

Our Lady Mother of the Church

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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT ~ MARCH 26, 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

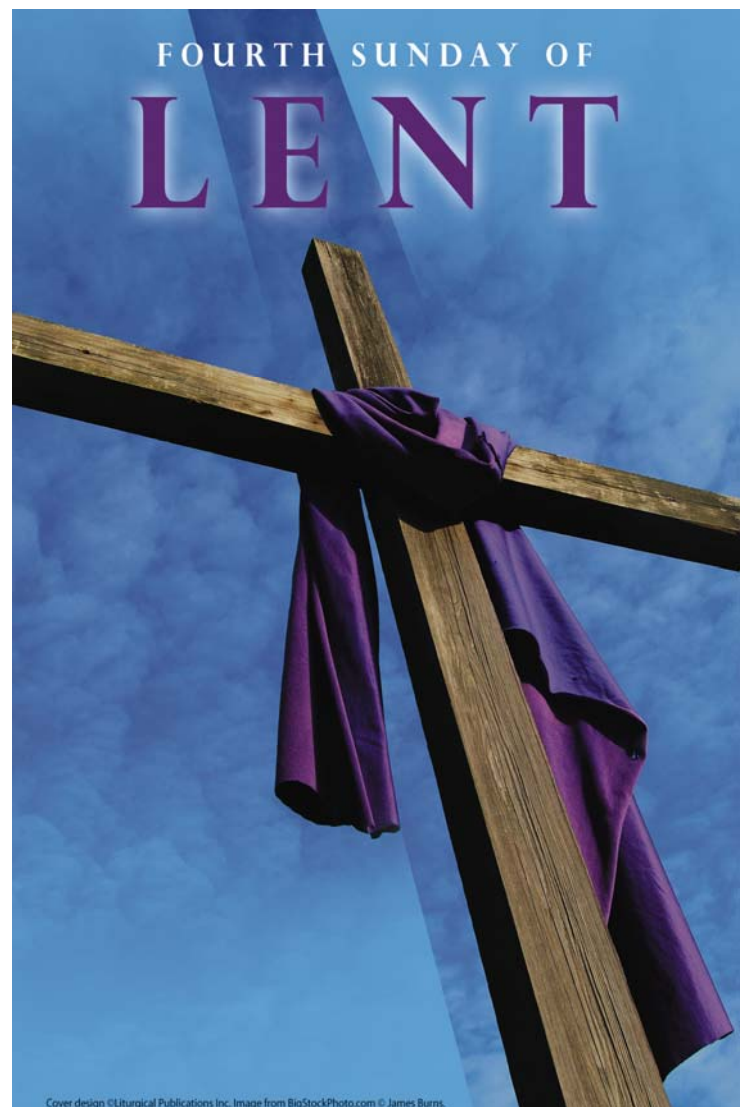
Phone: 201-391-7400

Monday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Wednesday 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

faithformationolmc@gmail.com

**There will be a
12:00 pm Mass
on Friday's
During Lent.**



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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



“As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth...”

It is not only in today’s Mass, but many times that the Bible speaks of sight, eyes, the capacity to see, and blindness.

The man in today’s Gospel is blind from birth; he is an image of us. All of us were born with the sin of Adam who, after his fall from grace, was no longer able to see God.

In the beginning of creation, Adam and Eve were able to see God, they lived the Beatitude: “Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God”, and were also able to see one and other. But having rebelled against God, they found themselves banished from His presence, deprived from his sight, and also experienced enmity in their relationship with each other. While before they rejoiced to see God, and were able to look at one another with love, now they are afraid to see God, and experience selfishness towards each other. They are blind.

Blindness, in the Scripture, is not only a physical condition, but is indicative of an inner spiritual reality. We are made not only of flesh and blood, but also of the spirit. The capacity to see is linked to the condition of one’s spirit. We are either blind, or able to see; there is no middle ground. A person can have two eyes in their head and yet be completely blind!

Samson, famously, became blind. An ox of a man, he leaned on God, and was able to mow down the enemies of the people of Israel. No one could overcome him. We too have enemies of our soul, and like Samson, in the measure we lean on God we can defeat them.

But Samson would become a weakling, his eyes were put out by the Philistines. This happened because at some point he began not to lean on God, not to put God at the center of his life, but rather trusted in his own strength and resources. Out of affectivity he gave away the secret of his strength to a woman, who cut off his hair – the sign of his relationship with God.

