



Our Lady of Sorrows

217 PROSPECT STREET, SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079

2025 Holy Week & Easter Schedule

MONDAY, APRIL 14

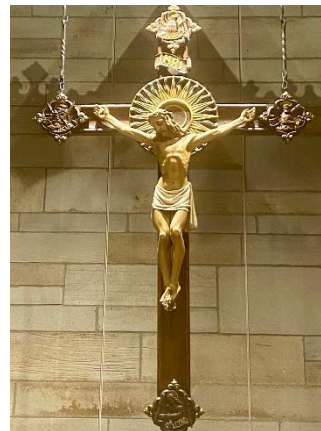
Mass: 7:00 am and 12:00 Noon
Eucharistic Adoration: 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

Mass: 7:00 am and 12:00 Noon
Confessions: 7:30 am – 8:00 am

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

Mass: 7:00 am and 12:00 Noon
Confessions: 12:30 pm – 1:00 pm



HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 17

Morning Prayer: 9:00 am

Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30 pm

Church open until 11:00 pm for Adoration before the Altar of Repose

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18

Morning Prayer: 9:00 am

Confessions: 12:00 Noon – 1:00 pm

Good Friday Service of the Lord's Passion and Death with Holy Communion: 3:00 pm

Choral and Living Stations of the Cross by the Parish Choir and Youth Group: 7:30 pm

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 19

Morning Prayer: 9:00 am
Blessing of Easter Foods: 9:45 am

Easter Egg Hunt: 10:00 am

Solemn Vigil Mass of Easter: 8:00 pm



EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20

Easter Masses at
8:00 am, 10:00 am and 11:30 am

Happy Easter!

A Message from Fr. Andrew

The ancient people of the Greek and Roman Empires used palm branches to celebrate different occasions. One way was to award them to victorious athletes. Triumphant athletes, surrounded by a plethora of praise, would lift high palm branches they had earned, immersed in glory. Palm trees and branches held a special significance in ancient Israel as well. For the chosen people, palm branches carried the meanings of glory, kingship, victory, and peace. So, the people of Jerusalem were laying down palm branches not just as a sign of victory, but as a profound declaration of Jesus as the Messiah and the King, a gesture of reverence and honor that would soon be overshadowed by the events of Good Friday.

The commonality among the civilizations is that all three cultures linked them to glory and victory. Some might think, "Then why do we, who already know what happened on Good Friday, still welcome the Lord entering Jerusalem with Palms? Wasn't the event of Good Friday far from victory?" The answer to those questions is that this is precisely why we welcome the Lord with Palms - to welcome His victory parade, soon to take place. Why and how? Because the victory of our Lord is not in the earthly glory of ruling over the world with force, but a victory of winning our souls through His excruciating passion on the cross. For through the mystery of Calvary, the gate of heaven was opened.

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of the holiest week of the year. It begins with the return of the King to His city Jerusalem and ends with the glorious resurrection. It commemorates the culmination of our Lord's earthly life as God Man and further reminds us of what Christianity truly is. Our faith is not about "me" but all about "Him who died for me." This week is supposed to instill in our hearts that true victory is not about being exalted on the throne but lifted up on the cross. During this week, we are invited to thank and love our Lord, our God, who chose not to reign and be served, but become like rain, lowering Himself from heaven all the way to the earth, to become the life-giving source for all of us.

Today, we will receive palms at our church. They are not mere souvenirs but a symbol of our Lord's reckless love for us that knows no end. When we feel our lives strike us to the point that it feels difficult to even get up again, we must first remember the strikes our Lord embraced for our sins. It was He who first struggled to get up to complete the paschal mystery of death and resurrection. Through that mystery of the Holy Week, every suffering we encounter has a salvific purpose, as Christ sanctified them and made them His own, transforming our pain into a path to redemption.

This Holy Week, may we rejoice and praise the Lord in welcoming Him into the Jerusalem of our hearts. But also, let us pick up our cross as we pick up our palms and remember our Lord's taking up His cross. That way, through the leaves of palm trees, we shall never forget that the palms of our God's hand always hold us strong, and His love for us will never fail, a love that is constant and unwavering, even in our darkest moments. Praise be Jesus Christ, now and forever.

Blessings,



THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING OF OUR PARISHIONERS

April 6	Week 41	YTD
Collection	\$15,897	\$515,951
Budgeted	\$12,164	\$498,723

Easter Flowers \$525

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Whatsoever You Do...

