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 am, 10:00 am 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

October 11, 2026

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Message from Fr. Andrew

Today's Gospel focuses on the glorious King's desire to welcome His guests to His wedding banquet. I'm not just talking about God dispatching his servant to spread the word. To truly appreciate today's Gospel passage, we must understand the ancient Near Eastern culture. In Jesus' time, when kings or wealthy nobles hosted wedding banquets, they gave guests a festive outer garment that fit the theme of the day. The wedding garments kings provided were uniform and therefore obscured guests' rank or class, so whoever wore them at the wedding banquet could mingle with the rest of the guests, regardless of social status. The wedding garments the host provided for guests therefore weren't merely clothing, but an expression of love and consideration for each guest.

We read in today's Gospel that the King, after being rejected repeatedly by the first group of people he invited, extends His invitation to whomever His servants found, both good and bad alike. The first group He invited were indeed the chief priests and elders of Israel, who should have known better than to fail to recognize Jesus as the Son of David. They should have guided the whole nation to recognize their Messiah, Jesus, who is the Divine Bridegroom, God who weds Humanity through the mystery of the Incarnation. However, the same group of people was responsible for the death of the bridegroom. Jesus' words about the burning of the city of those who had killed the King's servant are a prophecy of the burning and destruction of their city in 70 A.D. during the Roman siege of Jerusalem, which also destroyed the Temple.

Then the invitation reaches the Gentiles, good and bad alike. Now, the King has fulfilled His salvific plan to include every nation through His beloved Son's death and resurrection. The King, therefore, provided the wedding garment purchased by the Son's blood on the cross, which we must wear to enter the eternal wedding banquet of heaven. In the time of Jesus, to refuse to put on the wedding garment provided by the King himself would be the grave expression of disrespect, wanting to enter the banquet with their own "greatness" rather than accepting the King's wealth. To enter the banquet, we must clothe ourselves with the wedding garment, which Dr. John Bergsma describes as the righteous lifestyles and deeds that correspond to God's invitation to the divine wedding banquet.

Wearing a new garment means that we must give up our old garment. Of course, our salvation comes from our God alone. However, if we remain in our old lifestyle without letting the grace of the Holy Spirit transform us into saints, we will never be worthy guests at the wedding banquet. We must give up our pathetic rags and say yes to the garment God provides, which alone will admit us into the Kingdom. Never giving up our own garments also means trying to save ourselves through our own merits, which, as we all know, NEVER WORKS! Heavenly citizenship is not the result of our own greatness, but of God's, and we must humbly accept the garment by submitting ourselves totally to Christ alone, our Savior.

This week, God invites us to think about the attachments we hold on to that hinder us from putting on the King's garment. They are the ones we must put down to pick up the new robe of salvation. One great way to dress ourselves in the white wedding garment of the King is to go to confession, as it strips us of the old self of sorrow and misery. With the heart of gratitude and repentance, let's line ourselves up to receive His mercy!

Blessings,

THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING OF OUR PARISHIONERS

October 4	Week 14	YTD
Collection	*$17,773*	*$181,007*

A couple of our expenses this month:

September Utilities Bill - $4,752
Medical & Pension Insurance for October - $10,621

Needed every week: $16,946

Average weekly collection to date: $12,929

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Healing Mass 10/17

Please see flyer on the last page of the bulletin for details about our Healing Mass next Saturday.

We are requesting registrations by tomorrow (10/12). For reasons of age, disability, or sickness, sign up to receive this special sacrament of healing of soul and at times body.

OLSS Tricky Tray is back!

Scan to purchase your tickets and donate today!

Support the St. Vincent de Paul Society

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul at OLS exists to provide support to parishioners in need. If you need assistance, email **StVincent@olschurch.com**. Please know that **ALL** requests are kept confidential.

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." Matthew 25:40

Inspired by Gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, leads women and men to join together and 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.***

If you need assistance, email: StVincent@olschurch.com

The Society cannot do this alone. We are therefore most grateful for the monetary donations we receive to carry out our work. Donations can 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 payable to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Thank you for helping us bear witness to the love of Christ.

If you would like to provide aid, scan the QR Code to make a one-time or recurring donation. Our ability to help is dependent on your generosity, so we are grateful for all contributions we receive.

