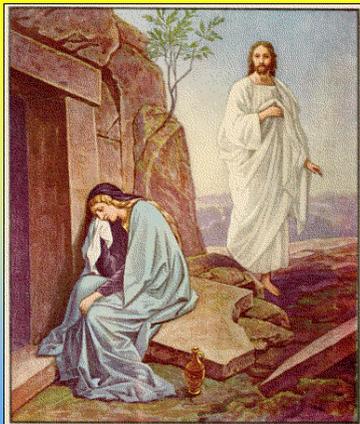


Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

210 South Wellwood Avenue + Lindenhurst, New York 11757 +

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

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



**This is the day the Lord has made
Let us be glad and rejoice!**

—Psalm 118

The Resurrection of the Lord **April 20, 2014**

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco

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

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Msgr. Daniel S. Hamilton

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

Facilities Manager: Deacon Donald A. Stamm **Business Manager:** Deacon Thomas J. Bast

Coordinator of Faith Formation: April Kleinlaut **Music Director:** Christopher Ferraro

COME IN AND PRAY...

Our church is open **6:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.** seven days a week, except for Thursdays when it closes after the 12:15 p.m. Mass for cleaning. Come in and spend some time in prayer.

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday

6:30 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

Saturday Morning: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

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

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

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

LITURGY OF THE HOURS

We pray Evening Prayer each Saturday and Sunday after the 5 P.M. Mass.

We pray Daytime Prayer each Wednesday at 1:50 P.M.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday – Friday following the 12:15 p.m. Mass.
Saturday: 4:00 to 4:45 p.m.

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

OLPH NOVENA DEVOTIONS

Monday evenings at 7:00 P.M. in the Church
(unless otherwise announced)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday Evening: after OLPH Novena Devotions

Wednesday: 12:45 to 2:00 p.m.

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

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

210 S. Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst

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

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

Family Life invites you to our



Easter Season Family Fun Day

Saturday, April 26, 2014

(rain or shine)

12:45 PM—3:00 PM

On the Parish Grounds

Cost: \$1.00 per person

Join us as we celebrate the beauty of the Easter Season
and the joy of the resurrected Jesus.

Children's egg hunt, games, prizes and of course a visit from the
Easter Bunny!! Hot dogs, snack, chips & beverage included!

To participate fill out and return the form below
& return (by Wednesday, April 23rd) to:

OLPH Rectory

210 South Wellwood Ave.

Lindenhurst, New York 11757

Attn: Family Life



Easter Season Family Fun Day

Name _____ Phone # _____

E-mail _____ @ _____

of adults _____

and ages of children _____

Amount enclosed: Cash _____ /Check _____

*For more information: contact Rocio Gragnano (592-8944) or Jane Aaron (662-8881)
or e-mail olphfamilylife@aol.com*

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Happy Easter! Alleluia!

The Lord is truly risen, alleluia! To him be glory and power for all the ages of eternity, alleluia, alleluia! Those words are the Entrance Antiphon for the Mass during the Day of Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord. How aptly those words sum up our overflowing joy at this central feast in our liturgical year and in our Christian life. Truly, the resurrection of the Lord Jesus is everything to us! Through our crucified-risen Savior we are saved and made free! Let the shouts of *Alleluia* ring out loudly today!

I take this opportunity to wish all of you a very Happy Easter, and I am joined by the entire OLPH Pastoral Staff in wishing you and your family many blessings during this fifty-day season of resurrection and new life. To those former parishioners who may be back, and those young people away at school who have returned home for Easter, we are very glad to see all of you again. To friends and family members of our parishioners who are visiting and worshipping with us, we extend a heartfelt welcome! To our own parishioners who are joining us but who perhaps do not come to Mass regularly, we want you to know how glad we are that you are with us today. We hope that you will be inspired to join us in worship on a more regular basis. *This day was made by the Lord; let us rejoice and be glad!*

Easter is our greatest feast and the center of the liturgical year; it's important for us to make sure we give it the centrality it deserves. Look for a special **Easter Time insert** elsewhere in this bulletin that explains the meaning of the season and highlights some important liturgical elements. Also in this bulletin we have included a special ritual for **Blessing Your Home at Easter**. I encourage each and every family to pray that blessing together at home.

Octave of Easter—Music at 12:15 p.m. Week-day Mass this Week

This week coming up is the Octave of Easter, as the joy of Easter Sunday continues to be celebrated in an intense way; each day this week has the liturgical rank of Solemnity. The *Glory to God in the highest* continues to be used each day this week, as does the solemn dismissal at the end of Mass with its double alleluia. (These elements end on weekdays after the Second Sunday of Easter.)

Since our custom here at OLPH is to celebrate Solemnities celebrated during the week with music at the 12:15 p.m. daily Mass, we will have the joy of having music at this Mass every day this week on these Solemnities which are the Octave of Easter. *Alleluia!*

First Communions at Sunday Masses

We are entering the time of year when we celebrate First Holy Communions. Our Saturday celebrations will be on the first two Saturdays in May, in a couple of weeks, and this year we are continuing another option for families: families may choose to have their child receive First Holy Communion at a pre-selected Sunday parish Mass. This is a beautiful and wonderful experience, an option which met with a great positive response last year and which many families have chosen to take advantage of this year also.

