

# 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



*Jesus said, "Stay awake!  
For you do not know on which day  
your Lord will come."*

Matthew 24:42

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 27, 2016

### 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.

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

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.

**THE SEASON OF ADVENT**

# Advent Lessons & Carols

And

International Peace Light Ceremony

Friday, December 2, 2016

7:30pm

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
210 South Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst



In the peak of winter darkness, we will gather in the quiet church, with candles lit from the Peace Light originating from the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, to hear the Scriptures and beautiful music of Advent. Based on the traditional service from Kings College, Cambridge, OLPH parish will add its own touch, with readers of all ages and music led by the adult choir, youth band, youth choir, cantors, and instrumentalists. The assembly is as much a part of this service as the choirs and joins in singing the great hymns of Advent. Join us as we prepare for the coming of Christ into our hearts and pray for peace throughout our troubled world.

Please bring your own lantern if you wish to bring the Peace Light home.

## PASTOR'S PAGE

### *First Sunday of Advent*

*“Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.”*

With those words of the Collect (Opening Prayer) for the First Sunday of Advent, we launch our new liturgical year and our season of hope-filled longing and excited anticipation. What great imagery there is in that prayer! Advent is our time of resolve, of running forth to meet Christ when He comes — but the only proper way to meet Him is with righteous deeds; only by living lives of proper love and compassion can we be gathered at the Lord’s right hand and share in the Kingdom of Heaven when He comes.

Indeed, the message we hear this Advent is first and foremost a message about who God is and all that God does for us. The Advent Scriptures proclaim to us that God saves, God shelters and protects us, God’s light triumphs, God provides nourishment, God comforts and heals, and God’s justice reigns. Through Advent we learn that in Jesus is found the full revelation of who God is. As disciples, our Advent task is to accept the charge to stay awake, and to prepare ourselves for the Lord’s coming. We do not know when that will be, but we do know that right now God calls us to find Him and to respond to Him in all those who seek healing, mercy, forgiveness, compassion and justice.

Keep in mind, though, that we cannot truly embrace the proper reverence, hope, reflection and anticipation of Advent spirituality if we jump right away to celebrating Christmas. Likewise, as I always point out, we cannot adequately celebrate Christmas when that feast comes if we have not celebrated Advent well. If indeed we feel a let-down at Christmas or are exhausted by the time Christmas Day comes, perhaps it’s no one’s fault but our own: we have not spiritually prepared ourselves well enough and have not taken adequate advantage of the richness and depth of the Advent prayers, readings, songs and symbols that lead up to Christmas.

Spend time in the days and weeks ahead with the great figures we meet in the Scriptures who are so central to Advent: Isaiah, John the Baptist, and the Blessed Virgin Mary. As this new

liturgical year begins, let’s bring ourselves to the symbols and stories of Advent with open hearts and readiness for something new to happen, to us and to the world around us. Such newness is the heart of Advent longing, hoping and waiting.

We have a special insert in today’s bulletin which explains many aspects of the liturgical time of Advent and which offers thoughts for Advent spirituality; I hope you will take notice of it and use it in your prayer at home during the week. We’ll be running a special insert for each week of Advent throughout the season.

Also, keep a close watch on the bulletin for all the special spiritual and communal activities we are offering during Advent. Mark your calendar now and set aside time for our Parish Advent Penance Service with special guest presider and preacher Bishop Andrzej Zglejszewski on December 13.

### *Update your parish census registration!*

This is it! This weekend, as I have announced at all Masses, is the launch of our project to update our parish census records by having everyone fill out and return our new parish census forms. This is necessary because it has been a long time since we have done a census; the last one was done back in the 1980’s. We need to make sure we have correct information, and we need to update the information we have, for example, by obtaining modern contact information such as cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses. Also, some information that we are asking for on the new forms is information that we have not asked about before, but which will help us to do more strategic and fruitful pastoral outreach to the people of the parish.

Please be sure to take one of the new census forms and fill it out **completely**, answering every question, and returning it. You can help us out by spreading the word we are doing this and helping to make sure that **EVERYONE** completes and returns an updated form. Even if you have just recently registered in the last month or so, when we were still using the old form, we will need you to re-register using the new form (sorry for the inconvenience, but, it was inevitable).

Let this be our mantra to all, far and wide: *“Have you updated your parish registration infor-*

ation?"

### ***Lessons and Carols***

Start your Advent off in a beautiful way by attending the traditional service of **Lessons and Carols**, which will be held **this Friday, December 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the church**. Talk about a most beautiful, spiritually-enriching and uplifting way to be immersed in the richness of Advent — Lessons and Carols is it! We listen to the Advent Scriptures, we sing and listen to the very moving and inspirational Advent music, and it is presented to us all so magnificently by our parish music ministry and our parish readers. Included in our celebration is the bringing in of the Peace Light from Jerusalem, which can be brought to your home for Advent and used in the lighting of your Advent wreath candles. I am grateful to Chris Ferraro, our parish Director of Music, who makes this happen each year, and I also offer thanks to Amy Keller, who directs the Youth Choir, and Dan Volpe, who directs the Youth Band, who assist Chris in our music ministry, and of course to all the talented and wonderful men and women who are our singers and our instrumentalists.

