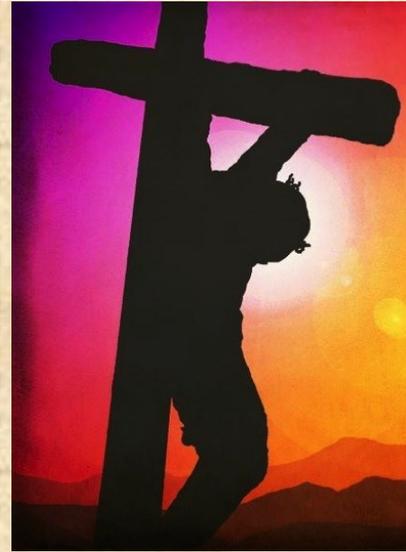


Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

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



*For God so loved the world
that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him
might not perish but might have eternal life.*

John 3:16

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 11, 2018

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco

Parochial Vicars: Reverend Fidelis Ezeani, Reverend Frank Zero

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

Business Manager: Mr. Frank Pokorney

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

Music Director: Mr. Christopher Ferraro

Pastor Emeritus: Reverend Monsignor Daniel S. Hamilton

Deacon Frank Odin, Retired

COME IN AND PRAY...

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday

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

Saturday Morning:

8:00 a.m.

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated):

5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,
12:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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

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

OLPH NOVENA DEVOTIONS

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday Evening: after OLPH Novena Devotions

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

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

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



Stations of the Cross

Friday March 16

at 3:00 p.m. in the church
led by Fr. Fidelis

March 23: Led by Knights of Columbus
and Catholics for Freedom of Religion
at 7:30 p.m. in the Church

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

CONFESSIONS

MONDAY—FRIDAY
following the 12:15 p.m. weekday
Mass

SATURDAY: MARCH 17:
4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

SATURDAY MARCH 24:
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Music Ministry Presents



PASSION, PRAISE AND PASCHAL MYSTERY

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

Friday, March 16,
7:30 p.m. in the church

*There will be a free-will offering
to support the restoration
of the pipe organ at St. Albert's Chapel
in the Motherhouse
of the Sisters of St. Dominic, Amityville*

PASTOR'S PAGE

Fourth Sunday of Lent

We get a little break from the ultra-seriousness of Lent on this Fourth Sunday of Lent, which is referred to as *Laetare Sunday*. The name comes from the Entrance Antiphon for this Mass, from Isaiah 66:10-11: "*Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.*" Rose-colored vestments may be worn today, although the *Glory to God in the highest* is still omitted.

The Collect (Opening Prayer) for Mass for this Sunday recalls how God has reconciled the human race to Himself through His Word; salvation was accomplished through the Paschal Mystery (death and resurrection) of the Word-made-flesh, Jesus. It is because of God reconciling us to Himself (something we could never have accomplished ourselves) that we can make the petition asked in the second part of the Collect: that "...*the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come.*" We get a certain sense that the Easter feasts are coming closer, and this is the source of our rejoicing. Thus does the prayer continue to orient us toward Easter, which is drawing ever nearer.

The Prayer over the Offerings mentions the joy that characterizes today as it notes that we place our offerings before God "with joy." We are also reminded of the inherently missionary nature of the Eucharist — how it is not something just for ourselves, but rather how it impels us to look outward to serve the world. We are reminded of this as the prayer expresses that we present the offerings "for the salvation of all the world."

Once again our Mass prayers offer us much occasion for further spiritual reflection on the meaning of Lent. Let this *Laetare Sunday* be for you a turning point in your own Lenten journey, and experience the joy of Easter coming soon!

Have you updated your Census Registration?

Allow me to remind you that if you received the mailing asking you to update your Census Registration information, please return the completed Census Form as soon as possible.

We need to have updated registration information on all our parishioners in order to help us do effective pastoral planning. Thank you for your cooperation with this endeavor.

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

Here's your weekly reminder: plan ahead as to when you will get to Confession during Lent, and don't wait until the last minute! Look toward Monday of Holy Week, "Reconciliation Monday," as it has come to be called, as an especially-appropriate time to get there. Priests will be available in the confessionals from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (or even later if there are still people on line!) on Monday, March 26. You'll be joining with people throughout the entire Diocese of Rockville Centre, along with the Diocese of Brooklyn and the Archdiocese of New York (yes, we're all doing it!). So, you have a wide variety of churches to choose from if you don't want to come to OLPH! Just get to Confession! Maybe the sense of solidarity on that day, knowing that so many other people will be going that day, will be enough to push you to get there, especially if you have not been to Confession in a long time. We would love to celebrate God's mercy and forgiveness with you. If you want to go to either Fr. Fidelis, Fr. Frank or me in particular, ask us when we will be taking shifts in our confessional, and you can be sure to be there during those times.

Of course, you can also go at one of the other times we have scheduled (see the ad elsewhere in the bulletin) or make a separate appointment to meet with us. How much easier could it be!?

Parish Secretary

Patricia Chavis has been working in the rectory as the Parish Secretary since 2011, and she recently submitted her resignation; her last day was March 1. We wish Patti well in her future endeavors and thank her for her service to OLPH these past seven years. I mention this because a large amount of parish business passes through that position of Parish Secretary, and until her replacement comes on board (we are

PASTOR'S PAGE

conducting interviews and expect to have the position filled before too much more time goes by) we might have one or two glitches along the way. If you dealt with Patti in the past, working with her for the tasks she handled, those tasks will continue to be covered as best as we can, and they will, of course, be assigned to her replacement. Until the new person comes on board, though (and even for a little while as the new person gets used to the job), I ask for everyone's patience, understanding and good humor if there are bumps in the road and if we are not at our usual level of proficiency and timeliness in handling things. Please don't be offended or upset if you don't get a response to something as quickly as you are used to, and don't hesitate to follow up on things to make sure things don't fall through the cracks. We're all doing the best we can in this interim time until a new person comes along. Thank you!

Altar Server meeting this Tuesday, March 13

I remind all our Altar Servers (that's all our young Altar Servers, not the adults who serve at weekday Masses and Funerals) about the very important meeting on Tuesday, March 13 at 4:15 p.m. We will discuss the Holy Week/Sacred Paschal Triduum schedule, along with other important business. All Altar Servers are required to attend, even if you will be away for Easter. I look forward to seeing you there!

