

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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*Not as man sees does God see,
because man sees the appearance
but the Lord looks into the heart.*

1 Samuel 16:7

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
March 19, 2023

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco

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

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

Business Manager: Ms. Jill Marie Delano

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

Music Director: Miss Erin Barrett

Deacon Frank Odin, Retired

COME AND PRAY...

Our church is open **each day until 6:30 p.m.**,
except on Thursdays (closed after the
12:15 p.m. Mass, for cleaning)
and on holidays (closed after the 12:15 p.m. Mass).

Come in and spend some time in prayer!

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday: 6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Saturday Morning: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated): 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (live-streamed), 12:00 p.m.

Special Needs Mass:

First Saturday of the month at 4:00 p.m.
in the auditorium (Sunday Anticipated Mass)

Holy Days of Obligation: Consult the bulletin

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

First Saturdays: 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

DEVOTIONS

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

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

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

First Fridays and First Saturdays:

As announced in bulletin

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

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

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

DOWNLOAD THE OLPH APP

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with the Our Lady of Perpetual Help App

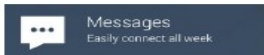
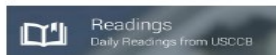
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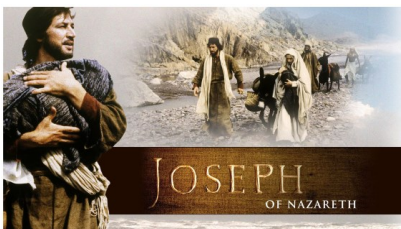
The old number 88202 is no longer in effect!



THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of March 19, 2023

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



The Annunciation Sacred Art

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp as they discuss the spiritual and theological significance of the Annunciation over a piece of Sacred Art by Elizabeth Zelasko that depicts this incredible scene.

LISTEN



St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father

While the Gospel has not preserved any of his words, his actions have resounded through the ages. St. Joseph stands out as the model par excellence of Christian virtue. Encounter St. Joseph in a new way with St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.
Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



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! If you have not been serious about Lent so far, it's not too late to get started, so that the remaining days before Easter will truly be days of purification, enlightenment and renewal.

We're throwing a party for sinners! It's called the Sacrament of Penance!

Keep in mind that, as usual, there are

Confessions on this coming Saturday, March 25, 4:00-4:45 p.m. Then, next Saturday, April 1, the Saturday before Palm Sunday, all four parish priests will be available **3:00-4:00 p.m.** (note the special time frame).

Most especially, don't forget about the Diocesan Day of Reconciliation, which is on Monday of Holy Week, April 3. 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 then again from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Here at OLPH, **all four priests will be available for all those hours during both sessions on Monday, April 3**, so you have your choice of any one of us!

Make your plans now to get to Confession, perhaps especially on that Monday of Holy Week, since that day will provide the widest opportunity. There's no better way to get ready for Easter than to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation!

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

On Monday, March 20, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary (this year transferred from its actual day of March 19, since March 19 is a Sunday). 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 Monday, 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!

Ushers Meeting this Tuesday, March 21

I remind all Ushers to attend the meeting this coming Tuesday, March 21, at 7:00 p.m. This important meeting is mandatory for all Ushers, since we will be discussing the schedule and special procedures concerning Palm Sunday and the Sacred Paschal Triduum. I look forward to seeing all Ushers there.

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, March 25

We interrupt Lent again this Saturday, March 25, for the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. On this Solemnity, we remember when the angel brought to Mary the amazing news that she would be the mother of God’s Son. On this day, as in Christmas Time, we contemplate the wonder of the Incarnation: in Jesus, God took on our flesh, becoming like us in all things but sin. While it’s a Solemnity of the Lord, it’s also a day to give thanks to and for Mary, who gave her “yes” — “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word,” as we hear in the Gospel for the day.

It’s no little wonder, then, that throughout history, so many artists have chosen to depict the Annunciation as a moment of decision that changed the world forever. The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord reminds us of the supple heart of Mary, who trusted and who welcomed the gift of God’s indwelling and new

life in Christ. For me, this Marian spirituality is summed up perfectly in St. Augustine’s statement that the Virgin Mary conceived Jesus in her heart before He was conceived in her womb. Think about how we need to conceive Jesus in our heart — in other words, how we need to be more open to God’s will for us and God’s direction to us.

