



# Our Lady of Sorrows

217 PROSPECT STREET, SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079

973-763-5454

[www.olschurch.com](http://www.olschurch.com)



**MASSSES:** *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**

**March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**Second Sunday of Lent**

## *A Message from Stephanie Sonnick*

Friends,

*Do you believe in the depths of your heart that God is powerful?*

It might seem like a silly question to pose to you. After all, here you are reading the Sunday bulletin – a sign that you’re most likely a parishioner of ours, perhaps for many years, and you’ve joined us week after week here on Sunday to worship the Lord. “Of course I believe that God is powerful,” you might be saying to yourself. “Why would you ask that, Stephanie?” Well, you’re in luck: I’ll use the rest of this short article to tell you why I’m asking this question and to share something exciting with you. Here goes nothing...

First, we see God’s power on display in this Sunday’s readings. Our first reading from the Book of Genesis describes the promise that God makes to Abram: *“I am the LORD who brought you from Ur [a foreign land] to give you this land [Canaan, the Promised Land] as a possession.”* That’s a big promise to make to one, lonely Abram in an ancient world full of ruthless empires, violence, slavery and death. And yet God promises and ratifies His promise in the ceremony at the end of the first reading. This ceremony, involving the spilling of animal blood, binds both parties to the promise in a solemn, permanent binding agreement called a covenant. And then what happens? After a long journey for the Israelites: *His promise is fulfilled.* Today’s Gospel serves as a parallel and fulfillment of that first scene from Genesis. In Luke, we hear of the Transfiguration, where God reveals His glory to Peter, James and John. They are wrapped up into His glory in a “cloud,” and they hear the voice of the Father proclaim, *“This is my chosen Son; listen to Him.”* They are stunned into silence – an unusual reaction from these three – and an indicator of the profundity of what they’ve experienced.

In both of these scenes, God’s power is not merely on display like biceps at the gym: rather, He uses His power to show His fidelity to humanity! This is true even today: God’s power is at work just as it was to bring the Israelites to the Promised Land, and just as it was in Jesus’ sacrificing His life for our liberation from sin through life in His Spirit. If you’re anything like me, you want to see God’s power work in your life. Not “out there,” but “in here” – in your heart, and your home, and your relationships.

God wants to show You His loving power and how it can change your life – I’m sure of it. So, this Lent, we invite you to come and encounter God’s transformative, loving power at our **OLS Parish Mission**, happening March 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm in the Upper Church. Come all 3 evenings, but come one or two evenings if that’s all your schedule permits. There’s no need to register, but if you do register you will be entered to win a free copy of the Friars’ popular spiritual book *Habits for Holiness*.

A Parish Mission is like an **in-house retreat** and will feature three evenings of inspiring talks and prayer by a religious community of spiritual masters, the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. Our staff is so excited to offer you this opportunity during Lent and during this Jubilee Year of Hope, and we invite you to join us for each of the three evenings!! I myself have benefitted incredibly from the ministry of the Friars of the Renewal, and I’m so excited that you will have the opportunity to experience them as channels of God’s powerful,

personal love for you in just under two weeks. Below is a more detailed outline of what to expect on each of these three evenings as the Friars walk us through our mission, which will include the Sacrament of Confession on the evening of Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. Confession on this evening will serve as our annual Lenten Penance Service. Please join us and bring your friends and family to receive what God and His power have in store for you!

In the Peace of Christ, always,



## LENTEN MISSION 2025 MISSION SCHEDULE

**Monday, March 24th**    ***“Finding Hope Amidst Chaos”:***  
**Opening Talk and Adoration**  
7:00pm in the Upper Church

**Tuesday, March 25th**    ***“The Hope That Frees Us!”:***  
**Talk, Adoration, and Confessions**  
7:00pm in the Upper Church

**Wednesday, March 26th**    ***“Hope That Brings Us Healing”:***  
**Closing Talk and Eucharistic Healing Service**  
7:00pm in the Upper Church



Scan the QR code to find out more and to let us know you're coming!  
Contact Stephanie Sonnick with any questions at  
[olschurcheinministries@gmail.com](mailto:olschurcheinministries@gmail.com) or via phone at (973) 763-5454 ext. 230.

We at Our Lady of Sorrows are prayerfully excited about the life-changing encounter with Christ that this mission will be for each of you!



**THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING OF  
OUR PARISHIONERS**

<b>March 9</b>	<b>Week 37</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Collection	\$15,798	\$464,356
Budgeted	\$12,164	\$450,067
2 <sup>nd</sup> Collection – Central and Eastern Europe \$2,385		

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

**Archdiocesan Annual Appeal**

**We can do this!**

**Please help OLS to reach our goal!**

Total donors  
as of 3-8-25:  
56

Total # of OLS families:  
2322

**To make a gift:**

<https://rcan.org/sharing/>



**Annual Appeal Goal**

**\$85,107**



Raised  
**\$29,204**

As you can see, we are already 1/3 of the way toward reaching our goal of \$85,107. If we collect this amount by June 30<sup>th</sup>, our annual assessment due to the Archdiocese will drop from 18% to 16%. Because we made our goal last year, this saved the parish about \$18,000. What all of this means is that, in helping countless people within the Archdiocese who benefit from the many ministries and programs of the Archdiocese, we also aid our own parish.

We kindly ask you to consider contributing to the Annual Appeal. By You may scan the QR code or visit: [rcan.org/sharing](https://rcan.org/sharing/) Please be sure to designate Our Lady of Sorrows – South Orange as your parish. Thank you!

**Interfaith Holocaust Remembrance Service**

South Orange/Maplewood's 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Interfaith Holocaust Remembrance Service will be held at 3:00pm on Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at Congregation Beth El in South Orange. Please consider attending. For more information, contact OLS parishioner Mary Chris Brauchli at (973) 943-2770.



