

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



Rejoice in the
Lord always.
I shall say it again:
rejoice!

-Philippians 4:4

Third Sunday of Advent
December 16, 2012

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton

Parochial Vicars: Rev. Moise Aime + Rev. Ignace Lolecke + Rev. John Sureau

In Residence: Rev. Michael Holzmann

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

Pastoral Associate for Administration: Deacon Donald A. Stamm

Director of Religious Education: Thomas J. Acemoglu

Music Director: James R. Kendall

High School Youth Minister: Brittany Evans

Middle School Youth Minister: Peggy Harnisch

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday

8:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Saturday Morning: 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses

6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m.,
5:00 p.m., and 6:30 p.m. (Mass in Polish).

Masses for Holy Days are as announced and published.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday – Friday following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Saturday: 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday Evening: after OLPH Novena Devotions

Wednesday: 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Nights: Will resume after Christmas season.

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

210 S. Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst

Monday- Friday: 9 am - 5 pm

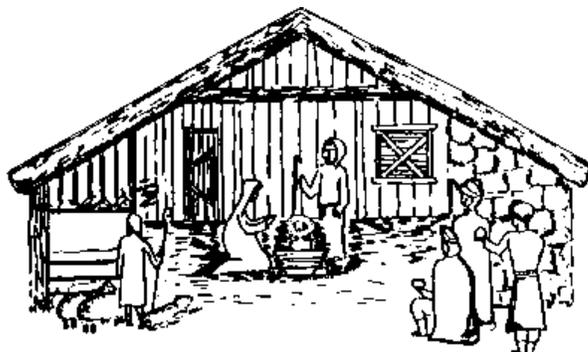
**EVENING OFFICE HOURS, AT THIS TIME,
ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

ADVENT @ OLPH

Children's Christmas Pageant THIS FRIDAY



December 21, 2012—7:00 P.M. Church

(PLEASE NOTE: The 7 P.M. Mass will be celebrated in the Convent Chapel on this night.)

Come and share in the joy of the story of the Nativity as revealed through the voices and presence of our parish's children! What a wonderful evening this will be for our entire parish.

Following the Pageant, all are welcome to join our living Nativity (yes, we'll have live guests!) and in the singing of Christmas Carols. All are asked to bring their favorite Christmas Cookies to share!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

In addition to our prayer service on Monday, the Sacrament of Penance will be celebrated at the following times:

Saturdays— 4:00 - 5:00 P.M.
(Confessions will begin at
3:30 next Saturday, December 22nd.)

Wednesday, December 19
Following the 7:00 P.M. Mass

Monday through Friday
Following the 8 A.M. Mass

CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Help is needed to help with decorating our Church for the Christmas season.



Sunday, December 23, 2012—

7:30 P.M.—9:00 P.M. Many helping hands are needed to assist in organizing our poinsettias, arranging Christmas trees and much more. The more help we have the more beautiful our Church will be! All ages welcome!

If you can help please e-mail Fr. John at jsureau@drvc.org or call—631.226.7725.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Advent: Connecting Liturgy with Life

It is not unusual to hear the lament that for many people, faith is just one hour a week. We know that it is less-than-ideal when people put religion in a neat little box for one hour on Sunday and do not in any other way allow their faith or the life of the Church to influence or affect any other part of their life.

The goal for each and every Catholic is to *make the connection* between what goes on in church on Sunday with everyday life. Another way of saying this is that *liturgy and life have to be connected*. That's because the liturgy is supposed to be the center of our spiritual life. As the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy reminds us, the liturgy "is the primary and indispensable source from which the faithful are to derive the true Christian spirit." (#14)

This means that a *liturgical spirituality* should mold us and form us into a particular way of life. The meaning and rhythms of the liturgical year should be the breath and life that form the basis for our spirituality and prayer as Catholics. **That, in turn, means that what we celebrate at liturgy has to go beyond just what we do in church; it has to permeate the way we live our life.** We need to start living out a liturgical spirituality so that we better connect what goes on in Church, and what the Church is celebrating, with our everyday life as Catholics. We have to "raise the bar" and really "put our money where our mouth is," so to speak, when it comes to applying our faith and our spirituality to our life, and when it comes to allowing what we celebrate at liturgy inside church to really have an effect on every aspect of our life outside church. We must be sure that we are keeping the proper rhythm of the liturgical year in our personal spirituality, in our family and home spirituality, and most especially in our public life together as a parish, and in all parish activities, because the rhythms and different focal points of the liturgical year help us to grow in living a Catholic life.

This is definitely very challenging; it demands a great deal from us. However, we need to ask some very fundamental questions: *Is the rhythm of the Catholic liturgical life the center of our life or not? Are we going to allow our life to be shaped by a Catholic spirituality, or will we go right along with the secular culture, letting it decide our rhythms and outlook?*

A concrete example is taking place right now: our celebration of the season of Advent. We as a parish should not yet be, and cannot yet be, celebrating Christmas. We often lament the secularization of Christmas and the loss of the spiritual focus, but I believe we actually contribute to the trivialization of Christmas when we ignore Advent



and celebrate the Christmas season too soon. We as a parish cannot send mixed signals where we speak and sing about Advent at Mass in church, but then speak, decorate and sing about Christmas in other parish activities. Such contradictions rob us of the proper spiritual focus and do not help us to grow in Catholic spirituality.