As always, the words of the Mass prayers bring into focus for us a proper spirituality and theology of the day. The words of the Collect (Opening Prayer) reflect the understanding that as a result of the Incarnation, humanity is given a share in divinity; that prayer asks, insofar as God willed that His Word should take on human flesh, that “...*we, who confess our Redeemer to be God and man, may merit to become partakers even in his divine nature.*”

The Prayer over the Offerings notes that the Church’s beginnings lie in the moment of the Incarnation (interesting thought: Pentecost is often thought of as the “birthday” of the Church, but, in some sense, the Annunciation is a kind of “birthday,” too). There is so much richness in the themes for this Solemnity!

Two final notes concerning the 8:00 a.m. Mass this Saturday. First, the Creed is said in observance of the Solemnity. This Mass is one of two times (the other being at the Masses on the Nativity [Christmas]) when all genuflect, instead of bow, at the words of the Incarnation during the Creed. Second, because of the high liturgical rank of this day, we will have music at our 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday, so we can properly observe the Solemnity.

But wait, there’s more! Since Saturday, March 25 is also the day of the Lindenhurst St. Patrick’s Parade, the Parade Committee has asked if the day could begin with Mass here at OLPH, so we’re looking forward to welcoming those who wish to attend Mass before the parade. What a great way to begin the festivities! Speaking of which...

St. Patrick’s Parade

I’m pleased that OLPH is such a tremendous part of the parade. I will happily be marching as part of the parish’s presence, and I’m happy to offer an official welcome to this year’s Grand Marshal, Lindenhurst’s own Bishop Robert Brennan, currently the Bishop of

Brooklyn. This will once again be a real community-building event and I hope you'll be able to be a part of it.

Watering flowers during Easter Time

You'll see an ad we're running in this bulletin looking for help in watering the flowers during Easter Time, a period of approximately seven weeks. It would not involve a large time commitment on anyone's part, especially with many people pitching in. Look for the announcement in this bulletin, and please consider helping out.

Catholic Ministries Appeal 2023

Last weekend we officially started the Catholic Ministries Appeal here at OLPH, and so I once again ask for your help and generosity in participating in this year's Catholic Ministries Appeal. I personally give to the Appeal every year, and I am asking you to do the same.

I am being up front with you in telling you that we cannot do without the income we receive from the Catholic Ministries Appeal rebate. We need that income to keep from "going under." By giving to the Catholic Ministries Appeal, you are raising money for your beloved OLPH as much as you are also supporting the Catholic Church's many different ministries throughout all of Nassau and Suffolk Counties. 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 we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper; on Good Friday the liturgy is the Celebration of the Passion of the Lord; on Holy Saturday night we celebrate the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, and, of

course, there are Masses on Easter Sunday (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; 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 and entertainment. Since the liturgies of those days are so central to our faith, we should certainly plan on attending.

50/50 Mega Jackpot Fund Raiser

Lastly, let me remind you about our important new fund raiser, **The 50/50 Mega Jackpot!** There are signs about this in the church lobbies, and throughout the village, and there's an ad in our bulletin giving all the details. It's simple: tickets are \$50 each, and there is no limit to the number of tickets sold. One winning ticket will be drawn on May 13 (at Sidelines Café) and the winner takes 50% of the pot. It's as easy as that! This is a great and easy way to support the parish, so please be sure to participate in our new **50/50 Mega Jackpot**, and spread the word to everyone you know — get them to participate, too!

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 24 and 31

at 7:30 p.m. in the church

April 7 at 12:00 Noon



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

March 24 will be led by Family Life and Children's Liturgy of the Word Ministries.

And also, save the date... Friday, April 14—Stations of the Resurrection!

L Turn away
E
N
T from sin

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: March 25
4:00 p.m.—4:45 p.m.

Saturday April 1: 3:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

Monday of Holy Week, April 3:
2:00—4:00 p.m. and 6:00—9:00 p.m.

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.

THE PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

Special Procession to Commemorate the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem SATURDAY, APRIL 1 — 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, April 1, we will celebrate Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion with a special Solemn Procession.

