

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



To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

-Psalm 25

First Sunday of Advent

December 2, 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: 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. for the Reparation of
Souls

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

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Throughout the season of Advent, we will light our Advent wreath at the beginning of each Mass. (During the first week, the Blessing and Lighting of the Advent wreath is part of the Universal Prayer.). We would like families and individuals in our parish to be a part of this. **If you and/or your family are able to be part of this, please sign up in the binder found in the back of the Church (on the ledge).** We will contact you with more information. Thanks!



Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Saturday
December 8, 2012

Mass Schedule

Friday, December 7th
5:00 P.M.
7:00 P.M.

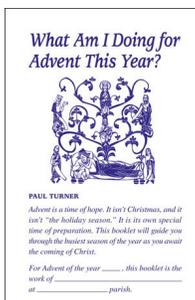
Saturday,
December 8th
8:00 A.M.
9:00 A.M.



The 5:00 P.M. Mass on December 8, 2012 is the Vigil Mass for the Second Mass of Advent and does not fulfill the holy day obligation.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

Booklets *“What Am I Doing for Advent This Year”* are now available throughout the church. Please take one and use it to help you in your spiritual preparation for the season of Advent. The best way to not get caught up in the busy-ness and superficiality of the so-called “holiday season” is to observe a proper liturgical spirituality of keeping Advent as a special season of preparation. This booklet can help you to think and pray about how you will keep Advent as a special season this year.



Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Advent season is a wonderful time to receive God's loving forgiveness in this beautiful sacrament. We have provided a number of opportunities for you throughout the Advent season.

Parish Penance Service

(with individual confessions)

Monday, December 10, 2012

7:45 P.M. + Church

(Please note: OLPH Novena Devotions will take place at 6:15 P.M. on this night.)

Individual Confessions

Saturdays— 4:00 - 5:00 P.M.

(Confessions will begin at 3:30 on December 22nd.)

Friday, December 14th &
Wednesday, December 19

Following the 7:00 P.M. Mass

Monday through Friday

Following the 8 A.M. Mass

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Advent!

So, it is here...the First Sunday of Advent. It is a new liturgical cycle and, in many ways, a time of new hope and new beginnings.



After the events of the hurricane and the nor'easter, we certainly need something that will hit the "restart button" for us and help us to look to the future; I hope this beautiful season is that time for you. We have included a special two-page insert in the bulletin this week to help you enter into the spirituality of Advent; please take the time to read it and to use it at home.

There is great hope and promise associated with this time of year; let's look to the ways that we need to anticipate the coming of Christ into our life more deeply. Let's know that as we journey through these days of the year when the darkness of the night is at its peak that we are also nonetheless also moving toward those days when daylight will slowly and imperceptibly once again take hold, reminding us of the Light of Christ which is always with us, and which always conquers the darkness.

Happy Advent to all!

Belong More Deeply

Remember that during Advent you are being asked to invite and accompany someone for whom you have been praying to return to church to one of our parish activities or gatherings, as part of our parish's participation in the diocesan Belong More Deeply program. What a great way to spread Advent joy and hope, by letting your joy about your faith and about being a part of OLPH spread to someone else! That is how the Light of Christ shines brightly during Advent — through you!

Use of Parking Lot

As you are probably aware, our parish will be leasing the greater part of our school parking lot to Wells Fargo for their hurricane relief effort; this lease will run through December 15. In exchange for use of the parking lot, Wells Fargo is making a significant donation to the parish, which helps us greatly in our ongoing financial struggles. I know that for the next few weekends this reduced availability of space in our school parking lot may cause difficulties and inconveniences, both at Mass times and for Religious Education parents, so I thank you in advance for your patience, understanding, and good humor. The temporary inconvenience,

however, is for the sake of a greater good that will benefit the entire parish.

Holy Day of Obligation—Immaculate Conception

This Saturday, December 8, is a Holy Day of Obligation, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Solemnity when all Catholics are obligated to attend Mass, as they are obliged to do so every Sunday. Please look for the schedule of the Holy Day Masses printed elsewhere in this bulletin, and spread the word.

