speaking to his disciples: “Can a blind man act as guide to a blind man?...Why look at the speck in your brother’s eye when you miss the plank in your own?...A good tree does not produce decayed fruit...”

It is true that donations come to the Society because a good person produces goodness from the good in their heart.

## THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY NEEDS YOU!



**Are you interested in helping out your parish community?**

**Think about joining The Society of St. Vincent de Paul.**

The commitment is minimal. Our members cover one three-hour shift in the pantry once every three weeks. The rewards are plentiful. You have the opportunity to bring hope and health to those in need right here in Lindenhurst. You also have the opportunity to meet many wonderful people, and make new friendships.

If you would like to join, call us at 631-226-7725, ext. 234 Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between 9:00 a.m. and Noon. We are also open the first and third Saturdays of the month for those who are busy during the week.

We are looking forward to hearing from you!

# 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
William D'Alessio, Business Manager	204	bdalessio@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
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@oloph.org
Fr. Emmanuel Okonkwo	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 Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Please contact Jeffrey Gaab at (631) 965-0076 or e-mail at [jsg375@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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

Gerry Chille  
John Reynolds

## YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

David Barrett  
Bill Bendernagel  
Gerry Chille (Chair)  
William D'Alessio  
Meg Danaher, CFP®, CLU®  
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco  
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  
MaryAnn Haas  
Jenine Jimenez-Spina  
Denise Martinez  
Barbara McPhail  
Chris Reilly  
Deacon Doug Smith  
Mike Williams  
Fr. Frank Zero

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

# PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

## **BANNS OF MARRIAGE**

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

### **First Announcement:**

***Ed Cosgrove & Lisa Angius***



## **TO OUR NEW OLPH PARISHIONERS February 2021**

***Caitlyn Perillo***

***Emilio Rivera & Regina Restivo***

***Johnnatan, Luz-Helen & Valentina Marquez***

***Erik Rizzo & Courtney Guilfoyle***

***Dennis Bravo & Alexandra Segovia***

***Joseph & Catherine Fucci***

***Scott & Vanessa Haughney***

***Janet Waters & John Waters***

## **WE BELIEVE**

**We pray for the sick of our parish...**

***Lynn Simonetti***

***Richard Geed***

***Grace Grasso***

***Eileen Quinn***

***Camile Shea***

***Cathy Postiglione***

***Nick & Marie Postiglione***

***Mary Doran***

***Robert Cuoco***

***Dilibeth Chirimo***

***Stephanie Guidice***

***Anthony Trotta***

***Antonio James Kienle***

***Tom Ferris***

***Kevin Ryan***

***Giuseppe Pecoraro***

***Christine Ann Kulmatycki***

***Richard Haas***

***Daniel Murphy***

***Lora Flynn***

***Michael Schroeder***

***Anthony Russell Licata***

***Russell Steinmetz***

***Kathy Arnold***

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 at least 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 Spring program will begin **April 23 through June 11.** We ask for a \$25 donation to cover the cost of materials.

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



## **WE REMEMBER**

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

***Richard H. Northorn, Jr.***

***Sr. Catherine Hagen***

***Peter Lombardo***

*“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.”*

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>MONDAY, February 28— Weekday</b>	
6:30	Marianne Schonning
12:15	Christopher M. Savino
<b>TUESDAY, March 1— Weekday</b>	
6:30	Joseph Candia
12:15	Mary Rossi
<b>WEDNESDAY, March 2— Ash Wednesday</b>	
6:30	Joseph V. Brando, Sr.
12:15	Elaine Vlanos
3:00	<i>Word Service</i>
4:30	<i>Word Service</i>
6:00	<i>Word Service</i>
7:30	<i>Word Service</i>
<b>THURSDAY, March 3— Thursday after Ash Wednesday</b>	
6:30	Anthony Anselmo
12:15	Salvatore Cordaro
<b>FRIDAY, March 4— Friday after Ash Wednesday</b>	
6:30	George Malone
12:15	Arthur Anthony Albertsen
<b>SATURDAY, March 5— Saturday after Ash Wednesday</b>	
8:00	Christine Ruzzo
<b>Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated): FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	
4:00	Elaine Glamann <i>Special Needs Mass—Auditorium</i>
5:00	For the People of the Parish
<b>Sunday, March 6— FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	
8:00	Edward Ward
10:00	Vincent Bodt
12:00	Jeanne Guidice