For Saturday, April 1, please note:

- ◆ Confession time on Saturday, April 1 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
- What a wonderful experience this has been in prior years, and will be again this year!
- ◆ 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.

PALM SUNDAY and EASTER SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULES:

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULES FOR THESE DAYS

Palm Sunday

Saturday, April 1:

5:00 p.m. with Procession
(begins in the auditorium)

Sunday, April 2:

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. *(Livestreamed)*,
and 12:00 Noon



SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR

Easter Sunday Masses

Saturday, April 8:

8:00 p.m. only

The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night

(NO 5:00 p.m. Mass)

Sunday, April 9:

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

*** note special times**



PROPER RESPECT FOR THE CONSECRATED HOST— IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

There's a serious problem which pops up from time to time which we must address. There are occasions when we find a Host in the pews — and even stuck underneath the pew! — mainly in the Divine Mercy side section of pews (the “bank side” of the church), but even elsewhere in the north side section of pews and elsewhere throughout the church. This is gravely sacrilegious to the Blessed Sacrament, and as a community we must try to do everything we can to prevent this from happening.

If you receive Holy Communion in the hand, **it must be consumed immediately and not carried back to one's seat.** If you are not receiving Communion in the correct way, please begin doing so immediately and do not carry the Host back with you to your seat. Parents, please make sure your children are consuming the Host immediately and not carrying it back to their seat.

We need **everyone** to be on guard about this throughout the entire church, especially those who sit in the north side section of pews. If you notice someone bringing the Host back to their seat, please kindly, politely and gently say something to the person about how this is incorrect, and/or inform an Usher. Proper reverence for the consecrated Host is essential. **“If you see something, say something!”**

Thank you for your cooperation with this.

—Msgr. DeGrocco

LENTEN ENVIRONMENT AS OF NEXT WEEKEND, THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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.

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.

GLUTEN-FREE HOSTS

Gluten-free hosts are available for those with Celiac Disease who cannot receive Holy Communion using the usual bread. If you need to receive Holy Communion using a gluten-free host, please stop in the sacristy before Mass to discuss this with the priest. We will be happy to accommodate you.



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



March 19 is the Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This year, the celebration of the day is transferred to Monday, March 20, because March 19 is a Sunday of Lent. 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 Monday, March 20. Join in marking St. Joseph's Day in this way by bringing your breads and pastries to be blessed!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION



Prepare Your Heart for the Coming of the Lord

This season of Lent, as we prepare for the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord, the Adult Faith Formation program at OLPH is offering an uplifting experience to make ready for the Solemnity of Easter. **Every Sunday through March 26**, we will offer parishioners the opportunity to study the Responsorial Psalms used in each Sunday's celebration of the Eucharist. We will meet from 11:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. each Sunday in the north sacristy of the church. Each session will feature a discussion of the themes of the Responsorial Psalm of the day, led by a member of the Pastoral Staff. Attend all of the sessions, or select those that fit your schedule. Handouts of the psalms will be provided. Come join us in breaking open the Word of the Lord.

MEETING FOR USHERS— HOLY WEEK LITURGIES

All Ushers are required to attend a special meeting on **Tuesday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m.** in the church. At this very important meeting, we will review all the schedules and special information concerning all the Holy Week liturgies (Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday), in addition to reviewing other important business items. All Ushers are expected to attend, as this is one of the required semi-annual meetings for ongoing formation. Thank you. We look forward to seeing you there!

HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR EASTER

We will be decorating the church for Easter on **Holy Saturday morning, April 8 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.

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.

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 9. It will take only a little while once or twice a week, starting at 12:45 p.m. one or two days a week, so your commitment will be minimal. Your responsibility will end when we return to Ordinary Time after May 28 (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!



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.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

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

Mondays at 12:45 p.m.



LIVE-STREAM MASS

We live-stream the **10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass** each week.

