

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 PA voice proclaims:



*The child grew and became strong,
filled with wisdom;
and the favor of God was upon him.*

Luke 2:40

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

December 28, 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.

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

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

OLPH NOVENA DEVOTIONS

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

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday Evening: after OLPH Novena Devotions

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

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

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

210 S. Wellwood Avenue, Lindenhurst

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

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Advent Draws to a Close...

The final days of Advent involved spiritual and physical work as the final preparations took place this past week.

The final lights are hung on the large tree on Wellwood Avenue. Thanks to the Lindenhurst Fire Department for offering their time and expertise!



The final touches are put on our outdoor Nativity.

Deacon Bill leads our final Advent Scripture Sharing.



...Christmas is on the horizon!

This year's Christmas Pageant was bigger and better than ever. Thanks to our Family Life and Music Ministries for all of your efforts!



THE PASTOR'S PAGE

Christmas Time

“And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory...” (John 1:14)

In these words we have summed up the mystery of the Incarnation we celebrate throughout all of Christmas Time. Because the Word became flesh, we have access to God; because the Word became flesh, we can share in God's divine nature; because the Word became flesh, we need never worry that God is distant or far off. Human love reveals God's love in our midst; all who are baptized, because they have been reborn in Christ, become manifestations of God's glory in our midst.

There is so much for us to reflect on and to pray about during Christmas Time, beyond simply celebrating “the birthday of Jesus.” Throughout these shining days of Christmas Time we can continue to unpack the wonder and awe of what it means that Christ was born for our salvation; in the words of one of the Prefaces of Christmas Masses: *“For through him [Christ] the holy exchange that restores our life has shone forth today in splendor: when our frailty is assumed by your Word not only does human mortality receive unending honor but by this wondrous union we, too, are made eternal.”*

How beautiful our celebration of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses was! I am so very grateful to all who gave of themselves so fully and generously in so many different ways, especially all our liturgical ministers whose reverence, grace and talent (especially our musicians) allowed us to celebrate liturgy so prayerfully, and our decorators and other offerers who made the church look so beautiful for Christmas. **THANK YOU TO ALL!**

I must at this time express, on behalf of all the priests, words of **THANKS** for all the cards, gifts and good wishes that were sent to us at the rectory. Unfortunately, we cannot thank everyone individually, but be assured that all the cookies and other baked goodies that were sent to us are indeed being enjoyed (if in fact they are still around by the time you read this!).

Remember, too, that it is still **Christmas Time!** The season does not end until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, this year on January 11. Have your Christmas parties in these days; continue to get together with family and friends. Continue to sing Christmas carols!

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

This Sunday, we celebrate a feast that always

falls in Christmas Time, the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. This feast highlights for us the three persons whose life together should be an influential model for all families today. The Collect (opening prayer) for Mass today makes the connection between our families and the Holy Family; the prayer asks God to *“graciously grant that we may imitate them [the Holy Family] in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity.”*

Indeed, Pope Francis has reminded us that it is within the family that we first learn and practice Christian love, humility and self-offering. Jesus came among us and entered into exactly the kind of life we all live — family life. Our relationships with our family members, then, must be the “school” where we learn Christian virtues such as humility, obedience, patience, forgiveness and self-giving.

The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God—A Holy Day of Obligation

The feasts of Christmas continue this week with the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God; this is also the Octave Day (8th day) of Christmas. It is a Holy Day of Obligation, so all Catholics are required to participate in Mass; see the Mass schedule elsewhere in this bulletin.

With this feast day we have the oldest celebration of the Virgin Mary in the Roman Church. We acknowledge and celebrate Mary as the Holy Mother of God (how appropriate for a feast within Christmas Time!) while at the same time we acknowledge the beginning of the new year; in some sense, we are entrusting the new year to the maternal care and intercession of Our Blessed Mother. Notice how the poetic words of the Collect (opening prayer) of the Mass for January 1 sums all this up: *“O God, who through the fruitful virginity of Blessed Mary bestowed on the human race the grace of eternal salvation, grant, we pray, that we may experience the intercession of her, through whom we were found worthy to receive the author of life, our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son.”* It's a beautiful prayer that I invite you to incorporate into your own prayers this week.

