

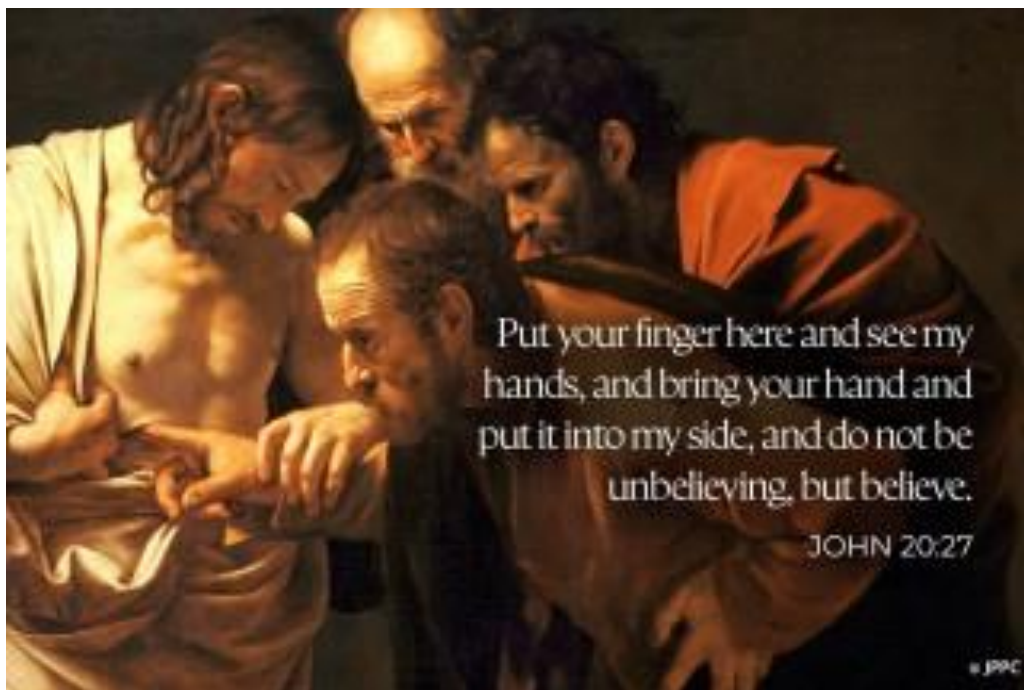


Our Lady of Sorrows

217 PROSPECT STREET, SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079

973-763-5454

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

April 27, 2025

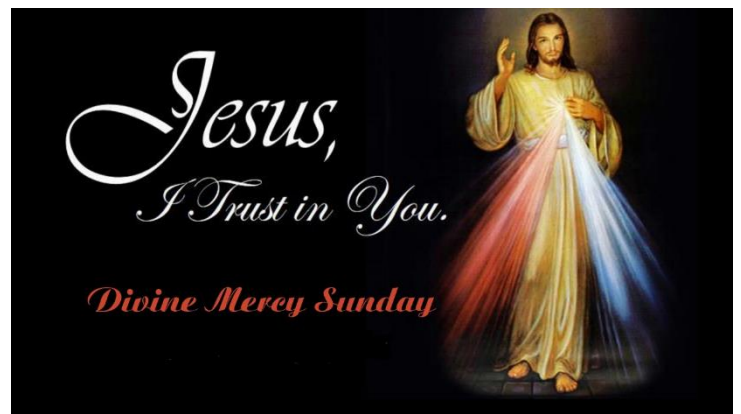
2nd Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy Sunday

A Message from Fr. Brian

Happy Easter! The Octave of Easter ends on the Sunday after Easter and so each of the 8 days in that Octave is celebrated as a “little Easter.” This 2nd Sunday of Easter is also called Divine Mercy Sunday, and this Feast of Divine Mercy was instituted in the universal Church by Pope St. John Paul II on the occasion of the canonization of St. Faustina Kowalska on April 30, 2000 (I was personally present at that canonization!). St. Faustina was born in Poland in 1905, the 3rd of 10 children. At the age of 19, she entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. In the 1930s, St. Faustina received many revelations from Our Lord. Foremost among those revelations, Jesus asked her to help spread the message of God’s plan of mercy for the world. She became an “apostle” of God’s mercy, a “secretary” of the message of God’s mercy.

