

# Our Lady Mother of the Church

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



## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ DECEMBER 10, 2017

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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)

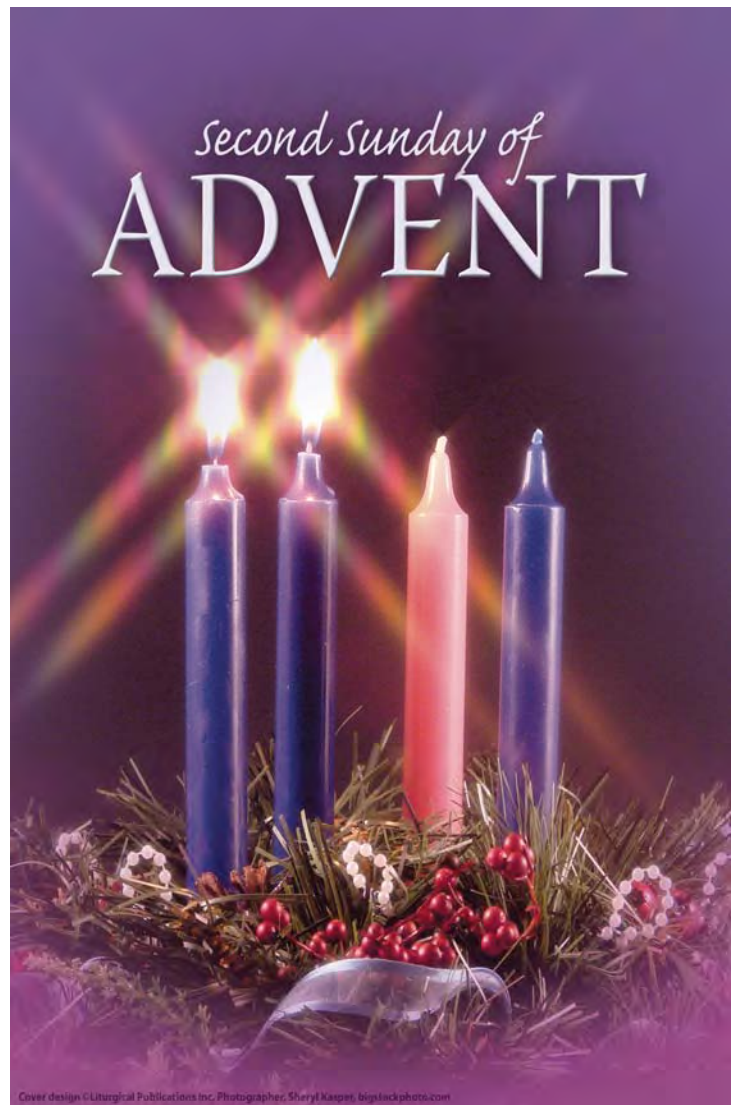
### Faith Formation Office

**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)



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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



In a recent survey the British were declared the worst dressed people in Europe.

The French are turned out in elegance and style. Italians have a Mediterranean flair. But the British are relegated to last place when it comes to fashion sense. The frumpy tweed jacket and knotted hanky are no match for their continental cousins.

John the Baptist was not British, but he would have come in last on the catwalk. Dressed in camel's hair and a leather belt, he would have stuck out like a sore thumb here in Bergen County.

And yet this odd ball was a magnet for all who saw him. What attracted them? Certainly not his fashion sense! People flocked to him to... acknowledge their sins!

This is the heart of Advent. St. Charles Borromeo says that Advent makes present the fact that the Father sent his only Son to free us from the tyranny of Satan. The Church asks us to understand that Christ, who came once in the flesh, is prepared to come again, when we remove all obstacles to his presence.

The greatest obstacle is sin.

Of course you can't talk about sin today. People can talk about God, they can quote Jesus, they can discuss the Bible. But sin must never be mentioned. Ours is another anthropology, that of the *'Bon Savage.'* We are all fundamentally good, we have an innate beatitude, we are all children of God. Everyone goes to heaven. We have no sin. We have a musical soul.

Post modernity proclaims there is no objective truth. There are opinions, and everyone is entitled to their opinion, to do what they think best. There is a gradualism of conscience. The truth, the good, what is right, is dictated at an individual level.

John the Baptist was having none of this. He proclaimed repentance and a Baptism for forgiveness of sin. The amazing thing is that people took him seriously. They accepted that they were, in fact, sinners.

