

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



Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord + April 12, 2020

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
deaconmike@ollmountainside.org
Permanent Deacon

Rev. William McDonald
Weekend Assistant

Fran Michetti
Director Faith Formation
908-233-1777
Fax 908-232-0776
reled@ollmountainside.org

Joseph Neglia
Director of Music
jneglia@ollmountainside.org

Kevin Donahue
Coordinator Youth Ministry
youthmin@ollmountainside.org

Kim Choma, RN
Health & Wellness Ministry
nurse@ollmountainside.org
908-232-1162
Fax 908-232-0776

Regina O'Brien
Parish Secretary/Office Manager
regina@ollmountainside.org

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 & 5 pm

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

Sunday and weekday Masses are available to all parishioners on the EWTN Network.
The website is ewtn.com.

Please note: All reserved Masses that are currently suspended will be reassigned by the Parish Office when this crisis is past.

Prayer Requests

Please remember in your prayers the soul of
Patricia Kane. May she rest in peace.

Please pray for the sick. . . Rich Ruggeri, Pedro Antonio Turcios Moreno, Valerie Santiago, Rose Vera Kaepfel, Elizabeth Szabo, Eve Vitale, David Gagliardotto, Jack Schuvar, Luke Granger, Martha Pares, James Leung, Joseph Iacono, Fred Perna, Frances Kayton, Manny Teixeira, Logan Alseika, Anthony DePalma, Edward Stacy, Joe Raughbaugh, Jim Loram, Angelo (Buddy) Latora, Marilyn Hart, Peter Spadaccini, Roberta Wegryn and Lenore Vega.

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.

Follow Pope Francis on Twitter @Pontifex

A few of this week's tweets from Pope Francis...

When we stand before the crucified Jesus, we see the depth of His love, which restores our dignity and sustains us.

The Lord does justice for the innocent woman, forgives the sinner, condemns the corrupt ones, helps the hypocrites convert themselves. Each of us has our own story, our own sins. Let us look at the Lord who does justice, but who is also extremely merciful.

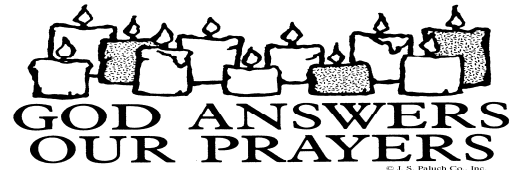
ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED



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 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

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!

ATTENTION ALTAR SERVERS: Even if you are not scheduled to serve Mass, please check the Sunday Sacristy 10 minutes before Mass to see if you are needed.

ATTENTION LECTORS & EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION: You have already been assigned, please check the schedule.

Everyone is welcome! Please contact our Parish Office to register with us.

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

THE SCRIPTURES



Easter Sunday, we read from the Acts of the Apostles to hear Peter's preaching about the Resurrection. The Letter to the Colossians reminds us "You have died and your lives are hidden with Christ in God." The gospel is from John's Gospel and gives us the first story of that Easter morning - Mary Magdalene discovers the empty tomb and runs to Peter and the "disciple Jesus loved" to tell them. They run to the tomb and discover for themselves that it is empty.

The first reading for Easter Week is from the Acts of the Apostles. We hear Peter's preaching the Good News and experience the first deeds of the Apostles, which parallel the acts of Jesus, including the conflicts he experienced and his power to heal.

The gospels this week are all resurrection appearances. These wonderful stories contain some common elements. They appear designed to make it clear that this was not a group of disciples who dreamed up the resurrection, because they were hoping for it so much. In fact, they found it difficult to believe. The Jesus they saw and experienced was not a "ghost." Instead, he had a body.

Monday, is the story of Jesus appearing to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, as well as the "cover-up story" and pay off of the guards. Tuesday, we read of Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene, through the eyes of John's Gospel. Jesus missions her to announce the Good News to his brothers. On Wednesday we are treated to Luke's marvelous story of Jesus' appearance to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. They were sad, because they had hoped the story would have turned out differently. Jesus tells them why he had to first suffer and die in order to enter into his glory. As they stopped to eat, "he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread." Thursday Jesus appears in the room where the disciples are gathered. "Peace be with you" he says and then eats with them and shows them his wounds. On Friday, we have the powerful appearance in John's Gospel at the Sea of Tiberias. Peter decided to return to fishing. Jesus appears and re-missions him. On Saturday, the week concludes with the summary of appearances in what appears to be an addition to the end of Mark's Gospel.

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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Mt 28:8-15
- Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; Jn 20:11-18
- Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Lk 24:13-35
- Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Ps 8:2ab, 5-9; Lk 24:35-48
- Friday: Acts 4:1-12; Ps 118:1-2, 4, 22-27a; Jn 21:1-14
- Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1, 14-21; Mk 16:9-15
- Sunday: Acts 2:42-47; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; 1 Pt 1:3-9; Jn 20:19-31

Mass Book for 2020 is now open.