So often we spend too much time focusing on our failings – and not enough on God’s mercy. This Sunday, Jesus wants to give us the right perspective. On this Feast of Divine Mercy, we really should strive to take to heart, to trust in, and to believe the beautiful words that we hear in today’s responsorial psalm: *“His mercy endures forever.”*

This Feast is also an invitation to entrust ourselves more fully to God’s providence. The image depicting Divine Mercy has at the bottom of it the words, “Jesus, I trust in you.” It’s easy for us to trust in God when our health is good, when our job situation is bright, when everyone in our family seems to be sailing along smoothly. But it’s not always so easy to trust or believe in God when our life seems to be in chaos, when our health is failing, when our economic situation is not great, when we have family problems, or when death strikes close to home. At those times our faith is challenged and perhaps doubts crop up in our minds about God’s love for us or even about His very existence. Don’t worry: we’re not alone. In this Sunday’s Gospel, St. Thomas also struggled to believe even when Jesus was standing right in front of him!



Growing in holiness doesn’t mean we live in a continual mystical union with God; it doesn’t mean that we don’t feel abandoned at times; it doesn’t mean that we aren’t occasionally pestered by doubts. But growing in holiness does mean that at those moments when we clearly feel God’s absence, we nevertheless entrust ourselves to Him, we abandon ourselves to Him and we say “Jesus, I trust in you.”

That’s not to suggest that we’ll experience an emotional high by just saying those words, but it does mean that when we unite ourselves to Jesus in this way, we make an incredible act of faith, a heroic act of faith, one worthy of the great saints.

In short, we defeat doubt by imitating St. Thomas when he said, “My Lord and my God.”

We defeat despair and darkness by saying the words, “Jesus, I trust in You.”

We defeat feelings of being abandoned by God by remembering what Jesus said through St. Faustina: “A humble soul does not trust itself, but places all its confidence in God.”

Sincerely yours in the Risen Lord,

Fr. Brian

THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING OF OUR PARISHIONERS

April 13	Week 42	YTD
Collection	\$13,673	\$529,624
Budgeted	\$12,164	\$510,887

Easter Flowers \$1,228

The numbers for the Easter and Divine Mercy Sunday collections will be reported in the May 4th bulletin.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Welcome to the Church!

At the Easter Vigil and on Divine Mercy Sunday, we welcome(d) seven new members to the Body of Christ and Our Lady of Sorrows family: Jessica Shaw, Benjamin Warehime, Mihir Jacinto, Yadram Mangar, Natasha Cadeau, Christine Moloney, Rashada George.



We continue to pray for them as they begin their life as faithful Catholics. We are reminded of our oneness through the words of St. Teresa of Avila:

"Christ has no body on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes with which he looks compassionately on this world. Yours are the

feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands with which he blesses all the world. Christ has no body now on earth but yours!"

If you feel a movement in your soul to learn more about the Catholic faith or have not received all your sacraments and desire to return "home" to the Church, please call Sr. Mary Selina at (973) 763-5454. Once you choose to live a sacramental life, the Holy Spirit will come to you in a powerful way as to help you live your Catholic faith more fully.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

We have Eucharistic Adoration Mondays and Fridays from 12:30pm – 3:00pm, concluding with the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by Benediction. Come spend some quiet time to glory in the risen Lord.



Whoever possesses the goods of this world, and sees his brother to be in need, and yet closes his heart to him: in what way does the love of God abide in him?

1 John 3:17

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.



Meet Our Staff

Rev. Brian X. Needles, Pastor

frbrianneedles@gmail.com

Rev. Andrew Lee, Parochial Vicar

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Rev. Robert Suszko, Weekend Assistant

Rev. Patrick Seo, Priest in Residence

Rev. Dominic Ciriaco, Priest in Residence

Deacon Walter Wiggins, Permanent Deacon

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Charles Noun, Business Manager

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Mary Beth Zurat, Secretary

marybeth.olschurch@gmail.com

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 3:00pm.