Epiphany Next Week

We look forward to next Sunday, January 4, when, still in Christmas Time, we celebrate The Epiphany of the Lord, when we highlight the manifestation of the Lord to all the nations. I will speak more about this feast next week, but for now I re-

mind you that Epiphany is traditionally a time for families to bless their homes. Next week we will have materials in the bulletin to assist families in their Epiphany prayer and blessing at home; watch for it. Start thinking now about how you and your family can make Epiphany a special day to celebrate within Christmas Time.

New Altar Servers Needed and Wanted!

The deadline is approaching! December 31 is the last day I will be accepting sign-ups to become an altar server. Boys and girls, fourth grade and older: if you haven't already signed up, do so now by using the form in the bulletin. It's great to be an altar server and we have a lot of fun. New servers are needed, and it's a great way for you to become more deeply involved in the life of the parish. Moms and

Dads, encourage and cajole your kids! I look forward to seeing YOU as a new altar server!

In conclusion...

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

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

Sincerely,




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

Vigil of Solemnity—Wednesday, December 31

5:00pm

Thursday, January 1, 2015

10:00am, 12:15pm and 7:30 pm

The 6:30 A.M. Mass will not be celebrated on January 1st.

Save the Date...

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

OLPH 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 auditorium.

If you plan to attend the reception please contact us at 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!

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 4th grade or older (it's o.k. if you are in 5th, 6th, 7th, or 8th 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 msgjrjoe@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 THIS WEDNESDAY, December 31!

We hope to hear from YOU!!!

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



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



Youth Band!

Members of the Youth Band lead the music at 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



PRAYER AND WORSHIP

FIRST FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY DEVOTIONS

All are invited to come and pray with our parish community for First Friday, Saturday and Sunday devotions. If you have not come before, consider attending in the week ahead.

First Friday Devotions— in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus - will be conducted Friday, January 2 after the 6:30 A.M. and 12:15 P.M. Masses.

First Saturday Devotions—in honor of Our Lady of Fatima—will be conducted Saturday, January 3 beginning with the Rosary at 7:40 A.M., Mass at 8 A.M. and continued devotion following Mass. A continental breakfast will follow in the cafeteria.

Each month, all are invited to join the members of the Nocturnal Adoration Society for Eucharistic Adoration. **Adoration will be held on Saturday, January 3 from 8:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M.**

Reflecting the diverse community present at OLPH, each hour of the evening is celebrated in different languages. (This month first in English, then Spanish, then Polish). The evening concludes with Benediction at 11:00 P.M.

First Sunday Devotions—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place next Sunday, **January 4th** at 7:00 P.M. in the Church.

Please consider taking some time each **first Sunday evening** to pray with us.

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.
In the Auditorium

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.

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

located in the school building

Phone # 631.226.2384

E-mail: religoused@oloph.org

Coordinator: Mrs. April Kleinlaut
(acarbaugh@oloph.org)

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.

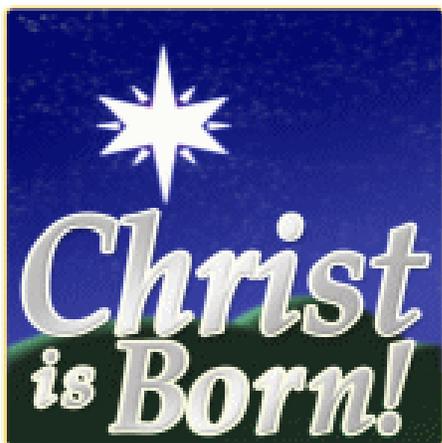
THURSDAY: 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

FRIDAY: 9:00 A.M. to 12 Noon

SATURDAY: 8:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

Religious Education Office Updates

**No Classes this week
for Christmas Recess.**



Our Special Education program is currently very short on catechists and offerers. Please consider volunteering your time in any way to help us with this very important program.