Passion, Praise and Paschal Mystery on Friday night, March 16

I strongly urge you and your family to attend the Passion, Praise and Paschal Mystery event which is taking place this Friday night, March 16, at 7:30 p.m. This is presented to us by our Music Ministry, under the direction of Christopher Ferraro, and it is always a very beautiful and deeply-spiritual reflection on the meaning of the death and resurrection of Christ. Through Scripture, song, and visual images, we will be led more deeply into the place of the Paschal Mystery of the Lord's death and resurrection in our own life. I promise you this is something that will powerfully enrich your experience of Lent. This presentation takes the

place of Stations of the Cross on this coming Friday night, March 16. I ask everyone to make it a priority to be a part of this important communal event and to come out on Friday night for Passion, Praise and Paschal Mystery.

Afternoon Stations of the Cross on Friday, March 16

Since Passion, Praise and Paschal Mystery takes the place of the Friday night Stations of the Cross this week, we have moved the Stations of the Cross to Friday afternoon on March 16; Stations will be prayed at 3:00 p.m. Be sure to continue coming to our Lenten Friday Stations of the Cross, but at 3:00 p.m. for this week only. (They return to 7:30 p.m. next Friday, March 23.)

Parish Mission Preacher at all Masses next weekend

Next weekend we begin our Lenten Parish Mission! You know how important it is for us to set special time aside during Lent for spiritual pursuits, and the traditional Lenten Mission is an excellent occasion for prayer and reflection. Look for the details about the Mission in our ad elsewhere in the bulletin.

Next weekend, the Retreat Master, Fr. Paul Colloton, will be preaching at all the Masses to introduce the Mission and to encourage us to be there. Fr. Paul is a well-known speaker, teacher and author in the area of liturgical theology, and I know he will share many wonderful insights with us. His focus will be the Sacred Paschal Triduum.

Set time aside now and plan on being at the Lenten Parish Mission!

Pope Francis' Catecheses on the Holy Mass

We continue our series printing Pope Francis' catecheses on the Holy Mass, given at his Wednesday audiences. Since Mass is so central to our life as Catholics, we can never learn enough about it. The selection below continues to explore the Liturgy of the Word at Mass, as it focuses on the Gospel. I present the Holy Father's words *verbatim*.

We continue with the catechesis on the Holy Mass. We had arrived at the Readings. The dialogue between God and His People, developed in the Liturgy of the Word at Mass, reaches its culmination in the proclamation of the Gospel. It is preceded by the singing of the "Alleluia" — or, in Lent, by another acclamation — with which the assembly of the faithful receives and greets the Lord, who is about to speak in the Gospel. As Christ's mysteries illumine the whole of biblical revelation, so, in the Liturgy of the Word, the Gospel constitutes the light to understand the meaning of the biblical texts that precede it, be it of the Old or of the New Testament. In fact, Christ is the center and fullness of the whole of Scripture, as well as of the whole liturgical celebration. Jesus Christ is always at the center, always.

Therefore, the liturgy itself distinguishes the Gospel from the other Readings and surrounds it with particular honor and veneration. In fact, its reading is reserved to the ordained minister, who ends by kissing the Book; we stand to listen to it and trace the sign of the cross on the forehead, on the mouth and on the breast; the candles and incense honor Christ who, through

the evangelical reading, makes His effective word resound. The assembly acknowledges with these signs the presence of Christ who gives it the "Good News," which converts and transforms. It's a direct discourse that takes place, as if attesting the acclamations with which one responds to the proclamation: "Glory to you, O Lord" and "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ." We stand to listen to the Gospel, but it's Christ who is speaking to us there. And so we are attentive, because it's a direct conversation. It's the Lord who is speaking to us.

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,



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR EASTER

We will be decorating the church for Easter on Saturday morning, March 31 at 9:30 a.m., immediately following Morning Prayer. We would love to have lots of folks come on down to pitch in. Why not join the fun and come down to help? It should not take much longer than an hour or so. What a great way for your family to share in the joy of Easter! We appreciate whatever help you can give us.



PARISH LENTEN MISSION

Lenten Mission 2018



Are You Willing to Walk With Jesus This Holy Week:

Are you willing to serve?

Are you willing to die?

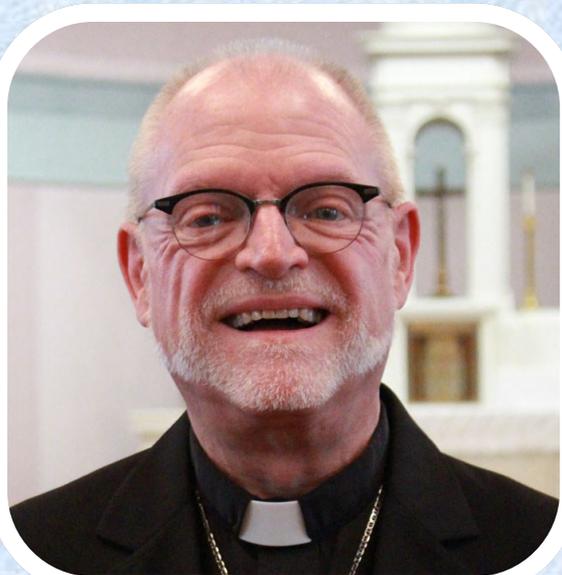
Are you willing to rise?

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

7:30 p.m. Prayer Service each evening

We will have Hospitality in the Auditorium on Tuesday evening following the Mission.