What a great gift we have been given to have this Holy Day fall at the beginning of Advent. Mary is an important Advent figure, and if we are looking for a way to overcome feeling frantic and hurried at this time of year, what better way to do so than to take the time to stop and focus on one of the beautiful dogmas of our faith, the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

Parish Mission at St. Agnes Cathedral, Rockville Centre

This week I will be giving a Parish Advent Mission at St. Agnes Cathedral in Rockville Centre along with three of my classmates, Msgr. Jim Vlaun, Fr. Frank Nelson, and our own Fr. Michael Holzmann. Many of you may recall that the four of us came to OLPH in Advent of 2009 to do our parish mission here, and we still recall what a warm and wonderful welcome we received. The four of us are still doing the parish mission either during Advent and/or Lent whenever we are asked (we are in our 17th year of doing the mission!), and I will keep you apprised of our bookings as they come up. I thank you for your patience and understanding, as the mission will necessitate my taking some time away from my parish work for four nights, Sunday through Wednesday. (*That's OK...Fr. John can just pick up the extra work! :))*)

Enough!

In view of the extra two-page Advent insert this week I will cut my column short (*I hope that's not cheering I hear out there!*) and simply say...

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, 

FIRST WEEK 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)

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 WEEK 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.

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 lit. 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.

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.

STORM RELIEF @ OLPH

OLPHELP GRANT

Due to the outpouring of financial support, we are establishing a grant program for parishioners in need. **Applications, available at the doors of the Church, are due NO LATER than Sunday, December 9, 2012.**

Our work continues....

Clearing and Re-building Exchange

If your home or the home of someone you love is need of clearing, please contact Mr. Michael Connolly at 631.226.7725. If you or a group you are part of want to be part of clearing and cleaning efforts, please also contact Mike using the phone # above.



Counseling Support

We would like to put together a listing of licensed mental health counselors, social workers and psychologists willing to provide support for individuals and families in need. If you are willing to have your name listed, please contact Fr. John by e-mailing (jsureau@drvc.org) or faxing (631.225.9597) a copy of your license and contact information.

Furniture Help

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.**

Housing Possibilities

If you have a legal dwelling (house, apartment or room) that you are able to rent to a family that has been displaced, please contact Fr. John at 631.226.7725 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org for more information. We anticipate the need for housing to increase for families as winter arrives and the reality of rebuilding takes hold. We hope to be able to provide a list of local housing possibilities for individuals and families if the need arises.



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.

10,000 DOLLARS OF TOYS

Darius Rucker, previously lead singer for Hootie and the Blowfish, is offering to bring **\$10,000 worth of toys** to the town that votes the most times on a website called <http://eventful.com/competitions/dariusrucker2012>. As of this publication, Lindenhurst has 4414 votes, Toms River is 2nd with 2086 votes. Voting is open until December 10th.



Vote today and support our local community!



The Office of Faith Formation of the Diocese of Rockville Centre is offering a special workshop entitled, **“Coping with Hurricane Sandy and the Aftermath.”**

Please join us as we gather together to find support, to listen, to learn coping strategies, and to learn how to respond to the stress and take care of one's self and others as we move towards recovery. Anyone who has been affected by the hurricane (and we all have been impacted in some way or know someone who has) are encouraged to attend.

Thursday, December 6th—10:00 A.M.

SS. Philip and James Pastoral Center
1 Hancock Street
St. James, NY 11780

To RSVP, please e-mail to klogan@drvc.org or call 516.678.5800, x. 236

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

St. Nicholas Christmas Bedtime Stories

THIS FRIDAY, December 7th

Following the 5 P.M. Vigil Mass for the
Immaculate Conception
**6:15—9:00 P.M. in the
School Auditorium**



OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN!!!

(Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian)

Children, come in your pajamas and
bring a blanket or pillow to sit on.

Enjoy Christmas stories, a Christmas sing-a-long,
cookies and hot chocolate.

Please call Chris at 957.2321, Jane at 662.8881 or Rocio at 592.8944 or e-mail olphfamilylife@aol.com by **THIS TUESDAY, December 4th** with your name, phone # and ages of children attending.

**Donations of cookies, cupcakes, brownies
and juice will be gladly accepted.**

HELP NEEDED!!!

We are looking for bakers. This month's theme is **COOKIES**. Do you have a special cookies recipe and would like to share it?

If you would like to bake or help with the hospitality breakfast, please contact Debbie McDonough at 957-0765 or email olphfamilylife@aol.com.

ADVENT HOSPITALITY BREAKFAST

The Hospitality Committee invites all parishioners to join us for a free continental breakfast on

**Sunday, December 16, 2012
after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.**

In the midst of these busy days, take some time to share with other members of the parish community.

Come and enjoy the breakfast and meet other parishioners!!!

