

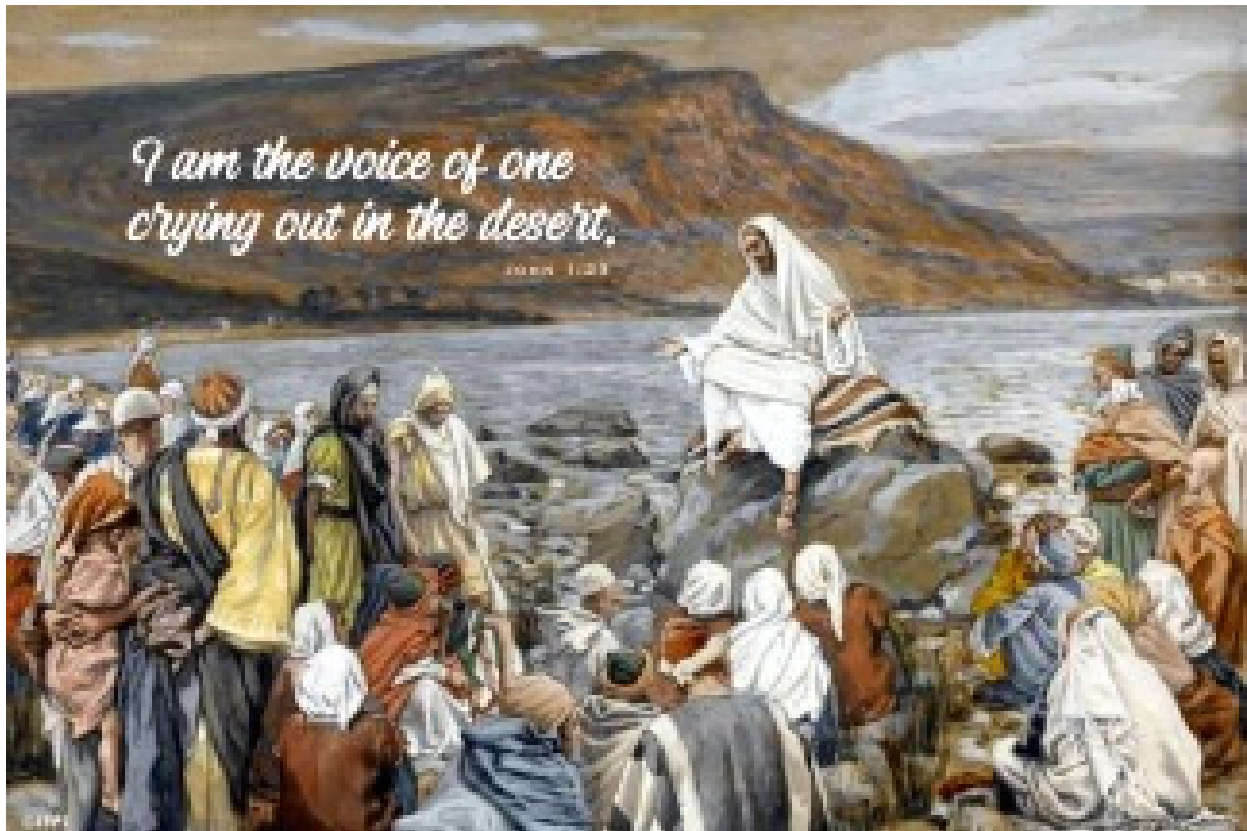


# *Our Lady of Sorrows*

217 PROSPECT STREET, SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079

**973-763-5454**

**[www.olschurch.com](http://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**

***December 17, 2023***  
***3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent***

## *A Message from Fr. Brian*

When 34 members of our parish visited the Holy Land in November 2022, one of our stops was in the beautiful and peaceful town of Ein Karem, located about 5 miles from Jerusalem. That town is the site of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Joyful Mystery of the Rosary, in which we contemplate the visit of Mary, who through the power of the Holy Spirit had just conceived Jesus, to her cousin Elizabeth, who is pregnant with John the Baptist.

After Elizabeth greeted Mary and praised her for having been chosen by God to become the Mother of the Messiah, Mary responded with her beautiful hymn of praise, which we call the Magnificat. The word “Magnificat” is the first word in that hymn of praise, which begins (in Latin), *Magnificat anima mea Dominum*. The literal English translation is “My souls magnifies the Lord.”