Think about how appropriate it is for First Holy Communions to take place at a Sunday Mass, since Sunday is the day for the Eucharistic gathering of the Body of Christ, the Church. It is especially meaningful to have a First Communion at a Sunday Mass if a family usually attends the same Mass every Sunday; then the community of faith, the people with whom that family worships every Sunday, can be a part of the child's special day. It's a great way for the child to make the connection between what she or he does for the first time and what she or he will be doing for the rest of his/her life, namely, participating in the Sunday Eucharist. It reinforces the idea that faith is not something individual, but rather it is communal, and that initiation (Eucharist is one of the Sacraments of Initiation) takes place within the context of a worshipping community founded in the Sunday Eucharist.

So, over the course of the next several weekends, you may have children making their First Holy Communion at a Sunday Mass in which you are participating; in fact, it begins next Sunday, April 27 at certain Masses. Be joy-filled about this special event in the life of that family and this great moment in the life of the parish. In addition, don't be shy about going up to that child and family to congratulate them about this wonderful event, and to express to them how much such an occasion deepens our own faith and draws us closer together in the Body of Christ, the Church.

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,



THE FIFTY DAYS OF EASTER TIME

THE MEANING OF THE SEASON



Alleluia! He is risen! The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better, as one “great Sunday.” With Easter Sunday we begin Fifty Days of rejoicing. During these Fifty Days the Church continues to instruct the neophytes (the newly baptized) about the new life they have embraced. In the process, all of us are called to reflect on the meaning of our baptism and on what living the baptized life looks like. What does it mean to live the resurrected life of Christ? What does it mean to be Church? How do we live our lives now that we have died and been raised up? The neophytes spend this time in post-baptismal formation (which is also referred to as *mystagogical catechesis*). It is an opportunity to unpack their experience of the Easter sacraments and to reflect on what it all means for their life now as members of the Church.

The readings of the Easter Sundays offer the opportunity for such reflection. This year, the first readings of these Sundays are from the Acts of the Apostles (as they are every year), the second readings are from the first Letter of Saint Peter, and the Gospels are from Luke and John. The readings from Acts give us a picture of life in the early Church, as the apostles began preaching the good news of the resurrection, encountering both joyful welcome and opposition. The passages from the first Letter of Saint Peter speak to us of the new life we have received in Christ through His resurrection, and about what that new life means. The Gospel stories present the Lord as the Risen One, the Good Shepherd and the one who promises the Spirit to strengthen and sustain the church.

These readings offer not only the neophytes, but also all of us, the chance to reflect on the meaning and shape of our life of faith together. Like the early Church, we are a people shaped by the resurrection, a people called to share our joy and the good news with others, a people freed from sin and filled with the life of the Holy Spirit, a people who constantly give thanks for all God’s gifts, a people who have risen from the font to a whole new way of life.

FIFTY DAYS OF CELEBRATION

Part of the challenge of Easter is learning how to celebrate a fifty-day feast! Perhaps as Catholics we find it easier to do penance than to celebrate; we find it easier to observe the forty days of Lent than the fifty days of Easter. Part of the problem lies with our stress on Lent as *the* religious period for Catholics. Easter Sunday still seems to be the end point of Lent for many people; come Easter Monday, it’s back to everyday life as usual.

The truth is, however, that we are called to maintain the festivity and celebration throughout the entire fifty-day period as one joyful feast. Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost are not three separate, independent feast days, each with its own themes. They are all part of the one Easter celebration.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE SEASON

The Easter season is composed of three phases, but these internal variations in rhythm never should eclipse its unity as the great Fifty Days.

1. The Octave: The first eight days are celebrated almost as one exuberant festival, with each day celebrated as a Solemnity. The tradition of mystagogical catechesis during this time influenced the selection of the scriptural passages. Since each day has the liturgical rank of Solemnity, we will have music at the 12:15 p.m. weekday Mass Monday through Friday and at the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Saturday of Easter Week.

2. *The 31 middle days:* The Gospels of the Sundays give focus to the season of Easter Time. The first three Sundays of Easter relate post-resurrection appearances. The Fourth Sunday always focuses on the powerful image of the Good Shepherd. The next three Sundays of the season (and many of the weekdays nearby) draw from what has come to be known as the “farewell discourse” or “high-priestly prayer” in the Gospel of John. While this paschal season can include references and hymns to Mary, the paschal references and overall unity of the Fifty Days should not be compromised by excess attention to May as “Mary’s month.”

3. *The final days:* The season does not end on Ascension Thursday! Over the following nine days (the original novena!) and then on Pentecost day itself, we are invited into intense prayer for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Easter Time ends at the conclusion of Pentecost Sunday.

CHURCH ENVIRONMENT DURING EASTER TIME AND CELEBRATING THE SEASON

Many rich symbols and images pervade the Fifty Days, linked in various ways to initiation. The resurrection inaugurates a new creation, the eighth day, a new Pentecost, a new covenant, a new way of life.

The Paschal Candle will remain prominently displayed near the ambo during the Fifty Days, and it will be lit for all liturgical celebrations. The new holy oils will be used in the celebration of the sacraments.

Children will be celebrating their reception of First Holy Communion at certain Sunday Masses throughout Easter Time and on Saturdays on May 3 and May 10. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated for our teens on Saturday, May 31 and for adults at the Vigil Mass for Pentecost on Saturday evening, June 7. These events are connected as part of the Easter complex of initiation rites, as Easter is the season *par excellence* for celebrating initiation.

We will highlight the initiatory character of Easter Time each Sunday by **beginning Mass with the Rite for Blessing and Sprinkling of Water**, recalling our baptism. Also, we will continue to use the **Apostles’ Creed** during Easter Time, since that Creed is often referred to as the “Baptismal Symbol of Faith.”

