

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



*“And it happened that,
while Jesus was with them at table,
he took bread, said the blessing, broke it,
and gave it to them.*

*With that their eyes were opened
and they recognized him.”*

Luke 24: 30-31a

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 30, 2017

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco

Parochial Vicars: Reverend Fidelis Ezeani, Reverend Frank Zero

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

Business Manager: Mr. Frank Pokorney

Director of Faith Formation: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

Music Director: Mr. Christopher Ferraro

Pastor Emeritus: Reverend Monsignor Daniel S. Hamilton

Deacon Frank Odin, Retired

COME IN AND PRAY...

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday

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

Saturday Morning:

8:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses:

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

12:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

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

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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

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

OLPH NOVENA DEVOTIONS

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday Evening: after OLPH Novena Devotions

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

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

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

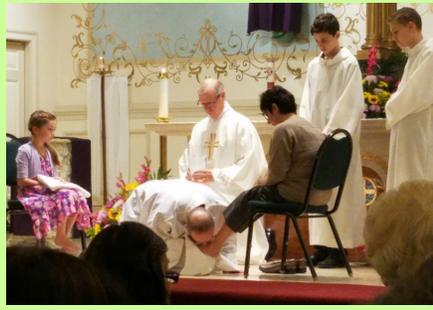
PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM 2017



Go to our website olphindenhurst.com and "LIKE" our Facebook page to keep up with information and to see more activities, pictures and to keep up on all the other ministries.



COME PRAY WITH US

Taizé Prayer Around the Cross

**Thursday, May 4
7:30 p.m. in Church**



Join us for a candlelight prayer service to help us reflect on the mystery of the Cross and the glory of Christ's resurrection. Consider setting aside one hour to join in this beautiful and contemplative form of prayer.

MUSIC NOTES

Next week...

Spring Concert

Be sure to join our music ministry
Sunday, May 7th
at 7:00 p.m. in the Church

for our "Spring Concert" featuring our cantors as well as our adult choir, youth band and youth choir. There will be a reception in the auditorium after the concert with lots of great raffle prizes (*so don't forget your wallet!*). Don't miss this fun evening as we celebrate the gift of music in our parish.



We're On Facebook

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Music Ministry has its own Facebook page. Be sure to check out our page and "like" us.

PASTOR'S PAGE

Third Sunday of Easter

It's still Easter Time, and will be until Pentecost! Don't let your Easter joy wane! Let your shouts of "Alleluia!" continue to be as strong as ever throughout these entire fifty days!

The Collect (Opening Prayer) for the Mass of the Third Sunday of Easter expresses well this tone of joy: the prayer describes how God's people have been "*renewed in youthfulness of spirit*" and rejoice "*in the restored glory of our adoption.*" Such references to youthfulness, restoration, and adoption maintain the imagery of the new life given to us at Baptism, and also as recalled in the Rite of Blessing and Sprinkling of Water with which we begin all our Easter Time Sunday Masses. The Collect ends by reminding us that such Easter joy goes beyond the present moment — there is a fitting reference to the end times, the future fulfillment at Christ's second coming, as the prayers asks that "*we may look forward in confident hope to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection.*" We must always remember that our present participation in the mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection (the Paschal Mystery) cannot be separated from the way that participation points toward its future fulfillment. The Prayer after Communion picks up this same theme when it asks that we may attain in our flesh "*the incorruptible glory of the resurrection.*"

The Prayer over the Offerings continues to echo the joyful tone of Easter by describing us, as the Church, as "exultant" in offering the gifts (offerings) of this Mass, again asking that the offerings "*may bear fruit in perpetual happiness.*"

As always, the prayers of the Mass highlight for us the meaning of what we are celebrating, and, by praying over them and reflecting on them ahead of time in preparation for Mass, we can gain a deeper immersion in the mysteries being celebrated when we are at Mass.

Taizé Prayer Around the Cross

This Thursday night, May 4, at 7:30 p.m., we will once again be praying the special service of Taizé Prayer Around the Cross. Those who have attended on past occasions know what a beautiful experience this is in every aspect — music, atmosphere, and silence and reflection. What a great way to spend a little bit of much-

needed quiet time to meditate on the meaning of the Paschal Mystery, the Lord's Death and Resurrection! Taizé Prayer always includes the very beautiful action of reverencing the lovely San Damiano Cross which is the focal point for meditation.

Give yourself a treat during this Easter Time and be sure to attend our Taizé Prayer Around the Cross this Thursday night. See the ad elsewhere in the bulletin for more detailed information.

Meeting for Parish Readers

A reminder to all our parish Readers: there will be a brief meeting for all Readers immediately following the Taizé Prayer. All Readers are asked to attend the service, and then to remain afterwards for our important business meeting.

Saturday morning celebrations of First Holy Communion

Our celebration of First Holy Communion Masses begins this coming Saturday, May 6 with a Mass at 10:15 a.m., and then another one next Saturday, May 13, again at 10:15 a.m. It is always such a joy to see the children receiving the Eucharist for the first time! It renews us all and makes us feel young again as we have the opportunity to deepen our appreciation of what it means to be able to share in the Banquet of the Lord's Body and Blood.

We are grateful to the catechists who have prepared the children for this important moment in their lives, and to all in our Religious Education Office, under the leadership of our Director of Faith Formation, April Kleinlaut, who work hard to make our program of religious formation for children such a great program. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers over these next two weekends. I would ask that we all pray not only that this experience of First Holy Communion be a powerful one for the children, but even more importantly that their parents be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit such that they will continue to bring their children to Mass each and every Sunday. It's no secret that regular weekly Mass attendance is problematic with many young

families today, so we need to continue to impress upon them the obligation to participate in Mass every weekend.

