

Our Lady Mother of the Church

209 Woodcliff Avenue ~ Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677 ~ www.motherofthechurch.org



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ DECEMBER 20, 2020

Fr. Sean Manson.....*Pastor*

Email: seanolmc@gmail.com

Fr. Siffredus Rwechungura.....*Parochial Vicar*

Mr. Stan Fedison.....*Deacon*

Mrs. Patricia Keenaghan.....*Director of Rel. Ed.*

Email: faithformationolmc@gmail.com

Ms. Deborah DiPiazza.....*Faith Formation Aide*

Mr. Domenick Panfile.....*Director of Music*

Ms. Judi Quinn.....*Administrative Secretary*

Email: judiolmc@yahoo.com

Mr. Vito Delzotto.....*Parish Council President*

Rev. Msgr. Cajetan Salemi.....*Pastor Emeritus*

Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday 8:30am

Saturday 5:30pm &

8:00 pm (in classroom)

Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am & 6:00 pm

Holy Days: See bulletin for schedule of Masses.

Parish Office:

Monday - Wednesday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Thursday and Friday 9:00am - 2:00pm

Phone: 201-391-2826

Parish Email

info@motherofthechurch.org

Faith Formation Office

Phone: 201-391-7400

Monday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Wednesday 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

faithformationolmc@gmail.com

Reconciliation

Saturday 4:30 pm to

5:00 pm



The Nativity of the Lord

Mission Statement: Called by our baptism and nourished by the Eucharist, the parishioners of Our Lady Mother of the Church, acknowledge our mission to teach, share and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we create a welcoming environment, enthusiastically gather and worship to praise God, and strive to imitate the life of Jesus as we reach out beyond our own faith community.

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Brothers and Sisters



Although this is the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our minds and hearts are already turned to Christmas. Since we will not have a separate bulletin published for Christmas, I would like to take occasion here to speak of Christmas, and especially to say a word of welcome to all those who will come to worship with us on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, or join us via live-stream.

This has been an unprecedented year. Who would have imagined when we rang in the New Year 2020, that a global pandemic was just around the corner? The pandemic has meant a complete upheaval of our lives. Some of us lost loved ones, others have been in isolation for 9 months now, and all of us have experienced the lockdown, and the closing and cancellation of so many things we take for granted – Church, family,

school, work, vacations, travel, sports, theater, restaurants.

One thing that never shuts down is the Love of God. There is nothing that is able to prevent Christ from being born for each one of us this Christmas. God is Emmanuel, God is with us.

The Virgin Mary and St. Joseph were socially isolated in Bethlehem – they were turned away from the ‘Inn’ (Oikos in Greek, meaning ‘house’) by their own relatives. Their family gave them no welcome; not out of fear of a virus, or for health reasons, or to stay safe, but out of capricious selfishness. There was more money to be made from other lodgers who were well healed.

What a disgrace. It is in this ignominy that God enters the world, our world. There is no isolation, no fear, no sickness no pandemic that is able to prevent Him from being born for us.

God Loves you. He desires to be totally one with you. Christ is born for each one of us. He is close to us, especially the down trodden, the dejected, the broken hearted, the desolate, the poor in spirit.

Continued on Next Page

FROM THE PASTOR CONTINUED

It is of Christmas that one of the readings from the Mozarabic Liturgy speaks, when, proclaimed on Christmas day, it says:

“Today is born our treasure.

Today is born a physician for the blind,

a healer for the paralyzed,

strength for the weak, health for the sick.

Today a new light shines out upon the darkness of the night.”

How much we need to hear those words. How much our world needs to celebrate Christmas. God’s power in heaven, contrasted by his helplessness on earth. On this night, on this Christmas night, all the nations will gather at the foot of the crib.

Christ, born for us, is the real vaccine that the world is waiting for.

It is to him that we lift up our humble prayer, which is that of all humanity. In a beautiful Christmas homily, Saint Pope John XXIII put it this way:

O sweet and gentle infant of Bethlehem, grant us the gift of sharing with our whole soul in this profound mystery of Christmas. Put into the hearts of men and women the peace that they seek so openly and that you alone can give them. Help them to know themselves better and to live like brothers and sisters as the sons and daughters of one single Father.

May this prayer be fulfilled in us.