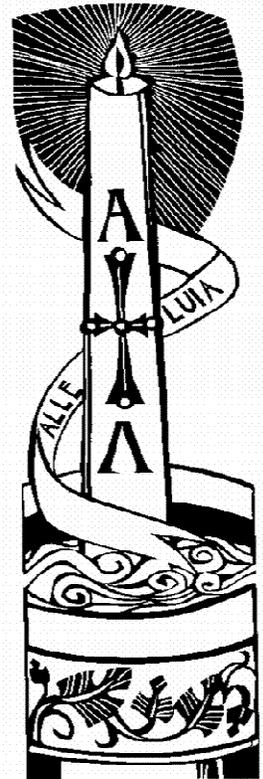
Also, there is a strong tradition of blessing homes during Easter Time, a blessing which can be arranged for with one of the priests by calling the rectory, or by using the home blessing provided elsewhere in this bulletin.

Finally, we will be praying a **Novena to the Holy Spirit** in the days from Ascension to Pentecost; look for details about this in upcoming weeks!

As we celebrate the Fifty Days of Easter Time together, may we all come to a deeper appreciation of the Risen Lord’s presence in our midst, as the Lord calls us to share in fullness of risen life with him through the sacraments and through our life together.

*Yes, Christ my hope is arisen;
to Galilee he goes before you.”
Christ indeed from death is risen, our new life obtaining.
Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning!
Amen. Alleluia.*

Sequence - Victimæ Paschali Laudes



THE FIFTY DAYS OF EASTER TIME

BLESSING OF YOUR HOME AT EASTER

*Use this prayer service to bless your home and your family at Easter. Be sure to use newly-blessed Easter water!
All who live in the house should be present for the blessing.*

(All make the sign of the cross as the Leader begins:)

Leader: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All respond: Amen.

Leader: Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace. Blessed be God forever.

All respond: Blessed be God forever.

Leader: The Word became flesh and made his dwelling place among us. It is Christ, risen from the dead, who is our source of hope, joy, and comfort. May all who enter this home find Christ's light and love.

(Now someone reads the Scripture reading, Luke 24-28-32:)

Reader: Listen to the words of the holy Gospel according to Luke:

As the disciples approached the village to which they were going, Jesus gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?"

The Gospel of the Lord.

All respond: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(The intercessions are then said:)

Leader: The Son of God made his home among us. With thanks and praise let us call upon him. Our response will be: Stay with us, Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, through you every dwelling is a temple of holiness: build those who live in this house into the dwelling place of God in the Holy Spirit. We pray:

All respond: Stay with us, Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, the disciples recognized you in the breaking of the bread: grant that the members of this family may be open always to the presence of Christ in Word and sacrament. We pray:

All respond: Stay with us, Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, you appeared to the frightened Apostles and said, "Peace be with you"; grant that your abiding peace may remain with the members of this family. We pray:

All respond: Stay with us, Lord.

(After the intercessions, all pray the Lord's Prayer:)

Leader: Our Father...

(After the Our Father, the leader prays the prayer of blessing with hands joined:)

Leader: Lord, we rejoice in the victory of your Son over death: by rising from the tomb to new life he gives us new hope and promise. Bless all the members of this household and surround them with your protection, that they may find comfort and peace in Jesus Christ, the Paschal Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All respond: Amen.

After the prayer, the leader may sprinkle those present and the home with holy water brought from the church. During the sprinkling the leader says:)

Leader: Let this water call to mind our Baptism in Christ, who by his death and resurrection has redeemed us.

(After the sprinkling, all make the sign of the cross as the leader concludes:)

Leader: May Christ Jesus dwell with us, keep us from all harm, and make us one in mind and heart, now and forever.

All respond: Amen.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Sunday, April 27, 2014



Throughout the world, the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday, a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and

trials that humankind will experience in the years to come. –Pope John Paul II

In preparation for the feast and the special graces it brings, a Novena to the Divine Mercy should be started on Good Friday (March 29th). The chaplet is recited daily, works of mercy are to be undertaken each day, either corporal or spiritual or both, and a sincere and contrite Confession should be made before the Mercy Mass, in preparation to receive Holy Communion.

12:30 p.m. Mass

★

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 4:00 p.m.

★

Confessions

2:00 – 4:00

★

3:00 – The Hour of Great Mercy Recitation ~ Chaplet of Divine Mercy

★

~ Veneration ~

Image of Merciful Jesus

℟

1st Class Relic of Saint Faustina

4:00 P.M.

Benediction

MUSIC NOTES

Adult Choir

The Adult Choir sings at the 11:00am Mass on Sundays. They rehearse on Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30pm in the Church. Members are high school aged and older.

For more information, contact: Chris Ferraro at 631.226.7725, ext. 210 or email him at cferraro@oloph.org



Youth Choir

The Youth Choir leads the music at the 9:30am Mass three times a month. They rehearse on Thursday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:30pm in the school. Singers are in grades 3 through 12.

For more information, contact Mrs. Amy Keller, mrs.amykeller@yahoo.com.



YOUTH BAND!

Members of the Youth Band lead the music at the Sunday 5:00pm Mass twice a month. The Teen Music Ministry needs young musicians: piano, flute, cello preferred.

If you'd like to try out or want some more information, Contact: Dan Volpe @ 917-468-9584.



“More than the preacher’s word, it is the musician’s touch that brings the young to God again. Heart speaks to heart in mysterious ways, and it is the artist that holds the key to the mystery.”

- Pedro Arrupe, S.J.

