

# *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](http://www.olphlindenhurst.org)



A light will shine  
on us this day:  
the Lord is born for us.

Psalm 97

## **The Nativity of the Lord**

December 25, 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

**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.

### **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.*

### **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

**Monday Evening:** after OLPH Novena Devotions

**Wednesday:** 12:45 to 4:30 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.

# ADVENT: PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

**Family Life...** Our Family Life Ministry hosted “Getting Ready for Advent” on the First Sunday of Advent. Families joined together for a morning of faith, food, fellowship and fun. Find out more information about Family Life on pages 19 and 23.

## Advent Lessons and Carols...

On Friday, December 12, the parish gathered for Advent Lessons and Carols—a night of wonderful music, prayer and praise. Learn more about our parish music ministries on page 8.



**Serving One Another...** Many of our parish social ministries came together this Advent to care for the poor and vulnerable. Gifts were distributed to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, veterans throughout Long Island (below), Prison Ministry of the Diocese of Rockville Centre (below), the Life Center, Hope House Ministries, Catholic Charities Immigration Services (below) and our own Homeless Van Ministry. See the parish social ministries pages to learn more about the ways OLPH serves and cares for others.



Gifts filled one of the classrooms in our school!



Delivery to  
Catholic  
Charities  
Immigration  
Services



Prison Ministry  
accepts our first  
carload of gifts!



Our Middle Ages  
Group prepares the  
gifts for the veter-  
ans.

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Christmas, 2014

Dear Friends and Fellow Parishioners of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish,

### **GRACE, PEACE AND BLESSINGS TO YOU ON THIS BEAUTIFUL FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD, CHRISTMAS!**

*"Today is born our Savior, our Savior Christ the Lord."* In this Psalm response we find the reason for our joy this day: Christ, the Son of God, was born and came into the world to save us. Notice the importance of the word "today." This is important because at our liturgical celebration of Christmas we do not simply commemorate a past event; we are doing much more than just "celebrating Jesus' birthday." Rather, we are being immersed in the mystery of *Emmanuel, God-with-us*; we are acknowledging that through our union with Christ, we have become sharers in the very life of God. As the Gospel for the Mass of Christmas Day tells us, "...to those who did accept him he gave power to become children of God."

As Pastor, I continue to be awed and amazed at the richness and depth of the faith life of our parish. OLPH continues to grow and we continue to deepen our bonds of faith and discipleship as we are formed more and more into the one Body of Christ, with our weekly celebration of the Eucharist as the heart and center of it all.

To all our parishioners who throughout the year give so much to OLPH through the sharing of your gifts and talents in so many ministries and programs, through your financial support, and through your prayer and regular participation in the liturgical life of the parish, I say from the bottom of my heart: **THANK YOU.** You are the reason why OLPH is "the place to be."

To our parishioners who have returned for Christmas Mass but who have not been with us for a while, I offer a sincere and warm **WELCOME**. I, along with all your fellow parishioners, are thrilled that you have come to Christmas Mass to pray and to encounter the Lord as He is present to us in Word and in Sacrament. We extend a sincere invitation to you to come to Mass more frequently; we believe that something beautiful and life-giving is happening at OLPH and we want you to be a part of it. I think you'll find that nothing puts our life back together again, and nothing provides us with as solid a foundation to face life, than does weekly participation in Mass.

To our parishioners who are away at college I say **WELCOME HOME**, and to family members and friends of our parishioners who are visiting, I extend to you glad greetings and joy that you are joining us.

We have so much to be thankful for here at OLPH! May the abundant blessings of Christmas Time come to you and your family at this holy time of year! As always, all the members of the Pastoral Staff and I are here to serve you in whatever way we can. **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Sincerely,



Reverend Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco  
Pastor



# FROM OUR BISHOP



DIOCSE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Christmas 2014



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

This past year I found myself twice in the Holy Land, first in my role as a member of the Board of Catholic Near East Welfare and second as part of a Pilgrimage of Prayer for Peace by eighteen United States bishops. Both visits brought home to me in a vivid way what all of us see and hear in the media: the land made holy by the birth, life, death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior is anything but a land of peace, joy and fraternal love. If we were to stop there it would be very difficult to be hopeful.

Yet we know that the Feast we celebrate on December 25<sup>th</sup> is the very reason why the worrisome facts of today's world are not the end of the story. They are the context into which the Lord enters in order to reverse the spiral of violence and death and to found a new order, "the new heaven and the new earth" that are the fruit of the Son of God Who came into the world to reveal God's plan of salvation.

He is the true history of humanity because He alone is the Word through whom the world and human life are created. And that Word, the eternal Son of the Father, becomes flesh so that we might be saved from all the darknesses that lie hidden in human hearts. He is the true light that dispels the darkness. He is the one sure hope of the world. And He comes to become part of the human condition so that He and He alone can reverse the destiny of humankind by giving us a new destiny, life in Him, life in the Spirit which is the gift of God's love.

This Christmas I greet you all in the light of that love that came into the world that first Christmas in a Bethlehem stable. This Christmas I invite you all to join with me in a pilgrimage of the heart to that very place where Mary brought forth Jesus into a world that so needs the gift of divine life that He is and so yearns for the peace that only He can give.