Yes, living an Advent spirituality will seem to "go against the grain" when the rest of the world is already celebrating Christmas (whatever they mean by Christmas), and it will seem very counter-cultural, but it can also be a wonderful teaching moment for our children and a great way to connect with the rhythm of the liturgical year.

We as a parish need to enter into discussions concerning parish activities among all our groups during Advent. Christmas parties and gatherings for parish groups in early Advent are inappropriate (do we celebrate the Fourth of July on June 14th? Thanksgiving on November 2nd?) and do little to help us keep an Advent focus. Such gatherings and activities should be held during Christmas Time, or at least should clearly be Advent parties without the Christmas trappings, or at least wait until late in Advent, when the spiritual focus turns specifically toward preparation for Christmas. ("Late Advent" is defined as starting on December 17, when the "O Antiphons" begin to be prayed at Evening Prayer; see the catechesis on this elsewhere in this bulletin). Usually, once we reach December 17th, we can then and only then begin to move slowly and a little more and more into the accoutrements and outward signs of Christmas (and even then we should not go all-out). Certainly earlier than that date we should do everything possible to keep Advent.

Admittedly, this is difficult. Not celebrating Christmas during Advent will mean making some changes in the ways we do things as a parish. We will have those conversations as they are needed in the months ahead. Perhaps we need to better appreciate Christmas Time as an entire season and adjust our activities accordingly. The same principle is true for Lent, by the way, when all of our activities should be more serious and somber, and when our diet should change (not eating meat on Fridays, days of fasting, etc.), and for Easter Time, which should be a season of fifty days of rejoicing, celebrating new life, and "alleluia."

We have once again included in the bulletin a special insert of prayers and reflections for you to use at home for your own personal prayer and meditation, this week geared specifically toward the Third Sunday of Advent. I

hope you are able to use them to good spiritual benefit.

May we all take seriously the need to keep every aspect of our life in tune with the flow and rhythm of the liturgical year, so that we are living an authentic Catholic spirituality in every aspect of our life, and so that we do not inadvertently send mixed signals as to what it means to put our faith into practice in all its totality, as challenging as that may be. *May we always make the connection between liturgy and everyday life, and may we be able to make practical applications for that connection.*

Ministry of Consolation

I take this opportunity to remind all those who have been involved in the training for the Ministry of Consolation that our final meeting will be Thursday, December 27 at 1:30 p.m. in the Pastor's Meeting Room in the Rectory. Final plans for putting the ministry in place will be discussed at this meeting.

Midnight Mass—A “Big Event”

We received many positive comments, both written and verbal, about the Thanksgiving Day Mass, and we thank you for taking the time to express your thoughts. I believe very strongly that we need to cultivate a sense of gathering for “big events” as a parish. Certain liturgies should be the centerpieces of our worship together, major events in the life of the parish that powerfully express our common faith and our worship together. Sometimes this will be achieved by celebrating a fewer number of Masses, so that all can gather together as one, as on the case of Thanksgiving Day when we had only one Mass. We see this during the Triduum, for example, when there is only one Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper and only one Easter Vigil; there is only one celebration of the Passion of the Lord on Good Friday, as well, although we will repeat it in the evening as a pastoral accommodation to those who cannot attend the afternoon liturgy. If it is not possible to have only one liturgy, then this can be cultivated by looking at one of the Masses as a “principle Mass,” or, more colloquially, as a “major event.” This will be the case with Palm Sunday, for example, where one Mass will be designated as having a solemn procession with palms.

I would like us as a parish to look on **Christmas Eve Midnight Mass** as one of these “major events.” I know that over the past few years in this parish and in many other parishes attendance at Midnight Mass has decreased, and perhaps it is not seen as the “principal Mass” as it once was, but I would like to try to revive that sense of Midnight Mass. There is definitely something special and holy about gathering for Mass at that hour to celebrate Christmas, and I urge you and your family to consider participating in what I hope we can develop into a special parish highlight “big event.”

The idea of such big events, I think, builds a sense of pride among us and strengthens our communal bonds, in addition to building us up spirituality because we have

participated in an uplifting and very festive (some would say “high church”!) liturgy.

Christmas Spiritual Bouquet Cards

Christmas Spiritual Bouquet cards are now available throughout the church. These cards are a wonderful and meaningful way for you to remember your loved ones at Christmas and to have them prayed for at all our Masses on Christmas Day. Use the card and return the envelope to the rectory or in the collection in order to participate in our Christmas Spiritual Bouquet.

No 12:00 Noon Mass on Christmas Eve Day

Take note: there will be no 12:00 Noon Mass on Christmas Eve Day, Monday, December 24. It is necessary to cancel the Noon Mass that day because of the added number of Masses on Christmas Eve and other preparations that are taking place. Thank you for your understanding.

