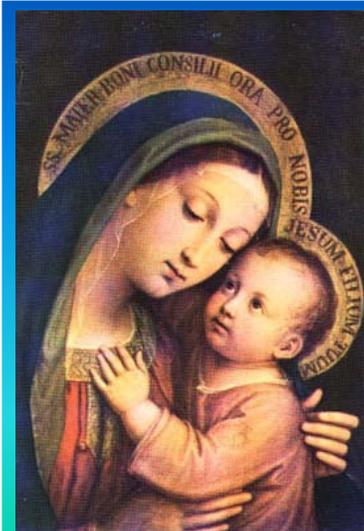


# Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

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 Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.”*

Luke 2:19

## THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

January 1, 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. Martin Kenny

**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

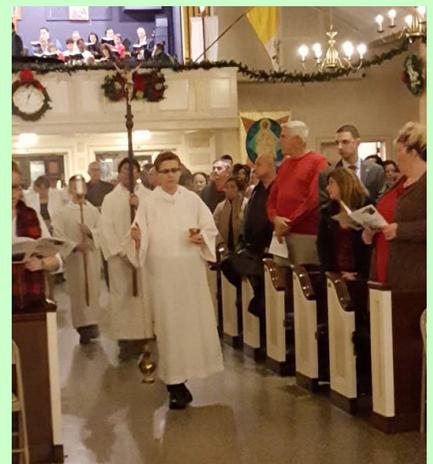
**Monday- Friday:** 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**Saturday:** 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Sunday:** 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

# CHRISTMAS AT OLPH

Many thanks to all the great offerers who showed up to help decorate the church on Friday, December 23! Your time and effort are very much appreciated, and you did a great, great job. You should be proud! Msgr. Joe is still working in getting that Egg Nog for you... Your hard work resulted in our church looking truly beautiful which was enjoyed by over 700 people who attended Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve.



## **CHANGE IN THE PARISH WEBSITE ADDRESS**

Our parish website address has changed. It is now [olphlindenhurst.com](http://olphlindenhurst.com) (it is no longer .org). All e-mail addresses remain unchanged; it is only the website address that is new.

## PASTOR'S PAGE

### *Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

Merry Christmas! Yes, it's still Christmas Time, as this weekend the Church celebrates the Octave (Eighth Day) of the Nativity of the Lord, which is also the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

How beautiful it is to have a feast of the Blessed Mother so prominent during Christmas Time! One of the most outstanding characteristics of Mary is her willingness to know and do God's will. While we would like to follow her example, we often find it difficult to do so, don't we? Do we have a clue that could help us imitate Mary more perfectly? The Gospel for the Mass of this Solemnity gives us a clue, words that I am always struck by and which I try to integrate into my own life and spirituality: "*And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.*" She reflected on events that had happened and that were unfolding before her eyes. In other words, she meditated! How often in our busy life do we overlook the need to stop, reflect, meditate, ponder, and even, at times, just wonder at what God has done and is doing? We all need to stop, take a pause, and remind ourselves that God is always present and active in our life, doing wonderful things, and calling us to deeper relationship with Him and deeper service to others. He is always manifesting Himself, but we often miss it. It can be a wonderful source of spiritual nourishment for us to quiet down, to pray and meditate a little more, and so to rediscover a sense of wonder about being in a never-ending love relationship with God.

### *Happy New Year!*

In the name of the entire Pastoral Staff, I wish you and your family a very blessed and happy New Year, with prayers that many graces and blessings will come your way in 2017. May the upcoming year bring to you and your family healing for what needs to be healed, light to what needs to be illumined, and a renewed sense of gratitude and awe for God's incomprehensible love and presence in our life!

On a personal note, I want to share with you that I continue to be overwhelmed with a sense of grace and gratitude for the privilege of being able to serve you as Pastor. Over and over again in the past year I saw occasion after occa-

sion where I marveled at parishioners' goodness and generosity to one another, and I am continually humbled by your faith and your devotion to God, a faith and devotion that often makes my own seem weak. I know that 2017 will be a year of continued growth and blessing for OLPH. We continue to face several challenges as a parish, chief among them being our always-tenuous financial situation, but together, with one another and with the Lord, and with a spirit of humility, openness, service and, maybe most importantly, humor, we will face those challenges in grace and gratitude.

May I humbly ask that you please keep me in your prayers in the year ahead, and you should know that you are always in mine.

### *Staff Christmas Party*

This Thursday night, January 5, will be our Staff Christmas Party, the annual Christmas gathering of the Pastoral Staff and Support Staff of the parish. The rectory will be closed that night; there will be no evening hours for the reception desk. This is always a fun night of fellowship and great Christmas cheer, as the priests, deacons, and all who are employed here at OLPH gather to celebrate Christmas Time in the Church and in our lives. I am extremely grateful for the hard work and dedication shown by everyone on the Pastoral Staff and Support Staff. In terms of Support Staff, it is our secretaries, receptionists, sacristans and maintenance crew who keep things running around here, sometimes in direct contact with parishioners, and often behind-the-scenes. I value each employee's presence and work and am pleased and proud to be working with them to carry out the mission of the parish.

### *First Confessions for our children*

We are at the time of year when we celebrate First Confessions with the children of our parish! Children normally make their First Confession in Level 2 of religious formation, the same year they also celebrate First Holy Communion. They have been working hard learning about the sacrament, and the catechists have been doing a great job of teaching them about it. Celebrations of First Penance will take place this coming Saturday, January 7 and next Saturday, January 14,

with liturgies at 11:00 a.m. each day.

