

THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

300 CENTRAL AVENUE
MOUNTAINSIDE 07092
908-232-1162 Fax 908-232-0776
office@ollmountainside.org
www.ollmountainside.org



Fourth Sunday of Lent - March 14, 2021

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church was founded in 1958 and is an integral part of the Mountainside community.

As a parish, we strive to:

form one family in Christ embracing our various backgrounds and age differences;

unify and strengthen our parish bonds through living our Catholic faith supported by Eucharistic Adoration, Educational, Service, and Social Ministries;

To evangelize and minister to the needs of God's people under the patronage of Our Lady of Lourdes, reflecting the greater Church's efforts to promote love of God and love of neighbor - through our Catholic faith and works.

Throughout this journey, we strive to become stronger families, neighbors and Catholics living our lives according to the teaching of Jesus Christ, under the protection and intercession of Our Blessed Mother.

Parish Staff

Rev. Richard J. Carrington
Pastor

Rev. William Benedetto
Parochial Vicar
frbill@ollmountainside.org

Deacon Michael DeRoberts
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Kathy Snyder/Marianne Taylor
Blessed Sacrament Adoration Chapel
Kathy Snyder—908-232-4817
(auntkik@comcast.net)
Marianne Taylor—908-233-6074

COME AND WORSHIP WITH US

Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am
Weekdays 7:30 am & 8:30 am
Saturday 8:00 am
Holy Days As Announced

Penance Saturdays 1:00 pm

Novena to the Miraculous Medal
Saturdays following 8:00 am Mass

Novena to the Sacred Heart of Jesus
Fridays following the 7:30 am Mass

Baptisms scheduled monthly excluding Lent

Prayer Requests

Please remember in your prayers the soul of :

Domenica (May) Grossi & Christopher McGinn may they rest in peace.

Please pray for the sick : Valerie Santiago, Eve Vitale,

David Gagliardotto, Martha Pares, James Leung, Joseph Iacono, Fred Perna, Frances Kayton, Manny Teixeira, Logan Alseika, Edward Stacy, Joe Raughbaugh, Jim Looram, Angelo (Buddy) Latora, Peter Spadaccini, Romaine Malaker, Antonetta Ferrara, Helen Ahlquist, Judy Burns, Michael Servello and Conner LaVille.

The Eucharistic Chapel Candles will burn this week in loving memory of Patricia Merlo req. by Veronica Quillin Family

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in loving memory of the deceased parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes.

Please Pray for our service member,

Sgt. Nicholas Perez-Santalla and AZ2 Stephen Vesper USN and for all Service Men and Women who are presently serving our country.

ATTENTION ALTAR SERVERS

Even if you are not scheduled to serve Mass, we ask that you please check the Sunday Sacristy 10 minutes prior to Mass to see if you are needed.

ATTENTION LECTORS & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

You have already been assigned, please check the schedule.

THE PRIESTS ASK THATAll lectors, altar servers, & extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion please report to the Sunday Sacristy at least 5 minutes prior to the scheduled Mass. This will allow the priest celebrant to know what type of help he has or does not have before the scheduled mass.

MASS BOOK 2021

The new Mass Book for the year 2021 is now open. The Mass Book will be open for Masses only from January 1, 2021 to August 31, 2021.

The Anointing of the Sick is not a Sacrament for those only who are at the point of death. Hence, as soon as anyone of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time for him (her) to receive this Sacrament has certainly arrived.