By the way, our celebrations of First Communion at Sunday Masses began this weekend, and we'll keep these children and their families in our prayers as well, as we are grateful to them for sharing this important faith moment with the entire parish by choosing a Sunday Mass.

Mother's Day Novena of Masses

Don't forget about our Novena of Masses for Mother's Day. What a beautiful way this is to remember and pray for your mother, living or deceased! Look for the Mother's Day cards and envelopes around the church and be sure to join in this spiritual remembrance. Your intention will be remembered in the Mother's Day Novena of Masses.

Parish Wedding Anniversaries Mass

It's that time again: time for our annual Parish Wedding Anniversaries Mass, which this year will be held on Friday, May 19. This has become such a lovely tradition here at OLPH and people really have a good time and enjoy it. It's our way of celebrating and supporting the Sacrament of Matrimony. We are inviting couples celebrating an anniversary "on the fives" (5, 10, 15, 20 years, *etc.*) and all couples married 50 years or any year more (51, 52, *etc.*) to a special Mass and parish reception. If this applies to you, I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to let us celebrate you! The Mass includes a renewal of commitment by all the anniversary couples, and the parish reception which follows the Mass is always an occasion of good food, much joy and revelry, and the playing of the couples' special songs. Couples are welcomed to invite their immediate families to the celebration (please, only immediate family — we cannot accommodate the crowd if everyone invites large numbers!). Look for the ad and the response form elsewhere in this bulletin, and be sure to join in on the festivities!

Census input of information continues!

The inputting of information from our updated Census Registration Forms continues. It is indeed a Herculean effort, since the keying in of each form takes time in order to ensure that all

the information is entered correctly. I am grateful to the excellent work being done by Joan Baffa, Greg Guido and Patti Chavis in these efforts. They are slowly but surely slogging through the mountain of forms!

If you have requested to receive offering envelopes, please be patient; you are not being ignored! It takes time for us to get to your form, and then it takes a while for the envelope company to cycle through to include you in the next mailing. If you have indicated an interest in any of our groups or ministries, you might want to, in the interest of expediting things, contact the head or leader of that ministry directly yourself and make your interest known. The contact information for heads and leaders is often advertised in the bulletin, or you can always call the rectory to obtain that information.

To all parishioners who have returned updated Census Registration Forms: **THANK YOU** for your cooperation with this monumental undertaking! If you are a registered parishioner but have not yet done so, please take and return a form as soon as possible; forms are available at the rectory. At some point in the not-too-distant future we will be starting the next stage in this process, that of contacting all registered parishioners who have not updated their information, and targeting them to return their updated forms. You can save us a good amount of work and expense, though, if you take care of this before we have to contact you. Thank you for your cooperation.

In addition, every parishioner can help us out by taking on the role of becoming what we will humorously call a "Census Pest" — for the next week, every parishioner should ask everyone they see and come in contact with, **"Have your returned your updated Census information yet?"**

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

Prayer for Peace



Please join us for a special Holy Hour devoted to praying for world peace within our own country and throughout the world. **This Holy Hour for Peace, with prayers focusing on the intention of peace, will be held on the second, third and fourth Sunday evenings of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** The Holy Hour of Reparation which has been held on the first Sunday of the month will continue every first Sunday evening as usual, with the prayers that are usually said for that first Sunday Holy Hour.

*Lord Jesus Christ,
who are called the Prince of Peace,
Who are yourself our peace
and our reconciliation,
Who so often said 'Peace to you',
Grant us peace!
Make all men and women witnesses
of truth, justice and brotherly love.
Banish from their hearts
whatever might endanger peace.
Enlighten our rulers that they may guarantee
and defend the great gift of peace.
May all peoples of the earth
become as brothers and sisters.
May longed-for peace blossom forth
and reign always over us all. AMEN
Mary, Queen of Peace, Pray for us!
(Pope Saint John XXIII)*

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help



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

Monday, May 1—7:00 p.m.

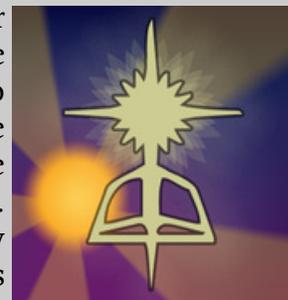
Monday, May 8—

Replaced by May Crowning at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, May 15—7:00 p.m.

Evening Prayer

All are invited to pray Evening Prayer on Saturdays and Sundays after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Here we pray the psalms, listen to the Word of God and give thanks to God for the blessings of the day. Evening Prayer is usually about ten to fifteen minutes in length.



So come and pray...

Saturdays

and Sundays

After the 5:00 p.m. Mass

*The Sunday, May 7 Evening Prayer
will be cancelled due to the
Spring Concert at 7:00 p.m.
in the church.*



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.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Mother's Day Novena of Masses



Mother's Day Novena of Masses cards and envelopes are now available throughout the Church. The Mother's Day Novena is a beautiful and meaningful way for you to include your mother, grandmother, godmother, the mother-to-be you know or any mother you wish to remember in the intentions of the Novena of Masses for Mother's Day. Simply take an envelope, write in the name, and return the envelope with your donation, either in the collection basket or at the rectory. Keep the card to send as an expression of your prayer. Thank you.

May
Crowning
Monday, May 8th
7:00 p.m.
Rectory Lawn
in front of the
Blessed Mother's Statue

Join with your fellow parishioners for the annual crowning of the Blessed Mother.

Hospitality to follow after the prayer and blessing.

