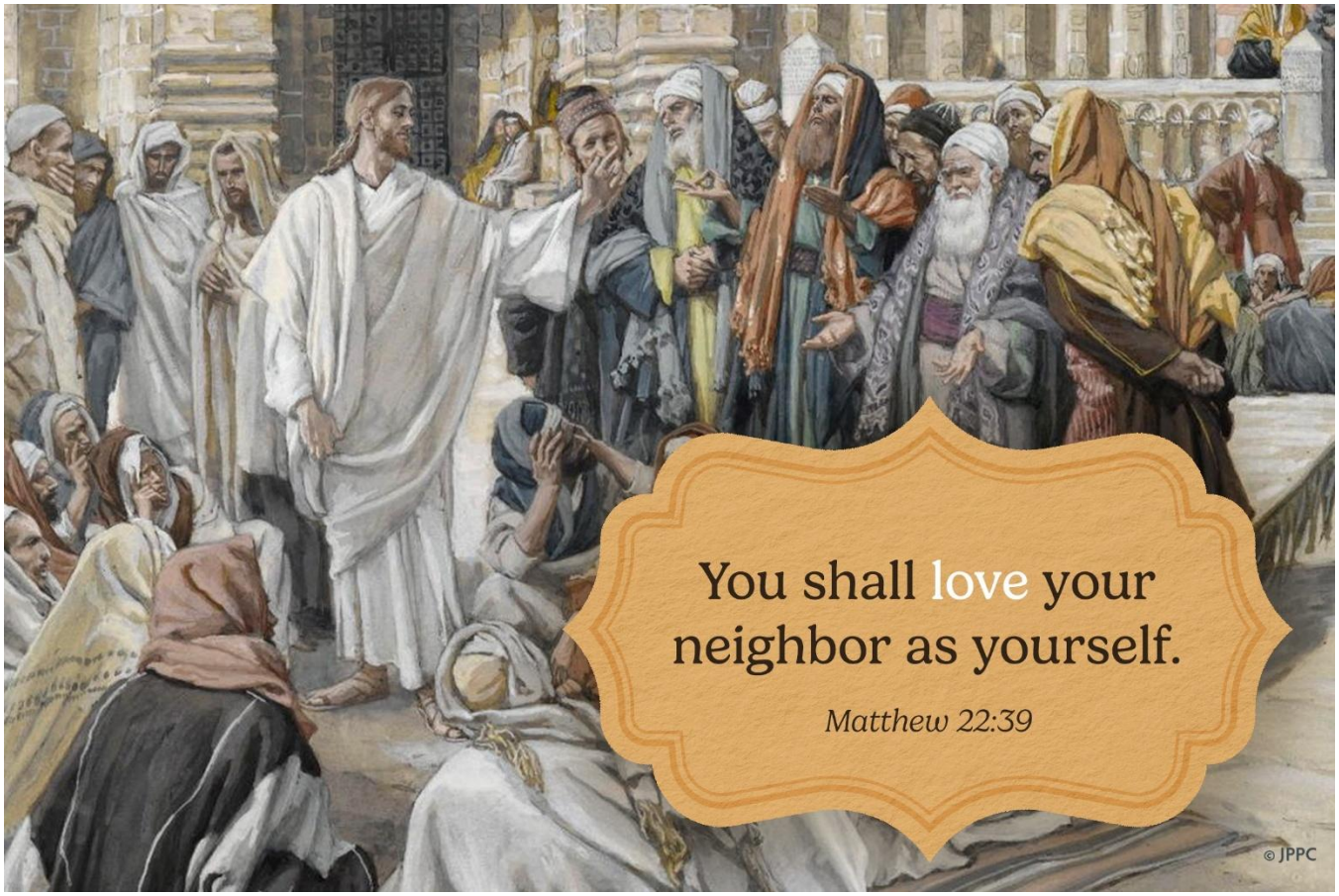
Our Lady of Sorrows

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 25, 2026

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

A Message from Fr. Andrew

One of my favorite Catholic quotes comes from the motto of the Carthusian order, the strictest cloistered contemplative religious order in the Catholic Church (you might want to look it up!). Their motto is: *Stat Crux dum volvitur orbis*, which translates to " The Cross stands firm while the world turns." This motto inspires Carthusian monks to unite themselves solely with Christ by living a life of prayer, silence, solitude, and penance, staying near and with the Lord as ages come and go. What do these profound words of wisdom convey? They convey the unchanging, eternal value God taught humanity at Calvary, remaining the same while history, culture, and worldly values change.