My prayer for each of you and all of you is that we might let Him transform any of the darknesses that control our lives and endow us with the newness of life that His birth has made possible. May the light of His life shine on us all, without exception. May the example of Mary and Joseph be the model for all our families. And may we be found with the shepherds adoring the Prince of Peace while angels sing and all the world rejoice for *Unto us a Son is given, unto us a child is born and He is Savior, Mighty God, Prince of Peace.*

Faithfully yours in Christ,

# CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS AT HOME

## Blessing of a Christmas Tree

*All make the sign of the cross to begin, and then the Leader continues with this greeting:*

**Leader:** Let us glorify Christ our light, who brings salvation and peace into our midst, now and forever.

**All respond:** Amen.

**Leader:** My brothers and sisters, amidst signs and wonders Christ Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea: his birth brings joy to our hearts and enlightenment to our minds. With this tree, decorated and adorned, may we welcome Christ among us; may its lights guide us to the perfect light.

*Then someone proclaims the reading:*

**Reader:** Listen to the words of the letter of St. Paul to Titus: But when the kindness and generous love of God our savior appeared, not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, he saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life. The word of the Lord.

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

**Leader:** Let us ask God to send his blessing upon us and upon this sign of our faith in the Lord. Our response will be: Lord, give light to our hearts.

That this tree of lights may remind us of the tree of glory on which Christ accomplished our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. R/

That the joy of Christmas may always be in our home, let us pray to the Lord. R/

That the peace of Christ may dwell in our hearts and in the world, let us pray to the Lord. R/

*Then the Leader continues:* Lord our God, we praise you for the light of creation: the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night. We praise you for the light of Israel: the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures. We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son: he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace, who fills us with the wonder of your love. Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we illuminate this tree. May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts. May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The lights of the tree are now illuminated. Then the Leader concludes:*

**Leader:** May the God of glory fill our hearts with peace and joy, now and forever.

**All respond:** Amen.

*The blessing concludes with a verse from O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.*

O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadow put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.



## Blessing of a Manger/ Nativity Scene

*The manger scene is blessed each year on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. All make the sign of the cross and the Leader begins: Our help is in the name of the Lord.*

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

*Then someone proclaims the reading:*

**Reader:** Listen to the words of the holy gospel according to Luke: In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

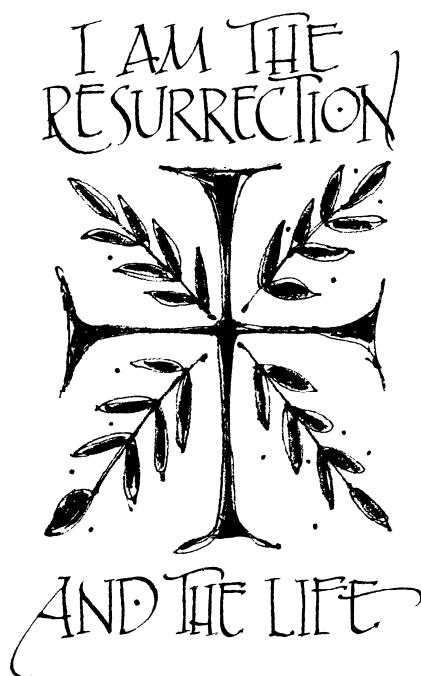
**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Leader:** God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love: when our need for a Savior was great you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy and love. Lord, bless all who look upon this manger; may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise our thoughts to him, who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

*Christmas songs and carols may be sung, for example, It Came Upon the Midnight Clear.*



# PRAYER AND WORSHIP



## Offer the Gift of Yourself in the Ministry of Consolation!

Would you like to help a family at a time when they need it most? Would you like to bring a warm, friendly and welcoming experience of the parish to others when they would greatly appreciate it and when it could have a great effect on them? If so, then the Ministry of Consolation is for YOU! Ministers of Consolation minister to families at the time of the Funeral Mass by helping them to prepare the Mass and by being present at the Mass as greeters and liturgical ministers. People are also needed to work behind the scenes to coordinate these various ministers, to prepare worship aids, and to bring a cake to a family during the days of the wake.

If you are interested in offering yourself in any aspect of the Ministry of Consolation or if you would like more information, please contact Msgr. Joe at [msgrjoe@oloph.org](mailto:msgrjoe@oloph.org) or at the rectory number, ext. 206. Thank you.

## *Liturgy of the Hours* **EVENING PRAYER**

At Evening Prayer, we give thanks for the day just past and make an evening sacrifice of praise to God (see Psalm 141:1). Join our parish for the celebration of Evening Prayer on **Saturday and Sunday evenings** at approximately **6:05 P.M.** (after the 5 P.M. Evening Mass)

## **BRINGING FORWARD THE OFFERINGS OF BREAD AND WINE**

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



## **GLUTEN-FREE HOSTS**

Gluten-free hosts are available for those with Celiac Disease who cannot receive Holy Communion using the usual bread. If you need to receive Holy Communion using a gluten-free host, please stop in the sacristy before Mass to discuss this with the priest. We will be happy to accommodate you.



# BECOME AN ALTAR SERVER!!!

## **ATTENTION BOYS AND GIRLS OF THE PARISH,** **FOURTH GRADE AND OLDER**

We are in the process of **recruiting new Altar Servers!** Being an altar server is a great way to be involved at Our Lady of Perpetual Help. You make an important contribution to the life of the parish and you perform an important ministry. Besides, it's fun!!! You serve at weekend Masses and other special events, attend some meetings throughout the year, and have fun parties!



