

OUR LADY OF MERCY PARISH BULLETIN

40 Sullivan Drive, Jersey City, NJ 07305

201-434-7500 olmjparish@olmnj.org olmnj.org

August 30, 2026 Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



BAPTISMS AT OUR PARISH LAST SUNDAY, AUGUST 23



THEODORE NAKAR
child of Julian & Vydanez



CLEIAH BRIGHT RABANO VELASQUEZ
child of Brian & Anslei

REGISTER TODAY FOR OUR FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM THAT BEGINS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Our Faith Formation program is from Kinder to Eighth Grade. New students must submit a copy of their baptismal certificate. Returning students must register at the beginning of each school year. Registration for the 2026-2027 school year may be completed conveniently online through our parish website www.olmnj.org

The \$200 fee per family may be paid in cash or check payable to Our Lady of Mercy. You may also pay online via the parish website. Click Online Giving, then scroll down to Faith Formation Fee. This fee must be paid upon registration or by December 2026. Classes are Sundays from 9 am til 9:50 am at the 3rd floor of the school building. First day of class is on September 13. For more information, please contact Jeng Matias-Villa at 201-434-7500 ext. 102 or email reginavilla@olmnj.org



OLM PARISH PICNIC
SEPTEMBER 19, SATURDAY
10AM-3PM
LIBERTY STATE PARK
PICNIC PAVILION A

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Aug. 30, Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jeremiah 20:7-9 Romans 12:1-2 Matthew 16:21-27

Sept. 6, Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Ezekiel 33:7-9 Romans 13:8-10 Matthew 18:15-20

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT THIS FRIDAY

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place at our parish every First Friday of the month. It will take place this Friday, September 4, from 9 am to 10 am.



Pastor's COLUMN

Dear Our Lady of Mercy Parish Family and Friends,

I hope this finds you well.

We begin this week with joyful news! Last weekend, our parish family welcomed two new little members into the Body of Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism: Cleiah Bright Rabano Velasquez, daughter of Brian and Anslei, and Theodore Nakar, son of Julian and Vydanecz.

Congratulations to Cleiah and Theodore, to their parents, and to their godparents! What a beautiful reminder that our Church continues to grow, not simply in numbers, but in faith. To the parents and godparents: the promises you made at Baptism are not just words spoken during a ceremony. You have accepted the sacred responsibility of helping these children know Jesus, love Him, and one day choose Him for themselves. May our entire parish family help you in that mission.

This brings us naturally to another important beginning: a new school year. Some of our children and young people have already returned to school, while others will begin in the coming days or weeks. To all our students: we wish you a blessed, safe, productive, and successful school year! Study hard, make good choices, respect your teachers and classmates, and never be ashamed of your faith. Remember that being a good student is not only about getting good grades; it is also about becoming a good person—the person God created you to be.

FAITH FORMATION

And parents, as much as we prepare our children academically, we must never neglect their formation in faith. Our parish Faith Formation Program will begin in two weeks. If you have not yet registered your children, please do so by visiting or calling the parish office, or by visiting our parish website olmnj.org

I especially appeal to our parents to please make the effort to send your children to Faith Formation. We make sacrifices for their education, sports, music, activities, and future careers - and rightly so. But what about their souls? What about their relationship with God? What about the values that will guide them when Mom and Dad are not around?

Faith Formation is not simply another class to fit into an already busy schedule. It is an important partnership between the Church and the family in helping our children know Jesus and develop sound Catholic values. The world will certainly teach our children many things. If we do not intentionally teach them the faith, we should not be surprised when the world forms them according to its values instead. This Sunday's readings speak powerfully to this responsibility.

The prophet Jeremiah cries out that God's Word has become like a fire burning within his heart. Even when following God becomes difficult, Jeremiah cannot simply walk away. His relationship with God has become part of who he is.

Saint Paul tells us in the second reading, "Do not conform yourselves to this age, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind." What a timely message! Every day, countless voices are trying to shape our minds, our children's minds, and our values. Social media tells us what to desire. Popular culture tells us what is acceptable. Society often tells us that truth changes according to convenience and personal preference. But Saint Paul reminds us that we are not called to conform. We are called to be transformed. That is why we must guard our faith.

Jesus gives Peter a very strong warning in the Gospel: "Get behind me, Satan!" Peter loved Jesus, but at that moment his thinking was not God's thinking. Without realizing it, Peter was becoming an obstacle to God's plan. This should humble us all.