We encourage parents to make a fairly big deal of this significant occasion in their child's life; it's the first time they are celebrating a sacrament that, we hope, will be a regular part of their life for the rest of their life. I worry sometimes that this sacrament gets overshadowed by First Communion later in the year, so we urge parents to make a festive day when the child celebrates First Penance, for example by making sure the child dresses up for the occasion, and by going out for a celebratory lunch or dinner on that day (and perhaps even inviting relatives—grandparents and godparents, for example—to share in the day).

Please take a little time this week to pray for the children who will be celebrating First Penance this coming Saturday and next.

*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.

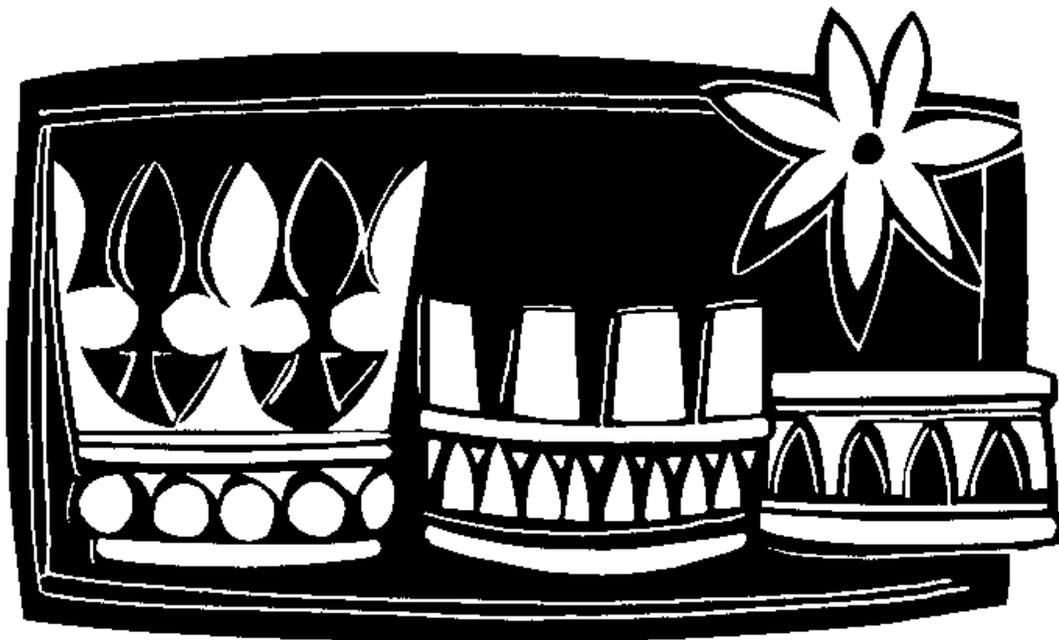
And let's always remember: LOVE IS A GIFT.

Sincerely,



## EPIPHANY PROCLAMATION NEXT WEEK

The Solemnity of the Epiphany is a traditional time to announce the major feasts and celebrations of the Church for the upcoming year. Before the advent of online calendars, iPhones, perpetual calendars, and handheld organizers, the formal announcement at Epiphany was the usual way the Church made known the date of Easter and all the celebrations that are dependent upon its date. Next weekend, after the Gospel at Mass, our cantors will chant this ancient announcement.



# PRAYER AND WORSHIP

## Prayer for Peace

In response to Bishop Murphy's call for parishes to urgently pray for peace because of all the unrest in the world, 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.

**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.**

*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

The Monday night Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help has been a longstanding OLPH tradition. 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, January 2—7:00 p.m.**

**Monday, January 9—7:00 p.m.**

**Monday, January 16—No Devotions  
due to the Martin Luther King holiday**

## ALTAR OF REMEMBRANCE PHOTOS

Please remember to pick up the photos displayed on the Altar of Remembrance. There are still photos left in the sacristy. *Please see the sacristan to pick up your photo.* Thank you for your cooperation.



## REMINDER REGARDING THE COMMUNION FAST

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

## BRINGING FORWARD THE OFFERINGS OF BREAD AND WINE

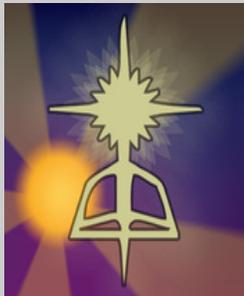


If the announced intention at Mass is for your intention, or if you have memorialized the bread and wine, and you would like to carry those offerings forward at the Presentation of the Gifts during Mass, please be sure to let the ushers know this before the Mass begins. They will be happy to have you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

## PRAYER AND WORSHIP

### 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 Liturgy of the Hours is intended to become the prayer of the whole People of God. In it Christ himself 'continues his priestly work through his Church....Pastors of souls should see to it that the principal hours, especially Vespers (Evening Prayer) are celebrated in common in church on Sundays and on the more solemn feasts.'"*

-Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1175

### FIRST FRIDAY, FIRST SATURDAY & FIRST SUNDAY DEVOTIONS

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

**First Friday Devotions** will take place **January 6** 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, **January 7** 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, January 7 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 (English, Spanish then Polish). The evening concludes with Benediction at 11:00 p.m.