As we know, the third pillar of Lent is Almsgiving. One concrete way to fulfill this spiritual obligation is to make either a material donation to our **Food Pantry** or a financial contribution to our Society of St. Vincent de Paul fund.

Please refer to the Pantry's needs in the flyer. In addition to dry goods, they are also collecting soap for an "April Showers" theme.

OLS FOOD PANTRY

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

If you like to donate food for our pantry, please consider the following list of items most needed. **PLEASE do not donate food in glass jars, expired food, XL sizes, or home-portioned food.**

- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Peanut Butter & Jelly (regular size plastic jars)
- Cereal (low sugar)
- Can Tuna and Chicken
- Rice (1lb bags)
- Beans
- Granola/Protein Bars



APRIL SHOWERS
bring your soap donations!

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

The OLS Food Pantry distributes on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month, 8-10am.

MONETARY DONATIONS

If you prefer to make a monetary donation please make checks payable to "OLS Food Pantry" mailed to Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 217 Prospect St., South Orange, NJ 07079 or online at www.olschurch.com/parish-giving.

DROP OFF HOURS FOR FOOD DONATIONS

Our Lady of Sorrows Church • 217 Prospect Street

4th St. entrance (lower Church)

Monday-Friday: 9:30am-4:00pm

Church front vestibule

Sat. & Sun.: 8:00am-12:00pm

QUESTIONS OR TO VOLUNTEER:

Email: OLSPantry@gmail.com or call: 973.370.0458



The St. Vincent de Paul Society seeks contributions to meet the needs of community members in times of financial distress. See below for how to donate.

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 OLSSvincentdepaul@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.

Courtesy Parking Request

Today (Palm Sunday) and Easter Sunday, when crowds are larger than usual, we kindly ask that you **enter the lot only via Prospect Street** and **exit the lot only via Academy Street**.



This will help to ensure a one-way flow of traffic and prevent a bottleneck at the top of the parking lot, enabling all those coming to Mass to find parking in a timely manner. Thank you for your assistance!

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
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Sr. Mary Selina, S.C.C., Pastoral Associate
passociate07@gmail.com
Jennifer Noll, Catechetical Coordinator
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Christopher Kaiser, Youth Minister
kaiserch@shu.edu
Stephanie Sonnicks, Ministerial Associate
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Colleen McDonald, Administrative Assistant
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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

Reminder: Scouts Sale This Weekend



SUPPORT
Scouts BSA Troop 99
Palm Crosses & Spring Flowers
Scouting America
Presented For Life
Sale
Our Lady of Sorrows
217 Prospect St.
South Orange, NJ
SAT, April 12 6:00-7:00PM
SUN, April 13 8:30AM-1:00PM
SCAN TO PRE-ORDER BY APRIL 9
<https://tinyurl.com/199flowers>
\$13 EACH

Our Scouts are selling flowers and Palm Crosses outside church after all Masses this weekend.

Please note:

There will be **no** bagels, coffee and donuts today. We will resume on the fourth Sunday of the month – Divine Mercy Sunday – April 27th.



Annual Appeal Update

At this time last year, we were about halfway to our goal. To donate, visit rcan.org/sharing or scan the QR code below. Any amount helps both the archdiocese's ministries and social service programs as well as our parish ultimately.

Let's raise the temperature. Perhaps in doing so we'll see the weather outside warm up too!

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal

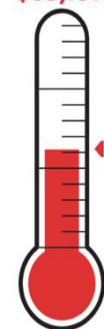
We are WAY behind our goal!
Please help us reach our goal!



Total donors
as of 4-8-25:
73
Total # of OLS families:
2322
To make a gift:
<https://rcan.org/sharing/>

Annual Appeal

\$85,107



Raised
\$37,389

2025 Anniversary Blessings



The Archdiocese of Newark will be honoring couples celebrating 5, 25 and 50 years of holy matrimony in this Jubilee Year.

These anniversary liturgies will be celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark.

There will be only **ONE** anniversary liturgy for all couples this year: Sunday, June 1st at 3pm.

