



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

November 24, 2024

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

A Message from Deacon Steve

Sometime in the last year or two, you may have seen examples of a viral online trend: images of excessively adorable baby animals. Some merely look too precious to be real, but others are adorable in glaringly unreal ways—for example, baby peacocks, penguins, and other birds with colorful adult feathers. They're AI-generated, of course, though often presented as real: "Bet you never knew what a baby turkey looks like!"



What's more, some people seem not to want to know that real animal babies do not, in fact, look like that! "Why would you tell me that?" a friend complained when I pointed out that baby turkeys don't have fan tails. (Perhaps raising seven children has made me extra sensitive to zoological inaccuracy. Or maybe it's just me. Am I the only one bothered that Curious George is called a monkey, but he has no tail, meaning he's probably an ape?)

We don't always want to know or think about reality! Around Thanksgiving, for example, some people would rather not think about what live turkeys look like. On the other hand, we don't want to get lost in unreality. "I'm not crazy about reality," Groucho Marx once quipped, "but it's the only place you can get a decent meal."

We need to live in reality—and this isn't some kind of "eat your vegetables" discipline. Or maybe it is, if you like vegetables as much as I do. Vegetables are real; so are turkey, mashed potatoes, pie, and cranberry sauce (both kinds!).

Reality is good. At least, it was God's idea, and he thought it was "very good"! God himself is ultimate reality, and the source of all reality. Fully living in reality includes recognizing our total dependence on God for all things. Another name for this way of fully living in reality, it seems to me, is "gratitude" or "thankfulness."

What is gratitude? As a young theology student in the 1990s, I thought a lot about gratitude: what it is, and why it seems so profoundly linked to happiness. We all know what it means to feel thankful, but it's always seemed to me that something so important can't be reduced to a mere emotion. Like love, gratitude must be a choice.

Many years later, when Deacon Walter and I were in formation together, I wrote the sentence "Happiness is perfected in gratitude." Then I thought a sentence like that must have been written before ... so I Googled it. While I didn't find that exact wording, I did find a remarkably similar sentence from Thomas Merton: "Knowledge of God is perfected in gratitude." Which I figure is essentially the same thing.

We all owe debts we can never repay, and our debt to God is without limit. I think gratitude is choosing to recognize and embrace the good in our lives that comes from others—a choice that not only points us to the goodness of the gift, but tends to draw us into a deeper relationship with the giver.

I've thought a lot about gratitude, both because I recognize how important it is and because I know I have so much to be thankful for. This Thanksgiving, my family and I are grateful to God to be worshipping at Our Lady of Sorrows!

Deacon Steven

**THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING OF
OUR PARISHIONERS**

November 17	Week 21	YTD
Collection	\$11,962	\$255,292
Budgeted	\$12,164	\$255,444

Thank you for your generosity!



Capital Campaign Update

Our *Forward in Faith* Capital Campaign is underway. Thank you to those of you who have already made a gift/pledge. We are very grateful for your support of this campaign. As of November 19th, we have \$945,729 in pledges from 150 families/individuals!

We have more than 2,000 registered families who have not yet made a pledge. The campaign is not just to let only a very small number of people support something that benefits a very large majority. It is necessary if we want our parish to be strong in its mission of building up the Kingdom of God in our midst and allowing OLS to continue to be a beacon of faith and hope in our community.

Therefore, we ask you to prayerfully consider a pledge. To do so, visit our website: www.olschurch.com or use one of the commitment forms found in the pews of the church. Thank you for your support and prayers for our campaign!



Gifts that Give Back

NOVEMBER 23-24
AFTER ALL WEEKEND MASSES



JOIN US IN THE PARISH HALL IMMEDIATELY AFTER MASS FOR
FAIR TRADE SHOPPING WITH TRADES OF HOPE.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM TRADES OF HOPE WILL OFFER GIFTS THAT
FIGHT EXTREME POVERTY AND TRAFFICKING IN 16 COUNTRIES
AROUND THE WORLD.



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
SUSAN JOHNSTON
SJOHNSTON522@GMAIL.COM

Christmas Shopping Opportunity

A reminder that Trades of Hope will host a pop-up shop in St. Joseph Hall after the vigil Mass on November 23rd and all Masses on November 24th. Gifts include handmade jewelry, handbags, home décor and more.

Trades of Hope supports female artisans around the world empowering them to provide for their families and rise out of poverty. If you have any questions, please reach out to OLS parishioner and Trades of Hope rep Susan Johnston at sjohnston522@gmail.com

Go over budget without guilt and grab something for yourself too!



