

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

210 South Wellwood Avenue + Lindenhurst, New York 11757 +

Telephone: 631-226-7725 + Fax: 631-225-9597 +

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



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*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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 17, 2024

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, Deacon James Totino

Business Manager: Mr. Gerry Chille

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

Music Director: Miss Erin Barrett

COME AND PRAY...

Our church is open Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays until 6:30 p.m. The church closes after the 12:15 p.m. Mass on Thursdays and Fridays, after the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturdays (except First Saturdays, when there is Nocturnal Adoration until 9:30 p.m.) and after the 12:00 Noon Mass on Sundays (or after the 2:00 p.m. Baptisms when those are celebrated). Also, the church will close after the last Mass on all holidays and holy days when parish offices are closed, regardless of the day of the week. Come in and spend some time in prayer whenever the church is open!

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.

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

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.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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

DEVOTIONS

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

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

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

First Fridays and First Saturdays:

As announced in bulletin

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

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

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

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with the Our Lady of Perpetual Help App

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Made with ❤️ by Diocesan

*New number
to download
the Parish App!*
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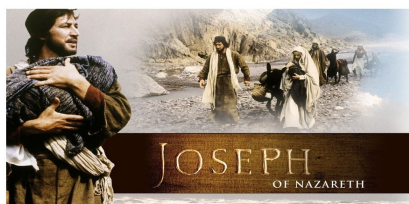
*The old number 88202
is no longer in effect!*



THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of March 17, 2024

WATCH



Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Christ

Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!

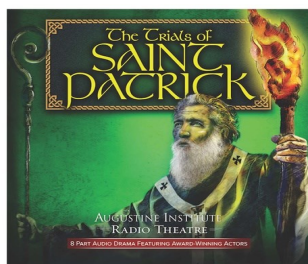
LEARN



An Encounter with Mercy | Forgiven | Session 2

We are not defined by our mistakes. In Confession, Jesus invites us to encounter his mercy and be healed by his love. When he tells us "Go and sin no more," he also gives us the grace to do so.

LISTEN



The Trials of Saint Patrick

The Trials of Saint Patrick, a powerful journey through hardship, loss, mercy, and forgiveness. With skilled actors and cinematic elements, this captivating story comes to life, stirring the imagination and sparking inspiration.

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PASTOR'S COLUMN

Fifth Sunday of Lent

There are now less than two weeks left before we begin the Sacred Paschal Triduum — we're at the Fifth Sunday of Lent! We have a visual reminder that we have reached this point in this holy season: the statues and images in church have been covered or removed. We are starkly aware that the celebration of the Lord's Passion is rapidly approaching.

As evidence that our holiest days of entering into the Paschal Mystery of the Lord's Death and Resurrection are drawing near, the Collect (Opening Prayer) for the Mass of the Fifth Sunday of Lent specifically mentions how the Son of God *"handed himself over to death."* Along with remembering that act of perfect love, the prayer asks that we may *"walk eagerly in that same charity."* In other words, Jesus' death on the cross as an offering of love cannot remain some remote and disconnected example for us, but rather, it must be the actual pattern of living that we imitate daily. We must hand ourselves over to God and to others in complete love and self-sacrifice, in imitation of Christ. When we hear about *"the teachings of the Christian faith"* in the Prayer over the Offerings, we should think of a whole way of life that follows Christ's example of self-emptying. Additionally, this life of self-emptying in imitation of Christ is never something that we live in isolation; rather, we live it as members of the Christian community, the Body of Christ. Therefore, the Prayer after Communion prays *"that we may always be counted among the members of Christ, in whose Body and Blood we have communion."*

Ponder the meaning of these Mass texts during this fifth week of Lent as we draw closer to our holiest days of the year, when we celebrate so powerfully and in such a focused way the Paschal Mystery of the Death and Resurrection of the Lord.

St. Patrick's Day and St. Patrick's Parade

March 17 is St. Patrick's Day, so "Happy St. Patrick's Day" to all who celebrate the day, especially those of Irish heritage! May the day be a day of joy and blessings for those who celebrate it.

The Lindenhurst St. Patrick's Parade will take place this Saturday, March 23. Once again it will be a great community event and I am proud to march in it. I'm pleased that OLPH is always such a tremendous part of the parade, especially because the festivities begin with the 8:00 a.m. Saturday Mass here at OLPH. So, everyone: begin the day

with its proper spiritual focus by attending Mass at 8:00 that morning. Let's have a tremendous OLPH showing!

Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This Tuesday, March 19, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The day is an important one and is given the rank of Solemnity in the liturgical calendar, which means that the day takes precedence over the Lenten day. Because of this high liturgical rank, we will have music at our weekday 12:15 p.m. Mass on Tuesday, so we can properly observe the Solemnity. The *Glory to God in the highest* returns to Mass, and the Creed is said, too. All these liturgical elements mark for us the prominence of this day that celebrates the saint who is the Patron of the Universal Church and the patron of workers, of carpenters, and of fathers.

St. Joseph was the foster-father of Jesus, entrusted with Jesus' care and upbringing. We celebrate St. Joseph as, to use the words of the Mass for that day, that *"just man"* given by God *"as spouse to the Virgin Mother of God and set as a wise and faithful servant"* in charge of the Holy Family, *"to watch like a father"* over God's Only Begotten Son. The model of humility and quiet service given to us by St. Joseph is something to ponder deeply.

Of course, let's not forget another important part of St. Joseph's Day—THE PASTRIES!!! As we have announced elsewhere in the bulletin, we are inviting those who come to the two weekday Masses on St. Joseph's Day, 6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m., to bring bread and pastries from their St. Joseph's table to be blessed. St. Joseph's Day is a great day for Italians to celebrate and be proud of their Italian heritage, since we know, of course, that St. Joseph was Italian(!).

May your St. Joseph's Day be a holy and festive one!

Palm Sunday Procession at the Sunday 12:00 Noon Mass

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday! The formal liturgical title for the day is "Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord." "On this day the Church recalls the entrance of Christ the Lord into Jerusalem to accomplish his Paschal Mystery." (*Roman Missal*) With this day we enter into Holy Week, a week which culminates in the Great Three Days of the Sacred Paschal Triduum.