If you would like to register for the Mass, please contact Mary Beth Zurat at (973) 763-5454 ext 209 or marybeth.olschurch@gmail.com



VIGIL, SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025

5:30 PM Juan Rego

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025

8:00 AM DePaola, Deehan & Salvante Families

10:00 AM People of the Parish

11:30 AM Grace McGrath

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025

7:00 AM Daniel McCauley

12:00 PM Androcles Clitus and Parnel Clitus

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2025

7:00 AM Kim Herbert – Special Intention

9:30 AM School Mass

12:00 PM Jacqueline Joseph – Special Intention

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025

7:00 AM Fitzgerald Haig and All Souls in Purgatory

12:00 PM Michael McDonnell

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2025

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

7:30 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18, 2025

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

3:00 PM Passion Service

7:30 PM Choral & Youth Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2025

9:00 AM Morning Prayer

9:45 AM Blessing of the Easter Baskets

SOLEMN VIGIL SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2025

8:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2025

8:00 AM People of the Parish

10:00 AM Deceased members of the Ezuduemoih Family and All Souls in Purgatory

11:30 AM James DeMeo

Pray for the Departed



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.



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, 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



Holy Saturday

EGG HUNT & FAMILY SOCIAL

April 19, 2025



Egg Hunt

Immediately following the 9:45 Blessing of the Easter Baskets

Church Lawn Near the Playground

Children of All Ages are Welcome - Little Ones will Hunt Separately

(In case of rain, the egg hunt will be held in St. Joseph's Hall)



Family Social

Join Us After the Hunt for:

Light Breakfast and Refreshments

Holy Week Crafts and Activities for the Kids

Questions? Email Colleen McGeehin at colleenmcgeehin@gmail.com

Suggested Donation - \$10 per child, no more than \$25 per family - Collected at Event

**HOLY SATURDAY
APRIL 19TH**

9:45 AM

**UPPER
CHURCH**

OUR LADY OF SORROWS ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE EASTER BASKETS

ŚWIĘCONKA



EASTER BASKETS BLESSING

WHAT IS ŚWIĘCONKA?

- Świąconka is a traditional Polish custom.
- It is pronounced "Sveen-Tsonka".
- Świąconka refers to the Easter foods taken to church, in baskets lined with linens, for blessing on Holy Saturday.
- Each food in the basket is symbolic of the life, death, or resurrection of Christ.
- Świąconka also refers to the meal at which the blessed foods are eaten on Easter morning.
- This meal is considered the first breakfast in the traditions of many nationalities, serving to "break-the-fast" of the season of Lent.
- Świąconka is a meal of celebration and joy.



WHAT SHOULD I PUT IN MY EASTER BASKET?

For those wishing to participate in the Świąconka, the following is a guide to familiarize yourself with this traditional Polish custom. Feel free to alter the foods listed below and bring your own interpretation of the Easter breakfast in a basket to be blessed.

CUSTOMARY EASTER BREAKFAST FOODS

Hardboiled Eggs – Eggs have long been regarded as a symbol of new life. The emergence of a newborn chick from the shell is a sign of the new life Christ provided through his resurrection. It has also been compared to His emergence from the tomb on Easter morning. Poles cut the first egg into pieces so that all may share the egg, symbolizing our sharing of Christ with each other. **Salt** is a symbol of prosperity, and that we are the "salt of the earth" (St. Matthew 5:13) and is sprinkled on the egg. **Pepper** and **horseradish** are reminiscent of our Lord's passion and may be sprinkled on the eggs.

Ham, Pork, Kielbasa All of these types of pork were forbidden under the dietary codes of the Old Testament. Since our Lord comes to fulfill the law, the old makes way for the new. One main element of the Świąconka ceremony is the blessing of those formerly forbidden foods, emphasizing the "New Covenant" which Jesus Christ established for all by His death and resurrection.

Bread or Babka – This is a round loaf of bread topped with a frosting cross. This symbolizes the bread of the Eucharistic meal.

Butter (or Pascal) Lamb – The lamb is featured carrying a banner emblazoned with a cross. The symbolism of the lamb has many meanings. Our Lord proclaimed, "I am the Good Shepherd." (John 10:11). St. John the Baptist proclaimed, "Behold the Lamb of God." (John 1:29). The lamb, a sacrificial animal in ancient times, portrays Christ as victorious through this presentation. This lamb may also be made of dough or cast plaster.



Vinegar – Reminds us of the sour wine given to Jesus as He hung upon the cross.

Wine – Reminds us of Jesus' blood, particularly His request to drink of His blood.

Questions: Contact Jen Noll at jennollols@gmail.com