

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

210 South Wellwood Avenue + Lindenhurst, New York 11757 +

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

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



“I believe that I shall see the good things of the Lord in the land of the living.”

Psalm 27

Seventh Sunday of Easter

June 1, 2014

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco

Parochial Vicars: Rev. Ethel Anarado + Rev. John Sureau

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton

Deacons: Deacon Frank A. Odin + Deacon William Crosby + Deacon Douglas G. Smith

Business Manager: Deacon Thomas J. Bast

Coordinator of Faith Formation: April Kleinlaut

Music Director: Christopher Ferraro

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: 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. & 5:00 p.m.

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Holy Day: 6:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

We pray Evening Prayer each Saturday and Sunday after the 5 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.
Saturday: 4:00 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 to 2:00 p.m.

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

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

210 S. Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst

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.

CELEBRATE THE SPIRIT!

VIGIL OF PENTECOST

NEXT Saturday, June 7, 2014

5:00 P.M. Mass—Church



The Church encourages parishes to celebrate a **special Mass as a Vigil of Pentecost**.

Our Entrance Procession will express the richness of our sacramental life as we include all the liturgical ministers, and as we also have newly-baptized, newly-confirmed and new first communicants in the procession. We will celebrate a special Vigil of Readings that includes four Old Testament readings. We will also celebrate **the Sacrament of Confirmation** with adults.

It promises to be an uplifting, grace-filled liturgy where, in the words of the invitation which will be prayed at the beginning of the Mass, we will *“meditate on how many great deeds God in times past did for his people”* and during which we will *“pray that the Holy Spirit, whom the Father sent as the first fruits for those who believe, may bring to perfection his work in the world.”*

Do consider attending this special liturgy at the **5:00 Mass on Saturday, June 7, 2014**, so that, *“by the bright rays of the Holy Spirit, the light of [God’s] light may confirm the hearts of those born again by grace”* (taken from the Collect of the Vigil Mass).



CHURCH CLEAN UP

What goes up—must come down, including our Easter decorations and plants.

We are looking for people to help us take down the Easter decorations

NEXT SUNDAY, June 8, 2014

6:15 P.M. (approximately)

If you're able to help, please contact Fr. John at 631.226.7725, x. 203 or e-mail jsureau@oloph.org.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

In-Between...

What a privileged period of liturgical time we find ourselves in right now: we are in the period of time between Ascension and Pentecost. These are the last remaining days of this year's great season of Easter Time, and it should be a time of fervent and ardent prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit; after all, these days are the original Novena! As we read in the *Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar*, "The weekdays from the Ascension up to and including the Saturday before Pentecost prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete."

As you can see from the information elsewhere in our bulletin, our parish is praying a Novena to the Holy Spirit throughout these days. How are you joining in this time of intense prayer?

Vigil of Pentecost

Next Sunday we celebrate the great Solemnity of Pentecost. At the conclusion of that day, Easter Time ends and we return to the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. (Look for the change in our liturgical environment!) At Pentecost we commemorate three interconnected realities: the gift of the Holy Spirit being given to the Apostles; the beginnings of the Church; and the start of the Church's mission to all peoples and nations.

The Church encourages all parishes to celebrate a **special Mass as a Vigil of Pentecost**. The character of this **Pentecost Vigil** is not baptismal in nature, as is the Easter Vigil, but rather its focus is one of **urgent prayer**, after the example of the Apostles and disciples, who persevered together in prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, as they awaited the Holy Spirit.

The 5:00 p.m. Mass next Saturday, June 7, will be a special celebration of a Pentecost Vigil. This is one of the **major liturgical events** which takes place in the life of our parish, and those who participate in the beauty and solemnity of these "principal" or "major event" liturgies always come away deeply spiritually enriched and uplifted. **Therefore, I ask you to make every effort to attend our special Pentecost Vigil on Saturday, June 7 at 5:00 p.m.**

The Mass will feature several special aspects. Our Entrance Procession will express the richness of our sacramental life as we include all the liturgical ministers, and as we also have newly-baptized, newly-confirmed and new first communicants in the procession. We will celebrate a special Vigil of Readings that includes four Old Testament readings. We will also celebrate **the Sacrament of Confirmation** with four adults who are completing their initiation

into the Catholic Church.

It promises to be an uplifting, grace-filled liturgy where, in the words of the invitation which will be prayed at the beginning of the Mass, we will "*meditate on how many great deeds God in times past did for his people*" and during which we will "*pray that the Holy Spirit, whom the Father sent as the first fruits for those who believe, may bring to perfection his work in the world.*"

We look forward to seeing you at the 5:00 p.m. Mass next Saturday, so that, "*by the bright rays of the Holy Spirit, the light of [God's] light may confirm the hearts of those born again by grace*" (taken from the Collect of the Vigil Mass).

Congratulations to our Newly-Confirmed!

Yesterday, May 31 (or today, if you are reading this after the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday) our parish was blessed to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for our 8th-graders. Bishop Robert Brennan administered the sacrament, and the power and presence of the Holy Spirit was truly experienced not only by those being confirmed, but also by all who participated in the Masses. What an extraordinary celebration of parish life it was! I offer my thanks and appreciation who all who contributed to the day: to April Kleinlaut and the staff of the Religious Education Office; to all the catechists, grade level coordinators and all who offered their time to bring the young people to their readiness for the sacrament; to all the liturgical ministers who offered their service at the Masses; and, of course, to the young people themselves, and their parents and sponsors.

In my letter back to each student as she or he wrote to me to request to become a candidate for the sacrament, I included a sentence that always went something like this: "Remember that we cannot truly be Catholic without participating in Mass each and every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation. We need to meet Jesus in His Word and in the Eucharist at Mass in order to stay in close union with Him. Give yourself the special gift of regular attendance at Mass; I know your faith will be deeper and your life will be better if you do so. Always be proud and be grateful that you are a Catholic!"

