

***Our Lady of Sorrows Church***  
***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 1:00 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 and arrange Communion calls

***Marriages:*** Arrange at least one year in advance with a parish priest

**RECTORY & PARISH: 973-763-5454 • FAX: 973-763-9506 • [www.OLSCHURCH.COM](http://www.OLSCHURCH.COM)**

***December 20, 2020***  
***4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent***

## *A Message from Fr. Brian*

The Gospel for this 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent (Luke 1:26-38) is one of my favorites and it describes the incredible visit of the archangel Gabriel to Mary, announcing to her that she would become the mother of the Messiah. The cover of this Sunday's bulletin shows the depiction of that encounter by the artist Fra Angelico (ca. 1395-1455). That painting is in the monastery of San Marco in Florence, Italy.

There is so much for us to ponder in this beautiful Gospel passage: God's plan of using one of His very own creatures to help accomplish His plan of salvation; God's love in giving us so great a Mother; Mary's obedience to the will of God; Mary's courage in the face of a terrifying prospect; and Mary's complete humility and courage.

But allow me to offer one other reflection, one that centers on the very last words of this Gospel. It concludes by saying, *"Then the angel departed from her (Mary)."* After the archangel Gabriel had stunned Mary with this news, after she had a moment to contemplate it, after she had given her "Yes" to God's plan, after all of this, Mary found herself – alone. The angel was no longer there, and presumably neither were her parents, relatives or friends. Mary was left alone.

There are two ways to contemplate Mary's solitude in this moment. The first is to make sure that we get very, very close to her during these last days of Advent, as she gets ready for the birth of Jesus. Let's make sure to accompany Mary, keeping company with her, contemplating her greatness, and praying to her. Let's make sure that Mary is not left alone this week. Use these days to deepen your love for and your devotion to our Blessed Mother.

Secondly, we might use this Gospel passage as an opportunity to reflect on those around us who are lonely or feel isolated, especially during this time of the year, and especially this year when the pandemic has caused so many people to be left alone, often for long periods at a time.

For the vast majority of us, this is a joyous time of the year, filled with many blessings, including being surrounded by family and friends. But for others – and especially this year – it's a very difficult, painful, and fragile time of the year.

Perhaps you know a widow or widower whose heart still aches over the loss of a spouse and who is feeling especially lonely and vulnerable now. Maybe you know a single person who has no family in the area, or a coworker who has no one with whom to celebrate this season. Try to find someone this week who might be lonely, who might be experiencing isolation. Find those people and love them. Perhaps, if your comfort levels permits it, that means visiting them at their home or inviting them into your own home, or at the very least calling them on the phone.

Nobody should be made to feel alone at this time of the year. Reach out and touch the life of someone who might be going through what Mary was going through 2,000 years ago. What a wonderful way to honor Mary and to bring some Christmas joy to someone who otherwise would not fully experience the joy of Christmas.

On behalf of the priests, deacon, religious sisters, and staff at Our Lady of Sorrows, I wish upon you and your families all the joy and peace of this holy season. May you forever experience the love and blessings of the Christ Child and the maternal protection of His Blessed Mother. A very joyous and Merry Christmas to all!

Christmas Blessings,





A decorative border of green holly leaves and red berries surrounds the entire text area.

# Our Lady of Sorrows *Christmas Masses*

Christmas Eve Masses at 4:30pm, 7:00pm, and 10:00pm

Christmas Day Masses at 8:00am, 10:00am, and 11:30am

There is a limit of 150 people at each Mass.

To properly maintain social distancing,  
we're requiring everyone to RSVP for Mass.  
Scan the QR code or click on the link below  
to RSVP through Eventbrite.

Or you can call the office to reserve: 973-763-5454

You will receive an email with your tickets.  
Please either print the ticket or bring it digitally,  
as it will be required to enter the Church.

Register On 



**THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING  
OF OUR PARISHIONERS**

**This will be reported in the next bulletin  
Thank you for your continued support!**

**Christmas Eve**

On Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, there will be only one daily Mass at 9:00 am.