**First Sunday Devotions**  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Sunday, **January 8** at 7:00 p.m.



### 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,  
January 7**

**4:00 p.m. School Auditorium**

*All are welcome  
come celebrate Mass with us!*

*We can use some help in preparing for our monthly Mass and other special needs events. How about you?  
Contact Jessica Becker at 631-226-7725 X 252 or  
email to [jbecker@olph.org](mailto:jbecker@olph.org)*

### SPECIAL CARDS FOR THE EPIPHANY BLESSING OF YOUR HOME

It is traditional for families to bless their home on the Solemnity of the Epiphany, which takes place next **Sunday, January 8, 2017**. In next week's bulletin we will have special information about blessing your home on Epiphany. We will also have available special cards which may be used in the blessing and placed above your doorway, to remain there for the entire upcoming year. Please look for these special cards available throughout the church next weekend.

*Peace be with this house and all who live here*

20 +  +  +  + 17

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
Lindenhurst, New York

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

**NEW CATHOLICS WANTED and NEEDED!**

*What about you? Do you want to be baptized?  
Are you already baptized in another Christian church  
and want to become Catholic?  
What are you waiting for?*

Are you thinking of becoming Catholic?



We offer a beautiful and life-giving process to join the Catholic Church and would love for you to be a part of it! You will join with other women and men interested in becoming part of the Catholic faith. Together, led by members of our parish community, you will discover God's call for you!

We are hoping to form a new group of those interested in joining the Catholic Church. **We need you to reach out and invite someone you know who might be considering this and have them contact us here at OLPH!**

*Would you like to share your faith with those discerning God's call in their own hearts? To accompany another in this process not only aids those in this process of formation but transforms you as well. For more information about adult process, contact Alice White at 631-805-2133 or e-mail to: Alicem9@icloud.com. For information about becoming part of our children's process, contact Jo-Ann Domanico at 631-884-5245 or email to lax1618@yahoo.com.*

**ADULT CONFIRMATION**

**CONFIRMATION**



*Are you an adult interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation?*

If you are a baptized Catholic, but have not been fully initiated, we offer a process for those who desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

*For adults who desire more information, contact Robert Becker at 631-226-6175 or e-mail to [rabecker@optimum.net](mailto:rabecker@optimum.net) For teenagers and their families who desire more information, contact the Faith Formation Office at 631.226.7725, x.251 or e-mail to [religiously@oloph.org](mailto:religiously@oloph.org).*

**2017 ADULT FAITH FORMATION CLASSES START**

**Spirituality: Fulfilling Our Deepest Desires:  
Growing Closer to God**

In this world, every person is on a journey. As Christians, we believe we are either journeying toward the beatific vision or we are on a path that is separation from God. Through the centuries, those who have traversed the path to holiness successfully have offered wisdom and counsel to others through their public and private writing. In this survey course, we will review the writings of four Doctors of the Church: St. Theresa of Avila, St. Thérèse of Lisieux, St. John of the Cross and St. Bernard of Clairvaux. Content of the course will be drawn from Ralph Martin's *The Fulfillment of All Desire*, available from Emmaus Road Publishing.  
*(You do not need to buy the book in order to take the course.)*



**Thursdays: January 19, 26, February 2, 9 & 16**  
**Instructor: Deacon Robert Becker**  
**Room: TBA**

*To register, contact the Parish Office at 631.226.7725 X 200, e-mail to [rabecker@optonline.net](mailto:rabecker@optonline.net) or return the form.*

Yes, please, sign me up!

**Spirituality: Fulfilling Our Deepest Desires: Growing Closer to God**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

**A fee of \$20 per person will be collected to cover the costs of materials.**

# FRIENDS OF MUSIC



“The musical tradition of the universal Church is a treasure of inestimable value, greater even than that of any other art.”

- *The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy #112*

The *Friends of Music* is an annual initiative to support the music ministry here at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. With the generosity of our *Friends*, we are able to continue to offer beautiful music for our liturgies and concerts and special programs throughout the year. As we approach the end of the year, we especially thank all of our 2016 *Friends of Music* at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church for their generosity.

## St. Cecilia (\$200 and above)

- Anonymous
- Joan Baffa, *In honor of the extended members of the Baffa Family*
- Douglas and Carol Bertolino, *In loving memory of Cecelia Bankovich*
- The Curry Family, *In loving memory of Lorraine Curry*
- Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco, *In loving memory of Marcy & Bill DeGrocco*
- Christopher and Cathy Ferraro
- Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton, *In loving memory of Richard and Catherine Liston Hamilton*
- Sheila Lanza
- Anthony and Francis Pellarin
- Joseph and Marie Powers, *In thanksgiving*
- Peter and Grace Tapanis
- James and Jacqueline Totino, *In honor of Juliana Martinez*
- Nick and Lillian Vilardi
- Annette Walsh, *In honor of Msgr. Joe DeGrocco*
- Annette Walsh, *In honor of Kevin Walsh and all who cannot speak for themselves*

## St. Gregory the Great (\$100 to \$199)

- Anonymous
- Mary Ellen and David Barrett, *In loving memory of Ryan Barrett*
- Charles and Barbara Ferraro, *In honor of Grace and Sarah Ferraro*
- Mrs. Joan Hosey, *In memory and honor of Philip Hosey*
- James Kendall, *In memory of Ann Kendall*
- Janina Soroka, *In memory of John Soroka and Anthony and Maria Jankowsky*
- Stephen and Deirdre Strigaro, *In loving memory of the deceased members of the Knights of Columbus and the Holy Name Society*