Perhaps this is not so surprising. A recent psychological report said that many of the complexes people suffer from can be traced to one thing: a radical lack of humility. Humility is the truth. The truth is that we are flawed, we are sinners, we are in need of repentance, we are in need of the grace of God. When this truth is not present, we live in an alienation, a false reality.

John the Baptist's voice will resound at the Deanery Advent Penance Celebration, in Assumption Parish, Emerson, on Monday December 18th at 7:30pm. It will be a sobering dose of reality. We will be confronted with our brokenness, but also the great truth that we can be freed from the tyranny of Satan.

May we hear the Baptist's voice, and receive his message, no matter what clothes he might be wearing!

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**Saturday**

5:30 pm



**December 9**

Edward G. Klein

**Sunday**

8:30 am



**December 10**

*Second Sunday of Advent*

Joseph DiBella

10:30 am

Anthony Merlino

**Monday**

8:30 am

**December 11**

*St. Damasus I*

Alice McGovern

**Tuesday**

8:30 am

**December 12**

*Our Lady of Guadalupe*

Lucilla Meirinho

**Wednesday**

8:30 am



**December 13**

*St. Lucy*

Maria Busanic

**Thursday**

8:30 am

**December 14**

*St. John of the Cross*

Mary Rizzo & Lucille Lotito

**Friday**

8:30 am

**December 15**

Michael Manganello

**Saturday**

5:30 pm



**December 16**

Jose Lopes

**Sunday**

8:30 am

**December 17**

*Third Sunday of Advent*

Jose S. Lopes

10:30 am

Anthony Merlino

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



**Michael Pisano**

Requested by Barbara Pisano

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Christmas Cards for Sale



We have 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Christmas Cards for sale after all Masses starting this weekend. They all have a painting of

the church on the front and a message on the inside and a beautiful white envelope with gold foil on the inside flap ready for you to send to friends and relatives. We are selling them for \$25 a pack of 20 cards. Stop by the lobby on your way out of Mass and pick up a package!

## Stewardship of Treasure

### My Parish, My Family, My Responsibility

*"Prepare the way of the Lord..." (Mark 1:3)*

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, does just that-it puts us on the path to holiness and it invites others to be holy, too.

Receipts From Last Week.....\$5,941.00

Religious Retirement Fund.....\$1,765.00

Christmas Flowers to Date.....\$ 760.00



## Our Lady's Guild 50th Anniversary Cookbook

Be a part of this commemorative publication! Please consider submitting recipes to Our Lady's Guild Cookbook by email to patkeenaghan@yahoo.com or pick up the form in the lobby. These can be returned to the Parish Office. Entries are due by **March 15**. The book will go on sale after Easter as a lovely Mother's Day gift.



Please join all the parishes in our deanery for an Advent Penance Service on December 18th at 7:30 pm at Assumption Church in Emerson. All are welcome!!!

*"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:** Colin Burns, Michael Bussanich, Earle Connolly, Francesca DeMarco, Rosa Dicapua, Tommy Fitzpatrick, Jennifer Hartmann, Joachim Jung, Thomas Kneesban, Vivienne Knopp, Jessica Livingstone, Abigail Mayer, Richard Neuman, Flossie O'Sullivan, Eugenia Parron, Patrick Randazzo, Carol Schmidt, Barbara Toeppe, Ivan Tarabokia, Rose Ann Tripaldi, Eric Vanderleif, and Bryce Werner

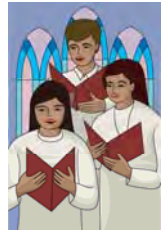
*"A time to mourn"*

**Deceased of the Parish:** Ted Wallace and John Bernich-Brother of Pete Bernich

*"A time for war and a time for peace"*

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

*Amen.*



## Attention all Children and Teens of OLMC!

We would like to extend an invitation to join our Christmas choir to sing at the 4:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve. We will be holding rehearsals all on Thursday evenings: Dec. 14 and 21 from 4:15 pm to 5:15 pm. Please make every effort to attend these rehearsals because we will be learning music for the prelude before the Mass as well as the music we will be singing for the Mass. This is open to all children and teens from Grades 2 through High School. We hope you will join us! Thank you!