As the Church asks us to do, we are once again celebrating a special **Procession for Palm Sunday; it will be at the 12:00 Noon Mass on Sunday, March 24** (this year moved from the Saturday night Mass, when we have held it in the past). What a gift it is to be able to celebrate this Mass in this way! I would like everyone to stretch themselves a little bit and be willing to participate in the Procession. Sure, it requires a little extra effort on our part, but since liturgy is the most important thing we do, and since Holy Week is our most important week, we should make the extra effort. So, there is to be no grumbling at the 12:00 Mass next Sunday about the extra effort of starting in the auditorium and then joining in the Procession! Please note the following details related to our Palm Sunday Procession:

- At 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, the doors of the church will be locked. Everyone attending the 12:00 Mass will gather in the school auditorium, where we will assemble for the **Procession**. Ushers will assist in directing people to the auditorium.

- The handicapped and others who would have difficulty walking will be allowed to enter the church, and they will wait there for the Procession to arrive. Please: this is for only the truly handicapped — not just because you don't want to walk in procession!

- **Mass begins in the auditorium with Entrance Rites particular to this Sunday.** Then, after those rites, we **process in song** from the auditorium, along Wellwood Avenue, into the church.

- Mass then continues in the church.

- In case of inclement weather, we will simply gather in the church as usual.

Those who have participated in this Procession in past years know how beautiful it is to mark Palm Sunday this way. The Church gives us a special gift by asking us to include this Procession at a principal Mass. What a beautiful expression of prayer it is to pray with our bodies as we walk the journey of entering Jerusalem with the Lord! What a powerful way to mark our entry into this holiest of weeks!

Even if you don't usually come to the 12:00 Noon Mass on Sundays, why not do so next week for Palm Sunday? You'll be glad you did! I hope you will take advantage of this great opportunity to enter Holy Week by joining in this beautiful special liturgy.

Special schedule for Easter Sunday

Please note that there is a special schedule for

the Masses on Easter Sunday. The schedule for Easter Sunday is printed elsewhere in this bulletin, is posted on signs at all the church entrances, and is printed in the mailing sent out some time ago. (The schedule of Masses on Palm Sunday is the same as our usual weekend Mass schedule.)

Stations of the Cross

There's one more week for our Friday night Stations of the Cross — this Friday, March 22, at 7:30 p.m. We will also pray the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, March 29, at 12:00 Noon.

Then, don't forget to be at the special Easter Time devotion, the Stations of the Resurrection, which will be prayed on Friday within the Octave of Easter ("Easter Friday"), April 5.

Still looking for sinners! Confessions this Saturday, March 23, and Monday, March 25, the Diocesan Day of Reconciliation

On this coming Saturday, March 23, the Saturday of Palm Sunday, **all four of us priests will be available for Confession 3:00-4:45 p.m.—take your pick of who you go to!** Take note of the **special extended time** for Confessions this coming Saturday.

Also, don't forget about the Diocesan Day of Recollection, which is on Monday of Holy Week, March 25. On that day at OLPH, as well as in every parish in the Diocese of Rockville Centre (and in the Brooklyn Diocese and the Archdiocese of New York, too!), priests will be available for Confession continuously from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and again 6:00-9:00 p.m. Once again, all four of us parish priests will be available the entire time, both periods.

Be sure to go to Confession as part of your Lenten journey, **especially if it has been a long time since you have gone to Confession. I promise you a very warm and welcoming experience, with no judgment and no lecturing or haranguing. IN FACT, JUST THE OPPOSITE: WE HAVE TREMENDOUS RESPECT FOR, AND JOY OVER, SOMEONE WHO COMES BACK TO CONFESSION AFTER A LONG TIME!** We would love to welcome you back! I often joke that we priests get more "points" for the longer someone has been away when they come back to us for Confession, so help us to earn those "heavenly points"!!!

I promise you that there will be no better feeling than hearing those words of forgiveness, "I absolve you from your sins..." from the priest. Finally, once and for all, you can leave that sin

behind and be free! Come to Confession! Sinners wanted and welcome! There's no better way to get ready for Easter!

Easter Spiritual Bouquet Cards

Easter Spiritual Bouquet cards are now available throughout the church and at the rectory. As is our custom, all the Masses on Easter Sunday will be for the intentions of the Easter Spiritual Bouquet Cards. If you would like to participate in this beautiful custom of prayer and remembrance, and to have your intentions prayed for at Easter Sunday Masses, please use the cards and envelopes available and be sure to return them before Easter Sunday to the rectory.

Needed and wanted: new Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and Ushers

We are now recruiting new Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Ushers. See the ad elsewhere in this bulletin for all the details.

I need everyone to realize that I am speaking to YOU — yes, YOU! — and inviting YOU to join one of these ministries. It is a beautiful offering and service that you give to the parish by serving in this way, and it brings you closer to Christ. You shouldn't wait for "someone else" to step forward — it's time for YOU!

I look forward to hearing from YOU about joining and serving in one of those liturgical ministries. Check out the ad elsewhere in this bulletin.

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2024

As you heard at Mass this weekend, we are now kicking off the 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal. Thank you to all who have already contributed to this year's Catholic Ministries Appeal. I am very grateful. I ask everyone to please send in your pledge. You are not only supporting the ministries of the Catholic Church throughout all of Nassau and Suffolk Counties, but you are also helping OLPH as we share in the rebate for all monies raised. This rebate money is income that we desperately need, so please support OLPH by participating in the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Thank you for your generosity!

Begin planning now to attend the liturgies of the Sacred Paschal Triduum

You should begin now to make your plans and arrangements to attend the liturgies of the Sacred Paschal Triduum, our holiest days of the

year. The Sacred Paschal Triduum, our Great Three Days, begins on Holy Thursday night, so "day one" runs from Holy Thursday night to Good Friday night; "day two" is Good Friday night to Holy Saturday night, the night we celebrate the great Easter Vigil; and "day three" is from Holy Saturday night to Easter Sunday night, as the Triduum concludes with Vespers (Evening Prayer) on Easter Sunday night.

On Holy Thursday evening, March 28, we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper; on Good Friday, March 29, the liturgy is the Celebration of the Passion of the Lord; on Holy Saturday night, March 30, we celebrate the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, and, of course, there are the Masses on Easter Sunday, March 31 (note that the schedule on Easter Sunday is different from the normal Sunday schedule). We also gather to celebrate Morning Prayer on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. These are once-a-year liturgies, and we'll be having a full explanation of the days of the Sacred Paschal Triduum and the liturgies celebrated those days in a special insert in the Palm Sunday bulletin next week; look for it.