*Why not become an altar server?* We would love to have you, and we will provide plenty of training — no prior experience is necessary!! If you are a boy or a girl who is in the **4<sup>th</sup> grade or older (it's o.k. if you are in 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade, or even older!), you are invited to become an altar server.** Parents, why not mention it to your daughter or son to get them interested? Training will start soon, so sign up now. If you are interested, **mail or drop off the coupon below to Monsignor Joe at the Rectory, 210 South Wellwood Avenue (no phone calls, please; you must let me know in writing! It's OK to scan this page and send it electronically with all the info to [msgrjoe@oloph.org](mailto:msgrjoe@oloph.org)).**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE RESPOND BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2014, SINCE THE FIRST TRAINING MEETING WILL BE SOON AFTER THAT** (you will receive a letter giving you specific information).

*Sorry...no responses can be accepted after December 31!*

*We hope to hear from YOU!!!*

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Yes! I am interested in becoming an Altar Server! **RETURN THIS FORM BEFORE DEC. 31**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth (month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Family Envelope/Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\*Required: Your family must be registered parishioners of OLPH as of December 2014.**

Year You Received First Holy Communion \_\_\_\_\_

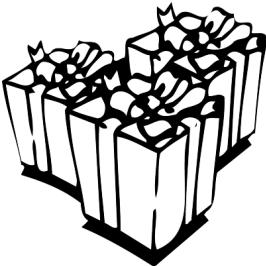
Grade you are in right now \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:

I go to public school; Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

I go to Catholic school; Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

# MUSIC NOTES



## Have you unpacked all your gifts?

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

## Adult Choir

The Adult Choir sings at the 11:00am Mass most Sundays (September to June) and for other special liturgies during the year. Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30pm in the Church. Members are high school aged or older. Reading music is not a requirement, just a desire to praise God in song and the ability to carry a tune. Please call in advance if you are interested in joining or would like more information.

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



## Youth Choir

The Youth Choir sings at the 9:30am Mass three times a month (September to June) and at other special liturgies during the year. Rehearsals are held on Thursday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:30 pm in the school building. Members are in grades 3 through 12.

Contact:  
Amy Keller  
[mrs.amykeller@yahoo.com](mailto:mrs.amykeller@yahoo.com)



## Youth Band!

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

Contact:  
Dan Volpe  
(917) 468-9584



# OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

located in the school building  
 Phone # 631.226.2384  
 E-mail: [religious@olph.org](mailto:religious@olph.org)  
 Coordinator: Mrs. April Kleinlaut

## OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY:	9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
TUESDAY:	9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY:	3:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.
THURSDAY:	9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
FRIDAY:	9:00 A.M. to 12 Noon
SATURDAY:	8:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL PARENTS AND FAMILIES REGISTERING FOR 2015:

Passing on the faith is a great privilege for all of us at OLPH, particularly for our Faith Formation staff. We look forward to working with you and your family in the years ahead.

Believe it or not, registration begins for 2015-16 formation year begins on January 1st. To better serve you and organize our program, there are some new procedures in place. PLEASE READ CAREFULLY, particularly if you have registered in previous years.

- **ALL CHILDREN WHO ARE PARISHIONERS OF OLPH must be registered with the Religious Education Program.** This applies to **Public School children, all Homeschooled children and all Catholic School children.**
- **NEW REGISTRANTS** may begin registering January 1st, 2015.
  - **New registrants are: ALL CHILDREN—in public school, homeschool, or a Catholic School, who will be in 1st grade in September 2015; AND all public school students, all homeschool students, and all Catholic School students currently in grades 1-7 who have not previously registered with the Religious Education Office. Remember that sacraments are celebrated at the home parish of OLPH as mandated by the Diocese of Rockville Centre.**
    - A baptismal certificate is required.
- Our first official registration week is in February:

Monday	February 23	9:00—1:00
Tuesday	February 24	9:00—1:00
Wednesday	February 25	2:00—8:00
Thursday	February 26	9:00—1:00
Friday	February 27	8:00—12:00

- A letter will be sent to all our **previously-registered families** in March, requesting payment. Families with **children registered in previous years** may begin paying as of April 2015. This is a change from previous years when we had “book pick-up” throughout the month of September. Families must make payment for the 2015/2016 school year by May 29th, 2015 to avoid a late fee.
- Payment will be taken in the forms of check, cash or debit card. All check payments may be returned via mail once that letter has been sent out. Payments by cash and debit card must be made in person. The Religious Education office is located at 240 S. Wellwood Ave. in the Faith Formation Center (formerly the OLPH School building).
- Once payment is made, any requests concerning teachers, students or session times may be submitted for consideration, **but only until May 29th, 2015. Requests for changes after this date may not be possible.**
- **Re-registrations will not be taken after July 1, 2015.**
- The **non-refundable** registration fees for the 2015/2016 year will be:  
     \$120 for one child                  \$150 for two children                  \$170 for three or more children

*As always, if you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation office and we will be happy to assist you.*

# ADULT FAITH FORMATION



## Living the Christian Life: INTRODUCTION TO MORALITY

*Here we'll look into the Church's teaching on major moral issues, the history of morality, how we make decision as Catholics and more!*

**Instructor: April Kleinlaut**  
*Our Coordinator of Faith Formation*

**5 Wednesday mornings -**  
**January 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4 & 11**  
**Time:** 10:30am—12:30pm  
**Place:** Room 16

To register, contact the Parish Office at 631.226.7725, e-mail to [jsureau@oloph.org](mailto:jsureau@oloph.org) or return the form below.