Changes in our Celebration of the Liturgy

I will just give a little teaser announcement now and mention that you should keep alert (*how appropriate for Advent!*) in the weeks after the first of the year for news about some changes in the way we celebrate liturgy here at OLPH. We'll be mentioning them and explaining them in the bulletin and will keep you informed. These changes will enhance our worship and help all of us to participate more fully. Along with these changes will be the **need for more liturgical ministers (readers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, ushers and altar servers)**, so keep your eyes and ears open for those opportunities and be prepared to step forward to offer yourself in those important ministries. More to come on that, too.

In conclusion...

Together, let's aim high in Christ. Together, let's bring out the best in each other. Together, let's be the best we can be in Christ.

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

Sincerely,



THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT

Lighting Your Advent Wreath During the Week

Each day during the third week of Advent, at the evening meal, two purple candles and one pink candle are lighted. The following prayers accompany the lighting of the candles.

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:

Leader: 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.



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.

Thoughts to Ponder during Advent....

The weekdays from December 17 up to and including December 24 are ordered in a more direct way to preparing for the Nativity of the Lord.

— Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar

Advent is the season of hope and longing. Jesus is the One who fulfills our hopes and satisfies the longings of our hearts. As our hopes and longings intensify, even the prayer of the Church takes on a special sense of urgency. Throughout the world, Christians invoke Jesus' coming by praying the "O Antiphons." These short but powerful petitions use the ancient Messianic titles to describe who Jesus truly is and what He will do for His people.

On December 17 pray: "O Wisdom, O holy Word of God, you govern all creation with your strong yet tender care. Come and show your people the way to salvation."

On December 18 pray: "O sacred Lord of ancient Israel, who showed yourself to Moses in the burning bush, who gave him the holy law on Sinai mountain: come, stretch out your mighty hand to set us free."

On December 19 pray: "O Flower of Jesse's stem, you have been raised up as a sign for all peoples; kings stand silent in your presence; the nations bow down in worship before you. Come, let nothing keep you from coming to our aid."

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT



On December 20 pray: “O Key of David, O royal Power of Israel controlling at your will the gate of heaven: come, break down the prison walls of death for those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death; and lead your captive people into freedom.”

On December 21 pray: “O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.”

On December 22 pray: “O King of all the nations, the only joy of every human heart; O Keystone of the mighty arch of man, come and save the creature you fashioned from the dust.”

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord’s Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. 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.

—Collect of the Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to your promises and ever close to your Church: the earth rejoices in hope of the Savior’s coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow, for he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

—Another prayer for the Third Sunday of Advent

The glory of God is a living person and the life of each living person is the vision of God.

—Irenaeus of Lyons, Second century

Our brokenness is the wound through which the full power of God can penetrate our being and transfigure us in God. Loneliness is not something from which we must flee but the place from where we can cry out to God, where God will find us and we can find God. Yes, through our wounds the power of God can penetrate us and become like rivers of living water to irrigate the arid earth within us. Thus we may irrigate the arid earth of others, so that hope and love are reborn.

—Jean Vanier

Rise up, Lord, with mercy for Sion, for the time of mercy has come, the time has come at last.

—Cistercian liturgy

In the annual celebration of the approaching birth of the Savior this solidarity with Christ will not only be recalled in memory, but indeed will be newly established and secured through the presence of the Lord. Every Christian celebration is indeed not just a remembrance and memorial, somewhat like an annual birthday celebration. Rather, the celebration of Christmas becomes a faith-filled and loving encounter with the Lord of salvation and thereby a true coming of the Messiah into our own time. Thus Advent is not just a make-believe play, a pious piece of devotional theater, but a true approach of the Lord.

—from **The Key to Faith: Meditations on the Liturgical Year**
by Adolf Adam



STORM RELIEF @ OLPH



DO YOU NEED FURNITURE!?!?

As you rebuild, a number of parishioners have come forward to offer gently used furniture. For more information, contact Tricia Buckley so she can help to match you up!

If you have furniture in good condition that you would like to donate to a family in need, please contact Mrs. Tricia Buckley at 631.561.5790 or e-mail to buckleyt@optonline.net. Our hope is to connect families who have available furniture with families in need. **DO NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, bring furniture to Our Lady of Perpetual Help.**



St. Vincent de Paul Parish Outreach

Parishioners and community members in need are invited to our St. Vincent de Paul Office (the grey house) at 272 Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst, NY.

In addition to our regular hours, St. Vincent DePaul will be open on Tuesday afternoons from 4 P.M. to 7 P.M. to assist you. You are most welcome here, most especially in times of need.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Members of St. Jude's Children's Network are hosting a special dinner for the support of the children of Lindenhurst impacted by the storm and in connection with our Christmas Party on December 18th (see below). The dinner will take place at 6:30 P.M. at Goccia d'Oro Restaurant next Sunday, December 16th. For more information contact the restaurant at 631.225.6161 or Maria Burzo at 631.662.8358.

St. Joseph's Hospital—Catholic Health Services invites all children and families of Lindenhurst impacted by Superstorm Sandy to a special

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tuesday, December 18, 2012

4:30 –6:00 P.M

School Auditorium



Come to an afternoon of Christmas joy as we celebrate with Santa and Mrs. Claus and many other characters from the North Pole!