The May Crowning will take the place of the weekly devotions.



MEETING FOR ALL EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are reminded to attend the important meeting to be held on **Saturday, May 13, at 3:00 p.m.** in the church. The meeting will include the opportunity for prayer and a discussion of important business items. All E.M.'s are expected to attend. Thank you.

MEETING FOR ALL READERS

All parish Readers are reminded to attend the important meeting for all those in this ministry, to be held on Thursday, May 4, immediately following the service of Taizé Prayer Around the Cross. The meeting will include the opportunity to discuss important business items. All Readers are expected to attend the meeting, and are strongly encouraged to attend the Taizé Prayer as part of their ongoing spiritual formation. Thank you.

PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

MEMORIALS AVAILABLE

This Easter, we are offering a memorial opportunity for the Paschal Candle, the symbol of the Light of Christ that is lit from the Easter fire and remains lit for all liturgies during Easter Time. It is also lit throughout the year at baptisms and funerals. The offering to memorialize the candle is \$500.



We have ordered a new vestment that is available to be memorialized. The red cope will be used at the Palm Sunday Procession and on Good Friday. The donation for this vestment is \$600, and a label, marking the memorial, can be placed inside. The purple cope has been memorialized anonymously.



If you would like to remember a loved one who has died or mark a special anniversary or other occasion by making a memorial, please call contact Chris Ferraro at the rectory, 631-226-7725 X 210 or email cferraro@oloph.org.

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

Mass for People with Special Needs

This vital ministry offers experiences for those with special needs and their families, including special Masses, various activities and opportunities to come together as a parish community.

**Saturday,
May 6**

4:00 p.m. School Auditorium

*All are welcome to
come celebrate Mass with us!*

Please note:

The Mass for Special Needs scheduled for June 3rd will be cancelled due to the special Pentecost Vigil. Our next Special Needs Mass will be July 1.

JUNIOR LEGION OF MARY

The Junior Legion of Mary

PARENTS:

**Do you have
Children between
the ages of
8 & 18 years of age?**



The Junior Legion of Mary is the perfect blend of prayer, doing acts of mercy and socializing to lead your children to become moral Christian adults. You are welcome to attend a meeting to see what we are all about. The Junior Legion meets Sundays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Room 24 of the School.

FIRST FRIDAY, FIRST SATURDAY & FIRST SUNDAY DEVOTIONS

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

First Friday Devotions will take place **May 5** after the 6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Masses.

First Saturday Devotions—in honor of Our Lady of Fatima—will be conducted Saturday, **May 6** beginning with the Rosary at 7:40 a.m., Mass at 8:00 a.m. and continued devotion following Mass.

Each month, all are invited to join the members of the Nocturnal Adoration Society for Eucharistic Adoration. **Adoration will be held on Saturday, May 6 from 8:00 to 11:00 p.m.** Reflecting the diverse community present at OLPH, each hour of the evening is celebrated in different languages (Polish, English, Spanish). The evening concludes with Benediction at 11:00 p.m.

First Sunday Devotions — Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Sunday, **May 7** at 7:00 p.m.



OLPH CELEBRATES WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES!!!

We would like to affirm the graces and blessings of the Sacrament of Marriage by celebrating your wedding anniversary!

We're celebrating Mass and throwing a party for YOU!

Couples celebrating an anniversary in 2017 that is "on a five year mark," that is, if this year you're married 5 years, or 10, or 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 or 50 – and for couples married ANY year more than 50 years (51, 52.....67...etc.) – are invited to a special MASS AND RECEPTION!



FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2017

7:30 p.m. Mass

*with Renewal of Commitment by the Married Couples
for the Anniversary of their Marriage
Followed by a Reception in our School Gym*

Invite your immediate family members!

They are welcome!

(Immediate family only, please)



You must reply NO LATER THAN MAY 12

WRITTEN REPLIES ONLY, USING THE FORM BELOW

NO PHONE REPLIES CAN BE TAKEN

Cut-out and fill-in the form below and return to the Rectory by May 12.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY REPLY FORM

Last Name _____

First Name of Husband _____

First Name of Wife _____

Years Married _____

Date of Your Marriage _____

Your Wedding Song _____

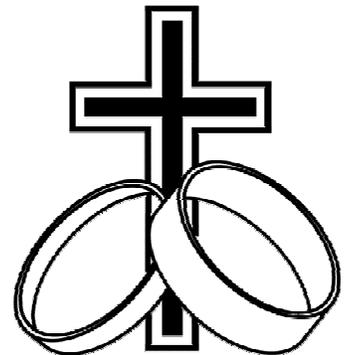
Wedding Song Artist _____

Your Address _____

Your Phone Number _____

e-mail _____ @ _____

Number of People Attending: Adults: _____ Children: _____



*Please return this form as soon as possible to the Rectory,
or drop it in the collection basket at Sunday Mass.*

ALL REPLIES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MAY 12.

Questions? Call the Rectory for more information.

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY: 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
TUESDAY: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY: 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
THURSDAY: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
SATURDAY: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

SACRAMENT REHEARSALS:

Monday, May 1st at 5:00 p.m.:

Communion — Group A

Monday, May 8th at 5:00 p.m.:

Communion Rehearsal— Group B

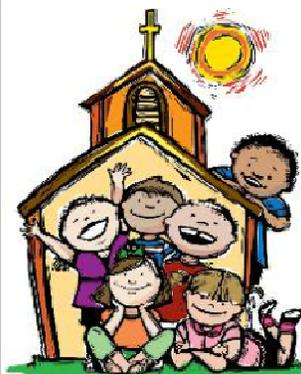
Wednesday, May 17th at 5:30 p.m.:

Confirmation Rehearsal— Group A

Wednesday, May 17th at 7:30 p.m.:

Confirmation Rehearsal—Group B

Registration Is Now OPEN



Letters were mailed to all families with students in our program with details about re-registration. After June 15th, there will be a \$25 late fee for ALL registrations.