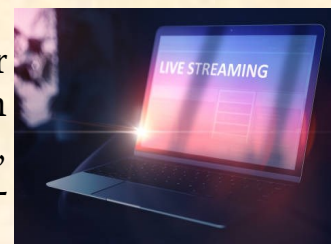
You can join us virtually using one of the following:

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



JOIN OUR LIVE-STREAM TEAM

We need new members to join our Live-Stream Team either for weekdays or weekends. If you are tech savvy, interested in broadcasting techniques and are willing to help record our liturgies, please contact Fr. Frank Zero at the rectory office at (631) 226-7725 or email fzero@oloph.org.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

NEXT SUNDAY A CHILDREN'S HOMILY WILL BE ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL - OLPH CHURCH LINDENHURST. LISTEN TO THE READINGS AND A REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL!



Participating in the Children's Liturgy of the Word continues to teach children how to participate in Mass, since they do the same things that are being done in the main body of the church



OLPH CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN MOTHERS & GUILD



Annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale April 1 and 2

Following 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, chocolate lollipops
cash only please



OLPH Confraternity of Christian Mothers & Guild

We are so very pleased to announce
Mr. Jim Totino, deacon candidate,
as guest speaker
for our upcoming March meeting,



**Monday, March 20th at 7:00 p.m.
in Room 18 in the School Annex.**

**We humbly invite all women of our parish—
whether single, married,
widowed, with or without children—to attend.**

Refreshments to follow meeting.

**Please mark your calendar
and come see what we are all about.**

**For additional information
please contact our President:
Pat Gandarillas Tel. #: 631 956-1291
email: pgandari@optonline.net**

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION**OFFICE HOURS:**

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

LEVELS 6, 7 and 8

On Wednesday, March 22, you will be reviewing during class for your Final Exam. Be sure not to miss out on this important class, and study well!

LEVELS 1-5 and SPECIAL ED

On Saturday, March 25, your classes are canceled due to the St. Patrick's Parade. Be sure to take the time to study at home for your Final Exam. The make-up class will take place at 8:30 a.m. on that day.

Happy Saint of the Day!

St. Junipero Serra was born in Spain in 1713. He became a Franciscan Friar and went to Mexico City in 1750 to evangelize the New World. In 1768 he went to California to continue the missions of the Jesuit priests who the government sent away for wrong reasons. St. Junipero started missions, known as cities today such as San Francisco, Santa Clara, and Los Angeles. He taught the native people how to farm, raise cattle and do arts and crafts. A statue of him can be found in the National Hall in Washington D.C., honoring him and all his hard work which helped to make the state of California what it is today!



Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible Camp Needs YOU!

Our next Planning Meeting is on Wednesday, April 19 at 6:00 p.m. in the school auditorium.

Please consider being a part of our Space Ranger Team!
 Contact April for more information.

Save the Date:

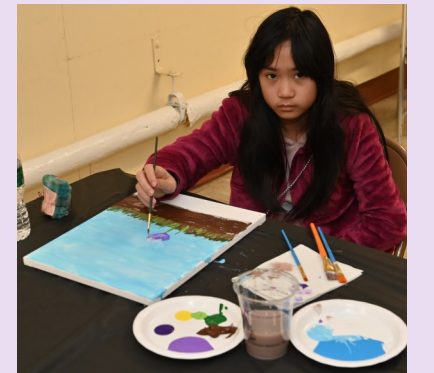
Vacation Bible Camp

July 10th - July 14th

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!



Family Life Ministry
Family Paint Day
March 12, 2023



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

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

NEW Food Pantry List!

PASTA SAUCE
SHELF STABLE MILK
TUNA
PEANUT BUTTER
JELLY
PORK & BEANS
COFFEE
CEREAL
CANNED PASTA
TOILET PAPER

Thank you

for your continued generosity.

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

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Located in the “New” School Building

Use Parking Lot located on corner of
Gates & High Streets

631.226.7725 x. 234

The office is open:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

9:00 a.m.—12 Noon

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

In today's Gospel, as Jesus gives sight to the blind man, through grace we are also transformed from not seeing to seeing, and then Jesus sends us to help others see and to believe.

Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brings joy, peace, forgiveness, mercy and kindness to the hurting hearts of the poor.