Today, we see how the secular world struggles to understand what it truly means to "love" our neighbors. Why? Because secular culture is always subject to change. It changes depending on who is in charge, who the most popular celebrities are, etc. However, as Catholics, we must focus on the true notion of love, grounded in the unchanging values God has handed down to us through His Church. So, what does our Church teach about love? Love, ultimately, is choosing the good of others even if that choice hurts us and kills us. What is "good"? St. Thomas Aquinas teaches that goodness is linked with perfection. Every entity has a specific nature or form, and we can say it is good insofar as it reaches fulfillment or perfection proper to its nature. A good pen has ink and helps us write without issues. Any pen that lacks its function is, in some sense, lacking the goodness it should have. However, we should not compare human nature to any material object; since our call is to be in heaven eternally with God, the true perfection and fullness of goodness a human can experience is the beatific vision and life in heaven with God. Any lifestyle that hinders us from that potential, therefore, lacks goodness.

Today's Gospel teaches us to love our God first and foremost, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Christ teaches that "Love" must essentially dictate our lives. Loving God above all things means putting Him first and staying in relationship with Him by sincerely following His law. However, what does it truly look like to love our neighbors? Unlike the secular culture's message that we must condone any lifestyle our neighbors choose to live, it is helping them reach their full potential, namely, the perfection of seeing God in heaven. By doing that, we choose their good: eternal union with God in heaven.

Too often, today's culture tells us we must support our neighbor's lifestyle and tell them they are perfect as they are. Is that what love is? Perhaps not. Just as letting our children run freely near a road full of cars because they want to is never loving, at times we must be tough, confrontational, and fraternally corrective with our neighbors so they may walk toward heaven, not the other way. Christ's command not to judge others doesn't mean we should be apathetic to others' lifestyles, nor does it mean we should say everything they do is okay. Christ tells us to confront our neighbors' sinful acts (Matthew 18), of course, with love, and without judging their souls and hearts.

Love can be difficult and painful. Often, it requires uncomfortable courage and determination. However, that can't stop us from truly loving others as Christ commands. Without feeling superior to others, we are to help our family, friends, and neighbors walk the path to heaven by not trying to win arguments, but by winning their souls. How do we win our loved ones' souls? By listening with undivided hearts, being present, taking their phone calls at any time, crying for and with them, and, first and foremost, praying for them on our knees. If they listen to our words, it is because of how we've treated them.

Blessings,

THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING OF OUR PARISHIONERS

October 11	Week 15	YTD
Collection	$16,291	$197,298

October 18	Week 16	YTD
Collection	$11,193	$208,491

A couple of our expenses this month:

Property and Liability Insurance - $10,585
Assessment - $7,790

Needed every week: $16,946

Average weekly collection to date: $13,031

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Tricky Tray is back!

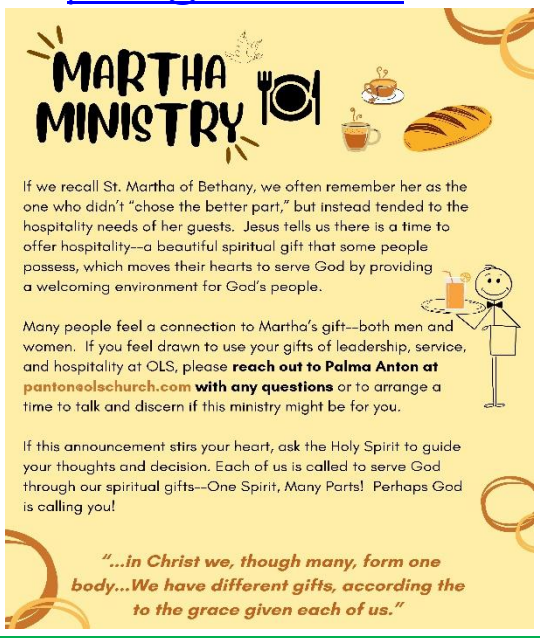
Our Lady of Sorrows School's single biggest fundraising event of the year - Tricky Tray - returns on Saturday, November 14th. Scan the QR Code in the flyer to purchase tickets, or visit: *www.ourladyofsorrowsschool.org/trickytraydonate*

Scan to purchase your tickets and donate today!

Mass of Remembrance

Coffee and Donuts (and Bagels too)!