## St. Augustine (\$50 to \$99)

- Anonymous
- Deborah Duffy
- Ottmar and Theresia Keller, *Mr. and Mrs. Johannes Keller and Mr. and Mrs. Max Gehrlein*
- Patricia and Michael Little, *In loving memory of Jane Doyle Gustafson*
- Marlene Rief, *In Thanksgiving for our Precious Gift, Amelia Jean Connolly*
- Bob and Linda Setti, *In Thanksgiving for our Precious Gift, Mary Elizabeth Setti*
- Dick and Valerie Singh
- Gail Tonnesson, *In loving memory of Mary G. Tonnessen*
- Alvin J. Wickenheiser, *In loving memory of Lorraine T. Wickenheiser and Fred and Mae West*
- Linda Zarzycki, *In memory of Margaret and Harold Poolt*

## St. Ambrose (\$25 to \$49)

- Anonymous, *In loving memory of William Dow*
- Mr. and Mrs. Corazon F. Andres, *In loving memory of Corazon P. Bareng*
- Patricia M. Dow and Family, *In memory of William R. Dow*
- Martin Gibbs, *In honor of my sister Valerie Singh*
- Richard and Maryann Haas, *In loving memory of Margaret Grillo*
- Rose Mourdoukoutas, *In honor of Valerie Singh*
- The Volpe Family, *In memory of Ryan Barrett*

## Cherubim (up to \$24)

- Angela G. Zoccali, *In loving memory of Angela DelBianco*

**Join the 2017 *Friends of Music* at OLPH and be a part of our music history!  
Contact Chris Ferraro - [cferraro@oloph.org](mailto:cferraro@oloph.org) for more information.**

# MUSIC NOTES



## Have you unpacked all your gifts?

Perhaps God is calling you this Christmas season to become a part of the music ministry at OLPH. If so, read below to see which ensemble might suit your gifts. Perhaps one of your spiritual gifts has not yet been opened. Pray about it and then give a call.

## Adult Choir

The Adult Choir sings at the 12:00 p.m. Mass most Sundays (September to June) and for other special liturgies during the year. Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the church. Members are high school aged or older. Reading music is not a requirement, just a desire to praise God in song and the ability to carry a tune. Please call in advance if you are interested in joining or would like more information.

*Contact:*  
Chris Ferraro  
(631) 226-7725, ext. 210  
cferraro@oloph.org



## Youth Choir

The Youth Choir sings at the 10:00 a.m. Mass three times a month (September to June) and at other special liturgies during the year. Rehearsals are held on Thursday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the school building. Members are in grades 3 through 12.

*Contact:*  
Amy Keller  
mrs.amykeller@yahoo.com



## Youth Band!

Members of the Youth Band lead the music at the Sunday night 5:00 p.m. Mass twice a month. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings. The band needs young musicians: piano, flute, cello preferred. Try-outs are required.

*Contact:*  
Dan Volpe  
(917) 468-9584



# OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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

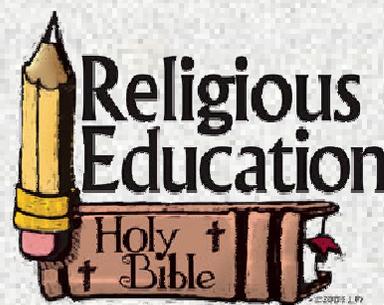
## OFFICE HOURS:

**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.



Wishing all our  
OLPH family a  
wonderful 2017!  
May this new year  
be filled with faith  
and many blessings.

# Welcome Back!



## LEVEL 8 LENDS A HAND

Room 2 helped the St. Vincent de Paul Society before Christmas!



## SAINT OF THE WEEK



*Solemnity of Mary,  
Mother of God  
January 1st.*

## LEVEL 4 JESSE TREE

Our Level 4 families gathered to create a beautiful Jesse Tree, a traditional Advent decoration. Come see Jesus' family tree hanging up in the church, at the south side entrance!



# Upcoming Dates:

### \*\*\*Level 2: First Penance and Rehearsal\*\*\*

**Group A (Session II):** Penance rehearsal on  
Tuesday, 1/3 at 5:00 p.m.

First Penance on Saturday, 1/7 at 11:00 a.m.

**Group B (Sessions I & III):** Penance rehearsal  
Monday, 1/9 at 5:00 p.m.

First Penance on Saturday, 1/14 at 11:00 a.m.

### Level 8:

No class on January 16th: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

### Level 6:

There will be a parent meeting on January 18th. The topic will be chastity. ALL Level 6 parents must attend.

# 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—cffr@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  
COFFEE  
TOOTHPASTE  
TOOTHBRUSHES  
PAPER TOWELS  
NAPKINS  
SOAP  
TOILET PAPER**

*Please bring your donations to the St. VdP office:  
Monday, Wednesday or Friday 9:00 a.m.—12:00 Noon  
or 1st & 3rd Saturday 1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m. or drop off  
on the sanctuary steps in the church.*

Thank you for your continued generosity.

Cut out this list and take it to the store!

## **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.**

Today is the feast of Mary, Mother of God. Like Mary may we always treasure the events in our life and reflect on them in our heart.