Catechism of the Catholic Church



Saturday, 5:00 PM	March 13th Leek & Machin Req. by Karen Shaneen
Sunday, 7:30 AM	March 14th, Fourth Sunday of Lent People of the Parish
9:30 AM	Ahlquist & Pagowski Families Req. by Helen & Candy Ahlquist
11:30 AM	Jennie & Angelo ,Sr. & Dr. Angelo Bassilo ,Jr. Req. by Karen Shaneen
Monday, 7:30 AM	March 15th Bill Madden Req. by Carmen & Santos Santiago
8:30 AM	NO INTENTION
Tuesday, 7:30 AM	March 16th NO INTENTION
8:30 AM	Beth Wansea Req. by Diane Tidaback
Wednesday, 7:30 AM	March 17th, St. Patrick Maureen Greaney Req. by Silvestre Gonzalez
8:30 AM	Paul Mc Glynn Req. by Barbara Mc Glynn
Thursday, 7:30 AM	March 18th, St. Ceril Of Jerusalem Frank Carpency Req. by The Carpency Family
8:30 AM	NO INTENTION
Friday, 7:30 AM	March 19th, St. Joseph Alfonso Conte Req. by Maria & Sal Conte
8:30 AM	Protection of Babies in Womb & Families Req. by Romana Sawabi
Saturday, 8:00 AM	March 20th NO INTENTION
5:00 PM	Angela & Edward Noah Req. by Theresa Manziano
Sunday, 7:30 AM	March 21st, Fifth Sunday of Lent People of the Parish
9:30 AM	William Tomko Req. by Maria Tomko & Family
11:30 AM	Bill Madden Req. by Mary L. Root & Mary Lou Materna



ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

All boys and girls are welcome to sign up, the only qualification is that you already received your First Holy Communion!

IF INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT FR. BILL

ATTENTION GIFT BEARERS

Due to temporary regulations from the Chancery there will be no presentation of the gifts at the offertory of the Mass for the time being.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Rm 4:13:16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51:3-4, 12-15; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33

THE SCRIPTURES



The Fourth Week of Lent

In many of our parishes, on the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent, at least one Mass will use the Cycle A readings for the RCIA program.

On the **Fourth Sunday**, that includes **John's gospel** of the man born blind.

(For more information, see *Praying the Gospels of Weeks 3, 4 and 5.*)

For the rest of us, on the **Fourth Sunday of Lent** we read Jesus' words to Nicodemus in the **Fourth Gospel**. Jesus will be lifted up on the cross to heal us from the power of sin and death. This gospel, which is written like a trial, tells us the verdict. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."

Thursday is the **Solemnity of Saint Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, with its own special readings.

Our gospels this week are all from **John's Gospel**. After two days of healing stories, the opposition against Jesus builds. In Cana, in Galilee, Jesus heals the son of a royal official. Back down in Jerusalem, he heals a man who was sick for 38 years, incurring the wrath of his enemies because he did it on the Sabbath. Because of this, and because he called God his Father, they now plot a way to kill him.

Jesus says his opponents do not want to come to him for life. He calls God his father and says, "I have testimony greater than John's." Unafraid of his opponents, Jesus goes to Jerusalem for a feast and openly tells people that he has come from God. They did not arrest him then, "for his hour had not yet come." Thinking they know where Jesus is from (in both senses: where he lived now and his origin in heaven), his enemies insist that Jesus can't be a prophet: "Look and see that no prophet arises from Galilee."

On the **Fifth Sunday of Lent**, one Mass in our parishes will probably celebrate the last of the "Scrutinies" for the RCIA program using the **John's Gospel** about the Raising of Lazarus. For those at the other Masses, we will also use **John's Gospel**. Jesus says that the "hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." However, he describes this glory in a surprising way, which explains who he is for us and who we are called to be: "Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit." "Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be."

Taken from the "Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer" on Creighton University's Online Ministries web site: www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html Used with permission.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Begin the year with gratitude. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. Gratitude is the key to change. When facing a situation that seems confusing or upsetting thank God for His understanding. Praise Him for His wisdom and guidance. Heavenly Father, I can endure any situation because I know You are working on my behalf. I'm safe in Your hands.

Mother of the Holy Eucharist Pray for Us

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULED HOURS

Monday thru Friday 9 am
(following the 8:30 am Mass) to 9 pm.

Saturday, 8:30 am
(following the 8 am Mass) to 4 pm.

Sunday No Adoration.

Adoration Chapel Candles

Intentions to be rescheduled when the church opens for temporary adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Now accepting intentions.

Newark priest exists to help encourage Christians to participate in the active discernment of their specific calling to love others. whether you are discerning a call to the priesthood or trying to help someone else discern their call, we are here for you. www.newarkpriest.com

Fall into eGiving through Faith Direct, which is the most convenient and secure way for you to make your weekly offering to Our Lady of Lourdes. Your automatic contributions through Faith Direct will save valuable time for both you and our parish staff.

Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: NJ125.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

Does the Parish have your current email? Occasionally we reach out to parishioners in this manner especially during this period of social distancing.

Please let us know the best way to reach you!

Email: lcandela@ollmountainside.org

Text or call: 908-391-3737



The Children's Liturgy of the Word

The Children's Liturgy of the Word is returning in virtual form. Each week, beginning on the feast of Christ the King and running through the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time, which is Father's Day, a homily geared towards the children of the parish will appear in the on-line edition of the parish Bulletin.

Go to www.ollmountainside.org and you will find the homily on the home page. The children can read these homilies each week, or the parents can read them to their children to help them better understand the weekly scripture readings, which are such a strong part of the formation of their faith.

Follow Pope Francis on Twitter @Pontifex

A few tweets from Pope Francis...

#Lent is a time to believe, or rather to receive God into our life so that we may "make our home with Him" (Jn 14: 23)

*

During the Season of #Lent, the Holy Spirit drives us too, like Jesus, into the desert (Mk 1:12-15). It is not a physical place, but rather an existential dimension in which we can be silent and listen to the word of God, so that a true conversion might be effected in us.

Focus on Faith Formation

March Zooms

- Tues. -March 16 -Grade 3- 4:00 PM * Grade 5- 4:45 PM
- Wed. -March 17 -Grade 1- 4:00 PM * Grade 2- 4:45 PM
- Tues. -March 23 -Grade 7 -7:00 PM * Grade 8- 7:45 PM
- Wed. -March 24 -Grade 4- 4:00 PM * Grade 6- 4:45 PM

1st Eucharist Candidates: Please drop off First Eucharist books in the brown bin outside the school door.

Grade 1: Children should be working on the Sign of the Cross, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, and the Glory Be.

Our Prayer Days are scheduled for April 9th and 10th.

Be sure to sign up for a Zoom time slot for your child.

The Sign Up Genius went out in an email.

Collection for the Circle of Compassion:

Lenten almsgiving monetary donations can be dropped in the Sunday collection baskets labeled Circle of Compassion.

SPONSOR LETTERS

Canon (Church) Law states that a Godparent for Baptism and a Sponsor for Confirmation be an active, fully-initiated Catholic (Confirmed). An active Catholic is a parishioner who is registered, attends Mass weekly, contributes to the support of the Church, is in a valid Catholic marriage (an individual married civilly, by a judge, mayor, or divorced and remarried without an annulment is not eligible to act as a sponsor) and publicly leads a genuine Christian lifestyle. Please note that we can only write Letters of Eligibility for parishioners who meet these criteria.

ARE YOU REGISTERED ?

We have people coming to Our Lady of Lourdes on a regular basis who need a form of some kind filled out and, when we check our records, we find that they are not registered parishioners.

ARE YOU REGISTERED AS A PARISHIONER OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES?

If you are not, it becomes more complicated if you need some kind of form to be filled out stating that you are a parishioner. The best way for you to know that you are registered is the fact that you receive collection envelopes, either on a regular basis or only at Christmas or Easter.

PLEASE – save yourself and our parish staff a great deal of time and trouble --Visit the PARISH office and register!

SAINT PATRICK'S SUPER 50/50 RAFFLE

I am pleased to announce our Annual Saint Patrick's Super 50/50 will continue, but it is with deep regret that we will not be able to hold a social event in Pollard Hall, due to the pandemic. Each registered parishioner received a raffle book consisting of 10 tickets. The cost of each raffle ticket is \$10.00, therefore, total raffle book cost is \$100.00. I hope this raffle will assist the Parish in meeting our current expenses. Please note that this is the only fund raiser for the Parish during this fiscal year.

The drawing will take place

TODAY -March 14th, 2021 @ 1:30 PM in Pollard Hall.

Sincerely yours in Christ– Rev. Richard J. Carrington

It is time to begin to prepare for the annual April 15th ritual. Anyone wishing a statement of contributions for tax purposes is asked to contact the Parish Office. Your statement can be mailed or emailed to you.



