



217 PROSPECT STREET, SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079

973-763-5454 <u>www.olschurch.com</u>



 MASSES: Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm; Sunday 8:00, 10:00 and 11:30 am Monday-Friday7:00 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

December 10, 2023 2nd Sunday of Advent

A Message from Fr. Brian

Here's a little Catholic trivia for you. In our Catholic liturgical calendar, we celebrate the birthdays of only three people. Can you name them? OK, time's up. The first one is the most obvious. It's the one we're preparing for right now. It's the birthday of Our Lord, which of course we celebrate on Christmas.

Then there's the birthday that takes place 9 months after the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is December 8th (Friday this year) and so that means that 9 months after Mary was conceived, we celebrate her birthday, which is September 8th.

And the third birthday is St. John the Baptist's, which is celebrated every year on June 24th. Why bring this up? Because it points out that John the Baptist ranks right up there, in fact, almost right up there with Jesus and His Blessed Mother. That's how important he is. And it means that we should take him very seriously. Advent doesn't have a patron saint, but if it did, it would certainly be John the Baptist.

Jesus is, of course, the reason for this season. So, what does John the Baptist have to do with Christmas? Absolutely everything. In this Sunday's Gospel, the evangelist Mark begins the story of Jesus' coming by telling us about a prophet blaring and baptizing in the wilderness of Judea. John the Baptist is that prophet and he can teach us (at least) 3 powerful lessons as we prepare to welcome Our Lord, both at Christmas as a little babe and in all His glory and majesty at the end of time. John teaches us about repentance, humility, and truth. And in many ways, those 3 words are connected one to another. I invite you to prayerfully read this Sunday's Gospel passage and meditate upon those 3 themes and how they might apply to your own life and how they might help to "prepare the way of the Lord."

This weekend, Bethlehem Handicrafts will be offering for sale their beautiful religious objects carved from olivewood from the Holy Land. Given the war that is currently taking place there, tourism has completely stopped, and it means that the many Christian merchants in Bethlehem and in other areas of the Holy Land who completely depend on tourist dollars are seeing their livelihoods severely affected. You can help the Christians there by purchasing one of their hand-made olivewood crafts, which come directly from the birthplace of Jesus.

The children of our parish will perform their annual Christmas Pageant this Sunday, December 10th, at 4:30 pm. I love this pageant because it reminds us of the simplicity and humility of that first Christmas in Bethlehem. Please join us and support the children of our parish, who put their hearts and souls (and voices!) into the Pageant.

The most anticipated pre-Christmas event at OLS is our annual Carol Sing and Live Nativity, which will be at 4:00 pm on Sunday, December 17th. Please join our phenomenal music ministry and allow your heart and soul to be transported beyond the anxieties of this world to the awe and majesty of that first Christmas. Our choirs will once again be joined by the Gramercy Brass Quintet, flute, and harp. This event also includes an outdoor Nativity (with live animals!). Thank you to our parish Youth Group which every year puts on our Live Nativity. Please join us for this phenomenally beautiful evening of music and faith!

Advent Blessings,

Fr. Brian

THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING OF OUR PARISHIONERS

December 3rd	Week 23	Y. to Date
Collection	\$11,821	\$273,085
Budgeted	\$12,027	\$276,612
	od Pantry	
St. Vincent De Paul \$4,158		
Assessment \$280		
Candles \$350		

Thank you for your generosity!

Please Remember OLS

Leaving a gift in your will is a very personal decision and you should look after your loved ones first. Once this provision is made, we ask that you consider including a bequest to the Parish. A gift in your will to OLS is a practical and powerful way to ensure the continued success of the Parish.

<u>Christmas Mass Schedule</u>

Please note: Sunday, December 24th, is the 4th Sunday of Advent. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass is <u>not</u> suspended simply because Christmas Eve also falls on Sunday. We must attend Mass both on Sunday and on Christmas. Following is our schedule of Masses:

4th Sunday of Advent

- Saturday, December 23, Vigil Mass: 5:30 pm
- Sunday, December 24, Masses at: 8:00 am, 10:00 am and 11:30 am.

Sunday, December 24th, Christmas Eve

- 4:00 pm: Family Mass with Children's and Youth Choirs
- 7:00 pm: Mass with Cantor
- 9:30 pm: Concert with Parish Choir and Gramercy Brass Quintet
- 10:00 pm: Mass

Monday, December 25th, Christmas Day

- 8:00 am: Mass with Cantor
- 10:00 am: Mass with Cantor
- 11:30 am: Mass with Parish Choir

Christmas Pageant



Like the Wise Men of old, the children of Our Lady of Sorrows have a special gift to offer:

All the people of the parish, relatives and friends are invited to join the children of the OLS parish and school as they present the Annual OLS Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 10th at 4:30 pm in the Church

Our Lady of Sorrows School 2023 Wreath Sale



After Masses on December 10th

- Small decorated wreath (12") \$25.00
- Large decorated wreath (24") \$45.00
- Small grave blanket /pillow (24"x24") \$25.00
- Medium grave blanket /pillow (24"x26") \$40.00 Order online:

https://www.ourladyofsorrowsschool.org/wreathsale

We will have a limited number of medium grave blankets so ordering early is encouraged in order to reserve! Or contact Todd Leslie at taleslie@mac.com to place your order. You can pick up your wreaths the Sunday after you make your purchase or let us know if you need to make alternate arrangements. Cash, check or credit card accepted. All proceeds support Our Lady of Sorrows School!



