



Our Lady of Sorrows

217 PROSPECT STREET, SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079

2024 Holy Week & Easter Schedule

MONDAY, MARCH 25

Mass: 7:00 am and 12:00 Noon

Eucharistic Adoration: 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

Mass: 7:00 am and 12:00 Noon

Confessions: 7:30 am – 8:00 am

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

Mass: 7:00 am and 12:00 Noon

Confessions: 12:30 pm – 1:00 pm



HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28

Morning Prayer: 9:00 am

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30 pm

Church open until 11:00 pm for Adoration before the Altar of Repose

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29

Morning Prayer: 9:00 am

Confessions: 12:00 Noon – 1:00 pm

Good Friday Service of the Lord's Passion and Death with Holy Communion: 3:00 pm

Choral and Living Stations of the Cross by the Parish Choir and Youth Group: 7:30 pm

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 30

Morning Prayer: 9:00 am

Blessing of Easter Foods: 9:45 am

Easter Egg Hunt: 10:00 am

Solemn Vigil Mass of Easter: 8:00 pm

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31

Easter Masses at
8:00 am, 10:00 am and 11:30 am

Happy Easter!





A Message from Fr. Andrew

The joy of the people welcoming Jesus on the donkey entering Jerusalem makes me smile. Had the whole world enthusiastically welcomed Jesus at every Mass, especially on Sunday, for entering our lives by becoming the bread of the Eucharist, wouldn't it be so much better than what it is now? If the whole world knew the depth of our King's love for us that makes Him want to live within us, then everyone would be better at making themselves gifts for one another. What a beautiful world that would be!

Palm Sunday's story of Jesus' glorious entry into Jerusalem makes me happy. Why? Because I like to see our King treated the way He deserves to be treated. Some are kneeling to adore Him, some praising God for sending Him to the world, some crying out "Hosanna" in their teary eyes because their hearts are so moved by the sight of the King's entry, and some lifting their hands high towards heaven to adore the God who had promised to save them. The scene must have been phenomenal. However, the story also gives us heartache because we know how the story of His entry to Jerusalem ends. A few days after Christ enters Jerusalem, the people's hearts change entirely. The same hands spread and lifted high to praise Him became fists beating their King, the mouths that shouted Hosanna became the weapon tearing the heart of their King by cursing and spitting, and His robe will turn utterly red because of the liters of blood poured out for His people. Soon after the people realized Jesus was not the one to help their desire to revolt against the Roman Empire, their "Hosanna" became "Crucify Him." He knew what was going to happen. Yet, that didn't stop Him from loving them.

On this day, when we welcome our King, who came to share His everything with us by dying and rising, I want to invite all of us to thank Him for His unconditional love. You and I, all of us, are the crowds welcoming Christ in Jerusalem. Too often, we praise our King when we walk through a rosy garden but start pointing fingers at him once we encounter a desert moment. Too often, we complain about the blisters on our feet we get from our life journey while forgetting about His feet broken and pierced because of His way to Calvary and crucifixion. We should be the ones washing His bloody feet, but He is the one kneeling in front of us to wash our feet. Despite our unfaithfulness of forgetting about His love for us too often, it is clear that nothing will stop Him from loving us. His love is like a raindrop. It gives life, and it always pours downward.

My friends, our Lenten observances are coming near to end. Soon, we will enjoy flowers blooming and the spring breeze surrounding us. But we must never forget what our King did for us. The life-filled spring we love is the result of the harsh and cold winter Christ had endured for us. Holy Week is right around the corner. Can you and I stay with Him so He may not cry alone in Gethsemane?

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fr. Andrew".

**THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING
OF OUR PARISHIONERS**

March 18th	Week 38	Y. to Date
Collection	\$13,016	\$468,828
Budgeted	\$12,027	\$457,011
Repairs and Maintenance		\$2,318

Thank you for your generosity!

Remembering OLS in your Estate

Please consider OLS in your estate planning. No matter how large or small, every gift will help sustain the Parish for generations to come. It is a powerful reflection on the values and principles you treasure. Bequest funds are vital to ensuring the Parish continues to thrive and minister to our parishioners.