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

Children's Christmas Pageant Friday, December 21, 2012 7:00 P.M. Church



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

We'd like to involve as many members of our parish community, especially all parish children! It's easy...there are only two short practices and a dress rehearsal.

There's something for all ages....

Pre-K through Grade 3—Angels and Shepherds (We need hundreds of them!)

Grades 4 through 6—Three Kings and the Royal Servants

Grades 7 through 12—We need lots of help—musicians, singers, organizers, help with Hot Cocoa and cookies, assistant directors and more!

If you can help with our pageant, please fill out the form below or e-mail to olphfamilylife@aol.com.

College Students (especially those coming home for Christmas) and Adults: We need help with supervision of angels and shepherds, assistance with hospitality and more! If you can help, please call Fr. John at 631.226.7725 or e-mail to jsureau@drvc.org.

We especially need parishioners to be part of our **Christmas Pageant Chorus and Music Group!** We need instrumentalists, singers, etc. For more information, contact Mr. Jim Kendall at 631.226.7725.

Pageant Practices

Tuesday, December 11th—4:30 P.M.—Church

Friday, December 14th—4:30 P.M.—Church

DRESS REHEARSAL: Tuesday, December 18th— 4:30 P.M.—Church

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SIGN UP!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ E-mail _____@_____

Grade _____

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 Uncción 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.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Wednesday, December 12, 2012

7:00 P.M.—Church

(The 7:00 P.M. Mass will be celebrated in Spanish on this night.)

Come and pray with our parish community as we celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary's appearance to Juan Diego in Tepeyac.

As the patroness of Mexico, Latin America and the Philippines, Our Lady of Guadalupe reminds us of God's special care and love for the poor and most in need.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe,
pray for us!**



Nuestra Señora De Guadalupe

Patrona Principal De México, de América Latina y Las Islas Filipinas

Solemnidad En México
Fiesta En América
**Miercoles 12
de Diciembre
7:00 P.M. Church**

Era el mes de diciembre de 1531, solamente diez años después de conquistada Tenochtitlán por los españoles, cuando la santísima Virgen se apareció al indio Juan Diego en el cerro del Tepeyac. Lo nombro su embajador ante el obispo, fray Juan de Zumárraga, para que le construyesen un templo. La prueba de que las palabras de Juan Diego eran ciertas fueron las rosas que llevo en su tilma y preciosa imagen que apareció dibujada en ella. La santísima Virgen es nuestra Madre. Toda la historia de Juan Diego y de las apariciones de la Virgen están fundadas en una constante y solida tradición.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

The poor are your masters. You are the servant. -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?

- Peanut Butter**
- Jelly & Jams**
- Shelf Stable Milk**
- Canned Fruit**
- Canned Juice**
- Pancake Mix & Syrup**
- Cake & Muffin Mix**
- Canned Tuna and Salmon**

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 8th—9 am –12 noon

As we begin Advent we are called to “await” in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. Wherever you live in our parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your bell.

Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God’s love this Christmas.

HELP FAMILIES WITHIN OUR OWN PARISH IN NEED!

CHRISTMAS ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Each year, we ask members of our parish family to adopt families in need. Traditionally, we provide Christmas for over 100 families and we anticipate that number rising this year. We expect an increase in requests for help this year. If you can help, please fill out the form below or contact our St. Vincent de Paul Office at 631.226-7725 or complete the tear off below and return it in the Collection Basket.



Name _____
Phone # _____ E-mail _____@_____

YES! We would like to provide for a family in need this Christmas!

We can provide for a family of 2 3 4 5 More than 5

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OR TO THE COLLECTION BASKET AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

PARISH GIVING TREE

Our parish giving trees are up and filled with ornament gift tags. Now we need you to empty those trees by taking the tags off and begin shopping on behalf of others in our parish and local communities.

Each tag indicates a specific gift suggestion that is needed to support families and individuals in need.

**ALL GIFTS MUST BE
RETURNED UNDER
THE TREES BY
SUNDAY,
December 16th
with the tag securely
attached.**



SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

NEXT MEETING

**THIS TUESDAY,
December 4, 2012
7:30 P.M.**

*(immediately following
the 7:00 P.M. Mass)*

**Rectory Meeting Room
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**Mass for People with
Special Needs
Saturday,
January 5th**

4:00 P.M.

Auditorium

Look for more info in upcoming editions
of the bulletin!

"We must recognize and appreciate the contribution persons with disabilities can make to the Church's spiritual life, and encourage them to do the Lord's work in the world according to their God-given talents and capacity."

