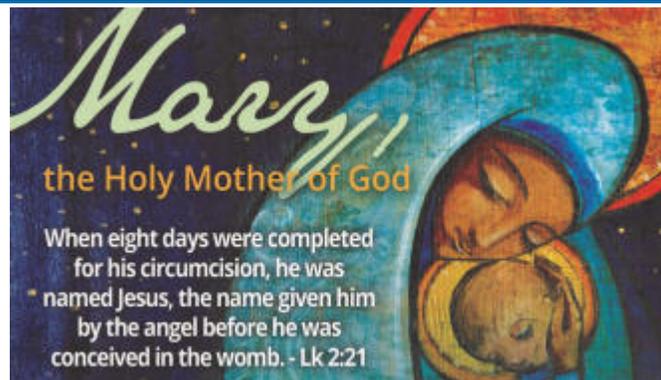


Our Lady Mother of the Church

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



THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH ~ DECEMBER 27, 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



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



J. R. R. Tolkien was not only the author of the best-selling novel ever written, but a fierce Catholic whose Faith was pervasive in his work.

In 2016, two lost poems by the Anglo-Saxon scholar were discovered originally published in an obscure 1936 annual magazine for Our Lady's Abingdon in Oxfordshire. Of the two, one is a Christmas poem entitled *Noel* dedicated to the Virgin Mary:

*Grim was the world and grey last night: The moon and stars were fled,
The hall was dark without song or light, the fires were fallen dead.
The wind in the trees was like to the sea,
And over the mountains' teeth it whistled bitter-cold and free,
As a sword leapt from its sheath.*

*The lord of snows upreared his head; his mantle long and pale,
Upon the bitter blast was spread and hung o'er hill and dale.
The world was blind, the boughs were bent, all ways and paths were wild:
Then the veil of cloud apart was rent, and here was born a Child.*

*The ancient dome of heaven sheer was pricked with distant light;
A star came shining white and clear alone above the night.
In the dale of dark in that hour of birth one voice on a sudden sang:
Then all the bells in Heaven and Earth together at midnight rang.*

*Mary sang in this world below: they heard her song arise
O'er mist and over mountain snow to the walls of paradise,
And the tongue of many bells was stirred,
in Heaven's towers to ring,
When the voice of mortal maid was heard,
That was Mother of Heaven's King.*

*Glad is the world and fair this night with stars about its head,
And the hall is filled with laughter and light, and fires are burning red.
The bells of paradise now ring with bells of Christendom,
And Gloria, Gloria we will sing that God on earth is come.*

Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year,

Fr. Sean

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Saturday



December 26

St. Stephen

5:30 pm

John Chiavelli

Sunday

December 27

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:30 am

Susan A. Stewart

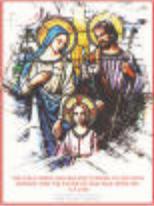
10:30 am

Patricia Houlihan

6:00 pm

Virginia Bailey Fellows

Monday



December 28

The Holy Innocents

8:30 am

Andrew & Dorothea Brennan

Tuesday

December 29

St. Thomas Becket

8:30 am

Virginia M. & James T. Horris

Wednesday

December 30

People of the Parish

8:30 am

Thursday

December 31

St. Sylvester I, New Year's Eve

5:30 pm

Cesar Rocha

Friday

January 1

Mary, the Holy Mother of God; World Day of Peace, New Year's Day

10:30 am

Ronald Monaco

Saturday

January 2

Ss. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen

5:30 pm

Francesca & Gregorio Tambone

Sunday

January 3

The Epiphany of the Lord; National Migration Week

8:30 am

Catherine Ryan Glover

10:30 am

Grace Lorento

6:00 pm

Thomas Roberts

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, Lpl. Joseph Ryan and Seamus Ryan

Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AT OUR PARISH

Come visit with Jesus!!

**Wednesdays from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Silent reflection and prayer in the church**

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

In memory of

Michael Pisano

Requested by Barbara Pisano



The Bread & Wine will be offered for
The Month of January
in Memory of

Eloise Sawicki

Requested by Carmine Tarabocchia



Stewardship of Treasure

My Parish, My Family, My Responsibility

"...as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must forgive." (Colossians 3:13)

Forgiving is one of the hardest things for people to do. We can't give what we don't have. We need to receive God's mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others. Go to the sacrament of Reconciliation and receive God's mercy and forgiveness. Then, share give the gift of forgiveness with someone – a family member, a friend or a co-worker. Pick up the phone or text someone right now.

Parish Giving for 12.6.20.....\$1,510.00

Receipts From 12.13.20.....\$3,671.00

Flower Donations to Date.....\$ 775.00

FAITH FORMATION



Faith Formation News

“While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her first-born Son. She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room in the inn.” (Luke 2 :6-7)

We wish you a very Blessed and Joyous Christmas Season encircled by the Love of Christ, born a humble baby in Bethlehem to save us!
The Faith Formation Office

Feast of the Holy Family

“They made haste and found Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in the manger (Luke 2:16). The feast of the Holy Family is celebrated on the first Sunday after Christmas. It is dedicated to Jesus, Mary and Joseph and their life together as a family.

