

# 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



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

Psalm 97

## The Nativity of the Lord

December 25, 2015

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Msgr. Joseph DeGrocco

**Parochial Vicars:** Rev. John Sureau, Rev. Fidelis Ezeani

**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.

### OLPH NOVENA DEVOTIONS

Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Church  
(unless otherwise announced)

### 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 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.

### New Sunday Mass Schedule Effective

**Weekend of January 2-3, 2016**

**Saturday: 5:00 p.m.**

**Sunday: 8:00 a.m.,  
10:00 a.m.,  
12:00 Noon,  
and 5:00 p.m.**

### MASS SCHEDULE

**Monday – Friday**

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

**Saturday: 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. and 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.

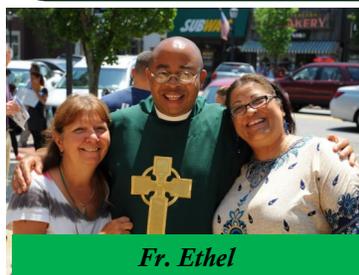
We pray Daytime Prayer each Wednesday at 1:50 p.m.

# OLPH IS THE PLACE TO BE!

Around this time of the year, families often give updates about what has been happening in their lives over the past year. This Christmas, we want to share some things with you that we believe makes OLPH the place to be. More updates are found on page 27. You can see additional pictures and learn even more by visiting our parish website or checking out our Facebook page.

**Pentecost**—This past June, we celebrated the Vigil of Pentecost. At this liturgy, we also celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation for adults and teens in our parish.

**Priest Transfers**—In June, Fr. Ethel was transferred from OLPH to St. Joseph's in Babylon. In August, we welcomed Fr. Fidelis to our parish. In November, Fr. Alfred left us to return home to Nigeria



Fr. Ethel



Members of the community say good-bye to Fr. Alfred in November.



We welcomed Father Fidelis to OLPH in August.



**Summer Traditions**—Two nice summer traditions have developed here at OLPH—Summer Evening Prayer and Vacation Bible Camp. These events bring together so many in our parish for faith, fellowship and, often, food!



Vacation Bible Camp



Summer Evening Prayer



To see more photos and to keep up on other ministries check out the OLPH Facebook page.



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Christmas, 2015

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!**

As we celebrate the birth of Christ, it is so obvious to us how desperately the world needs Christ's love and grace. Violence, discord, sinfulness and destruction seem to be more prevalent than ever. Yet, even though such darkness still exists in the world, we do not lose hope, because the Father sent his Son to be our Savior. One of the prayers that can be used in Christmas Masses tells us that Jesus Christ has come to us "so that, raising up in himself all that was cast down, he might restore unity to all creation and call straying humanity back to the heavenly Kingdom."

As Pastor, I continue to give thanks to God for the many different ways I see unity being restored, those who are cast down being lifted up, and those in darkness being drawn into the light of God's Kingdom of light and grace. It happens because of the generosity, goodness and self-giving of so many people here at OLPH as they reach out to each other here in the parish and beyond. Most importantly, our weekly celebration of the Sunday Eucharist is what allows us to see the Kingdom of God in our midst, as we are nourished in Word and in Sacrament to go out and announce the Gospel of the Lord in the way we live. Allow me to say from the bottom of my heart to all who do so much and who give so generously: THANK YOU. You are the reason why OLPH is "the place to be."

I wish to remind everyone about two important items in the life of our parish. First, as you may have heard, we have recently replaced the boilers which provide heat to the church and the rectory. The old ones lasted for 55 years, but finally gave out. The complete job of replacing the boilers cost us a total of \$415,000, an extraordinary expense that we cannot afford. Therefore, I ask your generosity in participating in our special one-time collection to help defray the cost of the new boilers. Special envelopes are available throughout the church and at the rectory for this donation, and if you have not already made a contribution, I ask you to please consider doing so. I have made a contribution, and I hope you will too. A gift of \$100 would be great!

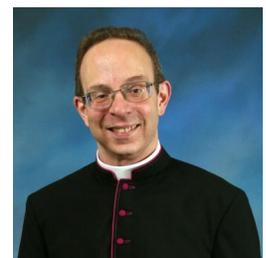
Second, we are instituting a new Sunday Mass Schedule starting the first weekend in 2016, January 2-3. The new schedule will be: Saturdays (Sunday anticipated) at 5:00 p.m.; Sundays at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 Noon, and 5:00 p.m. As you join us for Sunday Mass in 2016, please note the new schedule.