Charity is the cement which binds Communities to God and persons to one another . . .

- St. Vincent de Paul

Meet Our Staff

Rev. Brian X. Needles, Pastor
bneedles@olschurch.com
Rev. Andrew Lee, Parochial Vicar
alee@olschurch.com
Rev. Robert Suszko, Weekend Assistant
Rev. Patrick Seo, Priest in Residence
Deacon Walter Wiggins
Permanent Deacon
wwiggins@olschurch.com
Deacon Steven Greydanus
Permanent Deacon
sgreydanus@olschurch.com
Judy Foley, School Principal
principal@ourladyofsorrowsschool.org
Sr. Mary Selina, S.C.C., Pastoral Associate
smselina@olschurch.com
Jennifer Noll, Catechetical Coordinator
jnoll@olschurch.com
Christopher Kaiser, Youth Minister
ckaiser@olschurch.com
Palma Anton, Ministerial Associate
panton@olschurch.com
Colleen McDonald, Administrative Assistant
cmcdonald@olschurch.com
Preston Dibble, Director of Music
pdibble@olschurch.com
Charles Noun, Business Manager
cnoun@olschurch.com
Mary Beth Zurat, Secretary
mzurat@olschurch.com

Office Closed

Please note: our parish offices will be closed Monday, October 12th in recognition of Columbus Day. Our Mass schedule remains the same.

Family Promise Reminder

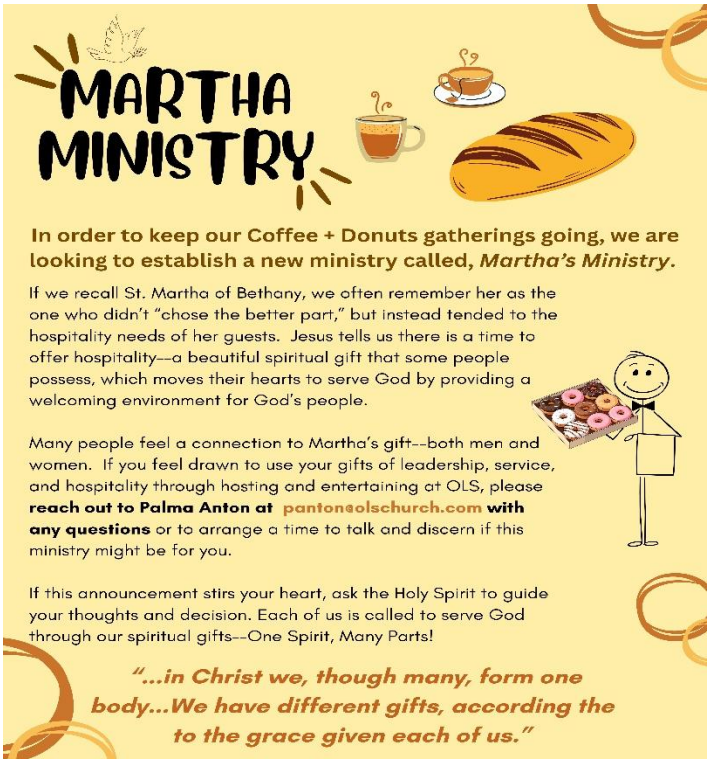
Please remember to bring everything to the lower church (4th St. entrance) tomorrow evening, Monday, October 12th between 5 and 7 or Tuesday morning (10/13) between 9 and 11.

All gift card donations will also be accepted then. Volunteers will be present to accept all donations. Everything will be delivered directly to the Family Promise office on the 13th.

Questions? Contact Anna Nelson: (973) 477-9546 or annanelson202@gmail.com

Coffee and Donuts (and Bagels too!)…

is today after the 10 and 11:30am Masses in St. Joseph's Hall. This week's "C&D" is being hosted by our OLS Cares Ministry. To learn more about OLS Cares, email cares@olschurch.com



If you would like help with future C&Ds and other OLS hospitality related events, please consider joining our ***Martha Ministry***. Email Palma for more information: panton@olschurch.com

Help Needed at Family Mass

VIGIL SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2026

5:30 PM People of the Parish

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026

8:00 AM Deceased members of the DePaola Deehan and Salvante Families
10:00 AM Ida Benigno
11:30 AM Charles and June Lynch

