

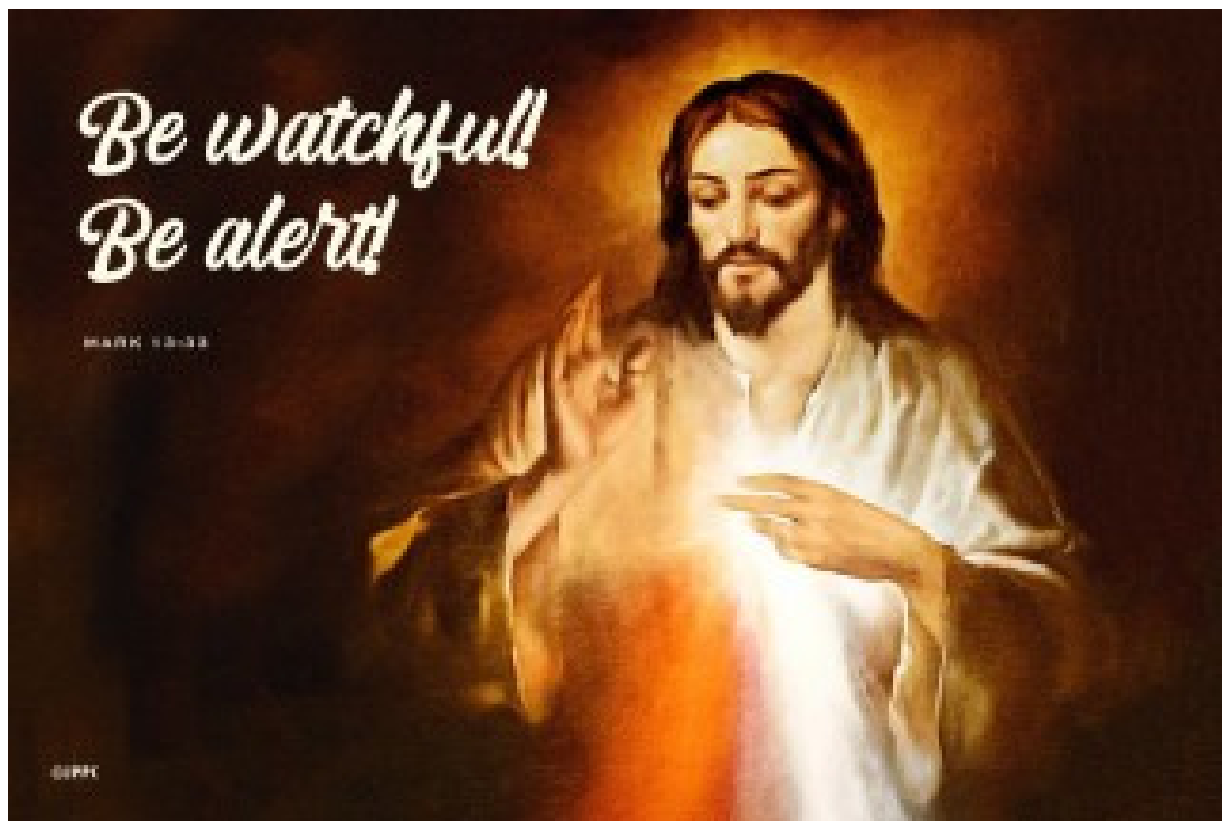


# *Our Lady of Sorrows*

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 3, 2023***  
***1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent***

## *A Message from Fr. Andrew*

I was a student at Seton Hall University for eight years as a seminarian until May of this year before joyfully returning to Our Lady of Sorrows as a parochial vicar. I used to go to the campus gym to exercise and release the stress from classes. One of the interesting things about that facility is that it gets way too crowded in January. There had been times when I went there in the evening, and there were way too many people that I would finish a set of workouts on one machine for five minutes and spend the next ten minutes trying to find a machine or free weights available for use!

I wondered, “Why are so many new people coming to the gym in January despite the cold weather”? Something I couldn’t understand was that most of those newcomer students disappeared after a few weeks, and the gym started getting less crowded in mid-February. Soon, I found out the reason. It was a New Year’s resolution. Many students start the year with the slogan “New Year, New Me”. However, unfortunately, that desire to make a change and to become a better version of self slowly fades away as the daily grinds of classes, internships, and all other commitments start building up. It starts becoming challenging to commit to the resolution of becoming a better self once things start to get hectic.

