



Our Lady of Sorrows

217 PROSPECT STREET, SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079

973-763-5454

www.olschurch.com



MASSES: *Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm; Sunday 8:00, 10:00 and 11:30 am
Monday-Friday 7:00 am and 12:00 pm; Saturday 8:30 am and 12:00 pm*

Penance: Confessions Saturday 12:45 pm – 2:00 pm or by appointment

Baptism: Contact Parish Office after the birth of your child to begin Baptismal preparation program

Ministry of the Sick: Call Parish Office for anointing of seriously or chronically ill for the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and to arrange Communion calls

Marriages: Arrange at least one year in advance with a parish priest

RECTORY and PARISH: 973-763-5454 • FAX: 973-763-9506

January 12th, 2025
The Baptism of the Lord

A Message from Fr. Andrew

“I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.”

The Church provides us with several options for the readings this Sunday. One of the first readings is from Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7, and the words I quoted above are words taken from the first option for the first reading. If I had asked, who do you think the words above are pointing to? The answer seems obvious: JESUS! Jesus is the one who brought the victory of justice, the one who instituted the new covenant, the true light of the nations, and the one who saved us from our slavery. Furthermore, humanity regained the hope for eternal life as the gate of heaven opened through Him.

However, I want to ask you another question: Is this verse just about Jesus? I will boldly say NO. This should make us think: this verse is about all of us! When we were baptized, along with the dignity of being sons and daughters of God, we were given the three missions of Christ Himself. Just like Christ fully lived out His mission as the Prophet, the Priest, and the King, we are supposed to live these three missions out. The gift of baptism doesn't just bestow grace upon us, it empowers us. It elevates us to become so much more than passive recipients of grace. We are joined to the mission of Christ our Lord, as His hands and feet; we become the dwelling places of the Holy Spirit!

Today, we celebrate the baptism of the Lord. On this beautiful feast day, we remember and celebrate three elements of Christ's baptism. That Christ, although He did not need to be baptized due to His sinlessness, sanctifies the water of baptism by receiving baptism. This timeless act of humility allows all of us (who are joined to the baptism of Christ) to receive the gift of new life through the waters of baptism He sanctified. Also, by immersing Himself in the water of the Jordan, which at the time was filled with the filth of human sinfulness as it washed away people's sinfulness, He completely identifies with sinners. Christ does this – he identifies himself with sinners - not to be part of sin but to bring our sinfulness to the cross and destroy our slavery to it by offering Himself on the cross.

These things we remember on this feast should make us appreciate Christ sharing His mission. Of course, we are imperfect. Of course, we are inadequate. Yet, we must remember our responsibility to let God use us as His instrument. We must not let Christ's desire to share His mission with us go to waste. It is not about how great we are, but all about how great He is for drawing straight lines with crooked hands. Today's feast holds us accountable to this Christian responsibility.

What are the ways we can let Christ work through us this week? How can we exercise the three missions of Christ? In ways small and big, may all of us become instruments who bring God's justice, light, and freedom this week. For instance, as priests, we can pray for those in need; as prophets, we can share the Good news with others; and as kings, we can serve our community with humility and love.



**THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING OF
OUR PARISHIONERS**

December 22	Week 26	YTD
Collection	\$12,582	\$320,008
Budgeted	\$12,164	\$316,263

Food Pantry - \$1,385

December 29	Week 27	YTD
Collection	\$13,671	\$333,680
Budgeted	\$12,164	\$328,427

Repairs and Maintenance - \$693

January 5	Week 28	YTD
Collection	\$17,742	\$351,422
Budgeted	\$12,164	\$340,591

Christmas Collection: \$53,356
Budgeted \$50,000
Carol Sing - \$1,665

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Remembering OLS in your estate

Please consider OLS in your estate planning. No matter how large or small, every gift will help sustain our parish for generations to come. It is a powerful reflection on the values and principles you treasure. Bequest funds are vital to ensure the parish continues to thrive and minister to our parishioners.

Parking Regulations



Parkers beware:

There's been an increase in tickets issued by the South Orange Police Department for parking in the designated handicapped spaces on Prospect Street (as well

as the loading zone on Fourth Street).