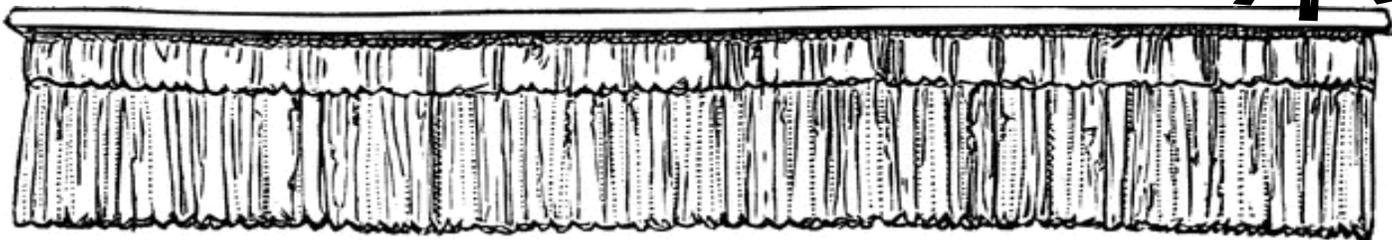
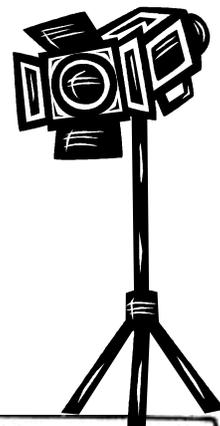
Catechist Spotlight

Introducing the last of our new Level Coordinators.



James Totino— Level 5

A couple of years ago, my wife Jackie and I decided to offer ourselves to the Religious Education program by teaching Level 5. Thinking back when we were students in the 5th grade, we don't remember too much. However, there are certain memories of what we did in class or something our teacher said. Though our class time with our children may be over 20 hours during the school year, even if they remember just a minute of all those hours twenty years from now, then that one moment makes it all worthwhile. As it says in Mark 10:14 "let the children come."



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/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 to learn more!

FAITH FORMATION

Our next Adult Faith Formation course will begin in January 2015...



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, OLPH Church

5 Wednesdays—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
or return the form below.*

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.

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.



PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY

- † Catholics for the Freedom of Religion: Marie Foster—631.592.1509—ripalda@optonline.net
- † Driving Ministry: Maureen Russo—631.226.4182—princessmorge@optonline.net
- † Golden Age Society: Dolores Barone—631.957.3432
- † Hospital Visitors: Peter O’Neill—631-226-6340—oneillp@optonline.net
- † Middle Ages: Gail Tonnessen—631.957.1449—gtonness@optonline.net
- † New Mother’s Meal Ministry: Carol Stysiack—631.255 3506—carolstys@verizon.net
- † Nursing Ministry: Regina Muir—631.226.2709—rmuir11@aol.com
- † Respect Life Committee: Louise Perrotta—631.412.3831—louiseperrotta@optonline.net
- † St. Bernard League: The Consi Family—631.226.7725
- † St. Vincent de Paul Society: Deborah Deasy—631.226.7725, x. 234
- † Senior Moments/Spirituality: Fran Grasso—631.956.3003—sixfingers13@gmail.com
- † Special Needs Ministry: Fr. John Sureau—631.226.7725—jsureau@oloph.org
- † Widows/Widowers: Rita Gardell— 631.252.5494 & Denise Segreto—631.220.0888

NEW Food Pantry List!

- CANNED FRUIT**
- COFFEE**
- SHELF STABLE MILK**
- SOUP WITH MEAT**
- JELLO & PUDDING**
- PASTA SAUCE**
- PORK & BEANS**
- TUNA**
- SHAMPOO & SOAP**
- PAPER TOWELS**

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

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Located in the “New” School Building
Use Parking Lot located on corner of
Gates & High Streets

631.226.7725 x. 234

The office is open:

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

Today is the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We hear the words: “The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.” As we remember the poor during this New Year may we also grow in wisdom and have the favor of God upon us.

Please remember to support the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the coming year so that together we can continue to bring comfort and peace to our brothers and sisters who are suffering.



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.

A Free Will Offering of \$20.00 is requested to assist with the cost of the bus.

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE wants to wish you all a VERY Merry Christmas and the most blessed and Happy New Year.

Thank you for your dedication to life – your prayers and your extreme generosity.

Our meetings are monthly in the school, room 24, on the 1st Thursday at 7:30 PM.

PLEASE COME VISIT.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY *Happenings*

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!

New location!

OLPH GOLDEN AGE SOCIETY

Meets every 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month,
11:30am—3:00pm

Next Meeting

January 15, 2015 in Room 16.

Everyone is welcome. Please join us.

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

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!

Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 6, 2014

7:00 P.M.—Room 24

All are welcome.

For information, call Gail Tonnessen at 631-957-1449
or email to gtonness@optonline.net.