I think this can happen to all of us. We can come up with plans for things to do to let ourselves grow in many aspects of our lives before the new year begins, and we see ourselves running out of gas to do what we’ve planned to do amidst the busyness. Today, the first Sunday of Advent, is the beginning of the New Year for all Catholics. It is the best time for us to reflect upon the past year and start planning what we want to do to grow in the love of God for the year that awaits us. If patience is a virtue we want to grow in, now is the time to resolve, and if helping people experiencing poverty is something we want to do more, now is the time to think about what we can do.

However, most importantly, we must ask for God’s grace in prayers since the flame of the Holy Spirit given to us by God cannot be preserved without the source of that flame: God Himself! Without prayer life, we won’t be able to persevere and fully commit ourselves to grow in holiness – the love towards our God and neighbors.

We may not know what to do as we welcome the new liturgical year. Thankfully, the Church teaches us what we are called to do as we begin the new year with advent. It is preparing ourselves to welcome our King, who, out of love, becomes a tiny infant. Well-preparedness to welcome Christ will make us want to love like He did, which is the willingness to make ourselves small and share the burdens of the ones we truly love. Isn’t that what the mystery of Incarnation is, God making Himself small as an infant to bring us to His greatness? May we, under the help of God’s grace, persevere in our new year’s resolution. Let’s make our Church more crowded as we begin the new year, like the gym at Seton Hall University in January, but let’s keep it that way until the end of time!

Blessings,

Fr. Andrew

**THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING  
OF OUR PARISHIONERS**

**November 19<sup>th</sup>      Week 21      Y. to Date**

Collection	\$13,353	\$248,625
Budgeted	\$12,027	\$252,559

Food Pantry	\$1,178
Repairs and Maintenance	\$436
Music	\$300

**November 26<sup>th</sup>      Week 22      Y. to Date**

Collection	\$12,639	\$261,264
Budgeted	\$12,027	\$264,585

Food Pantry	\$1,354
St. Vincent De Paul	\$4,158
Repairs and Maintenance	\$1,050
Music	\$3,607

***Thank you for your generosity!***

**Please Remember OLS**

Don't have a will? You are not alone. Now is a great time to start planning and please consider including a bequest to OLS in your estate plans. Bequest funds are vital to ensuring the Parish continues to thrive and minister to our parishioners.

**Christian Initiation Highlights**

Five new members were initiated into our Christian Community. They are: Charlotte Jane Bellfy, Jack Richard Fiset, Mia Faye Fiset, Roman John Quinn and Emilia Antonia Alvarado. We congratulate their parents, godparents and families.

**Notice from the Archdiocese**

The Archdiocese has been notified that (Horacio) Daniel Medina has been falsely presenting himself as a Catholic priest in the northern New Jersey area where he is celebrating Mass in people's homes and then ministering confessions, and blessing homes and religious articles. Please be advised that Mr. Medina was dismissed from the clerical state by the Holy Father in 2013. As a result of the laicization, he may never function in any capacity as a priest or be referred to as a priest or as "Father," and is not authorized to celebrate the sacraments or engage in any priestly ministry.

**For the women of the Parish**

Advent by Candlelight is an evening set aside for women to pray and embrace the real reason for the season amidst the busyness of preparing for the holiday.



There will be desserts, decorations, hymns, and times of prayers and reflection.

A group of women is organizing this for the evening of December 5<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm.

If you are interested in volunteering or participating, please contact Colette Gill Pierre at [cpierre6860@gmail.com](mailto:cpierre6860@gmail.com) or via phone at 917-767-5344

**Calling All Young Singers!**

**St. Cecilia Singers – Grades 3-8**

Our St. Cecilia Singers did not have quite enough interest to begin our season this year, but we are hoping that young parishioners will be willing to participate in the month of December as we sing for our Annual Carol Sing and for Christmas Eve. For more information on joining this limited commitment, please contact Preston Dibble at the parish office. Rehearsals will begin immediately following Thanksgiving.

**Youth Choir – Grades 9-12**

Our Youth Choir is off to a great season, but new teens are welcome to participate in the month of December for our Carol Sing and Christmas Eve. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings. Please contact Preston Dibble at the parish office for more information.

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

ESSEX COUNTY YOUNG ADULTS

## Holy day Mass & Trivia night

~ Friday, Dec. 8th ~

Adults ages 20-35: join us as we celebrate Advent  
and the Feast of the Immaculate Conception!

7PM Mass (Location TBD)  
8:15pm: Trivia at Brook Tap House  
811 Passaic Ave, West Caldwell, NJ 07006



RSVP so we have  
space for you &  
to get updates  
on Mass location!

## Our Lady of Sorrows School 2023 Wreath Sale



Volunteers from the Home-School Association  
will be selling Wreaths and Grave Covers in front  
of the Church after Mass on **December 3rd and  
December 10<sup>th</sup>**.