**-Welcome and Justice for Peoples with Disabilities,
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops**

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY



Introducing 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!)

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.

After the March, we will leave Washington at 5 P.M. There will be a stop to and from Washington, DC. All are encouraged to bring sandwiches and snack for the bus as the stops will likely be brief.

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.

23rd Annual NATIONAL NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE

Saturday,
December 8, 2012
8 P.M. to 12 Midnight



Uniting the Feast of the Immaculate Conception with the Feast of St. Juan Diego

It was on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (then celebrated on December 9th) that Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Americas and the unborn, first appeared to St. Juan Diego. The National Night of Prayer for Life bridges these two feasts to honor Our Blessed Mother and prays through Her intercession for the establishment of a Culture of Life, protection for the Church from persecution and asks Our Lord to **REVIVE OUR LAND**. All are invited to participate!

YOUTH MINISTRY @ OLPH

For High School Students....

YOUTH FAITH IN ACTION (YFIA)

Over the past months, our high school youth ministry adult and teen leaders have been meeting to plan an exciting new program for our parish's high school students. **Youth Faith in Action** is our parish's official youth ministry for high school students.

This past week, our youth leaders met and began to plan the weeks ahead for all of the high school youth in our parish. All those confirmed this past Spring and present members of youth ministry will receive information this week in the mail about all that is happening!

For now....

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Youth Faith In Action presents the
1st Annual

Winter Gala

Sunday, December 16, 2012

School Auditorium

\$25.00 per person

More information in next week's bulletin!

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 organizing and assisting at many parish events.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

**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

MUSIC MINISTRY

Save the date....

Winter Choral Concert

Saturday, December 15th—8:00 P.M.

Church



Featuring the performance of "A Thrill of Hope" and the participation of our parish's music groups....and a special surprise presentation!

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

We've gone through a complete year almost and come to what is probably most people's favorite time of year. We become more aware of each other. Our thoughts and hearts turn to love and caring. We are stretched to give and do for others. Joy and giving become part of our vocabulary. A baby will be born on Christmas not only in the crib, but also in our hearts. Once again we can be renewed, encouraged and lifted up. We want to share the many blessings we have received so we buy gifts for our family and friends. We try to pick just the right gift in the hope they will like it and most of all know that we really care and love them. We hope and pray that we are a shining light of God's love. We pray that they will experience the love of God through us, that God will use this to touch and bring them closer to Himself. We know and see how God has touched, healed and blessed us through others. This is simple, isn't it? God is so good.

We've all heard the question many times "Why go to church? I get nothing out of it." Maybe this will help us to give an answer to a son, daughter, grandson or granddaughter who is questioning and searching. A Church member wrote a letter to the editor of the newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. "I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher: "I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today." When you are DOWN to nothing... God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!

Christmas brings more people to Mass than any other holiday, so let us pray that they are nourished and strengthened to face the New Year in a holier and more God centered way.

Peace of Jesus,
Frank
Deacon Frank

**WELLS
FARGO**

A PARKING NOTE

Please note that for the next couple of weeks we will be leasing the greater part of our school parking lot to Wells Fargo for their hurricane relief effort. The lease calls for them to use the space until December 15. Wells Fargo will be making a significant donation to the parish for this use. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

COMMUNITY OF PRAISE

The OLPH Community of Praise Prayer Group meets Tuesday evenings at 7:45pm in the Convent Meeting Room. Please enter through the front Convent door.

**All are
welcome!!!**



WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING UPDATE

November 24-25, 2012

Mass Time	Weekly Collection	# of Envelopes	Attendance
5:00 P.M.	\$2800.00	133	357
6:30 A.M.	1136.00	43	121
8:00 A.M.	2373.50	100	242
9:30 A.M.	1813.00	97	308
11:00 A.M.	3253.00	119	427
12:30 P.M.	2508.50	108	355
5:00 P.M.	808.00	26	178
6:30 P.M.	538.00	12	164
Faith Direct	1758.00		
Mail In	743.00		
TOTAL	\$17,731	638	2152
2011 Totals	\$16,381		2427

Altar Bread & Wine

The Altar Bread and Wine used during the Masses for the week of December 2—8, 2012 is

In Memory of William A. Sheehan

Requested by
Your Loving Wife, Kathy,
Denise & Stacy & their Families

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

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.