Led by **Fr. Paul H. Colloton, OSFS, D.Min**



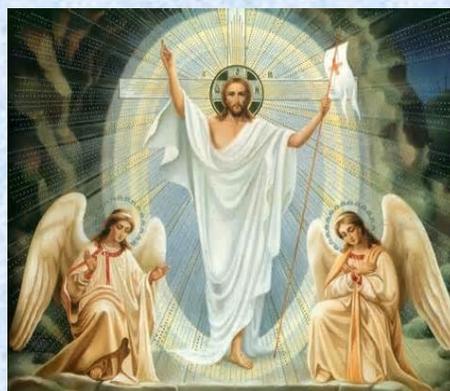
Fr. Paul H. Colloton, OSFS, D.Min. is a member of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, Wilmington-Philadelphia Province. Paul is the Priest Chaplain and Associate Director of Campus Ministry for Ohio Dominican University in Columbus, OH. He served as the Director of Continuing Education for the National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

PALM SUNDAY & EASTER SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULES:*PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULES FOR THESE DAYS***Palm Sunday****Saturday, March 24:**5:00 p.m. Vigil
with Procession**Sunday, March 25:**8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.,
12:00 Noon & 5:00 p.m.**SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR****Easter Sunday Masses****Saturday, March 31:**

8:00 p.m. only

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night*(NO 5:00 p.m. Mass)***Sunday, April 1:**

7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.

*(NO 5:00 p.m. Mass on Easter Sunday)**** note special times****PALM SUNDAY VIGIL PROCESSION****Special Procession to Commemorate
the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem
SATURDAY, MARCH 24 – 5:00 P.M. MASS**

On Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, the Church recalls the entrance of Christ the Lord into Jerusalem to accomplish his Paschal Mystery. This is always such a great celebration for the parish!

At the 5:00 p.m. Mass Saturday, March 24, we will celebrate Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion with a special Solemn Procession.

For Saturday, March 24, please note:

- ◆ Confession time on Saturday, March 24 is earlier – 3:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.
- ◆ We are closing the church to all but the handicapped; people will be directed to the auditorium
- ◆ 5:00 p.m. Mass begins in the auditorium, continues with the Procession, and continues in the church
- ◆ In case of inclement weather, we will begin in the church.

Even if you do not usually attend the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, consider attending as together we begin the celebration of Holy Week.



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

ABSTINENCE AND FASTING

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

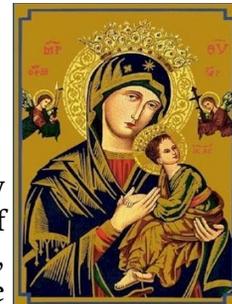
REMINDER REGARDING THE COMMUNION FAST

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

MEETING FOR ALL ALTAR SERVERS

All Altar Servers are required to attend an important meeting on **Tuesday, March 13 at 4:15 p.m. in the church.** Among other items we will discuss assignments for Holy Week, the Sacred Paschal Triduum and First Communion 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.)*

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help



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

**Monday, March 12—6:30 p.m.
due to Level 8 Penance Service**

**Monday, March 19—
No Devotions due to the Parish Mission**

**Monday, March 26—
No Devotions due to Confessions**



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.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

LENTEN ENVIRONMENT: COVERING STATUES AND IMAGES

As of next weekend, we will observe the custom of covering (or removing, where possible) crosses and images throughout the church, a practice permitted starting the Fifth Sunday of Lent. Crosses will remain covered until the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil. Since the environment perceived by our senses is an important part of our worship, we hope this custom facilitates your entrance into and spiritual participation in the last days of Lent, as we approach the Sacred Paschal Triduum and the fifty days of Easter Time.



EASTER SPIRITUAL BOUQUET CARDS

Easter Spiritual Bouquet cards are now available throughout the church. These cards are a meaningful way for you to have your intentions prayed for in the Masses of Easter Sunday.

Take an envelope, fill out your prayer intention, and return the envelope with your donation. Envelopes may be returned either in the collection basket or at the rectory. Keep the card to send as an expression of your prayer. All the Masses offered on Easter Sunday will be for the intentions of the Easter Spiritual Bouquet.



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

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

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

BLESSING OF BREAD AND PASTRIES ON ST. JOSEPH'S DAY



Monday, March 19 is the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional to bless bread, pastries, and other food and to give a portion of it to the poor. Therefore, we will be offering a blessing of bread, pastries (and any other St. Joseph's foods traditional to your family) at our two weekday Masses at 6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. on Monday, March 19. Join in marking St. Joseph's Day in this way by bringing your breads and pastries to be blessed!

**BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER:
ATTENTION BOYS AND GIRLS OF THE PARISH, FOURTH GRADE AND OLDER**

We are in the process of **recruiting new Altar Servers!** Being an altar server is a great way to be involved at Our Lady of Perpetual Help. You make an important contribution to the life of the parish and you perform an important ministry. Besides, it's fun!!! You serve at weekend Masses and other special events, attend some meetings throughout the year, and have fun parties!

*Why not become an altar server? We would love to have you, and we will provide plenty of training — no prior experience is necessary!! If you are a boy or a girl who is in the **4th grade or older (it's o.k. if you are in 5th, 6th, 7th, or 8th grade, or even older!), you are invited to become an altar server.** Parents, why not mention it to your daughter or son to get them interested? Training will start soon, so sign up now. If you are interested, **mail or drop off the coupon below to Monsignor Joe at the Rectory, 210 South Wellwood Avenue.** *No phone calls, please; you must let me know in writing! It's OK to scan this page and send it electronically with all the info to msgjrjoe@oloph.org.**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, RESPOND BEFORE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018, SINCE THE FIRST TRAINING MEETING WILL BE SOON AFTER THAT (you will receive a letter giving you specific information).

Sorry...no responses can be accepted after April 4!

We hope to hear from YOU!!!