**PARISH CALENDAR**

<b>Monday, February 28, 2022</b>		
9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 23
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Room 12
12:45 p.m.	Devotions	Church
2:30 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Business Meeting	Room 24
<b>Tuesday, March 1, 2022</b>		
5:45 p.m.	Pastoral Staff Meeting	St. Lucy Room
6:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
<b>Wednesday, March 2, 2022</b>		
9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 23
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Room 12
2:30 p.m.	Legion of Mary (631-412-3831)	Off Campus
8:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church
<b>Thursday, March 3, 2022</b>		
1:00 p.m.-on	Church closed for cleaning	Church
5:00 p.m.	CYO	Auditorium
7:00 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Group	Cafeteria
7:00 p.m.	Living the Eucharist	School
7:00 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting	St. Lucy Room
7:30 p.m.	Baptismal Prep Class for Parents	Room 16
<b>Friday, March 4, 2022</b>		
9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 23
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Room 12
5:00 p.m.	CYO	Auditorium
7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	Church
<b>Saturday, March 5, 2022</b>		
8:30 and 10:00 a.m.	Levels 1-4 and Special Ed.	School
11:15 a.m.	Level 5 Penance	Church
1:30 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 23
4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church
6:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
6:30 p.m.	Exposition	Church
<b>Sunday, March 6, 2022</b>		
11:00 a.m.	RCIA	Room 16
11:15 a.m.	Adult Faith Formation - Psalms	North Sacristy
2:00 p.m.	Rel Ed. Hunger Banquet	Auditorium
7:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria

## EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

El grupo de oración “Jesús es el camino la verdad y la vida” le invita a alabar y glorificar al PADRE, al HIJO, y al ESPIRITU SANTO, todos los jueves de 7:00 p.m. en adelante en un ambiente familiar. Comenzando con el Santo Rosario. Le ofrecemos el cuidado de los niños, también les enseñamos la doctrina de la iglesia.

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

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

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

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

### Liturgia Viva del VIII Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario (Ciclo C)

Domingo, 27 de febrero de 2022

La viga en el ojo

Demos gracias a Dios por dar la victoria por medio de nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

Que el Señor Jesús Resucitado esté siempre con vosotros.

Y también contigo.

#### **Primera lectura (Eclesiales. 27:4-7): El árbol es conocido por sus frutos**

Una persona revela su cualidad religiosa por la manera de hablar



Las palabras revelan lo que somos, en Lucas 6:45, nos indica claramente que eso que abunda en el corazón es lo que se expresa en la palabra que compartes a diario, las palabras revelan lo que nuestro corazón contiene. Nuestras palabras son poderosas, pueden dar vida o pueden muerte. Nuestras palabras revelan la fe que tenemos. Nuestras palabras revelan lo que hay en nuestro corazón. Las palabras pueden sanar, pueden herir, pueden edificar, pueden destruir, pueden dar vida, pueden producir muerte, pueden bendecir, pueden maldecir, y toda palabra que sale de nuestra boca viene de nuestro corazón.

#### **Segunda lectura (1 Corintios 15, 54-58): Muerte, ¡estás derrotada!**

En Cristo, la muerte y el pecado han sido derrotados. Si lo seguimos, siempre lo superaremos.

#### **Evangelio (Lucas 6,39-45): Nuestra fe no debe desacreditar el Evangelio**

No debemos seguir a guías que no saben adónde van. Y debemos dejar que nuestra propia vida como la de Cristo inspire a otros.

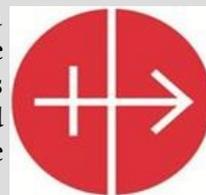
¿Por qué prácticamente todos nosotros nos damos cuenta de los defectos y fracasos de los demás, y sin embargo estamos ciegos a nuestras propias deficiencias? A menudo culpamos a los demás de lo que vemos en nosotros mismos. Miremos hoy a Jesús aquí entre nosotros. Sí, él vino para salvar a la gente de sus pecados, pero no juzgaba y condenaba a la gente, sino que la atraía por su actitud abierta de fraternidad, valoración del bien que hay en ellos y por darles nuevas oportunidades en la vida. Hay mucho que aprender de él. Pidámosle su bondad de corazón.