“The lamp of the body is the eye. It follows that if your eye is clear, your whole body will be filled with light. But if your eye is diseased, your whole body will be darkness, what darkness that will be!”


There is a great Good News for us today. If your eye is diseased, if you are living in darkness, if you do not see God, Christ is coming! He is the only one able to restore our sight. He does so by spitting on the ground, making a paste, and putting it in our eyes, and we will hear the words “Go and wash”. The spittle is his Word, the ground is the clay of which we are made. His Word, mixed with our human reality, calls us to the truth: we can all say mea culpa! I am blind!

During Lent we are on a journey to the waters of Baptism. We are walking towards the Paschal night, the Easter Vigil, and the renewal of our Baptismal promises. The Easter night is anticipated in today’s liturgy, we can truly experience that Christ comes today to restore our sight.

Fr. Sean

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday 5:30 pm		March 25 <i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i> Rosemary Lukac
Sunday 8:30 am 10:30 am		March 26 <i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i> Carol Quinn Sansevere Christopher Syplot
Monday 8:30 am		March 27 People of the Parish
Tuesday 8:30 am		March 28 Angela Meli
Wednesday 8:30 am		March 29 Virginia M. & James T. Horris
Thursday 8:30 am		March 30 Melitta Kimmich
Friday 8:30 am 12:00 pm		March 31 <i>Day of Abstinence</i> Mary Lacombe John Trombetta
Saturday 5:30 pm		April 1 <i>April Fools' Day</i> John Trombetta
Sunday 8:30 am 10:30 am		April 2 <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i> Anthony Merlino Carmella Strianese

 Stations of the Cross with Deacon Stan will follow the 8:30 am Mass on Fridays during Lent.

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.

Stewardship of Treasure
My Parish, My Family, My Responsibility
“Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance but the Lord looks into the heart.” (1 Samuel 16:7)


How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talents and treasure here on Earth.

Receipts From Last Week.....\$7,024.00
Peter's Pence.....\$1,386.00


The Bread and Wine will be offered for the week of April 2 to April 8 in memory of

 **Molly Offer**

Requested by the Offer Family

 For those who wish to memorialize loved ones for Easter, envelopes for Easter Flowers can be found in the plastic holders in the foyer of the church and in your offering envelopes that you get in the mail. Please send these envelopes to the Parish Office or place them in the offering baskets at

St. John's Academy will be selling Super 50/50 Raffle Tickets after each Mass on April 1/2. Only 500 tickets will be sold. They are \$50 each. Drawing will take place at the Tricky Tray on April 5. Thank you for your support of Saint John's Academy!

 **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.

MARCH 26, 2017

2017 Christian Marriage Anniversary Liturgies

Once again the Archdiocese of Newark is preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Christian marriage in the year 2017. These anniversary liturgies will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

April 30, 2017 ~ 3:00 pm ~ 5 years & 25 years

(Due April 19) (All Counties)

May 7, 2017 ~ 3:00 pm ~ 50 years

(Due April 26) (All Counties)

If you would like to attend one of the Masses please contact Judi in the Parish Office (201) 391-2826 or judiolmc@yahoo.com to register.



Deanery Penance Service

The parishes of our Deanery will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on **Monday, March 27, 2017, 7:30 pm, at St. Andrews Parish in Westwood.** We hope our parishioners will take advantage of this prayerful opportunity to celebrate God's loving forgiveness and reconciliation.



Communion Dresses and Suits Needed

The First Communion Day of our child is a very special occasion - a day to be celebrated and always remembered! Please help to make another child's First Communion Day one that will be cherished by donating any Communion dresses, suits, jackets, head pieces or shoes. Please bring all articles, clean, on hangers, and covered in plastic, to St. John the Baptist Church Parish Center by April 12th or call Kathy at 201-666-4185. Monetary donations will also be accepted. If you or anyone that you know may need an outfit, please contact Kathy.



Soup Kitchen Dates

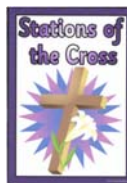
Our remaining schedule for 2017: June 3rd, September 2nd (Eva's Kitchen) and Dec 2nd. Please contact Deacon Stan for casseroles stanfedison@aol.com or Pat Keenaghan patkeenaghan@yahoo.com to help cook, bake or serve. *"For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me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



St. John's Academy News!!!