Maybe this week you could take a few minutes and incorporate those thoughts into your prayers as you pray for all the young people who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, that they will stay close to the life of the Church throughout their entire life.

Congratulations to Bishop Brennan, too!

Speaking of congratulations and Bishop Brennan,

I would be remiss if I did not publicly offer congratulations to him on the occasion of his 25th anniversary of ordination to priesthood. Bishop Brennan was ordained a priest on May 27, 1989 and celebrated his first Mass the day after that, right here at OLPH, since this is his home parish (I remember being at that Mass...*little did I know then...*). Bishop Brennan celebrated the 5:00 p.m. Mass here last Saturday, May 24, to mark the occasion with his family (he asked that it be kept low-key and not advertised as an “anniversary Mass,” but we managed to pull together something simple to surprise him in order to observe the occasion!).

Congratulations, Bishop Brennan, from your beloved home parish of OLPH! Your priesthood has been a gift and a blessing to the Diocese of Rockville Centre as you have served as a parish priest (St. Patrick in Smithtown), as secretary to three bishops (Bishops McGann, McHugh, and Murphy), as Vicar General of the Diocese, as a pastor (St. Mary of the Isle, Long Beach), and, most recently, not only as Vicar General, but also as Auxiliary Bishop. On a personal note: I am grateful for our continued friendship since our seminary days and I thank you for all your support and friendship throughout the years.

Father's Day Novena of Masses

Once again we will be having a Novena of Masses for Father's Day. This is a beautiful way to remember and pray for your father, living or deceased. Please look for the Father's Day cards and envelopes around the church. Your intention will be remembered in the Father's Day Novena of Masses.

Meeting for Ushers

Ushers: it's here this week! The mandatory meetings for all ushers are this Monday, June 2 at 7:45 p.m. and this Tuesday, June 3 at 3:00 p.m.; make sure you choose ONE of those meetings to attend. We'll have time for prayer and for spiritual formation, and then we'll discuss business items. I look forward to seeing you there. Please be sure to contact Mike Williams if you cannot attend to let him know the reason you cannot be there. Thank you.

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,

Msgr. Joe

PUTTING ON OUR “SUNDAY BEST”



Sunday Mass is the most important thing we do, and out of respect for God and our brothers and sisters with whom we worship, we should bring the best we have to offer not only inwardly and spiritually, but also outwardly in the way we are dressed. The way we are dressed expresses the importance of what we are doing and is a statement about the attitude we bring; externals do matter! In fact, dressing properly for Mass is part of the spiritual preparation that helps us to more deeply enter into the act of worship during the liturgy itself!

Therefore, we ask all parishioners at OLPH to help us “raise the bar” for attire at Mass all year long, particularly during the summer months, and to set a high standard for the importance of what we are doing. Sloppy slacks and shirts, shorts, tee-shirts, jeans with holes and rips in them and maybe even jeans in general, baggy short pants, sweat shirts, gym clothes, pajama pants, and all clothing of that nature are really inappropriate for Mass. We should be dressing “up” for such an important occasion as Mass, rather than dressing “down.” This applies to kids, too – they are very capable of expressing their love for God and for their brothers and sisters by taking the extra time to dress appropriately. Parents can help instill these values in their children by having them dress appropriately and by dressing appropriately themselves as good role models.

Together let's give each other the gift of dressing “up” for Mass to show each other how important our liturgy is!

Keeping the Vigil of Pentecost

Kristopher W. Seaman

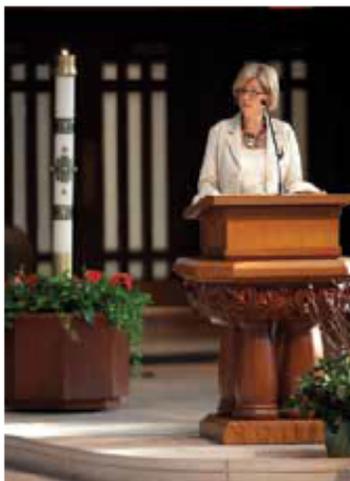
Saint Augustine once said that the Easter Vigil is the “mother of all vigils.” The powerful significance of fire, light, the readings, the prayers, water, oil, the Eucharist, and the dismissal evoke and mediate the God of Jesus Christ who comes in the midst of the Church gathered for liturgy.

The revised Roman Missal has provided the option of an extended vigil for Pentecost. While the Vigil for Pentecost is not as lengthy as the Easter Vigil (since there are no initiations or service of light), it provides an opportunity for a parish to celebrate the end of Easter Time with an extended liturgy. The extended form of the Vigil resembles the Liturgy of the Word at the Easter Vigil because it allows for more readings, with each reading followed by a Psalm (or canticle in some cases) and a prayer.

The first option for the Pentecost Vigil combines Evening Prayer and Mass. According to the revised Roman Missal, the “Vigil Mass may be celebrated on Saturday evening, either before or after First Vespers (Evening Prayer I) of Pentecost Sunday.” One option is to combine Evening Prayer and the extended Vigil. In this case, the Vigil begins with the introductory verse and the *Veni, Creator Spiritus* hymn/chant or with an entrance procession with the antiphon. The priest celebrant then greets the assembly, though the Penitential Act is omitted. The psalmody for Evening Prayer is sung (up to the reading of Evening Prayer). Then the opening Collect for the Vigil Mass is prayed. Mass continues with the four readings (including the four Responsorial Psalms and four Collects) and Gospel from the Lectionary.

The second option is to celebrate the extended Vigil without combining the Vigil with Evening Prayer. Whichever option a parish finds suitable for their context, both options have the same readings, Psalms, and Collects—though *The Roman Missal* allows the reading to be followed by a period of silence and then the Collect so that the Psalm is omitted.

