

# Our Lady Mother of the Church

209 Woodcliff Avenue ~ Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677 ~ [www.motherofthechurch.org](http://www.motherofthechurch.org)



## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT ~ APRIL 2, 2017

Fr. Sean Manson.....*Pastor*  
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Ms. Deborah DiPiazza.....*Faith Formation Aide*  
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Ms. Judi Quinn.....*Administrative Secretary*  
Email: [judiolmc@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:info@motherofthechurch.org)

### Faith Formation Office

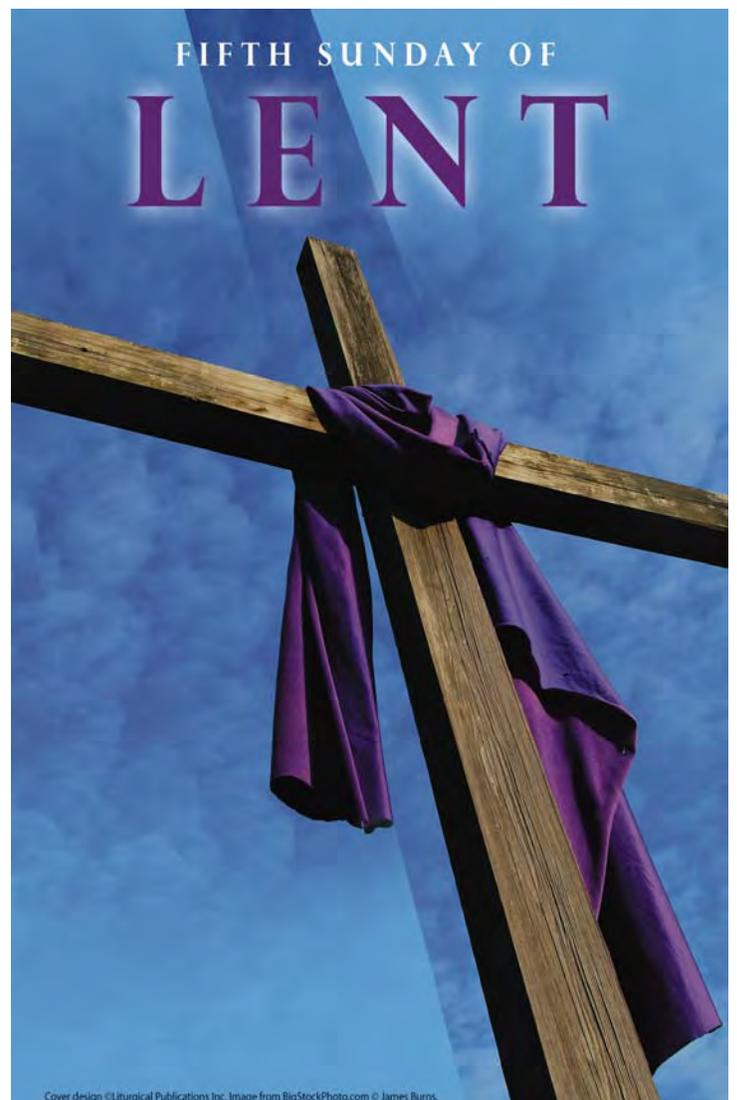
**Phone:** 201-391-7400

Monday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Wednesday 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

[faithformationolmc@gmail.com](mailto: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



“Poor Lazarus”

A family I know regularly prayed together on Sundays. They would sit around their large dining room table - there were ten kids - and the dad would read a Gospel, comment on it, and invite the family to share their experiences.

This particular day the dad, Frank, a NYC Firefighter and husband of Jean, read the Gospel we hear in Mass today, the resurrection of Lazarus, to the ten children

After reading the passage, with all the eyes of the kids upon him, Frank said these words, “Poor Lazarus!” Frank explained that Lazarus had already died, and was on his way to heaven, but he had to come back here! The grief and tears of Lazarus’ sisters, family and neighbors had moved Jesus himself to pity, so he raised Lazarus back from the tomb. Lazarus’ sisters were ecstatic, but how did Lazarus feel about it?

It wasn’t till some years later, after Frank himself had died in the Twin towers on 9/11, that his words really hit home and made sense to his family. After Jean lost her husband, and the ten children their father, they were wracked with grief. That is until they sat down one Sunday to pray.

For many months after Frank’s death they were unable to pray. Jean would sit down at the table with the kids, see Frank’s empty chair, and collapse in a ball of tears. But this particular Sunday she gave it another go, and read the Gospel of the day, which happened to be the resurrection of Lazarus. After reading it to the children, her husband Frank’s words came back to her. “Poor Lazarus.” Her grief was lifted, and the family turned a corner. They had been missing their Dad, wishing he were still here, crying that he was no longer with them, but here was this Gospel staring them in the face, and Frank’s words were in their ears.

