



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

March 17, 2024
5th Sunday in Lent

A Message from Fr. Brian

Walking into Church this weekend, you will have noticed something very different: our crucifix and our statues are veiled. For the last 2 years, we have veiled the crucifix and this year the statues are also veiled, thanks to the help of Gabe Baseman. For many centuries, the last 2 weeks of Lent were referred to as Passiontide. Before the reform of the liturgy, what we now celebrate as the 5th Sunday of Lent (this Sunday) was referred to as Passion Sunday. The current calendar combines Passion Sunday and Palm Sunday into one week, but the practice of referring to the final 2 weeks of Lent as Passiontide is still very common.

The Church allows for the veiling during Passiontide. Why? Well, there are several very good reasons. First, the traditional reason was found in the Gospel passage formerly read on Passion Sunday (John 8:46-59). We read in that passage: “...*Jesus hid Himself, and went out of the temple.*” Jesus was threatened with stoning for claiming to be the Son of God and so He hid (veiled) Himself from view. He wouldn’t appear again in Jerusalem until His triumphant entry on Palm Sunday.

Another reason for veiling is that the Cross we now recognize as the emblem of Christ’s victory was first seen as an instrument of humiliation and suffering. In His passion, the divinity of Christ was almost completely obscured. It was virtually impossible to recognize Jesus as God while He hung on the Cross. But so too was His humanity veiled, so enormous was His suffering. Battered, beaten, bruised, and bloody, Jesus was living out the words from the prophet Isaiah that prefigured His own agony: “*I am a worm, not a man, scorned by men, despised by the people.*” (Is. 22:7) So beaten and bloodied was He, that His humanity was hardly recognizable. So, His wounds hid – veiled – both His divinity and humanity. The purple cloth of the veil over the crucifix highlights this sad reality.



Another reason: the veiling of the crucifix as well as statues should force us to imagine the darkness and hopelessness of a world not redeemed by Christ’s death on the Cross. Not being able to see the crucifix and statues during these last couple weeks helps us to better focus on the fact that without Christ’s sacrifice, sin and death would have complete control over us. But with His Death and Resurrection, we are given hope, knowing that sin and death do not have the final word, but instead eternal life is made possible (and saints – and their statues – also become possible!).

Another reason: they remind us that something momentous is drawing near. But with the veiling of the crucifix and statues, our senses are deprived of the beauty of these symbols. Our senses will be slowly awakened by next Sunday’s red vestments and palm branches; and then by the white vestments and ceremony of Holy Thursday; and then also by the somberness of the barren sanctuary on Good Friday. But our senses will be fully alive when the darkness of Good Friday and Holy Saturday give way to the great Easter Vigil. We will then celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus and all our senses will be oriented toward the hope and joy made possible by the Resurrection. At that time, the veil which once covered our crucifix will have been removed and the veil over our eyes and other senses will have been lifted and we can once again sing out a joyous Alleluia.

Be sure to enter into the sublime mystery of all of this by your participation in our Holy Week and Easter liturgies. Refer to the cover of next week’s bulletin and you will see the many opportunities you have to accompany Jesus as His divinity is both veiled and unveiled in these most holy of weeks.

Passiontide Blessings,

Fr. Brian

THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING OF OUR PARISHIONERS

<u>March 11th</u>	<u>Week 37</u>	<u>Y. to Date</u>
Collection	\$11,765	\$455,812
Budgeted	\$12,027	\$444,984

Catholic Relief Services \$1,659

Thank you for your generosity!

Courtesy Parking Request

We kindly ask parishioners to help the flow of traffic in and out of the parking lot during Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday when crowds are larger than usual. It would be much appreciated if all *entered the lot* only via Prospect Street and *exited the lot* only via Academy Street. This would ensure a one-way flow of traffic at the bottleneck at the top of the parking lot and enable all of those coming to Mass to find parking in a timely manner. We thank you for your assistance!

St. Vincent de Paul Society

The OLS St. Vincent de Paul Society seeks to find and aid those in need in our Parish, and the Maplewood/South Orange communities on a confidential basis. If you know of someone potentially in need of financial and/or advisory assistance, have them contact the Our Lady of Sorrows Parish office: (973) 763-5454 or email: OLSSstvincentdepaul@gmail.com



For those looking to donate to this cause, please contact the Parish office or the email address above.