LONG ISLAND LIFE CENTER NEEDS YOUR HELP

Urgent Baby Needs

The Life Center is in need
of the following items:

Clothing: Newborn—Size 9 months, 2T – 4T

Diapers: Sizes: Newborn, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only

Baby wipes

Infant car seats (new, or if used, must be less than six years old)

GOOD FRIDAY SILENT VIGIL ON BEHALF OF PREBORN CHILDREN

THE LONG ISLAND COALITION FOR LIFE is holding a GOOD FRIDAY SILENT VIGIL ON BEHALF OF PREBORN CHILDREN on APRIL 7, 2023, from 10:30AM to NOON, in front of Nassau University Medical Center (2201 Hempstead Tpke., East Meadow; on the public sidewalk). Pro-life women, men and children are invited to take part in this peaceful Face the Truth event for the protection of life in the womb and as a visible reminder that abortion is not healthcare. Your participation for even part of the time is important. Signs provided (east end of hospital) or bring your own (no political signs). Please stand 5-10 feet apart for better messaging to the public. Information: 631-243-1435; info@prolifeLI.org.

Catholic Health



Investing in Our Communities

Free screenings

As part of our mission to make care accessible to all, Catholic Health brings much-needed screening services directly to the community. Through our mobile outreach buses, we provide blood pressure, cholesterol, body mass index and glucose screenings, along with patient education and referrals to care.

No appointments are necessary. We do not ask individuals about immigration status, insurance is not required and there are no fees for our services.

We look forward to serving your community.

Our mission is to make care accessible to all.

*Wednesday, March 29
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
in the school parking lot*



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
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Pastor	206	msgjrjoe@oloph.org
Jill Marie Delano, Business Manager	204	jdelano@oloph.org
Fr. Fidelis Ezeani, Associate Pastor	226	fadaprince4christ@yahoo.com
Faith Formation Office	253	religioused@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@oloph.org
Fr. Emmanuel Okonkwo, Associate Pastor	223	emmaokons@yahoo.com
Rectory Reception Desk	200	
St. Vincent de Paul	234	stvincentdepaul@oloph.org
Josephine Vagelatos, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor	206	jvagelatos@oloph.org
Fr. Frank Zero, Associate Pastor	203	fzero@oloph.org

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

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

ADULT CONFIRMATION

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

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

YOUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

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

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

Bill Bendernagel
Gerry Chille

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

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

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

Fauvette Auguste
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.

Third Announcement:
Donald Chaffin & Dana Colton

WE CELEBRATE

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

-Rite of Baptism



Leonardo Dennis Bravo
Sophia George
Conor Thomas LeClaire

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

PERPETUAL HELP MASS

SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023 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 Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton</i>
<i>Jacek Jeglimski</i>	<i>Requested by Christina Wegrzynowski</i>
<i>Giuseppe Giuseppini</i>	<i>Requested by Ann Marie & Mike Ferrante</i>
<i>Luigi LaPietra</i>	<i>Requested by Eugenio & Elvia Gresia</i>
<i>Jeanne Guidice</i>	<i>Requested by Frank Guidice</i>

WE REMEMBER

We remember those who have died in our parish.

Roberta Fifield
Victor Troiano
Harold J. Dean

“O God, who through the ending of present things open up the beginning of things to come, grant, we pray, that the soul of your servant may be led to you to attain the inheritance of eternal redemption.”

WE BELIEVE

We pray for the sick of our parish...

<i>Patricio Torres</i>	<i>Ana-Paula Goncalves Kalinowski</i>
<i>Monica Pulla</i>	<i>Rudy Calabrese</i>
<i>Angela Gleixner</i>	<i>Susan Ferraro</i>
<i>Baby Antonio James Kienle</i>	<i>Sister JoAnn Bonauro</i>
<i>Kristin Goetze</i>	<i>Frank Farrugia</i>
<i>John Leyden</i>	<i>George La Clair</i>
<i>Giuseppe Ferrarelli</i>	<i>Mary Huber</i>
<i>Cameron Allen</i>	<i>John McPhail</i>
<i>Christopher Santiago</i>	<i>Diane Wilmarth</i>
<i>Patty Santopadre</i>	<i>Matthew Mencarelli</i>
<i>Providence Colascione</i>	<i>Annette Vita</i>
<i>Sherwood Davis</i>	<i>Karen Vita</i>

If a family member or close friend is ill, please let us know so our community can pray for them. Please call the Parish Office to have the name of the person added to the list. **Please make sure the person is aware the request has been made and that they are agreeable with their name printed in the bulletin.** The name will remain on the list for four weeks and will be announced at Mass the first week only. You don't need to make the request again until after the name is removed from the list.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW OLPH PARISHIONERS