## OFFERING UPDATE FEBRUARY 19/20

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	229	85	\$2,348.00
8:00 a.m.	163	79	2,998.00
10:00 a.m.	257	65	2,487.00
12:00 p.m.	340	95	3,337.00
Coin			7.30
Faith Direct:			2,730.70
Children's Env.		7	67.00
Mail-ins:			1,305.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>989</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>\$15,280.00</b>
<b>2021 total</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>\$16,233.99</b>
Candles			\$849.05
Poor Box			\$216.20

## THE CHURCH IN NEED

Next week, March 6, 2022 a collection will be taken for "The Church in Need." The monies collected at this time will be shared among three areas of the world where there is a particular need for help:



- **Church in Central and Eastern Europe** - the funds collected provide support for pastoral care, catechesis, building renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region.
- **The Church in Latin America** - your support of the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ.
- **The Church in Africa** - the fund supports pastoral projects that strengthen communities in their faith and foster lasting peace and reconciliation in a continent often marked by division and tension.

### PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN BANK PARKING DURING BUSINESS HOURS ON ASH WEDNESDAY

We ask that if you come to the 12:15 p.m. Mass, or 3:00 p.m. or 4:30 p.m. Word Services on **Wednesday, March 2, Ash Wednesday**, please do not park in the bank parking lot on the north side of the church. 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 during business hours. Thank you.



### **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* by the dates listed and *as a Word document* to Carmel Becker at [cbecker@oloph.org](mailto:cbecker@oloph.org).  
*Editing and sizes are at the discretion of the editor.*

March 6—passed  
March 13—March 4  
March 20—March 11



The Catholic Faith Network (CFN) will continue our immense Telethon tradition this year! This exciting event will commence on **Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup> from 2:00–10:00 p.m.** and continue through **Sunday, February 27<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 Noon-10:00 p.m.** Guaranteed to be the most engaging telethon to date, the entertainment will continue with many surprise guests along with our on-air family that you have come to know. Please join the excitement, and consider pledging! There is no help too small or none too large, every bit does count tremendously. The process is easy, you can pledge securely online by visiting [www.CFNtv.org](http://www.CFNtv.org) or by scanning the QR Code below, using a smartphone or any smart device. We know we can continue to count on you, as we always have! CFN is available throughout the Tri-State Area on Optimum, channel 29/137; Verizon FiOS TV channel 296; Spectrum, channel 162/471.



Additionally, you can tune in nationwide on the following streaming services - Amazon Fire TV, Samsung Smart TV, Roku, Android TV, and Apple TV.

**PREPARING FOR**  
**Sunday, March 6, 2022**  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

*It is written, "One does not live on bread alone."*

Luke 4:4

**Deuteronomy 26:4-10**

In Old Testament times, Hebrew believers presented some of the annual harvest to the Lord as an expression of gratitude. As part of this ritual, the offerers prayed a brief summary of salvation history, remembering how the Lord had saved them from slavery in Egypt. This remembrance identified the individual believer with the larger Israelite community, a feature that was central to their covenant faith.

**Romans 10:8-13**

In contrast to the communal dimension in the first reading, this second one has Paul explaining the personal aspect of salvation which consists of internalizing what Christ has done for us. This entails a deep commitment to the Lord Jesus, who alone justifies and saves. This is a salvation open to all people. To confess Jesus as Lord was frequently quite hazardous in the first century when Paul was writing. For a Jew it could mean disruption of normal familial and other social relationships, including great economic sacrifice. To say "Jesus is Lord" is to put Jesus at the center of our lives even today. In the face of penalties imposed by the secular world, Christians are assured that no one who believes in Jesus will be put to shame.

**Luke 4:1-13**

As part of salvation, the Christian is called to deal forcefully with temptation. In this, Jesus is the model we should follow. His temptations are matched in our lives today – power, wealth, sensuality, egotism. Today's Gospel teaches us to deal with temptation quickly and effectively by living in the Holy Spirit whom we received at baptism, just as Jesus did.