The Bishop's Easter Message—2014



DIocese of ROCKVILLE CENTRE
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Easter 2014

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Let us celebrate the great and glorious feast of the Resurrection of our Lord, let us celebrate it with joy and devotion; the Lord is risen and has awakened the whole earth!

These beautiful words of St. John Chrysostom, the fourth century Bishop of Constantinople, call us to rejoice in this greatest of all mysteries: the Son of God became man for us! As son of man He died for us! He Who died for us and went to the netherworld to *release* Adam and Eve and all the saints, rose in His very human body now glorified for us. He sets us free. He transforms our lives. He pours forth the Holy Spirit which is a pure and unmerited gift for us. We now live as adopted sons and daughters of God the Father. We now truly are sisters and brothers of Jesus, the Risen One, Who sits at the right hand of the Father for us!

On this Easter Day of 2014, I greet all of you just as the Risen Christ greeted the apostles in that Upper Room on that first Easter: *Shalom! Peace!* I pray that Christ's peace may dwell in your hearts and be shared by us all this Easter and every Easter of our lives here on earth. His peace is God's gift to us that we might be *free from sin and from all distress* because His life dwells in us and we dwell in Him.

Yet we know we continue to live in a world of lights and shadows. In such a world, we must join our lives to Christ and share His mission, the mission the whole Church makes her own: *that the world may believe*. St. Paul is right: *We were darkness. Now we are light*. That means that we must be light to the world as Christ is the light that illumines our hearts and guides our journey on earth. Be confident that you share His mission. Be confident that you do so as a precious part of Christ's Body, the Church. Together we are co-responsible to bring Christ to the poor, the vulnerable, the marginalized. Together we are co-responsible to show the world Christ's life by our lives, Christ's love by our loving concern for others.

May this simple message resound in our hearts as we greet one another this Easter with the ancient cry of the early Christians: *Christ is risen! He is truly risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

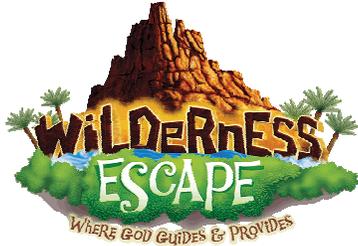
Your brother and your Shepherd in Christ,

Bishop of Rockville Centre

VACATION BIBLE CAMP

OLPH Vacation Bible Camp

An Epic Adventure Awaits You!!!!



New friends + Amazing experiments

+ Wild games + Lip-smacking snacks + Surprising adventures

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

CAMPER REGISTRATION FORM

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

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

Please make checks payable to OLPH.

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

Child's First Name _____ Last Name _____

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

Full Names of Parents/Guardians _____

Family Address (Street, Town, Zip): _____

Home E-mail _____ @ _____

Phone # _____

Cell # _____

Parish (if not OLPH) _____

T-Shirt Size _____

Emergency Contact Person

Name _____ Phone # _____

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

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: June 15, 2014

DONATIONS AND OFFERERS NEEDED!!!

✝ We are in need of donations for this year's Bible Camp. Check the bulletin for more information. Right now, we are in need of **Lowe's and Home Depot gift cards**...no amount too small. You can leave them in the Parish Office for VBC!

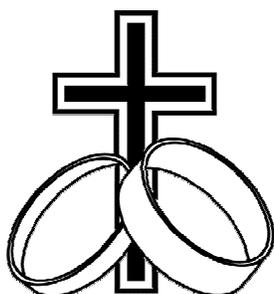
✝ Offerers are needed for this year's Vacation Bible Camp. Check this space in the bulletin regularly. All adult volunteers (including any above high school age) need to VIRTUS trained. Get a head start and get VIRTUS trained if you have not already! See page 14 for more information about VIRTUS.

OLPH CELEBRATES WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES!!!

We would like to affirm the graces and blessings of the Sacrament of Marriage by celebrating your wedding anniversary!

We're celebrating Mass and throwing a party for YOU!

Couples celebrating an anniversary in 2014 that is "on a five year mark," that is, if this year you're married 5 years, or 10, or 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 or 50 – and for couples married ANY year more than 50 years (51, 52.....67...etc.) – are invited to a special MASS AND RECEPTION!



FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2014

7:30 p.m. Mass

with Renewal of Your Wedding Vows

Followed by a Reception in our School Gym

Invite your family members as well! They are welcome!

**You must reply NO LATER THAN MONDAY, MAY 12
WRITTEN REPLIES ONLY, USING THE FORM BELOW
NO PHONE REPLIES CAN BE TAKEN**



Clip out and return this form:

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY REPLY FORM

Last Name _____

First Name of Husband _____

First Name of Wife _____

Years Married _____

Date of Your Marriage _____

Your Address _____

Your Phone Number _____

e-mail _____ @ _____

Number of People in Your Party Who Will be Attending _____



*Please return this form as soon as possible to the Rectory,
or drop it in the collection basket at Sunday Mass.*

**ALL REPLIES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN MONDAY MAY 12.
Questions? Call the Rectory for more information.**

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- ✝ Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Marie Foster—631.592.1509-ripalda@optonline.net
- ✝ Driving Ministry: Maureen Russo - 631.226.4182—princessmorge@optonline.net
- ✝ Golden Age Society: Dolores Barone—631.957.3432
- ✝ Hospital Visitors: Peter O’Neill - 631-226-6340—oneillp@optonline.net.
- ✝ New Mother’s Meal Ministry: Carol Stysiack - 631.255 3506 -carolstys@verizon.net
- ✝ Nursing Ministry: Regina Muir - 631.226.2709 - rmuir11@aol.com.
- ✝ Respect Life Committee: Louise Perrotta - 631.412.3831—louiseperrotta@optonline.net.
- ✝ St. Bernard League: The Consi Family—631.226.7725
- ✝ St. Vincent de Paul Society: Joe Illiumato—631.226.7725, x. 234
- ✝ Senior Moments/Spirituality: Fran Grasso - 631.956.3003—sixfingers13@gmail.com
- ✝ Special Needs Ministry: Fr. John Sureau— 631.226.7725—jsureau@oloph.org
- ✝ Widows/Widowers: Rita Gardell— 631.252.5494/Denise Segreto 631.220.0888

NEW Food Pantry List!