## Christmas Concert

Please join us for our annual Christmas Concert on Monday, December 18. Doors open at 6:30 pm. All are welcome!

## Co-op Exams

Our eighth graders took their Co-op Entrance Exams in early November. They will find out the results of their Catholic high school applications in January!

## Save the Date!

The 19th Annual Red and White Tricky Tray Gala will be held on March 21, 2018 at the Rockleigh Country Club!



## Waterfront Nursing Home Resident Christmas Gifts

If you picked up a name tag which will include an item from their "wish list". Return the wrapped gift with the name tag attached along with the contents of the gift **no later than the weekend of December 16/17** to McCarthy Center. If you have any questions please contact Deacon Stan at (201) 391-5013.

## Special Noon Mass

A special Mass 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, December 16, 2017 at 12:00 pm. For information please call 201-768-7565. At this mass will be asking for donations of any clothing but especially coats and packages of socks. Thank you and have a Blessed Christmas.

## Liturgy of the Word for Children

OLMC is offering the Liturgy of the Word for Children during select 10:30AM Masses from October through April. We need parent/youth volunteers! You will only need to teach about 15 minutes and experience is not required. If you are interested in engaging with the children of the parish in this very meaningful way, a few times this coming school year see the sign up in McCarthy Center. Please contact Pat Keenaghan at [faithformationolmc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationolmc@gmail.com). Volunteers must be compliant with the Archdiocese of Newark's Safe Environment Policy.



Advent Festival  
Families joined together for the concluding pageant

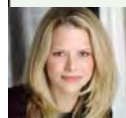


## SAVE THE DATE!!!!



## Jubilee Christmas Concert

On **Saturday, December 16, 2017 at 7:00 pm** a Jubilee Christmas Concert will be hosted by Our Lady Mother of the Church to conclude the 50th Anniversary. **Ciaran Sheehan**, Irish Tenor will sing with **Sarah Pfisterer**, Soprano, stars of The Phantom of the Opera. **Heather Martin Bixler**, New York Philharmonic Violinist and **Sue Anderson**, Piano Accompanist 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. Tickets on sale now after all Masses and in the Parish Office.



# FAITH FORMATION



## Calendar for December & January

### Prayer of the Month: Apostle's Creed

- Wed, Dec 13 3:45 pm-5:00 pm, **Faith Formation Classes For Grades 1-6, Feast of St. Lucy**
- Wed, Dec 20 3:45 pm-5:00 pm, **Faith Formation Classes & LOF Students, Advent Reconciliation Grades 3-6**

### Prayer of the Month: Prayer to the Guardian Angel

- Wed, Jan 3 3:45 pm-5:00 pm, **Faith Formation Classes For Grades 1-6, Epiphany**
- Wed, Jan 10 3:45 pm-5:00 pm, **Faith Formation Classes For Grades 1-6, St. Agatha**
- Wed, Jan 17 3:45 pm-5:00 pm, **Faith Formation Classes For Grades 1-6, St. Anthony the Abbot**
- Wed, Jan 24 3:45 pm-5:00 pm, **Faith Formation Classes For Grades 1-6, St. Francis de Sales**
- Wed, Jan 31 3:45 pm-5:00 pm, **Faith Formation Classes For Grades 1-6, St John Bosco**

### Prayer for the Second Week of Advent

God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **AMEN.**

**Happy Advent to all making room for Jesus in your heart!**

**Faith Formation Students Gr. 3 - 6 will join with Lighting Our Faith Sumer Students to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20.** This sacrament truly helps to prepare our hearts for Christmas. As we hear the Advent Gospels, we are reminded that Christ is coming, and we can prepare by taking part in this sacrament! This is the third offered event for LOF students who are encouraged to attend all special events. Four are required to enroll in LOF. It is necessary to use the sign-in book to be acknowledged. A confirmation e-mail of attendance will be sent after the event takes place.

**Thank you to all for participating in the Town Tree Lighting!**

Thank you parents for your support and making our parish part of this ceremony.

### Advent Festival Thank you!!

Thank you, Fr. Sean, and to all our wonderful catechists, technicians and aides, and art coordinator, who made the Advent Festival possible. Thank you to the parents and the children who attended joining in the preparation for the Child Jesus.