The four readings include: (1) Genesis 11:1–9, the Tower of Babel; (2) Exodus 19:3–8, 16–20b, the Sinai Covenant God made with Moses and the Israelites; (3) Ezekiel 37:1–14, God’s spirit enlivening the dry bones; and (4) Joel 3:1–5, the outpouring of the Spirit.



The First Reading conveys God’s power through the Spirit to bring people together, to create communion in diversity. In the Second Reading, the gift of the covenant to the Israelites was spoken by God who was present as fire. God’s covenant with Israel continues in a new way through the person of Christ Jesus. Through sharing in Eucharist, we continue our participation in this covenant through Christ’s Body and Blood. God’s Spirit gathers us, transforms bread and wine into his Body and Blood, and actively incorporates us into God’s covenant, God’s presence.

The Third Reading evokes for us the resurrection of the dead. God’s Spirit raises those in the sleep of death to new life, which is union with Christ Jesus. Baptism is the sacrament that incorporates us into the new life of Christ. We enter not only into the Church and have original sin removed, but we also participate in the communion of the Trinity. As disciples, we await the final resurrection of the dead when we will be fully in communion with the Triune God. As disciples, the life we live in communion with the Church and with the Triune God is a way of life we strive to live in all we do and say.

The Fourth Reading calls us to live as disciples, as witnesses to the world of God’s gracious deeds. Therefore, the readings together remind us of God’s promises, God’s faithfulness, and God’s call for us to enter deeper communion with the Triune God and one another so that we might live the transformation we have received through Word and Sacrament.

Just as the Easter Vigil is a powerful celebration of the beginning of Easter Time, the extended Vigil of Pentecost can be a powerful conclusion to Easter. Like any well-prepared liturgy, it will require good proclaimers of the Word, Psalms in which people can participate through singing, and priest celebrants deliberate and prayerful in proclaiming the Collects. This preparation should be part of the parish’s liturgical committee’s agenda. While an option, the extended Vigil provides a rich and full celebration of the mystery of Pentecost—the mystery of the God who through Christ and the power of the Spirit calls us to deeper communion so that the Spirit of God might burn brighter in our lives.

KRISTOPHER W. SEAMAN, DMIN, is the former director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Gary.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Novena to the Holy Spirit

Our Novena to the Holy Spirit continues this week until the Vigil of Pentecost.

You can pick up Novena Booklets at any time this week in the Church (on the pew ledges).



Then we will gather at the following times, each day, to pray the Novena prayer. If you are unable to attend at Church for the prayers, simply pray the prayers when you are able.

Today, Sunday, June 1st—6:15 P.M.
(*After Evening Prayer*)

Monday, June 2nd—after OLPH Novena

Tuesday, June 3rd—after 6:30 A.M. Mass

Wednesday, June 4th—after Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (2 P.M.)

Thursday, June 5th—7:00 P.M.

Friday, June 6th—after 12:15 P.M. Mass (before Sacred Heart Devotions)

Saturday, June 7th—after 8 A.M. Mass

Come, Holy Spirit!

MEETING FOR ALL USHERS

All Ushers are reminded to attend ONE (1) of the upcoming meetings for Ushers on **Monday, June 2 at 7:45 p.m.** or **Tuesday, June 3 at 3:00 p.m.** Both meetings will be in the church. This mandatory meeting will focus on both spiritual formation and business items.

All Ushers are required to attend. Thank you.

Father's Day Novena of Masses

Father's Day Novena of Masses cards and envelopes are now available throughout the Church. The Father's Day Novena is a beautiful and meaningful way for you to include your father, grandfather, godfather, the father-to-be you know or any father you wish to remember, living or deceased, in the intentions of the Novena of Masses for Father'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 if appropriate. Thank you.

FIRST SATURDAY & FIRST SUNDAY DEVOTIONS

All are invited to come and pray with our parish community for First Friday, Saturday and Sunday devotions. If you have not come before, consider attending in the week ahead.

First Saturday Devotions—in honor of Our Lady of Fatima—will be conducted Saturday, June 7 beginning with the Rosary at 7:40am, Mass at 8am and continued devotion following Mass. A continental breakfast will follow in the cafeteria.

Each month, all are invited to join the members of the Nocturnal Adoration Society for Eucharistic Adoration. **Adoration will be held on SATURDAY, June 7th from 8 P.M. to 11 P.M.**

Reflecting the diverse community present at OLPH, each hour of the evening is celebrated in different languages (English, Spanish, then in Polish). The evening concludes with Benediction at 11:00 P.M.

First Sunday Devotions—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place tonight, Sunday, **June 1 at 7:00 P.M.** in the Church.

Please consider taking some time each **first Sunday evening** to pray with us.

PARISH LIFE AND MINISTRY

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Next Meeting

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Installation of Executive Officers' Pot Luck Dinner in the Knights of Columbus Brady Hall.

All Parishioners and their guests are welcome.

If possible we ask Holy Name Members to bring a hot or cold entrée or salad. Please call Jerry Cunningham (631-226-1581) for coordinating entrees. We provide the coffee, cake and soda.

The evening will conclude with a presentation by Catholics for the Freedom of Religion.

Family Life Ministry

The next meeting of the Family Life Ministry will take place

**THIS MONDAY,
June 2, 2014
8:00 P.M.
Science Room**

(in the basement of the school)

+ + + +

During the season of Lent, Family Life hosted its first Families in Service event. Families worked together to make hundreds of sandwiches for the Mercy INN Soup Kitchen.

Last week we received this note from them...

Dear OLPH Family Life Ministry,

Thank you for your recent donation of sandwiches to the Mercy INN Soup Kitchen. Your generosity and kindness are deeply appreciated. All the volunteers at the kitchen are grateful for your help in serving those in need.

Thanks to all responsible for your continued support of the kitchen. We appreciate all you do the Mercy INN.

