

Our Lady Mother of the Church

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



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT ~ MARCH 5, 2017

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
Sunday 8:30am & 10:30am

Reconciliation

Saturday 4:30 pm to
5:00 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

Fax: 201-391-7101

Parish Email

info@motherofthechurch.org

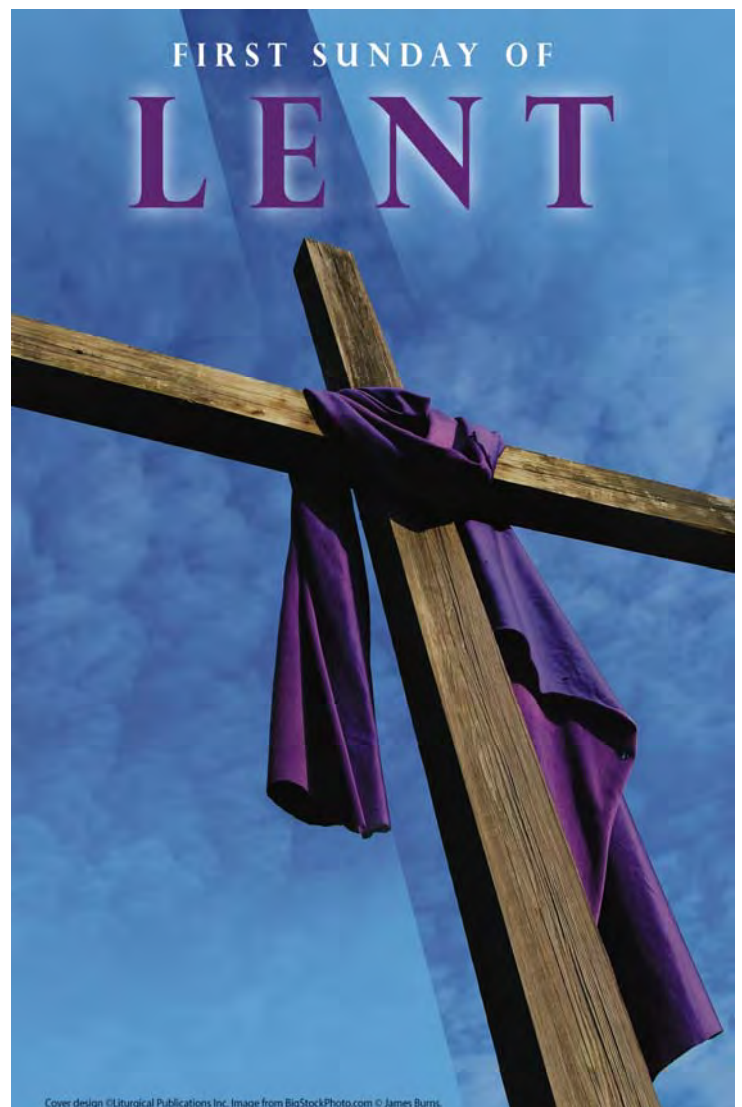
Faith Formation Office

Phone: 201-391-7400

Monday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Wednesday 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

faithformationolmc@gmail.com



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



On Ash Wednesday, our Lent began the moment ashes were placed on our heads. Lent is a preparation for Easter; the way we live Lent will determine the way we live Easter. Just as the Resurrection of Christ is preceded by his death, Lent invites us to voluntarily accept some form of suffering, some form of death. This is only possible because the Resurrection of Christ is waiting for us.

We received ashes accompanied by one of two formulas: “Remember you are dust and unto dust you shall return” or “Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.” Repentance means a turning away from sin, acknowledging the times we have fallen in the face of temptation, the times we have chosen not to accept suffering. The good news is that there is a Gospel, that Jesus Christ was tempted in the same way we are, and that he has overcome these temptations for us.

He faced the temptations of bread, of idols and of history (not accepting his life). We too face these temptations every day; but Lent comes to by giving us the spiritual weapons of fasting, almsgiving and prayer; to combat the temptations of bread, idols and accepting our life, our history.

Jesus fasted for 40 days and nights, and he was hungry, he experienced suffering. The devil is there waiting, watching, counting the days, 1,2,3,...10...15... 20...30...35...37,38,39... and then he appears when Jesus is at his weakest. The devil never tempts us when we are on our game, when we feel strong, but waits for the moment we are at our lowest. Why should you be suffering like this, why should you experience want and need? He says.

