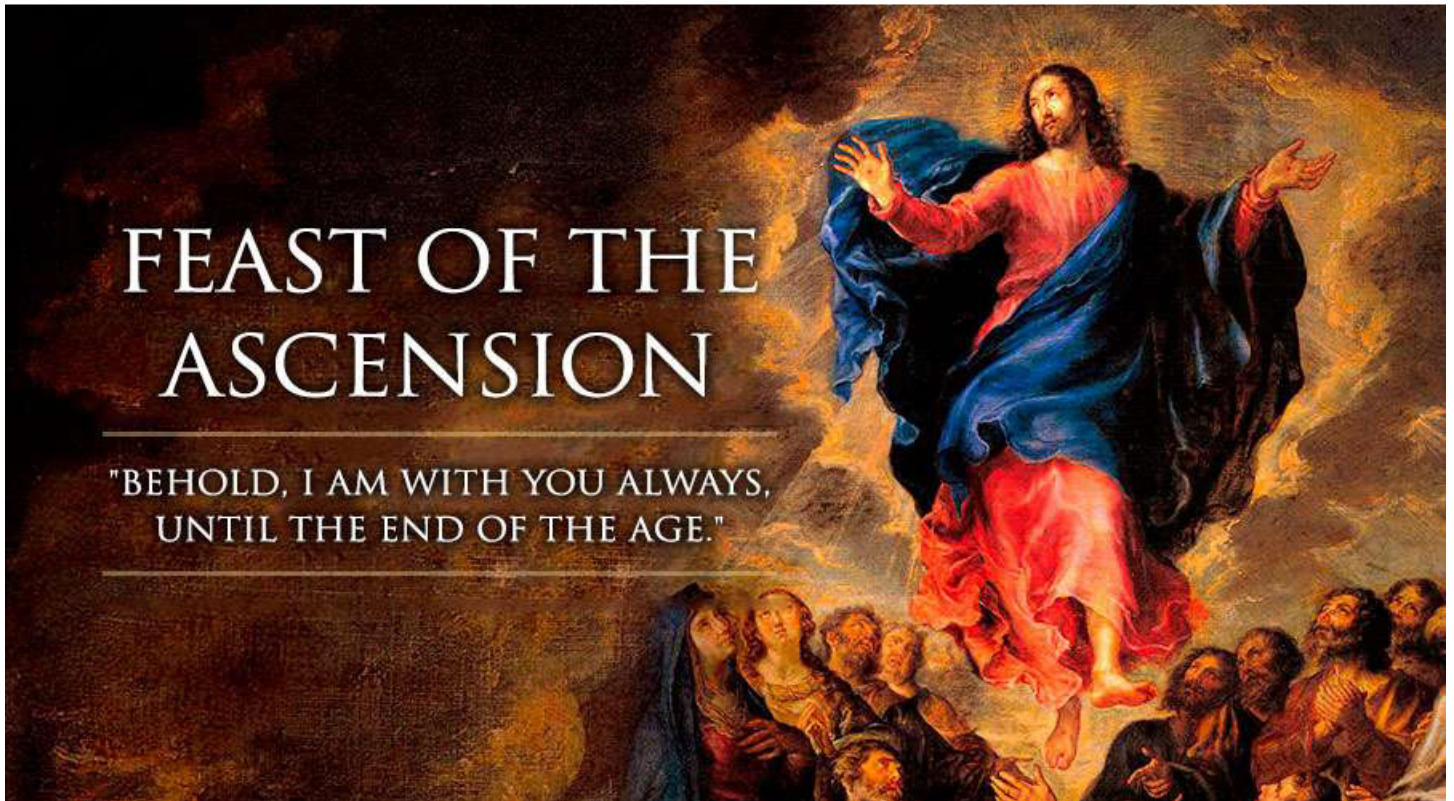


***Our Lady of Sorrows Church***  
***217 Prospect Street, South Orange, NJ 07079***  
***973-763-5454***  
[www.olschurch.com](http://www.olschurch.com)



## FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

"BEHOLD, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS,  
UNTIL THE END OF THE AGE."