Olivewood Handicrafts from Bethlehem

The Christian community of Bethlehem, which is the birthplace of Jesus Christ, is seeking your love and support through the purchase of their handmade olive wood religious articles. These items will be displayed

in the back vestibule of the church after all Masses this weekend (*December 9-10*). Your help can and will make a



difference in the lives of your Christian brothers and sisters in Bethlehem.

Sponsor Certificates - A reminder

To receive a Sponsor Certificate for Baptism or Confirmation, you must be registered in the parish for a minimum of six months.

Sponsor Certificates indicate that the individual is a registered member of our parish and is a practicing Catholic and has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

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. Richard Pfannenstiel, Priest in Residence Rev. Eugenio (Gino) de la Rama, Priest in Residence Rev. Patrick Seo. Priest in Residence Deacon Walter Wiggins, Permanent Deacon deaconwalt@outlook.com Ms. 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@amail.com Colleen McDonald, Administrative Assistant sorrowschurch@gmail.com Preston Dibble. Director of Music olsmusician@gmail.com Karlene Campbell, Nursery Director karlene@thenurseryatols.org Charles Noun, Business Manager ols217so@msn.com Anne Moore. Parish Administrative Assistant ols.pastor@verizon.net

Electronic Parish Giving

Please consider making your offerings to our parish through our "Electronic Funds Transfer". This allows parishioners to make weekly/monthly donations to the parish that will be taken directly from your bank account or credit card account once a month. Electronic Parish Giving is easy and convenient with no additional cost to you as you support your parish. It can be accessed through our parish web site (www.olschurch.com). You may still receive envelopes in the mail and if you wish you could turn them into the collection on Sunday and simply write "Parish Giving" on them. Please consider enrolling today as a way to enhance your personal stewardship to our parish. If you begin to use Electronic Giving and do not wish to receive envelopes (which will save the parish money) please contact the parish office.



VIGIL, SATURDAY DECEMBER 9, 2023

5:30 PM

People of the Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023

8:00 AM	Helen Sullivan
10:00 AM	Jennie Magliaro
11:30 AM	Manuel Fernandes

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023

7:00 AMMichael Morawski12:00 PMGerard Civil - Special Intention

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023

7:00 AM Brandan Carr12:00 PM Thomas Waldron and Family, Living and Deceased

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023

7:00 AM Melissa McArthur
12:00 PM Members of the McDonnell, DiPrenda and Gautieri Families

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023

- 7:00 AM Melissa McArthur
- 12:00 PM Robert Gawel

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2023

 7:00 AM Maureen and Raj Srinivasa - Special Intention
 12:00 PM Isaiah Bozza

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023

 8:30 AM Raj and Maureen Srinivasa - Special Intention
 12:00 PM Danielle Horan

VIGIL SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023

5:30 PM William M. Cody Jr., Mary Cavallaro, and Michael Starding

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023

8:00 AM	Deceased Members of the DePaola,
	Deehan and Salvante Families
10:00 AM	Owen Vincen McNany, IV
11:30 AM	People of the Parish

Welcomed Home by God

Let us remember in our prayers those who have recently passed away at OLS: *Jo Ann Iantosca*. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. Amen

<u>In Memoriam</u>

It is a loving gesture to donate the weekly Sanctuary Lamp in memory of a loved one for a special intention.

<u>MUSIC MINISTRY</u>

Donations to support our wonderful Music Ministry are gratefully accepted. Donations are applied toward the purchase of printed choral music and for instrumentalists for holiday liturgies, concerts and other special occasions.

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please remember to pray for the following in your prayers: Julia Callaghan, Daniel Callaghan, Elizabeth Stuart, Marie Somers, Bill Aber, Neville Moore, Jane O'Donoghue, George Richmond Files Jr., Megan More, Ludgarda Rosa, Stephanie Windsor, Mark F. Davonski, Beth Hebron, Melissa O'Brien, Rita Arena, John Colaku, Kate Mullin, Norma Gonzalez, Agnes Marshall, Bekim Colaku, Mary Jane Tannen, Catherine Sullivan, Robert Charles, Jeanie Marucci, Patricia Bee and Elizabeth Mary, Donna T., Roy Bell, Norma Hermann, Mimi Hermann, Anne O'Brien, Deborah Hebron, Kathleen Mullan, Kate Powis.



"Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

Christmas Giving Tree

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** – please be as generous as possible!



Please select a request tag(s) from the trees in the church vestibule. Deliver wrapped gifts, with tags securely taped to them, to the church vestibule by | December 17th no later than 12:30 pm

Though your generosity is greatly appreciated, <u>timeliness</u> is also key. Gifts cannot be delivered to the children if they are not on time.

> Questions: Anne Moore Ols.pastor@verizon.net or 973-763-5454

CHRISTMAS CAROL SING

> Our Lady of Sorrows 217 Prospect Street South Orange, NJ

Please join the Our Lady of Sorrows Music ministry for the annual Christmas Carol Sing and Living Nativity presented by the parish Youth Ministry. Our parish choirs will lead us in the Christmas spirit, along with the Gramercy Brass Quintet, Harp, Flute and Kristin Johnson at the organ. PRESTON DIBBLE, CONDUCTOR

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

4:00PM