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



# BLESSINGS TO USE 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 illumine 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.*



# LETTER FROM THE BISHOP



DIocese OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Christmas 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

*Christ is born: sing glory! Christ has descended from heaven: go out to meet Him! Christ is on earth: lift yourselves up! Sing to the Lord, all the earth; for He who belongs to heaven is now on earth!*

With these words, the fourth century theologian, St Gregory Nazianzen (+389) proclaimed the Christmas message that is as true today as it was from that first moment in Bethlehem when the Blessed Mother Mary brought her son Jesus into the world. Since that night we, like Gregory and all others who know Jesus, have exulted in the gift of the Son of God made man. His birth heralds the defeat of sin and death. His presence among us, like us in all things but sin, shines the bright promise of God's merciful love on our faces and into our hearts. Who does not rejoice to know that *God so loved the world that He sent His Son?* Which one of us would turn away from this blessed scene of the Virgin with Joseph in the Bethlehem stable offering the Child to us so that all humankind can be saved? How can we do anything but sing *Glory to God* with the angels and bend low in adoration with the shepherds. This night we all become free! This night we all are one. This night we see the salvation of our God.

My dear friends, this has not been an easy year for any of us, for our families, for our parishes, for our nation, for the world. The forces of darkness are strong and determined. Terrorism seems to be widening its sweep and too many of our leaders seem unsure of what must be done to protect society and care for the suffering. Too many families are struggling to make ends meet. Too many youth in our midst are led astray by the false gods of drugs, alcohol and momentary pleasures. Freedom is under attack at home and abroad. Many look in all the wrong places for answers that hurt rather than help.

We have the right answer. We all need Christmas. We all need Jesus. We all need Mary. God has given HIS answer to the world, an answer that overcomes all its tragedies and all its temptations. God's response to our cries is clear and unequivocal: His Son! Yes: Jesus Christ, His Son! He is God's answer to our cries. He is God's gift for our lives. He breaks down the barriers, for the name of peace is Jesus Christ. He is Our Peace! And He and He alone can calm our fears, renew our strength, lift up our hearts and give joy to our lives!

Yes, my friends, this Christmas go out to meet Him; lift up your hearts; Sing for joy. For all humankind has seen the salvation of our God! A blessed and Joyous Christmas to you all!



Bishop of Rockville Centre

# YEAR OF MERCY

## EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY



Pope Francis has called for a Year of Mercy beginning on December 8th and continuing to the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe in 2016. This is an opportunity for the Church and its members—each one of us—to rediscover God’s gift of mercy so we may become “missionaries of mercy.”

Pope Francis called for this Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy in April with the publication of the Papal Bull *Misericordiae Vultus*. Please consider praying the prayer below, written by Pope Francis, for the Year of Mercy.

*Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,  
and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.*

*Show us your face and we will be saved.*

*Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money;  
the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things;  
made Peter weep after his betrayal,  
and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.*

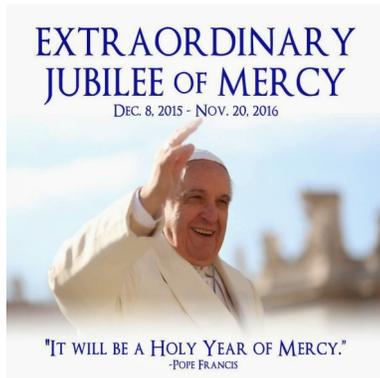
*Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:  
“If you knew the gift of God!”*

*You are the visible face of the invisible Father,  
of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy:  
let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.  
You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness  
in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error:  
let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.*

*Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with His anointing,  
so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord,  
and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor,  
proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,  
and restore sight to the blind.*

*We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of  
Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the  
Holy Spirit for ever and ever.*

*Amen.*



You can read the entire document by going to the new OLPH website, [olphlindenhurst.org](http://olphlindenhurst.org), or by visiting [www.im.va](http://www.im.va).

# PRAYER AND WORSHIP



Solemnity of Mary,  
the Holy Mother of  
God

## HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Vigil of Solemnity  
Thursday, December 31, 2015  
5:00 p.m.

Friday, January 1, 2016  
10:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

*The 6:30 a.m. Mass  
will not be celebrated on January 1st.  
All parish offices are closed on January 1st and will reopen  
on Saturday, January 2nd.*

**New Sunday Mass  
Schedule Effective  
Weekend of  
January 2-3, 2016**

*Saturday: 5:00 p.m.*

*Sunday: 8:00 a.m.,*

*10:00 a.m.,*

*12:00 Noon,*

*and 5:00 p.m.*

## 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.



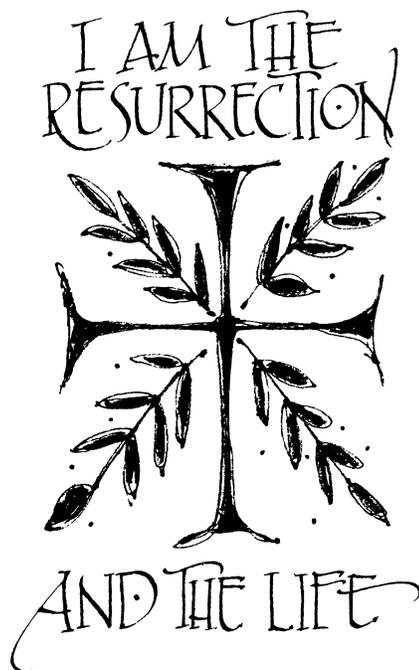
## **BRINGING FORWARD THE OFFERINGS OF BREAD AND WINE**

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.