If you would like to register for the Mass, please contact Mary Beth Zurat no later than May 5th at (973) 763-5454 ext 209 or marybeth.olschurch@gmail.com

Join Verso Cristo!

Verso Cristo is a network of area parishes committed to building up community and discipleship for young adults between the ages of 20 and 35.

We offer monthly events, service opportunities, and seasonal small group ministries. We are graciously supported by OLS and Saint Philomena in Livingston though open to all young adults from neighboring parishes.

For more information, please reach out to Stephanie Sonnick at (201) 470-2904 or olschurchministries@gmail.com We'd love to meet you and learn more about how best to serve you!

Bagels and Coffee and Donuts is back...



and sweeter than ever if you had given up all three for Lent. We skipped Palm Sunday so this is the first one since March!

There will be a special children's Divine Mercy craft activity as well. As per usual, join us downstairs after the 10 and 11:30am Masses. See you there!



Masses For The Week



VIGIL, SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 2025

8:00 PM John F. Crimmins

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025

8:00 AM People of the Parish

10:00 AM Patricia M. Miller

11:30 AM Msgr. Festus Okafor

MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025

7:00 AM Parker Arnold – Special Intention

12:00 PM Max Philip Goldstein

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 2025

7:00 AM Mary Donadio

12:00 PM James Sullivan

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025

7:00 AM Peggy Donnelly

12:00 PM Gerald Brody

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025

7:00 AM Robbie Pascual –
Special Intention

12:00 PM Richard Grimolizzi

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 2025

7:00 AM Frances Michler

12:00 PM Mary Ann Capano

SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025

8:30 AM Bernadette Ezuduemoih & Family
– Special Intention and
All Souls in Purgatory

12:00 PM Miguel Sanchez

VIGIL SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025

5:30 PM Stasia Borowicz

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025

8:00 AM DePaola, Deehan & Salvante Families

10:00 AM Patricia J. Smith – 26th Anniversary

11:30 AM People of the Parish

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





Our Knights of Columbus will once again be supporting the First Choice Women's Resource Centers through the **Baby Bottle Boomerang** program.

Bottles will be distributed after all Masses on Mother's Day weekend (May 10th and 11th) and remain available in the church vestibule. **Fill bottles with coins, cash or checks** (made payable to First Choice Women's Resource Center) and **return them by June 15th (Father's Day)** to the crib, which will be set up in the vestibule.



If you would like to donate online, please visit 1stchoicefriends.org choose *Give/Give Now* and select *Baby Bottle Boomerang* as the Fund and *Church of Our Lady of Sorrows* as the Sub Fund.

Thanks in large part to your generosity, 867 women chose life for their babies last year. Help us to share the truth and bring hope to young women and teens who find themselves in an unplanned pregnancy.





Litany of Trust

Composed by Sr. Faustina Maria Pia, SV, Sister of Life

From the belief that I have to earn Your love ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear that I am unlovable ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the false security that I have what it takes ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear that trusting You will leave me more destitute ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From all suspicion of Your words and promises ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the rebellion against childlike dependency on You ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From refusals and reluctances in accepting Your will ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From anxiety about the future ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From resentment or excessive preoccupation with the past ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From restless self-seeking in the present moment ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From disbelief in Your love and presence ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of being asked to give more than I have ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the belief that my life has no meaning or worth ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From the fear of what love demands ... Deliver me, Jesus.
From discouragement ... Deliver me, Jesus.
That You are continually holding me, sustaining me, loving me ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That Your love goes deeper than my sins and failings, and transforms me ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That not knowing what tomorrow brings is an invitation to lean on You ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That You are with me in my suffering ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That my suffering, united to Your own, will bear fruit in this life and the next ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That You will not leave me orphan, that You are present in Your Church ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That Your plan is better than anything else ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That You always hear me, and in Your goodness always respond to me ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That You give me the grace to accept forgiveness and to forgive others ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That You give me all the strength I need for what is asked ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That my life is a gift ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That You will teach me to trust You ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That You are my Lord and my God ... Jesus, I trust in you.
That I am Your beloved one ... Jesus, I trust in you.
 Amen.