- 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
- This year we are also taking orders! Order online  
<https://www.ourladyofsorrowsschool.org/wreath-sale>

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 on the weekend of  
**December 9-10**. Your help can and will make a  
difference in the lives of your Christian brothers and  
sisters in Bethlehem.



"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,  
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





### VIGIL, SATURDAY DECEMBER 2, 2023

5:30 PM Barbara Tinari

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023

8:00 AM Jennie Magliaro  
10:00 AM People of the Parish  
11:30 AM Rosemarie Iantosca

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023

7:00 AM Annabeth Ebert  
12:00 PM Lillian Parkinson

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2023

7:00 AM Mary Theresa Berres  
12:00 PM The Brutofsky Family

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2023

7:00 AM Raj and Maureen Srinivasa - Special Intention  
12:00 PM Robert Antinozzi - Special Intention

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023

7:00 AM Maureen and Raj Srinivasa - Special Intention  
12:00 PM Thomas Murphy

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2023

7:00 AM Norma Hermann - Special Intention  
9:30 AM School Mass  
12:00 PM Marilyn Cucciniello  
7:00 PM Patrick Brian George

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2023

8:30 AM Michael Francis Houghton - 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary  
12:00 PM Leocadia A. Dybczak

### 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

### 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.




# Help Bring Christmas Joy to our Parish at our Annual Christmas Pageant **Sunday, December 10, 2023**



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](mailto:sorrowschurch@gmail.com) if your child in grades K-8 would like to participate. Or sign up electronically via the SignUpGenius!

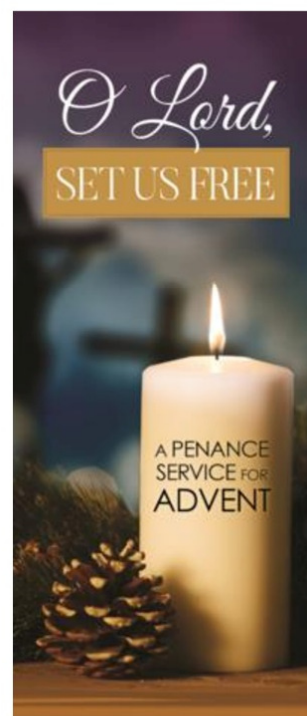
Pageant Roles		Pageant Schedule
<p><b>K and Grade 1:</b> Lambs</p> <p><b>Grade 2:</b> Angels</p> <p><b>Grade 3</b> Shepherds</p> <p><b>Grades 4 and Up:</b> Central Figures</p> <p>* Costumes Provided for All Cast Members</p>		<p><b>Practice</b> <b>Friday, December 8th</b> 4:00 - 6:30 pm (Grades 4-8) 5:30 - 6:30 pm (Grades K-3) Upper church</p> <p><b>Pageant Day</b> <b>Sunday, December 10th</b> Central figures arrive 3:00 pm, Upper Church</p> <p>Sheep, Angels and Shepherds arrive 4:00 pm, St. Joseph's Hall</p>

**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**



**MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 7:00 PM  
OUR LADY OF SORROWS CHURCH**

Please join us for our Advent Penance Service. We will have a communal penance service, followed by individual confessions. Prepare your soul for the Birth of Our Savior by first making a good confession.





**Blood Drive**  
**Thursday, December 7, 2023**  
**3:00 – 7:00 PM**  
**St. Joseph's Hall**



Because of you, life doesn't stop.  
# VitalToLife



**\$10 GIFT CARD**

- Give a successful Whole Blood, Power Red, Platelet or Plasma donation with Vitalant and you will receive enough bonus points in your online donor account to redeem for a \$10 gift card of your choice through Vitalant's donor recognition program.
- Donor must first have an account and be opted in to the recognition program to receive points.

**Sponsored By:**  
**Our Lady of Sorrows**

**Thursday, December 7, 2023**  
**3:00 pm – 7:00 pm**

**St. Joseph's Hall**  
**217 Prospect Street**  
**South Orange, NJ 07079**

Appointments strongly recommended

You may make an appointment using the link below or QR code:  
[https://donor.donorsblood.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/56798](https://donor.donorsblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/56798)

**Join The Vitalant Donor Recognition Program**  
Earn points for each donation. Points can be redeemed for e-gift cards to a variety of national retailers & restaurants.  
**Enroll Today!**

1 Visit [vitalant.org/recognition](https://vitalant.org/recognition) or  
2 Call our Customer Care Center at 1-877-258-4825

**Donor Guidelines:**

- \* **Weigh at least 110 lbs**
- \* **Bring ID**
- \* **Eat a meal before donation**
- \* **Drink plenty of water before and after donation**



**vitalant** 



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