# 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.

## REMINDER REGARDING THE COMMUNION FAST

Please remember that we are supposed to observe a Communion Fast before receiving Holy Communion. This means we do not eat any foods or drink any liquids for one hour before receiving Holy Communion, the only exception being water or medicine. This also means that we are not to chew gum during Mass, and certainly not while we are coming forward to receive Holy Communion. Let's be sure we are appropriately prepared to receive Holy Communion by observing this important rule of the Church.

## 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 chairs with arms to make it easier to get up and down. They are located on the ends of certain aisles throughout the Church.

# PRAYER AND WORSHIP

## HOLY HOUR FOR PEACE

In response to Bishop Murphy's call for parishes to urgently pray for peace because of all the unrest in the world, please join us for a special Holy Hour devoted to praying for world peace within our own country and throughout the world. **This Holy Hour for Peace, with prayers focusing on the intention of peace, will be held on the second, third and fourth Sunday evenings of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** The Holy Hour of Reparation which has been held on the first Sunday of the month will continue every first Sunday evening as usual, with the prayers that are usually said for that first Sunday Holy Hour.

### Prayer for Peace

*Following Bishop Murphy's request, we are asked to pray this prayer privately, and we are encouraged to use this prayer as a part of all meetings and gatherings held here at OLPH.*

*Lord Jesus Christ,  
who are called the Prince of Peace,  
Who are yourself our peace  
and our reconciliation,  
Who so often said 'Peace to you',  
Grant us peace!*

*Make all men and women witnesses of truth, justice  
and brotherly love.*

*Banish from their hearts  
whatever might endanger peace.*

*Enlighten our rulers that they may guarantee and  
defend the great gift of peace.*

*May all peoples of the earth  
become as brothers and sisters.*

*May longed-for peace blossom forth and reign al-  
ways over us all. AMEN*

*Mary, Queen of Peace, Pray for us!*  
(Pope Saint John XXIII)



## Evening Prayer

All are invited to pray Evening Prayer on Saturday and Sundays after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Here we pray the psalms, listen to the Word of God and give thanks to God for the blessings of the day. Evening Prayer is usually about ten to fifteen minutes in length.



So come and pray...

### Saturdays and Sundays After the 5:00 p.m. Mass

*"The Liturgy of the Hours is intended to become the prayer of the whole People of God. In it Christ himself 'continues his priestly work through his Church....Pastors of souls should see to it that the principal hours, especially Vespers (Evening Prayer) are celebrated in common in church on Sundays and on the more solemn feasts.'"*

**-Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1175**

## Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help



The Monday night Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help has been a longstanding OLPH tradition. Each Monday, parishioners pray to seek the help and assistance of the Lord for healing, family, children and the needs of the world, seeking the intercession of the Blessed Mother. Following the Novena prayers, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place. The

evening concludes with veneration of a relic of St. Catherine Laboure. Take some time each Monday to join in the OLPH Novena.

**Monday, December 28**—7:00 p.m.

**Monday, January 4**—7:00 p.m.

**Monday, January 11**—7:00 p.m.

**Monday, January 18**—

Cancelled due to national holiday

# 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:

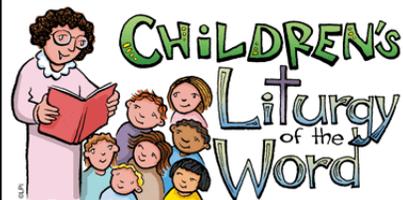
- ✦ Connecting families to the life of the parish community and the Church.
- ✦ Building community among families.
- ✦ Providing and increasing family spirituality among families in the parish.

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@oloph.org](mailto:familylife@oloph.org) or call 631.226.7725.



See some pictures of this Fall's Family Life activities on this page and page 11.

*Family Life's Pumpkin Patch*  
Each year, the grounds of OLPH become home to the biggest pumpkins in Lindenhurst! This is a wonderful event for families!



OLPH celebrates the **Children's Liturgy of the Word** most Sundays at the 10:00 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!

## Families in Service

Families came together this past November to make sandwiches for our Homeless Ministry and a local soup kitchen.



# OLPH LOVES FAMILIES!

*Getting Ready for Advent*  
On Sunday, November 29th, our Family Life Ministry hosted its second annual "Getting Ready for Advent" celebration. Members of our parish's Community of Praise prayer group led the morning by presenting the prophets of Advent, including appearances from Isaiah, Jeremiah, Baruch and Micah. Thanks to all who made the morning a wonderful experience of prayer, praise and fellowship!



# 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 10, 2016  
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!!!!