Merry Christmas

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

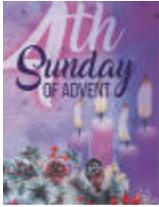
Saturday

5:30 pm



Sunday

8:30 am



10:30 am

6:00 pm

Monday

8:30 am

Tuesday

8:30 am

Wednesday

8:30 am



Thursday

4:00 pm

5:30 pm



12:00 am (midnight)

Friday

8:30 am

10:30 am

Saturday

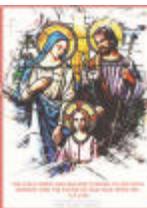
5:30 pm

Sunday

8:30 am

10:30 am

6:00 pm



December 19

John Chiavelli

December 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Deceased Members of the

Perrulli Family

Joan Santoro

George & Peter Lutz

December 21

St. Peter Canisius

People of the Parish

December 22

Alice Duffy

December 23

St. John of Kanty

Lillian Dell'Aquila

December 24

Christmas Eve

Joseph Higgins

Laura & Frank Gatto and

Maria & Joseph DiBella

Vincent Papaleo

December 25

The Nativity of the Lord

Robert & Ann Witte

Joan & Phil McGovern and

The Sackermann Family

December 26

St. Stephen

John Chiavelli

December 27

The Holy Family

Susan A. Stewart

Patricia Houlihan

Virginia Baily Fellows



For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven."

Ecclesiastes 3:11

"A time to be healed"

Parish sick list: Marie Barrett, Mr. & Mrs. Bischoff, Francesca DeMarco, Arlene Desposito, Carol Franco, Trevor Giesberg, Tom Harrington, Jennifer Hartmann, Kathy Hedley, Brad Jones, Joachim Jung, Vivienne Knopp, Ivy LaRegina, Genna Lepore, Rosemary Levin, Robert Libonati, Jessica Livingstone, Nat Lucarello, Kevin Murphy, Terry Racanelli, James Ranazzo, Carol Schmidt, Bro. Kevin Smith, Bob Staab, Ivan Tarabokia, Tom Woodhour, Eric Vanderleif and Bryce Werner

"A time to mourn"

"A time for war and a time for peace"

Tyler Aiello, Ryan Brady, Lt. Joseph Ryan and Seamus Ryan

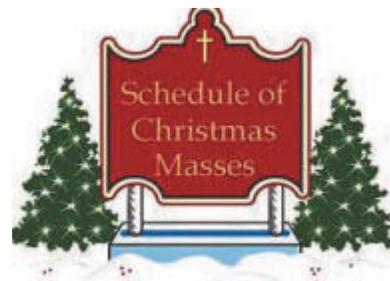
Amen.

The Bread will be offered for the
Week of December 20 to December 26
in Memory of



Joseph P Orocchi, Jr.

Requested by Judi Quinn



Christmas Eve

4:00 pm/Children's Mass

5:30 pm/12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day

8:30 am & 10:30 am

New Years Eve

5:30 pm

Friday, January 1, 2021

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

10:30 am

Stewardship of Treasure

My Parish, My Family, My Responsibility

"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!"

– (Luke 1:28)

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

FAITH FORMATION



Faith Formation News

What are the "O Antiphons"?

At the end of the Advent season (December 17-23) we have the opportunity to pray in a special way with the "O Antiphons." The O Antiphons are a series of prayers from the evening prayers (Vespers) of the Liturgy of the Hours.

The word "O" serves to address someone. In this case, we address our prayers to Jesus Christ in various titles. An antiphon is a short prayer said or sung before or after a Psalm.

The O Antiphons are the short prayers said along with the Magnificat, the words that the Blessed Virgin Mary proclaimed during the Visitation with her cousin Elizabeth. They are also often proclaimed along with the Alleluias of daily Mass in the week leading up to Christmas. You may recognize some of the prayers because the popular Advent and Christmas song "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" paraphrases the O Antiphons in each of its verses.

The names and titles in the antiphons can be reversed to spell the Latin words "ERO CRAS," which translates "tomorrow, I will come." What a fitting way to remind us of the Lord's coming in Christmas!