We continue to encourage all families with students who have not yet begun religious education, who will be beginning 1st grade (or older), to register for religious education. We welcome anyone interested in registering or learning more about our program to make a “New Family” appointment or call us for any information.

Please remember that all new registered students—including those with siblings already in the program—must have a copy of his/her Baptismal certificate. **New families MUST make an appointment to register by calling or emailing us.**

Catechists’ End of Year Rosary Brunch

Saturday, May 20th: 10:00 a.m.

Calling all catechists
and hall monitors!

Join us for brunch, a rosary, and an end-of-year celebration! Please RSVP as soon as possible to reserve your spot.



WE NEED YOU!

We are currently looking for **hall monitors** for our Saturday, Session I time (8:30-9:30 a.m.). This is a perfect opportunity for parents who are looking to get involved! All interested should call or email us for more information! Training is provided.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. James the Lesser

Apostle and Cousin of Jesus, Writer of the First Epistle, Martyr for the faith. Feast Day: May 3rd



An apostle believed to be the son of Mary’s sister, James wrote the first letter to early Christians. He was a devout follower of Jesus and witness to the Resurrection.

St. James, pray for us!

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- † Blue Door Thrift Boutique: Tricia Buckley—631.561.5790—thebluedoor@oloph.org
- † Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Marie Foster—631.592.1509—cfr@oloph.org
- † Community Meal: Gigi Gracey—631.943.0095—gigigracey1962@gmail.com—Deborah McDonald -516.662.2529—Dnk875@aol.com
- † Golden Age Society: Dolores Barone—631.957.3432
- † Homeless Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com—Peggy Pannullo—631.921.5994—justin97@aol.com
- † Hospital Visitors: Peter O’Neill—631-226-6340—oneillp@optonline.net
- † Middle Ages: Gail Tonnessen—631.957.1449—gtonness@optonline.net
- † Nursing Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com
- † Respect Life Committee: Louise Perrotta—631.412.3831—louiseperrotta@optonline.net
- † St. Bernard League: Kristine Doyle—631.804.3466—Kristine Kelly—631-412-5629—stbernardleague@oloph.org
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Deborah Deasy—631.226.7725, x. 234
- † Senior Moments/Spirituality: Fran Grasso—631.956.3003—sixfingers13@gmail.com
- † Special Needs Ministry: Jessica Becker—631.226.6175—jbecker@oloph.org—Caroline Grogan—631.225.7688—straightclaw@optonline.net

NEW Food Pantry List!

- SHELF STABLE MILK**
- INDIVIDUAL FRUIT CUPS**
- PUDDING**
- JELLO CUPS**
- COFFEE**
- WATER**
- TOOTHPASTE**
- RAZORS**
- PAPER TOWELS**

Thank you
for your continued generosity.

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

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Located in Room 24 of the School

Use Parking Lot located
on corner of Gates & High Streets

631.226.7725 x. 234

The office is open:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

9:00 a.m.—12:00 Noon

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

In this Sunday’s Gospel, as we hear the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we also come to know that our daily reaching out to our neighbor is our daily walk with the risen Christ; we recognize him in others.

In March, through your gifts, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brought the love and care of Jesus to the poor by assisting 88 households, total of 214 people—85 children, 104 adults & 25 seniors. Thank You!

† A LIVING MEMORIAL

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

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

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

**Hear
the Cry of
the Poor**



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

HOMELESS MINISTRY

FOOD PREPARERS

We are always in need of individuals, families and groups to prepare a light meal and/or soup for our weekly runs. Can you help us? Contact Regina Muir at 631.226.2709 or e-mail to rmuir11@aol.com. You assist when you can—usually once every other month!

DONATIONS

We are in need of the following items:

Jeans

Men's underwear - XL, XXL

Men's sweat pants - XXL, XXXL

Shampoo - 3-5 oz

Thank you for response to our need for *shopping bags*. We have enough - NO MORE PLEASE!

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

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

MIDDLE AGES

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

Are you looking to meet others your age for times of spirituality, socializing and social action?

Our next gathering is

Tuesday, May 2

**7:00 p.m. at a member's house
Mother's Day Project & van lunches**

Call Gail Tonnessen at 631-957-1449
or email her at gtonness@optonline.net

Senior Moments

Give yourself a Challenge

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

Our next meeting will be on

Tuesday, May 9

9:00 a.m. in Room 24

BLUE DOOR BOUTIQUE



WE WANT YOU!

The Blue Door Boutique is looking for a few more offerers to help out at the shop. Saturday shifts from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. are available and much needed.

Come and join our team!

We have a great time and serve a great need in the parish.

For more information, email buckleyt@optonline.net

THE
bluedoor
BOUTIQUE

HOURS OF OPERATION

M, W, F 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
SAT. 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Donations gratefully accepted whenever the shop is open. Please no toys, stuffed animals, books or electric items.

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

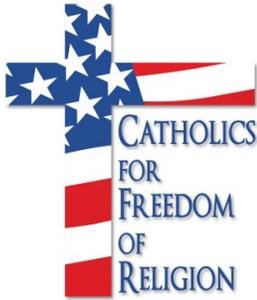


COMMUNITY MEAL MINISTRY

OLPH's Community Meal Ministry has served hundreds of meals to members of our parish community. Generally held on the 1st Sunday of each month, the Community Meal seeks to provide a place of good food, good fellowship and good times for all who come!