Each child who comes will receive a special gift from Santa Claus.

Music, food, fellowship and fun for all!



RSVP is required—631.226.7725 NO LATER than Monday, December 17, 2012.

YOUTH MINISTRY @ OLPH

For High School Students....

YOUTH FAITH IN ACTION (YFIA)

TONIGHT...

Our first annual

Winter Gala

6:30 P.M. to 10:30 P.M.

Tickets still available—contact Brittany Evans at
olph.yfia@gmail.com.

NEXT SUNDAY—December 23rd

Meeting at 6:15 P.M. for Pre-Christmas Dinner and making Christmas Cards for our Military Service women and men. Then, we'll help to decorate our Church for Christmas at 7:30 P.M.

**ALL HIGH SCHOOL TEENS
ARE WELCOME!**

Friday, December 28—

YFIA in NYC

Join our youth adult and teen leaders on a post-Christmas to New York City, including: Mass at St. Patrick's, Dinner in Manhattan, a visit to the Rockefeller Center and more! For more information contact Brittany Marie Evans at
olph.yfia@gmail.com.

Present and new youth group members are welcome on this trip. Come and bring a friend!

Middle School Students....

Advent Christmas Party



This Thursday— December 20th

Let's get ready for Christmas with our annual party!

**All 6th, 7th and 8th graders
needed and wanted!!!**

Look for the blue door on the south side of the Convent (closest to the grey house). We meet from 7:30 til 8:45 pm.

Middle School Youth Group is a place for students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade to come together in a safe place to share some time together, learn a little about our faith and HAVE FUN!

If you (or your child) is in middle school, give us a try. Come and bring a friend!

Over 50 young people have signed for the...

YOUTH SERVICE CORPS

What about you???

Nearly sixty young people have stepped up for the Service Corps...**what about you?** In the past two months, members of the Service Corps have helped with everything from Storm Relief to our Family Life Pumpkin Patch to becoming St. Bernards.

YES!!! Sign me up for the Youth Service Corps at OLPH!

Name _____
Home Phone # _____
Cell Phone # _____
E-mail _____@_____

Presently I am in (check one)

___ Middle School

___ High School

___ College

YOUTH MINISTRY @ OLPH

We are proud of the youth of our parish who have achieved academic success at our Catholic high schools. Congratulations!

St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School

Summa Cum Laude

(100+ Weighted Average)

Emily Zeltmann
Christina Chille
Jude Rich
Ronald Abbazio, Jr.
Karolina Mieczkowska

Magna Cum Laude

(95—99.99 Weighted Average)

Taylor Bedell
Elizabeth Byron
Meghan Molinari
Edgar Vivar
Colleen Werner
Bridget Wisniewski
Michael Duffy
Kimberly Fregni
Victoria Graham

Tomasz Janczak

Justin Katz
Nicholas Strigaro
Caitlyn Gibbons
EmillyAnne O'Neil
Kirstie Turner



Cum Laude Honors

(90 to 94.99 Weighted Average)

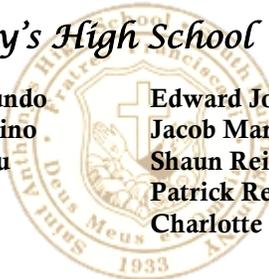
Nicholas Blonder
Aidan Danaher
Peter McQuade
Kristie Roth
Ashley Schmitt
Krystal Scicutella
Kate McCormack
Richard Pointing
Jessica Veroline

Thomas Chille

Luke DeBardelaben
Anthony Ferlito
Lauren Fremgen
Jenna Melita
Erin Allar
Robert Brady
Nicole Clark
Danielle Donnelly
Patrick J. Reilly

St. Anthony's High School

Giavonna Bamundo
Angelina Buffolino
Frederick Dunau
Gino Fornaro
James Jacobsen



Edward Joseph
Jacob Manzoor
Shaun Reid
Patrick Reid
Charlotte Vine

Kellenberg Memorial High School

National Honor Society

Mary Astore
Catherine Brennan
Travis Zukowski

National Junior Honor Society

Marykate Bayley
Jacqueline Ortiz

Perfect Attendance

Colleen Hehir
Jacqueline Ortiz



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Are you seeking Baptism?

Do you want to be confirmed or receive Eucharist?

Have you been baptized in another Christian faith and now desire to become Catholic?

Do you have a family member or friend who would like to receive the sacraments?



If your answer is YES to any of these questions, we want to hear from you.

The Church gives us a beautiful process called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) for those who seek to become fully initiated in the Catholic Church. We are in the process of putting together plans for this process at OLPH to begin in the upcoming weeks. If you're interested and would like additional information, please contact Deacon Doug Smith at 631.226.7725 or Fr. John at 631.226.7725, x. 224 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org.

OFFERERS NEEDED

We are in need of men and women from our parish to become part of our RCIA team!

If you would like to help with this wonderful ministry by helping with group faith sharing, assisting with catechesis, preparing meals or in any other way, we would love to have you be part of it all!