**South Orange & Maplewood Interfaith Holocaust Remembrance Service  
March 23, 2025**

Join us for the 48th Annual SOMA Interfaith Holocaust Remembrance Service on Sunday, March 23, 2025, at Congregation Beth El, South Orange.

Our event begins at 3:00 PM with the March of Remembrance and Hope from Spiotta Park, honoring the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, along with millions of others who were brutally murdered by the Nazi regime. The service follows at 4:00 PM, exploring the theme of Resistance and Resilience with guest speaker Dr. Jud Newborn, an Emmy Award-winning historian and co-author of *Sophie Scholl and the White Rose*.

This year, Stephen Schwartz and Sylvia Ben-Asher, a Warsaw Ghetto survivor, will receive the Sister Rose Thering Holocaust Education Award for their impactful work in Holocaust education.

Our interfaith event is a powerful stand against resurgent anti-semitism and hate. We invite the SOMA community to come together in remembrance — to honor the past, tell its story, and build a brighter future of tolerance and understanding.

For details, contact Mary Chris Brauchli at 973-943-2770



### Meet Our Staff

**Rev. Brian X. Needles**, Pastor  
[frbrianneedles@gmail.com](mailto:frbrianneedles@gmail.com)  
**Rev. Andrew Lee**, Parochial Vicar  
[frlee527@gmail.com](mailto:frlee527@gmail.com)  
**Rev. Robert Suszko**, Weekend Assistant  
**Rev. Patrick Seo**, Priest in Residence  
**Rev. Dominic Ciriaco**, Priest in Residence  
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[charlesnoun@olschurch.com](mailto:charlesnoun@olschurch.com)  
**Mary Beth Zurat**, Secretary  
[marybeth.olschurch@gmail.com](mailto:marybeth.olschurch@gmail.com)

### Stations of the Cross

A reminder that we have Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7pm in the Upper Church. On Good Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, we will have Living Stations of the Cross with Choral Meditations at 7:30pm in the Upper Church.



### Volunteer for Family Promise

OLS will once again be supporting families experiencing homelessness for Family Promise of Essex County (formerly Interfaith Hospitality Network).

We need to prepare a meal and to shop for a list of grocery items for several families. The meals and grocery items will need to be brought to the lower church (Fourth Street entrance) the evening of Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup> or the morning of Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> and will be delivered to the Family Promise office on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Volunteer roles include:

- Cooks to prepare part of a meal. *You'll be contacted about the part of the meal to prepare and the size of the family.*
- Shoppers to provide requested grocery items. *You'll be contacted about the list of items to provide.*
- Volunteers to help accept and store meals and groceries on Monday evening (3/31) or Tuesday morning (4/1).

There are sign-up sheets in the church vestibule for these roles. Another option is to donate a gift card for the families. A sign-up sheet for specific gift cards to donate will be available as well.

If you have any questions, please contact Anna Nelson at (973) 477-9546 or [annanelson202@gmail.com](mailto:annanelson202@gmail.com)





**VIGIL, SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025**

5:30 PM Margaret Brown

**SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025**

8:00 AM Rose Schrempp  
10:00 AM William E. Smith  
11:30 AM People of the Parish

**MONDAY, MARCH 17, 2025**

7:00 AM Patrick M. Campbell  
12:00 PM Robert E. Cushing

**TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025**

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

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2025**

7:00 AM Edward Silliere  
12:00 PM Bernadette Ezuduemoih –  
Special Intention

**THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 2025**

7:00 AM Mary Donadio  
12:00 PM Dr. Stephen M. Drinane

**FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025**

7:00 AM John MacMillan –  
Special Intention  
12:00 PM Sr. Nina Joseph, O.M.M.I.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025**

8:30 AM People of the Parish  
12:00 PM Ludomir Budzyn –  
Special Intention

**VIGIL, SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025**

5:30 PM People of the Parish

**SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025**

8:00 AM John M. Plesnik  
10:00 AM All Rosarians Living and Deceased  
11:30 AM Elizabeth Giuliano Magnes –  
40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**Pray for the Deceased**



Let us remember our deceased loved ones in our prayers. St. Paul of the Cross wrote, *"If, during life, we have been kind to the suffering souls in purgatory, God will see that help be not denied us after death."*

**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.

This week's candle is in memory of Robert E. Cushing, requested by Lynn Bryce.



**REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Please keep the following in your prayers: Bill Aber, Rita Arena, Diana Baseman, 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, Sr. Regis Keane, 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, Kathi Thiemer, Mary Jane Waldron, Sr. Mary Jo Ward, Stephanie Windsor



On Fridays, we eat fish. The **OLS Fish Fry** is back in person for the first time since pre-Covid on Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> from 6-8pm. Dine-in (OLS School cafeteria) or take-out! Please note: if you choose to dine-in it's BYOB.

To order, scan the QR code in the flyer, email [OLSSchoolHSA@gmail.com](mailto:OLSSchoolHSA@gmail.com), or visit [ourladyofsorrowsschool.org/fishfry](http://ourladyofsorrowsschool.org/fishfry)

# OLS Fish Fry

from the Chippery in Union



**FRIDAY, MARCH 21ST**

**6:00PM - 8:00PM**

**DINE IN (OLS CAFETERIA) OR TAKE OUT!**

**BYOB IF YOU DINE IN!**

**ORDER DUE DATE - MARCH 19TH**

**\$20**

**FISH AND CHIPS/COLE SLAW/TARTER SAUCE**

**\$5 EACH**

**PIZZA AND MAC AND CHEESE (DINE IN ONLY)**

**Click QR Code to Order**



OLS Fish Fry — Our Lady of Sorrows School