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

This week's question: *What name or title of Jesus means "God with us"?*

Prior week's answer: *Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose feast day is Dec. 12, is the Patroness of the Americas.*

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.*

### Traveling Chalice-Pray For Vocations!

We encourage all to pray for vocations. Fr. Sean has donated a chalice to take home to pray for Vocations this week. **God bless the Bertino Family for hosting the chalice last week.** Please use this opportunity to foster family prayer and pray for vocations. **This is available to all families in the parish. Please contact** by e-mail: [faithformationolmc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationolmc@gmail.com) to reserve for your family.

### Traveling Prayer Cross-Pray with and For Your Family

Our Traveling Prayer Cross is available to take home for a week! **God bless the Nigro Family who hosed the cross last week!** You can foster family prayer and pray for one another as a family. **This is available to all families in the parish. Please consider reserving the Cross for your family** by e-mail: [faithformationolmc@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationolmc@gmail.com).



**Pope Francis Says:** *"The world tells us to seek success, power and money; God tells us to seek humility, service and love."* (Homily) December 5th, 2016.

## ADVENT: PREPARING THE WAY

### Thank You All Soup Kitchen Volunteers

Thank you Bakers, Servers and Casserole Makers! for your help December 2 at St. John's Newark. Dates for 2018 will be confirmed soon. Contact Deacon Stan for casseroles [stanfedison@aol.com](mailto:stanfedison@aol.com) or Pat Keenaghan [pat-keenaghan@yahoo.com](mailto:pat-keenaghan@yahoo.com) to help bake or serve. Thank you for your support! *"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. Andrew Parish Announces...

"Discovering Christ", a seven week experience, beginning January 28 through March 18th with a Sunday retreat on march 3rd. The Sunday sessions will be held from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Sessions are held once a week at St. Andrew's Parish Center, 120 Washington Avenue, Westwood, NJ. Each session consists of a simple Sunday dinner, an inspirational talk by dynamic guest speakers, small group discussion and dessert. Registration deadline is January 8th. For more information, call the parish center at (201) 666-1100 or visit [www.standrewcc.com](http://www.standrewcc.com).

### Eternity's Clock and Crown

What is this Advent wreath whose four candles help us mark the passing of the weeks before Christmas? It is eternity's clock—a circle that says "In our ending is our beginning." It is the wheel of time—a circle of evergreen branches—cut and left to wither—revealing that death and life are both of a piece. It is also a crown, the victor's laurel garland, the sign that the race is done, the prize won. It is the crown of us as a people, a chosen race, a royal priesthood. It is the crown of each of us as individuals—baptized individuals (all of a piece) whose heads were smeared with that royal oil, chrism. We are marked for eternity. With four candles lit, the Advent wreath is the fiery crown that we give to Christ the King, the Savior who returns in the growing gloom to gather us into our eternal home, the new and heavenly Jerusalem.



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Advent means "coming" and is a time when many prepare for Christ's coming/return. Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Many Christians use an Advent wreath or Advent calendar to mark the days leading up to Christ's Mass a.k.a. Christmas, which was a holy day from which we get the word "holiday". In the Middle Ages, people believed Christ's return was imminent, so the weeks before Christmas were set aside to prepare for the Second Coming.



### Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe December 12

In Advent of 1531, an Aztec peasant named Juan Diego (whose birth name in the Náhuatl language was Cuautlatohua) saw an astounding sight—a radiant woman clothed in the stars, with the moon at her feet.

She bore the appearance of a Central American Indian, and she was dressed in native garb. She even wore the traditional sash of a pregnant woman. This was a paradoxical image, for at the time when the Lady of Guadalupe manifested herself, the Indian people were deeply oppressed by their Spanish conquerors. Their everyday experience was one of profound powerlessness. Indian women, especially, were treated cruelly.

The woman spoke to Juan Diego tenderly, calling him her beloved son. The peasant went to his bishop, but the bishop did not think it possible that the Queen of Heaven would appear to a poor man on a barren hillside. As a sign of her presence for the skeptical bishop, the Lady left her glorious image on Juan Diego's cloak of agave cactus cloth. At her request, a church was built at the site where she had appeared—near modern-day Mexico City. Pilgrims come from many nations to honor her there, especially on her feast day, December 12.

The oppressed native people recognized Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe as a promise of justice and a cause for hope. Peace treaties have been signed in the basilica that bears her name. She is the patron saint of Mexico, and she is honored throughout the Americas.

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