No Collection
WHEN THE CHURCH IS REOPENED, PLEASE DO NOT FORGET THAT YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT IS URGENT.
IN THE MEAN TIME, YOU ARE CERTAINLY WELCOME TO MAIL YOUR OFFERINGS TO THE PARISH OFFICE.

SACRAMENTS RESCHEDULED
Due to the present closing of the Church and not knowing when we can reopen the Church for Mass, the two dates for First Holy Communion and the date for the Sacrament of Confirmation in early May must be rescheduled for a later date.

ATTENTION GIFT BEARERS
If you are having a weekend Mass offered for yourself or a relative living or deceased and would like to bring up the gifts of bread & wine at the Offertory of the Mass, please advise the ushers beforehand so that you may present the Offertory Gifts at that particular Mass.



Easter Message of Pope Francis

Peter ran to the tomb" (Lk 24:12). What thoughts crossed Peter's mind and stirred his heart as he ran to the tomb? The Gospel tells us that the eleven, including Peter, had not believed the testimony of the women, their Easter proclamation. Quite the contrary, "these words seemed to them an idle tale". Thus there was doubt in Peter's heart, together with many other worries: sadness at the death of the beloved Master and disillusionment for having denied him three times during his Passion.

There is, however, something which signals a change in him: after listening to the women and refusing to believe them, "Peter rose". He did not remain sedentary, in thought; he did not stay at home as the others did. He did not succumb to the somber atmosphere of those days, nor was he overwhelmed by his doubts. He was not consumed by remorse, fear or the continuous gossip that leads nowhere. He was looking for Jesus, not himself. He preferred the path of encounter and trust. And so, he got up, just as he was, and ran towards the tomb from where he would return "amazed". This marked the beginning of Peter's resurrection, the resurrection of his heart. Without giving in to sadness or darkness, he made room for hope: he allowed the light of God to enter into his heart, without smothering it.

We see and will continue to see problems both within and without. They will always be there. But today it is important to shed the light of the Risen Lord upon our problems, and in a certain sense, to "evangelize" them. To evangelize our problems. Let us not allow darkness and fear to distract us and control us; we must cry out to them: the Lord "is not here, but has risen!" He is our greatest joy; he is always at our side and will never let us down.

EASTER MESSAGE

From the Pastor's Desk...

From all of us here at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, myself, Fr. Bill, Fr. McDonald, Deacon Mike and our entire staff, we pray for you, your family and loved ones. May you have a blessed and hope-filled Easter.

Easter brings so many promises of God to us, life is stronger than death, love can overcome hate, goodness ultimately triumphs over evil and eternity and glory with God in Heaven are our destiny. I pray that Jesus may live in all our hearts, that we may always embrace Him with love and gratitude.

May His love and His peace fill our hearts, our lives and our homes. Laudetur Jesus Christus! Praise be Jesus Christ!

Fr. Richard

Today, the Church celebrates, with joy, the rising of Christ from the dead. We ask all of our parishioners to prayerfully reflect on what they will offer to Our Lady of Lourdes as their Easter gift. We rely on both the Christmas and Easter collections to help us to meet the expenses connected with the running of the parish.

Please consider how you will offer a portion of your treasure so that we can continue our mission, of proclaiming the Gospel in word and in action.



Please remember the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in your estate planning.

ATTENTION

**BY ORDER OF CARDINAL TOBIN
DUE TO THE POSSIBILITY OF THE
CORONA VIRUS**

**ALL WEEKEND AND WEEKDAY MASSES
IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEWARK
ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**THE OBLIGATION TO ASSIST AT
SUNDAY MASS IS DISPENSED WITH**

**Divine Mercy Sunday
(Pending Developments)**

Sunday, April 19th is Divine Mercy Sunday as decreed by St. John Paul II.

This Feast of Divine Mercy, as recorded in the diary of Saint Faustina, receives from Jesus himself the greatest promises of Grace related to the Devotion of Divine Mercy. Specifically, Jesus states that the soul that goes to Sacramental Confession within eight days before or after Divine Mercy Sunday and receives Holy Communion on that Sunday, shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and pardon from all temporal punishment due to sin. Additionally, Holy Mother Church grants a plenary indulgence, observing the usual rules with the recitation of some simple prayers.

“This Feast emerged from the very depths of My mercy, and it is confirmed in the vast depths of my tender mercies. Every soul believing and trusting in My mercy will obtain it.” (Jesus’ words.)