- E – Emmanuel
- R – Rex Gentium (King of All the Nations)
- O – Oriens (Radiant Dawn)
- C – Clavis (Key of David)
- R – Radix Jesse (Root of Jesse)
- A – Adonai (Lord)
- S – Sapientia (Wisdom)

Youth JAM & Confirmation Schedules

Youth JAM future dates: Jan. 10, Feb. 14, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9

Confirmation class will next meet Sunday, January 17 and begins at the 10:30 AM Liturgy. Future dates: Feb. 14, Mar. 14, Apr. 11, May 9

Important Dates for Faith Formation

Dates for In Person Gatherings in Church

Wed. 1/20 3:45 – 5 PM Grade 2 Reconciliation Workshop

Sat. 2/6 10:00 am First Reconciliation

Wed. 2/24 3:45-5 pm Grade 1-6 Lenten Prayer Service & Reconciliation

Question of the Week

This week's question: ***What is the prayer the Magnificat based on?*** Last week's answer: Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patroness of the Americas. ***Congratulations to Faith Egbert!*** To enter this week's raffle, email faithformationolmc@gmail.com by 3pm on Wednesday. ***All correct answers will be entered in a raffle for a gift card to Dairy Queen.***

Kids' Bulletin: Win a Gift Card to Dairy Queen!

Each week we send out the Kid's bulletin by email which focuses on the Sunday readings with fun activities. ***Congratulations to Olivia Lukin!*** To enter, send the completed bulletin to Faith Formation, A drawing for a gift card to Dairy Queen from entries submitted.



Pope Francis says: *"Advent is the time we are given to welcome the Lord who comes to encounter us, and also to verify our longing for God, to look forward and prepare ourselves for Christ's return."*
Dec. 14, 2020



Waterfront Nursing Home Resident Christmas Gifts

In the spirit of Christmas, we are once again asking our parishioners to purchase a holiday gift for a resident who lives in this facility. We ask you to please stop by the table in the church foyer after all Masses this weekend and pick up a name tag which will include an item from their "wish list." Please return the wrapped gift with the resident's name on the card to the church foyer **no later than this weekend.** If you have any questions please contact Deacon Stan at 201.391.5013, who will be delivering the gifts on December 21st.



**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR PARISH
DONATE ONLINE OR BY MAIL**

Thank you for continuing to financially support our parish. Please continue as much as your situation will allow. Your continued generosity is such a big help! There are different options to do this:

- Envelopes can be mailed or dropped off in the church mailbox,
- Online Parish Giving-details on our website.
- Online Archdiocesan Go Fund Me-all contributions come directly to our parish when you choose Team 'Our Lady Mother of the Church'. Details are also on our website.



Children's Choir

Our Children's Choir was a great success last year. We are most grateful for the opportunity to grow this ministry and to work with you and your children. We would like to kickoff our season and provide you with a brief schedule so we can get started.

We will conduct the rehearsals in person and via zoom so you and your child have an option.

These are the Mass you will be singing: Christmas Eve, December 24th (prelude at 3:30 pm and Mass at 4:00 pm).

These are the rehearsals: Mon, December 21 at 5:00 pm and/or Wed, December 23 at 5:00 pm.

Blessings and prayers to you and your families. Thank you for sharing your beautiful children with us! We are blessed.

Musically,

Miss Marie (201) 396-2947

Miss Lucia

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn before the Blessed Sacrament for the month of December

In memory of

Michael Pisano

Requested by Barbara Pisano



Eternity's Clock and Crown

What is this Advent wreath whose four candles help us mark the passing of the weeks before Christmas? It is eternity's clock—a circle that says "In our ending is our beginning." It is the wheel of time—a circle of evergreen branches—cut and left to wither—revealing that death and life are both of a piece. It is also a crown, the victor's laurel garland, the sign that the race is done, the prize won. It is the crown of us as a people, a chosen race, a royal priesthood. It is the crown of each of us as individuals—baptized individuals (all of a piece) whose heads were smeared with that royal oil, chrism. We are marked for eternity. With four candles lit, the Advent wreath is the fiery crown that we give to Christ the King, the Savior who returns in the growing gloom to gather us into our eternal home, the new and heavenly Jerusalem.

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Come visit with Jesus!!

Wednesdays from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

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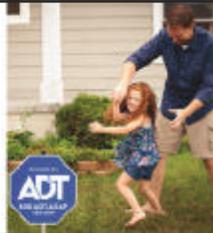


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