## 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.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church  
100 West Hill Street, Lindenhurst, NY 11757  
Telephone: 631.225.1273 Fax: 631.225.1277 WWW.OLPHCHURCH.COM



**PARISH OFFICE**  
Parish Office Hours: 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Parish Office: 100 West Hill Street, Lindenhurst, NY 11757  
Telephone: 631.225.1273 Fax: 631.225.1277  
WWW.OLPHCHURCH.COM



**Mardi Gras!** Save the Date!  
**MARDI GRAS**  
Tuesday,  
February 9, 2016  
Watch for upcoming details!

# PARISH LIFE AND MINISTRY



## 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. At least one of the parties should be a parishioner of OLPH.

## Are you watching... *INSIGHT?*

Msgr. Joe's television show *INSIGHT*, which he co-hosts with Bishop Robert Brennan and Bishop Nelson Pérez, can be seen airing weekly on Telecare, channel 29 on Cablevision, on these days:



**Mondays at 8:30 p.m.**  
**Tuesdays at 10:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesdays at 11:00 p.m.**  
**Fridays at 9:00 p.m.**  
**Saturdays at 10:00 p.m.**

## Legion of Mary



In the Christmas season, the Church recognizes the important role of the Blessed Mother as OUR mother—our intercessor.

Why not become even closer to Our Lady by doing what our Mother asks of us—to **say the Rosary**? You can become part of her "Prayer Warriors" by joining the Legion of Mary.

All that is required (as an "auxiliary" of the Legion) is that you **say the Rosary** daily plus a few extra prayers (taking about 5 minutes). You do NOT have to say the Rosary as one unit but may break it up during your day.

If you'd like to be even closer to Our Lady, you are most welcome to join as an "active" Legionaire. This has the same prayer requirements as above BUT ALSO you would attend a weekly meeting and do a "spiritual work" each week.

Our meetings are on Wednesdays at 2:30PM in room 24 of the new school. You are welcome to visit us with no obligation to join.

For more information contact Marie D'Angelo at 631.884.0562.

## HOSPITALITY MINISTRY

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).

# 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 12:00 p.m. Mass most Sundays (September to June) and for other special liturgies during the year. Rehearsals are on Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. 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



## Youth Choir

The Youth Choir sings at the 10:00 a.m. 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



## Youth Band!

Members of the Youth Band lead the music the Sunday night 5:00 p.m. 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 # 631.226.7725 x. 253

Email: [religioused@oloph.org](mailto:religioused@oloph.org)

Director: Mrs. April Kleinlaut  
([akleinlaut@oloph.org](mailto:akleinlaut@oloph.org))

## OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY: 11AM TO 7PM  
TUESDAY: 9AM TO 2PM  
WEDNESDAY: 2PM TO 8PM  
THURSDAY: 9AM TO 3PM  
SATURDAY: 8AM TO 1PM

### **Religious Education: What's it all about?**

Here we strive to pass on the Gospel through engaging catechesis ("to echo the teaching"). Our program provides or supplements a Catholic education to elementary and middle-school students. The sacraments of Holy Penance and First Holy Communion are received in Level 2, while Confirmation is received in Level 8. Sacramental preparation is integrated into curriculum. Our weekly classes and meetings allow our young people to draw closer to Christ and to one another!

## Merry Christmas

Wishing you peace and joyful tidings as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ!

## New Registration 2016/17 Year

As always, new registrants may begin registering **January 1st, 2016**. This includes all students who will be in 1st grade in September 2016, all students in grades 1-7 who wish to begin religious instruction, and all homeschooled or Catholic school students who have not registered with the Office; these students are required to receive their sacraments at their home parish of OLPH. **New registrants MUST register with the parish prior to registering with religious education, and a baptismal certificate is required.**

### Our first official registration week is in February

Saturday, **Feb. 20th** 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
Monday, **Feb. 22nd** 11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, **Feb. 23rd** 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Wed., **Feb. 24th** 2:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
Thursday, **Feb. 25th** 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

### Returning Families:

Families will be sent a letter in March 2016 regarding registration, which will begin in April. Please call our office for more information on re-registering.

### Check us out on Facebook!

Did you know the OLPH Religious Education Office has a Facebook page? Follow us for updates, photos, and more!

# 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 decisions as Catholics and more!*

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

**5 Thursday Evenings —**  
**January 14, 21, 28, Feb. 4 & 11**  
**Time: 7:30 p.m.—9:30 p.m.**  
**Place: Room 18**

Yes, please, Sign me up!

### Living the Christian Life: INTRODUCTION TO MORALITY

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

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

Save the Dates...

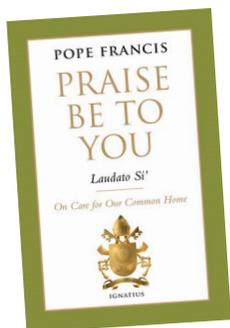
## 2016 Adult Faith Formation Courses

### March 2016

Catholic Social Teaching Through the Lens of *Laudato Si*—  
Thursdays March 3, 10, 17, 31 and April 7  
Instructor: Fr. John Sureau

### May 2016

Spirituality Summit: An Examination of the Spiritual Traditions of the Church  
Wednesdays May 4, 11, 18, 25 and June 1  
Facilitator: Fr. John Sureau



*"...Faith formation helps adults make "a conscious and firm decision to live the gift and choice of faith through membership in the Christian community," accepting "co-responsibility for the community's mission and internal life."*

**-United States Catholic Conference,**  
***Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us: A Pastoral Plan for Adult Faith Formation in the United States***

## CHRISTIAN INITIATION

### NEW CATHOLICS WANTED and NEEDED!

*What about you?*

**Do you want to be baptized?**

**Do you want to become a member of  
the Catholic Church?**

*What are you waiting for?*



We offer a beautiful and life-giving process to join the Catholic Church and would love for you to be a part of it! You will join with other women and men interested in becoming part of the Catholic faith. Together, led by members of our parish community, you will discover God's call for you!