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

Yes Please, Sign me up

### Living the Christian Life: INTRODUCTION TO MORALITY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Check the bulletin each week for more information about upcoming Adult Faith Formation classes, including...

#### INTRODUCTION TO THE CHURCH

Come to learn more about how the Church "works" through a study of its history, structure and function.

Instructor: Fr. Alfred

5 Wednesdays: February 25—March 4; 7:30-9:30 P.M.

#### INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY

This course covers a basic understanding of the study of the Church's theology of liturgy. The course will also cover a basic understanding of the Liturgical Year, and will include an examination and discussion of key points from Vatican II's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy.

Instructor: Msgr. Joe

5 Thursdays—April 9 through May 7; 7:30—9:30 P.M.

### ADULT CONFIRMATION

Soon we will be beginning classes in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you are an adult who is baptized and has received first Holy Communion but has not been confirmed, please let us know.

Classes will begin in the next few weeks!

For more information, contact Fr. John at 631.226.7725 or e-mail to [jsureau@oloph.org](mailto:jsureau@oloph.org).



**Confirmation**

# CHRISTIAN INITIATION

## *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*

### **Our Parish's Candidates**

Please continue to pray for our parish's candidates for full initiation in the life of the Catholic Church. **Christina Lamont** and **Alice White** are sent forth each Sunday from Mass to go and share about God's Word. In addition to praying with the Sunday readings, Christina and Alice work with catechists from our parish to learn more about the Catholic faith.

### **Inquirers Welcome!**

In the next few weeks, members of our parish who are considering joining the Catholic Church will work with some parishioners to better discern if God is calling them. In these days, interested women and men will be presented with some of the "basics" about the life of the faith to help determine if they are ready to take next steps towards Baptism or full initiation in the life of the Church.

### **What about you or someone you know?**

**Do you know someone who wants to be baptized?**

**Do you want to be baptized?**

**Do you want to become part of the Catholic Church from another Christian faith?**

For more information, contact Fr. John ([jsureau@oloph.org](mailto:jsureau@oloph.org)/631.226.7725) or Deacon Doug (631.226.7725).



### **CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF CHILDREN**

When children reach the age of reason and are of a catechetical age, they, like adults responding to God's call to become part of the Church, require a process of conversion "that is personal and somewhat developed, in proportion to their age, and the assistance of the education they need." (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* 253).

This month, we welcomed three young people from our parish desiring baptism. Like the adults participating in the RCIA, they will be sent forth at Sunday Mass for a time of faith sharing and are now participating in formation classes each week. Please pray, in a special way, for

### ***Jazmin Aguilar + Joshua Aguilar + Jennifer Feeney***

who are beginning their journey to baptism, and for Rebecca Rama and Joann Domanico who will help to lead this process.

### **Can you help?**

We are in need of offerers to assist with both our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and our Rite of Christian Initiation of Children. Can you offer some time on Sundays to help with these processes? If so, please contact Fr. John at 631.226.7725 or e-mail to [jsureau@oloph.org](mailto:jsureau@oloph.org) to learn more!

## **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@aol.com)

Boy Scouts: Mr. Tom Duffy (dduff2@msn.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 ...Grade 9-12**

**High Schoolers!!** Interested in coming to youth group? Unsure what it is all about? Well now is your chance to be part of something awesome.. holy hours, dodgeball, concerts, game nights, sport nights, service projects and more.

Start the new year off with something new. All 9th through 12th graders are now welcome at all high school events! E-mail [youth@oloph.org](mailto:youth@oloph.org) or check out our Facebook page for more information!

Our next high school event is **January 11th!**

### **Middle School Youth Ministry ...Grade 6-8**

**Our next middle school youth night will take place on Tuesday, January 6, 2015.**

Take a look at some of the pictures from our last Middle School night in December....



**Offerers Needed...** It has been a great year at OLPH for middle school youth ministry, from helping at soup kitchens, to collecting winter clothing and homeless wash-up kits, to hosting prayer events, and open gym nights. Thank you to all who have made it possible! Adults, interested in being a part of our ministry? We are looking for more help during our middle school nights 2 to 3 times a month. Please e-mail Brittany for more information [youth@oloph.org](mailto:youth@oloph.org).

**Do you want to help others in need in our local community? Would you be up for helping with projects right here in our own parish? If so—**

## **YOUTH SERVICE CORPS**

***Here's how it works....***

When a need for help comes in, we'll contact everyone who has signed up for the Service Corps. If you can help with a particular project, great! If not, no problem. We'll contact you next time.

If you'd like to join, fill out the form below or contact Fr. John at 631.226.7725, x. 224 or e-mail to [jsureau@drvc.org](mailto:jsureau@drvc.org).