Yes, I am interested in becoming an Altar Server! **RETURN THIS FORM BEFORE APRIL 4**

Name _____

Address _____

Town/Zip _____

Telephone Number _____ E-mail
_____@_____

Date of Birth (month/day/year) _____/_____/_____

Family Envelope/Registration Number _____

*****Required: Your family must be registered parishioners of OLPH.**

Year You Received First Holy Communion _____

Grade you are in right now _____

Check one:

_____ I go to public school; Name of School _____

_____ I go to Catholic school; Name of School _____



God's Gift of Forgiveness

A Pastoral Exhortation on the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

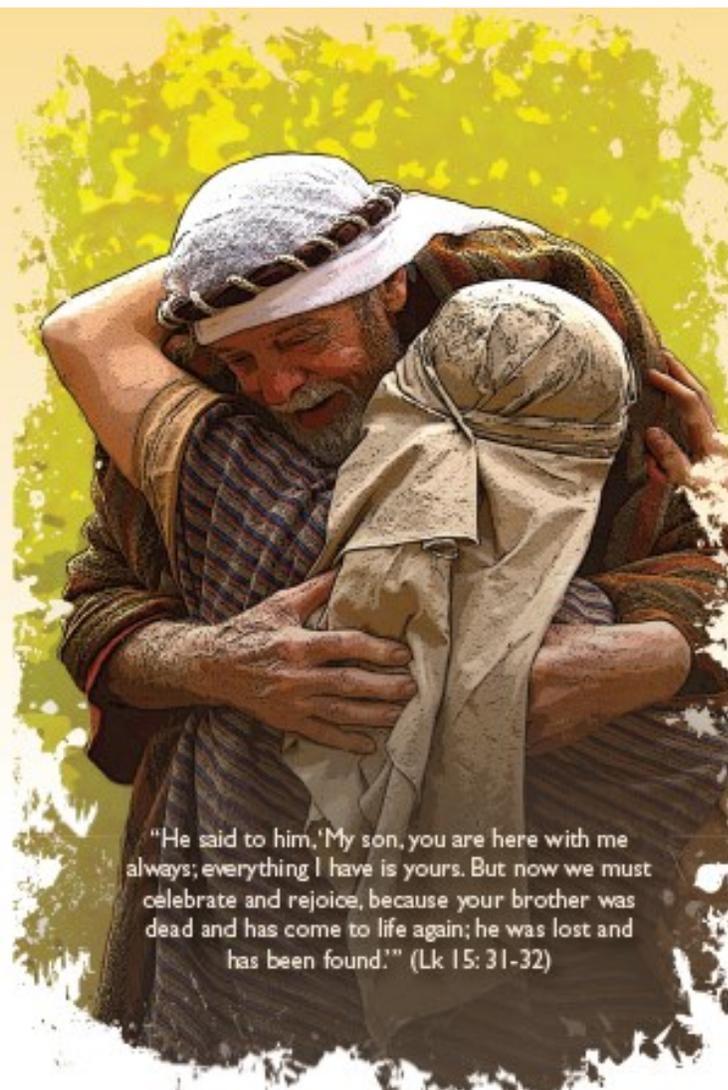
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

"Peace be with you!" With these words, the Risen Lord greeted his frightened Apostles in the Upper Room on the day of his Resurrection. They were troubled, anxious, and fearful—much like each one of us at some point in our lives. Christ repeated the words, "Peace be with you." But then he added, "Receive the holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them" (Jn 20:19-23).

What an extraordinary gift! The Risen Lord was proclaiming that all the suffering he had just endured was in order to make available the gifts of salvation and forgiveness. He wanted the Apostles to receive these gifts. He wanted them to become apostles of this forgiveness to others.

In the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, also called confession, we meet the Lord, who wants to grant forgiveness and the grace to live a renewed life in him. In this sacrament, he prepares us to receive him free from serious sin, with a lively faith, earnest hope, and sacrificial love in the Eucharist. The Church sees confession as so important that she requires that every Catholic go at least once a year.¹ The Church also encourages frequent confession in order to grow closer to Christ Jesus and his Body, the Church. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, we seek forgiveness and repentance, let go of patterns of sin, grow in the life of virtue, and witness to a joyful conversion. Since the graces of the sacrament are so similar to the purpose of the New Evangelization, Pope Benedict XVI has said, "The New Evangelization . . . begins in the confessional!"²

We bishops and priests are eager to help you if you experience difficulty, hesitation, or uncertainty about approaching the Lord in this sacrament. If you have not received this healing sacrament in a long time, we are ready to



"He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'" (Lk 15: 31-32)

welcome you. We, whom Christ has ordained to minister this forgiveness in his name, are also approaching this sacrament, as both penitents and ministers, throughout our lives and at this special moment of grace during Lent. We want to offer ourselves to you as forgiven sinners seeking to serve in the Lord's name.

During Lent—in addition to the various penitential services during which individual confession takes place—we bishops and priests will be making ourselves available often for the individual celebration of this sacrament. We pray that through the work of the Holy Spirit, all Catholics—clergy and laity—will respond to the call of the New Evangelization to encounter Christ in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. Come to the Lord and experience the extraordinary grace of his forgiveness!

¹ *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, nos. 1457-1458.

² Pope Benedict XVI, Address to the Annual Course on the Internal Forum Organized by the Apostolic Penitentiary, www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/speeches/2012/march/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20120309_penitenciera-apostolica_en.html.

FAITH
WORSHIP
WITNESS



JOURNEY
WITH CHRIST

How to Go to Confession...

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

—*Rite of Penance*, no. 93

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

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

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

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

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

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Fasting: A Way to Turn to God

Kristopher W. Seaman

In the last five years, five weddings have occurred within my family: brothers, nieces, and a nephew have married. Each family was deeply grateful for the wedding, but remarked that the detailed preparations were demanding. Their preparations had to do with the ritual (the wedding ceremony) but also with processes that aimed to help the couple sustain a spiritual, holy, and deeply loving relationship.

You might wonder how preparing for a wedding relates to fasting.

When fasting is viewed as a preparation, it is seen in a more spiritual manner than simply “giving something up.” Some persons may view fasting as giving something up, and in a negative way, view the process as a trial. However, throughout the Church’s history, fasting has been a part of the preparation for both initiation (the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) as well as for repentance. Even today in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, the elect (those persons who are seeking Christian initiation) join with the Christian community—or rather, we join them—in fasting during the liturgical season of Lent in preparation for their initiation at the Paschal Vigil on Holy Saturday night. Fasting in this regard has two characteristics: preparation and penitence.