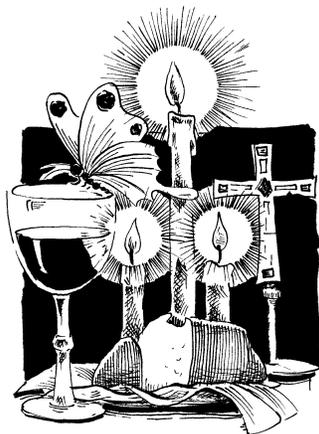
Contact Fr. John if you're interested or for more information!

LIVING LITURGY

MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

Final Training Session

**Thursday,
December
27th
1:30—3:30
P.M.**



The final training session for the *Ministry of Consolation*, which had to be postponed due to the effects of Super Storm Sandy, will be held on **Thursday, December 27, 1:30-3:30 p.m.**, in the Pastor's Meeting Room in the Rectory basement. All who have been attending the Ministry of Consolation classes are asked to make a special effort to attend this final meeting. We will begin to work through the details of signing up for actual ministries, discussing the logistics of putting the ministry in place in our parish, and actually getting started. If you are still interested in the ministry but cannot attend this meeting, please leave word accordingly for Msgr. Joe at the rectory.

ATTENTION EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS AND USHERS

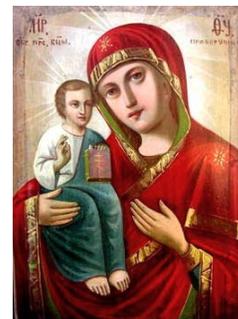
Extraordinary Ministers:

Extraordinary Ministers are still needed for some Christmas Day Masses and for Masses on December 31st/January 1st—Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

Please sign up in the Sacristy **TODAY!**

Ushers

Ushers are needed at our Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and on December 31st/January 1st—Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Please sign up in the Usher's Room **TODAY!**



WEDNESDAY EXPOSITION CHANGE

On December 19th and December 26th, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the Convent Chapel from 12:30 to 4:30 P.M. This will allow work to continue on the confessionals without interruption. **This will only be a temporary placement.** Once our confessionals are completed, Exposition will return to the Church. Please consult the bulletin for updates.

Christmas Spiritual Bouquet



Christmas Spiritual Bouquet cards are now available throughout the church. These cards are a wonderful and meaningful way for you to remember your loved ones at Christmas and to have them prayed for at all our Masses on Christmas Day. Use the card and return the envelope to the rectory or in the collection in order to participate in

our Christmas Spiritual Bouquet.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

The poor have much to teach you. You have much to learn from them. -St. Vincent de Paul

Food Pantry Shopping List

When you are out at the store, can you pick up a few things for our food pantry?

- Canned Tuna**
- Canned Meats**
- Shelf Stable Milk**
- Pasta Sauce**
- Instant Potatoes**
- Canned Fruit**
- Hot Cereals**
- Cake and Muffin Mixes**
- Pancake Mix**
- Pancake Syrup**

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

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

272 Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst, NY
631.225.5531

The office is open:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
9 am—12 noon

Tuesdays - 4 P.M.—7 P.M.

Saturday, December 22nd —9 am –12 noon

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise..."

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving...please share your abundance by giving a gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have clothes and food can share in the blessings of Christmas.

PARISH GIVING TREE



All gifts from our parish giving trees need to be returned this weekend to the rectory or the Church.

All baby gift should be *unwrapped* and all other gifts for the St. Vincent de Paul tree must be *wrapped*. Tags **MUST** be on ALL gifts so that we can make sure it goes to whom it belongs.

ALL GIFTS MUST BE RETURNED UNDER THE TREES TODAY
Sunday, December 16th
with the tag securely attached.

The Saint Bernard League

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

If you are in need of help when it snows, members of our parish community will come to your home and shovel you out! If you think you can use this help, call the Parish Office at 631.226.7725, x. 224 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org so we can begin to match people up now.

We also need Saint Bernards!

Can you and/or your family shovel, snow blow or clear out another family or two in need within our parish community? We'd love to have all families matched up before the first snow of the season.

If you can help with this, call the Parish Office at 631.226.7725 x 224 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org This is a great way to help those in need (do some tremendous community service!)

OLPH BELONGS MORE DEEPLY

Bishop Murphy's recent pastoral letter, *You, Too, Go Into the Vineyard*, gives each of us much to think and pray about. Bishop Murphy writes:



I would like you to think a little more deeply and realize how often it is that you give a helping hand to a neighbor or that you forgive someone who may have hurt you or when you stand up for what is right and true or when you do not cut corners in your business or when you speak the truth in love or when you do things the right way or when you show your children by word and example the way they should live. All these are "qualifiers" to do what I am asking you to do! All these are moments, whether you use the word evangelizer or not, when you are evangelizing. You are doing the Word of God! In a certain sense you are already doing what I am talking about. You already are living according to the teaching of Jesus. You, however, can go further by helping others discover how

beautiful and freeing, how awesome and fulfilling it can be to know Christ Jesus in His Church. Through you they can come to know Him and deepen the bonds of life, love and hope that will respect their dignity and give new meaning to their lives! As "shepherds" you can reach out and invite wise men and women to come back to Bethlehem, back to the stable, back to Jesus and His mother, Mary! Your lives are the proof it is worth it. Your example says more than words. The joy we share as members of Christ is the best argument we have. The message is simple but wonderful: Come with us to Sunday Eucharist. Re-discover Him Who is waiting for you. See if His words don't help you. See if His love doesn't touch you.