Over 100 young people have stepped up for the Service Corps...**what about you?**

**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

# PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- † Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Marie Foster—631.592.1509—[ripalda@optonline.net](mailto:ripalda@optonline.net)
- † Driving Ministry: Maureen Russo—631.226.4182—[princessmorge@optonline.net](mailto:princessmorge@optonline.net)
- † Golden Age Society: Dolores Barone—631.957.3432
- † Hospital Visitors: Peter O'Neill—631.226.6340—[oneillp@optonline.net](mailto:oneillp@optonline.net)
- † Middle Ages: Gail Tonnessen—631.957.1449—[gtonness@optonline.net](mailto:gtonness@optonline.net)
- † New Mother's Meal Ministry: Carol Stysiack—631.255.3506—[carolstys@verizon.net](mailto:carolstys@verizon.net)
- † Nursing Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—[rmuir11@aol.com](mailto:rmuir11@aol.com)
- † Respect Life Committee: Louise Perrotta—631.412.3831—[louiseperrotta@optonline.net](mailto:louiseperrotta@optonline.net)
- † St. Bernard League: The Consi Family—631.226.7725
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Deborah Deasy—631.226.7725, x. 234
- † Senior Moments/Spirituality: Fran Grasso—631.956.3003—[sixfingers13@gmail.com](mailto:sixfingers13@gmail.com)
- † Special Needs Ministry: Fr. John Sureau—631.226.7725—[jsureau@oloph.org](mailto:jsureau@oloph.org)
- † Widows/Widowers: Rita Gardell—631.252.5494 & Denise Segreto—631.220.0888

Each week, we ask parishioners to bring food for those in need. Check out our pantry shopping list each week.

## Food Pantry Shopping List

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

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

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

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

LOCATED AT THE HIGH STREET ENTRANCE OF THE SCHOOL  
631.226.7725, X. 234

*The office is open:*  
**Monday, Wednesday and Friday**  
**9 am—12 noon**

St. Vincent de Paul is our parish's primary way to reach out to those in need in our local community. Our incredible offerers do all they can to assist those in our local community.

Sometimes when we are in need, we don't feel comfortable asking for help or seeking support. It is in these moments that our parish most wants to be here for you.

## HOMELESS VAN MINISTRY



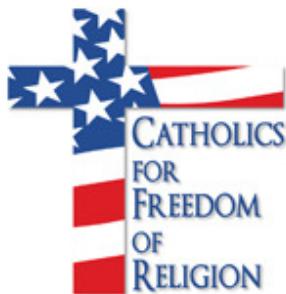
Throughout the month of December, our Homeless Van Ministry has been in an "exploration" phase as we are journeying out one night a week to meet those who are homeless and to learn the best ways to serve and minister to them.

*What can you do?*

- If you would like come out on a Wednesday night (presently from 10 P.M. to about 1 A.M.) in January and beyond, please contact Denise Redfern at [dredfern@oloph.org](mailto:dredfern@oloph.org).
- If you would like to prepare sandwiches, soup or another food for about 15 to 20 people, please contact Regina Muir at [rmuir11@aol.com](mailto:rmuir11@aol.com) or call 631.226.2709
- People have asked about making donations of clothes. If you have donations, please contact Patti Perez at 631.957.6203 or e-mail to [pp213806@aol.com](mailto:pp213806@aol.com).

# PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

## Catholics for Freedom of Religion Mission Statement



America's First Amendment guarantees its citizens five freedoms, the first of which is Freedom of Religion. Freedom of Religion includes the freedom to worship according to one's beliefs as well as the freedom to practice that faith in everyday life according to one's conscience.

Catholics for Freedom of Religion offers resources

- To educate and advocate for Freedom of Religion
- To remain non-partisan, advocating for no candidate or party
- To invite and include other faith communities
- To recognize and oppose attacks on Freedom of Religion from any source.

*For more information about Catholics for the Freedom of Religion at OLPH, contact Marie Foster at 631.592.1509 or e-mail to [ripalda@optonline.net](mailto:ripalda@optonline.net).*

*To learn more about the larger CFFR movement visit their website at [www.CatholicsforFreedomofReligion.org](http://www.CatholicsforFreedomofReligion.org).*

## MIDDLE AGES

*Are you in your late 40s, 50s, or early 60s?  
Are you looking to meet other women and men your age for times of spirituality, socializing and social action?*

YOU are invited to join the Middle Ages group!

For information, call Gail Tonnessen at 631-957-1449 or email to [gtonness@optonline.net](mailto:gtonness@optonline.net).

Here are some things we've been up to...

*Middle Age members* putting together a Thanksgiving Basket for a St. Vincent de Paul client.



Placemats hand-decorated by *Middle Ages members* were included in some of the SVSP Thanksgiving food baskets.



Making Christmas wreaths that will brighten the doors of "A Veterans' Place" in Yaphank, temporary Veterans housing run by The Suffolk County United Veterans.



Thomas, a *Suffolk County Veteran*, with his personal Christmas Wreath at "The Veterans' Place."

## OLPH LOVES SENIORS!!!



### OLPH SENIOR MOMENTS

Aging is not "lost youth," but a new stage of opportunity and strength.

Avail yourself, men and women, 55 years +, of the opportunity to strengthen your relationship with God and with our parish community. Each time this group meets, generally on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, there will be times for formation, spiritual growth, friendship and community building.

Follow the bulletin for more information about Senior Moments at OLPH!

### *Golden Age Society*

The OLPH Golden Age Society meets every 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month, 11:30am—3:00pm

Our next meeting: **January 15, 2015**

Please join us in Room 16.

Everyone is welcome.

Any questions call President,  
Dolores Barone 631-957-3432.

Look for info soon about some exciting new events and ministries for our parish's oldest and wisest members, including an outreach program to homebound seniors.

# PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

## Special Needs Ministry

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

**Mass for People with Special Needs  
Saturday,  
January 4th**

4:00 P.M.—Auditorium

### CLOTHING BINS

Our St. Vincent de Paul clothing bins are now located in the Gates Street/High Street Parking Lot **on the North Side of the Convent building.**

They are not initially visible if you enter from High Street.