-The Mercy INN Volunteers

**4th Annual
OLPH Golf Outing
Monday,
September 22, 2014**

*Rock Hill Golf
& Country Club*

**Full Breakfast
& Lunch
Full round of golf
Beverage cart on
course
3-hour Cocktail Party
Buffet Dinner (10 hot
dishes)
GOLF AWARDS...
AND SO MUCH MORE!
WATCH FOR DETAILS!**

For details contact:
Bob Dobres at 631-
592-8697
or by email:
Boca461
@verizon.net



Serving Hungry and Homeless Long Islanders

PARISH LIFE AND MINISTRY



The Ordination of
*Andrew
Michael
Garnett*
to the Order of
Deacon

**Sunday, July 6, 2014
11:30 P.M.**

St. Dominic's R.C. Church

If you plan to attend, please call the Parish Office at 631.226.7725, x. 203 or e-mail to jsureau@oloph.org as soon as possible so we can possibly car pool or arrange transportation. There is a reception after the Mass and seats will be reserved so we need to let them know we're coming!!

HOSPITALITY MINISTRY *What about you???*

- Are you someone who wants to use your gifts and talents, but can't make a commitment to a monthly meeting?
- Are you great at throwing together a little reception (with a little help)?
- Can you bake a dessert? Help with coffee? Shop at Costco?

This is a great ministry for those who are not involved in the life of our parish and it can easily work around your schedule. This might also be good for some who are already involved. It's yet another way to share your gifts!

**Our next meeting will be next Tuesday,
June 10, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the
St. Lucy Meeting Room.**

Sign up today!!!!

SOMETHING NEW @ OLPH

September 2014

Pre-School Classes

Pre-Nursery (2 years old)

T & TH 9-11 am or 11:30-1:30 pm

Nursery - (3 years old)

MWF 9-11:30 am or 12:15-2:45 pm

Pre-K - (4 years old)

MWF 8:45-11:30 am or 12-2:45 pm

Tender Garden II

Early Childhood Learning Program

We are excited to help our little seeds grow and blossom by offering enrichment programs as an extension to our preschool classes.

2 year olds - add on Mondays

3 & 4 year olds- add on Tuesday & Thursdays

9-11:30 am

Science, Math, Nutrition, Social Studies & Creative arts

Physical Fitness classes will be offered at 11:00 am by The Fun Bus Soccer Shots

On Saturday, June 7th from 12:00 - 5:00 and Sunday, June 8th from 10:00 - 2:00, Tender Garden will be having an open house in school room #14. Tender Garden is renting space from OLPH for their early childhood development program. Stop by, visit, check them out, and ask questions. This is a wonderful opportunity for young children.

Located at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School
Please call our Levittown School for further information &
(516) 731-4322 Website - tendergarden.net

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- ✝ Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Marie Foster—631.592.1509-ripalda@optonline.net
- ✝ Driving Ministry: Maureen Russo - 631.226.4182—princessmorge@optonline.net
- ✝ Golden Age Society: Dolores Barone—631.957.3432
- ✝ Hospital Visitors: Peter O’Neill - 631-226-6340—oneillp@optonline.net.
- ✝ Middle Ages: Gail Tonnessen—631.957.1449—gtonness@optonline.net
- ✝ New Mother’s Meal Ministry: Carol Stysiack - 631.255 3506 -carolstys@verizon.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: The Consi Family—631.226.7725
- ✝ St. Vincent de Paul Society: Joe Illuminato—631.226.7725, x. 234
- ✝ Senior Moments/Spirituality: Fran Grasso - 631.956.3003—sixfingers13@gmail.com
- ✝ Special Needs Ministry: Fr. John Sureau— 631.226.7725—jsureau@oloph.org
- ✝ Widows/Widowers: Rita Gardell— 631.252.5494/Denise Segreto 631.220.0888

NEW Food Pantry List!

JUICES

SHELF STABLE MILK

JELLO & PUDDINGS

CANNED FRUIT

PORK AND BEANS

CANNED MEALS

SOAP, SHAMPOO

PERSONAL ITEMS

TOILET PAPER

SELTZER & WATER

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 on corner of Gates & High Streets

631.226.7725 x. 234

The office is open:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

9 A.M. —12 Noon

Because we celebrated the feast of the Ascension this week we are reminded that Christ’s saving work on earth continues through his disciples...and now through us.

When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives and into the hearts of those who are poor.

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

During the month of June, we will not celebrate the Special Needs Mass. Instead we ask all who regularly attend the Special Needs Mass to participate in the Vigil of Pentecost Mass on

June 7, 2014

5:00 P.M. + Church

The Special Needs Ministry meeting scheduled for June 10th has been cancelled and re-scheduled for June 24 at 7:30 P.M. in the St. Lucy Meeting Room.

DRIVING MINISTRY

Our Driving Ministry assists parishioners in need of a ride to a doctor’s appointment or to another serious appointment when needed. If and when possible, a member of our Driving Ministry will assist you (or your family member in our parish).

If you or someone you love is in need of a ride contact Maureen Russo at 631.226.4182—princessmorge@optonline.net



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

Catholics for the Freedom of Religion

FREE MOVIE NIGHT –

"Faith of our Fathers -

In Search of English Martyrs"

Presented by OLPH/Catholics for Freedom of Religion. Friday, June 20th in the School Auditorium. Please join us for a fun night, movie and camaraderie. Free popcorn. Beverages will be available. Donations accepted.

Golden Age Society

A place for seniors to socialize and spend time with one another!

1st & 3rd Thursday of the month,
11:30am—3:00pm
at K of C Hall, South Broadway,
Lindenhurst.

Middle Ages

Next Meeting + Tuesday, June 3, 2014
7:00 P.M. + Rectory Meeting Room

Senior Moments

A place of prayer, spirituality and fellowship for men and women 55+.

Next Meeting—Tuesday,
June 10, 2014—9:00 A.M.—Room 24

GET INVOLVED!