**Please remember to support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in 2017 so that together we can continue to bring comfort and peace to our brothers and sisters who are poor and suffering. May the peace and joy of the New Year be yours!**

## † **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. To date, your donations have amounted to over \$4,000 which is 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 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY *Happenings*

### 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](mailto:rmuir11@aol.com). You assist when you can—usually once every other month!

#### **DONATIONS**

We are in need of the following items:

##### Wash cloths

Men's underwear - L, XL

hoodies - M, L, XL

sweat tops - M, L, XL

sweat pants - M, L, XL

sneakers - 10, 11, 12, 13

socks

##### Toiletries:

Lotion not more than 1 oz.

Soaps - travel size - not larger than 3 oz.

Shampoo - travel size - not larger than 3 oz.

Toothpaste - small - not larger than 3 oz.

Toothbrushes

Small packs of tissues

##### Granola bars

##### Cup-of-soup

Before you throw out or recycle those plastic grocery bags please consider leaving them for us to use to distribute items to the homeless.

*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, January 3**

**7:00 p.m. in Room 24**

Call Gail Tonnessen at 631-957-1449  
or email her at [gtonness@optonline.net](mailto:gtonness@optonline.net)

### BLUE DOOR BOUTIQUE

## BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!



Leather jackets, wool coats, vests, fleeces, scarves, hats and more! Everything you need to stay warm this winter, available at **CRAZY** low prices at The Blue Door Boutique.

Our prices are the lowest around. New merchandise

THE  
*blue*door  
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.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

The OLPH Homeless Ministry would like to thank the parishioners who gave so generously to the homeless by choosing a tag from the Advent Giving Tree. The gifts of gift cards, sleeping bags, blankets, gloves, hats, hand warmers, and many other items needed will be put to great use, and we know that the recipients will be very grateful. God Bless You for remembering them. Now as the weather is becoming unbearably cold... please pray for those with no place to call home.



## SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER



### “Baby Problems?”

*Don't give up...there is always HOPE.*

For example – Shellie & Greg Tucker were expecting a baby. Suddenly the doctor recommended “termination” because they would not survive since they were “co-joined” and shared a diaphragm and liver. As the doctor was saying this, the mother felt her babies kicking inside of her. They refused abortion and searched for another doctor.

Four years later they have two separated happy “normal” little girls, climbing and getting into “trouble.” They were separated at 8 months after a 7 hour operation.

If you know ANYONE considering abortion or who has been advised to abort, do NOT be silent. Offer them hope and direct them to doctors who believe in life – **Gianna Center/Gabriel’s Courage** at Good Samaritan Hospital or the **Life Center** or **Birthright**. Call our Respect Life Committee for more information – Louise 631-412-3831.

### OLPH Community Meal Ministry

Our meal on Sunday, Dec. 18, 2016 was generously hosted by a local company - *Bedgear Performance Bedding*. Eugene Alletto not only provided an over-abundance of delicious food but also a staff of over 20 efficient and friendly “waiters.”



Pictured here – Msgr. Joe thanks Eugene Alletto - the “boss” of Bedgear Performance Bedding – our amazingly generous volunteer host.



Bedgear Performance Bedding volunteer “staff” joined by Community Meal leader, Gigi (far right) and Van Ministry leader, Regina, as well as other OLPH offerers.



Msgr. Joe says the blessing over our Christmas Community Meal.

## THANK YOU!

**THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

The Life Center of Long Island sincerely thanks O L P H Parish for their donation to the baby bottle campaign.

Your generosity raised **\$10,696!**

May God bless you for your support of life!



# HELP WANTED!



**HELP NEEDED TO TAKE DOWN THE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS!**

We will be taking down the Christmas decorations on *Tuesday, January 10th at 1:00 p.m. in the church*. We could use as many helpers as possible to make the job go quickly and easily. Just come on down and lend a hand!

## 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](mailto:pfa.longisland@gmail.com) **Website:** [www.pfa-li.com](http://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 Ave  
Parking lot entrance on Lake Ave -  
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**

### Are you watching... The new season of **INSIGHT?**

Msgr. Joe's television show INSIGHT, which he co-hosts with Bishop Robert Brennan and Bishop Nelson Pérez, can be seen airing weekly on Telecare, channel 29 on Cablevision, on:



**Tuesdays at 10:30 p.m.**  
**Wednesdays at 11:00 p.m.**  
**Fridays at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Saturdays at 10:00 p.m.**

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter



**Attention  
Married Couples!  
Give the gift of a  
Marriage Encounter  
Weekend**

**Give your spouse a gift like no other –  
time for each other**

**Rediscover your love and enhance your hopes and  
dreams! WWME is the original and still the best!  
AND the next weekend is right in time for Valen-  
tine's Day!!!**

**February 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>**

@ Seminary of the Immaculate Conception  
440 W Neck Rd.  
Huntington, NY 11743

**Space is limited.** For more information about the  
weekends or to apply call **1-877-697-9963**  
or visit our web site at

<http://www.wwme.org>

## MARCH FOR LIFE

# MARCH FOR LIFE

**Friday,  
January 27, 2017**



This year we have a MUCH BETTER chance to save those innocent little lives...

Once again, we are blessed that Msgr. Joe has allowed us to hire a bus to take us to the March. There will be Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help at 5:00 a.m. and the bus will leave immediately after. A "free will" offering is requested to offset the cost of the bus. If interested, please call Kathy of the Respect Life Committee at 631-225-9864.