*Our next Community Meal is
Sunday, May 7
Come and pray with us at the
12:00 p.m. Mass
then join us for "Sunday Dinner"
at 1:00 p.m.*

CATHOLICS FOR FREEDOM OF RELIGION



"Convert the hearts of the people who are sowing terror, violence and death ..." Pope Francis

Palm Sunday Attacks on Coptic Christians:

Pope Francis condemned Islamic State terror attacks on Coptic churches during Palm Sunday services. These bombings in Cairo, Egypt are the latest escalation by ISIS to step up its attacks against Egypt's Christian minority which makes up 10% of the population. (americamagazine.org, 4/9/17; catholicnewsagency.com, 4/9/17)

Are Christians in America Under Attack?

Compared to the rest of the world, the answer is "No." Americans don't experience the same kind of persecution as Christians in Nigeria, Iran, Pakistan, Egypt and Syria.

What is happening in America is an increasing hostility and intolerance toward Christian beliefs and values. Hostility toward religion in America has expanded dramatically in recent years, with florists targeted, bakers punished, nuns coerced and retail companies facing discrimination for their faith.

"This flood is engulfing ordinary citizens who simply try to live normal lives according to their faith and conscience...It has the potential to wash away the ground that supports our other rights, including freedom of speech..." said Kelly Shackelford, chief counsel for First Liberty. (time.com, 6/29/16; christianity.com)

"God made us free, but this kind of (polite) persecution takes away freedom."

Pope Francis

Events:

* **Sunday, May 7, 2017**, 11:00 a.m. Mass, 12:00 Noon Brunch & Presentation, *Catholic Teachers in Public Schools Communion Breakfast*, Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, 440 West Neck Road, Huntington, 11743. For a reservation, call DRVC, Office of Faith Formation at 516-678-5800.

PRISON FAMILIES ANONYMOUS

Prison Families Anonymous, a project of FECS Health and Human Services System, welcomes anyone who now has, or ever had, a loved one involved in the juvenile or criminal justice system.

At meetings, we share our experience, strength and hope. Here we offer information and assistance in navigating the criminal justice system. We encourage members to exchange phone numbers and when possible to carpool to upstate prisons.

Email: pfa.longisland@gmail.com **Website:** www.pfa-li.com

For additional info contact:

516-496-7550 FECS

631-943-0441—Barbara

631-806-3903—Sue



... on the **2nd and 4th Tuesday** of every month starting at 7:30 P.M. at the

Community Presbyterian Church

1843 Deer Park Avenue, Deer Park, NY 11729

Northeast corner of Deer Park Avenue and Lake Avenue

Parking lot entrance on Lake Avenue -

Use rear door closest to parking lot

... on the **1st Tuesday** of every month starting at 7:30 PM at St. Anthony Hall across

from ***St. Brigid's Church***

75 Post Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590

**For more information,
Please contact: PFA at 631-943-0441**

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Molloy College—Spring Open House: Sunday, **April 30**, at 1:00 p.m. Molloy College, 1000 Hempstead Avenue, Rockville Centre, NY. Call 516-323-4000.

1st Annual Walk-a-thon! To benefit Life Center of Long Island, Saturday, **May 6th**, Marjorie R. Post Community Park, Unqua Road, Massapequa. Registration 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Walk ½ mile or 1.3 miles 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon. To register, visit our website at www.lifecenterli.org Questions? Call Kathie (516) 994-0999

Our Lady of Mercy School community invites you to join our school community for the 2017-2018 school year and beyond. Nursery—Grade 8 programs are offered. Tours are available during school hours, evenings, and weekends by appointment. Our Lady of Mercy School, 520 South Oyster Bay Road, Hicksville, NY 11801. Please contact us for a tour. (516-433-7040 or jharrigan@olmshicks.org).

Telecare, your *Television Network of the Diocese of Rockville Centre*, hosts the **Telecare 2017 Golf Classic**, on Tues., **May 9th**, 2017. Telecare's Classic is played simultaneously on 2 prestigious North Shore courses. Proceeds from the event enable this important ministry of our diocese to continue to provide Catholic programming to Long Island and beyond, through television, web streaming, and social media. Telecare especially provides a unique connection between our diocese and our homebound, hospitalized, rehabilitative facility residents, and our military parishioners, both home and abroad. This year, Monsignor James Vlaun is pleased to announce Philip Westerman as event Chairman and Peter and Lisa Reali as event Honorees. Visit Telecare's website at www.telecaretv.org or contact Dawn-Marie Feiler, Golf Classic Coordinator, at 516-538-8704, ext. 118, or dmfeiler@telecaretv.org, for golf, dinner, underwriting, raffle, and in-kind donation information.

Camp Veritas 2017: a one-week play-and-pray sleep away summer camp for teens 7th—12th grades. **July 16-22** at Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY; **July 23-29** at Summit Lake Camp, Emmitsburg, MD and **August 13-19** at Camp Lakota in Wurtsboro, NY. Enrollment price: \$450 per camper per week. Volunteers over 18 are needed. For details go to www.campveritas.com.