C&D will be in St. Joseph's Hall after the 10 am Family Mass and 11:30 am Mass. While a specific ministry is not hosting today, several parishioners have generously offered to help set-up and serve. We are always looking for parishioners to assist at this beloved parish event. If you feel called to share your gifts of hospitality, please consider joining our Martha Ministry. Email Palma Anton to get involved: panton@olschurch.com



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

Exciting News!

Archdiocese of Newark
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

October 7, 2026

Reverend Brian X. Needles
Our Lady of Sorrows
217 Prospect Street
South Orange, NJ 07079

Dear Father Needles:

Thank you for your faithful service to the people of Our Lady of Sorrows, South Orange.

After consulting with your Regional Bishop and the Vicar for Clergy, I am pleased to grant you another six-year term as pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows, ending on June 30, 2032.

I pray that God may continue to bless you for your priestly ministry and all the parishioners at Our Lady of Sorrows.

Sincerely yours in Christ the Redeemer,

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Newark

Attest:
Christine James
Chancellor

dfl

c: Very Reverend John J. Chadwick, V.G.
Very Reverend John J. Paladino
Most Reverend Manuel A. Cruz
Very Reverend James A. Worth, V.F.

Thank you for your support!

Thank you to all who volunteered to provide part of a meal, shop for groceries, or donate a gift card to support the Family Promise of Essex County families, as well as those who accepted the donated items at the church and drove them to the Family Promise office.

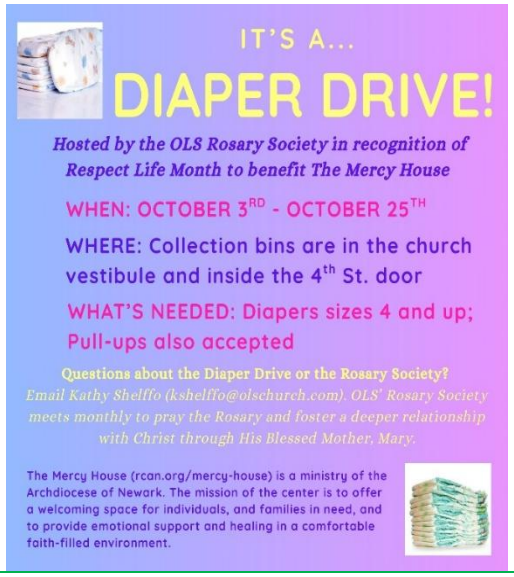
We provided one family with a home-cooked meal and groceries, and the additional groceries and the gift cards that were donated will help other families being supported by Family Promise.

In its most recent newsletter, Family Promise outlined the harsh reality that many families with low-income in our area are now facing, noting that "Because the cost of living and housing prices continue to rise rapidly, housing stability remains a critical issue for many households. Essex County accounts for roughly 18% of New Jersey's total homeless population, as recorded in January 2025, the latest data from the Point-in-Time count." So, our meal, groceries, and gift cards are directly helping families in need as they struggle to make ends meet. Thank you for your generosity and compassion!

We will be supporting the Family Promise families again in March. In the meantime, feel free to contact Anna Nelson with any questions about volunteering at annanelson202@gmail.com or (973) 477-9546.

Diaper Drive Reminder

Pick up is today (10/25). Please bring diapers to the collection bins in the church vestibule.



VIGIL SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026
5:30 PM Alison Isenberge – 1st Anniversary

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2026
8:00 AM Bernadette Ezuduemoih & Family – Special Intention and All Souls in Purgatory
10:00 AM People of the Parish
11:30 AM James J. DeMeo

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2026
7:00 AM Michael DiPrenda
12:00 PM Teresa and Philip Wilderotter

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2026
7:00 AM Consolata Uzzi & Family – Special Intention and All Souls in Purgatory
12:00 PM Marilyn Brecht

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2026
7:00 AM Cooke and Clark Families
12:00 PM Norman Pascual

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2026
7:00 AM Marilyn Cucciniello
12:00 PM Anna Greydanus – Special Intention

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2026
7:00 AM Louis Eckhoff – 50th Anniversary
12:00 PM Nicholas Seniow Jr.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2026
8:30 AM Selina McHugh
12:00 PM Christina McGuinn

VIGIL SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2026
5:30 PM People of the Parish

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026
8:00 AM Brother Stanley Michael – Special Intention
10:00 AM Agnes Agusta Marshall
11: 30 AM Marlena Faria – Special Intention

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 or for a special intention. If you would like to do so, please call the Parish office for more information.