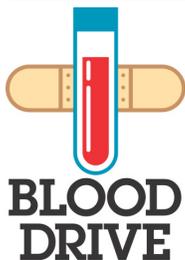
SENIOR MOMENTS

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 there will be times for formation, spiritual growth, friendship and community building.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 13, 2015

9:00 A.M.—Room 24



OLPH Nursing Ministry's next event...

The OLPH Blood Drive

Sunday January 18, 2015

8:00 P.M. - 12:15 P.M. + School Auditorium

Prescheduled appointments are preferred, however walk-ins are welcome. Contact Regina Muir 226-2709 or Rmuir11@aol.com to sign up.

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.
- 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 or call 631.226.2709
- People have asked about making donations of clothes. **AT THIS POINT NO ADDITIONAL CLOTHING DONATIONS CAN BE ACCEPTED.** When we are able to accept more donations, we will inform you. If you have questions, please contact Patti Parez at 631.957.6203 or e-mail to pp213806@aol.com.



EL MINISTERIO HISPANO

El grupo de oración “Jesús es el camino la verdad y la vida”. Te invita a alabar y glorificar a DIOS todos los jueves a las 7:00 PM en la cafetería. Comenzando con el Santo Rosario. 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 las secciones 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 or en español, Irma González 631 620-2401 o correo electrónico: lanegra628@yahoo.com.

Preparándonos para el domingo 4 de enero

Primera Lectura (Isaías 60,1-6): El Pueblo de Dios, una Luz para Todos. En una visión, el profeta Isaías ve un inmenso número de pueblos, acudiendo en tropel desde cualquier parte del mundo hacia la luz de Dios.

Segunda Lectura (Efesios 3,2-3a.5-6): Todas las Naciones, Llamadas en Cristo. Jesucristo vino para unir a todos: Todos los pueblos, sin discriminación alguna, están llamados a unirse al pueblo de Dios.

Evangelio (Mateo 2,1-12): “Seguimos su Estrella”. Los judíos que están familiarizados con las promesas de Dios no siguen a Jesús; los poderosos de Palestina le temen. Pero los que vienen de lejos buscando al Salvador, le encuentran y le reconocen. Dios acepta a todos con sus propios talentos y potencialidades.

La celebración de Epifanía, que significa “manifestación”, es para nosotros como una segunda Navidad. Este relato “la navidad del alma” el nacimiento del que cree en Dios y de Dios en el creyente. Es una generación gradual. En cinco momentos el considerar seguir la inteligencia que abre para seguir la propia estrella, la Escritura que revela a aquel a quien deseamos, la alegría del corazón que muestra donde está la adoración y en fin la entrega de sí mismo.

Después de leer las lecturas del próximo Domingo, tome un momento para reflexionar. De qué manera usted y los suyos pueden incorporarse al pueblo de Dios el no desprecia a nadie no importa cuál sea nuestra condición. Si sabe inglés incorpórese en los muchos ministerios de la Iglesia. Si habla solo español.

DIOCESAN AND COMMUNITY NEWS!

- **World Meeting of Families-Registration for Diocesan Pilgrimages Now Open.** Registration for our diocesan pilgrimage to the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia is now open. Please go to www.drvc-faith.org or detailed information on various options, registration and itinerary. Space is limited for these trips and the first deposit is due by **January 15, 2015**. The tour packages are being organized by Peter's Way Tours Inc. For further information about the tour packages please call 516 605-1551 Ext 22. For all other questions please call Kathleen Logan, Office of Faith Formation, 516 678-5800 Ext 236
- **Magnificat - A Ministry to Catholic Women** invites you to attend our next Breakfast on **Saturday, January 24th** from 10 AM to 1:00 PM at **The Hofstra University Club** on the campus of Hofstra University. Our speaker, **Bernadette Gorycki**, will share her testimony of how God set her free from paralyzing fear and mental anguish. Reservations must be received by January 17th; \$32.00 per person. Make check payable to: Magnificat, and mail to: Judy Murphy, 42 Pinehurst Street, Lido Beach, NY 11561 (Tel: 917-453-5750).
- **Retrouvaille** helps couples through difficult times in their marriages and has helped thousands of couples worldwide experiencing ALL TYPES of marital difficulties. For confidential information about the Retrouvaille program, or to register for the upcoming weekend on **Friday, February 6th, 2015** at the Immaculate Conception Seminary, Huntington, please call 1-800-470-2230 to speak directly and confidentially to a couple from Long Island/Metro Retrouvaille who can help.