Let us continue to pray and invite those we long to belong more deeply to return to Church. There are many wonderful opportunities for invitation here at OLPH!

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

MARCH FOR LIFE

Friday, January 25, 2013

Our parish is attending the Annual March for Life on Friday, January 25, 2013. We will gather at OLPH at 5:00 A.M. for Mass in the Church and depart immediately after.

To RSVP to this event, contact Kathy Feldman of our Respect Life Committee at 631.225.9864. All responses are requested by January 18, 2013.

A Free Will Offering of \$20.00 is requested, but not required, for participation. This will cover the cost of the bus and any extra monies will be donated to Regina Residence, Catholic Charities outreach to pregnant and parenting women and their children.

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

*Mass for People
with*

Special Needs

Saturday,

January 5th

4:00 P.M.

Auditorium

*Look for more info in upcoming
editions of the bulletin!*

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING UPDATE

December 8-9, 2012

12/8/2012 Immaculate Conception Total:
\$4,430.

Mass Time	Weekly Collection	# of Envelopes	Attendance
5:00 P.M.	\$2,425.50	120	327
6:30 A.M.	1,310.00	47	110
8:00 A.M.	2,157.00	97	232
9:30 A.M.	2,475.00	107	346
11:00 A.M.	3,143.00	126	393
12:30 P.M.	1,950.00	98	292
5:00 P.M.	1,153.00	35	152
6:30 P.M.	519.00	16	120
Faith Direct	\$1774.00		
Mail In	586.00		
TOTAL	\$17,492.50	646	1972
2011 Totals	\$17,189.00		2330

MASS CHANGE

Beginning in the new year (2013) we will have only **one** Mass on Saturday mornings, the 8am. We will no longer celebrate the 9am Mass on Saturday beginning in January 2013.



As we prepare for the busy winter season it is a great time to enroll in our automatic electronic offertory program with *Faith Direct*. In the same way we may pay some of our bills or make other online donations, eGiving is simply the easiest and most convenient way for you to make, and Our Lady of Perpetual Help to receive, your weekly offering. With *Faith Direct*, you can save time while also helping Our Lady of Perpetual Help reduce our expenses.

It's easy as **1....2....3...4...5....**

1. Go to www.faithdirect.net.
2. Click on Individuals.
3. Then, "ENROLL NOW".
4. Enter our Church code: NY286.
5. Then complete your enrollment form.

It really is that easy!!!!

If you have any questions about the Faith Direct Program, you can call 1.866.507.8757 or e-mail to info@faithdirect.net.

Take some time in the weeks ahead to learn more about Faith Direct and consider signing up today. Your willingness make use of this program is a huge help to our parish community.

Thank you!

PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

WE CELEBRATE

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

-Rite of Baptism

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

Valencia Adora Glaze



WE REMEMBER

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

Anthony Giordano

Richard W. Reinold

Catherine Nuala Haufler

Vincent Corrigan

Linda Edna Dunn

Mary G. Trezza

James Thomas Morrisroe



Altar Bread & Wine

The Altar Bread & Wine used
during the Masses for the week of
December 16-22 is

In Memory of

Barbara Jane Carr

Requested by

Your Loving Sisters,

Patty, Ginny, Nellie,

Geri & Kitty



*To memorialize the altar bread and wine for
a particular week,
please contact the Parish Office .*

WE BELIEVE

*The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall
I shrink? - Psalm 27*

We pray for the sick of our parish...

Charles Muller

Al Wickenheiser

Alex Taparata

Pete Doyen

Joseph O'Shea

Elizabeth Taroni

Helen Bartley

Bob Little

Connie Perrotta

Eileen C. Quinn

John Huff

Erika Kroll

Catherine Tamburino

Richard Brosan

Mary Doran

William Pugh

Janet Pugh

Andrew Pellicane

Joseph Gerbino

Anthony Cito

Luca Mazzili

Peggy Pannullo

Margaret Stangelo

Charles Muller

Betty Cunningham

Nettie Deasy

Frank Lent

If a family member or close friend is ill, please let us know so our community can pray for them. To have your name or the name of a loved one listed in our parish bulletin, please call the Parish Office at 631.226.7725 or e-mail cbecker@oloph.org.

As has been our practice, after the fourth week, the name will be removed from the sick list in the bulletin. If you wish to have your name or the name of a loved one to remain in the bulletin, please contact the Parish Office to let us know.

PRAYING FOR THE SICK AT MASS

We pray for the sick by name during the Universal Prayer at Mass. Any name requested to be listed in the bulletin will be announced for the first week only at Mass and will remain in the bulletin for the following three weeks.

PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Adults who wish to be baptized, or who have been baptized in another Christian faith and wish to become Catholic, or who have been baptized Catholic and wish to be confirmed and receive Holy Communion, are invited to join the process of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Please contact Deacon Doug at the Parish Office to begin the process.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Adults who have been baptized Catholic and who have received Holy Communion but who still need the Sacrament of Confirmation should enroll in our Adult Confirmation Classes. Please contact Deacon Doug at the Parish Office.

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, December 17

Late Advent Weekday

- 8:00 The Holy Souls
- 12:00 Christina Allen Snapp
- 7:00 John J. Casey

TUESDAY, December 18

Late Advent Weekday

- 8:00 Maria Perez Esteres
- 12:00 Joseph Piazza
- 7:00 Kirk Family

WEDNESDAY, December 19

Late Advent Weekday

- 8:00 Michael Healion
- 12:00 Catherine Savage Marko & Joshua
- 7:00 Joel Berkowitz

THURSDAY, December 20 —

Late Advent Weekday

- 8:00 Mario Canobbio
- 12:00 Deceased Members Divona Family
- 7:00 Patrick & Cecilia Flynn & Family

FRIDAY, December 21 Late Advent Weekday

Saint Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church
(Optional)

- 8:00 Peter Pecere
- 12:00 Irene & Joe Brennan
- 7:00 Mary Funyak (Mass in Convent Chapel)

SATURDAY, December 22

Late Advent Weekday

- 8:00 Salvatore & Filomena Daltorio
- 9:00 Mary Bradley

Vigil Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 5:00 David & Merle Zimms

SUNDAY, December 23

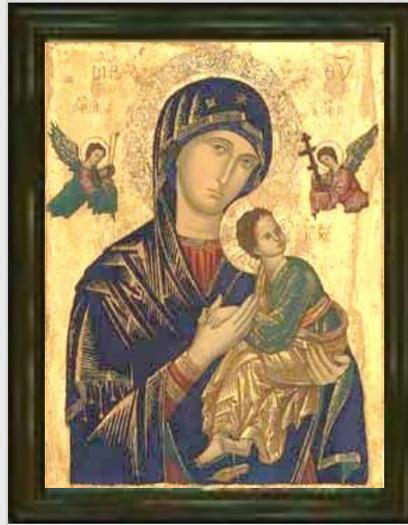
Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 6:30 Mass for the People of the Parish
- 8:00 Book of the Faithful Departed
- 9:30 Eva Sciara
- 11:00 Dominick DeGirolamo
- 12:30 Maria Lourdes Almeida
- 5:00 Lee & Abbott Family
- 6:30 Mass in Polish

THE 1000 CLUB

Join the
2012/2013
1000 Club

1st Prize: \$1000
2nd Prize: \$250
3rd Prize: \$150
4th Prize: \$100



3rd drawing
is Jan. 12
ARE YOU IN?
Got your
ticket?



OLPH invites you to join
the 2012-2013 “1000 Club”
at the cost of \$50

Make your \$50 check payable to: “OLPH 1000 Club.”

YOU CAN STILL ENTER—
THERE ARE STILL PLENTY OF TICKETS AVAILABLE!

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

El grupo de Oración- “Jesús Es El Camino La Verdad y Vida” se reúne todos los días Jueves a las 7:00 P.M. en la cafetería. Para información, llamar a Irma Gonzalez a 631.241.5606.

Para más información sobre los sacramentos de el Bautizo y el Matrimonio y Servicio de Pastoral Unión de los Enfermos y la Eucaristía, contacto Padre Juan Sureau – 631.226.7725, x. 224 - jsureau@drvc.org

Para ofrendas de pan y vino en el altar, favor llamar a la oficina parroquial al 631.226.7725.

Los días martes de cada semana llevamos el Santo Rosario a los hogares a 7:30 P.M. Para información, llamar Virginia Constantinou a 631.957.1149.



Presten atención...

Hay representantes de FEMA disponibles en la biblioteca pública de Lindenhurst para los miembros de nuestra comunidad que hablan inglés y también para aquellos que hablan español que fueron afectados por la tormenta. Para recibir ayuda, si Ud. no tiene su ciudadanía legal sólo necesita tener el certificado de nacimiento de su hijo/a y la tarjeta de seguro social. Usted no tendrá ningún problema con las auto-ridades.