We ask all parishioners at OLPH to sign up to become part of the

CATHOLIC ACTION NETWORK

By signing up, you will receive instant information from the bishops of New York state, easy ways to send letters to local legislative leaders and local organizations and much more!



Join the
Catholic
Action
Network

All you need to do is go to www.nyscatholic.org and click on the link that says "Join the Catholic Action Network."

Middle Ages

On Tuesday, May 20, the first meeting of the Middle Ages group took place at OLPH! Already, many activities and plans are getting in motion for those in their "middle ages" who desire both a place for spirituality, socializing and service. We are looking for men and women (50+) who want to enrich their lives by enjoying new experiences and a new-found community spirit.

Our next meeting will be **THIS TUESDAY June 3, 2014 in the Rectory Meeting Room at 7:00 P.M.** Here will meet members of the Middle Years group from St. Anne's R.C. Church in Garden City to get some more information and ideas for the future.

Respect
L i f e

**RESPECT LIFE
RESOURCES**

Please cut out this page from the bulletin and keep it in a place that is easily accessible.

Help for Expectant Parents and Child

The Life Center Hotline 516.243.0066/631.243.2373
Baby Safe Haven 877.796.4673
Bethany House 516.868.6866
Momma's House 516.781.8637
Perinatal Hospice 631.666.6863
Regina Residence 516.223.7888

Post Abortion Counseling for Women and Men

Rachel's Vineyard 516.523.0586
DRVC Hotline 1.888.456.HOPE

Suicide Prevention/Crisis Intervention Hotline

Response of Suffolk County (631) 751-7500

Addiction/Recovery/Self-Help

Alcoholics Anonymous 631.669.1124
Al-Anon 631.669.2827
Families Anonymous (800) 736-9805
Gambler's Anonymous (855) 222-5542
Narcotics Anonymous 631-689-NANA
Overeaters Anonymous 631-475-5965
SA Anonymous 516-218-1336

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

Catholics for Freedom of Religion
Educating and Advocating for Freedom of Religion for All

America's First Freedom: Religious Liberty

America's religious freedom was assured to all generations by the careful crafting of the 1st amendment of the Bill of Rights. The robust freedom of religion envisioned by the founders has allowed our country to flourish without the religious strife seen elsewhere in the world.

As stated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: *"That is our American heritage, our most cherished freedom. It is the first freedom because if we are not free in our conscience and our practice of religion, all other freedoms are fragile. If citizens are not free in their own consciences, how can they be free in relation to others, or to the state? If our obligations and duties to God are impeded, or even worse, contradicted by the government, then we can no longer claim to be a land of the free, and a beacon of hope for the world."*

The period of June 21 to July 4, 2014 has been designated by the Bishops of the United States as the Fortnight For Freedom, a time of prayer, information and action in defense of religious liberty. Increasingly aggressive denials of religious freedom are found on college campuses, in the military, in the marketplace, workplace and social services.

In opposition to this government mandate coming out of the Affordable Care Act, approximately 96 lawsuits representing over 300 plaintiffs have been filed, including by the Diocese of Rockville Centre which joined with the Archdiocese of New York to protect our 1st amendment religious freedom.

During this Fortnight we must pray together that we might stand together in strength and courage with our faith in God and our love of America's freedoms guiding the actions we must take. Thomas Jefferson said, *"The God who gave us life gave us liberty."* These rights to life and liberty are not ours to lose. They were gifted to us by God and conveyed to us by our forefathers. We are this day charged as rightful stewards to defend these rights for future generations.



New Mothers' Meal Ministry

Who are we? A group of like-minded women who want to give a new Mom (and Dad) a break by cooking and delivering a delicious meal to your home. We keep the new family in our prayers.

Who is eligible? This is available for (Catholic) new mothers in the OLPH Parish.

Here are some recent comments made to our group:

"Hi Carol, Last night's meal was fantastic! Debbie was extremely thoughtful and generous. Thank you for organizing the meal...Eric, Logan and I are very blessed to be members of OLPH." - "Jennifer"



"...It was so thoughtful, delicious and it was so nice to have a few nights off from trying to cook something quick. Please let Maggie know how much I appreciated it....I think the New Mothers' Meal Ministry is such a wonderful idea. Thank you so much." - "Kelly"

"Hi Carol, Thank you so much for yesterday! Charlene's meal was absolutely delicious and she made us so much food we have enough for tonight too! You have a wonderful program going!...Thank you again!!" - "Keri"

"My entire family really enjoyed Andrea's meal. We even had enough for lunch the next day.... You are all very special people..." - "Linda"

If you had a baby in the last few months and could use a break, you may contact:
Carol Stysiack at 631-255-3506,
or e-mail carolstys@verizon.net and put
"Meal Ministry" in the subject line.

FAITH FORMATION

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS AT OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH

Registration for public-school students who will participate in the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Religious Education Program for the 2014-2015 academic year will be held on:

Monday, June 16	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Wednesday, June 18	2:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Thursday, June 19	9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Saturday, June 21	8:00 am – 12:00 noon

Parents with a child now in Kindergarten who will be in the first grade in September 2014 should register the child for religious instruction at this time.

All students entering first grade in any of the Lindenhurst Public Schools and residing within the parish boundaries who wish to make First Communion at the regular time in the second grade must be registered (if they have not already done so) on one of the dates mentioned above and must regularly attend both the first and second grade of the Religious Education Program. Students entering grades 2-8 who did not attend the OLPH program in the past academic year (2013-2014) must also register on the above dates.

Parents registering their children for the first time must bring the original copy of the child's Baptismal Certificate as a requirement for registration.

For further information, please call the OLPH Religious Education Office at 226-2384 or e-mail to religioused@oloph.org.



CATECHISTS NEEDED! IS GOD CALLING YOU?

Offerers are needed on *all levels* to teach, assistant teach, and assist with many aspects of the Religious Education program.