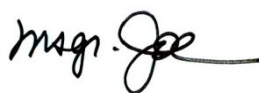
We should begin to think now about how we will set time aside to make those days of the Sacred Paschal Triduum different from other days — in other words, not business as usual. Maybe we should consider taking time off from work, in order to take a spiritual vacation during those days, and in order to be available to go to the liturgies. Maybe we need to think about how those days will be days of fasting — fasting not just from food, but from distractions such as shopping, technology, social media and entertainment. Since the liturgies of those days are so central to our faith, we should certainly plan on attending.

In conclusion...

Together, let's aim high in Christ. Together, let's bring out the best in each other. Together, let's be the best we can be in Christ.

And let's always remember: LOVE IS A GIFT.

Sincerely,



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Stations of the Cross

Fridays

March 22

at 7:30 p.m. in the church

March 29 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.

Friday, March 22 will be led by the Youth Service Corps.

And also, save the date... Friday, April 5—Stations of the Resurrection!



CONFESSIONS

Saturday March 23: 3:00 p.m.—4:45 p.m.

Monday of Holy Week, March 25:
2:00—4:00 p.m. and 6:00—9:00 p.m.

**Today's
the final
session!**

Prepare Your Heart for the Coming of the Lord

This season of Lent, as we prepare for the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord, the Adult Faith Formation program at OLPH is offering an uplifting experience to make ready for the Solemnity of Easter. **Continuing every Sunday through March 17**, 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. Handouts of the psalms will be provided. Come join us in breaking open the Word of the Lord.

HELP NEEDED TO WATER THE EASTER FLOWERS

Help keep our beautiful Easter plants and flowers alive! We need people to offer to take turns to come in and water the Easter plants and flowers during the seven weeks of Easter Time, starting the week of April 1. It will take only a little while once or twice a week, starting on Tuesdays at 12:45 p.m., and Saturdays with times to be announced, so your commitment will be minimal. Your responsibility will end when we return to Ordinary Time after May 19 (Pentecost). It's a great way to do something helpful for the parish that does not require a huge ongoing commitment. It's something you can bring your child with you to do! Won't you help us out? Please contact Denise Martinez at countrydee02@gmail.com or by TEXT ONLY at (631) 575-9519 and she'll give you all the details and sign you up. Thank you!



THE PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

Special Procession to Commemorate the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem **SUNDAY, MARCH 24 — 12:00 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!



Procession is at the **12:00 Noon Mass**

(not 5:00 p.m. — the 5 p.m. Mass will be a regular Mass for Palm Sunday)

For Sunday, March 24, please note:

- At 11:00 a.m., we are closing the church to all but the handicapped; people will be directed to the auditorium
- 12:00 Noon Mass begins in the auditorium, continues with the Procession, and continues in the church
- What a wonderful experience this has been in prior years, and will be again this year
- What a great way to pray and celebrate the mystery of Palm Sunday—with a Procession!
- In case of inclement weather, we will begin in the church

Even if you do not usually attend the 12:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, consider attending as together we begin the celebration of Holy Week.



PALM SUNDAY and EASTER SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULES:

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULES FOR THESE DAYS

Palm Sunday

Saturday, March 23

5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 24:

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

and 12:00 p.m. with Procession

(12:00 p.m. Mass begins in the auditorium)



SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR

Easter Sunday Masses

Saturday, March 30:

8:00 p.m. only

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

(NO 5:00 p.m. Mass)

Sunday, March 31:

7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.

and 1:00 p.m.

*** *note special times***



LENTEN ENVIRONMENT BEGINNING THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

We have taken the opportunity to 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 these 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.

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.

SPECIAL NOTE CONCERNING OFFERINGS FOR THE POOR ON HOLY THURSDAY

All who attend the Holy Thursday Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper are asked to bring an offering of food for the poor and homeless. Insofar as one of the principal mysteries commemorated on Holy Thursday is the Lord's command to love one another, as also ritualized in the Washing of Feet, this ritual expression of bringing offerings for the poor reminds us that "where true charity is dwelling, God is present there." Check the shopping list for the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry and bring one or more of those items. **REMEMBER, THOUGH: DO NOT BRING YOUR GIFT TO THE FRONT OF THE SANCTUARY BEFORE MASS BEGINS! HOLD ONTO IT — YOU WILL CARRY IT UP IN PROCESSION AT THE USUAL TIME OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS, AS DIRECTED BY THE USHERS.** This offering for the poor is the "collection" for that Mass. Thus, these offerings for the poor and the bread and wine for the celebration of the Eucharist will powerfully symbolize the offerings of ourselves and of our love for one another as we participate in the offering of the Mass.

FAST AND ABSTINENCE

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.

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



Tuesday, 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 on St. Joseph's Day. Therefore, we will be offering a blessing of bread, pastries (and any other St. Joseph's foods traditional to your family) at both our weekday Masses, at 6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m., on Tuesday, March 19. Join in celebrating St. Joseph's Day in this way by bringing your breads and pastries to be blessed!

HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR EASTER

We will be decorating the church for Easter on **Holy Saturday morning, March 30, 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? (Come to Morning Prayer, and then stay to help out!) It should not take much longer than an hour or so. Bring the kids and do this as a family — what a great way for your family to share in the joy of Easter! We appreciate whatever help you can give us.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

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

Mondays at 12:45 p.m.



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.



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.

FOR THOSE WITH CELIAC DISEASE

Special hosts are available for those with Celiac Disease who cannot receive Holy Communion using the usual bread. These hosts contain less than 0.001% gluten content and are approved for the Roman Catholic Church by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. If you need to receive Holy Communion using one of these hosts, please stop in the sacristy before Mass begins to discuss this with the priest. We will be happy to accommodate you.

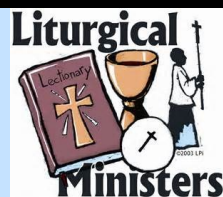
ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS



Today, on this Fifth Sunday of Lent, at the 12:00 Noon Mass, the elect in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults process (*i.e.*, those adults who are unbaptized and who will be celebrating the three Sacraments of Initiation — Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist — at the Easter Vigil) celebrate their third and final Scrutiny. The three Scrutinies prayed on the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Sundays of Lent have been special prayer rites for purification and enlightenment to prepare the elect for their sacramental initiation into the Church. Now their long journey of going through the RCIA process is reaching its climax.