Please do not park in those spaces unless you have a permit to do so as we cannot ensure that you will not be ticketed.


OLS School Open House

Interested in learning more about Catholic education and our superlative school? All are welcome to attend the Open House at Our Lady of Sorrows School on Sunday, January 26th from 11:00am to 1:00pm.

This event kicks off the nationwide Catholic Schools Week that recognizes and celebrates the unique strength and incomparable value of Catholic education. We will have tours and Q&A opportunities with faculty. Plus, coffee, bagels and donuts that Sunday will be at the school. Mark your calendars!

Our Lady of Sorrows School

The Catholic School of South Orange and Maplewood



Join OLS as we celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2025!

Open House

January 26, 2025
11:00am – 1pm

Enrolling now for PreK through 8th grade

OurLadyofSorrowsSchool.org • office@ourladyofsorrowschool.org • 172 Academy Street, South Orange, NJ 07079 • 973.762.5169

“...Bestow upon us also, O Lord our God, understanding to know you, diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you, and a faithfulness that may finally embrace you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

— St. Thomas Aquinas

St. Thomas Aquinas is a doctor of the church and patron saint of students. His feast day falls during Catholic Schools Week: January 28th.



Meet Our Staff

Rev. Brian X. Needles, Pastor
frbrianneedles@gmail.com
Rev. Andrew Lee, Parochial Vicar
frlee527@gmail.com
Rev. Robert Suszko, Weekend Assistant
Rev. Patrick Seo, Priest in Residence
Rev. Dominic Ciriaco, Priest in Residence
Deacon Walter Wiggins, Permanent Deacon
deaconwalt@outlook.com
Deacon Steven Greydanus, Permanent Deacon
DeaconSDG@gmail.com
Judy Foley, School Principal
principal@ourladyofsorrowsschool.org
Sr. Mary Selina, S.C.C., Pastoral Associate
passociate07@gmail.com
Jennifer Noll, Catechetical Coordinator
jennollols@gmail.com
Christopher Kaiser, Youth Minister
kaiserch@shu.edu
Stephanie Sonnicks, Ministerial Associate
olschurchministries@gmail.com
Colleen McDonald, Administrative Assistant
sorrowchurch@gmail.com
Preston Dibble, Director of Music
olsmusician@gmail.com
Karlene Campbell, Nursery Director
karlene@thenurseryatols.org
Charles Noun, Business Manager
charlesnoun@olschurch.com
Mary Beth Zurat, Secretary
marybeth.olschurch@gmail.com

Bagels and Coffee and Donuts Today!



For real this time!

Join us in St. Joseph Hall for the first Bagels and Coffee and Donuts of 2025 after the 10:00 and 11:30am Masses.

Unless otherwise noted, Bagels, Coffee and Donuts will be held on the second and fourth Sundays. See you there!

Note: Coffee and donuts on January 26th will be in the School gym in conjunction with our School Open House and Catholic Schools Week.

Bereavement Support Group... Today

The first session of our bereavement support group meets in the lower church today (Sunday, January 12th) after the 11:30am Mass. While pre-registration was required, if you were unable to do so, you are still welcome to join us.

Bereavement Ministry: A Support Group for Those Grieving

Led by Deacon Walter Wiggins and other trained facilitators

If a loved one has passed away, either recently or years ago, please join us for our series of six sessions. Each session includes information, grief support and mutual sharing in a spiritual, confidential setting.

First meeting: Sunday, January 12th 2025.

in the Lower Church, from 1pm-2:30pm
(following the 11:30 Mass)
Refreshments will be served.

Pre-registration is required: if you are interested in joining us or hearing more about the group, please contact Terri or John via email below:

Terri - tmcbarrett50@gmail.com

John - jpprod25@comcast.net

2025 Mass Book

The 2025 Mass Book is open and there are many Masses still available. You may book a Mass by filling out the form on page 7 of this bulletin, by visiting our parish office, or by using our Google form, which can be easily found on the home page of our parish website: <https://olschurch.com/>

The celebration of the Mass is THE most powerful form of prayer. Intentions can be offered for each Mass for our beloved dead or for a special intention.