During Lent the elect and those already baptized as Christian mark the period with fasting. This period prepares the elect for life as a Christian, and those already Christian are reminded that they, too, are always on the journey of conversion, that is, of turning away from all that is not of God, what we call sin, and turning toward God’s call and presence, which heals us of sin and brings us into a deeper life of holiness. In an ancient liturgical rite, this was ritually marked by the elect turning toward the west, the direction of sin, evil, the Devil, and spitting while renouncing these very things. Then, turning to the east, the rising sun, that is the Son, Christ Jesus, they would affirm their faith in God the Father, Christ Jesus, who rose to take away sin, and the Spirit, who cleanses us of



Fasting is part of a process to deepen our discipleship.

sins and brings us into deeper union with the Father through Christ Jesus.

Lent, then, is when the parish community, and those seeking to become disciples within the Church, begin a period of purifying themselves so that God might liberate them for a deeper union with God. At the same time, all of us are called to deepen our life of holiness, both within the Church and during our daily lives, to follow God’s invitation to be holy in the world.

When fasting is viewed in a fuller context of preparation, it is not simply giving something up, but rather, the turning away from all that fractures our relationships with God, the Church, our families, and all humankind. Through the spiritual practice of fasting, then, we express our desire not to be held under the power of things and turn our attention toward growing in God’s call to holiness. During this Lent, we can ask ourselves how our fasting connects to preparing ourselves for deeper holiness and as a way of repentance, of turning from sin toward God’s gracious and merciful presence.

Fasting, then, is part of our process for deepening our discipleship.

Kristopher W. Seaman, DMX, is a doctoral student at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland. He is the former director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Gary. He earned a master of arts degree in liturgical studies from St. John’s University, Collegeville, Minnesota, and a master of arts degree in systematic theology and a doctorate of ministry from Catholic Theological Union.

Art by Rita Corbin. © 2015 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications, 3949 South Racine Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609; 1-800-933-1800; www.LTP.org. *Pastoral Liturgy* magazine, January/February 2015, www.PastoralLiturgy.org.

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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 HOURS:

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

LEVEL 8

On Sunday,
March 11,
meet in the
auditorium at
3:00 p.m.
for your
Confirmation
Retreat!

LEVEL 8

On Monday,
March 12,
meet in the
church
with a parent
at 7:15 p.m.
for your
Penance
Service!

LEVEL 6

On Wednesday,
March 14,
meet in the
church
with a parent
at 5:30 p.m.
for your
Penance
Service!

LEVEL 3

On Saturday,
March 17,
parents and
children
meet in the
auditorium for
a Parent/Child
Workshop
during
class time!

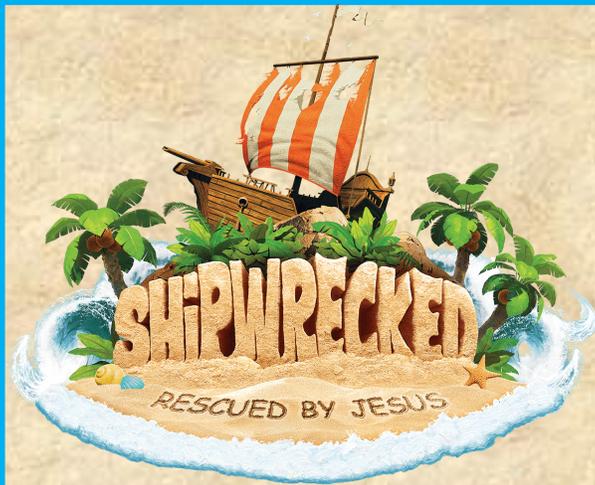
Here are some photos from the recent Level 6 Presentation on Human Dignity!



Guest speaker Nolan Reynolds spoke to OLPH Level 6 students about the concept of human dignity. They explored the theme of how we are all special because we are made in God's image. #youthministryrocks#



PARISH LIFE AND MINISTRY



Vacation Bible Camp

July 16th- July 20th

Bible Camp Preview Day

Sunday, March 18th

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

Come join us as we learn about this year's Bible Camp Theme—**Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus**. There will be hospitality, games, crafts, and singing. Middle School Campers will discover Service Camp as they make sandwiches for those in need. Early Registration for Bible Camp will be available.

CAMP SERVICE

HELP WANTED

Camp Service is our annual Middle School Summer Camp focusing on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. We need a ton of help and donations! This year's camp is July 16th—July 20th. If you can help a lot or a little, please contact Ann Marie Wagner, 631-680-9477 or AMWagner@optonline.net Watch this space each week for what we need!

**We need any left over Christmas Cards
Please leave in the sacristy labeled for
"Camp Service"**



IMPORTANT NOTICE AFFECTING ALL CHILDREN OF THE PARISH

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

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

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

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

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

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

FR. FIDELIS NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Move Around With Us, Inc.

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

(Charitable donation tax letter available upon request)



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

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

NEW Food Pantry List!

- CANNED MEAT**
- CANNED TUNA**
- PASTA SAUCE WITH MEAT**
- CANNED SOUP WITH MEAT**
- PANCAKE MIX/SYRUP**
- CANNED FRUIT**
- FRUIT JUICES**
- PEANUT BUTTER/JELLY**
- COOKIES**
- SUGAR**

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

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Located in Room 24 of the School
 Use Parking Lot located
 on corner of Gates & High Streets
631.226.7725 x. 234

The office is open:
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
 9:00 a.m.—12:00 Noon

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

In today’s Gospel, God demonstrates great love for us by sending his Son so that we may believe in him. We demonstrate our great love for God by doing good works: reaching out to others, acting in justice and charity.

Through your almsgiving you are performing a good work, far greater than you think. Know that your nickel, dime, quarter or dollar is multiplied by the coins placed by others in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box.

† A LIVING MEMORIAL

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

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

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

OUR MISSION

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



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

*As a Living Memorial
 to the life of*

A donation has been made by

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

Please accept our sincere condolences for your loss.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

HOMELESS MINISTRY

DONATIONS

We are in need of the following items:

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

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

Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Office from 9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m. daily and 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. on the weekends.