Give yourself and your family a treat by taking a break and joining in the celebration, and starting your Advent in such an uplifting way. For me, Lessons and Carols is a key moment in my celebration of Advent each year; I hope it will be for you, too.

### ***Holy Name Society***

Allow me to take a moment to highlight one of our parish ministries that has a long history here at OLPH, but about which you may not know a great deal, because they often work behind the scenes. It is our Holy Name Society.

The Holy Name Society is at its core a spiritual society for men of the parish. A key component of their ministry is prayer, as they pray for the parish, for parishioners and for vocations, and as they participate in spiritual retreats for men. However, they are also engaged in activities in the parish, primarily fund raising events for charity and for the support of the parish. For example, they recently ran a Turkey Raffle with the proceeds going to our St. Vincent de Paul Society; they also support our Food Pantry, our Community Meal and Homeless ministries and provide service to the parish in other ways. They are run-

ning the "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus. Also, it is the men of the Holy Name Society who traditionally have been responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of our little parish cemetery.

As you can see, the Holy Name Society provides a great opportunity for men of the parish to be involved in living their faith through spiritual, charitable and service activities. I encourage all men of the parish, especially those who perhaps are not involved in any parish ministry or activity yet, to consider joining the Holy Name Society. If you are interested, you can contact me or leave a message at the rectory.

### ***Next week: another chance to win a Nativity Set!***

Finally, let me give you a reminder that next weekend we will again be selling chances outside all Masses to win a beautiful brand-new Nativity Set. This is a fund raiser for the parish and I hope you will take advantage of it. The Nativity Set was donated to us, and the Christian Mothers, under the direction of Deacon Doug, are handling the sale of the chances. Please support us in this endeavor next weekend!

### ***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,




# SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



## *Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception*

**Wednesday, December 7**  
Eve of the Holy Day  
5:00 p.m. Mass

**Thursday, December 8**

### Mass Schedule:

6:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

*Exposition will be held from 8:30 p.m.—Midnight  
Annual Night of Prayer for the Unborn*



## **TAKE A CHANCE**

The OLPH Christian Mothers are holding a special parish fundraiser by raffling off this beautiful Kirkland, 12 piece

## **Nativity Set**

***\$5 each or 3 chances for \$10***

Tickets will be sold after all the Masses next weekend, December 3rd & 4th. Tickets will also be on sale before the Christmas Pageant on December 16th. The winning ticket will be picked by Msgr. Joe immediately following the Pageant. Come support our parish—take a chance!

## **Wanted: A Few Good Men**

The music for the 12:00pm Mass on Christmas Day will be led by the OLPH Men's Schola. If you have experience singing in a choir as a tenor or bass and you read music, please consider offering your time and talent for this event. There will be two rehearsals (times TBA).

Contact Chris Ferraro at [cferraro@oloph.org](mailto:cferraro@oloph.org) or (631) 226-7725 ext. 210 for more information.



## PRAYER AND WORSHIP

### THE NEW SUNDAY'S WORD YEAR A FOR 2017



The new *Sunday's Word* book for the new liturgical cycle, Year A (2017), which begins with the First Sunday of Advent (November 27, 2016) is now available at the rectory and may be purchased for \$3.00 each.

### ATTENTION ALL ALTAR SERVERS: MEETING ON DECEMBER 6

All our young people who serve as Altar Servers are reminded to attend the very important meeting on **Tuesday, December 6, at 4:30 p.m. in the church.** Among other business items, we will discuss assignments for the Christmas schedule and serving weddings. All Altar Servers are expected to attend, and one parent should attend as well. We look forward to seeing you there!

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

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

**First Friday Devotions** will take place **December 2** 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, **December 3** 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, December 3 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 (Spanish, Polish, English). The evening concludes with Benediction at 11:00 p.m.

**First Sunday Devotions**—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on Sunday, **December 4** at 7:00 p.m.



### Prayer for Peace

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!*

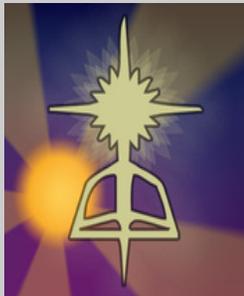
*(Pope Saint John XXIII)*



## 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.



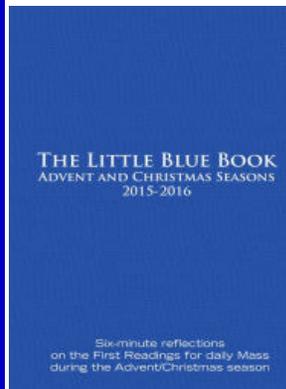
So come and pray...