- CANNED VEGETABLES—CORN
- CANNED FRUIT
- PORK AND BEANS
- PEANUT BUTTER
- JELLY OR JAM
- CAKE MIXES
- DESSERTS
- COFFEE
- TOILET PAPER
- PAPER TOWELS
- SHELF STABLE MILK

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

Located in the “New” School Building
Use Parking Lot on corner of Gates & High Streets
Our NEW phone # 631.226.7725 x. 234

The office is open:

**Monday, Wednesday and Friday
9 A.M. —12 Noon**

Today as we celebrate the feast of Easter we find the challenge of also seeing and believing the resurrection that comes through our own lives of self-sacrifice. It is then that we are truly Easter people!

As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box, know that you are a sign of God’s love to those who are suffering and you give them Easter hope and joy.

DRIVING MINISTRY

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

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



Supporting St. Vincent de Paul

There are many ways to support St. Vincent de Paul and our parish’s ongoing work in directly assisting those in need. It’s as easy as 1....2....3....

1. **Clothing:** Drop clothing in the clothing bins in the High Street/Gates Street Parking Lot.
2. **Food:** Look above for what is needed each week and bring it with you to Church.
3. **Donations:** St. Vincent de Paul relies entirely on the generosity of parishioners. Please consider placing money in the Poor Boxes each week. Donations can also be made in memory of a loved one. Visit St. Vincent de Paul during office hours or leave a donation in the Parish Office.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

Golden Age Society

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

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

Everyone is welcome. Please join us.

Parish Social Ministry Leadership Meeting

Thursday, April 24, 2014
7:30 P.M.—St. Lucy Meeting Room

Senior Moments

Next Meeting—Tuesday, April 22, 2014
9—10:30 A.M.

Room 14/OLPH School
All seniors of our parish are welcome!

New Mothers' Meal Ministry

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

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

Here's what some of the new mothers have said in their thank you notes:

"Thank you so much for cooking us dinner last week. It was delicious and a great break! Thanks again! Love, Liz..."

The meal was delicious and I was able to use the bones to make chicken soup! "- from Colleen

We wanted to send a note thanking you for preparing us such a delicious meal. My husband and I enjoyed the Chicken Picata and the Manicotta, while my son Jason, gobbled up his chicken cutlet! The carrot cake was moist and yummy....Hope to see you in church! Love, Danielle...."



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

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

The Mass

*Mass for People with
Special Needs*

NEXT SATURDAY

May 3, 2014

4:00 P.M.

Auditorium

"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."

- United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS!!!

This new Ministry is a gathering of Widows and Widowers of all ages to get together once or twice a month for a prayer and mingling over cake and coffee.

For more information and to learn more about this new ministry, contact Rita Gardell (631) 252-5494 or Denise Segreto (631) 220-0888.

FAITH FORMATION

240 South Wellwood Avenue + Lindenhurst, NY 11757
631.226.2384

Mrs. April Kleinlaut, Coordinator of Faith Formation (acarbaugh@oloph.org)

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

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

THIS Monday, April 21 - 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
THIS Wednesday, April 23 - 2:00 pm – 8:00 pm
THIS Thursday, April 24 - 9:00 am – 1:00 pm
THIS Friday, April 25 - 8:00 am – 12:00 noon

The Religious Education Office is located at 240 South Wellwood Avenue.
(now located in the school building)

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

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

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

For further information, please call the OLPH Religious Education Office at 226-2384.

Mondays and Thursdays: 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Wednesdays: 4:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.



VIRTUS TRAINING

**TUESDAY, APRIL 22,
7:00 PM
ROOM 1**

**TRAINING IS REQUIRED FOR
ALL PARISH OFFERERS IN ALL
MINISTRIES.**

Registration MUST be done online. Simply go to drvc.org, then Protecting God's Children and to Virtus training schedule.

Help, we need somebody,
Help, not just anybody,
Help, you know we need someone.
Help!!!!!!



**Auditioning
now for
2014/2015
Catechists!**

Come join the band of Catechists and Offerers. All sessions and grades needed. If you are interested, please contact the Faith Formation Office: (631)226-2384 or email ReligiousEd@oloph.org

YOUTH MINISTRY @ OLPH

High School & Middle School Youth Ministry:

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

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

Catholic Youth Organization: Mr. Phil Amico (olphcyophil@optonline.net)

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

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

K of C Squirettes: Ann Marie Perullo (amp1761@hotmail.com)

High School Youth Ministry—Youth Faith in Action

Our Lady of Perpetual Help High School Youth Ministry welcomes all 8th-12th graders to participate at our events. We meet, generally, on Sundays in the OLPH school auditorium from 3:15-4:45. Join us for open gym afternoons, some times for learning and sharing, service projects, and other events to help the community here at OLPH while having fun! **(NOTE: Always, always, always, check the Facebook page—OLPH Youth Ministry- and the bulletin as times and locations may change!)**

Preparing for the Future

This past week fifteen 8th graders met with Fr. John and our youth minister, Brittany Evans, to discuss the future of youth ministry here at OLPH. These students have chosen to invest their time, ideas, and prayers in keeping youth ministry successful here. Please keep this group in prayer as we continue to work over the next few months at creating a successful high school program now and in the future!