MIDDLE AGES

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

**Tuesday, March 20
is cancelled due to Parish Mission**

Meetings are usually held on the first and third weeks of the month at 7:00 p.m. in Room 24 of the “new” school. For more information, call Gail Tonnessen at 631-957-1449 or e-mail at gtonness@optonline.net

SENIOR MOMENTS

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

**Tuesday, March 13
9:00 a.m. Room 24**
Fran Grasso—631-956-3003
sixfingers13@gmail.com

VIRTUS TRAINING

VIRTUS TRAINING IN SPANISH

**THURSDAY,
MARCH 22**

7:00 p.m. in ROOM 1

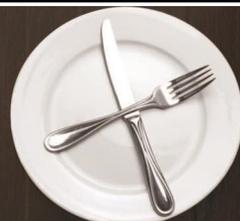
TRAINING IS REQUIRED

**FOR ALL PARISH OFFERERS IN
ALL MINISTRIES.**

Registration *MUST* be done online.
Simply go to drvc.org, then Protecting God's Children to the Virtus training schedule.
Find the date and OLPH to register.



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



COMMUNITY MEAL MINISTRY

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

*Our next Community Meal is
Sunday, March 18
Come and pray with us at the
12:00 p.m. Mass then join us
for "Sunday Dinner" at 1:00 p.m.*



PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

WE REMEMBER

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

Donald Chiodo
Margaret Leahy

“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...

Joseph Pugh
Charlotte O’Kobrick
Peter Leyden
Isabella Belen
Cynthia Breitfeller
Marjorie Santoli
Beata Konopka
Kathy Stanton
Marilyn Russo
Theresa Gloria Madonia
Paula DiBernardo
Mary Clark
Nettie Deasey
Patricia Lamprecht
Rose Pentaleri
Alvin Wickenheiser
Jean DeStasio

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

BRINGING FORWARD THE OFFERINGS OF BREAD AND WINE



If the announced intention at Mass is for your intention, or if you have memorialized the bread and wine, and you would like to carry those offerings forward at the Presentation of the Gifts during Mass, please be sure to let the ushers know this before the Mass begins. They will be happy to have you do this. If no one steps forward to specifically request this, then they will select people from the assembly.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

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

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



PERPETUAL HELP MASS **SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018** **AT 12:00 P.M. MASS**

Krystyna & Wladyslaw Tuchaj	Requested by Jolanta Tuchaj-Domagala
Beata Konopka (<i>Living</i>)	Requested by Beata Konopka
Patricia Ross	Requested by Lisa Grieco
John D. Pennekamp	Requested by Barbara Aiello

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, March 12, 2018— Lenten Weekday

6:30	Irene Smith
12:15	Anne Rennick

TUESDAY, March 13— Lenten Weekday

6:30	Jack Cannizzaro
12:15	Antonia Portelli

WEDNESDAY, March 14— Lenten Weekday

6:30	Lindsey Mari
12:15	Keivia Judith Martinez

THURSDAY, March 15— Lenten Weekday

6:30	Jack Cannizzaro
12:15	Mary Elena Leon

FRIDAY, March 16— Lenten Weekday

6:30	Theresa Grasso
12:15	Mildred Barthelson

SATURDAY, March 17— Lenten Weekday (*Saint Patrick, Bishop*)

8:00	Marie Foster
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Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated): FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00	For the People of the Parish
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Sunday, March 18 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00	Elizabeth Dorso
10:00	Living & Deceased Members of the Christian Mothers & Guild
12:00	Perpetual Help Mass (Listing on p. 20)
5:00	For the People of the Parish

Monday, March 12, 2018

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
1:30 p.m.	St. Vincent Business Meeting	Room 24
7:00 p.m.	Devotions	Church
7:15 p.m.	Level 8 Penance Service	Church

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

9:00 a.m.	Senior Moments	Room 24
4:15 p.m.	Altar Server Meeting	Church
5:45 p.m.	Pastoral Staff Meeting	St. Lucy
6:45 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
7:45 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Board Meeting	Room 18
8:00 p.m.	Community of Praise	Room 16
8:00 p.m.	Squires	Room 19

Wednesday, March 14, 2018

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
12:45 p.m.	Exposition	Church
1:45 p.m.	Legion of Mary	Room 24
5:30 p.m.	Level 6 Penance Service	Church
6:00 p.m.	Homeless Van Run	Room 10
7:30 p.m.	Level 7 Classes	School
8:00 p.m.	Christian Mothers Meeting	Cafeteria

Thursday, March 15, 2018

1:00 p.m.-on	Church closed for cleaning	Church
1:30 p.m.	Clifton Strengths Training	Room 18
7:00 p.m.	Youth Choir Rehearsal	Room 16
7:00 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Group	Cafeteria
7:30 p.m.	Baptismal Prep Class for Parents	Room 16
7:30 p.m.	RCIA	Room 19
7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous	Room 24
8:00 p.m.	CYO Basketball Coordinators	Room 22

Friday, March 16, 2018

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
10:00 a.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
3:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	Church
7:30 p.m.	Passion, Praise & Paschal Mystery	Church

Saturday, March 17, 2018

8:30; 10:00 a.m.	Level 3 Parent/Child Workshop Levels 1, 2, 4, 5, & Sp. Ed	Auditorium School
1:00 p.m.	CYO Basketball	Auditorium
1:30 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry	Room 24
1:30 p.m.	Blue Door Boutique	Convent
4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
7:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria

Sunday, March 18, 2018

9:30 a.m.	VBC Preview/Registration	Outside
10:00 a.m.	CYO Track Registration	Room 12
10:00 a.m.	RCIC	Room 18
12:00 p.m.	RCIA	Church
12:45 p.m.	Junior Legion of Mary	Room 24
1:00 p.m.	Community Meal	Cafeteria
1:00p.m.	CYO Basketball	Auditorium
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer/Holy Hour	Church
7:30 p.m.	Parish Mission	Church
8:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria

SERVING AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Directory of Phone Extensions

Name	Ext	Email
Carmel Becker, Bulletin	246	cbecker@oloph.org
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Pastor	206	msgjrjoe@oloph.org
Fr. Fidelis Ezeani, Associate Pastor	226	fadaprince4christ@yahoo.com
Faith Formation Office	253	religioused@oloph.org
Christopher Ferraro, Director of Music	210	cferraro@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@oloph.org
Frank Pokorney, Business Manager	204	fpokorney@oloph.org
Rectory Reception Desk	200	
St. Vincent de Paul	234	stvincentdepaul@oloph.org
Josephine Vagelatos, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor	206	jvagelatos@oloph.org
Fr. Frank Zero, Associate Pastor	203	fzero@oloph.org