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent at 7pm. Join us as we prayerfully meditate on Christ's Passion and Death, which is the ultimate demonstration of God's love for us. St. Maximilian Kolbe put it this way: "The cross is the school of love." Come and experience that love.

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal Catholic Stewardship in Action

Please help OLS to reach our goal!

Total donors
as of 3-11-24:
68

Total # of OLS families:
2256

To make a gift:



Annual Appeal Goal

\$75,607



Raised
\$33,355

SUPPORT Scouts BSA Troop 99 Palm Crosses & Spring Flowers

Our Lady of Sorrows
217 Prospect St.
South Orange, NJ

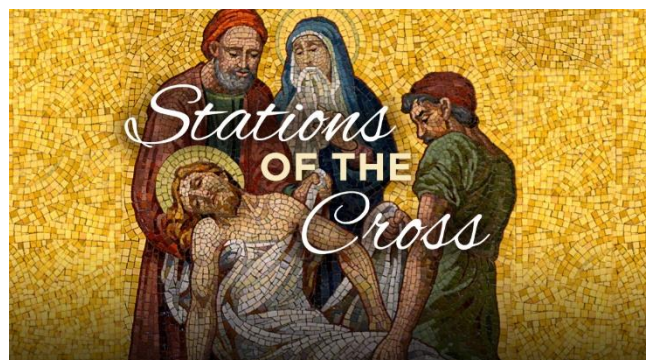
SAT, MARCH 23 6:00-7:00PM
SUN, MARCH 24, 8:30AM-1:00PM



**SCAN TO
ORDER BY
MARCH 20**

<https://tinyurl.com/Troop99Flowers>

**\$13
EACH**



Meet Our Staff

Rev. Brian X. Needles, Pastor

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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

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Ms. Judy Foley, School Principal

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

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Charles Noun, Business Manager

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Mary Beth Zurat, Secretary

marybeth.olschurch@gmail.com

The Breastplate (Lorica) of St. Patrick

Christ with me,

Christ before me,

Christ behind me,

Christ in me,

Christ beneath me,

Christ above me,

Christ on my right,

Christ on my left,

Christ when I lie down,

Christ when I sit down,

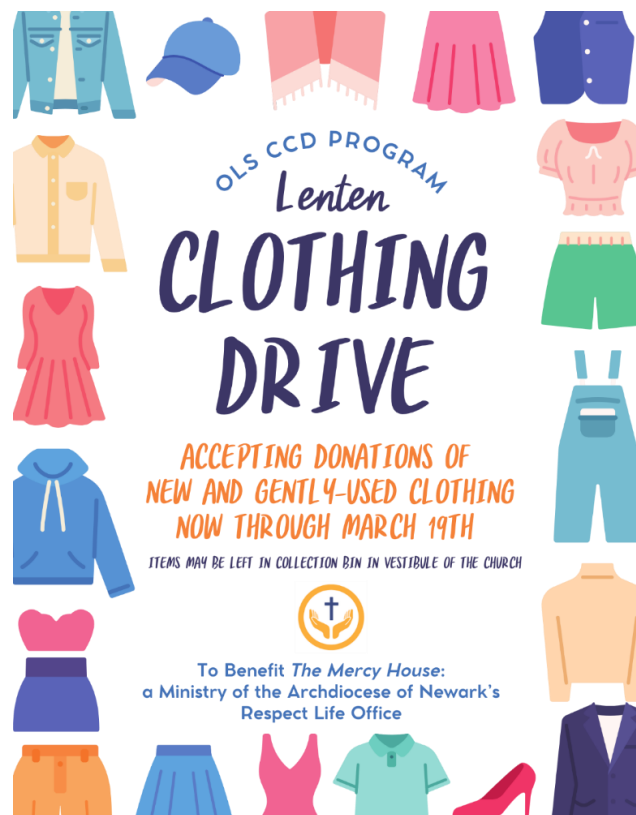
Christ when I arise,

Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me,

Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me,,

Christ in every eye that sees me,

Christ in every ear that hears me.