**MASSSES:** *Saturday Vigil: 5:30 pm, Sunday 8:00, 10:00 & 11:30 am*

*Monday-Friday 7:00 am, 12:00 pm Saturday 8:30 am, 12:00 pm (Lower Church)*

**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)  
CHARLES NOUN: [OLS217SO@MSN.COM](mailto:OLS217SO@MSN.COM) • FR. BRIAN X. NEEDLES: [FRBRIANNEEDLES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FRBRIANNEEDLES@GMAIL.COM)

***May 24, 2020***  
***The Ascension of the Lord***

## *A Message from Fr. Brian*

During these days, weeks, and now months when we've all had to deal with making so many adjustments in our lives and in our daily routines, the Church too has had to adapt. I, for one, never imagined that we would ever have go an entire Easter liturgical season without our parishioners being present for the celebration of Sunday Mass. Adjusting to celebrating Mass in front of an iPad and not in front of all of you has not been at all easy. Likewise, not celebrating any baptisms, weddings, or funerals has been a shock to the system of myself and my brother priests.

This pandemic has also caused another change in our Church's liturgical life: the transferring of the Solemnity of the Ascension of Jesus from the 40<sup>th</sup> day after Easter (a Thursday) to the following Sunday. The Archdiocese of Newark made this decision in order to ease the pastoral work of parishes in live-streaming its Masses.

This Solemnity commemorates the 40<sup>th</sup> day after Christ's Resurrection from the dead when, from the Mount of Olives, He ascended into the glory of Heaven, taking His place at the right hand of the Father. This is a truth of our faith that we profess every Sunday at Mass when we recite the Creed.

Though having occurred in history 2,000 years ago, this isn't merely a historical event which has no meaning to us today. Allow me to focus on just one of the many spiritual lessons that we can take from this Solemnity. After having told His disciples to *"make disciples of all nations,"* He gave them a very powerful reminder: *"behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."* Let us never forget that, especially during these days when we are going through so many challenges. Jesus did not abandon us by ascending to Heaven. He remains with us – always – and forever!

First of all, Jesus remains present to us by means of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Reconciliation. Thankfully, you can now experience His presence in the Sacrament of Reconciliation (every Saturday from 1:00-2:00) and we pray that you'll soon be able to receive His abiding Presence in the Eucharist when public Mass resumes.

Jesus is with us also in His Church. At OLS, we have been striving to keep you connected to the Church in the midst of this pandemic. Of course, it's not just the efforts of the priests and pastoral staff that are required, but it also requires the desire and effort of each of parishioner to stay united to the Church, which is the Mystical Body of Christ.

Jesus is also present to us in one another. When we're tempted to lose patience with each other and act uncharitably to one another, let's try to remember that absolutely everyone in our lives is our brother or sister in Christ. It might take a bit of effort at this time, but strive to see Christ dwelling in those around us.

Finally, Jesus has given us the Holy Spirit to accompany us in our pilgrim way through life. In last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus told His disciples, *"I will not leave you orphans."* He was telling them that He would send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to accompany them. At Pentecost next week, we will celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Mary and the disciples as they were gathered in Jerusalem. That same Holy Spirit was first given to us at Baptism and again at Confirmation and remains with us always, to guide, direct, enliven, strengthen, sustain, and help us grow in holiness. More about that next week!

Ascension Blessings,



## THE SACRIFICIAL GIVING OF OUR PARISHIONERS

May 17 <sup>th</sup>	Week 47	Y. to Date
Collection	\$11,802	\$549,696
Avg. Budget	\$13,269	\$623,654

### RCIA

If you have any questions concerning a Catholic who desires to complete his/her sacraments or someone who God is gracing to desire to come into His family the Catholic Church or just want to know about the Catholic faith please give the office a call and ask for Sr. Mary Selina (973-763-5454) with any of your questions

### Bored?

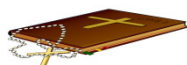
Don't be bored while stuck at home! Become more deeply engaged in your faith! Our Lady of Sorrows offers you free access to FORMED, an online depository of wonderful books, movies, audios, and much more. Here's how to sign up and start enjoying all those benefits:

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!

## FORMED



**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>



***Stewardship is sharing our time, talent & treasure***

### Mass intentions during the pandemic

Please know that the Mass intentions listed in the bulletin are all being fulfilled during this time of pandemic.