He tempts us not to put God first, but to look for bread: get good grades, go to a good college, get a good career, secure financial security, have enough money to live comfortably; these are the most important things in life, the devil says. Not that any of these things are bad in themselves, but the devil suggests, tempts us, to think that life is only based on them. Once you have these you can then you can listen to the Word of God if you want, but let's get things straight, you need to have these things first.

Jesus answers this temptation by fasting: It's not true that my life, my security comes from bread! My life comes from God, he is the one who sustains me, he is the one who is present even in the moments of want and need, and to prove it I am going to fast.

We too are invited to fast this Lent, to voluntarily mortify our flesh; in doing so we disarm the lies of the devil. In voluntarily accepting to suffer in our flesh, we will experience the presence and consolation of God. The Church calls this time The Joyful Season of Lent. Do you believe that Lent can be joyful? It can, and it will be, as we experience through the Lenten observance that the Word of God -Christ himself- is truly the source of our life. Happy fasting!

Fr. Sean

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday

5:30 pm



March 4

St. Casimir

Maria Tambone

Sunday

8:30 am



March 5

First Sunday of Lent

Delores Donoto

10:30 am

James Whitney

Monday

8:30 am

March 6

George J. Fusco

Tuesday

8:30 am

March 7

Ss. Perpetua and Felicity

Mary Rizzo & Lucille Lotito

Wednesday

8:30 am

March 8

St. John of God

Joseph DiBella

Thursday

8:30 am

March 9

St. Frances of Rome

William Anthony D'Alessandro

Friday

8:30 am



March 10

Day of Abstinence

Margherita Bonaldo

Saturday

5:30 pm

March 11

Mary Lou Johnson

Sunday

8:30 am



March 12

Second Sunday of Lent; Daylight

Savings Time Begins

David Serkes

10:30 am

James Whitney

Stewardship of Treasure

My Parish, My Family, My Responsibility

"It is written: The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him shall you serve." (Matthew 4:10)

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. How is God calling you to serve?

Receipts From Last Week.....\$7,054.00



Catechesis: Lenten Spiritual Journey

All are invited to a Lenten Spiritual Journey, facilitated by Fr. Sean and a team of parishioners from the Neo Catechumenal Community. We will present a Catechesis for youth and adults, beginning Monday February 27th at 8:00pm in the McCarthy Center. This is for those who come to Mass regularly, and those who come infrequently, or not at all. The deepest longings of our heart can only be satisfied in the experience of the love of God. Come and listen, Mondays and Thursdays at 8:00pm.

"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: Dorothy Burke, Colin Burns, Michael Bussanich, Rosa Dicapua, Tommy Fitzpatrick, Jennifer Hartmann, Thomas Kneeshaw, Patricia Martin, Abigail Mayer, Carol Schmidt, Barbara Strambi, Rose Ann Tripaldi, Eric Vanderleif, and Bryce Werner

"A time to mourn"

"A time for war and a time for peace"

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

Amen.



SAVE THE DATE!!!
Fifth Annual St. Patrick's
Irish/Italian Dinner Dance
Friday, March 10, 2017



Tickets on Sale This Weekend after all Masses
Tickets ~ \$35 per person ~ 7:00 pm
McCarthy Center ~ Music ~ Dancing
with Gabriel Donohue ~ Irish/Italian Buffet
BYOB


MARCH 5, 2017



Our Lady's Guild
Cordially Invites You to
A Parish Brunch
Sunday, March 26, 2017
After the 10:30 am Mass
Tickets on sale after all Masses
starting February 25th
\$25 per family
\$10 per person
Have Breakfast With Your
Faith Community!!!



St. John's Academy News!!!
Fashion Show
The 8th Grade Fashion Show was held on February 13 at the Estate at Florentine Gardens. All of our students looked Stunning!
Tricky Tray
Tickets are on sale for The Red and White Tricky Tray Gala on April 5, 2017 at the Rockleigh Country Club! Please contact Brenda Laux at chew-ie07675@yahoo.com for details.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn before the Blessed Sacrament for the week of March 4 to March 11 in memory of
Ana Lucia Castrillon
Requested by the Castrillon Family



Thank you for your support for our new parish library!
If you would like to add to the library, borrow a book or DVD, please come "back stage" and check out the Sr. Frances Schier Library. You are welcome to donate new or almost new books or a monetary offering, please use the forms in the library.
Thank you for your generous heart!