Book Collection

If you have any books (children, young adult or adult fiction or non-fiction) that you want to get rid of, please contact Larry Petraccaro at (973) 943-9853 or lpetraccaro@gmail.com and he will pick them up. The children's books will be shared with Anne Quinn who distributes them at the OLS Food Pantry and the others will be distributed at the Franciscan Charities Soup Kitchen in Newark. Thank you!





Mass Intentions

VIGIL, SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024

5:30 PM William E. Smith

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024

8:00 AM People of the Parish
10:00 AM Russell Somers
11:30 AM John and Evelyn Fanneron

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024

7:00 AM Sean Patrick Needles
12:00 PM Ernest Cushing

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2024

7:00 AM Deceased members of the
DePaola, Deehan and Salvante
Families
9:30 AM School Mass – Frank “Bo” Ench
12:00 PM Claire Lauridsen

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2024

7:00 AM Mary Donadio
12:00 PM Sean Patrick Needles

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024

7:00 AM Ann O. Coakley
12:00 PM Aleksandra Sidorenk

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2024

7:00 AM Sean Patrick Needles
12:00 PM Rolando Tecson

SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024

8:30 AM Naomi Huhn
12:00 PM Theresa Frey

VIGIL, SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024

5:30 PM Michael Francis Houghton

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024

8:00 AM John M. Plesnik
10:00 AM All Rosarians, Living and
Deceased
11:30 AM People of the Parish



Request a Mass

We now have an easier way
for you to request Masses.

Either go here:

<https://olschurch.com/request-a-mass/>

Or scan the QR code.



In Memoriam

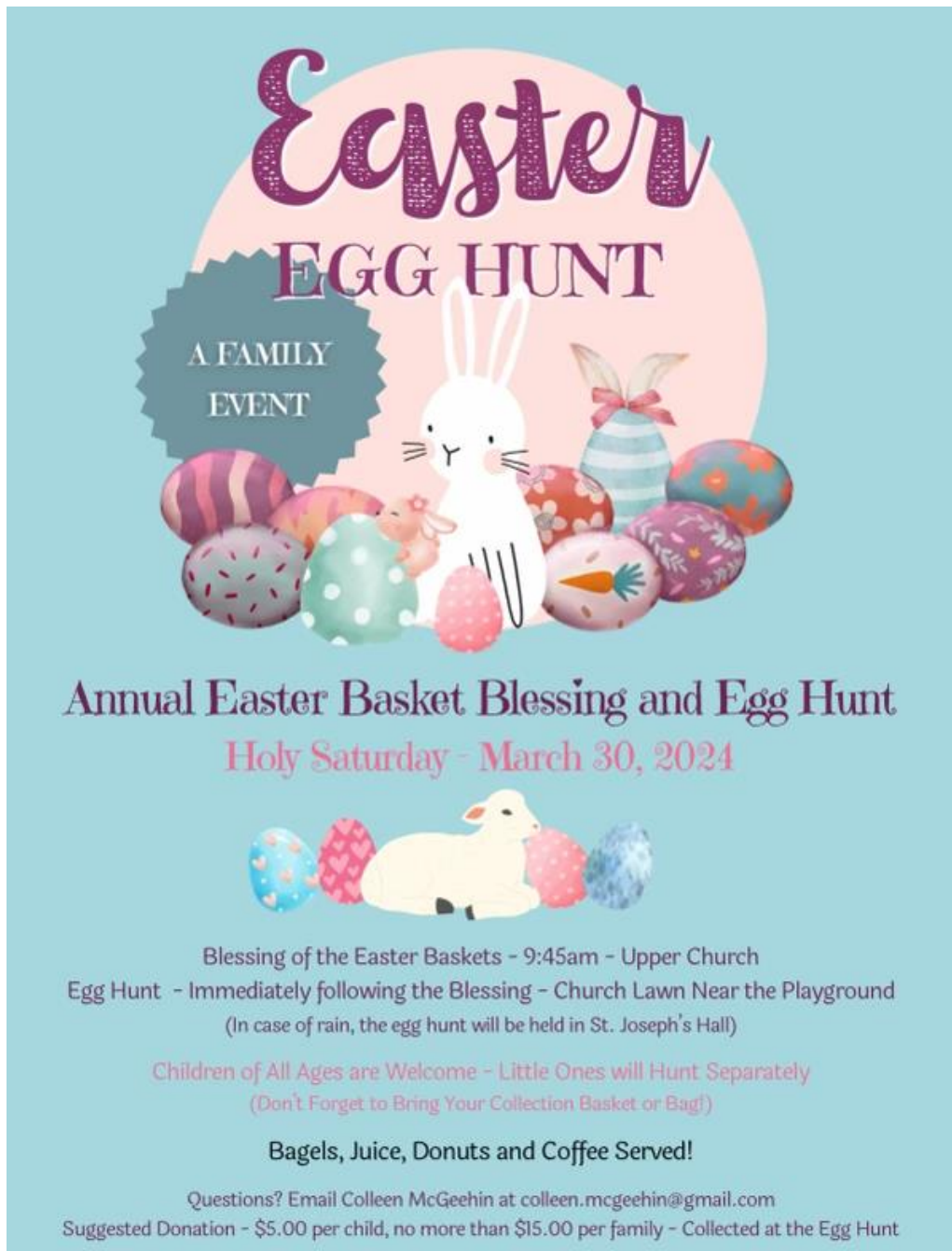
It is a loving gesture to donate the
weekly Sanctuary Lamp in memory of a
loved one for a special intention.