If you or someone you know is not baptized or were baptized in another Christian faith, please contact Fr. John Sureau at 631.226.7725, x. 203 or e-mail to [jsureau@oloph.org](mailto:jsureau@oloph.org) to find out more about the process.

### THE JOURNEY CONTINUES!

Please continue to pray for those who are preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation and for reception into the Catholic Church.

**Noel Andrade, Leo Ruiz and Sophia Ruiz**, pictured left, are our parish's catechumens. They are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.

**Sandra Best, Jason Kalt, Lisa Sheets and Jamie Wittke** are our parish's candidates. They are seeking reception into the Catholic Church from other Christian faiths.

Each Sunday, they gather at Mass and are sent forth to break open God's Word and reflect upon the teachings of the Catholic Church.



### CELEBRATING CONFIRMATION

*Are you interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation?*

If you are a baptized Catholic, but have not been fully initiated, we offer a process for those who desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

*For adults who desire more information*, contact Robert Becker at 631-226-6175 or e-mail to [rabecker@optimum.net](mailto:rabecker@optimum.net)

*For teenagers and their families who desire more information*, contact the Faith Formation Office at 631.226.7725, x.251 or e-mail to [religioused@oloph.org](mailto:religioused@oloph.org).



# YOUTH MINISTRY @ OLPH



## Calling All Boys & Girls

(Ages 10 through 17)

### DO YOU WANT TO DEEPEN YOUR FAITH?

The Junior Legion of Mary is a perfect blend of prayer and works that will lead you to a moral life, and you will have fun doing it. Some of the works we are currently involved with is the May crowning of the Blessed Mother, helping serve at the Community Meals, making rosaries, visiting nursing homes, sending cards to our military, just to name a few.

The word Legion means army. The Legion of Mary is our Blessed Mother's army. Our ammunition is the rosary and the Miraculous Medal.

There is no obligation to join. *Come to a meeting held in Room 24 of the School at 1:30 p.m. on any Sunday* and see what it is all about. There will be two members of the Senior Legion of Mary present at all meetings. Refreshments will be served.

## The Knights of Columbus



### Squires Program

is looking for Catholic young men ages 10 – 18 years old to join their youth program.

We meet at 7:30p.m. every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at the *American Legion Hall* Herbert Street, Lindenhurst

For more information please contact: **Chief Squire Conor Gracey** at 565-4983 or **Chief Counselor Tom Romano** at 561-7052 or just come down to one of our meetings.

Also find out about their *Knights 200 Club!* Drawings start in January 2016. Call **Tom Romano** at 561-7052 for details.

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. 203 or e-mail to [jsureau@oloph.org](mailto:jsureau@oloph.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

- † Blue Door Thrift Boutique: Tricia Buckley—631.567.5790—thebluedoor@oloph.org
- † Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Marie Foster—631.592.1509—cfr@oloph.org
- † Community Meal: Gigi Gracey—631.943.0095—gigigracey1962@gmail.com—Deborah McDonald -516.662.2529—Dnk875@aol.com
- † Driving Ministry: Maureen Russo—631.226.4182
- † Golden Age Society: Dolores Barone—631.957.3432
- † Homeless Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com
- † Hospital Visitors: Peter O'Neill—631-226-6340—oneillp@optonline.net
- † Middle Ages: Gail Tonnessen—631.957.1449—gtonness@optonline.net
- † Nursing Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com
- † Respect Life Committee: Louise Perrotta—631.412.3831—louiseperrotta@optonline.net
- † St. Bernard League: Kristine Doyle—631.804.3466—Kristine Kelly—631-412-5629—stbernardleague@oloph.org
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Deborah Deasy—631.226.7725, x. 234
- † Senior Moments/Spirituality: Fran Grasso—631.956.3003—sixfingers13@gmail.com
- † Special Needs Ministry: Caroline Grogan—(631)225-7688—straightclaw@optonline.net
- † Widows/Widowers: Rita Gardell—631.252.5494

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 FRUIT  
CAKE MIX  
COFFEE  
CORN MUFFIN MIX  
HOT CHOCOLATE  
MAC & CHEESE  
PIE CRUST  
PUDDING  
PEANUT BUTTER  
PAPER TOWELS  
TOOTHBRUSHES  
TOOTHPASTE**

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 in the School Room 24 is open:*

**Monday, Wednesday and Friday**

**9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon**

**Saturday 1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.**

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.