Gennaro Piciullo, Leslie Tejada, Liam & Valentina
Christine Bogdahn
Michael & Danielle Mannarino
Kristine, Courtney, Kiley, Ally, John, Tommy & Mason Conway
Christina, Juan, Alejandra, Nicole & Samantha Orozco
Gerard, Kimberly, Lana & Charlotte Carollo
Connor Fujarski, Diego & Gladis Pinos
Alex, Joanna & Hudson Susskind
Andrew, Danielle, Jason & Sophia George
Joseph Lampitok
Brian & Grace Ann Alemany
Dolores Tibbetts
Joseph & Heather Berdini

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, March 20—

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

6:30 John Argentieri

12:15 Charles Gusmano

TUESDAY, March 21—

Lenten Weekday

6:30 Mildred Sredniawski

12:15 Melchior Cucchiara

WEDNESDAY, March 22—

Lenten Weekday

6:30 John Kelm

12:15 Rev. Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton

THURSDAY, March 23 —

Lenten Weekday

(Saint Turibus of Mogrovejo, Bishop)

6:30 Brian Zittel

12:15 Eulogio Baez Batista

FRIDAY, March 24—

Lenten Weekday

6:30 The Rinko Family

12:15 Charles Gusmano

SATURDAY, March 25—

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

8:00 Stephen Corcoran

Saturday Afternoon (Sunday Anticipated):

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

5:00 For the People of the Parish

Sunday, March 26—

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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

10:00 Saint Michael

12:00 Perpetual Help Mass *(Listing on p. 19)*

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, March 20, 2023

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

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

12:45 p.m. Devotions Church

4:30 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal Church

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

Tuesday, March 21, 2023

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

7:00 p.m. Middle Ages Room 24

7:00 p.m. Living the Eucharist School

7:00 p.m. Ushers Meeting Church

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

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

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

12:45 p.m. Exposition Church

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

5:30 p.m. Level 6: Classes School

7:00 p.m. Levels 7 and 8: Classes School

Thursday, March 23, 2023

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

7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group Cafeteria

7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal Church

Friday, March 24, 2023

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

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

3:00 p.m. Wedding Church

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

Saturday, March 25, 2023

8:30 a.m. Make-up Class School

12:30 p.m. CYO Basketball Auditorium

4:00 p.m. Confessions Church

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Church

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

Sunday, March 26, 2023

10:00 a.m. OCIA Church

11:15 a.m. Adult Faith Formation:
Psalms North Sacristy

12:00 p.m. CYO Basketball Auditorium

2:00 p.m. Baptisms Church

6:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL PERPETUO SOCORRO,

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

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

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

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

Lecturas del 4º Domingo de Cuaresma - Ciclo A 3/19/23

Lea las lecturas en su Biblia y luego reflexione con nosotros.

Antes ustedes eran oscuridad, pero ahora son luz en el Señor.

Despierten de su sueño;

resuciten de entre los muertos y Cristo resplandecerá en ustedes.

Que la luz del mismo Cristo esté siempre con ustedes.

Primera Lectura (1 Samuel 16,1b.6-7. 10-13a): Unción de David

Dios no juzga a las personas conforme a su apariencia, sino que mira al corazón. David, el menor y más joven, es elegido y ungido rey.

Segunda Lectura (Efesios 5,8-14): Cristo Brillará sobre Ti

La luz de Cristo brilla sobre nosotros desde el bautismo. Somos, por lo tanto, hijos de la luz, llamados a producir frutos de bondad, justicia y verdad.

Evangelio (Juan 9,1-41): “Yo Era Ciego, y Ahora Puedo Ver”

Un ciego de nacimiento encuentra a Jesús y luego puede ver, primero con sus ojos corporales y después con los ojos de la fe. Nosotros somos ese ciego. El ciego que no veía, acaba viendo mejor que los fariseos. Las comunidades del Asia Menor que antes eran ciegas, descubren la luz. Los fariseos que pensaban ver correctamente, son más ciegos que el ciego de nacimiento. Encerrados en la vieja observancia, mienten cuando dicen que ven. ¡No hay peor ciego que el que no quiere ver!