DIocese OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Diocese of Rockville Centre Office of Faith Formation Liturgy II

Fundamentals and Basic Principles of Liturgy

Location: **Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish**
210 S. Wellwood Ave., Lindenhurst, NY

Presenter: **Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, D.Min.**

Dates: **May 2, 9, 11, 16, 18, 2017**

Time: **7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

Cost: **\$40.00 per person**

Learn more & Register Online
www.drvc-faith.org

If you have questions contact
Marie Ventimiglia at 516-678-5800 ext. 505



DIocese OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION & CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

Annual Afternoon of Prayer & Enrichment
for all involved in
Ministry of Consolation and Bereavement Ministry

*Come Renew,
Refresh, Learn,
Share, & Pray*



Presenters
Sr. Mary Alice Pail, CSJ
Director of Faith Formation

Christopher Ferraro, MA
Music Director
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
(In the Church)
210 South Wellwood Avenue
Lindenhurst, NY 11757
Tuesday, May 2, 2017
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$10 per person
For more information,
please contact:
Debbie Coyne
516-678-5800 ext. 204
www.drvc-faith.org

St Frances Cabrini
(Parish Center)
134 Middle Country Road
Coram, New York 11727
Thursday, May 11, 2017
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Advanced registration is required using the form below or online at www.drvc-faith.org

THANK YOU CAROLYN AND BOB DOBRES

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Council 794 114th Anniversary Banquet Honoring



Bob and Carolyn Dobres

Join us, as we gather to honor and thank Bob and Carolyn for all they have done for our Council, our Parish and our Community

Included is salad, buffet dinner, dessert, coffee, open bar and music

Cost: \$35.00 per Ticket

Date: Saturday, May 20, 2017

Time: 7:00p.m.—11:00p.m.

Location: American Legion Hall, 80 Herbert Ave. Lindenhurst NY 11757

For Tickets call: Jim Barthelmes 516-639-3399,

Ann Marie Perullo 631-225-1165 or Mike Hearney 631-560-0451

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

EL MINISTERIO ISPANO DE NUESTRA SEÑORA DEL PERPETUO SOCORRO,

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

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

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

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

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

Liturgia Viva del Domingo 4º de Pascua - Ciclo A

Domingo, 7 de mayo de 2017

CUARTO DOMINGO DE PASCUA (Ciclo A)

Escuchen la Voz del Pastor

1. Él Nos Llama por Nuestro Nombre
2. Jesús nos ha curado con sus heridas.

Nos habíamos extraviado como ovejas, pero ahora hemos vuelto al pastor y guardián de nuestras almas. Que Jesús, nuestro Buen Pastor, esté siempre con ustedes.

Escuchen la Voz del Pastor

Ha sido Dios mismo, nuestro Padre, quien ha tomado la iniciativa de amarnos. Su amor sigue llamándonos a cada uno de nosotros personalmente, y nosotros oímos su voz, especialmente por medio de Jesús, nuestro Buen Pastor, que nos llama. ¿Oímos su voz en la oración, en las palabras que él nos dirige en las Escrituras, o cuando nos habla de corazón a corazón en la celebración eucarística? Y no podemos olvidar tampoco que Jesús nos habla en la comunidad de la Iglesia, en la que nos llama a través de la gente que grita con todas sus fuerzas sus necesidades y también su amor a nosotros.

Primera Lectura (Hechos 2,14.36-41): Llamados a Seguir a Cristo

El día de Pentecostés, Pedro convoca a los judíos a seguir a Jesucristo a quien ellos han crucificado. Por medio del bautismo serán perdonados, pertenecerán a él y a su comunidad, y el Espíritu Santo les guiará.

Segunda Lectura (1 Pedro 2,20b-25): Salvados por Nuestro Pastor

En un mundo lleno de injusticia y sufrimiento, nos sentimos como ovejas descarriadas. Jesús ha compartido nuestra suerte. Dándose totalmente por nosotros se hizo nuestro Pastor.

Evangelio (Juan 10,1-10): Llamados a Seguir a Nuestro Pastor

Jesús es el Buen Pastor que no abusa de su poder, sino que nos conoce personalmente y es nuestra puerta hacia la felicidad y alegría perdurables.

En Jesús tenemos el modelo del verdadero pastor; en él llega a su cumplimiento la espera del pastor bueno prometido por Dios: el "gran pastor", más grande que Moisés (Hb 13, 20). Jesús inicia su largo discurso de enfrentamiento con los Fariseos, obstinados en su incredulidad y autosuficiencia (9,40-41), con una afirmación genérica: el modo más seguro para entrar en contacto con las ovejas es acceder por la puerta del recinto en el que ellos se encuentran. El que accede de otro modo no lo hace movido por el amor a las ovejas, sino para explotarlas en beneficio propio. Jesús es el buen pastor porque te conoce siempre, pero ¿lo reconoces tú a él? Es el pastor que viene a tu vida como puerta por donde salir y entrar: ¿te dejas conducir por él cuando te relacionas con los demás?

- ¿Eres tú también, en tu comunidad y en tu familia, una puerta, no para encerrarte, sino para permanecer abierto a la comunicación fraterna y dejar pasar el amor y la confianza?

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.

Second Announcement:

John J. Decutiis & Casey Lee Zupancic

First Announcement:

Bryan McKiernan & Heather Vobis

WE REMEMBER

We remember those who have died.

“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...

Lisa Ruggiero

Dolores Otten

Clara Stancati

Michelle Barann

Theresa Paolo

Ryan Starace

Robert Flesher

George William Knack

Peter Masak

Arleen Loughlin

Elizabeth Umile

Natalie & Olivia

Schettino

Judith Walsh

Robert Chancellor

Alice Leonard

Gary Foster

Nora R. McMahon

Pat Kleczkowski

Rich Kleczkowski

MaryLou Miskovsky

Susan Marcontonio

Kathy Fey

Shannon Snyder

Josephine Palazzolo

Charles Stevens

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.