Super 50/50

St. John's Academy will be selling Super 50/50 Raffle Tickets after each Mass on March 25/26 and April 1/2. Only 500 tickets will be sold. They are \$50 each. If all tickets are sold, 1 luck winner will take home over \$12,000!!! Drawing will take place at the Tricky Tray on April 5. Please note, tickets are not being mailed home this year. Don't miss the opportunity to purchase one! Thank you for your support of Saint John's Academy!



Our Lady's Guild Hosts, A Way of the Cross for Mothers, Wed. March 29th @ 7:30PM

Mark your calendars for a spiritual evening spent with this Lenten devotion. A Way Of The Cross For Mothers is a modern interpretation of the Via Crucis that links the sufferings of Jesus on the way to Calvary to the everyday challenges of family life encountered by today's Christian woman. Its purpose is to help mothers, through reflection, to realize their roles as an image of Jesus' love and a transmitter of his message to their families, and to see the potential for the sacred in everyday activities. The prayers and reflections are designed to help mothers understand that the frustrations, insecurities, and fears often encountered in modern parenting can be opportunities for spiritual growth and self-awareness.

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.

The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at (201) 407-3256.

FAITH FORMATION



Calendar for March and April

- Wed, March 29 3:45 pm to 5:00 pm Faith Formation Classes Grade 1-6, *Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord, Gr. 2 Parent/Child Workshop*
- 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 **No Classes-Spring Break-Holy Week-Attend Triduum Services!**
- 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: When and where did Jesus Christ institute the Eucharist? Prior week's answer: The name of the three holy days, Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday, together is called the Holy Triduum. Congratulations to Luke Kasoff! 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**

Registration for Faith Formation 2017-2018

Registration for Faith Formation 2017-2018 is now open. If you need forms, please email faithformationolmc@gmail.com.

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: "I invite you not to build walls but bridges, to conquer evil with good, offence with forgiveness, to live in peace with everyone." Twitter 03/18/17.

FOURTH 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!



Woodcliff Lake UNICO invites you to a Dinner Dance and Auction Fundraiser. Saturday, April 22, 2017 at 6:30 pm. This will be held at Our Lady Mother of the Church McCarthy Center. Full catered buffet dinner by Munno's of Pearl River and music by Just Jammin'. \$50 per person, adults only and advance payment only. The recipient of this years proceeds is Oakland resident, Donna Myher, a math teacher at the Fieldstone Middle School in Montvale. Four years ago Donna was diagnosed with ALS. Medical expenses are placing a financial burden on the family. These funds raised will help defray the cost. Please contact Maria Janicelli by April 7 at (201) 962-8362 or miaj@optonline.net. To donate items for the auction please contact Donna Brown at (201) 788-6571 or dlb6494@aol.com.

Sister Frances Schier Memorial Library

Please feel free to browse, sign out and borrow Books or DVD's (in the lower cabinet). Kindly return when you are finished with the materials in the basket on the bottom shelf. If you would like to add to the library you are welcome to donate new or almost new books or a monetary offering, please use the forms in the lobby. We are interested in expanding our children, tween and teen collection. **Thank you for your generous heart!**



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. If you have not yet pledged, and are wondering why you have not yet received an envelope in the mail, it is because this year the Archdiocese decided not to send out mailings with pledge requests to previous donors. However, I feel these mailings are an effective way to help us participate in the Appeal. Therefore I will be sending out a mailing to the whole parish to ask those who have not yet pledged this year, asking that we consider doing so. We are a parish community, a parish family, and the participation of each member of the family is essential. In the coming week, when you receive the letter in the mail, I invite you to please prayerfully consider your response.

Thank you again,
Fr. Sean

God bless you for your generosity!

Continuing our Celebration of 50 Years

OLMC proudly Presents

"TONIGHT"

Saturday, April 1, 2017

7:00 pm

AN EVENING OF WONDERFUL MUSIC FEATURING THE TALENTS OF



Domenick Panfile~Tenor
Peter Greco~Collaborative Artist



Come and enjoy a concert of great music and entertainment. A free will donation is graciously accepted for Family Promise of Bergen County who is the only organization in the county providing shelter and services for working families who become homeless and helps them return to self-sufficiency. Make check out to: Family Promise of Bergen County