### 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**

### LITTLE BLUE BOOKS FOR ADVENT AVAILABLE



Please take home a *Little Blue Book* which contains daily reflections for the Advent and Christmas seasons. This book provides the opportunity for prayerful sacred reading for every day of Advent and Christmas Time.

Let God speak to you during this special and holy time of the liturgical year by taking a few minutes for quiet reflection using the *Little Blue Book*. They are available on the pew ledges in the church.

### SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

#### Mass for People with Special Needs

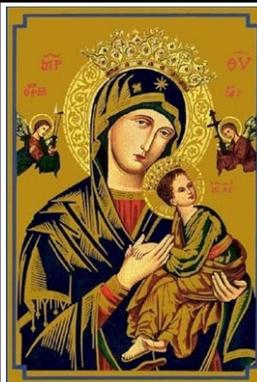
This vital ministry offers experiences for those with special needs and their families, including special Masses, various activities and opportunities to come together as a parish community.

**Saturday,  
December 3**

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

*All are welcome to  
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@oloph.org](mailto:jbecker@oloph.org)*



### 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, November 28—7:00 p.m.**

**Monday, December 5—7:00 p.m.**

**Monday, December 12—7:00 p.m.**

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## About the Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath dates back to ancient celebrations of the winter solstice — that time in the year when the sun reaches its southern-most point in the heavens and the days are the darkest and most gloomy. Because they longed for the return of the sun's light and life, the ancients stopped all usual activity, sacrificed the use of their wagon wheels and hung them up, festooned with lights and greens in their celebration halls.



There they awaited the return of their sun-god, thinking of the warmth and life he brought. Celebrations culminated in the “nativity” of the sun—the turning point of the year.

As Christians, we use the same meaningful custom to anticipate the feast of light and life: the nativity of the Savior. We add one light on the wreath for each Sunday in Advent. We think of the darkness after Adam's sin and watch the growing hope and light as the prophets and the Virgin help us prepare for His saving birth.

## Thoughts to Ponder during Advent....

Advent is much more than the beginning of a new liturgical year; it is a time of waiting, hoping and expectations, of dreaming, pregnancy, dissatisfaction, longing, echoing, listening, growing, and building up. This season speaks the restless urging of a soul longing and searching for God. Advent is John the Baptist, Gabriel, Mary and Joseph, each with a role to play and each with a message to give.

“Advent has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight.” (*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar*)

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (Collect of the Mass for the First Sunday of Advent)

Father in heaven, our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your Word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen. (Another prayer for the First Sunday of Advent)

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Advent is the time for rousing. We are shaken to the very depths, so that we may wake up to the truth of ourselves. The primary condition for a fruitful and rewarding Advent is renunciation, surrender. We must let go of all our mistaken dreams, our conceited poses and arrogant gestures, all the pretenses with which we hope to deceive ourselves and others. If we fail to do this, stark reality may take hold of us and rouse us forcibly in a way that will entail both anxiety and suffering. —Alfred Delp



# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## *Blessing Your Home Advent Wreath*

Use this blessing to bless your family's Advent wreath at home.

**All make the sign of the cross as the Leader says:**

**Leader:** Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**All respond:** Who made heaven and earth.

**Leader:** In the short days and long nights of Advent, we realize how we are always waiting for deliverance, always needing salvation by our God.

Around this wreath, we shall remember God's promise.



*First Sunday of Advent*

A family member now lights one purple candle. Then the Scripture is read (Isaiah 9:1-2, 5-6):

**Reader:** Listen to the words of the prophet Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone. You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing. As they rejoice before you as at the harvest, as people make merry when dividing spoils. For a child is born to us, a son is given us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over his kingdom, which he confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever.

The word of the Lord.

**All respond:** Thanks be to God.

**The Leader continues:** Let us now pray for God's blessing upon us and upon this wreath.

Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ: he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, he is the Savior of every nation. Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**The Leader concludes by saying:** Let us bless the Lord.

All make the sign of the cross and **respond:** Thanks be to God.

## *Lighting Your Advent Wreath During the Week*

Each day during the first week of Advent, at the evening meal, one purple candle is lighted. The following prayers accompany the lighting of the candle.

**All make the sign of the cross:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Someone at table reads the Scripture assigned to the liturgy of the day (one or both of the readings may be used). See the list of daily readings printed elsewhere in this bulletin.