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

MASS MEMORIALS

A beautiful way to remember a loved one! Memorials used during the Masses for week of

April 30-May 6:

Altar Bread

In Memory of

Christine Manzolino

Requested by

Rene Renna

Please contact the Parish Office at 631.226.7725 for other options for memorials.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

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

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



MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, May 1—

Easter Weekday
(Saint Joseph the Worker)

6:30 Christopher Versace

12:15 Douglas Karalis

TUESDAY, May 2—

Saint Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

6:30 Ed Picco

12:15 Donald Anderson Jr.

WEDNESDAY, May 3—

Saints Philip & James, Apostles

6:30 Darlene Morrone

12:15 Maria Szymanska

THURSDAY, May 4—

Easter Weekday

6:30 Colleen English-Flanagan

12:15 Donald Anderson Jr.

FRIDAY, May 5—

Easter Weekday

6:30 Luke Brennan

12:15 Rita Burke

SATURDAY, May 6—

Easter Weekday

8:00 Donald Kochanski

Vigil for FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

4:00 Special Needs Mass (in Auditorium)

5:00 Velia DiCapua

Sunday, May 7

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00 Christopher Clark

10:00 For the People of the Parish

12:00 Evelyn App

5:00 Michele Strazza

Monday, May 1, 2017

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

5:00 p.m. Rehearsal for First Communion (A) Church

7:00 p.m. Devotions Church

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

1:30 p.m. Diocesan Adult Faith Formation Church

4:15 p.m. Altar Server Training Church

6:45 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

7:00 p.m. Middle Ages Outside location

7:00 p.m. DRVC Liturgy Workshop Room 18

7:00 p.m. Adult Confirmation St. Mark

7:00 p.m. Life in the Spirit Room 16

Wednesday, May 3, 2017

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

12:45 p.m. Exposition Church

2:00 p.m. Legion of Mary Business Meeting Room 24

2:00 p.m. Level 7 Parent Meeting Auditorium

6:00 p.m. Van Run Room 10

7:30 p.m. Level 7 Parent Meeting Auditorium

7:30 p.m. RCIA Inquiry Session Room 16

Thursday, May 4, 2017

1– 5 p.m. Church closed for cleaning Church

4:15 p.m. Altar Server Training Church

6:00 p.m. Respect Life Meeting Room 18

6:45 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal Room 16

7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group Cafeteria

7:30 p.m. Taizé Prayer Around the Cross Church

7:30 p.m. Baptismal Prep Class for Parents Room 16

8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible Camp Planning Room 10

8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous Room 24

8:30 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal Church

Friday, May 5, 2017

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

Saturday, May 6, 2017

10:15 a.m. First Communion Church

1:30 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry Room 24

2:30 p.m. Altar Server Training Church

4:00 p.m. Confessions Church

5:00 p.m. First Communions during Mass Church

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Church

7:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

8:00 p.m. Nocturnal Adoration Church

Sunday, May 7, 2017

8:00 a.m. RCIA Church

10:00 a.m. First Communions during Mass Church

10:00 a.m. RCIC Church

12:00 p.m. First Communions during Mass Church

1:00 p.m. Community Meal Cafeteria

1:30 p.m. Junior Legion of Mary Room 24

6:00 p.m. No Evening Prayer due to Concert Church

7:00 p.m. Spring Concert Church

8:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

SERVING AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

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

Name	Ext	Email
Carmel Becker, Bulletin	246	cbecker@oloph.org
Patti Chavis, Parish Secretary	212	pchavis@oloph.org
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, Pastor	206	msgjrjoe@oloph.org
Fr. Fidelis Ezeani, Associate Pastor	226	fadaprince4christ@yahoo.com
Faith Formation Office	253	religioused@oloph.org
Christopher Ferraro, Director of Music	210	cferraro@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@oloph.org
Frank Pokorney, Business Manager	204	fpokorney@oloph.org
Rectory Reception Desk	200	
St. Vincent de Paul	234	stvincentdepaul@oloph.org
Josephine Vagelatos, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor	206	jvagelatos@oloph.org
Fr. Frank Zero, Associate Pastor	203	fzero@oloph.org

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Adults who wish to be baptized, or who have been baptized in another Christian faith and wish to become Catholic, or who have been baptized Catholic and wish to be confirmed and receive Holy Communion, are invited to join the process of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Please contact Alice White at 631-201-9184 or e-mail at Alicem9@icloud.com to begin the process.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

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

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

YOUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

- Jean Bjork
- Tricia Buckley (Chair)
- Lori Byron
- Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
- Marie Foster
- Greg Guido
- Sonia Hansen
- John Keller
- Kevin Sabella, Jr.
- Kevin Sabella, Sr.
- Christina Taparata
- James Totino
- Pete Triolo

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

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

- Gerry Chille
- John Reynolds

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

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

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

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

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

OFFERING UPDATE April 22/23, 2017

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	324	136	\$3,206.00
8:00 a.m.	298	106	3,034.00
10:00 a.m.	455	131	2,922.00
12:00 p.m.	515	151	4,487.00
5:00 p.m.	176	52	1,698.50
Coins:			20.42
Mail-ins:			50.00
Children's Env.		22	56.11
Faith Direct			2,018.50
TOTAL	1,768	598	\$17,492.53
2016 total	1,955	614	\$17,477.02
Candles			\$960.23
Poor Box			\$250.05

"LET'S PAY OFF THE NEW BOILERS" COLLECTION

Total needed to pay off
the Loan Completely:
\$119,516.00

Total collected as of April 24:
\$78,079.16



DEADLINES FOR BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Editing and sizes are at the discretion of the editor.

May 7—passed

May 14—May 5

May 21—May 12

Thank you for your cooperation.