How about you? Will YOU answer the call?

If you are interested, please contact the Faith Formation Office at (631)226-2384 or email ReligiousEd@oloph.org



VIRTUS TRAINING

**TUESDAY, JUNE 17, 7:00 PM
ROOM 1**

TRAINING IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PARISH OFFERERS IN ALL MINISTRIES.

Registration MUST be done online in advance of the date. Simply go to drvc.org, then Protecting God's Children and to Virtus training schedule to find OLPH Lindenhurst.

FAITH FORMATION

Adult Faith Formation Course

The Joy of the Gospel

Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation calls us to live the Gospel with great joy and happiness. Francis' writings have received tremendous attention over the past year. What change, if any, is Pope Francis calling the Church to? Is there anything different here? How does this letter show us to be more joy-filled?

Find out these answers and much more!

Wednesdays...beginning this Wednesday!

June 4, 11, 18, 25 and July 2

7:30—9:30 P.M. + Room 24, OLPH School

Instructors: Fr. Alfred and Fr. John

Advanced credit is available for those who attend at least 8 out of the 10 hours (4 out of the 5 sessions).

To register, contact Fr. John at jsureau@oloph.org or call 631.226.7725 or fill out the form below. A \$20 Offering is requested to cover administrative and other related costs.



The Joy of the Gospel

Name _____

Phone # _____

E-Mail _____@_____

Return this form in the collection basket or to the Parish Office.

SUMMER 2014

We are getting ready for

Summer Evening Prayer 2014...

and we need you!

Our first meeting will be

TUESDAY, June 3, 2014 + 7:15 P.M.

NOW IN Room 24 of OLPH School!

If you're interested, please contact Fr. John at 631.226.7725. x 203 or e-mail to jsureau@oloph.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY @ OLPH

High School & Middle School Youth Ministry:

Brittany Marie Evans (olph.yfia@gmail.com)

Youth Service Corps: Fr. John Sureau (jsureau@oloph.org)

Catholic Youth Organization: Mr. Dave Reid (dreid88@optonline.net)

CYO Website: www.leaguelineup.com/olphcyo

Boy Scouts: Mr. Tom Duffy (baggage25@hotmail.com)

K of C Squires: Mr. Frank Nicosia (happynicosias@yahoo.com)

High School Youth Ministry — Youth Faith in Action

Planning Meeting:

All newly confirmed and high school students, come and help us plan a new year of high school youth ministry.

Sunday, June 8, 2014

4:00 P.M. YM Office/Auditorium

Check next week's bulletin for more information!

GYM SUPPLIES NEEDED!

Over the past few weeks, we have been meeting with a group of now newly confirmed eighth graders who will be part of high school youth ministry at OLPH. They have come up with great ideas and made an effort to invest their time and energy—not only in youth ministry—but in our parish community.



One of the more “practical” things—and hopefully with your help an easy one to address—we need help with is Open Gym Supplies. We are need of the following:

- Basketballs
- Dodgeballs
- Volleyballs
- Air Pumps
- ...and the like.

If you have any of these materials and can offer them to youth ministry at OLPH we'd be so grateful.

Contact Brittany Evans or Fr. John

Middle School Youth Ministry

Our middle school youth group welcomes all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders the 2nd Thursday and 4th Tuesday 7:30pm until 8:45pm in the auditorium. Games, open gym nights, and fun is had by all! Come check us out!! **(NOTE: Always, always, always, check the Facebook page (OLPH Youth Ministry) and the bulletin as times and locations may change!)**

Check next week's bulletin for the latest information!

BLESSING OF THE WALKWAY

On Saturday, May 24, members of our Boy Scout troop joined for a special prayer service of blessing for the new walkway. The walkway was installed by parishioner Alex Damone (far right in the picture below) as his Eagle Scout project last Fall.



All High School and Middle School Teens...

Have you signed up to help at Vacation Bible Camp? See pages 15 and 16.

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

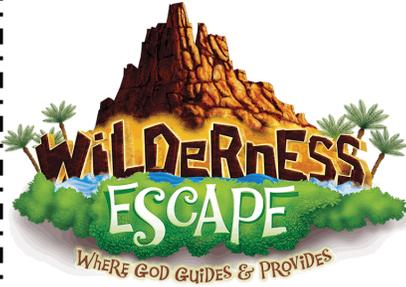
OLPH Vacation Bible Camp

An Epic Adventure Awaits You!!!!

New friends + Amazing experiments

+ Wild games + Lip-smacking snacks + Surprising adventures

**Monday, July 21 – Friday, July 25,
9 A.M. to 12 Noon**



CAMPER REGISTRATION FORM

(Camp is for Nursery age -approximately age 4 - through Grade 5)

Return form to Parish Office with a check for \$65 per child.

Please make checks payable to OLPH.

(Two children: only \$120; Three children: \$165)

Child's First Name _____ Last Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Age _____ Grade Level (in September 2013) _____

Full Names of Parents/Guardians _____

Family Address (Street, Town, Zip): _____

Home E-mail _____ @ _____

Phone # _____

Cell # _____

Parish (if not OLPH) _____

T-Shirt Size _____

Emergency Contact Person

Name _____ Phone # _____

Please indicate any health problems, food allergies and special situations that might be helpful for the camp staff to know about your child in a separate note attached to this form. You will receive a letter with more specific information on or about July 14, 2014.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: June 15, 2014

(Only a two weeks away!!!)

PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

MASS MEMORIALS

A beautiful way to remember a loved one!
 Memorials used during the Masses for week of
June 1-7:

Altar Bread & Wine

In Loving Memory of

Salvatore Matera

Requested by

The Renna Family

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

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



Salvatore Giovanni Bartkus

Gustavo David Cantalupo

Sajoni Eggen

Alexis Margaret Hendricks

Justin Hinson

Giana Abigail Lopez-Galdorisi

John Michael Perrini

Joseph John Salonia

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

WE REMEMBER

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

Linda Hart

“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

*Almighty and Eternal God,
 You are the everlasting health of those
 who believe in You.
 Hear us for Your servants
 for whom we implore the aid of Your tender mercy,
 that being restored to bodily health,
 they may give thanks to You in Your Church.
 Through Christ our Lord.
 We pray for the sick of our parish...*

Peggy & Kevin Curran
Richard Brosan
Lisa Eberhardt
Vincent Malito
Catherine Tamburino
William Sullivan
Dominick Barone
Rocco Meiners
Reynold Ruiz
Agostino Pecoraro
Linda Martin
Charles Gomes
Angelica Francavilla
Carol Gilroy
James Mahaney
Salvatore Ferraro
Regina Khezri

Constance Panessa
Margaret Gargenti
Jane Aaron
Robert Little
Al Wikenhauser
Caroline Bonanno
Regina Khezri
Karen Warnetski
David Casper
Marisol Rodriquez
Ronald Demuth
Vanessa Bauman
Patricia Berke
Linda Crapado
Michael Inghingolo
James Amoroso
Michael Walsh

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 at 631.226.7725, x. 0.

MASS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Sunday, June 29, 2014

12:30 P.M.

On Sunday, June 29, we invite all of our homebound parishioners and their families and friends to the 12:30 P.M. Mass. Here we will pray in a special way for you as welcome you back on this special day. Food and fellowship will follow after Mass. Follow the bulletin for more info!

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, June 2—	
Easter Weekday <i>(Sts. Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs)</i>	
6:30	Nat Argento
12:15	Dolores Soboul
7:00	Novena
TUESDAY, June 3—	
Saint Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs	
6:30	The Savastano Family
12:15	Grace Vellia
WEDNESDAY, June 4 —	
Easter Weekday	
6:30	Angelina Glass
12:15	Living & Deceased Members of the Potuzak Family
12:45 -2:00	Exposition
THURSDAY, June 5—	
Saint Boniface, Bishop & Martyr	
6:30	Lillian & Albert Bente
12:15	Mary Bradley
FRIDAY, June 6—	
Easter Weekday <i>(Saint Norbert, Bishop)</i>	
6:30	Charles Irvine
12:15	Corrado Costigliola
SATURDAY, June 7—	
Easter Weekday	
8:00	Salvatore Matera
Vigil for PENTECOST SUNDAY	
5:00	For the People of the Parish
8:00 - 11:00	Adoration
JUNE 8 PENTECOST SUNDAY	
6:30	The Savastano Family
8:00	Holy Name Society
9:30	Conrad Caputo
11:00	All Holy Souls in Purgatory
12:30	Antoinette Pogrotta
5:00	Soccorsa D'Angelo

MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, June 2, 2014		
6:30 PM	Adult Confirmation Class	Rectory Rm
7:30 PM	Baptismal Prep Class	Room 16
7:45 P.M.	Ushers Meeting	Church
8:00 P.M.	Family Life Monthly Meeting	Sci. Rm
Tuesday, June 3, 2014		
7:00 P.M.	Middle Ages Meeting	Rectory Meeting Room
7:00 PM	Census Steering Committee	St. Lucy Rm
7:15 P.M.	Summer Evening Prayer Meeting	Room 24
7:45 P.M.	Community of Praise Prayer Group	Room 16
8:00 P.M.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
Wednesday, June 4, 2014		
2:30 P.M.	Legion of Mary	Room 24
7:30 P.M.	Boy Scouts	Cafeteria
7:30 PM	Adult Formation: The Joy of the Gospel	Auditorium
7:45 PM	Respect Life Meeting	Room 24
Thursday, June 5, 2014		
7:00 P.M.	Spanish Prayer Group	Cafeteria
7:00 PM	Summer Prayer Planning	St. Lucy
7:30 PM	Rel. Ed - Grade 7 Parent Meeting	Auditorium
7:45 PM	New Mother's Meal Meeting	Room13
8:00 P.M.	Narcotics Anonymous NA	Room 24
8:00 PM	Mothers Prayer Group	Room 16
8:30 P.M.	Music Ministry—Adult Choir	Church
Friday, June 6, 2014		
7:30 PM	Catholics for Religious Freedom	Room 24
Saturday, June 7, 2014		
9:00 A.M	First Saturday Devotions	Cafeteria
6:15 P.M.	Evening Prayer	Church/Front Lawn
8:00 P.M.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
8:00 PM	Nocturnal Adoration	Church
Sunday, June 8, 2014		
8:00 AM	Hospitality Ministry	Cafeteria
10:30AM	Rel. Ed. Grade 7 Parents Meeting	Auditorium
2:00 PM	Baptisms	Church
2:00 PM	CYO Volleyball	Auditorium
3:15 PM	High School Youth Group	Cafeteria
6:15 P.M.	Evening Prayer	Church/ Front Lawn
8:00 P.M.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria

SERVING AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Parish Office: 631.226.7725

Religious Education: 631.226.2384

St. Vincent de Paul (Parish Outreach) :

631.226.7725 X 234

Parish Website:

www.olphlindenhurst.org

Facebook: Our Lady of Perpetual Help



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 Mondays 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.