**End-of-year tax planning**

Now is the time of the year to consider final tax planning for 2020. You may be aware that Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) from your qualified retirement accounts (401-k, 403(b), IRAs) have been waived in 2020 pursuant to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. If you would like to consider a donation to Our Lady of Sorrows, you may use a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). This permits you to distribute your RMD (up to \$100,000) to the charity of your choice without having to pay income tax on the distribution. The ability to exclude the RMD from your income is in place of taking a distribution for your charitable contribution. Please be advised that this is not tax advice. Questions should be discussed with your accountant or tax advisor.

**Binge on this!**

Don't be bored while stuck at home! Become more deeply engaged in your faith! Our Lady of Sorrows offers you free access to FORMED, an online depository of wonderful books, movies, audios, and much more. Here's how to sign up and start enjoying all those benefits:

1. Go to: [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)
2. Enter our parish code: RJCHGZ (if requested)
3. Create a personal account with your email address and a password
4. Start enjoying the best Christian content all in one place!

**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 have received Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.**

**Join Relevant Radio (1430 AM) for the Family  
Rosary Across America daily at 8pm.**

A new novena has begun. "I'll Be Home for Christmas" novena is for all our loved ones who have strayed from the Church. It will be prayed until December 24. Join families across America in praying the Rosary. Listen on the radio (1430 AM), or go to [www.relevantradio.com](http://www.relevantradio.com), or go to "Father Rocky" on Facebook. Remember, the more of us who pray, the stronger the prayer.

**Meet Our Staff**

**Rev. Brian X. Needles**, Pastor

[fbrianneedles@gmail.com](mailto:fbrianneedles@gmail.com)

**Rev. Richard Pfannenstiel**, Parochial Vicar

[Fannmann91@msn.com](mailto:Fannmann91@msn.com)

**Rev. Eugenio (Gino) de la Rama**, Priest in Residence

**Deacon Walter Wiggins**, Permanent Deacon

[deaconwalt@outlook.com](mailto:deaconwalt@outlook.com)

**Ms. Judy Foley**, School Principal

[principal@ourladyofsorrowsschool.org](mailto:principal@ourladyofsorrowsschool.org)

**Sr. Mary Selina, S.C.C.**, Pastoral Associate

[passociate07@gmail.com](mailto:passociate07@gmail.com)

**Jennifer Noll**, Catechetical Coordinator

[jennollols@gmail.com](mailto:jennollols@gmail.com)

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[kaiserch@shu.edu](mailto:kaiserch@shu.edu)

**Colleen McDonald**, Administrative Assistant

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**Preston Dibble**, Director of Music

[olsmusician@gmail.com](mailto:olsmusician@gmail.com)

**Karlene Campbell**, Nursery Director

[karlene@thenurseryatols.org](mailto:karlene@thenurseryatols.org)

**Charles Noun**, Business Manager

[ols217so@msn.com](mailto:ols217so@msn.com)

**Anne Moore**, Parish Secretary

[ols.pastor@verizon.net](mailto:ols.pastor@verizon.net)

**Jesus said to His followers:** "Go and baptize all nations in the name of the Father, and of the Son and the Holy Spirit."

Are you willing to share the joy and gift of the Faith that you received at Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist and Reconciliation?

Do you know someone who needs to complete and make firm their relationship with Christ and His Church through Confirmation? Tell them to inquire: 973-763-5454

Do you know of someone who is seeking a full Relationship with Christ through His Church through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist? If so invite them to inquire: 973-763-5454.

### **Update from the OLS Food Pantry**

The COVID-19 pandemic has taken a tremendous toll on local families. Prior to March, we served 100-125 families each week. For the past 2 months, we have provided bags of groceries to 400-450 families on our Saturday distribution dates.

Please help us keep our shelves stocked with basic grocery items including boxed milk (1qt, all types), hot/cold cereal (low sugar), pasta and sauce, peanut butter and jelly, beans (can/dry), canned tuna & chicken, rice (1lb bags, all types), canned fruit and vegetables. Food donations can be dropped off in the front vestibule of the church Monday-Friday 7am-3pm or Saturday, 8:30am-3:00 pm and at the front door of the rectory 3-5pm Monday-Saturday. Monetary donations are also accepted by check (payable to 'OLS Food Pantry' and mailed to the church at 217 Prospect Street) or online at <https://olschurch.com/parish-giving/> Questions? Email [olspantry@gmail.com](mailto:olspantry@gmail.com) or call 973-370-0458.