The words of the Magnificat are translated into more than 50 languages and placed opposite the wall that faces the Church of the Visitation in Ein Karem. This image from Ein Karem depicts Mary and Elizabeth greeting each other, as well as some of the translations of the Magnificat.



In this Sunday’s Mass, our Responsorial Psalm includes most of the Magnificat prayer. The translation that we hear this Sunday is, “*My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.*” What Mary is doing is redirecting the praise that Elizabeth had given to her. Mary instead wants all the glory to go to God. Even though the pregnant Mary is overjoyed by the news that she was carrying within herself the Savior of the world, she wants all the praise and glory to go to God. What a contrast to so many of us who want others to glorify or praise us. Mary knows that God is the source of any glory accruing to her.

What a lesson for us! Whatever natural gifts, talents, or abilities that we have, whatever material wealth we may have accumulated, whatever greatness there may be in us, it all finds its origin in God. And, acknowledging that, we should strive to give glory to God for it all.

The Magnificat prayer of Mary is a reminder that to God belongs all the glory. May our lives, like Mary’s, proclaim the greatness of the Lord. And like Mary, may we rejoice in the Lord our Savior, for the Almighty has done great things for us, including leaving the glory and greatness of Heaven to take on our human condition and dwell among us.

Magnificat Blessings,

*Fr. Brian*

**THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING  
OF OUR PARISHIONERS**

***This will be reported in the next bulletin***

**Your Christmas Gift is much appreciated!**

Thank you in advance for remembering OLS at Christmas! Our parish is heavily dependent on our Christmas collection. Christmas is so much about giving and receiving: God giving us His Son and we receiving that gift; loved ones exchanging gifts with each other; and giving the gift of one's resources to those in need and to charitable institutions. We are very grateful that you have chosen OLS to be the benefactor of your generosity, which will allow us to continue to share God's life-giving love with your fellow parishioners and our community.

**Christmas Mass Schedule**

*Please note:* Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, is the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass is not 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:

**4<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup>, 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 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Day**

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

**Blood Drive**

Thank you to all those who participated in our 12/7/23 blood Drive. Your thoughtful consideration of others has helped Vitalant Blood Services boost its blood product reserves for the holiday season. Your generosity is not only appreciated by those who will directly benefit from your donation but also those who facilitated the process.



**Family Mass: 4:00 pm on Christmas Eve**

Of course, all our parish families are invited to all of our Masses, no matter the time! For those interested, our next "Family Mass" (with child readers, singers, and greeters) will be the **4:00 pm Mass on December 24th.**

**Essex County Young Adults**

Are you between the ages of 20-35 and looking to connect with other people of faith? Join Essex County Young Adults for our next social event! We are a network of area parishes committed to building up community and discipleship for young adults. **For more information, text or email Stephanie: 201-470-2904**

- [olschurchministries@gmail.com](mailto:olschurchministries@gmail.com).

**OLS is in need of Marketing assistance**

Do you have skills in marketing, promotion, or advertising? OLS is seeking assistance in spreading the word on specific projects/initiatives, and we need your expertise! Please contact Stephanie Sonnick at [olschurchministries@gmail.com](mailto:olschurchministries@gmail.com) to find out more.

**Please Remember OLS**

Please remember OLS in your estate plan. No matter how large or small, every gift will help sustain the Parish for generations to come. A gift in your will is an excellent way to support one of our many ministries.



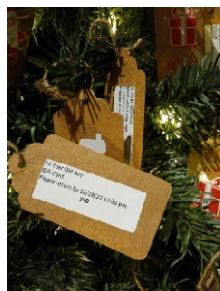
### Christmas Giving Tree

Thank you to all that took tags. Please 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, timeliness 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



### Stewardship Reflections

*"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."* – 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16 - 18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

### REGIFTING PROJECT FOR THOSE IN NEED

This year we will once again be participating in the **Regifting Project**. Few of us "need" all of the gifts we receive at Christmas, and sometimes we receive gifts we do not want or can't use. Instead of rushing back to the store right after Christmas to return the gifts, or letting them gather dust on a shelf, why not share our Christmas joy by giving these gifts to others? This is an opportunity to give to those in need at a time when many are struggling, and it is a great lesson for adults and children alike to look at all of the gifts they have received and offer one to someone who may have none at all.