RITE OF 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 Deacon Doug or Fr. John at the Parish Office 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 Doug or Fr. John 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
Marie Foster
Greg Guido
Sonia Hansen
John Keller
Kevin Sabella
Christina Taparata
James Totino
Pete Triolo
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco

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

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

Robert Dobres
John Reynolds

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

David Barrett
Deacon Tom Bast
Gerry Chille (Chair)
Ed Cirella
Meg Danaher, CFP®, CLU®
Bob Dobres
Bob Meade
John Reynolds
Deacon Don Stamm
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco

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

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

Robert Becker
Mark Costantino
Debbie McDonough
Barbara McPhail
Rosaleen Walters
Mike Williams
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco
Chris Ferraro
Deacon Doug Smith
Fr. John Sureau
Alice Vozzo

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

OFFERING UPDATE

May 24/25, 2014

Mass Time	Weekly	# of Envelopes	Attendance
5:00 P.M.	\$3,589.00	146	424
6:30 A.M.	1,007.00	38	107
8:00 A.M.	3,188.00	132	267
9:30 A.M.	1,918.00	92	384
11:00 A.M.	2,291.00	121	386
12:30 P.M.	1,571.00	55	273
5:00 P.M.	1,069.00	31	168
Total coin:	12.75		
Mail-ins:	87.00		
Children's env.	9.00	8	
Faith Direct	1,835.00		
TOTAL	\$16,576.75	623	2,009
2013 Total	\$16,723.91	730	1,874
Candles	\$1,075.90		
Poor Box	\$271.85		

SUPER 72 RAFFLE

Our first game is coming to a close with the final drawing being held mid-June. The mailing for the next game which runs from July – December is being prepared. Look for the tickets in the mail if you are registered in the parish. If you are not registered you can still get tickets at the rectory office and at Johnston's Funeral Home who sponsored the ticket printing.

Some statistics – Five months so far—
30 winners to date with June yet to come
Total winnings—\$8,250, with the June drawing yet to come
*Remember....*buy two tickets for \$80 and get a third ticket *free*. (\$40 each—3 for \$80)

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

El grupo de oración- "Jesús es el camino, La verdad y la vida" te invita a alabar y glorificar a DIOS todos los Jueves a las 7:00 PM en la cafetería. Comenzando con el Santo Rosario. Unete a nosotros en oración, alabanzas y reflexión de la palabra de DIOS.

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

Para las ofrendas de pan y vino en el altar, favor llamar a la oficina parroquial al 631-226-7725. Adoración al santísimo Sacramento del altar, en español. El primer sábado de cada mes. Recuerda Cristo siempre te espera.

Para más información sobre los sacramentos del bautizo matrimonio y servicio pastorales Unción de los enfermos y la Eucaristía, contacto Padre Juan Sureau - 631.226-7725 x. 224 email jsureau@oloph.org o en español Irma González 631 620-2401 o correo electrónico: lanegra628@yahoo.com

Lecturas del domingo 1 de junio

Primer Lectura (Hch 1,1-11) **¿Por Qué Están Ustedes Mirando al Cielo?** Al ascender a los cielos, Jesús confía su misión a los apóstoles. El Espíritu Santo les dará la fuerza para dar testimonio de Cristo, el Señor, ante todo el mundo.

Segunda Lectura (Ef 1,17-23): **El Cristo Glorioso es la Cabeza de la Iglesia.** Pablo escribe que Cristo es ahora el Señor glorioso que vive en la Iglesia. Ojalá sintamos en nosotros su Espíritu para experimentar a Dios en nuestras vidas y para que nosotros, su Iglesia, vivamos la vida de Cristo.

Evangelio (Mt 28, 16-20): **Jesús Nos Encomienda una Misión.** Jesús ha partido físicamente, pero nos ha dejado una tarea: Llevar a todos el mensaje de la Buena Nueva de salvación. Él permanece con nosotros y nos acompaña en esta misión.

PREPARING FOR

Sunday, June 7, 2014: Pentecost Sunday
"Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth."

Psalms 104

Acts 2:1-11

The Hebrew Feast of Pentecost was proscribed by God as a day when His people, their families, all members of their households, and all the inhabitants of their land, including foreigners, were to gather together in a holy place to rejoice in the presence of the Lord among them (Dt 16:11). In obeying the commandment of Jesus to stay together in Jerusalem, where they were to await and experience the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the Apostles themselves now embodied the fulfillment of this promised new and life-transforming presence of the Lord, and gave clear and unmistakable witness of it to the Jews and converts alike who had come to Jerusalem from many foreign lands for this Feast.

1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13

In this letter, Paul explains to the formerly-pagan Corinthians that their new belief in Jesus as Lord, as well as their new-found spiritual gifts, have come from God Himself, through the power of the Holy Spirit. The people of Corinth were culturally accustomed to regarding such gifts as powers to be used for their own personal glory. But, as Paul tells them, the gifts that each of them have received are given for a purpose: for service to and for the benefit of the entire faith community.

John 20:19-23

We recall that in the garden of Eden, the evil spirit, embodied in the serpent, falsely promises Adam and Eve that they would be "like gods, knowing good and evil," if they exercised their power of freedom to do as they please, regardless of God's commandments (cf Gen 3:1-4). But here in the upper room, the risen Lord, in breathing the Holy Spirit upon the apostles, gives them not only His peace and knowledge of the Truth, but the very power of God Himself over good and evil: the power to forgive sins.

Gospel Reflection Questions...

After reading next Sunday's Gospel (John 20:19-23) take some time to pray on it before you come to Mass.

1. Jesus "breathed" on them. How does this relate to Genesis 2:7, "God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life?" What is the personal significance this passage for you?

2. The disciples' first task after receiving the Holy Spirit was to forgive sins. What impact does forgiveness of sin have on peace? Is it always easy to forgive? How is your peace when forgiveness enters into the problems you experience?

Readings for the Week

*Take time each day to read the daily readings of the Church.
 You can access the readings through our parish website.*

Monday, June 2, 2014:

Acts 19:1-8 + John 16:29-33

Tuesday, June 3, 2014:

Acts 20:17-27 + John 17:1-11a

Wednesday, June 4, 2014:

Acts 20:28-38 + John 17:11b-19

Thursday, June 5, 2014:

Acts 22:30; 23:6-11 + John 17:20-26

Friday, June 6, 2014:

Acts 25:13b-21 John 21:15-19

Saturday, June 7, 2014

Acts 28:16-20, 30-31
 + John 21:20-25



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