Meet Our Staff

Rev. Brian X. Needles, Pastor
fbrianneedles@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

principal@ourladyofsorrowsschool.org

Sr. Mary Selina, S.C.C., Pastoral Associate
passociate07@gmail.com

Jennifer Noll, Catechetical Coordinator
jennollols@gmail.com

Christopher Kaiser, Youth Minister
kaiserch@shu.edu

Stephanie Sonnick, Ministerial Associate
olschurchministries@gmail.com

Colleen McDonald, Administrative Assistant
sorrowsschurch@gmail.com

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

Thanksgiving Mass Schedule

Please note that we will have one Mass at 9:00am on both Thursday, November 28th (Thanksgiving) and Friday, November 29th. There will be no Adoration on Friday

Our parish offices will be closed on 11/28 and 11/29.

We wish you a healthy and blessed Thanksgiving!



OLS Food Pantry Needs

FOOD DRIVE

For those in need this Holiday Season

DONATE to Holiday Produce and Specialty Items via this link
<https://givebutter.com/OLSProduceDrive>

SPICE Up Thanksgiving

Donate spices and seasoning until Nov. 21.

Cinnamon, Paprika, Pepper & Garlic Powder!

Most Needed Items:

- Pasta
- Rice 1lb bags
- Oatmeal
- Tuna in water
- Peanut Butter
- (16oz plastic jars)

We DO NOT Accept:

Turkeys/Hams or items needing refrigeration, traditional sides such as can pumpkin, stuffing, cranberry sauce, or dry potato mix.

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

Christmas TREATS

Donate... Cookies, Tea & Hot Chocolate from Dec. 1-12.



Christmas Giving Tree



Our Christmas Giving Tree is coming soon! You can bring holiday joy to underprivileged families in our area.

Make generosity part of your Advent preparation for the Christ Child. Over 300

children are in need so please be as generous as possible.

Look for the trees in the church vestibule. Deliver wrapped gifts with tags securely taped to them to the church vestibule. More details to follow soon!





VIGIL, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2024

5:30 PM Consolata Uzzi and Family –
Special Intention and All Souls in
Purgatory

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2024

8:00 AM People of the Parish
10:00 AM Manuel Fernandes
11:30 AM Philip and Teresa Wilderotter

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2024

7:00 AM Michael Matthews
12:00 PM William E. Smith – 15th Anniversary

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2024

7:00 AM Pina Moore
12:00 PM Barbara Ghegan

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2024

7:00 AM Steve Hahr
12:00 PM Rev. Msgr. Philip Morris

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2024

9:00 AM Mary and Eugene Golding

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2024

9:00 AM Joseph Williams

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2024

8:30 AM Monica Mrozak
12:00 PM James Rochford

VIGIL, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2024

5:30 PM People of the Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024

8:00 AM Cooke and Clarke Families
10:00 AM Thanksgiving
11:30 AM The Silano Family

[Scan here to request a Mass](#)



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, call the Parish Office: (973) 763-5454.



REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please keep the following in your prayers:
Bill Aber, Rita Arena, Patricia Bee, Roy Bell,
Daniel Callaghan, Julia Callaghan, Robert
Charles, Bekim Colaku, John Colaku, Alice
Cosack, 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, Stephanie Windsor



Family Advent Activities

Our first family Advent activity – **Advent Wreath Decorating** and **Prayer Service** will be next Sunday, December 1st after the 10:00am Mass. Please RSVP to Teresa Geis no later than 11/26: teresa.geis@gmail.com

Our **Annual Christmas Pageant** for kids in grades K-8 will be on Sunday, December 8th – showtime is 4:30pm. Please email Colleen McDonald if your child would like to participate: sorrowschurch@gmail.com

Advent Wreath Decorating & Prayer Service for Parish Families



Celebrate the beginning of this Holy time as a family. Bring your own wreath to be blessed and decorated after Mass, or purchase one from us that day!

Sunday, December 1st
Following 10am Mass, Parish Hall

Cost per family: Includes donuts, bagels & coffee, and a family Advent prayer book:

- \$20 with own wreath & candles
 - \$25 if only candles needed (own wreath)
 - \$30 if both wreath & candles needed
- Cash/check payment at the door

RSVP by
November 26th

To Reserve a Spot, email Teresa
at teresa.geis@gmail.com

Help Bring Christmas Joy to our Parish at our Annual Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 8, 2024



This Advent, the children of Our Lady of Sorrows can help prepare the hearts of everyone in the parish for the coming of Jesus Christ in a very special way: by participating in the OLS Christmas pageant. The birth of our Savior is VERY BIG news worth sharing with everyone! Please help us deliver this exciting message by having your child participate in our upcoming pageant. It's a fun way for kids to learn about their faith and a great opportunity for them to share their many talents - acting, singing and storytelling - with others. The commitment is minimal, costumes are provided and the photos are always PRICELESS!