## WE NEED MORE SAINT BERNARDS

### We need your help for the Saint Bernard League

*(Saint Bernards are known for bringing people to safety in hazardous weather conditions!)*

The Saint Bernard program was initiated to keep seniors and the disabled safe from falls on snow or ice during the winter. The program also keeps pathways clear for the neighborhood and allows emergency vehicles to reach those in need. When you sign up to be Saint Bernard, you are strengthening our community, improving someone else's life and transforming your own life through service.

#### How do I become a Snow Buddy?

Offerers simply call the Parish Office at 631.226.7725 or email [stbernardleague@oloph.org](mailto:stbernardleague@oloph.org). Once the match is made, the organizers of this program will send out reminder emails and ask you to reach out to your recipient and confirm they are in need of service, then you bring a smile, and a shovel to that person's house and make their day brighter.



# 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](mailto:saitjoseph98@gmail.com)

## **Reflexiones de las lecturas del Domingo 8 de Enero del 2017**

La epifanía del señor.

### **Primera Lectura del libro de Isaías (60,1-6):**

El mundo que estaba en tinieblas ha recibido una gran luz. Jesús es el Rey de los Judíos, es el Cristo luz para los pueblos, nacido para todos en Belén de Judá. La luz de la razón y de la revelación lleva hasta el ala humanidad que encuentra en él la propia vida

### **Segunda Lectura de la carta del apóstol san Pablo a los Efesios (3,2-3a.5-6)**

La misericordia de Dios fue revelada como nunca antes a través del Espíritu santo a los Santos Apóstoles para que los gentiles fuéramos coherederos y parte de la promesa

### **Lectura del santo evangelio según san Mateo (2,1-12)**

Jesús nació El dios que salva ya está entre nosotros. Aunque sepamos el lugar físico donde nació no basta debemos realizar el itinerario de los reyes con fatiga de un camino nocturno lleno de fascinaciones y miedos, de deseos de esperanzas y de incertidumbre, bajo la guía de una estrella que aparece y desaparece. De lo contrario somos como Herodes que solo lo busca para darle muerte

**Sigue la estrella** misterio de la Navidad es tan grande y tan profundo, que no basta un día para entrar a fondo en él y descubrir todas sus dimensiones. A la noche y el día de Navidad, en que contemplamos la luz del niño Dios nacido en Belén, le siguen otras fiestas que van completando un cuadro armonioso. La fiesta de la Sagrada Familia nos habla de un contexto de relaciones humanas, del que la verdadera humanidad de Jesús tenía necesidad para desarrollarse y crecer. Las fiestas de San Esteban y de los santos inocentes, para evitar un exceso de sentimentalismo, nos recuerdan que Jesús nace en un mundo violento e injusto y que Él mismo y otros por su causa habrán de sufrir las consecuencias de esa situación “no ideal” del mundo en la que tiene lugar la encarnación.

El misterio se va completando con esta fiesta de la Epifanía o Manifestación de Cristo a los gentiles, nuestra popular fiesta de los Reyes Magos. Es una fiesta que enlaza directamente con la del domingo siguiente: el Bautismo del Señor, otro momento de manifestación, pues es el momento del comienzo del ministerio público de Cristo; y con la Bodas de Caná, que Juan presenta como el comienzo de los “signos” que Jesús realiza para anunciar que Dios está ya cumpliendo sus promesas. De hecho, la liturgia oriental reúne en una sola fiesta (aquí en Rusia es el día 7 de enero) la Navidad, y la Epifanía. Los magos confiesan y testimonian con sus regalos. Nosotros deberíamos tratar de regalar al mundo el testimonio de nuestra fe, sin miedo y sin vergüenza, dando razón de nuestra esperanza (cf. 1 P 3, 15). Es el mejor regalo que le podemos hacer, pues el mundo necesita a este niño que ha nacido en Belén. Regalar la luz que hemos visto en medio de la noche y que hemos recibido con nuestra fe. Sí, ese es el mejor regalo que podemos y debemos hacer en este mundo no ideal en el que Jesús ha nacido para todos: ser nosotros mismos estrellas que indican el camino que lleva a Belén a todos aquellos que buscan a Dios, y que, incluso sin saberlo, necesitan a Cristo.

### **1) Oración inicial**

Te pedimos, Señor, que tu divina luz ilumine nuestros corazones; con ella avanzaremos a través de las tinieblas del mundo hasta llegar a la patria, donde todo es eterna claridad. Por nuestro Señor. Amen.

Celebrando las posadas de Navidad en la gran familia de la Iglesia, Nuestra Señora del perpetuo socorro junto a nuestro Pastor Monseñor Joe DeGrocco



# PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

## **BANNS OF MARRIAGE**

*Please pray for the following members of our parish community preparing for the Sacrament of Matrimony.*

**Third Announcement:**  
*Salvatore Gerbino & Genine Rigney*

## **WE REMEMBER**

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

*Frank Santoro  
Francesco P. DiBello*

*“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.”*

## **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.



*Have you returned your new census form and updated your parish Registration information?*

## **WE BELIEVE**

We pray for the sick of our parish...