Please continue to pray for our elect, Ameira, Helen, Diego, and Ailen, as they draw closer to the Sacraments of Initiation at this year's Easter Vigil.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY TRAINING



WE NEED YOU! WE WANT YOU!

**OLPH IS RECRUITING NEW LECTORS, USHERS AND
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

What do Extraordinary Ministers do?

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion assist the priests and deacons in the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass. Those who wish can also go on for extra training to bring Holy Communion to our homebound sisters and brothers.

How Do I Become An Extraordinary Minister?

1. You must contact Barbara McPhail at 631-226-1354 or e-mail to gospa254@gmail.com.
2. You must send a letter to Msgr. Joe at the Parish Office or e-mail to msgrjoe@oloph.org requesting to become a minister.
3. You must meet with Msgr. Joe for an interview.
4. You must attend one of the diocesan training sessions (see below). If you wish to also bring Holy Communion to the sick and homebound, you must attend a separate "Part B" training session. Information about that session can be obtained in your interview with Msgr. Joe.

What do Lectors do?

Lectors proclaim the Scriptures and sometimes the Intercessions at Sunday and daily Mass and at other liturgies.



How Do I Become A Lector?

1. You must contact Robert Becker at 631-226-6175 or email to DeaconRobert9550@gmail.com
2. You must attend one of the diocesan training sessions.

LECTORS

Tuesday, April 16, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

at St. Elizabeth Parish, Melville

(Our own Msgr. Joe will be

the presenter at this one on April 16!)

Saturday, April 27, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

at Immaculate Conception Parish, Westhampton Beach*

Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

at St. Christopher Parish, Baldwin

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, "PART A" FOR ALL MINISTERS

Tuesday, April 16, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

at St. Elizabeth Parish, Melville

(Our own Msgr. Joe will be

the presenter at this one on April 16!)

Saturday, April 27, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

at Immaculate Conception Parish, Westhampton Beach*

Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

at St. Christopher Parish, Baldwin

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, "PART B" FOR THOSE WHO WILL BRING COMMUNION TO THE SICK

Saturday, April 27, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.,

at Immaculate Conception Parish, Westhampton Beach*

Tuesday, May 14, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

at St. Elizabeth Parish, Melville

Tuesday, June 4, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

at St. Christopher Parish, Baldwin

**Same day, Parts A and B—bring lunch*

or leave for lunch and return

What do Ushers do?

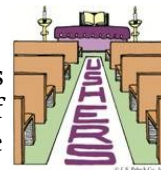
Ushers serve an important role in the liturgy! First and foremost, they are ministers of hospitality who welcome all those who come to liturgy. They help create an environment conducive to worship by the way they greet people with warmth and friendliness. Ushers also serve by guiding the movement of the assembly during processions such as the reception of Holy Communion and at other times. Taking up the collection is another way Ushers serve the assembly.

Who Should Become an Usher?

Anyone, including teens who have received Confirmation, can become an Usher. This is a great ministry for families to do together...the young ones can do this with parents and older children!

How Do I Become an Usher?

You should contact Mike Williams at olphushersministry@gmail.com or, if you don't have e-mail, leave a message for Msgr. Joe at the Parish Office, 631-226-7725 and he will pass the message along to Mike.



All liturgical ministers must complete a Volunteer Registration Form, have Virtus training and be a registered parishioner. For information about becoming Virtus compliant: contact Helene Calabrese at hcalab2@optonline.net.



*Memorialize your loved ones or your
prayer intention in our
“Let the Children Come to Me”
Prayer Garden!*

Your Name(s) _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Make checks payable to: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Mail or return form in person to:
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
Attn: Brick Memorialization
Linda Coppola
210 South Wellwood Avenue
Lindenhurst, NY 11757

Please print the inscription as it is to appear on the brick (3 lines/15 characters per line maximum).

Each box represents one letter, number, character or space. The pavers will be engraved in all capital letters.

If you would like to add a heart or a cross to your brick, it will be engraved on the left hand side.

[illegible]

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION**REGULAR OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday: 9:00 a.m. –3:00 p.m.
 Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 Wednesday: 12:00 p.m. -8:00 p.m.
 Thursday: 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Friday: CLOSED
 Saturday: By Appointment Only

LEVELS 1-5:

Remember that there are no classes
 at all this Saturday, March 23.
 Enjoy your Palm Sunday weekend!

LEVEL 8:

Remember that there is a Penance
 Service this Wednesday, March 20.
 Please meet in the church
 at your usual class time.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!!

Early Registration for returning families
 began March 1st. There is a \$30 discount
 for all families that register before May
 31st. After June 1st, the regular
 registration fee will be in effect
 for ALL registrations. For any late
 registrations that come in after July 31st
 there will be an additional \$30 late fee.

We continue to encourage all families
 with children who will be beginning 1st
 grade (or older) who have not yet begun
 religious education to register for
 religious education. All new families
 must schedule an appointment
 in order to register and
 must come with a baptismal certificate.

Saint of the Day!**St. Joseph**

St. Joseph was Jesus's caretaker
 during his life, and is Mary's
 chaste spouse. He is part of the
 Holy Family and did everything in
 his power to keep his family safe.
 He had a vision from an angel
 telling him to go to Egypt with
 Mary and Jesus, because Jesus'
 life was in danger. The family
 stayed there until Joseph had
 another dream from the angel
 telling him it was safe to return.
 He remained chaste his whole life.
 May he intercede for us always!



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 in the program**, and they and their parents participate in all the non-classroom religious formation experiences, especially but not only in sacrament-preparation years. **These children celebrate the sacraments here at OLPH**, not at the parish of their elementary school.

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

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.