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

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

ADULT CONFIRMATION

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

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

YOUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

Jean Bjork
Tricia Buckley (Chair)
Eileen Corticchia
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Greg Guido
Sonia Hansen
Joselyn Kalt
Melissa McLaughlin
Kevin Sabella, Jr.
Kevin Sabella, Sr.
James Totino
Peter Triolo
Adele Venezia

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

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

Gerry Chille
John Reynolds

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

David Barrett
Bill Bendernagel
Gerry Chille (Chair)
Ed Cirella
Meg Danaher, CFP®, CLU®
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Bob Meade
Frank Pokorney
John Reynolds
Sandra Tandoi

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

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

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

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

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL PERPETUO SOCORRO,

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

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

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

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

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

Reflexiones de las Lecturas del Domingo 5º de Cuaresma - Ciclo B

Cristo, el Hijo de Dios,
aprendió a obedecer a través del sufrimiento;
y así se hizo, para todos los que le obedecen,
fuente de salvación eterna.
Que este Señor, Jesús, esté siempre con ustedes

Primera Lectura (Jeremías 31,31-34): Una Nueva Alianza

En tiempo de mucha infidelidad, Dios promete una nueva Alianza, una nueva unión de vida y amor de Dios con su pueblo. Se guiarán por la ley interior de amor en sus corazones.

Segunda Lectura (Hebreos 5,7-9): La Muerte de Jesús es Nuestra Fuente de Vida

Jesús tenía miedo al sufrimiento y a la muerte; sin embargo, los aceptó por lealtad al Padre y por amor a nosotros. Con su muerte nos trajo vida.

Evangelio (Juan 12,20-30): Morir para Dar Vida a Otros

Muriendo en tierra, el grano de trigo produce una rica cosecha. Muriendo en la cruz, Jesús nos da vida eterna. También los discípulos de Jesús deben arriesgar sus vidas por los demás.

Todos los que cultivan plantas, incluso gente de la ciudad que aman las flores, saben que las semillas tienen que morir en la tierra para que los retoños puedan brotar de ellas y darnos flores llenas de color, La semilla tiene que morir para dar vida. – De la misma manera, Jesús murió para darnos vida. Y nosotros, sus discípulos hoy, tenemos que seguir sus huellas. Tenemos que entregarnos a nosotros mismos para que los otros sean felices y vivan. San Pablo dice con Jesús: "Nadie vive para sí mismo". ¿Podemos decir eso de nosotros mismos?

"A menudo me sorprende que hombres y mujeres recorran la tierra maravillándose de sus altas montañas, de los profundos océanos, de las blancas arenas, de las islas más exóticas, de los pájaros más intrigantes del aire y de los peces del mar; y en todo este tiempo nunca se detengan a examinarse a sí mismos y maravillarse del infinito potencial que tenemos como seres humanos".

"La mayor parte de personas pueden decirte exactamente qué es lo que no quieren, pero muy pocas tienen la misma claridad acerca de lo que ellas quieren".

"Si tú no sabes qué es lo que quieres de la vida, todo te parecerá como un obstáculo o como una carga. Pero una de las grandes lecciones de la historia es que el mundo entero abre el camino para la gente que sabe lo que quiere y a donde va. Ten por seguro, que si no sabes por donde estás yendo en la vida, estás perdido". "Hay una crisis de compromiso en nuestra sociedad, pues las personas parecen no querer asumir compromisos, o si los asumen, son incapaces de satisfacerlos o cumplirlos". La razón profunda que explica ello es que hay "una gran falta de propósito en nuestras vidas ha invadido a la civilización moderna. En ausencia del auténtico significado y propósito de nuestras vidas, nosotros las sustituimos con cosas menores y superficiales".

"Por qué mucha gente joven se sumerge en juegos de video, alcohol, promiscuidad sexual, música ensordecedora y drogas? Es posible que ellas usen estas cosas para distraerse de la amenazante realidad de hacer frente a la vida sin significado y propósito, o por un vano e inútil intento de llenar ese vacío".

"Por miles de años, hombres y mujeres de diferentes edades, raza y cultura han querido entender el sentido de la vida. Las personas de nuestro tiempo no son diferentes. Las cinco interrogantes básicas que la humanidad anhela responder son: Quién soy? De dónde vengo? Hacia dónde voy? Para qué estoy en este mundo?

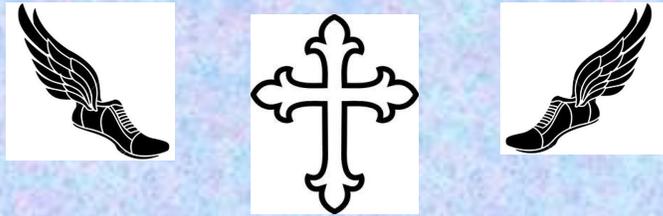
Cómo hago para vivir en él?....todo esto es el resultado de una vida dirigida netamente por el hombre.

Sin DIOS.

Día 33º. DOMINGO QUINTO (18 de marzo)

OFFERING UPDATE March 3/4, 2018

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	338	139	\$4,286.00
8:00 a.m.	270	125	3,497.00
10:00 a.m.	463	139	3,079.00
12:00 p.m.	410	139	3,394.00
5:00 p.m.	206	38	1,491.00
Coin			28.27
Mail-ins:			1,175.00
Children's Env.		20	37.50
Faith Direct			2,359.25
Special Needs	58	16	450.00
TOTAL	1,745	616	\$19,797.02
2017 total	1,915	653	\$18,602.03
Candles			\$943.33
Poor Box			\$445.28
1st Saturday			\$233.27



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REGISTER IN PERSON

Sunday March 18, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
in OLPH school room #12

Or—fill out registration form (available online),
and mail or drop off at the rectory

QUESTIONS?

Contact Coach Joe Artusa @ 631-225-0410
Or Luke Farrell @ 516-343-5434

UPDATE YOUR PARISH CENSUS INFORMATION!