**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CLOTHES OR OTHER ITEMS IN ANY OTHER PLACES ON THE OLPH CAMPUS.**

*Thank you for your generosity!*

### DRIVING MINISTRY

Our Driving Ministry assists parishioners in need of a ride to a doctor's appointment or to another serious appointment when needed. Over the past few months we have been able to help many parishioners!

For more information, contact Maureen Russo at 631.226.4182 or [princessmoge@optonline.net](mailto:princessmoge@optonline.net).

Do you know how you can be a driving minister? Invite a neighbor, particularly someone you know who is homebound, to come to Mass with you!



### MARCH FOR LIFE

**Thursday,  
January 22, 2015**

Our parish is attending the Annual March for Life on **Thursday, January 22, 2015**. We will gather at OLPH at 5:00 A.M. for Mass in the Church and depart immediately after.

To RSVP to this event, contact Kathy Feldman of our Respect Life Committee at 631.225.9864.

### PRISON FAMILIES ANONYMOUS



*Life becomes more difficult and stressful for family and friends when a loved one becomes incarcerated. Relationships and responsibilities can become strained and the dynamics within the family often change dramatically.*

*The PFA Support Group provides a safe, non-judgmental place where those in similar situations can connect with each other. It provides compassion, support and information to family members during their very difficult times.*

**The Prison Families Anonymous Support Group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month starting at 7:30 P.M. at the Community Presbyterian Church 1843 Deer Park Avenue, Deer Park, NY 11729 Northeast corner of Deer Park Avenue and Lake Ave Parking lot entrance on Lake Ave - Use rear door closest to parking lot**

# PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

## Nursing Ministry

Parish nurses would work with parishioners to provide spiritual support, consultation, assistance with medical forms, resources and referrals and encouragement.

In addition, nurses assist at parish events and perhaps provide spiritual and health programs for parishioners.

If you are interested in being a part of this new ministry and want to find out more information, please contact Regina Muir at 631.226.2709 or e-mail to [rmuir11@aol.com](mailto:rmuir11@aol.com).

The next event sponsored by the Nursing Ministry is...

### The OLPH Blood Drive

**Sunday January 18, 2015**

**8:00 P.M. - 12:15 P.M.**

**School Auditorium**

*Prescheduled appointments are preferred, but walk ins welcome. Contact Regina Muir 226-2709 or [Rmuir11@aol.com](mailto:Rmuir11@aol.com) to sign up.*



Follow the bulletin for more info!

## 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.

If you or a family member are ill and wish to receive Holy Communion, please contact the parish office. One of our parish priests will come visit you and an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion will then visit each week.

We pray for the sick and the homebound of our parish at each and every 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...

Richard Brosan  
 Diana De Stasio  
 Bernadette Sinnott  
**Regina Khezikhezri**  
 Margaret Girgenti  
 Mary Doran  
**George Constantinou**  
 Vanessa Kercelius  
 Tom LaBianca  
 Kelly Coffin  
**Concepción Canales**  
 Diane Romaniello  
**Fr. Terence Hoppenjans**  
 August Garofalo  
 John Halloweg  
 Gianna Pantina  
 Alice Leonard  
 Nettie Deasy  
 Peggy Curran  
**Marjorie Hildemann**  
 Theresa Caltabiano  
**Josephine Senatore**  
**Frank Raffanilli**  
 Fran Brosan  
 Jane Petti  
 Vincenzo Rao  
 Joan Coffee  
 Roberta Chaplin

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](mailto: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.

# EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

Te invita a alabar y glorificar a Dios todos los Jueves a las 7:00PM en la cafetería Comenzando con el Santo Rosario, únete a nosotros en oración por ti y por tu familia en 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 at (631) 957.1149.

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](mailto:jsureau@oloph.org);  
en español Irma González 631 620-2401 correo electrónico [lanegra628@yahoo.com](mailto:lanegra628@yahoo.com).



DIOCES OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Navidad 2014

Queridos Hermanos y Hermanas en Cristo,

Durante este año me he encontrado dos veces en Tierra Santa. La primera vez como miembro de la junta Católica del Cercano Oriente y Bienestar y la segunda vez como parte de los 18 Obispos de los Estados Unidos en una Peregrinación de Oración por la paz. Ambas visitas han centrado en mí de manera viva lo que todos nosotros vemos y oímos a través de los medios de comunicación: la tierra santificada por el nacimiento, vida, muerte y resurrección de nuestro Señor y Salvador es cualquier cosa menos tierra de paz, gozo y caridad fraternal. Si tuviéramos que detenernos ahí sería muy difícil poder mantener la esperanza.

Sin embargo, sabemos que la fiesta que celebramos el 25 de diciembre es la razón por lo que los hechos preocupantes del mundo de hoy no son el final de la historia. Ellos son el contexto en el que el Señor entra a fin de revertir el espiral de violencia y muerte y fundar un nuevo orden, "cielos nuevos y tierra nueva" que son el fruto del Hijo de Dios que vino al mundo para revelar el plan de salvación de Dios.