Your donated gifts may be brought to church the weekends of **December 30/31 and January 6/7**. Please place the gifts in the church vestibule. There is no need to wrap the items. They will be delivered to Mercy House in Jersey City, where they will be directly distributed to those in need. If you have any questions, please contact Anna Nelson at:

[annanelson202@gmail.com](mailto:annanelson202@gmail.com) or 973-477-9546.

**This Holiday Season  
DONATE to those in need!**

**MOST NEEDED ITEMS**

- Pasta
- Cereal/Oatmeal
- Peanut Butter
- Tuna
- Rice
- Granola bars

**SPECIAL HOLIDAY ITEMS**

- Cookies
- Decaf Tea
- Hot Chocolate
- New Socks for adults & children

OLS Pantry does not collect or distribute turkeys, hams, stuffing, cranberry sauce, gravy, yams.

To make a **MONETARY DONATION** towards Fresh Milk & Produce visit [www.mendnj.org](http://www.mendnj.org)  
Be sure to indicate "OLS Food Pantry" in the note section.

Regular size items needed.  
No glass, XL sizes, or home-portioned food.  
Check Best By dates prior to donating.

**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  
Please do not leave food at the Rectory.  
Thank you for respecting these drop off times.

**Questions or to Volunteer:**  
Email: [OLSPantry@gmail.com](mailto:OLSPantry@gmail.com) or call: 973.370.0458

**OLS FOOD PANTRY**

Our Lady of Sorrows is a MEND Food Pantry  
MEETING ESSENTIAL NEEDS WITH DIGNITY

### 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.**





### **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 People of the Parish  
11:30 AM Rosetta J. Giuliano-12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### **MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023**

7:00 AM Elizabeth Bryce  
12:00 PM Robert Novembre

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023**

7:00 AM Maureen Prendergast - Special Intention  
12:00 PM Jozef Szperlak - Special Intention

### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2023**

7:00 AM Ellen and Louis Stimmel - Special Intention  
12:00 PM Melissa McArthur

### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2023**

7:00 AM Elizabeth and Lyndon Bryce  
12:00 PM Patricia Wiggins - 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2023**

7:00 AM Betty Ann and Ed Duthie  
12:00 PM Jay Moran

### **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2023**

8:30 AM Marie Maddi  
12:00 PM Owen Vincent McNany

### **VIGIL SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2023**

5:30 PM People of the Parish

### **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023**

8:00 AM Joan Gallagher  
10:00 AM Marta Hrucena Ojeda Redondo  
11:30 AM Rosemarie Iantosca  
4:00 PM People of the Parish  
7:00 PM People of the Parish  
10:00 PM People of the Parish

### **Welcomed Home by God**

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

### **In Memoriam**

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

### **MUSIC MINISTRY**

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 and Rev. Msgr. Philip Morris.





Troop 99G had fun volunteering at this year's Senior Thanksgiving Dinner. Parish seniors and their guests and families were happy to hear that the "boy scouts" now offers a program for girls, Scouts BSA, and that we have a troop right here at OLS.

## ***What do we do?***

We strive every day to obey the Scout Law: A Scout is

<i><b>trustworthy</b></i>	<i><b>loyal</b></i>	<i><b>helpful</b></i>	<i><b>friendly</b></i>
<i><b>courteous</b></i>	<i><b>kind</b></i>	<i><b>obedient</b></i>	<i><b>cheerful</b></i>
<i><b>thrifty</b></i>	<i><b>brave</b></i>	<i><b>clean</b></i>	<i><b>reverent</b></i>

We especially like being ***helpful***: last week we helped organize the OLS Food Pantry for the Saturday Distribution Day! We also learn valuable life skills like first aid, cooking, and camping.

If your child could benefit from working on these Scout values and skills, please consider signing up for scouting. Contact our adult leadership team at [OLSScoutsBSA@gmail.com](mailto:OLSScoutsBSA@gmail.com) or 973.763.6349 for more information on Scouting for all ages.

Follow our OLS Troop99G adventures on Instagram @Troop99Girls, or on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Troop99Girls/>

We meet every Thursday evening from 7:30 - 8:45 in St Joseph's Hall. All girls ages 11 - 17 are welcome to attend. Come join us!