OLPH CYO SPRING TRACK

GENERAL INFORMATION

OLPH TRACK IS FOR GIRLS & BOYS IN GRADES 1st THRU 8th

SPRING SEASON STARTS: early APRIL

SPRING SEASON ENDS: early JUNE

(these dates are approximate)

PRACTICES:

most often are TUESDAY & THURSDAY EVENINGS at LINDENHURST MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK, but location & times may differ depending on availability

practices start at 6:30 and last for 60-90 minutes (typically)

TRACK MEETS:

- There are usually 4 or 5 meets PER SEASON
- Meets begin after the first 3rd or 4th week of practice
- meets are Saturday OR Sunday
- common meet locations: *RONKONKOMA, MASSA-PEQUA, LINDENHURST, PATCHOGUE, HOLBROOK*

TYPICAL EVENTS:

- Dashes of 55m, 100m, 200m

- Relays of various distances
- Mile run for older kids

REGISTRATION FEE: \$80

REGISTER ONLINE:

WWW.LEAGUELINEUP.COM/OLPHCYO

online registration opens in Feb or July, respectively

IN PERSON REGISTRATION:

SUNDAY, MARCH 17TH, 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

@ the OLPH DOWNSTAIRS CAFETERIA

(enter on HIGH STREET SIDE, between Rectory & Auditorium)

UNIFORM:

An OLPH TRACK T-SHIRT is required for meets.

T-SHIRT cost is \$10 and is separate from registration fee.

T-SHIRT can be paid for at IN-PERSON REGISTRATION or at an early season practice. It cannot be paid for online at this time. You can reuse T-SHIRT from the previous season if you'd like.

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
- † Hospital Visitors: Peter O'Neill—631.226.6340—oneillp@optonline.net
- † Respect Life Ministry: Louise Perrotta—631.412.3831—louiseperrotta123@gmail.com
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Valerie Baxter—631.226.7725, x. 234
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker Paolo—631.226.6175—jbecker@oloph.org

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Located in the “New” School Building

Use Parking Lot located on corner of
Gates & High Streets

631.226.7725 x. 234

The office is open:

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

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

As of April 1 we will no longer be open on Saturdays.

In the Gospel today, Jesus says, “Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.” When we help the poor, we are truly followers of Jesus, servant of the poor.

As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul poor box, know that you are a sign of God’s love to those who are suffering, and you give them Easter hope and joy.

NEW Food Pantry List!

TEA
SHELF STABLE WHOLE MILK
BAKED BEANS
BROTHS/ GRAVIES
SOUPS WITH MEAT
CANNED MEALS
PEANUT BUTTER
JELLY OR JAM
FRUIT JUICE
COOKIES/SNACKS

Thank you
for your continued generosity.

Cut out this list
and bring it with you
when you go shopping!

THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

*During Lent please remember the Poor Boxes.
Each week the amount collected in the Poor Boxes
is listed in our bulletin.*

*You may wonder where that money goes.
Every coin, bill or check goes directly to our parish’s St. Vincent
de Paul Society to help serve those in need within our parish.
We use the funds to directly serve our neighbors who need food,
rent assistance or help paying a utility bill.
We are grateful to those who remember the Poor Boxes weekly.
Thank you for helping us help others.*



ANNUAL PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE

OLPH Confraternity of Christian Mothers & Guild



Annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale March 23 and 24

Following the Saturday 5:00 p.m. and all Sunday Masses

Located in the priest garages on High Street

Proceeds go for the benefit of OLPH

homemade baked goodies cakes, bread, cookies, cupcakes,
chocolates & basket raffle

cash only please



Auction/Trivia Night

Sponsored by The **Blue Door** Boutique

Date: Friday, April 19th

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: **O.L.P.H. Auditorium**

Admission: \$5, includes auction paddle and entrance to trivia quiz

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
Erin Barrett, Director of Music	210	ebarrett@oloph.org
Carmel Becker, Bulletin	246	cbecker@oloph.org
Carole Carrano, Parish Secretary	212	ccarrano@oloph.org
Gerry Chille, Business Manager	204	gchille@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
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@oloph.org
Fr. Emmanuel Okonkwo	223	emmaokons@yahoo.com
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 Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. Please contact Jeffrey Gaab at (631) 965-0076 or e-mail at jsg375@gmail.com to begin the process.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

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

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

YOUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

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

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

Bill Bendernagel
Bob Meade

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

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

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

Fauvette Auguste
Erin Barrett
Deacon Robert Becker
Mark Costantino
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Kenneth Hale
Jenine Jimenez-Spina
Denise Martinez
Barbara McPhail
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:

***Brendan Arena & Gina Alvino
John LaBianca & Stephanie Serwan***

WE CELEBRATE

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, has freed you from sin, given you new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, and joined you to his people.—Order of Baptism of Children



***Simon Francis Butler
Stella Rose Formichelli
Charlotte Christine Gregory
Jack Anthony Rawson***

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

PERPETUAL HELP MASS SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024 12:00 P.M. MASS

<i>For the Repose of the Souls of the McCarthy Family</i>	<i>Requested by the Estate of Rev. Thomas J. McCarthy</i>
<i>Rev. Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton</i>	<i>Requested by the Estate of Rev. Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton</i>
<i>Frank J. Farrugia</i>	<i>Requested by Lena Farrugia</i>
<i>Susan Joerger</i>	<i>Requested by Diane & Bill Bendernagel</i>
<i>Maria Ray</i>	<i>Requested by Annmarie & Mike Ferrante</i>
<i>Phyllis Dorian</i>	<i>Requested by Margaret Burtan</i>
<i>Frank J. Farrugia</i>	<i>Requested by Lena Farrugia</i>

Our Spring Bereavement will run March 16 to May 18 from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Registration required. Please call Linda Arpino 631-592-1062 or email forubabe77@gmail.com.

WE BELIEVE

We pray for the sick of our parish...

<i>Little Joanie Giarratano</i>	<i>Lena Farrugia</i>
<i>James Gridley</i>	<i>John Ogilvie</i>
<i>Erin Kelly</i>	<i>Patty Freapane</i>
<i>Catherine Wharry</i>	<i>Matthew Cangro</i>
<i>Mary Doran</i>	<i>Tom Sowden</i>
<i>John Jordan</i>	<i>Paul Leyden</i>
<i>Thomas Volpe</i>	<i>Joseph Pugh</i>
<i>Nora McMahon</i>	<i>Christopher Bovenzi</i>
<i>Patricia & Richard Kleczekowski</i>	<i>Steven Castiglione</i>
<i>Susan Walters</i>	<i>Christine Ajello-Larsen</i>
<i>Ritchie and MaryAnn Haas</i>	<i>Rev. Fr. Edward Seagriff</i>
<i>Larry Hoelger</i>	<i>Genevieve Popiel</i>
<i>John Kaszalka</i>	<i>Dilibeth Chirino</i>
<i>John Leyden</i>	<i>Dolores Lombardo</i>
<i>Janet Leyden</i>	

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

WE REMEMBER

We remember those who have died in our parish.