Él es la verdadera historia de la humanidad, porque solo Él es la Palabra a través de los cuales se crean el mundo y la vida humana. Y esa Palabra, el Hijo eterno del Padre, se hace carne para que podamos ser salvador de las tinieblas que se esconden en los corazones humanos. Él es la luz verdadera que disipa la oscuridad. Él es la única esperanza segura del mundo. Y Él viene a ser parte de la condición humana, pues Él y solo Él puede revertir el destino de la humanidad, dándonos un nuevo destino, la vida en Él, la vida en el Espíritu, que es el don del amor de Dios.

Esta Navidad saludo a todos a la luz de ese amor que vino al mundo la primera Navidad en un establo de Belén. Esta Navidad les invito a todos a unirse conmigo en una peregrinación del corazón a ese mismo lugar donde María dio a luz a Jesús a un mundo que tanto necesita el regalo de la vida divina que Él es y que ahora por la paz que solo Él puede dar. Mi oración por cada uno de ustedes y por todos ustedes es que podamos dejar que Él transforme cualquiera de las tinieblas que controlan nuestras vidas y nos dote con la novedad de vida que su nacimiento ha hecho posible. Que la Luz de su vida brille sobre todos nosotros, sin excepción. Que el ejemplo de María y José sea el modelo para todas nuestras familias. Y que nos encuentre con los pastores adorando al Príncipe de la Paz, mientras los ángeles cantan y el mundo entero se regocija pues *A nosotros se nos ha dado un Hijo, a nosotros nace un niño y es el Salvador, Dios Omnipotente, Príncipe de Paz.*

Fielmente suyos en Cristo,

# A PLACE OF WELCOME



## Getting Married @ OLPH

It brings great joy to our parish community when a man and a woman come to the Church to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony. Whenever we respond to God's call, the entire Church rejoices!

If you want to get married at OLPH, we ask you to contact the Parish Office at least six months before the desired date of your wedding. Before making any other arrangements, please call the rectory at 631-226-7725 to meet with one of our priests or deacons first.

### HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

- Are you someone who wants to use your gifts and talents, but can't make a commitment to a monthly meeting?
- Are you great at throwing together a little reception (with a little help)?
- Can you bake a dessert? Help with coffee? Shop at Costco?

One of the ways we unite as parish is to come together for times of fellowship and hospitality. Our Hospitality Ministry works to bring people from all different walks of life in our parish together. This is a great ministry for those who are not involved in the life of our parish and it can easily work around your schedule. This might also be good for some who are already involved. It's yet another way to share your gifts!

*Come and join the team!*

For more information, contact Chris Ferris or Peggy McCloud at [hospitality@oloph.org](mailto:hospitality@oloph.org) or leave a message at the Parish Office (631.226.7725).

*Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels. -Hebrews 13:2*



## 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.

# OLPH LOVES FAMILIES!

## Family Life Ministry

OLPH has a strong tradition of an active and vibrant Family Life Ministry. Over the past years, hundreds of families have been impacted by the events and efforts of our Family Life Ministry.

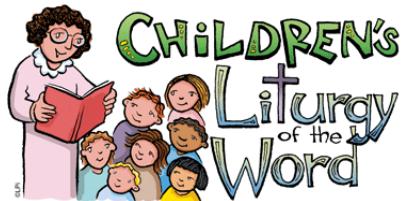
Family Life Ministry works to serve the parish community by:

- + Connecting families to the life of the parish community and the Church.
- + Building community among families.
- + Providing and increasing family spirituality among families in the parish.



Would you like to help plan events and opportunities for families to come together? Would you like to find out more? If so, contact [familylife@olph.org](mailto:familylife@olph.org) or call 631.226.7725.

See some pictures of Family Life activities on the inside front and back covers of the bulletin.



OLPH celebrates the **Children's Liturgy of the Word** most Sundays at the 9:30 A.M. Mass. At this Mass children in first grade and older are sent forth after the Collect (Opening Prayer) to the Chapel in the North Sacristy.

Here, led by a catechist, children hear the readings from the *Lectionary for Masses with Children*. The catechist then breaks open God's Word with the children.

They return to their families after the Universal Prayer and remain with their family for the remainder of the Mass.

This is another way we can train and engage our young people in the celebration of the liturgy!

## Upcoming Events...

### BAPTISM OF THE LORD

**Family Life** invites all families who had a baby baptized in 2014 for a special blessing. In honor of the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, this blessing will take place

on

**January 11, 2015**

**11:00 a.m. Mass**

Following the 11:00 a.m. Mass there will be a reception in the school cafeteria.

*If you plan to attend the reception please contact us at [olphfamilylife@aol.com](mailto:olphfamilylife@aol.com) or call the Parish Office at 631.226.7725*

## And prepare for...

### MARDI GRAS



**Tuesday,**

**February 17, 2015**

*Watch for upcoming details!*

### CHILDREN'S BULLETINS

Children's Bulletins are available at the end of the 9:30 a.m. Mass. These special Children's Bulletins are handed out by children and families at the end of the 9:30 a.m. Mass, along with the regular bulletins handed out by the ushers. There will be two bulletins for children, corresponding to two different age groups. Each week, the bulletin on yellow paper will be for younger children, aged 3-6, and the bulletin on green paper will be for older children, aged 7-12. The idea is to take the bulletin home to reinforce the message of the Gospel.

Be sure to look for these bulletins which will be handed out at the **9:30 a.m. Mass each Sunday**.

# PARISH LIFE AND MINISTRY

## MINISTRY OF PRAISE

We come together each Tuesday at 7:45 P.M. in the Room 16 of the school building.



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.