Prayer: Today we celebrate the lives of the Holy Family, Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We are thankful for our own moms, dads, sisters, brothers, grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles. Help us to grow strong in the ties that bring us together and our love for one another. Amen.

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

Question of the Week

This week's question: **Who belongs to the Holy Family?** Last week's answer: The Magnificat is based on Mary's visit with her cousin Elizabeth. 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.**

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

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: *“The first word that I wish to say to you is joy! Do not be sad people. A Christian can never be sad. Never give way to discouragement! Ours is not a joy born from having many possessions, but from having encountered in our midst a Person: Jesus who never leaves us alone in difficult moments, and is all the more present when problems seem unbearable and obstacles insurmountable.” A Year with Pope Francis Dec. 24*

*The dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
and Christmas comes once more.*

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Christmas Season

*From Christmas Eve until
the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*



In the Northern Hemisphere, during the last week of December and the first weeks of January, the days ever so slowly begin to lengthen. That is when the church keeps Christmas.

In these merry days we Christians welcome our Lord, who comes as a tiny child, in mercy and gentleness and compassion. But make no mistake. This newborn is our God and Lord, our savior and our judge. And so, we sing out loud, “Joy to the world, the Lord has come!” In the words of Psalm 96, “O sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord,

all the earth! Then shall all the tree of the forest sing for joy before the Lord, who comes to judge the world with justice, who comes to judge the people with truth.”

To announce God’s epiphany—the glorious appearing of heaven on earth—we give gifts and greetings. We drive away the winter with lights and flowers. We gather around the shining tree of life, and we open our homes to every guest.

But the keeping of Christmas is not easy. On the day after December 25, the *after*-Christmas sales begin, as if Christmas were over. But it’s not over. It’s just begun! We Christians have to rely on our own resources when it comes to keeping our festivals.

And we have so many days to keep! There’s the feast of Stephen, when “Good King Wencelas looked out.” There’s St. John’s Day, when people toast each other’s good health. There’s the feast of the Holy Innocents, the sad day of the season.

Christmastime includes the New Year celebration, when we ring out troubles and ring in blessings. Then there’s Epiphany, the merriest day of our merry Christmastime, when we follow a star to our heart’s desire.

The Christmas season ends on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Usually that falls on the second Sunday in January. But the season echoes again on February 2, Candlemas, when we praise Christ, the light of the world. Think how much we’d miss if we ended Christmas on December 25.

Advent and Christmastime—the preparation and the celebration—bring us from the old year to the new. The Christian year is not a circle, leading nowhere. Rather, our years form a twisted spiral, like the ladder of angels in Jacob’s dream. The ladder of the year leads us out of time, ever upward into God’s bright eternity.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



Feast of the Holy Family

The Sunday within the Octave of Christmas

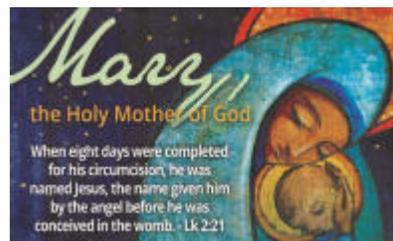
From Christmas Day to New Year's Day is the Christmas octave. Octaves are eight-day weeks.

Of course, an ordinary week is seven days. It's what we expect. But eight days? That's something strange and wonderful.

In Christian symbolism, eight days represents eternity. Maybe that's because an eight-day period begins and ends on the same day of the week. (Christmas and New Year's always fall on the same day of the week.) Christmastime is a season to live with one foot in eternity.

Christmastime is filled with feast days. The first Sunday of the season is the Feast of the Holy Family. (Unless, of course, Christmas Day is itself a Sunday. Then the feast is kept on December 30.)

Holy Family Day is a favorite time for family reunions. Students are home from school and many people have extra days off from work. Like every day of Christmastime, it's an occasion for feasting and caroling and relaxing. Some people say the nicest part about Christmastime weekends is that there's finally some time to sit back and enjoy the decorations and music and good company.



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

January 1

Some people think that Christmas is one holiday and New Year's is another holiday, but the church keeps the first of January as one of the days of Christmastime. The rejoicing of December 25 belongs to January 1 as well.

The gospel for Mass today is short. But it gives us several reasons to rejoice. And it also gives us the reasons for the many different titles that the first of January has had over the years.

The gospel, from the second chapter of Luke, is a continuation of the story we began at Midnight Mass on Christmas. Today we hear that the shepherds did what the angels told them to do. They found Mary and Joseph and the newborn Jesus. Then they went to tell their neighbors that a savior was born.

Mary treasured what was said about her child. In joy, the shepherds sang the angels' song of glory in heaven and peace on earth. Eight days after his birth, Jesus was circumcised and received his name, which meant "savior."

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Peace. For some churches, today is the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus or the Feast of the Circumcision. For Roman Catholics, today is the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. This solemnity is over 1500 years old on the church's calendar. We celebrate today the fulfillment of the promise made to Mary by the angel Gabriel. God's child is now her child. Mary is the mother of God.

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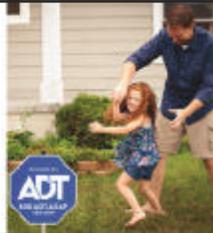


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