Rachel’s Vineyard

Are you suffering from an abortion experience? Do you have feelings of guilt and anxiety? Do you suffer from depression? There is Hope! Rachel’s Vineyard Retreats: rachelvineyard.org. May 8-10, 2020, September 11-13, 2020.

For more information contact the Respect Life Office: Patricia.Decker@rcan.org, 973-497-4348.

**ANNIVERSARY MASSES
(Pending future notice)**



On May 3, 2020, all couples in Essex and Union Counties celebrating 50 or more years of marriage are invited to the Cathedral at 3:00 pm for Mass with Cardinal Joseph Tobin.

To register please call the Parish Office at 908-232-1162.

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

Dear Families and Friends,

Due to the recent developments regarding Coronavirus/ COVID-19, and the March 21, 2020 Executive Order 107 from New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy that states all New Jersey residents are to stay at home until further notice - all cemeteries and mausoleums of the Archdiocese of Newark are closed to visitations effective immediately.

Peace,

Andrew P. Schafer
Executive Director
Catholic Cemeteries—Archdiocese of Newark

Circle of Compassion

“Demonstrate your faith to me without works and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works”

Please continue your generous support of the efforts of the Circle of Compassion. You may bring your non-perishable food items any weekend and deposit these items in the containers at the entrances of the Church.

You may also make a monetary donation by submitting an envelope marked CIRCLE OF COMPASSION and placing it in the collection basket at Sunday Mass. We will make the necessary purchases for delivery to St. Rocco’s.

On behalf of Father Josephat and the many families in Newark that are sustained by your generosity, we ask God’s continued blessing on the parish of Our Lady of Lourdes. God Bless You!

The Circle of Compassion,

Mike Billy, Elizabeth Kelly, Norma Weinstein,
Mark Margello, Bob Miraglia and Gerry Gallagher,
Glen Rosivak and Barbara Plucienik

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!

Why is Easter so important? - Children's Liturgy of the Word

The two biggest days of the year for the Catholic Church are Christmas and Easter. Of course, on Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus. What's so special about Easter? Jesus rose from the dead on Easter. Now, of course, if there never had been a Christmas, that is, if Jesus had never been born, there would obviously never have been an Easter. That's because you cannot raise from the dead unless you had died first, and of course, you cannot die unless you are born first. But even though Easter could only happen if there had been a Christmas first, **Easter** is the main reason Jesus is different from all the other people who ever lived. Easter is really why we are Christians. If Jesus had been born and then just died, he'd be like all other people in history who have lived and died, which is pretty much everyone.

But Jesus is a **special** person because of what? He is the Son of God. Remember, God the Father, God **the Son**, & God the Holy Spirit. And while it is special—I mean we're talking greatest-show-on-earth kind of stuff here—**real special**, to be crucified and then raise from the dead, He is God, come down to earth to die for **our** sins. That's why Jesus walked this earth, to suffer and die for us, each one of us, for me & for you & for you & for you & you & you & you & you...I think you get what I mean.

In the Jewish religion the way it was when Jesus walked the earth, the people would bring animals to the priests—doves and sheep and goats and calves. The priests would then kill the animals, sacrificing them to God for the forgiveness of sins. But none of the animals ever came back from being sacrificed. And the priests kept sacrificing animals over and over again. However, Jesus gave up His body as a one-time sacrifice for all of our sins, because He is God. As God, why would He want to become a man, who can hurt like a man and die like a man? Because He loves us. He even went to hell, just like it says in the Apostles Creed, just like everyone did when they died before Jesus died. Not the hell which we think of as punishment for being evil on earth, but the hell which is separation from God. Because of our sinfulness, because we are imperfect beings, because we are sinners, we cannot achieve everlasting life with God by ourselves. But once Jesus died for our sins, once He descended into hell, He conquered death and rose back to life. He paved the way for all of us to have everlasting life after we die. He voluntarily came to earth, suffered, died, and went to Hell and back, for **us**, because **He loves us**. **That's** why Easter is the most important day of the year. **That's** why He is our Savior, because He gave up His life to save us from an eternity of separation from God. Eternity means forever. He saved us from separation from God **forever**.

How special is that! Not special like wow-ee, look at that, He-rose-from-the-dead-pretty-amazing-stuff special. But how special **are we** to God! How much love does God have for us that He would do all that for **each of us**! Like St. John says in his gospel, "God so loved us that He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." Do you get it? Do you understand? Are you excited? You don't look excited. It doesn't matter whether you are stuck at home because of this virus pandemic, or if you could have been at church on this very special day, like we all should want to be, **that's** why Easter is so important: Jesus died for us to save us, because He loves us.

Happy Easter to all of you and your families. And STAY HEALTHY!!

Joseph Calderone

Easter, 2020