PRAYING FOR AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

WE REMEMBER

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

*Ann Broderick
Laura Folgers
Rino Dalcol
Dominick LoVerde*

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

MASS MEMORIALS

A beautiful way to remember a loved one! Memorials used during the Masses for week of **Dec. 28– Jan. 3:**

Altar Wine

*In Memory of
Joan Gargiulo*

Requested by

The Renna Family

Please contact the Parish Office at 631.226.7725 for other options for memorials.

WE BELIEVE

*Almighty and Eternal God,
You are the everlasting health of those
who believe in You.*

*Hear us for Your servants
for whom we implore the aid of Your tender mercy,
that being restored to bodily health,
they may give thanks to You in Your Church.
Through Christ our Lord.*

We pray for the sick of our parish...

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

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, x. 200.

PRAYING FOR THE HOMEBOUND

We encourage everyone to keep the homebound of our parish community in your thoughts and prayers. Pray they may continue to feel connected to our parish family and may feel God's love and care each day.



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.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, December 29—

Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
(St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr)

6:30 Arthur Cromarty

12:15 Sherman Glass

7:00 Novena

TUESDAY, December 30—

Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

6:30 Mercedes Barbosa

12:15 Frank Stancati

WEDNESDAY, December 31—

Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
(Saint Sylvester I, Pope)

6:30 The Savastano Family

12:15 Henry Ortiz

NO EXPOSITION

**Vigil for the Solemnity of Mary,
the Holy Mother of God**

5:00 Phil Hosey

THURSDAY, January 1—

The Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

10:00 For the People of the Parish

12:30 Grace-Martine Dede (Living)

7:30 Virgil Reuschling

FRIDAY, January 2—

**Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops
& Doctors**

6:30 Rita A. Conefry

12:15 Mildred Trucchio

SATURDAY, January 3—

Christmas Weekday

(The Most Holy Name of Jesus)

8:00 Dominick Swartz, Sr.

Vigil for

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

4:00 Special Needs—Auditorium

5:00 Carmite Michel (Living)

8:00 Adoration

Sunday, January 4

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

6:30 For the People of the Parish

8:00 Leonard Vicciado

9:30 Joan Rose Mensching

11:00 Catherine Metzger

12:30 Fr. Edward Seagriff (Living)

5:00 Thomas Butler

MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, December 29, 2014

4:00 PM CYO Cheerleading Auditorium

7:00 PM Novena Church

Tuesday, December 30, 2014

4:00 PM CYO—Cheerleading Auditorium

7:45 PM Community of Praise Room 16

8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

Wednesday, December 31, 2014

ALL PARISH OFFICES ARE
CLOSED AFTER 3PM & ALL
ACTIVITIES CANCELLED

Thursday, January 1, 2015

ALL PARISH OFFICES ARE
CLOSED & OTHER
ACTIVITIES CANCELLED

Friday, January 2, 2015

9:00 AM OLPH Home School Group Rms. 1, 2,

8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous—Young Room 24
People

Saturday, January 3, 2015

4:00 PM RCIC Auditorium/
Room 16

6:15 PM Evening Prayer Church

8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

Sunday, January 4, 2015

11:00 AM RCIA Church/
Room 16

1:30 PM CYO—Basketball Auditorium

6:15 PM Evening Prayer Church

8:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous Cafeteria

- In observance of **January 1, 2015**, the *Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*, and *New Year's Day*, the Rectory and all parish offices will close at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 31 and will reopen again on Friday, January 2 at 9:00 a.m.



SERVING AND SUPPORTING ONE ANOTHER

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Parish Office: 631.226.7725

Religious Education: 631.226.2384

St. Vincent de Paul (Parish Outreach) :

631.226.7725 X 234

Parish Website:

www.olphlindenhurst.org

Facebook: Our Lady of Perpetual Help



THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism ceremonies are held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Parents wishing to have a child baptized must attend a baptism preparation session before the baptism; these sessions are held on the first and third 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.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