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

Monday, December 3, 2012:

Isaiah 2:1-5 + Matthew 8:5-11

Tuesday, December 4, 2012:

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

Wednesday, December 5, 2012:

Isaiah 25:6-10a + Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday, December 6, 2012:

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

Friday, December 7, 2012:

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

Saturday, December 8, 2012:

Genesis 3:9-15, 20 + Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12 + Luke 1:26-38

Sunday, December 9, 2012

Baruch 5:1-9 + Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 + Luke 3:1-6

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

1. Why does Luke belabor all the historical references in the beginning of this reading? Would we find those names in history books?

2. What is the significance of the sentence, "All flesh shall see the salvation of God"? What are the implications for the Church if the entire world is included in this plan? What are the implications for you?



PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

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

Second Time

**Marc Iurka (St. Louis, Sound Beach, NY)
& Nicole Altstatt**

**Christopher Sperber (St. Eliz. Ann Seton)
& Teresa Bonventre (OLG)**

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!

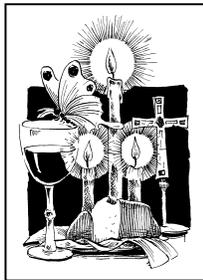


**Maya Angelica Farrell
Adrianna Nicole Ascolese
Jhovany Peter Rodriguez**

WE REMEMBER

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

**Barbara Terraso
Joan Husfeldt
Anthony Petrone, Jr.**



FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS

First Friday Devotions— in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus - will be conducted Friday, **December 7th** at 7:45am and after the 12 noon Mass.

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...

Brittany Evans	Nettie Deasy
Joseph Colascione	Alex Taparata
Constance Panessa	Pete Doyen
Lisa Marie Hulsen	Joseph O'Shea
Marie Steinbecher	Elizabeth Taroni
Justin Marino	Helen Bartley
Kevin Curran	Bob Little
Charles Muller	Connie Perrotta
James Coffin	Eileen C. Quinn
Al Wickenheiser	John Huff
Madeline Olejniczak	Erika Kroll
Anthony Kercelius	Vincent Corrigan
Pauline Lomot	Catherine Tamburino
Betty Cunningham	Richard Brosan

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.

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 9 am Mass on Saturday beginning in January 2013.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, December 3 –

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

8:00 Annette Romanello

12:00 Patrick & Mary Sullivan & Family

7:00 Jennie Novello

TUESDAY, December 4 - Advent Weekday—

St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church

(optional)

8:00 Healion Family

12:00 Rafael F. Rajo

7:00 All Priests (Living)

WEDNESDAY, December 5—

Advent Weekday

8:00 William John Smith

12:00 Catherine L. Sahoguidice

7:00 Mr. & Mrs. Cruz

THURSDAY, December 6— Advent Weekday

Saint Nicholas, Bishop (optional)

8:00 Ryan Hold Peterson

12:00 William McCowan

7:00 Alex Polanco

FRIDAY, December 7— Saint Ambrose, Bishop

and Doctor of the Church

8:00 Trent Melara

12:00 James M. Shea

5:00 Molinari Family (Living) - VIGIL MASS

7:00 Mass for the Holy Souls—VIGIL MASS

SATURDAY, December 8— The Feast of the Immaculate Conception— Holy Day of Obligation

8:00 Michael Healion

9:00 Guiseppe Lentini

Vigil Mass for the 2nd Sunday of Advent—

5:00 Jennie Ajello

SUNDAY, December 9—

Second Sunday of Advent

6:30 Mass for the People of the Parish

8:00 Living and Deceased Members of the Holy Name Society

9:30 Paul W. Haselau

11:00 Book of the Faithful Departed

12:30 Antoinette Vito

5:00 David & Ellen Fowler

6:30 Mass in Polish

THE 1000 CLUB

Join the
**2012/2013
1000 Club**



**2nd drawing
is Dec. 12
ARE YOU
IN?
Got your
ticket?**



1st Prize: \$1000

2nd Prize: \$250

3rd Prize: \$150

4th Prize: \$100

EXTRA \$1500

CHRISTMAS DRAWING

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

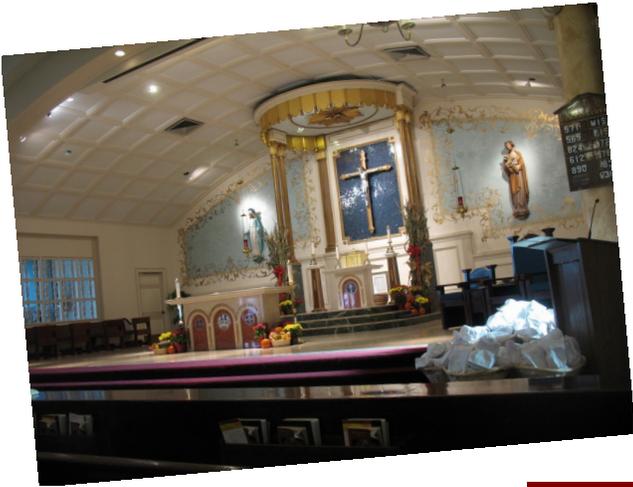
Make your \$50 check payable to: "OLPH 1000 Club."