**Then the Leader continues:** Lift up your hearts.

**All respond:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**The Leader prays:** God, the Father of mercies, you willed your Son to take flesh, in order to give life back to us. Bless these your gifts with which we are about to nourish our bodies, so that, receiving new strength, we may wait in watchfulness for the glorious coming of Christ. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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**After the meal, the Leader says:** Let us live soberly, justly, and devoutly in this world as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**All respond:** For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #794 & OLPH HOLY NAME SOCIETY  
KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST**

**TAKE PART IN THE 2016**



**“KEEP CHRIST  
IN CHRISTMAS”  
POSTER CONTEST**

**OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN  
AGES 5-14**

**CONTEST RULES:**

1. The wording “Keep Christ in Christmas” must appear on the poster.
2. Paper: any color oak tag (recommended) or similar style construction paper. Poster must be 11” X 17”
3. Medium: There are no restrictions on colors, types of print, pastels or crayons, or number of colors. NO THREE DIMENTIONAL work of any type. NO GLUEING of objects. If pastels, chalk or charcoal are used, please laminate or cover in clear plastic to protect the artwork.
4. Artwork: must be completely done by the STUDENT.
5. All entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus & Holy Name Society.
6. On back of the poster glue or tape information in the coupon below.
7. Return your poster to your Religious Education teacher or to OLPH Rectory during regular business hours.

**Student’s Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Age:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grade:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I certify that this poster is the original work-product of the applicant.**

**Applicant’s Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent’s Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**For additional information, please contact Mike Hearney at 631-560-0451, or Bob Newberry at 917-613-7848**

**All Posters must be turned in by December 10, 2016**

## NEW BOXES OF CHILDREN'S ENVELOPES ARE NOW AVAILABLE



The new boxes of **Children's Envelopes** for the upcoming liturgical year are now be available! Children should use these envelopes to make their offering in the weekly collection basket at Mass, in addition to their family's offering.

The purpose of the envelopes is not a money-raising one, but rather to provide parents a tool to reinforce in their children the idea of stewardship for their Church and responsible giving toward others. It's a great way to teach children the value of being thankful for the gifts God gives us and the importance of sharing the abundance of those gifts with others. Ideally, the money — whatever amount is placed in the envelope (there is no minimum or maximum!) — comes from the children themselves, *e.g.*, out of their allowance, rather than being just handed to them from the parents. In this way, Christian attitudes are nourished in the children, and this can be yet another avenue for parents and children to discuss responsible Christian living.

**New boxed sets of Children's Envelopes for the entire new liturgical year (starting with Advent 2016) are available in baskets throughout the church.** Families who wish to use them should simply take a box which contains envelopes for the entire year, with the children then returning one envelope each week, dropping it in the collection basket at Mass. The envelope should have the child's name and amount of the offering written on it. The design on the envelope may be colored in and decorated in other ways if desired. The amount collected in the children's envelopes is published in the bulletin each week. As with the usual collection offerings, the money will go toward supporting the mission of and programs at OLPH.

Encourage your children to use these envelopes as a way of growing in Christian stewardship and responsibility!

### CHRISTMAS LIGHTS REMOVAL

Thanks to all who have helped to plan and organize THE LIGHTING OF OUR PARISH which took place this weekend. We are going to be the "light" of Wellwood Avenue for the Christmas season once again.

And save the date...  
we'll be taking the lights DOWN

**Saturday,  
January 14, 2017  
at 9:00 a.m.**

Many hands needed on that day!  
All are welcome and needed.  
Get involved today!

If you are able to help, please call or  
e-mail Jean Gustavson at 631.225.1273 or  
e-mail to [jmgustav@gmail.com](mailto:jmgustav@gmail.com).



**TO OUR  
NEW OLPH  
PARISHIONERS**

**November**

*Mr. & Mrs. Gregg Plawski & Family*

*Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Schmitt*

*Mr. & Mrs. Shaun Spinazzola & Family*

*Matthew Mulero, Giselle Chung & Family*

*Mr. & Mrs. Larry Bell*

*Mr. Kristopher Zee & Ms. Jamie Blau*

*Ms. Denise O'Rourke & Mr. Matthew McGillen*

**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)

**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.

*First Sunday of Advent***LEVEL 2 PARENTS: VERY IMPORTANT MEETING!****Parent Penance Meeting****Saturday December 3rd (during your child's session)**

During this meeting, we will provide in-depth information about your child's upcoming Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance), including dates and details about rehearsals and procedures. Important information about the sacrament of First Holy Communion will also be discussed. While all of our parent meetings are considered mandatory, this meeting carries a particular obligation because it concerns sacramental preparation. We ask you to make **every possible effort** to ensure at least one parent is in attendance.

**SAINT OF THE WEEK****St. Andrew**

**Feast Day: November 30**  
**Patron Saint of Fishermen**



St. Andrew was the first apostle of Jesus and one of his closest friends. He had been a disciple of John the Baptist, and is seen in the Bible to demonstrate great trust in Christ. He is also the brother of Peter, the first Pope. In the Gospels, Andrew is often depicted as bringing people to Christ, whether other apostles or those in need. It is he who brings the loaves and fishes to Jesus for that great miracle. After Jesus' death, it is believed that Andrew went to Greece, where he was put to death on an X-shaped cross. He lived two days on the cross, preaching to those who passed by. He is the patron of Russia and Scotland.