Helping the Homeless

Our Wash Up Kits Drive was a success! Over 40 middle and high school students came together on Palm Sunday and assembled 254 kits that were delivered to the homeless shelter this past Wednesday (see pictures shown on the right) Then, our young people helped organize our food pantry and assisted in getting some things ready for Holy Week. (Of course, some basketball and hanging out after was included!) Thank you to all who participated and donated throughout the Lenten season.

What's up next?

Our next event is Sunday April 27th 3:15—Open Gym and more (even for those who don't like open gym!) Kickball anyone? And more!



Calling adults and young adults....

Want to impact the life of a young person?

Make a life time of difference?

Looking for a good way to get involved with the community?

We are looking for help from some adult leaders in both our high school and middle school youth ministry programs. Use your gifts to bring out the gifts in another! Now is a great time to join! Email Brittany at OLPH.yfia@gmail.com or Fr. John at jsureau@oloph.org for more details

Middle School Youth Ministry

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

Our next event is this Tuesday, April 22nd. We will be playing games, games and more games! If you have never been to youth ministry come tonight!

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:

Jonathan Anson & Megan Bryan

WE REMEMBER

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

***Henry Alfano
Anthony Cito, Jr.
Irene Caravino***

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

WE BELIEVE

*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...

**Carol Gilroy
Rev. Terence Hoppenjans
Charles Gomes
Peggy & Kevin Curran
Salvatore Cicala
Amante & Betty Caruana
Angie Mirabile
Eileen Lambre
Natalie Boscia
Eileen Henry
Josephine Palazzolo**

**Richard Brosan
Lisa Eberhardt
Vincent Malito
Catherine Tamburino
William Sullivan
Dominick Barone
Rocco Meiners
Reynold Ruiz
Agostino Pecoraro**

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.

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.

MINISTRIES TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

OLPH seeks to be a place where all are welcome and can worship fully and actively. Please take note of the following:

Parking: Specially designated parking spaces can be found on the North and South Sides of the Church.

Entering the Church: A specially operated handicapped entrance is on the north side of the Church (in the Chase bank parking lot). A ramp is also found on the south side of the Church, near the handicapped parking spaces.

Hearing Devices: If you struggle to hear, listening devices are available. Simply go to the Sacristy (you can enter via the right of the Sanctuary) and ask for one. You'll need to leave some type of ID or "deposit" so we can be sure we get them back.

Special Seating: We have provided, as a start, chairs with arms to make it easier to get up and down. We will see how these chairs work and then consider adding more and/or finding better places for them.



SERVING AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Parish Office: 631.226.7725

Religious Education: 631.226.2384

St. Vincent de Paul (Parish Outreach) :

631.226.7725 X 234

Parish Website:

www.olphlindenhurst.org

Facebook: Our Lady of Perpetual Help



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

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

ADULT CONFIRMATION

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

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

YOUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

Jean Bjork
Tricia Buckley (Chair)
Lori Byron
Marie Foster
Greg Guido
Sonia Hansen
John Keller
Kevin Sabella
Christina Taparata
James Totino
Pete Triolo
Msgr. Joe DeGrocco

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

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

Robert Dobres
John Reynolds

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

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

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

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

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

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, April 21— Monday within the Octave of Easter	
6:30	Jan McBean
12:15	Michelina Casale
7:00	OLPH Novena
TUESDAY, April 22— Tuesday within the Octave of Easter	
6:30	Holy Souls in Purgatory
12:15	John Bertone
WEDNESDAY, April 23, — Wednesday within the Octave of Easter	
6:30	Colleen Sloan
12:15	James Barry
12:45 -2:00	Exposition
THURSDAY, April 24— Thursday within the Octave of Easter	
6:30	The Savastano Family
12:15	Patricia Caramanico
FRIDAY, April 25— Friday within the Octave of Easter	
6:30	Joan Conforte
12:15	Rita Fasanello
SATURDAY, April 26— Saturday within the Octave of Easter	
8:00	Joseph Aliano, Sr.
Vigil for SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	
5:00	Kay Flaherty
April 27 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	
6:30	For the People of the Parish
8:00	Jose Cevallos
9:30	Julie Lombardo
11:00	Enthronement of Jesus Christ as King of Poland & All Nations
12:30	The McPhail Family
5:00	Philip Hosey

MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, April 21, 2014		
7:15 PM	Religious Ed—Grade 8	School
7:30 PM	Baptismal Prep Class	Room 14
Tuesday, April 22, 2014		
9:00 A.M.	Senior Moments	Room 14
7:00 P.M.	VIRTUS training	Room 1
7:30 P.M.	Middle School Youth Group	Auditorium
8:00 P.M.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
Wednesday, April 23, 2014		
2:30 P.M.	Legion of Mary—Meeting	Room 24
4:30 P.M. 6:30 P.M.	Religious Ed—Grade 1	School
7:15 P.M.	Religious Ed—Grade 7	School
7:30 P.M.	Boy Scouts	Cafeteria
Thursday, April 24, 2014		
7:00 P.M.	Spanish Prayer Group	Cafeteria
7:00 P.M.	Parish Social Ministry	Rectory Meet. Rm.
7:30 P.M.	Music Ministry—Adult Choir	Church
8:00 P.M.	Narcotics Anonymous NA	Room 24
8:00 P.M.	Mothers Prayer Group	Room 14
Saturday, April 26, 2014		
8:30, 10:00 11:30 A.M.	Rel. Ed. Grades 2—6	School & Auditorium
10:00 A.M.	Special Education	School Rm 10
12:45 PM	Easter Season Family Fun Day	Parish Lawn
1:00 P.M.	CYO—Basketball	Auditorium
1:30 P.M.	Reader Meeting	Room 18
6:15 P.M.	Evening Prayer	Church
8:00 P.M.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria
Sunday, April 27, 2014		
9:30 AM	Pre-Canva Opening Blessing and meeting	Church/St. Lucy Meeting Room
12:30 P.M.	Divine Mercy Sunday Celebrations	Church
3:15 P.M.	High School Youth Ministry	Cafeteria
6:15 P.M. (approx.)	Evening Prayer—Liturgy of the Hours	Church
8:00 P.M.	Alcoholics Anonymous	Cafeteria

OFFERING UPDATE

April 12/13 2014

Mass Time	Weekly	# of Envelopes	Attendance
5:00 P.M.	\$3,281.00	159	450
6:30 A.M.	1,624.00	68	190
8:00 A.M.	3,306.00	137	376
9:30 A.M.	2,228.00	112	567
11:00 A.M.	3,484.00	148	581
12:30 P.M.	2,629.00	96	608
5:00 P.M.	1,729.00	61	340
Total coin:	40.91		
Mail-ins:	187.00		
Children's env.	18.30	12	
Faith Direct	2,780.75		
TOTAL	\$21,307.96	793	3,112
2013 Total	\$20,420.55	857	3,152
Candles	587.05		
Poor Box	383.84		

EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

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

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

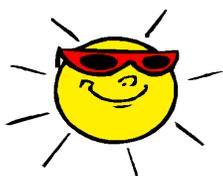
Para las ofrendas de pan y vino en el altar, favor llamar a la oficina parroquial al 631-226-7725. Adoración al santísimo Sacramento del altar, en español. El primer sábado de cada mes. Recuerda Cristo siempre te espera.

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

Where there is a Will, there is a way to be an angel for our Parish.

When you next update your estate plans, please consider continuing your lifelong stewardship by leaving a bequest to our Parish. For more information, or to receive a copy of an informational brochure please call 516-379-5210 ext. 229 or email bkilarjian@drvc.org.

SUMMER @ OLPH



Over the past few years, OLPH has celebrated Summer Evening Prayer in the month of August. Planning will begin soon for Summer Evening Prayer 2014!

We are always looking for parishioners of all ages to be part of this great committee. (If you were part of this group last year—GOOD NEWS! You're on it again :)!)

For more info, contact. Fr. John at 631.226.7725, x. 203 or e-mail to jsureau@oloph.org.

Remembering Our Military

OLPH is in the process of updating the pictures of the service men and women that are on display in the front of the church. If you had a picture already displayed and your loved one is no longer in the service, or you would like to have a picture of a loved one who is currently in the military added to the display, please contact us at: Rememberthesoldiers37@gmail.com.



APRIL MINISTRY OF PRAISE

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Having just celebrated the Passion of the Lord, I think of the relationship between Jesus and his disciples. They gave up everything to follow Him. He was there to talk to them, guide them, and show them the way. Three years of building His ministry and then all of a sudden the time comes where He is nailed to the cross. The night before they are all having dinner, breaking bread, drinking wine. There was an unbreakable bond between them; so they thought! In no time, one of the twelve turns on Him, one becomes violent with the sword, one denies he even knew Him (not once but three times, THREE times), and the remainder just seem to scatter. We know what happens. Jesus is crucified, dies on the cross, and three days later He arises from the dead. But what happens on the evening of that first week? Was Jesus angry? Did Jesus go after his brothers with a vengeance? Was He looking to get even for abandoning Him? No, no, and no! "Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you" (John 20: 19). Peace be with you? Are you kidding me? Wow! Would that be my first reaction?

Would that be your first reaction? I could think of a few words and it's not peace be with you.

Well maybe a few years ago it wouldn't be peace be with you, but upon returning to the Church, I would lean more towards the peaceful side than the angry side. It's easy to pray in Church, but sometimes harder to take what we learn and bring it outside. No one said being a Catholic was easy. But by being open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we can then begin to experience the fruits of the Holy Spirit. In St. Paul's letter to the Galatians the nine fruits are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (Gal 5:22). We could only strive to obtain those fruits every day. There are many issues we deal with: work issues, family issues, health issues, financial issues. You name them, we all have them. Then I think of Jesus greeting us, "Peace be with you." There He is standing in our midst, telling us to receive the Holy Spirit just like he told His disciples (see John 20: 22). "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained" (John 20: 23).

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

We come together each Tuesday at 7:45 P.M. in Room 14 of the New School Building. (You can park in the High Street Parking Lot.)

The evening begins with songs of praise and worship. After this some will, if so inclined, share some Scripture reading or some Christ-centered event in their life. This is followed by prayer for individual needs. Deacon Frank then presents a pastoral teaching related to Scripture or church life. The meeting closes about 9:30 P.M. with a song and then fellowship.