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

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.
- **St. Rose of Lima School**, 4704 Merrick Road, Massapequa, is hosting a *private Open House* on Tuesday, **Dec. 4**. *This event is by appt. only.* Please call 516-541-1546 to reserve time slot. We will have another open house during Catholic Schools' Week, January 29. No appt needed for this one.
- *Good Samaritan Hospital and Good Shepherd Hospice* are offering: **Young Adult (ages 18-30) Bereavement Group, Dec. 5—Jan. 23**, 5-6:30 pm in the 2nd Floor Annex Conference Room, Good Samaritan Hospital. Please call Michelle Graff, LMSW, at 631.465.6254 to reserve space.
- **St. Joseph Renewal Center**, 1725 Brentwood Rd., Brentwood, is offering: "*Living with Alzheimer's and Dementia*" Wednesday, **Dec. 5** from 1-2:30pm—Free will offering. **Dec. 8**, *Men's Spiritual Gathering*, 8-9:30 am. \$20 includes breakfast. **Dec. 11**, *Women's Spiritual Gathering*, 10—12 noon, \$15. For reservations call 631-273-1187 X123.
- **Healing Mass at the Immaculate Conception Center**, Douglaston Pkwy, Douglaston. Tuesday, **Dec. 7** at 7pm. Rosary, Mass & Healing Service celebrated by Fr. Augustine Fernando. For more info call: 718-229-8001.
- **Hurricane Sandy: Rally and Concert Night** Friday, **December 7**, St. Bernard's Auditorium, Levittown, 7:30 – 11:00 p.m. The devastation from Hurricane Sandy has reached heights never seen before on Long Island. Join together on Friday, December 7th for a night of music, prayer, community, fun and laughter. We will be collecting non-perishable food items and a \$5.00 free will offering will be collected as we seek to raise money and donations for those directly impacted by the storm right here on Long Island. Please RSVP by December 1 to either Marianne Sheridan msheridan@drvc.org or Mike Rodgers, StBernardsYouth@aol.com All are encouraged and welcome to attend!
- The Babylon Chorale presents "**A Holiday Celebration,**" featuring Mozart's *Coronation Mass* along with seasonal selections. **Sat. Dec. 8** at 8pm at Our Lady of Grace Church, 666 Albin Ave., West Babylon. *Free reception following the concert!* Tickets:\$20 for adults (\$18 in advance); \$17 (\$15 in advance) for seniors and students. Call 516-798-5475 or 631-321-4460 for information.
- **Art on the Vine at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception - Sunday, December 9th from 2 pm to 6 pm.** Wine Tasting by Pindar Vineyards. Commentary by Joseph Bertuccio, Wine Expert & Author. Exhibit & Sale by Professional Artists. Tours of Seminary Art, Chapels, Library & Unique "Folk Art". \$50 per Guest . Proceeds benefit the education and formation of our seminarians – our future priests. For tickets and information, contact 631-423-0483 x 102 or bmalone@icseminary.edu
- **Hope House Ministries** is sponsoring a "**Classic Irish Christmas Show**" on Saturday, **December 15**, 2012 at 2:00 P.M. at St. Joseph's College, Patchogue, NY. The concert features Andy Cooney and his band, the Darrah Carr Dance Troup and Emcee Mike McCormack. Reserved seat admission tickets are \$35 per person and may be purchased through Hope House Ministries (631.928.2377, x. 22).

THANKSGIVING 2012



OLPH celebrated Thanksgiving in grand fashion this year.

The parish community gathered for the celebration of the Eucharist at a special 9 A.M. Mass. All who attended had the opportunity to have the food for their Thanksgiving table blessed. Blessed bread was given to all parishioners as they left the Church.



Later in the day, the Knights of Columbus hosted a Thanksgiving Dinner for all in our local community. Many thanks to the many volunteers who offered themselves for the good of our local community.