Que la Luz del Señor Resplandezca en Ustedes.

En nuestra vida cristiana estamos con frecuencia a oscuras. A veces pecamos, y el pecado nos trae tinieblas. Otras veces no entendemos muy bien lo que nuestra fe exige de nosotros y lo que Dios espera que hagamos, y por tanto estamos meramente caminando a tientas en la oscuridad. Hoy vemos cómo Jesús nos está buscando para abrir nuestros ojos, nuestras mentes y nuestros corazones a sí mismo y a su Buena Nueva de salvación. Él vino al mundo para ser nuestra luz. Acojámosle como luz de nuestros ojos y de nuestro corazón.

Oh Dios y Padre nuestro: Por el poder de Jesús, tu Hijo, despiértanos de la noche del pecado y del sueño de la indiferencia. Que la luz de Cristo resplandezca en nosotros, para que los que viven a nuestro lado descubran en nosotros un poco de la bondad de tu Hijo, de su amor compasivo, de la verdad que él proclamó, y de la nueva vida que nos trajo. Ojalá así todos los seres humanos te alaben y vean tu luz, por los siglos de los siglos.



En el curso de la narración no es difícil advertir como los distintos personajes representan y reflejan nuestro propio sentir y nos pone frente a la alternativa: o nos Identificamos con el ciego con lo que podemos vivir su misma experiencia de la luz, o nos contamos entre quienes prefieren seguir siendo ciegos, porque presumen de no serlo.

OFFERING UPDATE March 11/12

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	255	90	\$3,269.00
8:00 a.m.	190	84	2,836.00
10:00 a.m.	302	76	2,588.00
12:00 p.m.	348	88	2,212.00
Total coin:			8.72
Faith Direct			3,646.25
Children's Env.		18	75.00
Mail-ins:			1,773.00
TOTAL	1,095	356	\$16,407.97
2022	1,022	336	\$16,181.47
Candles			\$789.26
Poor Box			\$350.62



This week our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

SUPER 72 RAFFLE

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MARCH WINNERS

- \$1000 - E. Mencarelli**
- \$250 - Mrs. Teresa Pirolo**
- \$100 - John & Donna Romano**
- \$100 - Bob Daly**
- \$100 - Lillian Cucchiara**
- \$100 - Anne J. Gravano**

OLPH CYO 2023 SPRING TRACK

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN
1ST – 8TH GRADE GIRLS & BOYS

REGISTER ONLINE @
<http://www.leaguelineup.com/olphcyo>
pay with credit card

REGISTER IN PERSON
SUNDAY, March 19
11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

@ the OLPH downstairs cafeteria
Pay with cash or check made out to **OLPH CYO**

REGISTRATION WILL CLOSE 3/26/23
QUESTIONS? Call 516-343-5434

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 26—deadline passed
April 2—March 24 deadline
April 9—March 31 deadline

Important Diocese of Rockville Centre Information

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

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

*I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live.*

John 11:25

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Ezekiel was a priest of the Temple in Jerusalem who was taken into captivity in Babylon along with many of the Jewish people around 597 B.C. by King Nebuchadnezzar. Within a few years, God called him to prophecy to his fellow Jews in exile. God uses Ezekiel to tell them that the reason for such a calamity was their repeated refusal to hear and obey his Law. But today we hear another part of the message and it's a message of hope and a cause for joy: God will release them from captivity and bring them back home. He tells them that God will raise them from their graves and bring them back to life. It's an important message for us to hear today that even if we turn away from God he will never abandon us.

Romans 8:8-11

Paul also speaks about the dead being raised to new life. He says that those who live in the flesh, that is, according to the ways of this world, are dead in their sin but that God will give them his Spirit to raise them from the dead if they accept Christ. Just as God raised Jesus from the dead literally God will bring us back from being spiritually dead, that is, living in darkness, by giving us his Holy Spirit. That's Good News, indeed!