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



The OLPH Conference of the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul Memorial Cards** are now available. The Memorial Cards are a wonderful way to honor the dearly departed while benefitting the less fortunate in our community. A beautiful "Living Memorial" Card will be sent acknowledging your donation to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Donation forms are available on the pew ledges, in the SVDP Food Pantry (9:00 a.m.—12:00 noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday; Saturday, 1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.) or at the Rectory. For further information, please contact Janet Hume at the SVdP Office at 631-226-7725, x. 234.

## PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

### THE *blue*door BOUTIQUE

*The Blue Door Thrift Boutique* is our parish's latest effort to serve the poor and vulnerable in our parish community—and a great way to get a deal for our parishioners! In a little over two months, we have ministered to many who are supported by our Homeless Ministry and Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Take note of our hours and visit the Blue Door. It is a wonderful place that has many wonderful items—from clothing to cooking ware, from religious items to rare finds—you might find helpful. Meet the wonderful offerers who make it such a place of welcome. When you shop at The Blue Door, you not only get a great deal but help support our parish's ongoing work and ministry.

#### Hours of Operation:

**Monday: 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday: Closed**

**Wednesday: 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

**Thursday: Closed**

**Friday: 10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**

**Saturday: 1:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m.**

*The entrance to the Thrift Boutique is on the south side of the parish campus, next to the St. Vincent de Paul bins. Park using the Gates Street/High Street Parking Lot.*

*Want to get involved in the  
Blue Door?*

*E-mail to [theblue-door@oloph.org](mailto:theblue-door@oloph.org) for more information!*

*We need greeters, sorters and floor workers!*



## HOMELESS MINISTRY

Our Homeless Ministry ministers each Wednesday evening to local homeless. Each week, we meet, serve and minister to between 15 and 20 individuals in our local community.

**Want to learn more about getting involved in this ministry?** Contact Regina Muir 631.226.2709 or e-mail to [rmuir11@aol.com](mailto:rmuir11@aol.com). This is a great opportunity for women and men 18 and above. High school students may participate. Contact Fr. John at 631.226.7725, x. 203 or e-mail to [jsureau@oloph.org](mailto:jsureau@oloph.org).

**Can you help us prepare a meal?** We are always in need of individuals, families and groups to prepare a light meal and/or soup for our weekly runs. Can you help us? Contact Regina Muir at 631.226.2709 or e-mail to [rmuir11@aol.com](mailto:rmuir11@aol.com). You assist when you can—usually once every other month!

**Can you help us with donations?** We are in need of the following:

- Women's underwear and socks (all sizes).
- Men's briefs - S, M, L
- Men's undershirts - S, M, L
- Coats (ONLY small)
- Tissue packs
- Heated Handwarmers
- Waterproof bedrolls

*If it is easier, we can always use Kmart gift cards (and the like) or financial donations, and we'll do the shopping. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Office from 9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m. daily and 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. on the weekends.*



## PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

### SENIOR MOMENTS

**Take the step. Don't be afraid. Give yourself a challenge---  
the challenge of wisdom and spiritual growth.**

The *Senior Moment Ministry* is a committed family who meet **every 2nd Tuesday of the month in classroom 24 in the school from 9 to 10:30 a.m.** Everyone is invited to be a part of this group. Each meeting begins with a prayer to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, followed by readings from meaningful books related to our lives with discussion. But this is just one of the many aspects of this ministry. It is also our goal to get involved in our community doing charitable and worthwhile acts for our fellow human beings. We try to develop a charitable heart like Mother Teresa with others and ourselves.

Our group is comfortable enough with each other to share our life's experience and give input to each others needs.

If you're in for a challenge, and want something different which gives meaning to your life as a practicing Catholic, please join us. All are welcomed into our spiritual family. Contact Fran Grasso at 631-956-3003, and e-mail to [sixfingers13@gmail.com](mailto:sixfingers13@gmail.com)

All you have to do is take the step.

Our next meeting will be on  
**January 12th at 9:00 a.m. in Room 24**

### COMMUNITY MEAL MINISTRY

In April, OLPH started a Community Meal Ministry. Each month, we host meals for those in need in our community. Each month, approximately 50 guests and over 25 members of the parish offer their time and talent to make the afternoon a wonderful time for food, fellowship and a welcome break from the cold weather.

**Are you or your family or group of friends or a ministry you are part of interested in preparing part of our next community meal?** If so, contact Gigi Gracey at 631-443-0095 or at [gigigracey1962@gmail.com](mailto:gigigracey1962@gmail.com). **Are you interested in helping at the next Community Meal?** Contact Debbie McDonald at 516-662-2529 or e-mail to [dnk875@aol.com](mailto:dnk875@aol.com).



## 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 2nd**  
4:00 P.M.—Auditorium



### MARCH FOR LIFE

Friday,  
January 22, 2016

Our parish is attending the Annual March for Life on Friday, January 22, 2016. 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.