The listed 7:00 am Mass intention for Monday through Friday and for 8:30 am on Saturday is celebrated at a daily 9:00 am in the Convent with our religious Sisters.

The listed 12:00 Mass intention for Monday through Saturday is celebrated at our daily 10:00 live streamed Mass.

The listed 5:30 pm Mass intention for Saturday and the listed intentions for the Sunday Masses at 8:00 am, 10:00 am, and 11:30 am are all celebrated by our 4 priests at the Sunday 10:00 am live streamed Mass.

The sacrifice of Holy Mass is the greatest prayer that a priest can offer and we priests at OLS have been scrupulous in ensuring that all of the Mass intentions are faithfully celebrated.

### **Prayer During an Epidemic**

Lord Jesus, hear our pleas, our good shepherd and divine physician. We implore your mercy in the wake of an outbreak of serious illness and disease.

Guide our efforts to prevent contagion and make preparations to care for those most vulnerable. Assist all professionals and volunteers who work to eradicate the epidemic now spreading. May our actions be marked by your steadfast love and selfless service and never by panic or fear.

Bestow your comfort and healing to the sick, sustain and strengthen them by your grace. May they know your closeness as they carry the cross of illness.

And may all you have called from this life come to worship you eternally with all the saints as you grant consolation and peace to their mourners. Amen.

Holy Mary, Health of the Sick, pray for us.  
 St. Joseph, Hope of the Sick, pray for us.  
 St. Rocco, protector against epidemics, pray for us.

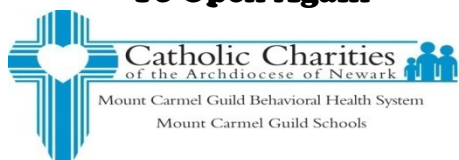


## Stewardship Reflections

*"I am praying for them..." JOHN 17: 9*

Prayer is the foundation of our Faith and the foundation of Stewardship. Pray in good times and in bad. Prayer is always the first best option in any situation, not just the last resort. Pray for friends and family and for those that don't treat you very well. Pray to give praise, to thank and to ask God for help. Pray to see what God wants you to do with the gifts He has given you.

### **Catholic Charities Bins To Open Again**



Sentinel Management has notified Catholic Charities that our Donation Bins are anticipated to be open as of May 18th. We are grateful for your patience and look forward to your continued support. We need clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, toys, knickknacks, and children's books.

We pray for an end of this virus in our society and throughout the world.

Thank you with all our heart.

## Sponsor Certificates

A reminder that in order to receive a sponsor certificate for baptism or confirmation you must be registered in the parish for a minimum of six months. Sponsor Certificates state that the individual is a registered member of our parish and is a Catholic in good standing.

## Facebook

Be sure to follow Our Lady of Sorrows Parish on Facebook! Simply search for "Our Lady of Sorrows Church: South Orange, New Jersey"

## OLS School Pre-K and K-8

973-762-5169

[www.ourladyofsorrowschool.org](http://www.ourladyofsorrowschool.org)

## Nursery

973-763-4040

[www.thenurseryatourladyofsorrows.com](http://www.thenurseryatourladyofsorrows.com)

## Suggestions for staying close spiritually while maintaining a safe and respectful social distance:

1) Begin each day with prayer. Ask Jesus to stay close to you and to all your family and friends. Pray for the health and well being of everyone you associate with, and of all God's people throughout the world.

2) Express your love and concern for the people you live with your spouse, children, other relatives or friends. Comfort and encourage them when they are frightened and feeling closed in or helpless.

3) Reach out to other family members, friends and colleagues by telephone, texting, email and other forms of social media. Let them know that you are close to them and that you share their experiences and anxiety.

4) Attend Mass and other prayers and devotions virtually. Many opportunities are available each day on television, radio and online. Participation in the life of the Church can help us feel more closely connected with God and with each other. Make the following spiritual Communion: *Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist. I love you above all things, and desire to receive your Body and Blood. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. Stay close to me, Jesus, so that I may be close to all our sisters and brothers, especially those who are most in need of your loving care. Amen.*

5) As you go about your daily business working remotely, studying at home, doing spring cleaning, caring for children or family members, preparing dinner, doing laundry, and more look for opportunities to offer up your activities to God in gratitude for His closeness to you.