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2026

7:00 AM Anthony and Teresa Schiavone
12:00 PM Maritza Jean-Charles – Special Intention

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2026

7:00 AM Joseph and Ellie Rusignola
12:00 PM Carolina P. Sanchez – 9th Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026

7:00 AM James McGlone
12:00 PM Josephine Calabrese – 5th Anniversary

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026

7:00 AM Daniel Graf
9:30 AM OLS School Mass
12:00 PM Cathy Craig

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026

7:00 AM Loretta DiPaolo Forgione
12:00 PM Anna Greydanus – Special Intention

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

8:30 AM Mary Maruca
12:00 PM Fernando Guerrero

VIGIL SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

5:30 PM Margaret Glenn

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

8:00 AM All Rosarians, living and deceased
10:00 AM People of the Parish
11:30 AM Sheila Lynch

Pray for the Departed

Let us remember those who have recently passed away at OLS: Joyce Smith

Eternal rest grant unto Joyce, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. Amen

In Memoriam

It is a loving gesture to donate the weekly Sanctuary Candle in memory of a loved one or 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, Logan Francis Amon and Tyler Joseph Amon, Rita Arena, Diana Baseman, Patricia Bee, Roy Bell, Ellen Bowden, Daniel Callaghan, Julia Callaghan, Robert Charles, Robert Chmiel, Bekim Colaku, John Colaku, Alice Cosack, Michael Elliot, Nicholas Elliott, George Richmond Files Jr., Norma Gonzalez, Xavier Hartman, Beth Hebron, Deborah Hebron, Mimi Hermann, Norma Hermann, Carmen “Guy” Juliano, Elizabeth Mary, Patricia McDonnell, Neville Moore, Megan More, Kathleen Mullan, Kate Mullin, Kathleen Roche Muscle, Ludgarda Rosa, Anne Sanchez, Julian Sherman, Marie Somers, Elizabeth Stuart, Donna T., Kathi Thiemer, Quentin Tiemeyer, Stephanie Windsor

IT'S A...

DIAPER DRIVE!

Hosted by the OLS Rosary Society in recognition of Respect Life Month to benefit The Mercy House

WHEN: OCTOBER 3RD - OCTOBER 25TH

WHERE: Collection bins are in the church vestibule and inside the 4th St. door

WHAT'S NEEDED: Diapers sizes 4 and up; Pull-ups also accepted

Questions about the Diaper Drive or the Rosary Society?

Email Kathy Shelffo (kshelffo@olschurch.com). OLS' Rosary Society meets monthly to pray the Rosary and foster a deeper relationship with Christ through His Blessed Mother, Mary.

The Mercy House (rcan.org/mercy-house) is a ministry of the Archdiocese of Newark. The mission of the center is to offer a welcoming space for individuals, and families in need, and to provide emotional support and healing in a comfortable faith-filled environment.

We are so Happy to Invite You to
Our Lady of Sorrows Healing Mass
October 17, 2026 – 12:00pm

Our Lady of Sorrows Church

217 Prospect St.

South Orange, N.J. 07079

973-763-5454

This sacrament is administered by a priest who lays his hands on the head of the sick person. He then anoints the sick person on the forehead and palms of the hands with the oil of the sick, while praying: "through this holy anointing may the Lord in His love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord Who frees you from your sin save you and raise you up."

Who can receive this Sacrament?

- Anyone suffering any kind of mental, physical, spiritual or emotional illness
- Facing serious surgery
- Advanced age
- Anyone in danger of death

**** There will be a special lunch served this year******

We would really love to have you join us.

Sign-up Deadline: October 12th

(We would be grateful if you could RSVP by the 12th. This way we can ensure that enough food is ordered)

Names of those attending:

_____

_____

Name and address of contact person:_____

Phone # of contact person:_____

Number staying for a light lunch [ ]

Please make sure to indicate if you will be staying for lunch. **Only those who indicate that they will be staying for lunch will receive lunch.**

Please note: The area near the baptismal font will be set aside for those who need to have Holy Communion brought to them. If anyone has a concern just let us know and we will work out a way to help you. If you have any questions, please contact Sr. Mary Selena at 973-763-5454.