PLEASE NOTE: We can issue statements only for those who have used the Parish Envelopes. Those who contribute to Faith Direct will receive a statement directly from them.



March 7th = \$ 5332.00
Repair Fund (additional)= \$ 255.00

Beginning with the Snowfall in December 2020, it has cost the Parish for both the snowplowing and salting a total of :\$25,892.00

Second Collections

For The Month of March

- March 21st :** Black & Indian Catholic Relief Services
- March 28th :** Repair Fund

Pope Francis Proclaims Year of St. Joseph

The year begins Dec. 8, 2020, and concludes on Dec. 8, 2021, according to a decree authorized by the pope.

The decree said that Francis had established a Year of St. Joseph so that "every member of the faithful, following his example, may strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfillment of God's will."

The Plenary Indulgence is granted under the customary conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayers according to the Holy Father's intentions) to the faithful who, with a soul detached from any sin, shall participate in the Year of Saint Joseph, in the occasions and with the modalities indicated by this Apostolic Penitentiary.

The Feast Day of St. Joseph is March 19th

We offer this nine day novena prayer to St. Joseph for your private devotion.

To you, O blessed Joseph, do we come in our afflictions, and having implored the help of your most holy Spouse, we confidently invoke your patronage also. Through that charity which bound you to the Immaculate Virgin Mother of God and through the paternal love with which you embraced the Child Jesus, we humbly beg you graciously to regard the inheritance which Jesus Christ has purchased by his Blood, and with your power and strength to aid us in our necessities.

O most watchful guardian of the Holy Family, defend the chosen children of Jesus Christ; O most loving father, ward off from us every contagion of error and corrupting influence; O our most mighty protector, be kind to us and from heaven assist us in our struggle with the power of darkness.

As once you rescued the Child Jesus from deadly peril, so now protect God's Holy Church from the snares of the enemy and from all adversity; shield, too, each one of us by your constant protection, so that, supported by your example and your aid, we may be able to live piously, to die in holiness, and to obtain eternal happiness in heaven. Amen.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Every Friday

During Lent Season at 7:00 PM

March 19 * March 26 * April 2

Please Note on Good Friday April 2nd

We will NOT have Living Stations of the Cross Due to COVID 19

ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK 2021 LENTEN REGULATIONS

1st-The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday Night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection.

On the day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, and two (2) smaller meals, which if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.

Those between the ages of 18-59 are obliged to fast.

On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

2nd-The obligation to observe the laws of Fast & Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole is a serious obligation.

3rd-The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.

4th-The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 21** to **The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 30, 2021**

*Canon 920, 1. *All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

January 25, 2021
Office of the Vicar General

Drive-Thru Lenten Fish Fry



FRIDAY, March 19, 2021
4:30-7:00PM

K of C Hall, 2400 North Ave. Scotch Plains

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2021 Annual Archdiocesan Appeal

The 2021 Annual Appeal will fund essential programs and ministries at the heart of our Catholic mission in our four counties – namely to proclaim the gospel, to pass on the faith to future generations, particularly through the celebration of the sacraments, and to care for the poor and those on the margins. Now more than ever, especially during this health crisis, our ministries and programs need your support.

Our parish goal is \$52,682.00

Please understand that if our goal is not met, the Parish must make up the difference from its ordinary revenue.
As of March 7th, we have only pledged \$9663.00

Your gift to the 2021 Annual Appeal supports essential programs and ministries including:

Office of Evangelization * International Missions
Pastoral Ministry with the Deaf

Returning to Grace:
A Pastoral Letter on the Eucharist
Part II

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Newark

Spiritual Closeness

When our churches were closed and it became impossible for most Catholics to receive the Eucharist, our Holy Father Pope Francis strongly urged us to find ways of maintaining “spiritual closeness” with God and with each other. As liturgies were live-streamed from the Vatican, our Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, and so many of our parishes, provided the faithful with opportunities to make a “spiritual communion,” a traditional means of seeking intimacy with Jesus when the physical reception of the Eucharist is not possible. Many people have told me that these live-streamed liturgies were a great blessing; for many, they still are. But they are not the same thing as being physically together and receiving the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion.