Easter Sunday is here and fifty days later we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday. Let's all be transformed by the Holy Spirit. Be open to the gifts in order to experience the fruits. Seek peace, forgive others, take what we learn in Church and live it outside. The Venerable Matt Talbot once said "in company guard your tongue. In your family guard your temper. When alone guard your thoughts." As the Lord spoke through St. Paul in his letter to the Galatians chapter 5 verse 25: "If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit."

Peace be with you!
James Totino

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Wedding Rehearsal Ministry

Our Wedding Rehearsal Ministry serves couples preparing to get married by assisting at their rehearsal and with their wedding liturgy. If you like to help others feel organized and prepared—and love weddings –this is the ministry for you!

We are in the process of training and preparing for the upcoming months. Our training meetings will be on Monday, April 28, 2014 and Monday, May 5, 2014.

For more information, contact Fr. John at jsureau@oloph.org or Carmel Becker at cbecker@oloph.org.



WEDDING MINISTRY

TRAINING FOR ALL PARISH READERS

All parish readers who have never attended the *Diocesan Training for Liturgical Ministers* are reminded to attend ONE (1) of the two special trainings that will be offered here at OLPH on *Saturday, April 26 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 18 of the school* and *Thursday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 18 of the school*. Thank you for your attention to this.

2014 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

SERVING GOD BY SERVING OTHERS



At this special time of year, let us witness Christ's Resurrection by serving the poor and those in need.

Your gifts to the Catholic Ministries Appeal help us to provide:

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for our Seminarians as they follow their calling to serve as Priests in our Diocese.



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for our young people so they can grow in their faith through Youth, Young Adult, and Campus Ministry programs.



By participating in the Catholic Ministries Appeal we are given the opportunity to proclaim the message of the Risen Lord.

Please prayerfully consider a gift to the 2014 Catholic Ministries Appeal. Thank You!

Make Checks Payable to:
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Please place in weekly collection basket or drop off at the Parish Office.

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<p>PHONE 631-225-5144 E-MAIL: info@stoneunltd.com 1-800-660-0662 Website: www.Stoneunlimited.org STONE UNLIMITED, Inc. MONUMENT MANUFACTURING & INSCRIPTION WORK Mowimy po polsku</p>	<p>D'Andrea Bros. Funeral Home 99 Oak Street, Copiague 631-691-5700 Serving our Communities since 1959 Physically Challenged Accessible Pre-Need, Funeral and Cremation Services Monuments and Incriptions Beatrice E. Lewanduski • George Wischerth David D'Andrea • Joseph A. Carlantone</p>			
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PREPARING FOR

Sunday, April 27, 2014: Second Sunday of Easter

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his love is everlasting.

—Psalm 118

Acts 2:42-47

This is the first of three summary passages (along with Acts 4:32–37 and 5:12–16) outlining the characteristics of the Christian community in Jerusalem established after Pentecost: adherence to the teachings of the Twelve, and the centering of its religious life in the Eucharistic liturgy (Acts 2:42); openness to and trust in the promptings and work of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:2, 42); a system of distribution of goods that led wealthier Christians to sell their possessions when the needs of the community's poor required it (Acts 2:44); and continued attendance at the temple, since in this initial stage there was little or no thought of any dividing line between Christianity and Judaism (Acts 2:46).

1 Peter 1:3-9

This letter of Peter begins with an address to Christian communities located in five provinces of Asia Minor (1 Pt 1:1), including areas evangelized by Paul (Acts 16:6–7; 18:23). Today's excerpt from that letter is both a hymn of praise to the Lord and a catechetical summary of the saving work of God accomplished in the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus, intended to inspire and admonish those communities to remain faithful to their standards of belief and conduct in spite of threats of persecution.

John 20:19-31

At first glance, John's account of Jesus' first appearance to His disciples shortly after His resurrection might seem too brief-- but look at how much the Lord accomplishes in just these few moments! As an antidote to the apostles' fear, Jesus shows them that He is alive, and now endowed with all the power and glory of God, passing through walls and locked doors, and only needing to speak and breathe to bestow the life, peace and power of the Holy Spirit upon them. Jesus' second appearance is not only for the sake of Thomas, but for all of them. They could touch Him! Beyond any doubt, Jesus was not a vision, not a spirit, but had been truly raised, body and soul.

Gospel Reflection Questions....

After reading next Sunday's Gospel (John 20:19-31) take some time to pray on it before you come to Mass.

1. No doors can be locked tight enough to keep Christ out. Explain. Do you have "locked doors"? If sin is what separates God from the world and people from one another, what do you do about your own sins? How is peace connected with forgiveness of sins?

2. In this reading John says, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." In *Evangelium Gaudium*, 278, Pope Francis says faith also means:

"believing that (God) truly loves us, that he is alive, that he is mysteriously capable of intervening, that he does not abandon us and that he brings good out of evil by his power and his infinite creativity."

Discuss how these two quotes are related, and what they mean to you.

Readings for the Week

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

Monday, April 21, 2014:

Acts 2:14, 22-33 + Matthew 28:8-15

Tuesday, April 22, 2014:

Acts 2:36-41 + John 20:11-18

Wednesday, April 23, 2014:

Acts 3:1-10 + Luke 24:13-35

Thursday, April 24, 2014:

Acts 3:11-26 + Luke 24:35-48

Friday, April 25, 2014:

Acts 4:1-2 + John 21:1-14

Saturday, April 26, 2014

Acts 4:13-21 + Matthew 16:9-15

Sunday, April 27, 2014

Acts 2:42-47 + 1 Peter 1:3-9 +
John 20:19-31



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