The value of learning. The learning of values.

COLLECTION FOR CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The second collection taken *next weekend* will be in support of Catholic elementary schools in the diocese and of the Tomorrow's Hope Foundation. Tomorrow's Hope provides tuition assistance to students in need attending Catholic elementary schools and grants directly to schools to offset general expenses. Last year the Foundation gave over \$1.75 million to students while actual student need was over \$6 million. The money that you give to the second collection next weekend will help to expand the academic excellence of our Catholic elementary schools and help them remain a place where our faith is taught and lived.

Sustaining Catholic elementary education is vital to the future of our society and our Church. Our students are our future. They are tomorrow's hope. Please be as generous as possible with your donation next weekend.



TO OUR
NEW OLPH
PARISHIONERS

April

*Mr. & Mrs. Maurizio Ingrao
Ms. Fallon Zioccali & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin O'Neill & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Dexter DelRosario & Family
Mr. Joseph Riccio
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen M. Grech & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Nikola Segoloni & Family
Mrs. Tina Ketcham & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Abattecco & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Jason Bogdany & Family
Mr. & Mrs. William McDonald
Mr. & Mrs. Costantino Intranuovo*

PREPARING FOR Sunday, May 7, 2017—**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

*Jesus said, "I came so that they might have life
and have it more abundantly."*

John 10:10

Acts of the Apostles 2:14a, 36-41

Today we hear roughly the second half of Peter's speech (we heard the first half last week) to fellow Jews in Jerusalem soon after the apostles' Pentecost experience of the Holy Spirit. Peter explains that the Jesus who was executed has been made both Lord and Messiah (Christ). Clearly Peter had the power of the Spirit within him since saying this openly was offensive both to the Jewish leaders and the Romans. But proclaiming Jesus this way had an amazing effect on his listeners: about three thousand people were baptized as a result. Speaking with the conviction of the Holy Spirit really is powerful!

1 Peter 2:20b-25

The Second Reading for today, as for all the Sundays after Easter, is taken from a letter attributed to Peter. He writes to Christians who were facing some unnamed trials and sufferings in order to encourage them and strengthen them in the faith in their hour of need. He tells them, "If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God." Then he gives us Jesus as a model. Although he committed no sin, he bore our sins patiently in his body on the cross so that we might be free from sin and live for righteousness. With such an example as this, it puts our day-to-day troubles into perspective.

John 10:1-10

John portrays Jesus as the Good Shepherd who was promised to appear at the fulfillment of God's plan of salvation. As a good shepherd, Jesus protects his sheep from harm and acts as the "gate" to allow his flock to go in and out safely and find pasture. Only those who belong to his flock, though, can enter and leave by the gate. Who are in his flock? Those who believe in Jesus belong to him, hear and respond to his voice, and so have life. Jesus promised his sheep life but not just ordinary life – he promised them abundant life. This is something wonderful and truly to be desired. The question for all of us is, though, do we recognize the Shepherd's voice?

Gospel Reflection Questions....

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

1. When flocks were mingled together, each flock would recognize the sound of their own shepherd's voice and come to him, ignoring other shepherds. Can you discern in your life, which "voice" belongs to the Good Shepherd? Which of the following is your favorite comparison of Christ to the Good Shepherd: Explain.

- calling by name,
- recognition of voice,
- following the shepherd,
- not following strangers,
- shepherd as gate.

2. According to Pope Francis in the following, why would a good shepherd take risks today?

In seeking, he finds, and he finds because he takes risks. He does not stop when disappointed and he does not yield to weariness. Indeed, he is stubborn in doing good, anointed with the divine obstinacy that loses sight of no one. Not only does he keep his doors open, but he also goes to seek out those who no longer wish to enter them.

In the heart of the Good Shepherd, the Father's love shines forth. There I know I am welcomed and understood as I am; there, with all my sins and limitations, I know the certainty that I am chosen and loved.

The heart of the Good Shepherd tells us that his love is limitless. It is never exhausted and it never gives up. There we see his infinite and boundless self-giving. There we find the source of that faithful and meek love which sets free and makes others free.

*How to be a good shepherd—Pope Francis' guide for priests,
June 3, 2016*

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, May 1, 2017:

Acts 6:8-15 + John 6:22-29

Tuesday, May 2, 2017:

Acts 7:51—8:1a + John 6:30-45

Wednesday, May 3, 2017:

1 Corinthians 15:1-8 + John 14:6-14

Thursday, May 4, 2017:

Acts 8:26-40 + John 6:44-51

Friday, May 5, 2017:

Acts 9:1-20 + John 6:52-59

Saturday, May 6, 2017:

Acts 9:31-42

+ John 6:60-69

Sunday, May 7, 2017:

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

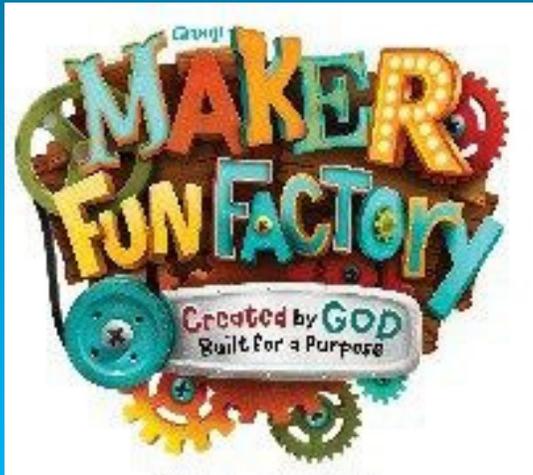
+ 1 Peter 2:20b-25

+ John 10:1-10

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