<i>Eileen Henry</i>	<i>John Gallagher</i>
<i>Alyssa Drenkalo</i>	<i>Bunnie Rieger</i>
<i>Anthony Borelli</i>	<i>Reinhard Beresowski</i>
<i>Vance Viverito</i>	<i>Mary Doran</i>
<i>Fran Milo</i>	<i>Peter Masak</i>
<i>Sheila Kump</i>	<i>Herb Otten</i>
<i>Carmine Alesi</i>	<i>Bernadette Sinnott</i>
<i>Robert Walker</i>	<i>Marie Foster</i>
<i>Dominick Pane</i>	<i>Laurel Kurnides</i>
<i>Wojciech Chojnacki</i>	<i>Geraldine Martin</i>
<i>Judith Walsh</i>	<i>Eileen McCauley</i>
<i>Catherine Tamburino</i>	<i>Richard Kleczkowski</i>
<i>James Quartuccio</i>	<i>Tara Hayes</i>
<i>Rosemarie Collins</i>	<i>Dick Singh</i>
<i>Ryan Deleana</i>	<i>Lisa Ruggiero</i>

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.**



**TO OUR  
NEW OLPH  
PARISHIONERS**

***December***

*Matthew McGillen & Denise O'Rourke  
Kristopher Zee & Jamie Blau  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Scanlon  
Andrew Hurley & Lindsay Roberti  
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Laier & Family  
Mr. Tom Kraus  
Mr. James Morrisroe & Ms. Megan Bannigan  
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Orlando & Family*

## MASS INTENTIONS

### MONDAY, January 2— Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church

6:30 Rocco Pomatico

12:15 George Walters

### TUESDAY, January 3— Christmas Weekday (The Most Holy Name of Jesus)

6:30 George Walters

12:15 George Walters

### WEDNESDAY, January 4— Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

6:30 George S. Walters

12:15 George Walters

### THURSDAY, January 5— Saint John Neumann, Bishop

6:30 Angelo DiGuglielmo

12:15 George Walters

### FRIDAY, January 6— Christmas Weekday (Saint André Bessette, Religious)

6:30 Dorothy Dedon

12:15 George S. Walters

### SATURDAY, January 7— Christmas Weekday

8:00 Anthony Brigandi

#### Vigil for THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

4:00 Special Needs Mass (Auditorium)

5:00 Margaret McShea

#### Sunday, January 8 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

8:00 Perpetual Help Mass

10:00 For the Living & Deceased Members of  
the Holy Name Society

12:00 For the People of the Parish

5:00 Michael Gagliardi

## PARISH CALENDAR

### Monday, January 2, 2017

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

7:00 p.m. Devotions Church

### Tuesday, January 3, 2017

4:00 p.m. CYO Cheerleading Auditorium

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

6:45 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

7:00 p.m. Middle Ages Room 24

8:00 p.m. Community of Praise Room 16

### Wednesday, January 4, 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 Room 24

5:30 p.m. Level 6 Classes School

6:00 p.m. Van Run Room 10

7:30 p.m. Level 7 Classes School

### Thursday, January 5, 2017

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

4:00 p.m. CYO Cheerleading Auditorium

4:30 p.m. Youth Choir Rehearsal Room 16

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

7:00 p.m. Spanish Prayer Group Cafeteria

7:30 p.m. Parent Baptismal Prep Class Room 16

8:00 p.m. Vacation Bible Camp Planning Room 12

8:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous Room 24

### Friday, January 6, 2017

8:00 a.m. Van Run Prep Room 10

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

### Saturday, January 7, 2017

8:30 a.m.,  
10:00 a.m.,  
11:30 a.m. Levels 1-5 Classes Meet School

11:00 a.m. First Penance (A) Church

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

4:00 p.m. Confessions Church

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Church

7:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

8:00 p.m. Nocturnal Adoration Church

### Sunday, January 8, 2017

8:00 a.m. RCIA Church

9:00 a.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal Church

10:00 a.m. RCIC Church

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

1:00 p.m. CYO Basketball Auditorium

2:00 P.M. Baptisms Church

6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Church

7:00 p.m. Holy Hour for Peace 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
Martin Kenny, Business Manager	204	mkenny@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Director of Faith Formation	257	akleinlaut@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 631-805-2133 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  
 Martin Kenny  
 Bob Meade  
 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 December 24/25, 2016

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.			
8:00 a.m.			
1:00 p.m.			
Children's Env.			
Faith Direct			
<b>TOTAL</b>			
<b>2015 total</b>			
<b>Candles</b>			
<b>Poor Box</b>			

*Due to earlier-than-usual printer deadlines, collection totals for the weekend of December 24/25, 2016 will be published in a future issue of the bulletin. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.*



### The IRA Charitable Rollover is back and is now permanent!

**What's called a rollover is actually a "qualified charitable distribution" that can be made to our Parish.**

**If...**

- You are at least 70 1/2 years old on the date you make your gift.
- Your IRA is a traditional or Roth.
- You don't exceed your personal maximum of \$100,000 per year in qualified charitable distributions.
- **You will not have to report your distribution as income. It will be free of federal and New York State income tax, and it will count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD).**

*VERY IMPORTANT!! Your gift must go directly from your IRA to the Parish. If you receive the money first then you'll be taxed on it like any other distribution.*

*Example: Mrs. Connors, age 76, has \$125,000 in a traditional IRA and would like to contribute \$5,000 to her Parish in 2016. Upon hearing of the Charitable IRA Rollover opportunity, she directs the custodian of her IRA to transfer this amount not later than December 31, 2016 directly to the Parish as a 2016 gift. She will not be subject to income tax on her \$5,000 qualified charitable distribution.*

This information is not intended and should not be construed as legal, tax or investment advice. For such advice, please consult an attorney, tax advisor or investment professional.