***Carol Matthews
Mary M. Anderson
Geraldine Ciancarelli
Tina Demuth
Mary Beth Czubay***

"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."

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, March 18—

Lenten Weekday

*(Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop
and Doctor of the Church)*

6:30 Frank Mondiello

12:15 Joan Messina

TUESDAY, March 19—

**SAINT JOSEPH,
SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

6:30 Joseph E. Abbamonte

12:15 Annette Walsh

WEDNESDAY, March 20—

Lenten Weekday

6:30 Frank Mondiello

12:15 George Tiganitakis

THURSDAY, March 21—

Lenten Weekday

6:30 Mildred Sredniawski

12:15 Malchiore Cucchiara

FRIDAY, March 22—

Lenten Weekday

6:30 John C. Keim

12:15 Annette Walsh

SATURDAY, March 23—

Lenten Weekday

8:00 Stephen R. Corcoran

**Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated):
SIXTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

5:00 Barbara Ann Dia

Sunday, March 24—

SIXTH SUNDAY OF LENT

8:00 Living & Deceased Members of the
Knights of Columbus Council 794

10:00 For the People of the Parish

12:00 Perpetual Help Mass *(List on p.18)*

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, March 18, 2024

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

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

12:45 p.m. Devotions Church

5:00 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal Church

7:00 p.m. Christian Mothers Meeting Room 18

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

7:00 p.m. Living the Eucharist School

7:15 p.m. Adult Confirmation Meeting St. Mark's
Room

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

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

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

12:45 p.m. Exposition Church

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

6:30 p.m. Levels 6 and 7 Classes School

6:30 p.m. Level 8 Penance Service Church

Thursday, March 21, 2024

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

4:30 p.m. Rehearsal for Palm Sunday
Procession Church

7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group Cafeteria

7:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal Church

8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous Room 24

Friday, March 22, 2024

9:00 a.m. St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Room 23

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

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

Saturday, March 23, 2024

11:30 a.m. Bereavement Ministry Room 22

1:30 p.m. Decorate the Church Church

3:00 p.m. Confessions Church

5:00 p.m. Christian Mothers Bake Sale Garage

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Church

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

Sunday, March 24, 2024

After all Christian Mothers Bake Sale Garage
Masses

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL PERPETUO SOCORRO,

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

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

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

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

Reflexiones de las Lecturas del Domingo 5ª semana de Cuaresma - Ciclo B Marzo 17 del 2024

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): Lectura de la carta a los hebreos (5,7-9):

Cristo, en los días de su vida mortal, a gritos y con lágrimas, presentó oraciones y súplicas al que podía salvarlo de la muerte, cuando en su angustia fue escuchado. Él, a pesar de ser Hijo, aprendió, sufriendo, a obedecer. Y, llevado a la consumación, se ha convertido para todos los que le obedecen en autor de salvación eterna.

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 12,20-33): “Ha llegado la hora en que el hijo de hombre va a ser glorificado” (Jn12, 23)

Es la hora de la Cruz es la hora de la derrota de satanás, príncipe de las tinieblas, y del triunfo definitivo del amor misericordioso de Dios. Cristo declara que será levantado en alto sobre la tierra, una expresión con doble significado: “levantado, Crucificado” exaltado por el padre en la resurrección, para atraer a todos asimismo y reconciliar a todos los hombres con DIOS entre sí.

La hora de la cruz, la más oscura de la historia, es también la fuente de salvación para todos los que creen en El.

Jesús usa una imagen sencilla y sugestiva, aquella del grano de trigo que caído en la tierra muere para dar fruto.

En esta imagen encontramos otro aspecto de la cruz de Cristo: el de la fecundidad.

La Cruz de Cristo es fecunda. La muerte de Jesús de hecho, es una fuente inagotable de vida, porque lleva entre sí la fuerza regeneradora del amor de DIOS.

Inmersos en este amor por el Bautismo, los cristianos pueden convertirse en granos de trigo y dar mucho fruto, si al igual que Jesús entrega su propia vida por amor a Dios y a los hermanos.

Por esa razón, **aquellos que aun quieren ver a Jesús**, a los que están en la búsqueda del rostro de Dios; a quien ha recibido una catequesis cuando era niño y no la ha profundizado y quizás a perdido la fe, a tantos que no han encontrado a Jesús personalmente

A todas estas personas les podemos ofrecer tres cosas: el evangelio; el crucifijo y el testimonio de nuestra fe.

La Quinta Semana de Cuaresma es un tiempo de reflexión profunda y preparación espiritual en la tradición cristiana. Durante esta semana, se nos invita a meditar sobre varios temas significativos de nuestra fe

OFFERING UPDATE**March 9/10**

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	279	87	\$2,675.00
8:00 a.m.	165	76	2,442.00
10:00 a.m.	313	85	2,800.00
12:00 p.m.	385	95	2,558.00
Total coin:			9.88
Faith Direct			3,420.75
Children's Env.		15	67.00
Mail-ins:			2,500.00
TOTAL	1,142	358	\$16,472.63
2023	1,095	356	\$16,407.97
Candles			\$887.17
Poor Box			\$249.39

**DEADLINES FOR
BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

March 24—deadline passed
March 31—Deadline passed*
April 7—March 26 deadline

**Early deadlines due to early printer deadlines.*

JOIN OUR TEAM

We are looking for a **Part-Time** employee to handle two different roles, one as a Sacristan and the other as a Religious Education Maintenance Monitor. The Sacristan work will take place on Saturdays from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., there will be some additional hours on special liturgical celebrations. The Religious Education work is twice a week, on Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and then on Saturday mornings from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. when Religious Education classes are in session. The hourly pay rate is \$16 an hour and will report to both the Religious Education Coordinator and the Pastor. Please send resume to our Business Manager via email, GChille@oloph.org.