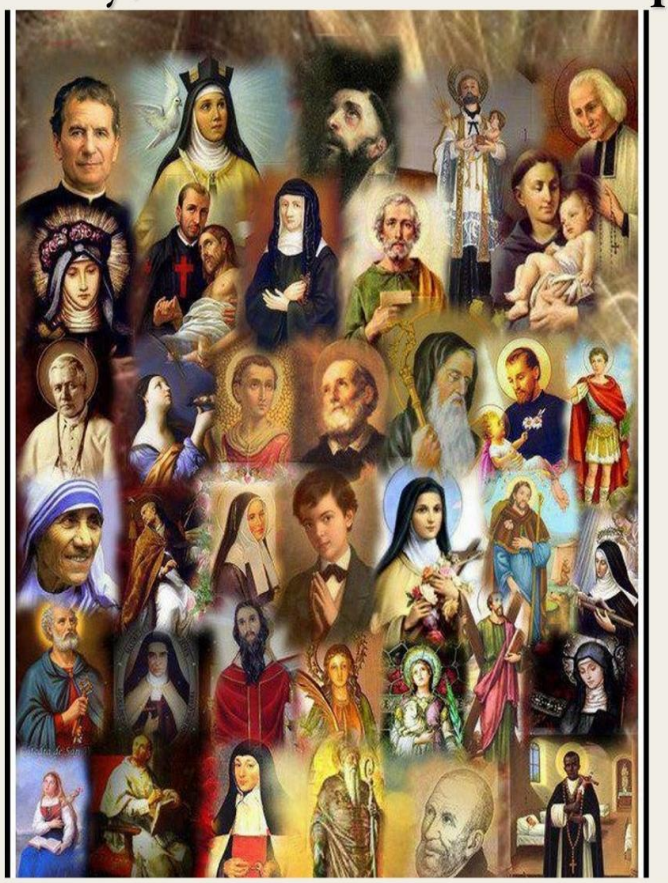
REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK

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

CHORAL VESPERS AND VENERATION OF RELICS

ALL SAINTS DAY

Sunday, November 1st at 5pm



Join our Parish Choir in this solemn service of prayer and music on the Solemnity of All Saints.

"I feel that our souls are moved to the ardor of piety by the sacred words more piously and powerfully when these words are sung than when they are not sung, and that all the affections of our soul in their variety have modes of their own in song and chant by which they are stirred up by an indescribable and secret sympathy." – **St. Augustine**

Knights' Pancake Breakfast – November 1st

Our Knights' beloved pancake breakfast will be held after the 10:00 and 11:30 am Masses on 11/1. Scan the QR Code in the flyer to pre-pay.

In honor of All Saints' Day, we are inviting all children who attend the 10:00 am Family Mass that day to come dressed as their favorite saint. They can participate in the procession as well as the costume pageant at the breakfast.

The Knights are also accepting monetary donations for their national "Coats for Kids" collection. You can donate by check in person on 11/1 or via PayPal in advance. See flyer for details.

ALL SAINTS'/ALL SOULS' PANCAKE BREAKFAST

With Children's *Saint Costume* Pageant

November 1, 2026 after 10:00 am & 11:30 am Masses

Cost:

- Individual (17 & over): $20.00
- Family (Parents with children 16 & under): $50.00

To pre-pay, link to PayPal:

(accepts Venmo, ApplePay, and credit/debit cards)

(Payment also accepted at door)

Children's *Saint Costume* Pageant

We invite all children to dress like a Saint. Maybe they have a favorite.

Children are invited to attend the 10:00 AM Mass in their Saint costumes. Please be in the back of the Church before Mass to be in the Procession.

Sponsored by: Knights of Columbus

Knights of Columbus, Council 4066, Regina Pacis

Council4066@gmail.com

"Coats for Kids" Collection

The OLS Knights of Columbus Council is taking donations to purchase children's winter coats to be donated to needy children. This is part of a national Knights of Columbus "Coats for Kids" program. Since 2009, the Knights have given away over 1 million coats to children in need. Any donated amount will help to keep a child warm.

Cost to purchase a coat: $35.00

Cash & Checks accepted (Please make checks payable to: Council 4066 Regina Pacis)

Link to PayPal for donations: **(separate from paying for breakfast)**