### **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](http://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.**

**Please sign up for Our Lady of Sorrows Digital newsletter today! Go to our website main page under news and events.**

**<http://www.olschurch.com>**

**[The Giving Tree](#)**



**Be Sure to deliver your wrapped gifts to church vestibule with tags securely taped no later than **Sunday, December 20th at the 11:30am Mass.** Though your generosity is greatly appreciated, timeliness is also key. Gifts cannot be delivered to the children if they are not on time. Thank you! Contact Jonathan Arena with any questions: [jonathan.e.arena@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.e.arena@gmail.com) or (848) 565-5920**

### **From the Blood Drive Committee:**

Though coronavirus may be preventing us from conducting our scheduled June 2020 blood drive, please don't let it prevent you from considering the needs of others. Blood product reserves are always depleted during the summer months and the current pandemic has only compounded the problem. Yet, consider the cancer patient who isn't afforded the luxury of taking time off from chemotherapy during this lockdown; they are among many who so desperately rely on your selfless donations.

May we encourage you to reach out to Vitalant blood services to **schedule** a donation. They have fixed donation sites in West Orange, Parsippany, Lincoln Park and Paramus, and can be contacted via [vitalant.org](http://vitalant.org) or by phoning 201-251-3703.

All donors and staff will have their temperatures taken before being allowed to enter the blood drawing site







**\$120 Donation & 12 Chances to win!**  
**Cash Prize of \$1500 Each Month**  
**Only 500 tickets will be sold**

***Every Ticket Holder eligible to win each month, even if you won a previous month.***

Drawing to be held the 15<sup>th</sup> day of each month at @ 1:00 pm in the Church office.

First Drawing: January 15, 2021

**Purchase by completing the form below and mail with your donation or put in the collections on Sunday (it will be brought to the office.) We will mail your ticket to you. Please make checks payable to Our Lady of Sorrow's Church (for \$120.00).**

*We can take checks, cash or credit cards*

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**Our Lady of Sorrows 2021 CALENDAR RAFFLE  
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Please Print, PERSON ENTERING MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER

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# Reserve you copy of The Crusader Cookbook 2020-2021

The Crusader Cookbook has gone to press! Do not miss out and reserve your copy today!

\$20/per book

Orders can be made by visiting the website and clicking "The Crusader Cookbook tab" or you detach the order form below and return to the school office Attn: HAS - Michelle Lomuscio.

If you have any questions email [OLSSchoolHSA@gmail.com](mailto:OLSSchoolHSA@gmail.com)

.....  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name and Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Cookbooks: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20 = \_\_\_\_\_ (total to enclosed)

Check number \_\_\_\_\_ Cash amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_



"We don't know what the future holds, but it's all God's work," says Sister Theresa McGrath (center), 86, a member of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, San Antonio, for nearly 70 years.

## Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

In good times and bad, Sister Theresa and the senior religious shown here have dedicated themselves to God's work. Together with nearly 30,000 elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests in the United States, they educated the young, tended the sick, and ministered to the needy. Today, they pray for a world that is hurting. Yet many religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members. Your tax-deductible gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.

### retiredreligious.org

Above, from left: Sister Alice Garcia, SSC, 95; Brother Martin Gensules, OCSO, 95; Sister Theresa McGrath, CCW, 86; Sister Anne Cecile McElroy, OSM, 92; Abbot Benedict Peter Szabo, OSB, 79.

**To give at your parish:** Make your check payable to your parish. (Write RFR on the memo line.)

**Amount:** ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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**To donate by mail:** Make your check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious. Please do not mail cash.

**Data preference (Please check one.)**

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☐ No, the data I provided may only be used to complete this transaction and may not be used for United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Retirement Fund for Religious records.