SUPER 72 RAFFLE**CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR MARCH WINNERS****\$1000 -Christine Petraszewski****\$250 - Frank Cafarelli****\$100 - Kathleen & Tony Bendernagel****\$100 - Ellen Conti****\$100 - Patti Buglione****\$100 - Mary Colluccio****Important Diocese of Rockville Centre Information**

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

PREPARING FOR Sunday, March 24, 2024

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!

Mark 11:9b,10b

Isaiah 50:4-7

This selection from Isaiah is the third of four poems usually called the "Servant Songs," all of which we will hear throughout Holy Week. This "Servant of the Lord" (also known as the "Suffering Servant") who is speaking is sent by God to proclaim to the Israelites who were exiled to Babylon a message of hope and deliverance despite the desperate nature of their present circumstances. He is rejected but undeterred, even though he is grossly mistreated. God has given him the word and he must deliver it, even at the cost of personal suffering, and he is confident that God will eventually prove him right.

Philippians 2:6-11

Paul's letter to the church at Philippi, thirty years after the death and resurrection of Jesus, incorporates an early church hymn that we hear today. When he wrote this letter, Paul was in prison, perhaps facing death for preaching about Jesus. He exhorts the church then, and us today, to follow the example of Jesus' passage through death to greater life, despite any difficulties that we face. Imagine that – Jesus did not cling being in the form of God but stooped down to our level so that he could rescue us from the fall of Adam. Truly, every tongue should confess that "Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father!"

Mark 14:1-15:47

Today we hear Mark's telling of the Passion and Death of Jesus, a truly moving account of how great God's love is for us. We hear how he was Isaiah's Suffering Servant who offered himself up to be beaten on our behalf. We hear how he was mocked for claiming to be the Son of God and the Christ (Messiah) that he really was. We hear how he was betrayed and deserted by all his friends, especially Peter who denied he knew Jesus three times. Why did Jesus do all this? He tells us at the Last Supper that his blood will be shed for many as the new covenant. That means all the disciples who deserted him could be forgiven. Peter could be forgiven. And yes, we can be forgiven. What good news!

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. The woman in this passion reading was "wasting" expensive perfumed oil on Jesus. Does this relate to God's self-wasting love on humankind? How is the Eucharist a continuation of Christ's self-giving love for us? Does your busy schedule allow time to "waste" on love?

2. When Pope Francis listened to how the disciples fell asleep during Jesus' most crucial moments, he asked himself certain questions:

"Has my life fallen asleep? Am I like Pilate? When I see that the situation is difficult, do I wash my hands and dodge my responsibility ... ?"

*Pope Francis,
Celebration of Palm Sunday of the
Passion of the Lord, April 13, 2014*

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, March 18, 2024:

Deuteronomy 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62
+ John 8:1-11

Tuesday, March 19, 2024:

2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14e, 16
+ Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22
+ Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a

Wednesday, March 20, 2024:

Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 + John 8:31-42

Thursday, March 21, 2024:

Genesis 17:3-9 + John 8:51-59

Friday, March 22, 2024:

Jeremiah 20:10-13 + John 10:31-42

Saturday, March 23, 2024:

Ezekiel 37:21-28 + John 11:45-56

Sunday, March 24, 2024:

Mark 11:1-10
+ Isaiah 50:4-7 + Philippians 2:6-11
+ Mark 14:1—15:47

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

2024
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DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*Revitalizing our Faith –
Renewed by the Eucharist*



2024 OLPH GOAL:
\$114,600

Total pledges: \$30,295.00
of pledges: 124
Total payments: \$18,145.00
As of 3/12/24

*“As Christians, we do not only receive a vocation individually; we are also called together.
We are like the tiles of a mosaic.”*

** Pope Francis*

Ordained in 2023, Fr. Steven McClernon spoke to us about what his goals are as a priest in our Diocese and how your support has helped him to accomplish this!

“This year’s CMA theme, Revitalizing our Faith -- Renewed by the Eucharist, relates to my vocation as it was fostered through Eucharistic Adoration. I see the People of God revitalized and renewed in their faith when I celebrate Mass. I see how people really love receiving the Eucharist. During Covid when we were separated from receiving the Eucharist, it was a difficult time for many. Now seeing the people back to church, and receiving the Eucharist, I am renewed in my faith and I know God’s people are revitalized by the true presence of God in the Eucharist.



The CMA has been greatly influential in my life. One of the ministries it supports is the Holy Hours for Vocations at the Seminary. We gather young people from across the Island to hold Eucharistic Adoration. During my college years, this experience was a big part of my faith and my decision to become a priest. The Catholic Ministries Appeal has helped foster my vocation to the priesthood.”

Please make check payable to the **Catholic Ministries Appeal**

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Signature: _____

To make a donation, you can also visit <https://www.drvc.org/CMA/>

or call us at 516-678-5800 ext. 296. Thank you!

Your donation to the Catholic Ministries Appeal supports vocations in our diocese.

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

St. Agnes of Assisi – The Secular Franciscan Order: Would you like to give more time to God, but wonder how to do that when your life is so busy? Do you long for holiness, and feel a need for support in growing spiritually? Perhaps your heart has been moved by stories of St. Francis of Assisi, or the Peace Prayer attributed to him, and you are seeking that same holy simplicity, true peace and perfect joy? If so, Christ may be calling you to explore the Secular Franciscan life. We invite you to join our monthly meetings, 2nd Sunday of the month, at Our Lady of Lourdes in West Islip at 2:00 pm. Please e-mail any questions or comments to Jackie Totino jtotino02@gmail.com.

Tune into **“Religion and Rock” with Msgr. Jim Vlaun** on Sunday from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. on WBAB 102.3 FM or 95.3 FM on Long Island’s East End. Listen on Saturdays at 11:00 p.m. on *Sirius Radio, Channel 159, the Catholic Channel* and at 11:00 p.m. on XM Satellite, Channel 117. **Next Sunday’s theme is Coping** don’t miss it! To listen online or receive more information regarding *Religion and Rock* go to www.ReligionandRock.com or at “Religion & Rock” on ITUNES. Don’t forget to tune into **CATHOLIC FAITH NETWORK**, Cablevision Channel 29/137 or Verizon FIOS 296 or visit www.cfntv.org !