### CLOTHING BINS

Our St. Vincent de Paul clothing bins are now located in the Gates Street/High Street Parking Lot on the South 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!*

### 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 another. 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. 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**

### DRIVING MINISTRY

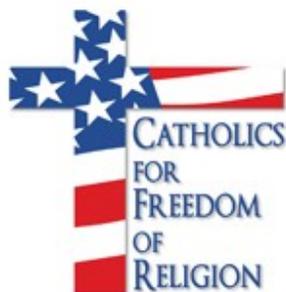
Our Driving Ministry assists parishioners in need of a ride to a doctor's appointment or to another serious appointment when needed. Over the past few months we have been able to help many parishioners!

For more information, contact Maureen Russo at 631.226.4182 or princessmoge@optonline.net.

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!

## 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?*

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday, January 6** at 7:00 p.m. in Room 10 in the Old School basement. For information call Gail Tonnessen, 631-957-1449 or [gtonness@optonline.net](mailto:gtonness@optonline.net).

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

- Hosting drives for veterans
- Preparing meals for our Homeless Ministry
  - Working with St. Vincent de Paul for families in need
  - Making Rosaries for prisoners
  - Sewing "Ugly Quilts" for the homeless (see picture)
  - Helping to host Mardi Gras
  - ...and much, much more!



**Come and join us!!!**

## Saint Bernard League We need Saint Bernards!

Can you and/or your family shovel, snow blow or clear out another family or two in need within our parish community? A number of our "St. Bernard's" from last year have moved on to college and we are in need of some new hands and hearts (and shovels!)

At this time, we are in need of St. Bernard's for the following areas:

We have families in need on the following streets (with area of house #).

S. 13<sup>th</sup> (200s and 300s)

N. Wellwood Ave. (800s)

S. 3<sup>rd</sup> (400s)

S. 5<sup>th</sup> St. (300s)

S. 8<sup>th</sup> St. (300s)

Pecan St. (500s)

S. 4<sup>th</sup> St. (700s)

Dominick Ct. (teens)



*We have already assigned close to 50 families.....so we would like to get the ones above assigned ASAP!*

If you can help, please e-mail to [stbernardleague@oloph.org](mailto:stbernardleague@oloph.org). We'd love to have all families matched up before the first snow of the season.

If you can help with this, call the Parish Office at 631.226.7725 and leave a message or e-mail to [stbernardleague@oloph.org](mailto:stbernardleague@oloph.org). This is a great way to help those in need (do some tremendous community service!)

# 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 31, 2016**

**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*

*Teresa Smith*

*Patricia Grasso*

*Teresa Grasso*

*Eliza Fielding*

*Ron Ferrugiari*

*Deborah Manno*

*Rosemary DeMartino*

*Perry Iannacone*

*Donato Panessa*

*Carol Gilroy*

*Joan Cox*

*Catherine Tamburino*

*CarolAnn Alma*

*Julia Fredereck*

*Bernadette Sinnott*

*Rosalie Grottola*

*Mario Lotito*

*Salvatore Rizzolo*

*Tony Gallo*

*Paul Beyer & Family*

*Patricia Ann Collier*

*Vanessa Faith Probst*

*Mary Doran*

*Janet Sheilds*

*Joseph Sciascia*

**We pray for the sick of our parish...**

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 third 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

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 p.m. en la cafetería. Comenzando con el Santo Rosario. Únete a nosotros en oración, Alabanzas y reflexión de la palabra de DIOS.

Todos los martes llevamos el Santo Rosario a los hogares para orar en familia. Lleva la bendición a tu casa. Interesados favor llamar a Virginia Constantino al (631) 957-1149.

**El sacramento del bautizo.** Las ceremonias bautismales se llevan a cabo cada segundo y cuarto domingo del mes. Los padres que necesiten bautizar a sus hijos deben atender a la sección de charlas, estas charlas son cada primer y tercer lunes del mes.

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 o email [jsureau@oloph.org](mailto:jsureau@oloph.org)



DIocese of Rockville Centre  
OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Navidad 2015

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Jesucristo,

***¡Cristo ha nacido: cantad gloria! ¡Cristo ha descendido del cielo: salid a su encuentro! ¡Cristo está en la tierra: levantaos! ¡Cantad al Señor, toda la tierra; porque El, que pertenece al cielo, está ahora en la tierra!***

Con estas palabras, el teólogo del siglo cuarto, San Gregorio Nacianceno (+389) proclamó el mensaje de Navidad que es tan cierto hoy como lo fue desde el primer momento en Belén cuando la Santísima Virgen María nos dio a su hijo Jesús al mundo. Desde esa noche nosotros, como Gregorio y todos los otros que conocen a Jesús, nos hemos regocijado en el don del Hijo de Dios hecho hombre. Su nacimiento anuncia la derrota del pecado y de la muerte. Su presencia entre nosotros, igual a nosotros en todo menos en el pecado, ilumina la brillante promesa del amor misericordioso de Dios en nuestros rostros y en nuestros corazones. ¿Quién no se alegra al saber que *Dios amó tanto al mundo que envió a su Hijo?* ¿Quién de nosotros daría la espalda a esta sagrada escena de la Virgen con José en el establo de Belén ofreciéndonos al Niño, para que toda la humanidad pueda ser salvada? ¿Qué otra cosa podemos hacer si no es cantar *Gloria a Dios* con los ángeles y postrarnos en adoración con los pastores? ¡Esta noche todos somos libres! Esta noche todos somos uno. Esta noche vemos la salvación de nuestro Dios.