We are continuing the process of updating our Parish Census Database with “Phase II” of the process. A large mailing has gone out to all registered parishioners who did not return updated Census Forms during “Phase I.” **When you receive that mailing, please complete the Census Form and return it as soon as possible.** It is vitally important that we keep our census information as accurate and up-to-date as possible.

Your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about whether or not you have updated your records, you can always call the parish office and ask. You can also stop down and pick up a new Census Form at the rectory any time during normal business hours. Thank you for your cooperation and assistance.



**2018 OLPH GOAL:
\$109,400
PLEDGES: \$86,112
(UNDER GOAL BY
\$22,288)
OF DONORS: 327
% OF GOAL: 79.6**



DEADLINES FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

**March 18—passed
March 25—March 16
April 1—March 23**

**PREPARING FOR Sunday, March 18, 2018—
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

Jesus said, “Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit.”

John 12:24

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Jeremiah prophesied during a very difficult and turbulent period in the history of the Jewish people. The northern kingdom (Israel) had been conquered by the Assyrians years earlier and the southern kingdom (Judah) was besieged by the Babylonians with many of its citizens forced into exile. Against this backdrop, Jeremiah gives one of the most beautiful of biblical prophecies, which we hear today. His words of consolation soar with the poetry of healing, hope, and newness. It’s a promise of coming days when the old covenant between God and the Jews will be transformed, based solely on God’s choice to care for the ones he loves so dearly. The old covenant was written on stone tablets. This one will be written on their hearts: I will be your God and you will be my people.

Hebrews 5:7-9

Here is a short but beautiful selection from the letter to the Hebrews which should give us great encouragement. Jesus was truly God and truly man. As man, he did what all other human beings do (except sin): he wept, he prayed, he cried out to God, he suffered. Through suffering he learned obedience to his Father and became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him. It’s good to know that we have permission to cry out to God in our pain and suffering, just as Jesus did. It’s even better to know that by following Christ in this way and in all ways that we will have eternal life.

John 12:20-33

Next week is Palm Sunday when we begin to retell the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Savior, Jesus. This week, in this reading, we hear Jesus foretell it as he says that “the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.” He must lay down his life to take it up again for the salvation of the entire world, like a grain of wheat falling to the ground to die and then be reborn. It’s the purpose for which he came into the world, all for the glory of the name of the Father. We hear how a voice from heaven confirms this. The message is as clear as it is challenging and hopeful: whoever wants eternal life must do the same by losing their life in order to save it.

Gospel Reflection Questions....

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

1. When Jesus thought about what was coming he said, “I am troubled now. Yet what should I say?” What are some of the things that trouble you? Who do you call on when you are troubled?

2. “ ... Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat, but if it dies, it produces much fruit.” How is the way of self-denial opposite to the way of egoism? Which gives life to others?



Readings for the Week

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

Monday, March 12, 2018:

Isaiah 65:17-21 + John 4:43-54

Tuesday, March 13, 2018:

Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12 + John 5:1-16

Wednesday, March 14, 2018:

Isaiah 49:8-15 + John 5:17-30

Thursday, March 15, 2018:

Ezekiel 32:7-14 + John 5:31-47

Friday, March 16, 2018:

Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22

+ John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday, March 17, 2018:

Jeremiah 11:18-20

+ John 7:40-53

Sunday, March 18, 2018:

Jeremiah 31:31-34

+ Hebrews 5:7-9

+ John 12:20-33

DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NEWS

Come meet Dr. Michael Hoonhout speaking on: *Flannery O'Connor and the Shocking Violence of Grace*. In her short stories and novels the Catholic writer Flannery O'Connor often used violence to convey grace to her characters, a way of 'shouting' to moderns grown deaf to divine mystery. No registration required. Sunday, **March 18th** at 2:00—4:00 p.m., Library at Seminary of the Immaculate Conception 440 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY 11743 For directions or information, call 631-423-0483 ext. 141 or email us at: libraryweb@icseminary.edu. Refreshments served.

Good Samaritan Hospital will hold a *HOSPITAL TRAINING* seminar on **March 21st** from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. conducted by the pastoral care staff at Good Samaritan Hospital. Please contact Elizabeth Cook 631-376-4103 for information and registration or Peter O'Neill at 631-226-6340.

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

Magnificat, a Ministry to Catholic Women, cordially invites you to attend a *Lenten Day of Reflection - "Journey to the Cross,"* to have a deeper experience of reflection, meditation, and prayer, as we prepare for Holy Week on Saturday, **March 24th**, at St. Agnes Cathedral, Ministries Bldg., Rockville Centre, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person (bring your own lunch), and pre-registration is required. Please make checks payable to "Magnificat" and mail to: Judy Murphy, 42 Pinehurst Street, Lido Beach, NY 11561. *Checks must be received by March 19th*. Payment will not be accepted at the door. For additional information, please contact Judy at (917) 453-5750. Come and bring a friend, as we prepare for Holy Week!

Part-time Maintenance Helper position. St. Joseph's RCC Church, Babylon seeking person for Monday—Friday 11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Various duties include maintenance, operations, snow plowing, knowledge of stripping & waxing floors & industrial cleaning chemicals; plumbing and electrical skills a plus. Must be able to lift 50 lbs. High School degree required. Send resume to Anna Rose Regan, Business Manager, St. Joseph Parish Center, 39 Carll Ave., Babylon, NY 11702 or fax 631-669-9175 or call 631-669-0068 x159.

Part-time Maintenance Worker. St. Joseph's RCC Church, Babylon seeking person for Monday—Friday 7:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Duties include overseeing maintenance helpers, assisting upkeep of all parish facilities & parish cemetery; handling parish emergencies; light carpentry, painting, electrical and plumbing repairs; snow plowing and maintenance of equipment. Must be able to lift 50 lbs. High School degree required. Send resume to Anna Rose Regan, Business Manager, St. Joseph Parish Center, 39 Carll Ave., Babylon, NY 11702 or fax 631-669-9175 or call 631-669-0068 x159.



OLPH Christian Mothers & Guild

Annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale

Saturday, March 24th, 5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, March 25th, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; 5:00 p.m. Mass



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