Please email Colleen McDonald at sorrowschurch@gmail.com if your child in grades K-8 would like to participate. Or sign up electronically via the SignUpGenius!

Pageant Roles

K and Grade 1:
Lambs

Grade 2:
Angels

Grade 3
Shepherds

Grades 4 and Up:
Central Figures

* Costumes Provided for
All Cast Members



Pageant Schedule

Practice

Friday, December 6th
4:30 - 7:00 pm (Grades 4-8)
6:00 - 7:00 pm (Grades K-3)
upper church

Pageant Day

Sunday, December 8th
Central figures
arrive 3:00 pm, upper church

Sheep, Angels and Shepherds
arrive 4:00 pm, St. Joseph's Hall

Pageant Showtime 4:30 - 5:00 pm

Join us for our Christmas Pageant Pizza Social immediately following the show in St. Joseph's Hall
\$25 per family

Calling all young choristers!

Our St. Cecilia Singers (grades 3-8) are welcoming new singers for our annual Carol Sing and Mass on Christmas Eve. Our Youth Choir (grades 9-12) is welcoming teens from the parish to join us this December. Interested? Contact Preston Dibble olsmusician@gmail.com or (973) 763-5454.



Advent Opportunities for Reflection



Advent by Candlelight is an evening set aside for women to pray and embrace the real reason for the season.

Please join us for a night of prayers, reflections, music, and fellowship. Women from any parish are welcome. Feel free to bring a friend!

Wednesday, December 4th, 2024
7:00pm
Our Lady of Sorrows Church, St. Joseph Hall

If you'd like to attend, or are interested in volunteering, please email Colette at cpierre6860@gmail.com

Please RSVP by November 30th & include attendees name, phone number & email

We would appreciate a gift of a small box of tea to be donated to our parish food pantry.

We look forward to seeing you!

**TAKE NEEDED TIME AWAY WITH GOD
 AT OUR ADVENT MORNING OF REFLECTION:**

Waiting for Jesus with Mary

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH
8:30AM-12:30PM

Hot breakfast followed by a presentation, discussion, and Eucharistic adoration, concluding with Mass at noon



Guest presenter and preacher: Rev. Doug Milewski S.T.D., Seton Hall University

\$10 per person/\$20 per family (two or more)

Pre-register with John R. at maryleads2@aol.com or 862-224-1956

**FREE BABYSITTING AVAILABLE!
 Register by December 3rd.**



PREPARE FOR THE COMING OF THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD!

ADVENT AT OLS

+ our Christmas Mass Schedule

CHECK OUR BULLETIN AND WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS

**Sunday
 December 1st**
**Advent Wreath
 Blessing and Decorating**
 11am-12:30pm (after 10am Mass)
 Have your wreath blessed and decorated at this favorite family-friendly event.
RSVP: Teresa G. at teresa.geis@gmail.com

**Monday
 December 2nd**
Parish Penance Service
 7:00pm-8:00pm
 Come receive the Sacrament of Confession and have your sins forgiven!

**Wednesday
 December 4th**
**Women's Advent by
 Candlelight**
 7:00pm-9:00pm
 A night of prayer and fellowship for women to focus on the Reason for the Season.
RSVP: Colette P. at cpierre6860@gmail.com

**Saturday
 December 7th**
**Waiting with Mary:
 A Morning of Reflection**
 8:30am-12:30pm
 Includes breakfast, a talk by guest speaker Fr. Doug Milewski, adoration, Mass & confessions. Babysitting available!
RSVP: John R. at maryleads2@aol.com

**Sunday
 December 8th**
**Children's
 Christmas Pageant**
 4:30pm-5:00pm
 Join us as our parish children re-enact the Nativity story.
Family Pizza Social immediately following!
Contact Jen N. at jennollols@gmail.com

**Monday
 December 9th**
**Solemnity of the Immaculate
 Conception
 (Holy Day of Obligation)**
 Mass Times:
 7:00 am
 9:30am (School Mass),
 12:00 noon
 and 7:00pm.

**Sunday
 December 15th**
**Carol Sing
 with Live Nativity**
 4:00pm-5:30pm
 Join our parish choirs and the Gramercy Brass in our annual Carol Sing. Followed by a live nativity on the plaza. All are welcome - **no RSVP needed.**

**+ CHRISTMAS MASS
 SCHEDULE +**
**Tuesday, December 24th
 (Christmas Eve):** 4pm, 7pm, 10pm ("Midnight Mass")
**Wednesday, December 25th
 (Christmas Day):** 8am, 10am, 11:30am