*St. Andrew, pray for us!*



**WANT TO TEACH?**  
**CAN'T COMMIT TO A**  
**FULL YEAR?**

The Religious Education team is looking for catechists interested in acting as substitute teachers. Perhaps you have taught in previous years or cannot make a steady commitment to weekly teaching. We are often in need of substitutes to assist when our regular catechists are unable to teach. Student teachers are also welcome and needed to assist our regular and substitute teachers.

**URGENT NEED:**

**SATURDAY HALL MONITORS FOR**  
**10:00—11:00 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.**

Consider staying while your child attends class. Our Saturday mornings have been more hectic than usual due to a reduced number of offerers. You can still enjoy your coffee break inside our building!

# PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

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

## *NEW Food Pantry List!*

**JAR TOMATO/PASTA SAUCE**  
**CANNED MEATS/CHICKEN**  
**JELLY**  
**SNACKS**  
**SHAMPOO**  
**CONDITIONER**  
**TOOTHPASTE**  
**TOOTHBRUSHES**  
**PAPER TOWELS**

*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.**

There is an Advent spirit in the heart of every human person. It is one of longing, of yearning for a fulfillment that somehow lies beyond ourselves, for we long for the coming of the Lord.

**As you put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, your heart will discover the true meaning of Christmas as you help those who are suffering and poor to long for the coming of the Lord.**

## † **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, December 13th**

7:00 p.m. in Room 24 of the new school

Wrapping Party for the Veterans Christmas Gifts. Please bring extra scissors, tissue paper and gift bags.

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

*Upcoming Meeting:*

**Tuesday, December 27**

Annual Christmas Party at 7:00 p.m. at Villa Gaia, 101 N. Wellwood Ave, Lindenhurst

#### **Diocese of Rockville Centre Day of Prayer and Healing for Women after Abortion**

This day of prayer and healing for women after they have had an abortion is an opportunity to experience the loving mercy of God in a safe and sacred space. The day is directed by faithful priests who have a sensitivity and a heart for those who suffer.

**Date: Saturday, December 10, on Long Island**

**For more information visit:** [respectlife.drvc.org](http://respectlife.drvc.org)

**To register contact:** Project Rachel 1-888-456-4673

[projectrachel@drvc.org](mailto:projectrachel@drvc.org)

*All reservations and information are confidential.*

Healing *after Abortion*

Ocean  
of mercy

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



### COMMUNITY MEAL MINISTRY

OLPH's Community Meal Ministry has

served hundreds of meals to members of our parish community. Generally held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month, the Community Meal seeks to provide a place of good food, good fellowship and good times for all who come!

*Our next Community Meal is  
Sunday, December 4th  
Come and pray with us at the  
12:00 p.m. Mass  
& then join us for "Sunday Dinner"  
at 1:00 p.m.*

# OUR ADVENT GIVING TREE

*“Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?” And the king will say to them in reply, “Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”*

*-Matthew 25*

The final judgement in the Gospel of Matthew should serve as a call to action for each and every one of us. Our parish Advent Giving Tree is one way to respond! Our parish social ministries are working together to support life at all stages. There are tags on our Giving Tree to help the hungry, the unborn, the sick, the immigrant and those in prison. You need to empty the tree of the tags and return them no later than **Saturday/Sunday, December 10/11**. Below are description of some of the agencies we will be supporting this year. *If you have any questions, please contact Diane Ronessi at [dronessi@verizon.net](mailto:dronessi@verizon.net) or 631.225.4115. Gifts for St. Vincent de Paul (green tags) should be wrapped. All other gifts should not be wrapped.*

## St. Vincent de Paul

Each year, our parish supports many families at Christmas with food, toys and clothing. Read more in our bulletin about our parish's outreach efforts.

## Community Meal Ministry

Our Community Meal Ministry needs your help to provide a “little bit of Christmas” for our guests.

## OLPH HOMELESS VAN MINISTRY

Help our parish provide basic necessities for the local homeless during this season.

## LIFE CENTER

The Life Center assists pregnant women as they prepare to give birth to the gift of life in their own lives. Learn more about the life center at [www.lifecenterli.org](http://www.lifecenterli.org)



## SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

Support the work of our Middle Ages group in providing Christmas gifts and necessities for our local veterans.

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES Immigration Services

Support our brothers and sisters and their families who are just coming to our country. Read more at [www.catholiccharities.cc](http://www.catholiccharities.cc)

# The Giving Tree

## Prison Families

Support our Diocesan Prison Ministry as they provide gifts for the children of men and women in prison.