Music Ministry

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

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!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

We have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Monday and Friday, from 12:30pm – 3:00pm, concluding with the Divine Mercy Chaplet. Spend some quiet time in prayer before Our Lord in the exposed Eucharist. Honestly, can you think of any better way to use a few minutes of your day than with Our Lord in the peaceful quiet of our beautiful church?



Shoe us The LOVE

DONATE YOUR GENTLY WORN, USED AND NEW SHOES HERE!
Please keep shoe pairs together!

TROOP 99 SCOUTS BSA SHOE DRIVE!

Thank You for helping us make a difference one pair at a time

FOLLOW US ON @Troop99Girls

SCAN **ME**

Troop 99 Girls Scouts BSA meets every **Thursday** at 7:30 PM, at **Our Lady of Sorrows** in South Orange.
OLSScoutsBSA@gmail.com | 973-763-6349

SUPPORT
Scouts BSA Troop 99
Palm Crosses & Spring Flowers

Sale

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
fbrianneedles@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
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Sr. Mary Selina, S.C.C., Pastoral Associate
passociate07@gmail.com
Jennifer Noll, Catechetical Coordinator
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Christopher Kaiser, Youth Minister
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Stephanie Sonnick, Ministerial Associate
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Colleen McDonald, Administrative Assistant
sorrowchurch@gmail.com
Preston Dibble, Director of Music
olsmusician@gmail.com
Karlene Campbell, Nursery Director
karlene@thenurseryatols.org
Charles Noun, Business Manager
ols217so@msn.com
Mary Beth Zurat, Secretary
marybeth.olschurch@gmail.com

OLS Hospitality Team Needs You!

Do you enjoy our OLS parish gatherings? Do you want to meet other parishioners and help welcome others to our favorite parish events, such as the Fall Parish Picnic, our St. Patrick's Day Party, our monthly coffee, bagels and donut gatherings, and other parish events? If so, you're invited to become a part of our Hospitality Team. We need your help to set up and greet at our parish events to make OLS feel like home to everyone! This ministry is a great fit for anyone looking to get involved in the parish and school community, especially newcomers. If you are interested in being a part of our Hospitality Team, please email: olschurchministries@gmail.com.



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, 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://prometours.com/ourladyofsorrows>



Family members wavering in their faith, or lost it altogether? Loved ones struggling with unforgiveness, hopelessness or doubt? Wondering if there is anything you can do to help?

There is - hold a family retreat!

We have run annual weekend retreats for our family and friends for the last 17 years and would love to show you how to do it, too. Please join us for a

FAMILY RETREAT SEMINAR

Given by Mark Mattheiss and Kelly Sullivan
on **Saturday, April 6, 2024**
from **9:00am-12:00pm**

at **Our Lady of Sorrows Church**
217 Prospect Street, South Orange
St. Joseph's Hall (lower Church)
enter via **4th Street door**
(Light refreshments will be offered)

RSVP to Kelly Sullivan
at **973-476-7421**

No cost. Free will offerings will be accepted.



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

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2024

7:00 AM Dianne De Sensi
12:00 PM Venante Louis

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2024

7:00 AM Richard Haley - 37th Anniversary
12:00 PM Mimi Hermann - Special Intention

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024

7:00 AM The Brutofsky Family
12:00 PM Gary Clemens

HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2024

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
7:30 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 2024

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
3:00 PM Good Friday Service of the Lord's Passion
7:00 PM Choral Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2024

9:00 AM Morning Prayer
9:45 AM Blessing of the Easter Baskets

SOLEMN VIGIL SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2024

8:00 AM People of the Parish

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024

8:00 AM People of the Parish
10:00 AM People of the Parish
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.



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, Grace Schwartzstein

Easter EGG HUNT

A FAMILY
EVENT



Annual Easter Basket Blessing and Egg Hunt
Holy Saturday - March 30, 2024



Blessing of the Easter Baskets - 9:45am - Upper Church
Egg Hunt - Immediately following the Blessing - Church Lawn Near the Playground
(In case of rain, the egg hunt will be held in St. Joseph's Hall)

Children of All Ages are Welcome - Little Ones will Hunt Separately
(Don't Forget to Bring Your Collection Basket or Bag!)

Bagels, Juice, Donuts and Coffee Served!

Questions? Email Colleen McGeehin at colleen.mcgeehin@gmail.com
Suggested Donation - \$5.00 per child, no more than \$15.00 per family - Collected at the Egg Hunt

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.