Sure, Jesus raised him from the dead, brought him back, but Lazarus would one day have to face death again. Why would you want someone to come back if they were already in heaven? If we love someone we want the best for them, not what’s best for us. What’s better than being in heaven? Jean understood, and so did the children.

**Continued on next page**

## FROM THE PASTOR CONTINUED

A social worker who had been assigned to work with the family after 9/11 noticed a dramatic change, and asked Jean if they were doing anything different. “We began to pray again” was Jean’s reply. The social worker was so impressed with the change in attitude of the kids, that she asked Jean if she could teach other grieving families from 9/11 how to pray.

Jean was herself diagnosed with terminal cancer. She went to the Lord in August of 2012, eleven years after her husband. Before she left I asked her if she was afraid for the children. She stared me in the face, as if I had insulted her, and said ‘No, I am not afraid for them, I know they will be fine, because they have faith, which is the most important thing I can give them.’”

The raising of Lazarus prefigures Jesus’ own death and Resurrection. It prefigures our death and Resurrection! Our faith, our Christianity, our Catholicism, is based on an encounter with a living person: Christ crucified and Risen. This encounter happens now, this side of the grave. Death is swallowed up in victory! O death where is your victory! There is no grief, no heartache, no loss, no suffering, no anguish which the Resurrection has not already overcome. Do we truly experience this?

The Resurrection of Christ is not celebrated as a memorial or a thing of the past, but as something that is present and happening today among us. We can draw strength from today’s Gospel, as we advance towards Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and the great celebration of the Easter Triduum, where the Resurrection of Christ awaits us.

Fr. Sean



### 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!**



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 year’s 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](mailto:miaj@optonline.net). To donate items for the auction please contact Donna Brown at (201) 788-6571 or [dlb6494@aol.com](mailto:dlb6494@aol.com).

### 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](mailto:judiolmc@yahoo.com). All requests will be kept confidential.

# FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

**Saturday**

5:30 pm



**April 1**

*April Fools' Day*

John Trombetta

**Sunday**

8:30 am



**April 2**

*Fifth Sunday of Lent*

Anthony Merlino

10:30 am

**April 3**

Peter R. Lynch

**Tuesday**

8:30 am

**April 4**

*St. Isidore*

Mary Rizzo & Lucille Lotito

**Wednesday**

8:30 am



**April 5**

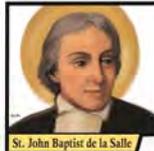
*St. Vincent Ferrer*

Mary Mertz & Robert Schmidt,

Jr

**Thursday**

8:30 am



**April 6**

Molly Offer

**Friday**

**April 7**

*St. John the Baptist de la Salle;*

*Day of Abstinence*

8:30 am



Mae Jackson

12:00 pm

People of the Parish

**Saturday**

5:30 pm

**April 8**

Alice & George Junior

**Sunday**



**April 9**

*Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*

8:30 am

Anne Witte

10:30 am

Laverne & Ralph Fioretti

**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.

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



STATIONS  
CROSS

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

**St. John's Academy will be selling Super 50/50 Raffle Tickets after each Mass this weekend. 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!**

*"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.**

*Lent*



**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 27<sup>th</sup> 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.

# APRIL 2, 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](mailto:judiolmc@yahoo.com) to register.



## 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!

## 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!**



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 Mass.



## 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.



## 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 your 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!**

## Soup Kitchen Dates

Our remaining schedule for 2017: June 3<sup>rd</sup>, September 2<sup>nd</sup> (Eva's Kitchen) and Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please contact Deacon Stan for casseroles [stanfedison@aol.com](mailto:stanfedison@aol.com) or Pat Keenaghan [patkeenaghan@yahoo.com](mailto: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

# FAITH FORMATION



## Calendar for April and May

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, <b>Stations of the Cross-LOF Summer Students Attend</b>
Wed, April 12	<b>No Classes-Spring Break-Holy Week-Attend Triduum Services!</b>
Wed, April 19	3:45 pm to 5:00 pm Faith Formation Classes Grade 1-6, <i>Easter</i>
Wed, April 26	3:45 pm to 5:00 pm Faith Formation Classes Grade 1-6, <i>St. Mark, the Evangelist</i>
Wed, May 3	3:45 pm to 5:00 pm Faith Formation Classes Grade 1-6, <i>Ss. Philip &amp; James; Grade 2 First Holy Communion Practice with Adult</i>
Sat, May 6	12:00 First Holy Communion
Wed, May 10	Closing Mass and Celebration Grades 1-6

## 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](mailto: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 Mason Hennessey! Everyone is welcome to enter this week's raffle, submit your answer along with your name and address by email to [faithformationolmc@gmail.com](mailto: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.**

## Registration for Faith Formation 2017-2018

Registration for Faith Formation 2017-2018 is now open. If you need forms, please email [faithformationolmc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationolmc@gmail.com).

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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:** "When the Lord looks at our fragility, he invites us to take care of it not with fear but with courage." *A Year with Pope Francis, April 2 (2013).*