## HOPE HOUSE MINISTRIES

Hope House Ministries supports young men struggling with addiction and brokenness in their own lives. Learn more about Hope House at [www.hhm.org](http://www.hhm.org).

# 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).

## SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

### REFLEXIONES DE LAS LECTURAS DEL DOMINGO 4 DE DICIEMBRE DEL 2016 (CICLO A)

Bautizados con el Espíritu de Fuego. Preparen el Camino del Señor

**Primera Lectura (Isaías 11,1-10):** Un Salvador Lleno del Espíritu de Dios

El gran profeta Isaías anuncia que vendrá un Salvador, como un hombre que transformará el mundo y le traerá la paz de Dios, porque está lleno del Espíritu del mismo Dios.

**Segunda Lectura (Romanos 15,4-9):** Sigán a Cristo, Salvador de Todos

Las Escrituras del Antiguo Testamento conservaron viva la esperanza del pueblo de Dios. Nosotros participamos de la misma fe, y rogamos que esa misma esperanza se extienda a todos los hombres y a todos los pueblos...

**Evangelio (Mateo 3,1-12):** Cambien Su Conducta, y el Señor Vendrá

Juan el Bautista vino para preparar a los judíos para la venida del Salvador, Jesucristo. Su mensaje era, y todavía lo es para nosotros hoy: Cambien de conducta; ábranse al Espíritu. Porque a llegado el reino de los cielos, este es el motivo de la conversión. El reino de Dios es Dios mismo que Reyna y libera al hombre de toda esclavitud, haciéndolo que sea a su imagen y semejanza.

### **Adviento tiempo de esperanza y de conversión**

¿Ha venido ya Jesucristo, o está todavía por venir? Para muchos todavía no ha venido, ya que la mayoría de las personas del mundo ni le conocen ni le siguen. Incluso entre sus seguidores, muchos no viven de la forma que él nos enseñó. Él quería que nosotros construyésemos un mundo mejor, pero por desgracia eso es todavía un sueño del futuro, no una realidad presente. ¿Qué vamos a hacer al respecto? Primero tenemos que transformarnos nosotros mismos, y entonces nuestro mundo cambiará. En esta eucaristía pediremos al Señor Jesús que sepamos preparar su venida más profunda a nosotros.



"Queridos hermanos y hermanas, ¡buenos días! Este domingo marca la segunda etapa del Tiempo de Adviento, un tiempo estupendo que despierta en nosotros la espera del regreso de Cristo y el recuerdo de su venida histórica. La liturgia de hoy nos presenta un mensaje lleno de esperanza. Es la invitación del Señor expresada por boca del profeta Isaías: "Consolad, consolad a mi pueblo, dice vuestro Dios" (40,1). Con estas palabras se abre el Libro de la Consolación, en el que el profeta dirige al pueblo en el exilio el anuncio gozoso de la liberación. El tiempo de tribulación ha terminado; el pueblo de Israel puede mirar con confianza al futuro: le aguarda finalmente el regreso a casa. Y por eso, la invitación a dejarse consolar por el Señor.

El mensaje de Isaías, que resuena en este segundo domingo de Adviento, es un bálsamo sobre nuestras heridas y un estímulo para preparar diligentemente el camino del Señor. El profeta, de hecho, habla hoy a nuestro corazón para decirnos que Dios olvida nuestros pecados y nos consuela. Si nos confiamos a Él con corazón humilde y arrepentido, Él derribará los muros del mal, llenará los hoyos de nuestras omisiones, allanará los baches de la soberbia y de la vanidad, y abrirá el camino del encuentro con Él.

# 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:**

*William Walter & Allison Degrazia*

### **Second Announcement:**

*Benjamin Rosino & Aileen Barclay*

## **WE REMEMBER**

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

*James R. Sager*

*Rose Formisano*

*George William Cunningham*

*Lucy Mannhart*

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

## **WE BELIEVE**

We pray for the sick of our parish...

<i>Stacey</i>	<i>Haley Kerwin</i>
<i>Cathy Walker</i>	<i>Eileen Henry</i>
<i>Peter Pellegrino</i>	<i>Bonnie Rieger</i>
<i>Agnes Storz</i>	<i>Alyssa Drenkalo</i>
<i>Marie D'Angelo</i>	<i>Anthony Borelli</i>
<i>Arthur Nuss</i>	<i>Vance Viverito</i>
<i>AnnMarie Nuss</i>	<i>Fran Milo</i>
<i>Heather Flores</i>	<i>Sheila Kump</i>
<i>Bernadette Sinnott</i>	<i>Carmine Alesi</i>
<i>Mary Pellerrino</i>	<i>Robert Walker</i>
<i>Rosalie Grotola</i>	<i>William Decaneo</i>
<i>Mario Lotito</i>	<i>Dominick Pane</i>
<i>Maureen Russo</i>	<i>Wojciech Chojnacki</i>
<i>Carolyn Crisci</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.**