# Welcome Home!



As previously announced, Our Lady of Sorrows is now open for *private prayer* from Noon-3:00 pm every day. Confessions will be heard from 1:00-2:00 pm every Saturday. Please be attentive to the following when visiting the church.

- Please do not enter the church if you are sick in any way whatsoever.
- Please enter only through the door closest to 4th Street. Please exit only through the center door. If your physical condition requires it, you may both enter and exit through the handicap entrance nearest to the Rectory.
- The side entrance doors will be locked, meaning that you must use the doors on Prospect Street.
- Nobody should enter the church without a mask. You must wear the mask at all times while in the church.
- As you both enter and exit the church, please make use of the hand sanitizer dispensers which are set up in the back of the church (or bring your own hand sanitizer).
- Please practice social distancing. Seating is permitted only in designated pews. Do not remove any of the white ribbons on the pews that designate “no seating” areas.
- The bathrooms will NOT be assessable.
- If you notice that there are more than 10 people in the church at any time, please limit your visit to 15 minutes. Otherwise, stay as long as the church remains open (3:00 pm).

Thank you for your cooperation! While in church, please say a prayer for all members of our parish community. Even though apart, we can be united through our prayers for each other.

## 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.





The Archdiocese of Newark has partnered with GoFundMe Charity to help parishes during this time when parish finances are being so negatively affected. This is a coordinated and unified effort by the Archdiocese and all parishes within the Archdiocese.

Thankfully, Cardinal Tobin has temporarily waived the usual archdiocesan assessment in support of donations given through this GoFundMe. The assessment is an administrative fee charged to parishes to support archdiocesan operations and ministries. We will not have to pay that 18% fee for contributions made through GoFundMe, which charges only a small fee per donation to cover payment processing, as is typical for online fundraising platforms. Aside from that small fee, every penny that you give will go directly to OLS.

Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to our parish. Visit our parish GoFundMe Charity page: <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/our-lady-of-sorrows-south-orange>

The funding flow for this initiative offers both simplicity and transparency for our parish community and others who choose to contribute:

- All money raised through individual parish GoFundMe pages will flow into a central archdiocesan fund, and the Parish Business Services team will aim to release all funds to parishes in the amount raised for the parish within the week.
- Pastors, parishioners, and the public can track how much each parish has raised in total on their individual parish GoFundMe pages.
- Contributions are tax-deductible, and contributors will receive tax receipts automatically.

You may, of course, continue to support our parish by means of mailing in your weekly envelope or by using our regular online giving portal, which can be found at the bottom of our web page. Please note, though, that contributions through those 2 means will continue to be assessed by the Archdiocese, while contributions to the GoFundMe Charity will not be assessed. In other words, your donation will go much further through GoFundMe Charity.

No matter how you choose to give, please know how incredibly grateful we are! Thank you, God bless you, and Our Lady of Sorrows, pray for us!



### SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2020

5:30 PM Stasia Borowicz

### SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020

8:00 AM People of the Parish  
10:00 AM Josephine Clemens  
11:30 AM Elizabeth Giuliano Magnes 35<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary

### MONDAY, MAY 25, 2020

10:00 AM In Thanksgiving for Immanuel  
Ezuduemoih, Immaculata Refus  
Ebegbe & Souls in Purgatory

### TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020

7:00 AM Rose Shoemaker 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary  
12:00 PM Nelson Gales

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020

7:00 AM Judith M. Forrest  
12:00 PM People of the Parish

### THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2020

7:00AM James Dingell  
12:00 PM Alma Handy Special Intention

### FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2020

7:00AM Frantz Jean-Charles  
12:00 PM Evelyn & Thomas Costello – Special  
Intention

### SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2020

8:30 AM Joseph Preston  
12:00 PM Deacon John Inguaggiato

### VIGIL MASS MAY 30, 2020

5:30 PM Robert E. Antinozzi – Special  
Intention

### SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving for Bernadette  
Ezuduemoih & Family & Souls in  
Purgatory  
10:00 AM People of the Parish  
11:30 AM George Campisi

### OFFER OF GIFTS

When the Mass intention is for your loved one or friend, and you would like to bring up gifts of bread and wine, please advise one of the ushers.

### IN MEMORIAM

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

### 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, Catherine Maranto and Melissa O'Brien.