THE CUNNING OF SATAN

Satan does not always tempt us with something obviously evil. He is cunning. Sometimes temptation comes disguised as convenience, "You're too busy to pray." Sometimes it comes as exhaustion, "You don't need Mass this weekend." Sometimes it appears as resentment, "Don't forgive; they don't deserve it." Sometimes it comes as pride, "You know better than the Church." Sometimes it shows up as compromise, "Everybody is doing it anyway." And sometimes it comes through gradual indifference, "Faith can

(continued on following page)

can wait.” This is how faith can slowly weaken, not always through one dramatic decision, but through many small compromises.

Parents, this is why your example matters tremendously. Children notice whether we pray. They notice whether Sunday Mass is a priority. They notice how we speak about other people. They notice whether our Catholic faith influences our decisions or whether it is something we practice only when convenient. We cannot expect our children to treasure a faith that they never see us treasure ourselves.

And Jesus does not promise that discipleship will always be convenient. He says, “Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me.” Christianity without the Cross becomes Christianity without Christ.

A TIME TO GROW IN WISDOM AND FAITH

So, as we begin another school year, another year of Faith Formation, and another season in the life of our parish, let us recommit ourselves, not simply to having a Catholic faith, but to living it, protecting it, teaching it, and passing it on. Let the fire that burned in Jeremiah burn within us. Let Saint Paul’s challenge renew our minds. And let the words of Jesus remind us that following Him will sometimes cost us something, but what we gain is infinitely greater.

Jesus asks us today, “What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?” We can give our children the best education, the latest technology, every opportunity, and every material advantage. But if we fail to help them know God, love God, and desire eternal life, what have we really given them?

May this new school year be a year not only of growing in knowledge, but also of growing in wisdom, character, holiness, and faith. And may we all guard carefully the precious gift of faith entrusted to us, because the world will constantly try to shape us, temptation will constantly try to distract us, but Jesus Christ alone can lead us to the life for which we were created.

God bless Cleiah and Theodore and their families. God bless all our students, teachers, catechists, and parents. And may God bless our entire Our Lady of Mercy parish family as we continue to take up our cross and follow Jesus together.

ON PILGRIMAGE

I also want to inform you that from September 1-12, I will be away on pilgrimage together with Deacon Meynard and some of our brothers and sisters from our parish community. A pilgrimage is not simply a journey to holy places; it is a journey of prayer. It is a time to step away from our usual routines, draw closer to God, and carry with us the intentions of those we love.

Please know that you and our entire Our Lady of Mercy parish family will be very much in our prayers throughout our pilgrimage. We will carry with us your intentions, your families, your struggles, your hopes, and especially those who are sick or in need of God’s healing and consolation.

I also humbly ask you to keep us in your prayers - that the Lord may grant us safe travels, a spiritually fruitful pilgrimage, and a safe return home. May we come back renewed in faith and even more ready to serve the Lord and His people.

Our Lady of Mercy, pray for us!

Love,

+ *Father Marty*

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

Regular Collection \$5,101

Assessment \$1,100

Parish Soft (Online) \$1,370 Candle \$355

Thank you so much for the generous and unending support through your Stewardship of Treasure!

2026 ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATE

Our parish has surpassed its Regular Goal for the 2026 Annual Appeal! Our parish goal was \$44,556 and through your generosity, we have reached Donor Pledges of \$61,880. As of this time, the Archdiocese has already received \$53,052 in payments. We have reached our Stretched Goal of \$57,923. Thank you!



SATURDAY, August 29

5pm For the People of the Parish

SUNDAY August 30, Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am Ethan Musni (Birthday Blessing) r/b Lito & Annie Musni

10am Blanche Johnson r/b Mary Sirotniak & Family

12pm Eugene L. Manlongat (Birthday Blessing)

MONDAY, August 31

7am In Memory of Antonio Marbid r/b Loyda Los Banos

8:30am In Memory of Pedrito Flores r/b Lulu & Oscar Sychua

TUESDAY, September 1

7am For the Special Intention of Manuela Sines

8:30am Pedrito Flores r/b Yolanda Bantugan

WEDNESDAY, September 2

7am For the Special Intention of Manuela Sines

8:30am Guia Cabalfin Quiro r/b Lydia Villa

THURSDAY, September 3

7am For the Special Intention of Manuela Sines

8:30am Mercedes Herrera

FRIDAY, September 4

7am Joel L. Ramos (Birthday in Heaven) r/b Ramos Family

8:30am In Memory of Leonora Adame r/b Rochelle Duque

SATURDAY, September 5

8:30am Purgatorial Society

5pm Justiano & Lucila Reyes r/b Rey Reyes & Chris Miller

SUNDAY, September 6, Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am For the People of the Parish