**Gospel Reflection**

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

1. When an athlete starts to get flabby or lethargic, he or she exercises to get back in shape. Is there an analogy here for your spiritual life? How would you use exercise to get in shape spiritually? What would a "flabby" or a lethargic spiritual life look like? How does yours look now?

2. Pope Francis says going to the desert helps us hear the voice of God in our lives. What new paths do you need to open? If everyone did a little desert time beforehand, do you think the upcoming Synod could help "new paths" open up in the Church? What blossoms would you like to see in your Lenten desert?

*Let us imagine that we are in a desert. The first feeling would be that of being enveloped by a great silence: no sound besides the wind and our own breathing. The desert is a place of detachment from the din that surrounds us. It is the absence of words to make room for another Word, the Word of God, that caresses our hearts like a light breeze (cf. 1 Kings 19:12).*

*"Behold I am doing a new thing; ... I will make a way in the wilderness" (Is 43:19). A new path opens up in the desert, which takes us from death to life. We enter the desert with Jesus and we will leave it experiencing Easter, the power of God's love which renews life. It will happen to us just as it does to deserts that blossom in spring, suddenly sprouting buds and plants "out of nothing." Take courage, let us enter this Lenten desert. Let us follow Jesus in the desert: with him, our deserts will blossom.*

*Audience with Pope Francis  
Feb 26, 2020*

*Readings for the Week*

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

**Monday, February 28, 2022:**

1 Peter 1:3-9 + Mark 10:17-27

**Tuesday, March 1, 2022:**

1 Peter 1:10-16 + Mark 10:28-31

**Wednesday, March 2, 2022:**

Joel 2:12-28

+ 2 Corinthians 5:20—6:2

+ Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

**Thursday, March 3, 2022:**

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

+ Luke 9:22-25

**Friday, March 4, 2022:**

Isaiah 58:1-9a

+ Matthew 9:14-10

**Saturday, March 5, 2022:**

Isaiah 58:9b-14

+ Luke 5:27-32

**Sunday, March 6, 2022:**

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

+ Romans 10:8-13

+ Luke 4:1-13

# This I Believe: The Creed

**T**his I Believe, Inc., is a not-for-profit organization that encourages people from all walks of life to write, share, and discuss essays about their core beliefs.

Selected essays were heard on National Public Radio for a few years and then carried on satellite and public radio shows for several years following. Many essays can be read on [thisibelieve.org](http://thisibelieve.org), or heard on a weekly podcast. The project was based on the popular 1950s radio series of the same name hosted by Edward R. Murrow. Murrow created the series at a time when America was divided and worried about the Cold War, McCarthyism, and racial tensions. He hoped that hearing the core beliefs of others would help Americans come together by finding common ground.

As the faithful profess their faith in the Creed at Mass, they state the common ground of their beliefs. Across the globe, the faithful come from many cultures and backgrounds and pursue varied livelihoods and recreational activities, but unity is apparent as they profess their common beliefs in the Creed.

The word *creed* comes from the Latin word *credo*, meaning “I believe.” *Credo* may be derived from a word that means “trust” or “to give trust.” As the faithful profess the Creed, they are uttering the beliefs in which they have entrusted themselves.

The first creeds came in the form of a question-and-answer dialogue with people who were about to be baptized. This type of dialogue is still carried out before Baptism as well as with the entire community in the renewal of baptismal promises on Easter Sunday.

Proclaimed just prior to the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the Creed sums up the faith heard in the readings and reminds the assembly of their unity before they process to the banquet of the Lord.

The Nicene Creed, the creed most often proclaimed during Mass, is a combination of the creeds



The Creed sums up the faith and is a reminder of the unity present in the gathering of the faithful.

that originated at the Council of Nicaea (325) and the Council of Constantinople (381). The Apostles' Creed, formerly reserved for Masses with children, also may be said at Mass, especially during Easter Time.

As the Creed is professed, may we become a people united in faith, hope, and love for the life of the world.



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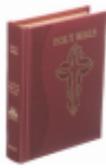
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