## **MASS MEMORIALS**

A beautiful way to remember a loved one!  
Memorials used during the Masses for week of  
**November 27—December 3:**

*Altar Bread & Wine*

*In Memory of*

*Francis J. Venezia*

*Requested by*

*Eileen & John Diedrich & Family*

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

## **RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY**

### **Spiritual Adoption Program**

**“I like to listen to my Mommy’s voice!”**

Now your spiritually adopted baby is finished developing and is concentrating on gaining weight; she might be making her mother uncomfortable with her size. She will need a layer of fat to help her stay warm after she leaves the perfect temperature inside her mother’s womb. For some weeks now she has recognized her mother’s voice. In a short time, her baby will be born. Your baby’s mother appreciated the prayers you have said for her and her baby throughout the pregnancy. It has not been easy, but your prayers have given her the grace she needed to bring her baby to term.



## MASS INTENTIONS

### MONDAY, November 28— Advent Weekday

6:30	For the Mercy of the Soul of Anna & Stefan Zuk
12:15	George Colby

### TUESDAY, November 29— Advent Weekday

6:30	Jim Kuebel
12:15	Vincenzo Porcaro

### WEDNESDAY, November 30— Saint Andrew, Apostle

6:30	Angela & Sherman Glass
12:15	James Airoidi

### THURSDAY, December 1— Advent Weekday

6:30	Mildred Sredniawski
12:15	Alyssa Marie Gerbasio

### FRIDAY, December 2— Advent Weekday

6:30	Francis J. Venezia
12:15	Richard Ottimo

### SATURDAY, December 3— Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

8:00	Salvatore & Filomena Mascio
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### Vigil for SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4:00	Special Needs Mass (Auditorium)
5:00	Alan Keilitz, Sr.

### Sunday, December 4 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00	For the People of the Parish
10:00	Eugenia Cedeno
12:00	Anna Distler
5:00	Eleanor & Henry Zuber

## PARISH CALENDAR

### Monday, November 28, 2016

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry	Room 24
2:30 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul Meeting	Room 24
7:00 p.m.	Devotions	Church
7:00 p.m.	Level 8 Classes	School
7:00 p.m.	Liturgy Committee Meeting	St. Lucy

### Tuesday, November 29, 2016

4:00 p.m.	CYO Cheerleading	Auditorium
6:45 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
7:30 p.m.	Parish Leadership Make-up	Room 18
8:00 p.m.	Community of Praise	Room 16

### Wednesday, November 30, 2016

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry	Room 24
12:45 p.m.	Exposition	Church
2:00 p.m.	Legion of Mary Business Meeting	Room 24
5:30 p.m.	Level 6 Classes	School
6:00 p.m.	Homeless Ministry Van Run	Room 10
7:30 p.m.	Level 7 Classes	School

### Thursday, December 1, 2016

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
7:00 p.m.	Spanish Prayer Group	Room 18
7:00 p.m.	Respect Life Meeting	Room 17
7:30 p.m.	Baptismal Prep Class for Parents	Room 16
7:30 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal	Church
8:00 p.m.	Narcotics Anonymous	Room 24

### Friday, December 2, 2016

9:00 a.m.	St. Vincent de Paul/Food Pantry	Room 24
7:30 p.m.	Lessons & Carols	Church
7:30 p.m.	CFFR	Room 18

### Saturday, December 3, 2016

8:00, 10:00 & 11:00 a.m.	Levels 1—5 Classes Level 2 Parent Meeting on Penance	School Auditorium
1:00 p.m.	CYO Volleyball	Auditorium
1:30 p.m.	St. Vincent de Paul	Room 24
1:30 p.m.	Training for Readers	Church
4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Church
5:00 p.m.	Nativity Set Raffle Sale	Outside
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Church
7:30 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
8:00 p.m.	Nocturnal Adoration	Church

### Sunday, December 4, 2016

8:00 a.m.	Nativity Set Raffle Sale	Outside
1:00 p.m.	Community Meal	Cafeteria
1:30 a.m.	Junior Legion of Mary	Room 24
1:00 p.m.	CYO Basketball	Auditorium
6:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer	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 November 19/20 2016

Mass Time	Attendance	# of Envelopes	Weekly Collection
5:00 p.m.	378	144	\$3,640.00
8:00 a.m.	285	106	3,065.00
10:00 a.m.	486	151	3,652.00
12:00 pm.	484	143	3,334.00
5:00 p.m.	179	51	1,636.50
<b>Total coin:</b>			19.49
<b>Mail-ins:</b>			305.00
Children's Env.		16	19.95
<b>Faith Direct</b>			1,851.50
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,812	611	\$17,523.44
<b>2015 total</b>	1,921	667	\$18,726.45
<b>Candles</b>			\$988.65
<b>Poor Box</b>			\$243.71
<b>CCHD</b>			\$1,781.00



### 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...

1. You are at least 70 1/2 years old on the date you make your gift.
2. Your IRA is a traditional or Roth.
3. You don't exceed your personal maximum of \$100,000 per year in qualified charitable distributions.
4. 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.