Soup Kitchen Volunteers Thank You For Your Help March 4
Our remaining schedule for 2017: June 3rd, September 2nd (Eva's Kitchen) and Dec 2nd. Please contact Deacon Stan for casseroles stanfedison@aol.com or Pat Keenaghan patkeenaghan@yahoo.com to help cook, bake or serve. *"For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in;"* Matthew 25:35

Respite Care
Our parish would like to begin again an outreach to one another. Are you a caretaker who needs a break? A ride to an appointment? Or errands run? Or a meal delivered to your door? If yes, your fellow parishioners would like to help. Please contact Judi Quinn. (201) 391-2826 or judiolmc@yahoo.com. All requests will be kept confidential.



OLMC Playgroup
We are starting a new Playgroup for moms with small children. This group will meet Friday mornings 10:00 am to 11:30 am in the John Paul II classroom (entrance from parking lot). All moms and caregivers are welcome to join us. We are seeking some storage bins to hold the toys. Contact Adrianna Maniscalco at (201) 281-3521 or ad.maniscalco@gmail.com for more information.

Dates of the OLMC commitment to host families in need of temporary shelter: JULY 30 - AUG. 13 and SEPT. 10-17. Success stories: The staff of Family Promise communities to the Congregations and through their newsletter the many examples of families finding jobs and apartments as they move on to a life of self sufficiency. The families work very hard during their time in the Family Promise program to build up their job skills, take advantage of educational opportunities, strengthen their financial literacy and bank accounts. Being sheltered in a different congregation each week can be very physically and emotionally draining and we admire the courage and tenacity of each family as they work to build a new and secure life.

FAITH FORMATION



Calendar for March and April

- Wed, March 8 3:45 pm to 5:00 pm Faith Formation Classes Grade 1-6, *St. John of God*
- Wed, March 15 3:45 pm to 5:00 pm Faith Formation Classes Grade 1-6, *St. Louise de Marillac*, **Grade 2 Parent/Child Workshop**
- Wed, March 22 3:45 pm to 5:00 pm Faith Formation Classes Grade 1-6, **Lent Reconciliation LOF Summer Students**
Grades 3-6 attend
- Wed, March 29 3:45 pm to 5:00 pm Faith Formation Classes Grade 1-6, *Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord*
- Sun, April 2 9:15 am Communion Class Family Breakfast
- Wed, April 5 3:45 pm to 5:00 pm Faith Formation Classes Grade 1-6, **Stations of the Cross-LOF Summer Students Attend**
- Wed, April 12 **Holy Week-Spring Recess No Class**
- Wed, April 19 3:45 pm to 5:00 pm Faith Formation Classes Grade 1-6, *Easter*
- Wed, April 26 3:45 pm to 5:00 pm Faith Formation Classes Grade 1-6, *St. Mark, the Evangelist*

Vacation Bible School August 7-11! Register Now!

When camp is done, enroll in this fun filled program packed with games, activities, crafts and snacks, role-plays titled MIGHTY FORTRESS complete with princesses and battles! It will be one week journeying with their peers from 9:30 – 12:30. **IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD or VOLUNTEER**, please e-mail faithformationolmc@gmail.com

Question of the Week? Win a Gift card to DAIRY QUEEN! Everyone can enter!

This week's question: What is the liturgical color for the Lenten Season? Prior week's answer: Our Lady of Fatima appeared to three shepherd children at the Cova da Iria, in Fátima, Portugal: Lúcia Santos and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto. Everyone is welcome to enter this week's raffle, submit your answer along with your name and address by email to faithformationolmc@gmail.com by 3pm on Wednesday or when you come to class. **All correct answers will be entered in a raffle for a gift card to Dairy Queen.**

Lighting Our Faith Summer 2017

We are now planning for Lighting Our Faith (LOF) 2017 program.