# 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



<h2 style="text-align: center;">THE HOLLE FAMILY</h2> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>In Proof of Our 171 Years of Traditional Care and Service to the Maplewood and South Orange Communities</i>  <i>You Our Family Can Serve Our Lady of Sorrows Parish From</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Two Convenient Locations:</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><b>Preston Funeral Home</b>  153 South Orange Ave.  South Orange  973-763-1153</p> <p><b>A. Clark Holle</b>  Executive Director  NJ Lic. No. 8174</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><b>The Jacob A. Holle Funeral Home</b>  2122 Millburn Ave.  Maplewood  973-763-3300</p> <p><b>Jacqueline A. Holle</b>  Executive Director  NJ Lic. No. 3887</p> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Richard J. Holle</b>  Director - NJ Lic. No. 2760</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">Ed &amp; The Boys Construction</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">Honest, Reliable, Quality Work  <b>ED PETERSON Parishioner</b>  <i>Fully Insured</i>  (973) 819-5720</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <h3 style="text-align: center;">GERARD GONSALVES, D.M.D.</h3> <h2 style="text-align: center;">ADVANCED DENTISTRY</h2> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>HOURS BY APPOINTMENT - 763-1300</b>  2168 Millburn Ave., Suite 102, Maplewood</p> </div> </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  <p><i>Natalie Knows...</i>  <i>— what moves you —</i></p> <p><b>Natalie Farrell Weichert</b>  Call: 973-614-1545  Cell: 973-998-5851</p> </div>	
 <h3 style="text-align: center;">THE DRYER GUYS</h3> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"Clean a Vent, Save a Life"</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://www.TheDryerGuys.net">www.TheDryerGuys.net</a>  <b>1-888-DGUYS23</b>  Parishioner</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">SUPER PLUMBER</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">1-800-444-8283  <a href="http://www.SuperPlumberusa.net">www.SuperPlumberusa.net</a>  Plumbing - Heating - A/C - Water Heater  <i>Emergency - 24/7</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">OLS - St. Joseph's Basketball &amp; Volleyball</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>A shared parish identity for Girls &amp; Boys in Grades 1 to 12</i>  <a href="mailto:ols@stjosephsny.org">ols@stjosephsny.org</a>  <a href="http://www.stjosephsny.org">www.stjosephsny.org</a></p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>Outstanding Service at Affordable Rates!  Mention this ad for \$25 off any service  Serving Essex &amp; surrounding counties  <a href="mailto:info@torotobrookscare.com">info@torotobrookscare.com</a></p> <p><b>973-672-1000</b></p> </div> </div>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">BISTRO d'AZUR</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">14 ACADEMY STREET, S.O.  <a href="http://www.bistrodazur.com">www.bistrodazur.com</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Becky &amp; Tom Gowers, Parishioners</i></p>
<h3 style="text-align: center;">MUENCH FAMILY DENTIST</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">Call: 973-763-2371  140 Maplewood Ave.  Maplewood, NJ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kevin Muench, D.M.D., M.A.C.D.    <a href="http://MuenchDental.com">MuenchDental.com</a></p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">WILBER'S PAINTING &amp; CARPENTRY</h3> <p style="text-align: center;">Interior - Exterior  <b>973-762-6333</b></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">10-14 West South Orange Ave.  New www.bunnysdentistry.com  973-763-1577</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">RESERVOIR RESTAURANT</h3> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Italian Cuisine - Pizzeria - Catering</i>  606 West South Orange Ave. - South Orange, NJ  <b>973-762-9795    973-763-1488</b></p>
<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>JOHN PATRICK</b>  publishing company, inc.</p> <p>Support your church by advertising in the church bulletin</p> <p><b>Contact Ed Ward</b>  <b>908-347-6485</b></p> </div>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><b>Michael Auer</b>  Cell: 201-299-2886  Office: 973-436-5148  <a href="mailto:MichaelAuer@aol.com">MichaelAuer@aol.com</a></p> </div> <div style="width: 45%; text-align: center;">  <p><b>Mary Auer</b>  Cell: 973-432-6963  Office: 973-439-8308  <a href="mailto:marysauer1@gmail.com">marysauer1@gmail.com</a></p> </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Real Estate &amp; Parishioners</i>  Your South Orange &amp; Maplewood Real Estate Specialists  Free Home Marketing Evaluation</p>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>COLDWELL BANKER</b></p> </div>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>BCB Bank</b></p> <p><i>Here from the Community Committed to the Community We Serve</i>  <b>973-487-1731</b>  200 Valley St., South Orange  100 Maplewood Ave., Maplewood  <a href="http://www.BCB-Bank.com">www.BCB-Bank.com</a></p> </div>
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