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

ADULT CONFIRMATION

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

THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

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

YOUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

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

YOUR PARISH TRUSTEES

Robert Dobres
John Reynolds

YOUR PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

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

YOUR PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE

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

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

OFFERING UPDATES

Dec. 20/21, 2014

Mass Time	Weekly Collection	# of Envelopes	Attendance
5:00 P.M.	\$3,650.00	175	375
6:30 A.M.	1,138.00	37	115
8:00 A.M.	2,277.00	92	232
9:30 A.M.	2,130.00	106	424
11:00 A.M.	3,295.00	132	469
12:30 P.M.	2,379.00	93	355
5:00 P.M.	1,873.00	51	280
Total coin:	39.56		
Mail-ins:	426.00		
Children's env.	95.19	31	
Faith Direct	3,163.78		
TOTAL	\$20,466.53	717	2,250
2013 TOTAL	\$18,688.76	799	2,214
Candles	\$545.04		
Poor Box	\$463.03		

REMINDER

ALL 2014 pledges for the *Catholic Ministries Appeal* must be paid by **January 31st, 2015 to ensure that OLPH receives the benefit of the rebate. Thank you for your cooperation.**

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.

Attention All Parish Ministry Leaders PLEASE NOTE THE UPCOMING BULLETIN DEADLINES

Publication Date	Bulletin Submissions Due By:
January 11th	January 2nd
January 18th	January 9th
January 25th	January 16th
February 1st	January 23rd
February 8th	January 30th

RELIGIOUS GOODS GIFT SHOP AVAILABLE AT OLPH

A Gift Shop with religious goods is available at OLPH. The shop is open Sunday mornings starting after the 9:30 a.m. Mass and will remain open until 2:00 p.m. Stop by and browse and shop for those religious items you have been looking for! The gift shop is accessible off of the small parking lot on High Street between the rectory and the school.

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PREPARING FOR

Sunday, January 4, 2015

The Epiphany of the Lord

We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage.

Matthew 2:2

Isaiah 60:1-6

The historical background of this passage concerns the restoration and rebuilding of Jerusalem in the time of Ezra and Nehemiah. Biblical writers often use "Jerusalem" and "Zion" as poetic symbols for the entire people of God (Matthew 23:37). The light the prophet proclaims to Zion symbolizes the active presence of God, which brings deliverance and blessing: a new future for His people, with the return of her children, as well as the ingathering of the wealth of nations, who themselves will walk by her light.

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Paul is the special herald of a new promise to the Gentiles: that the divine plan includes them in the spiritual benefits promised to Israel. Not only is this unique apostolic role his; Paul also has been given the task of explaining to all the divine plan of salvation, once hidden.

Matthew 2:1-12

The star, symbolic of the light of truth provided by God, and which calls out to everyone through His creation, guided the Magi at all times. Their knowledge of the star's significance brought them from the east as far as Jerusalem, yet they were still unable to locate the Child Jesus. But once they learn what God Himself had revealed about His Messiah, once they have been fully enlightened by Scripture, in then setting out towards Bethlehem, it seems that their guiding light shines even more brightly for them; they now become "overjoyed at seeing the star," and their search becomes easy and swift, with the star preceding them and coming to rest over the place where the Child Jesus dwelt.

Gospel Reflection Questions....

After reading next Sunday's Gospel (Matthew 2:1-12) take some time to pray on it before you come to Mass. Use the questions below to aid your reflection.

1. God sent the Magi a message that caused them to ride camels half way across the known world. What would motivate you to put in this kind of effort? What made it worthwhile for them? These wise men were responsive to revelations from God and their openness brought them to Bethlehem. They were not disappointed. Is there a lesson here?

2. What is the main contrast between Jerusalem and Bethlehem? Between Herod and the Magi? What does this tell you about the places and people God chooses?

Readings for the Week

Take time each day to read the daily readings of the Church.

Monday, December 29, 2014:

1 John 2:3-11 + Luke 2:22-35

Tuesday, December 30, 2014:

1 John 2:12-17 + Luke 2:36-40

Wednesday, December 31, 2014:

1 John 2:18-21 + John 1:1-18

Thursday, January 1, 2015:

Numbers 6:22-27 + Galatians 4:4-7
+ Luke 2:16-21

Friday, January 2, 2015:

1 John 2:22-28 + John 1:19-28

Saturday, January 3, 2015:

1 John 2:29-3:6-4:6 + John 1:29-34

Sunday, January 4, 2015:

Isaiah 60:1-6
+ Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
+ Matthew 2:1-12



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