Mis queridos amigos, este no ha sido un año fácil para ninguno de nosotros, para nuestras familias, para nuestras parroquias, para nuestra nación, para el mundo. Las fuerzas de la oscuridad son fuertes y decididas. El terrorismo parece estar ampliando su barrido y muchos de nuestros líderes parecen estar inseguros de lo que debe hacerse para proteger a la sociedad y el cuidado de los que sufren. Demasiadas familias están luchando para lograr cubrir los gastos básicos. Demasiados jóvenes en nuestro medio son desviados por los falsos dioses de drogas, alcohol y placeres momentáneos. La libertad está bajo ataque en el país y en el extranjero. Muchos miran en todos los lugares equivocados en busca de respuestas que dañan en vez de ayudar.

Nosotros tenemos la respuesta correcta. Todos necesitamos la Navidad. Todos necesitamos a Jesús. Todos necesitamos a María. Dios ha dado SU respuesta al mundo, una respuesta que supera todas las tragedias y todas las tentaciones. La respuesta de Dios a nuestras suplicas es clara e inequívoca: ¡Su Hijo! ¡Sí: Jesucristo, su Hijo! Él es la respuesta de Dios a nuestros clamores. Él es el regalo de Dios para nuestras vidas. Él rompe las barreras, pues el nombre de la paz es Jesucristo. ¡Él es Nuestra Paz! ¡Él y sólo Él puede calmar nuestros temores, renovar nuestra fuerza, levantar nuestros corazones y dar gozo a nuestras vidas!

¡Sí, mis amigos, en esta Navidad salgan a su encuentro; alcen sus corazones; Canten de alegría! ¡Pues toda la humanidad ha visto la salvación de nuestro Dios! ¡A todos una bendecida y Gozosa Navidad!

Obispo de Rockville Centre

# SERVING AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Phone: (631) 226-7725 Parish Fax: (631) 225-9597

Directory of Phone Extensions

Name	Ext	Email
Deacon Tom Bast, Business Manager	204	tbast@oloph.org
Carmel Becker, Bulletin	246	cbecker@oloph.org
Patti Chavis, Parish Secretary	212	pchavis@oloph.org
Linda Coppola, Business Office Assistant	214	lcoppola@oloph.org
Msgr. Joseph DeGrococo, Pastor	206	msgjrjoe@oloph.org
Fr. Fidelis Ezeani, Associate Pastor	226	fadaprince4christ@yahoo.com
Faith Formation Office	253	religioused@oloph.org
Christopher Ferraro, Director of Music	210	cferraro@oloph.org
April Kleinlaut, Coordinator of Faith Formation	257	acarbaugh@oloph.org
Rectory Reception Desk	200	
St. Vincent de Paul	234	stvincentdepaul@oloph.org
Fr. John Sureau, Associate Pastor	203	jsureau@oloph.org
Josephine Vagelatos, Administrative Assistant to the Pastor	206	jvagelatos@oloph.org

### THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

### PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK & ANOINTING OF THE SICK

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

### CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

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

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 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
- Msgr. Joe DeGrococo
- Marie Foster
- Greg Guido
- Sonia Hansen
- John Keller
- Kevin Sabella, Jr.
- Kevin Sabella, Sr.
- Christina Taparata
- James Totino
- Pete Triolo

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

### YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

- Robert Dobres
- John Reynolds

### YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

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- Deacon Tom Bast
- Gerry Chille (Chair)
- Ed Cirella
- Meg Danaher, CFP®, CLU®
- Msgr. Joe DeGrococo
- Bob Dobres
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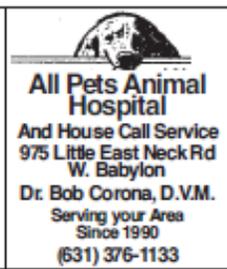
### YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

- Robert Becker
- Lynn Bergin
- Mark Costantino
- Msgr. Joe DeGrococo
- Chris Ferraro
- Jenine Jimenez-Spina
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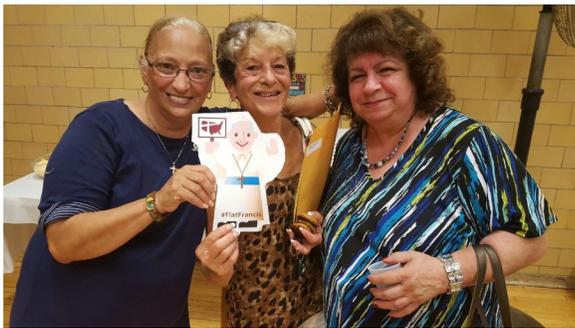
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