Welcomed Home by God

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

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, 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 and Kate Powis, Patricia Evanik,
Michael Elliot, Judith Gordy and Alan
Droppa



Andiamo in Italia!

That's right: OLS is going to Italy, and we'd love for you to join us! Experience the rich history, faith, culture, art, architecture, and food and wine (!) of this beautiful country. This pilgrimage will be led by Fr. Brian and Stephanie Sonnick, and we will visit Rome, Assisi, Orvieto, and Loreto. This trip may fill up quickly and so don't wait too long to register.

For the full itinerary and more information:

<https://prorometours.com/ourladyofsorrows>



Swienconka or “The Blessing of the Baskets” Swienconka (Sveen-Tsonka) in Polish

Swienconka refers to the Easter foods taken to church, in baskets lined with linens, for blessing on Holy Saturday. Swienconka also refers to the meal at which they are eaten on Easter morning. Each food is symbolic of the life, death, or resurrection of Christ. This meal is considered the first breakfast in the traditions of many nationalities, serving to break-the-fast of the season of lent; therefore, it is a meal of celebration.

On **Saturday, March 30th at 9:45am**, OLS will have our annual blessing of these baskets before our Easter Egg Hunt. For those wishing to participate in the Swienconka the following is a guide to familiarize yourself with this traditionally Polish custom. Feel free to alter the foods and bring your own interpretation of the Easter Breakfast in a basket to be blessed.

Eggs – (Hardboiled) Eggs have long been regarded as a symbol of new life. The emergence of a newborn chick from the shell is a sign of the new life Christ provided through his resurrection, but also been compared to His emergence from the tomb on Easter morning. Poles cut the first egg into pieces so that all may share the egg, symbolizing our sharing of Christ with each other. Salt is a symbol of prosperity, and that we are the “salt of the earth” (Matthew 5:13) and is sprinkled on the egg. Pepper and horseradish are reminiscent of our Lord’s passion and may be sprinkled on the eggs.

***Ham, Pork, Kielbasa** – These types of pork were forbidden under the dietary codes of the Old Testament. Since our Lord comes to fulfill the law, the old makes way for the new. One main element of the Swienconka ceremony is the blessing of those formerly forbidden foods, emphasizing the “New Covenant” which Jesus Christ established for all by His death and resurrection.

***Butter (or Pascal) Lamb** – This lamb may also be made of dough or of cast plaster. This lamb is featured carrying a red banner emblazoned with a cross. The symbolism of the lamb has many meanings. Our Lord proclaimed, “I am the Good Shepherd.” (John 10:11). St. John the Baptist proclaimed, “Behold, the Lamb of God.” (John 1:29). The lamb, a sacrificial animal in ancient times, portrays Christ as victorious through this presentation.

***Bread or Babka** – This is a round loaf of bread topped with a frosting cross. This symbolizes the bread of the Eucharistic meal.

Vinegar – Reminds us of the sour wine given to Jesus as He hung upon the cross.

Wine – Reminds us of Jesus’ blood, particularly His request to drink of His blood.

*Items with an asterisk, such as Kielbasa, babka and the butter lamb are traditional Polish items.