We need volunteer catechists and assistants! Would you like to be a catechist, recreation aide, art coordinator, music assistant or babysitter? Please consider this exciting opportunity to see FAITH ALIVE and GROWING in our parish. Students from Junior High and High School are encouraged to volunteer. It is a fun way to complete Service Hours for Confirmation Candidates. Volunteers must be in 7th Grade or older. A background check is required for all volunteers 18 years old or older. Contact faithformationolmc@gmail.com

LOF is a two-week religious education for grades 3 – 6 from 7:55 AM to 12:45 PM covering the full Faith Formation curriculum. Students enrolled in this alternative religious education program are required to attend every day. **Tentative dates June 26 – July 7**, subject to change if the public-school calendar changes the last day of school. **IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD or VOLUNTEER**, please e-mail faithformationolmc@gmail.com

Mid-Atlantic Congress Information

Having attended the Congress several sessions, I will continue to share information from this great experience.

Session: *Witnesses in the Community*

1. *Our Vocation of being Church*

The Vocation of Being Church: an expression of God's Love rooted in an awareness of who we are created in the image of God and how we are compelled to embrace the Paschal Mystery to guide us to heaven and eternal life. To be Church we experience God's mercy, we exist to evangelize as Pope Francis said, "to be a community of missionary disciples." Let's each reflect on how we accept others as created in the image of God and partake in the Paschal Mystery in our parish! Can we be missionary disciples?

Travelling Prayer Cross

Our Travelling Prayer Cross is available to take home for a week! It will be given out each week at the end of class. This is a way to foster family prayer and praying for one another as a family.



Pope Francis Says: "Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts" (Joel 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us. Even when we sin, he patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, he shows us his readiness to forgive." Pope Francis Message for Lent 2017

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



Save The Date!!!!

On Saturday, September 23, 2017 a 50th Anniversary Celebration will be held here at Our Lady Mother of the Church. The evening will begin with an Anniversary Mass at 5:30 pm followed by a Gala Celebration at 7:00 pm that will include a cocktail hour,

followed by dinner, dancing and music. Look for you formal invitation in the mail sometime in June. More details to follow!

Sunday, September 24, 2017 after the 10:30 am Mass a 50th Anniversary Brunch will be hosted to celebrate and conclude the weekends festivities commemorating the Golden Anniversary of our parish.

On Saturday, December 16, 2017 at 7:30 pm a Jubilee Christmas Concert will be hosted by Our Lady Mother of the Church to conclude the 50th Anniversary. Ciaran Sheehan and other Broadway and world class musicians will perform Christmas music along with a varied array of beautiful heart-felt Broadway love songs. The evening will include a champagne toast during intermission while Silent Night is sung and our parish Christmas Tree is lit. A magical evening filled with the spirit of Christmas.

More information will be provided as the year progresses! Your support and kindness is greatly appreciated!

Special Noon Mass

A special healing Mass during the season of Lent and a support group meeting for all who are affected by the disease of alcoholism will take place at Church of St. Mary, 20 Legion Place, Closter, NJ on Saturday, March 18, 2017 at 12:00 pm. Mass is offered for the support, healing and recovery of not only the man/woman directly affected with the abuse of alcohol or drugs, but also for anyone involved in the life of the alcoholic or drug addict. For information please call 201-768-7565. Save the date; April 22, 2017 for The Fr. Jim Mckenna Memorial Fund 11th Annual Beefsteak Dinner and Reverse Raffle.



Thank you: Sharing God's Blessings, Annual Appeal

Thank you to all who have already so generously pledged and donated to the Annual Appeal, Sharing God's Blessings. Our parish has always been extraordinarily generous when asked to participate in the Appeal. The goal for our parish is \$39,000, and I am confident that we will meet and even surpass that target. The Appeal also helps our parish directly, since we are reimbursed any donations once our goal is met. The Archdiocese will not be sending reminder letters to the parishioners this year so make sure you grab a brochure! If you have not yet responded to the invitation, I invite you to consider doing so.

God bless you for your generosity!



Archdiocese of Newark
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

February, 23, 2017

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

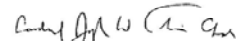
This year, the celebration of the Feast of St. Patrick -- March 17, 2017 -- falls on the Friday of the Second Week of Lent.

After due consideration of a number of requests, I dispense the people of the Archdiocese of Newark from the obligation to abstain from meat on Friday, March 17, 2017.

I remind Catholics who avail themselves of this dispensation that the Church highly encourages you to substitute some other act of penance, such as special prayer, acts of piety or works of charity on March 17th.

Please share this information with all in your parish and school communities. I also encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to remind your communities of the Lenten Regulations, a copy of which is attached.

Sincerely in Christ the Redeemer,


Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Newark

Archdiocesan Center

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