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## 2021 Mass Book

The 2021 Mass book is now open. You may send in your Mass intention requests by mail. The donation for Masses is \$10 for each one. Please use the form below to submit requests by mail or place this form in the Sunday collection basket. When we receive your request, we will call you to let you know if the date and time you requested is unavailable. If you require a Mass card, we will mail it to you (please check the box below if you wish to have a Mass card).

Requested by \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Name of the deceased or Special Intention (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Is a Mass card required? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Date (weekday) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ 7:00 am ☐ 12:00 Noon

Date (Saturday) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ 8:30 am ☐ 12:00 Noon

Date (Saturday Vigil/Sunday) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ 5:30 pm ☐ 8:00 am  
☐ 10:00 am ☐ 11:30 am

Name of the deceased or Special Intention (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Is a Mass card required? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Date (weekday) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ 7:00 am ☐ 12:00 Noon

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Date (Saturday Vigil/Sunday) \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ 5:30 pm ☐ 8:00 am  
☐ 10:00 am ☐ 11:30 am

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (make check payable to Our Lady of Sorrows)

# St. Cecilia Singers Handbell Ensemble



Thursday  
afternoon rehearsals  
and selected  
10AM Sunday Mass  
playing appearances



We invite all of our young parishioners in grades 3-8 to participate in the St. Cecilia Singers Handbell Ensemble. This is an extension of our normal choir, which is not currently singing due to COVID-19. Instead, the children gather each week on Thursday afternoons, wearing masks, gloves and distanced spacing to play God's song on Handbells. It is a great way for children to learn a new skill in reading music and about the Church's song, even in this time of pandemic. New children are needed to participate and no prior experience is necessary. Please see Preston Dibble, parish music director, for more information: [olsmusician@gmail.com](mailto:olsmusician@gmail.com)



*Our Lady of Sorrows*

217 PROSPECT STREET, SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079

## 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." (Mt 25:40)*

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



**Email [olssvdp@aol.com](mailto:olssvdp@aol.com) if you are in need of assistance.**

The Society cannot do this alone. We are therefore most grateful for the monetary donations we receive in order to carry out our work. Donations may 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 out to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Thank you for helping us bear witness to the love of Christ.





### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2020

5:30 PM People of the Parish

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2020

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving  
10:00 AM Mario & Mary Inguaggiato  
11:30 AM Deceased Members of the Lambusta  
& Abramo Families

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2020

7:00 AM Elizabeth & Lyndon Bryce  
12:00 PM Patricia Wiggins 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2020

7:00AM Betty Ann & Ed Duthie  
12:00 PM Reno Luciani

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2020

7:00 AM Marie Maddi  
12:00 PM Patricia Wiggins

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2020

#### Christmas Eve

9:00AM Mary Beth Preston Hardesty  
4:30 PM Msgr. Francis R. Seymour  
7:00 PM Rosetta Giuliano 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
10:00 PM Maria Parra

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2020

#### Christmas Day

8:00AM Angelo & Paul Magliaro  
10:00 AM Eric Flanagan  
11:30 AM People of the Parish

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2020

9:00 AM Deacon John Inguaggiato

### VIGIL MASS DECEMBER 26, 2020

5:30 PM Walter Borowicz

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2020

8:00 AM All Rosarians Living & Deceased  
10:00 AM People of the Parish  
11:30 AM Manuel Fernandes

### In Sympathy of

Let us remember in our prayers those who have recently passed away here at OLS: **Michael Houghton**. We pray for the repose of his soul and also for those left behind during this time of loss.

### IN MEMORIAM

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

This Week's **Sanctuary Candle** in the Upper Church is being offered in loving memory of **Manuel Fernandes**. Requested by Joy Fernandes & Family.

### MUSIC MINISTRY

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

### REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please remember to pray for the following in your prayers: Julia Callaghan, Angie Sena, Daniel Callaghan, Elizabeth Stuart, Marie Somers, Bill Aber, Neville Moore, Jane O'Donoghue, George Richmond Files Jr., Megan More, Ludgarda Rosa, Stephanie Windsor, Amy Dombrowski, Mark F. Davonski, Beth Hebron, Jennifer Bober, Rosemary Muller, Melissa O'Brien, Rita Arena, John Colaku, Pat Bendrot and Deacon Raj Srinivasa.



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