### THANK YOU FOR NOT BLOCKING THE PRIEST GARAGES!

We ask your cooperation in not parking along the driveway outside the priest garages and in keeping cars clear of that area completely. Especially since priests may need to go out on sick calls and other emergencies, it is important to keep the large driveway area and the space in front of the garage doors completely accessible. Thank you.

### 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](mailto:cbecker@oloph.org).  
*Editing and sizes are at the discretion of the editor.*

**January 8—passed**  
**January 15—January 6**  
**January 22—January 13**  
**Thank you for your cooperation.**

### SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

Did you know that the OLPH bulletin is printed free of charge each week? Not only that, our parish receives a part of the advertising commission. **So please frequent the fine establishments that advertise in our bulletin!**

If your business could use a shot in the arm, consider advertising in the bulletin. Each week, nearly two thousand people attend Mass at OLPH, most of whom live and shop in the Lindenhurst area, receive or view our bulletin online. It's an easy way to reach thousands of area families with information about your business.

*For more information on how to advertise in our bulletin, call The Church Bulletin Company at 631.249.4994.*

## PREPARING FOR

### Sunday, January 8, 2017—THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

*When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews?"*

Matthew 2:1-2a

#### Isaiah 60:1-6

Today the Church celebrates the epiphany, or manifestation, of Christ to all the world, Jew and Gentile alike. All three readings make that clear. This first reading is from hundreds of years before Jesus' birth at a time when the holy city of Jerusalem had been conquered and many of its inhabitants deported to a foreign land. They longed for the day when they would return to their homeland. The reading overflows with light, brightness, and radiance as it prophesies how glorious that day will be for the Jewish people. But it goes on to say that this saving act of the Lord will also be the marvel of other nations and their rulers who will bring gifts to Jerusalem such as gold and frankincense. People from all nations will come to know and praise God.

#### Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

In this letter to the Church at Ephesus, Paul stresses that with the coming of Jesus the new Israel will expand to include the Gentiles as well as the Jews. This "mystery" was made known to him by revelation, an act of God's grace as he puts it, and was unknown to people in the past, namely the prophets such as Isaiah. It is a part of God's plan for the salvation of all people that was revealed to him by the Spirit: "the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel." God desires all people, Jews and non-Jews alike, to be saved by Jesus. Good news indeed!

#### Matthew 2:1-12

The author of this Gospel, Matthew, was a Jew who came to believe in Jesus as the Messiah. As such, he wrote primarily to an audience of Jewish Christians like himself, telling them the story of Jesus and trying to persuade them to believe in him. He does this by frequently quoting or alluding to passages from the Old Testament, which they would know and revere, and explaining how they point to Jesus and are fulfilled by him. Prominent in this account of the birth of Jesus is a passage from the ancient prophet Micah (5:1) which prophesies that a ruler "who is to shepherd my people" will come from the town of Bethlehem. Witnesses to this wondrous birth are "magi from the east." While many have debated the exact nature of the magi, what is more important for us today is that they come "from the east," that is to say, they are non-Jews who recognized that Jesus came as Messiah for all people. Matthew makes it apparent that God, not the Roman emperor or his designated ruler Herod, has crowned the real "King of the Jews" and that even though he first appeared to the Jewish people all people will welcome their true ruler and Savior.

## Readings for the Week

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

#### Monday, January 2, 2017:

1 John 2:22-28 + John 1:19-28

#### Tuesday, January 3, 2017:

1 John 2:29—3:6 + John 1:29-34

#### Wednesday, January 4, 2017:

1 John 3:7-10 + John 1:35-42

#### Thursday, January 5, 2017:

1 John 3:11-21 + John 1:43-51

#### Friday, January 6, 2017:

1 John 5:5-13 + Mark 1:7-11

#### Saturday, January 7, 2017:

1 John 5:14-21 + John 2:1-11

#### Sunday, January 8, 2017:

Isaiah 60:1-6  
+ Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6  
+ Matthew 2:1-12

### 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. In response to God's message, the Magi rode camels across half the known world. Is there anything that would cause you to put forth effort like that? What made their search worth it for them?

2. In his Epiphany homily, Pope Francis reflects on the star that led the wise men along the way, and that allowed them to enter into the mystery. What is that mystery?

What is *the mystery in which God is hidden*? Where can I find him? All around us we see wars, the exploitation of children, torture, trafficking in arms, trafficking in persons. ... In all these realities, in these, the least of our brothers and sisters who are enduring these difficult situations, there is Jesus (cf. Matthew 25:40, 45). The crib points us to a different path from the one cherished by the thinking of this world: it is the path of *God's self-abasement*, his glory concealed in the manger of Bethlehem, on the cross upon Calvary, in each of our suffering brothers and sisters.

The wise men *entered into the mystery*. They passed from human calculations to the mystery: this was their conversion. And our own? Let us ask the Lord to let us undergo that same journey of conversion experienced by the wise men. Let us ask him to protect us and to set us free from the temptations which hide the star. To let us always feel the troubling question: "Where is the star?" whenever—amid the deceptions of this world—we lose sight of it.

*Pope Francis, Homily for Epiphany,  
January 6, 2015*

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