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS

- **Annual Winter Coat Drive.** Please bring new or gently used coats to the **Knights of Columbus**, 400 S. Broadway, Lindenhurst, or call Sal 516.410.1205 to arrange for a drop-off.
- **Cleary School for the Deaf** is offering evening *Adult Education classes in American Sign Language*, Levels 1,2,3 & Intermediate/Advances. **January 30th—May 1st, 2013** (ages 12 & up). Call Carolyn Kelly 631-588-0530 or email ClearyASL@hotmail.com for more information.
- The **Sisters of the Cenacle** are planning a number of events for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Please take note of the following:
 - Dec. 21, 6-10pm**, includes dinner. Holiday Evening with Your Higher Power, an evening for those in the 12 Step program. Ann Schehr, LMHC, CRC
 - Dec. 31, 2012-Jan 1, 2013.** 4pm to 9:30am overnight. Commuters welcome. New Year's Eve Overnite in Prayer. Fr. Jack Replogle, S.J. A festive meal opens the evening, presentation, time for personal reflection, celebration of Eucharist, to welcome in the New Year and pray for peace. Overnight, breakfast and departure.
 - Jan. 11-13, 2013 Weekend.** Healing Life's Hurts with Contemplation – Silent Retreat. Ignatian contemplation on the life of Jesus to heal fear, anger, guilt, shame in our lives. Fr. Matt Linn, S.J.
 - Jan. 12, Saturday, 10am-4pm at Maude Adams**, includes lunch. Life is Goodbye, Life is Hello Workshop. From perspectives of several faith traditions, we will explore varied ways in which cultures experience universal grief. Death ends life, not a relationship. Ann Amideo, M.A. Theology.
 - NEW!!! Jan. 13 Sunday, 2:30-5pm.** Hurricane Sandy: Act of Nature or Act of God? Come to share your experience of Hurricane Sandy. How has it been a crisis with both danger and opportunity? The afternoon will include a healing prayer process to bring new life wherever the crisis has challenged your life. Fr. Matthew Linn, SJ.
- Join **Fr. Jim Stachacz and St. Ignatius Loyola Parish** for a 4 day-night tour of Washington D.C. from April 5-8, 2013. Trip includes visits to the major monuments and full day guided tours. For more information or reservations contact Joan Chwalisa at 516.938.4261 or Anne Murphy at 516.931.9784.

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**To you,
O Lord,
I lift my soul.**
-Psalm 25

First Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2012

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Joseph DeGrosso

Parish Executive: Rev. Msgr. Donald S. Hamilton

Parochial Vicars: Rev. Msgr. Aimee • Rev. Ignace Lischke • Rev. John Sirean

In Residence: Rev. Michael Holzman

Deacons: Rev. Mr. Frank A. Olin • Rev. Mr. William Conroy • Rev. Mr. Douglas G. Smith
Parish Pastoral Association for Administration: Deacon Donald A. Stearns

Director of Religious Education: Thomas J. Acerngolo

Music Director: James R. Scialoja

High School Youth Minister: Brian Evans Middle School Youth Minister: Peggy Harnich

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday

8:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m.

Saturday Morning: 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m.

Special Masses:

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

7:00 p.m., and 8:00 p.m. (Masses and published.)

Masses by Holy Day or as announced and published.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

210 S. Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst

Monday - Friday 9 am - 2 pm

EVENING OFFICE HOURS, AT THIS TIME:

ASBY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Sundays: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Sundays: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday - Friday following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Saturday: 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 4:00 p.m.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is always available by

making an appointment with one of our priests.

BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday Evening, after OLPH Novena Devotions

Wednesday: 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. for the Reparation of

Sin

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

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.

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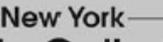
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CHRISTMAS SEASON @ OLPH

Christmas Eve - Monday, December 24

5:00pm

8:00pm

12:00 Midnight Mass

(Christmas Carols begin at 11:30 P.M.)

Christmas Day - Tuesday, December 25

6:30am

8:00am

9:30am

11:00am

12:30pm

**9:00am Mass in Polish
in the Auditorium**

*There is no 5:00pm Mass on
Christmas Day*



**Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God
HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

Vigil of Solemnity

Monday, December 31

5:00pm

7:00pm

Tuesday, January 1, 2013

8:00am

10:00am

12 noon

*There is no 7:00pm Mass
on Tuesday, Jan. 1*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Take time each day to read the daily readings of the Church. When we do this we are more closely united to the Church and better prepared to participate in the celebration of the Eucharist. Actual texts—audio and visual - can be found at <http://www.usccb.org/bible/index.cfm>. A number of apps, including Ibreviary, also contain the daily readings.

Monday, December 17, 2012:

Genesis 49:2, 8-10 + Matthew 1:1-17

Tuesday, December 18, 2012:

Jeremiah 23:5-8 + Matthew 1:18-25

Wednesday, December 19, 2012:

Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a + Luke 1:5-25

Thursday, December 20, 2012:

Isaiah 7:10-14 + Luke 1:26-38

Friday, December 21, 2012:

Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18a
+ Luke 1:39-45

Saturday, December 22, 2012:

1 Samuel 1:24-28 + Luke 1:46-56

Sunday, December 23, 2012:

Micah 5:1-4a + Hebrews 10:5-10
+ Luke 1:39-45

After reading next Sunday's Gospel, take some time pray with these questions, before you come to Mass.

1. The infant "leaped for joy" in his mother's womb at the recognition of the savior. Discuss this moment as humankind's welcome to the savior. How close do you come to "leaping for joy" when you recognize God's presence in your life?
2. Where does Mary's greatness lie in salvation history? For her part Elizabeth was given an insight when the babe in her womb leapt. How did Mary know about her own child? When the Holy Spirit gives you insights, do you always believe them and perhaps even act on them?



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