Now that we are gradually reopening our churches, and increasing the numbers of people who can attend daily and Sunday Masses, I have been asked whether it isn't time to discontinue live-streamed liturgies and restore the obligation to go to Mass in person on Sundays and Holy Days. Some pastors and lay faithful are concerned that when things finally return to “normal,” many Catholics will have grown accustomed to staying home and either watching Mass online or not participating at all.

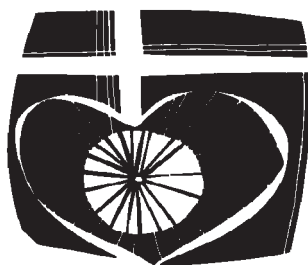
As I'm sure you are aware, declining Mass attendance was a serious concern long before the pandemic. Has the current crisis accelerated this trend, or have we grown in our appreciation for the Eucharist precisely because we were denied access to it for so long? Has absence made our hearts grow fonder?

When I was a young priest serving in the Archdiocese of Detroit, I used to preach retreats at a diocesan retreat house just across the Canadian border. The resident Retreat Master there was an older priest, a bit gruff in his manner but with a heart that was pure gold. One day he told me a story that I've never forgotten.

Father Adrian was directing a retreat day for young people from a new Catholic high school in the Detroit area that had been recently created by the merger of two others — one predominantly white and the other largely African American. Throughout the day, the priest felt some tension among the students but he couldn't identify the cause.

The day was to close with Mass. During the General Intercessions, the priest invited the young people to add their own petitions. The first to speak, a white student, offered a petition that was clearly offensive to the African American students. As a result, the offended students stood up and walked out. The student who had offered the petition spit out, “Let them go! We don't need them!” After a few minutes of stunned silence, Father removed his stole and asked the remaining students to return to their rooms and wait for their bus, saying, “We can't celebrate the Mass today.” But, that's not how the story ends.

A week later, Father Adrian was beginning a retreat with a group of adults when he noticed several young men quietly enter the rear of the conference room. As he walked back to welcome them at the conclusion of his talk, he recognized them as the students who had walked out of that liturgy a week before. They told him that two reasons brought them back. First, they needed to apologize for not handling their problems in a more Christian manner, and secondly, to tell them what they had learned. They didn't fully realize what the Eucharist was until they couldn't celebrate it.



Returning to Grace

Is it possible that Catholics who have been denied access to this great sacrament — including those who have “walked away from it” over many years—may realize what they are missing and return to experience the loving presence of Christ in this mystery of grace?

I use “grace” or “graciousness” to describe the Eucharist in two senses: First, I have in mind the gratuity, the “gifted-ness” of the Eucharist. That Jesus “loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end” (Jn 13: 1). We don’t participate because of an obligation to do something for God but rather, our participation permits God to do something unimaginable for us. St. Alphonsus Liguori says that for God, “paradise is the human heart.” Jesus gives the gift so that God can go where God wants to go. All is grace.

The other sense of “graciousness” is “beauty”. Whatever the aesthetic quality of the ritual (which, as Pope Benedict XVI has observed, is not insignificant), the “way of beauty” (the *via pulchritudinis*) may be the way to faith for modern men and women. “Art and the saints are the greatest apologetics for our faith,” our retired pope says. “What faith must see is Beauty.” St. Alphonsus glimpsed this and wrote the lyrics of a hymn most of us have sung many times:

*“O God of loveliness, O
Lord of Heaven above, How
worthy to possess my heart’s
devoted love. So sweet Thy
countenance, so gracious to
behold That one, one only
glance to me were bliss
untold.”*

To invite our sisters and brothers to return to full, conscious and active participation in the Eucharistic liturgy, we must emphasize the graciousness of this great gift and its incomparable beauty. I have given this pastoral letter the title *Returning to Grace* because I firmly believe this is what all of us are called to do after and in response to the Great Eucharistic Fast imposed on us by COVID-19



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WHY IS IT?

Consider Remembering Your Parish in Your Will.

For further information, please call the Parish Office.



THOMAS E. NICHOLSON, Jr., D.M.D.

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