Masses For The Week



VIGIL, SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2025

5:30 PM Melanie Tronccone

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025

8:00 AM DePaola, Deehan & Salvante Families
10:00 AM Juan Carlos Rego, Sr.
11:30 AM People of the Parish

MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2025

7:00 AM Joseph A. Muller
12:00 PM People of the Parish

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025

7:00 AM People of the Parish
12:00 PM People of the Parish

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2025

7:00 AM People of the Parish
12:00 PM People of the Parish

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2025

7:00 AM People of the Parish
12:00 PM People of the Parish

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 2025

7:00 AM People of the Parish
12:00 PM People of the Parish

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2025

8:30 AM Robert Jude Pascual –
Special Intention
12:00 PM People of the Parish

VIGIL, SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2025

5:30 PM All Rosarians, Living & Deceased

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025

8:00 AM Juan Rego
10:00 AM People of the Parish
11:30 AM Chaplain Colonel John Krozser

Pray for the Departed



Let us remember those who have passed away recently at OLS: Robert Schaedel

Eternal rest grant unto Robert, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

In Memoriam

It is a loving gesture to donate the weekly Sanctuary Candle in memory of a loved one for a special intention. If you would like to do so, please call the parish office for more information.



REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please keep the following in your prayers: Bill Aber, Rita Arena, Patricia Bee, Roy Bell, Daniel Callaghan, Julia Callaghan, Robert Charles, Bekim Colaku, John Colaku, Alice Cosack, Cynthia Critelli, Mark F. Davonski, Alan Droppa, Michael Elliot, Patricia Evanik, George Richmond Files Jr., Norma Gonzalez, Beth Hebron, Deborah Hebron, Mimi Hermann, Norma Hermann, Agnes Marshall, Elizabeth Mary, Patricia McDonnell, Neville Moore, Megan More, Kathleen Mullan, Kate Mullin, Melissa O'Brien, Ludgarda Rosa, Julian Sherman, Marie Somers, Elizabeth Stuart, Catherine Sullivan, Donna T., Mary Jane Tannen, Stephanie Windsor



Helping Those in Need: Society of St. Vincent de Paul

*“Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine,
you did for me.” (Mt 25:40)*

Inspired by Gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, leads women and men to join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering. This is done in the tradition of its founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam, and its patron, St. Vincent de Paul.

The Society is one of the largest charitable organizations in the country. The purpose of the Society is to bear witness to the love of Christ. Our parish group does this by offering financial assistance to individuals and families in the South Orange/Maplewood area who are temporarily unable to meet their current living expenses.



Every effort is made to provide this assistance in ways that respect the dignity of the recipient and the strictest confidentiality of the relationship between the recipient and the Society. People of all backgrounds and religions can receive assistance.

Email OLSSStvincentdepaul@gmail.com if you are in need of assistance.

The Society cannot do this alone. We are therefore most grateful for the monetary donations we receive in order to carry out our work. Donations may be sent to: Our Lady of Sorrows Church, c/o Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 217 Prospect Street, South Orange, NJ 07079. Checks should be made out to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Thank you for helping us bear witness to the love of Christ.

2025 Mass Book

The 2025 Mass book is now open. You may send in your Mass intention requests by mail. The donation for Masses is \$10 for each one. Please use the form below to submit requests by mail or place this form in the Sunday collection basket. When we receive your request, we will call you to let you know if the date and time you requested is unavailable. If you require a Mass card, we will mail it to you (please check the box below if you wish to receive one).

Requested by: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Name of the deceased or Special Intention (please specify): _____

Is a Mass card required? Yes No

Date (weekday) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 7:00 am	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:00 Noon
Date (Saturday) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:30 am	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:00 Noon
Date (Saturday Vigil/Sunday) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:30 pm	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:00 am
	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:00 am	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:30 am

Name of the deceased or Special Intention (please specify): _____

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	<input type="checkbox"/> 8:00 am	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:30 am

Amount enclosed: \$_____ (make check payable to Our Lady of Sorrows)