All are welcome to attend. Periodically during the year the Prayer Group Team offers the 7 consecutive Life in the Spirit Seminars consisting of:  
1. God's Love, 2. Salvation, 3. New Life, 4. Receiving God's Gifts, 5. Baptized in the Spirit, 6. Growth, and 7. Transformation in Christ.

## ALL ARE WELCOME!

### A WORD ABOUT LITURGICAL PRACTICES AND GOOD HEALTH

As we continue through the winter days of cold and flu season, it's a good time to review some common-sense liturgical practices and issues, to help everyone stay healthy and to care for one another as we gather each week for Mass.

- ◆ **Holy Communion:** Priests, deacons and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion are especially encouraged to wash and sanitize their hands before Mass begins. If Communion ministers need to clean their hands during Mass, it must be done discreetly. The best way for extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion to clean their hands during Mass is to use a sanitizing liquid in the pew before coming into the sanctuary (sanitizing liquids have no place on the altar or among the Communion vessels and other sacred items on the credence table).
- ◆ **Communion from the Chalice:** The faithful should refrain from drinking from the chalice when one has a cold or is fearful of being infected.
- ◆ **Receiving on the Tongue:** Faithful who normally receive Holy Communion on the tongue should refrain from receiving on the tongue and instead receive in the hand when one has a cold or is otherwise contagious. Do not spread your saliva to the hand of the Communion minister if you are sick; receive Communion in the hand instead.
- ◆ **Greeting of Peace:** Use your own discretion and best judgment when invited to exchange the greeting of peace during the liturgy; limit physical contact with others if necessary. If a handshake is not advisable, a simple bow of the head is acceptable. Do not be insulted if someone prefers to avoid shaking your hand.
- ◆ **Mass Attendance:** **MOST IMPORTANTLY, IF YOU ARE SICK, PLEASE DO NOT COME TO MASS!** There is no obligation to attend Mass if you are sick; it is not a sin to miss Mass for this reason. (Also, there is no need to go to Confession if you miss Mass because you are sick.) Personal prayer and reflection on the Sunday Scripture readings is encouraged; many people also enjoy viewing the Mass on television.

## 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.

### *New mothers in OLPH Parish....*

You deserve a break today!

Dinner is on us! if you have had a baby in the last couple of months, a member of our ministry would love to give you a break and cook a *carefully prepared dinner*, and deliver it to your home on a pre-agreed date.

## NO STRINGS ATTACHED!

This ministry is also available to parents of preemies who are still in the hospital and don't have time to cook. You do not have to be a first time mother.

If you are interested in a dinner, please contact Carol Stysiack at 631-255 3506 or by e-mail at [carolstys@verizon.net](mailto:carolstys@verizon.net). Please put Meal Ministry in the subject line.

# PARISH LIFE AND MINISTRY

## LET THERE BE LIGHT!

Thanks to all who have helped to plan and organize our the lighting of our parish for Christmas. OLPH truly shines this Christmas! But what goes up, must come down!

### Do you want to help?

We are in need of offerers to help on



**Sunday, January 11, 2015  
at 12 Noon**

We plan to be here most of the day. If you are able to help, please call or e-mail Jean Gustavson at 631.225.1273 or e-mail to [jmgustav@gmail.com](mailto:jmgustav@gmail.com).

All are welcome and needed to help with this project.... get involved today!!!!

## LOOKING FOR A GIFT FOR SOMEONE?

Don't want to fight the crowds at the store? Why not give the gift that gives for six months?

Get them the new **Super 72 Raffle** tickets. **\$80 for 3 tickets** (18 chances of winning each month for 6 months plus added specialty drawings!)

You can get packages in the rectory or Johnston's Funeral Home.

FAITH DIRECT  
*inspiring secure giving*

Did you know that the most convenient and secure way for your weekly offering to fund and support our parish's ministries is eGiving through *Faith Direct*?

So many of us make use of online systems to pay bills, make reservations, plan trips, etc. It is a great convenience to be free of delivering our payment to a company or talking on the phone, etc.

Faith Direct is our parish's attempt to make giving easier. You simply log on, create an account and plan your giving for the year. You can link your offering to your checking account or your credit card (this might allow you get some extra points).

It also helps our parish. It save us some time and work in counting the collection and allows us to more accurately budget.

Go online to [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our parish code **NY286** or fill out an enrollment form from the parish office and mail the form to *Faith Direct*. Then you will receive cards you can place in the collection each week indicated you gave online!

God bless you and thank you for your generosity.

## SUPPORT OUR BULLETIN ADVERTISERS!

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

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

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



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## OLPH HAPPENINGS

**Families in Service...** Families came together this past November to make sandwiches for a local soup kitchen. Children and families saved their money throughout the week to purchase all the ingredients for the sandwiches and worked together after the 9:30 AM Mass. Family Life hosts Families in Service events throughout the year.



**Remembering Superstorm Sandy...** This past October, nearly one hundred members of the community came together for a night of reflection led by Sister Peggy McVetty, OP. Our parish continues to support and pray for those impacted by the storm.



**VACATION BIBLE CAMP...** This year, nearly one hundred children and teens came together for the Wilderness Escape. Plans are already underway for VBC 2015 to take place this July.



**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS...** All of God's creatures are welcome at OLPH! This October we celebrated the Blessing of the Animals on the Feast of St. Francis. This year the service was held in the auditorium because outside it was raining cats & dogs!



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