John 11:1-45

The Gospel reading continues today's theme of being raised from the dead with a story of someone actually dying and then being brought back to life. Lazarus, a good friend of Jesus and brother to Martha and Mary, dies after an illness. Although Jesus knows he is dying and is asked to come to help, he waits until his friend has died before he visits. Why would Jesus let him die? Surely he could have cured his friend as he had so many other sick people. Jesus himself tells us the reason. It is for the glory of God so that others may come to believe in him when they see the miracle of Lazarus being brought back to life. This sign is not just meant for the people who were there at the time but for all of us through the ages who hear it. Its meaning is clear: Jesus has power even over death. This is the last miracle Jesus performed before he himself was executed and rose again from the dead. He is Lord over everything, including what we're most afraid of, death itself. We will rise with him, too, if we just believe in him. Jesus asks Martha and us today, "Do you believe this?"

Gospel Reflection Questions....

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

1. How do all the elements in the story of the raising of Lazarus point to Jesus' words, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live"? Compare Jesus' statement, "Untie him and let him go," with Moses' statement to the Pharaoh, "Let my people go."

2. How does Pope Francis describe the beginning of our resurrection in this Angelus talk about the raising of Lazarus?

"Jesus calls to us as he called to Lazarus in his tomb: 'Come forth!' This call is addressed to every human person because we are all marked by death. Christ is not resigned to the sepulchers that we have constructed with our choices of evil and death, with our mistakes, our sins. [Jesus] invites us, almost orders us, to come out of the tombs into which our sins have plunged us. This is where our resurrection begins: when we decide to obey the command of Jesus to come into the light, to life; when the masks fall from our faces, ... and we rediscover the courage of our original faces, created in the image and likeness of God.

... The raising of Lazarus shows us that there is no limit to the divine mercy, which is offered to everyone. ... The Lord is always ready to roll away the tombstone of our sins, which separate us from him, the light of the living."

**Pope Francis: There is no limit to the divine mercy.
June 4, 2014**

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, March 20, 2023:

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

Tuesday, March 21, 2023:

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

Wednesday, March 22, 2023:

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

Thursday, March 23, 2023:

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

Friday, March 24, 2023:

Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22
+ John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday, March 25, 2023:

Isaiah 7:10-14, 8:10 + Hebrews 10:4-10
+ Luke 1:26-38

Sunday, March 26, 2023:

Ezekiel 37:12-14
+ Romans 8:8-11
+ John 11:1-45

JOIN US THIS SATURDAY, MARCH 25



THE SECOND ANNUAL

LINDENHURST ST. PATRICK'S PARADE

SATURDAY, MARCH 25TH, 2023

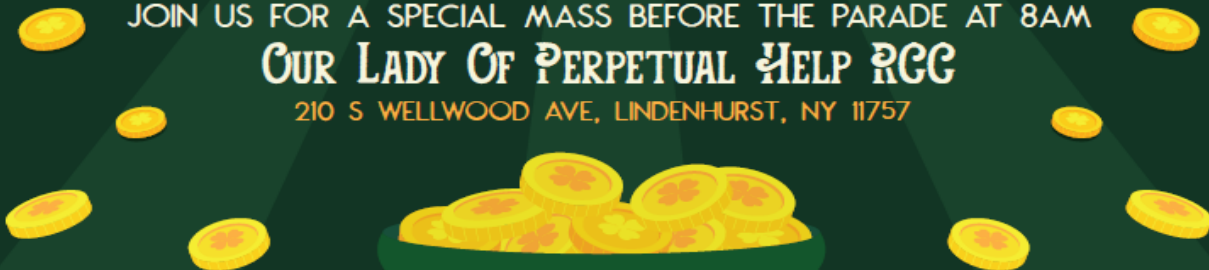
PARADE STEPS OFF AT 12PM

GRAND MARSHAL
BISHOP ROBERT J. BRENNAN

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL MASS BEFORE THE PARADE AT 8AM

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP RCG

210 S WELLWOOD AVE, LINDENHURST, NY 11757



Help support OLPH by entering our new 50/50 Mega Jackpot!

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP
LINDENHURST, NY

50 | 50

As of March 14
the jackpot is
\$4,800!

MEGA
JACKPOT
FUNDRAISER

1 Winning Ticket will be drawn

\$50 per ticket

KICK OFF

DRAWING

Saturday
February 18, 2023
@ Sidelines Cafe
4:30 - 5:30 PM

Saturday
May 13, 2023
@ Sidelines Cafe
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