Handicapped Encounter Christ Ministry, **Handicapped Encounter Christ** is a ministry for adults with physical, mental, cognitive and/or sensory disabilities. It is based on the Cursillo movement of the Catholic Church. HEC brings together the communities of disabled and enabled adults so they can all get to know our Lord, Jesus Christ. During the year, we have many different events and annually there is a three-day HEC Retreat held each spring. We are always looking for participants to join this ministry — those that are disabled and those who are not — so that together we are one community learning from each other, enjoying each other’s company, and establishing many beautiful friendships together as we all get to know our Lord. The **2024 HEC Retreat** takes place Thursday evening **April 18th** and ends Sunday afternoon **April 21st**. **PLEASE join our HEC #40 planning meetings** for enabled adults who wish to volunteer and be of service on the Retreat weekend. Monday, **April 1st** @ 7:00 p.m. St. Francis of Assisi Church 29 Clay Pitts Rd, Greenlawn. All are welcome. Please join us! Any questions, call Bernice 516-582-0302 or Bob @ 516-241-4122.

Divorced or Separated Catholics of Long Island including widows, widowers and singles. A social organization for single persons. New Member Orientation Meeting Tuesday **March 19, 2024** at 7:00 p.m. St. Frances Club, 1869 Wantagh Avenue, Wantagh, NY 11793. (Parking in the rear of building) Non-denominational. ALL ARE WELCOME. Bring proof of single status to join. Annual dues \$30. Refreshments following the meeting. For further information, please call also to verify there will be a meeting -Terry 516-650-5528 or Maryanne 516-205-2590

“From the Heart Ball” on April 13th at Leonard’s Palazzo of Great Neck. Please click the link below for more information on the ball. (<https://goodcounselhomes.regfox.com/from-the-heart>) A portion of the event proceeds will be used to open a new Good Counsel home in the Queens/Long Island area. In operation for over 38 years, <https://www.goodcounselhomes.org/> is a private organization with a Catholic mission that has aided in the birth of over 1320 babies. Good Counsel helps any pregnant, homeless mother with a safe and secure learning environment in one of its four homes in Staten Island, the Bronx, New Jersey, and Spring Valley, NY. Good Counsel’s 24/7 helpline is; 1.800.723.8331. Good Counsel also has a Lumina helpline; 877.586.4621 which offers confidential, non-judgmental counseling to anyone suffering as a result of past abortion.

Volunteers Needed! Catholic Charities’ Amityville location is looking for volunteers to assist with clerical work, cultural orientation and ESL classes for Spanish, French Creole and Dari speaking clients. If you are interested in helping in any of these areas, we need your help. Please call for more information. Tricia Callahan, Volunteer & Intern Coordinator 516-733-7044. *Your time and talent will be greatly appreciated!*

SAFE ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS

A person wishing to volunteer in any parish or organization in the Diocese of Rockville Centre must first complete three requirements:

1. Attend Protecting God's Children (Virtus)
2. Sign the Codes of Conduct
3. Complete a background screening application.

(Background screening is conducted on all volunteers and employees every 5 years.)

Directions to Complete the 3 Requirements:

1. Sign up to attend a Protecting God's Children class: www.Virtus.org

When you log on to the Virtus website, you will create a Virtus account.

- a. If you have not attended a Virtus class, you are a first time registrant.
- b. The first screen will ask the name of your organization-from the drop down list select **Rockville Centre-Safe Environment**.
- c. Follow all directions on the next screens.
- d. One screen will have the **Codes of Conduct**. Please acknowledge the Codes of Conduct.
- e. Continue with the registration process and select the class you will attend.
- f. After selecting the class, you will be instructed to complete the background screening application.

2. Background Screening Application:

- a. Sterling Volunteers is the company providing the background screening.
- b. Follow all the directions to complete the background screening application. **DO NOT STOP ONCE YOU BEGIN THE APPLICATION!** If you stop-you are locked out of the process due to security procedures.
- c. You will need to provide your Social Security #; if you do not provide a Social Security # you will be charged a fee.
- d. After completing the application, hit the 'Submit Button'

Congratulations! You have now:

Registered to attend a Virtus class ~ signed the Codes of Conduct ~
Completed the Background Screening.

The Work of the People

My brother and I didn't need alarm clocks to wake us in the morning. Our mother's morning ritual was all we needed. Before the sun rose and before the birds chirped through their morning concert, she would walk in and say, "Come on, get up, there's work to be done."

Mom wasn't one to rest. She was up at 6:00 am every day—even on weekends—even on vacation. With two children, a house, a dog, and a yard to tend, much had to be done.

For Mom, work was a prime motivator. She didn't have to punch a clock. She didn't have a boss. She didn't have to report to anyone. It was the work itself that prompted her to get out of bed in the morning. Mom often attended daily Mass. She instinctively knew that liturgy and labor went hand in hand.

The word *liturgy* comes from the Greek word *leitourgía*, which can be broken down to two words: *laos*, meaning "people," and *ergon*, meaning "work." Liturgy literally means "work of the people." In ancient Greece, the word *leitourgía* was used to mean any work that was done in service for the good of the people. So from the beginning, liturgy has been connected to work.

It takes a lot of human labor to make liturgy. There is the work we see: the ministers who prepare and serve as readers, musicians, altar servers, and so on, but more work is done behind the scenes. Farmers grow the wheat and the grapes for the bread and the wine that are consecrated, and distributors, drivers, and countless others ensure our ready supply of bread and wine. Many labor to cut and cast the vessels that hold the Body and Blood of Christ, and manufacturers make the fabric, and seamstresses the altar linens and vestments. Gardeners and beekeepers provide our beeswax candles and so on.



The work of the liturgy occurs both within and outside of Mass.

The assembly's act of participation in the liturgy is itself an act of labor as they listen to the Word of God and seek to understand how God is calling them to act. In the midst of worship, the faithful process to the altar with the gifts of bread and wine, the "work of human hands." In this procession worshippers bring the gift of themselves—their hopes and dreams, their cares and their struggles to the altar. Their lives, along with the bread and wine, are transformed by the work of praying in the Eucharistic Prayer. In that prayer are active verbs such as *offer*, *give thanks*, *remember*, and *pray*—all of which call the faithful to the work of transforming not just themselves but the world. The liturgy concludes with an instruction as the priest or deacon says, "Go forth, the Mass is ended," "Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord," "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life," or "Go in peace." The faithful are sent forth to do their work in the world—bringing God's presence to their families, workplaces, and communities.



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