## SUPER 72 RAFFLE

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NOVEMBER WINNERS

\$1000 - *Lillian & Patrick Pigott*  
 \$250 - *Abbazio*  
 \$100 - *Bob Allar*  
 \$100 - *Annette Walsh*  
 \$100 - *Mr. & Mrs. Richard Haas*  
 \$100 - *Frank Kanders*

#### Special Thanksgiving Drawing

**\$500—Catherine M. Lang**

*Last drawing of current tickets before new game begins in December with new tickets.*

### 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.*

**December 4—November 21**

**December 11—December 1**

**December 18—December 9**

**December 25—December 9**

*Due to the Thanksgiving & Christmas holidays printing deadlines have been made earlier by the printer. Thank you for your cooperation.*



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

**PREPARING FOR**Sunday, December 4, 2016—**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT***John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying,  
“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”*

Matthew 3:1-2

**Isaiah 11:1-10**

Like last Sunday’s reading from Isaiah, today’s describes a glorious future for Israel and all God’s people. He is speaking to an Israel that had repeatedly turned to foreign nations for protection from invasion and war and had grown weak in their reliance on God. Isaiah expresses hope for the coming of a righteous son of David, a righteous king who will fulfill his proper role in leading the people back to faithfulness to God. He envisions this king as God’s instrument to establish a future kingdom of peace, justice, and right relationships in all creation. This king will act with the “spirit of the Lord,” possessing wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge and proper reverence for the Lord, qualities later known as the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Centuries later, Christians understood Isaiah’s vision as being fulfilled in Jesus, the Messiah.

**Romans 15:4-9**

Paul writes in this letter, about thirty years after Jesus’ death and resurrection, how God’s free gift of his Son shows the people of Israel that salvation embraces all people, Jews and Gentiles alike. Paul clarifies that God’s grace through Christ brings the Old Testament Scriptures to fulfillment by revealing that the new Israel of the final age expands to include both Jew and non-Jew. All who enter this new Israel, which is the Church, through Baptism are to treat one another as members of Christ. In this way, we can all join together to praise the God of Jesus Christ “with one voice.”

**Matthew 3:1-12**

In this reading from the Gospel according to Matthew, written about fifty years after Jesus’ death and resurrection, we hear the same theme as in the previous two readings: the kingdom of God includes people from all nations, both Jews and Gentiles alike. This was an issue of some importance to early Jewish Christians who wondered how Gentiles, considered “impure” non-Jews, could be part of the new Israel in the age of salvation. John the Baptist makes it clear to the various Jewish religious leaders that just being a descendant of Abraham is not enough. One must demonstrate true repentance to enter the Kingdom. John will baptize all with water but the one who comes after him, Jesus the Messiah, will baptize all with the Holy Spirit.

**Readings for the Week***Take time each day to read the daily readings of the Church.***Monday, November 28, 2016:**

Isaiah 4:2-6 + Matthew 8:5-11

**Tuesday, November 29, 2016:**

Isaiah 11:1-10 + Luke 10:21-24

**Wednesday, November 30, 2016:**

Romans 10:9-18 + Matthew 4:18-22

**Thursday, December 1, 2016:**

Isaiah 26:1-6 + Matthew 7:21, 24-27

**Friday, December 2, 2016:**

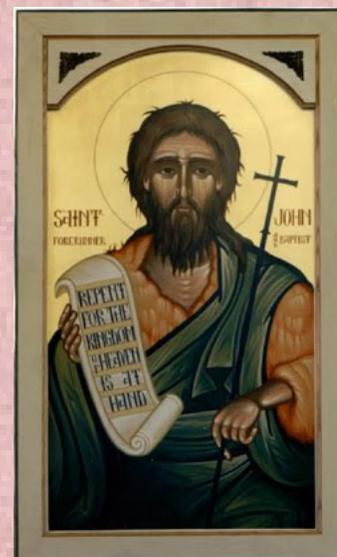
Isaiah 29:17-24 + Matthew 9:27-31

**Saturday, December 3, 2016:**Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26  
+ Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8**Sunday, December 4, 2016:**Isaiah 11:1-10 + Romans 15:4-9  
+ Matthew 3:1-19**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. Judging by John’s appearance as described in the Gospel reading, would you guess his cry was lukewarm, or was it a cry from his heart that calls for life-altering change? How would you respond to him? Is there a part of his call that is too demanding for you?

2. Compare John’s baptism of repentance with Jesus’ baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire. What does “baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire” mean to you? What do you think that fire is?



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