10am Nicanor & Flora Baticulon (Death Anniversary)
r/b Manny Baticulon

12pm Susan Cailles (Birthday Blessing)

OFFERING FOR THE BREAD & WINE

The offering for the Bread and Wine to be used this week at our Masses is given **In Loving Memory of the Deceased Parishioners and Priests of Our Parish Family.**

SANCTUARY LAMP

The Lamp burning over our tabernacle in church is offered **For Blanche Johnson, (Birthday in Heaven)**
r/b John & Emma Sirotniak.

OLM PARISH INFORMATION

40 Sullivan Drive

Jersey City, NJ 07305

Phone: 201-434-7500

Web: olmnj.org

Email: olmjcparrish@olmnj.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday: 7 am & 8:30 am

Saturday: 8:30 am, 5 pm

Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon

RECONCILIATION/ CONFESSIONS

Monday through Friday 9 am to 9:30 am

Saturday 4 pm to 4:30 pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 8 am to 3 pm

Saturday 9 to 1 pm Sunday 9 am to 1 pm

STAFF

Pastor

Reverend Marty B. Jacinto

Sunday Associates

Reverend Jack Cryan

Reverend Renato J. Bautista

Permanent Deacons

Deacon Meynardo Espeleta

Deacon Edwin Dava

Pastoral Associate For Faith Formation

Regina 'Jeng' Matias-Villa

reginavilla@olmnj.org

Director of Music Ministries

Liam Barredo

musicministryolmjc@gmail.com

Parish Trustees

Henry Racelis & Guillermo "Guiz" Macalintal

MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

If you or a relative is hospitalized or homebound and wish a visit from a parish priest, contact the Office.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held every First Friday of the month from 9 am until 10 am.

PRAY FOR THE SICK

The names of the sick are published for four consecutive Sundays. Contact the parish office to add or remove a name.

WEEK ONE

Anne Kowalski Irma Escudero

WEEK TWO

Bernadette Lim

WEEK THREE

Gaspar Andres, Jr.

WEEK FOUR

Hermie Macalino Romeo Vibar

Medardo Alonzo

 *Treasures Among Us:
Celebrating & Honoring Grandparents*

A special afternoon of reflection on
Saturday, September 12, 2026 ~ 1:30-4:30 p.m.
Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, 171 Clifton Ave., Newark

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES PRESENTED BY
DR. MARYLIN KRAVATZ-TOOLAN (English) & DEACON ASTERIO VELASCO (Spanish)

FOLLOWED BY MASS & BLESSING OF GRANDPARENTS
at 5 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica in Newark, celebrated by
CARDINAL JOSEPH W. TOBIN, C.Ss.R.



\$15 per person (includes light refreshments)
[Click here](#) or scan the QR Code for details and to register.

This event is lovingly sponsored by the Office for Family Life, Bayard, Ministerio Hispano, and the Office for Lifelong Faith Formation.

2027 WORLD YOUTH DAY (WYD)

will take place in Seoul, South Korea.

Our Pilgrimage to the event will be
from July 30 to August 9, 2027.



Friday, July 30: Depart USA

Saturday, July 31: Arrive Seoul mid to late afternoon.

Sunday, Aug. 1: Visit to Gyeongbokgung Palace

Monday, Aug. 2: Visit to DMZ. Free time to explore.

Tuesday, Aug. 3: Morning free. Mass in the afternoon

Wednesday, Aug. 4: Catechesis and WYD events

Thursday, Aug. 5: Catechesis in the morning and Papal
arrival in the afternoon

Friday, Aug. 6: Catechesis in the morning and Stations
of the Cross in the afternoon

Saturday, Aug. 7: Departure for Vigil Site and evening
Vigil with Holy Father

Sunday, Aug. 8: Closing Mass with the Holy Father.
Farewell celebration

Monday, Aug. 9: Return to USA

Estimated cost of participation that includes registration,
hotel and airfare is \$4,200. If interested, contact Father
Marty or Jeng Villa at the parish office: 201-434-7500.

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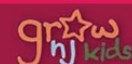


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