

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



Second Sunday of Easter + April 19, 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 pray for the sick. . . . Rich Ruggeri, Pedro Antonio Turcios Moreno, Valerie Santiago, Rose Vera Kaepfel, Elizabeth Szabo, Eve Vitale, David Gagliardotto, Jack Schuvart, Luke Granger, Martha Pares, James Leung, Joseph Iacono, Fred Perna, Frances Kayton, Manny Teixeira, Logan Alseika, Anthony DePalma, Edward Stacy, Joe Raughbaugh, Jim Loomam, 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....

The tragedy, we are experiencing summons us to take seriously the things that are serious, and not to be caught up in those that matter less; to rediscover that life is of no use if not used to serve others. For life is measured by love.

We will be judged on our relationship with the poor. When Jesus says, "The poor you will always have with you", he is saying, "I will always be with you in the poor; I will be present there". This is at the center of the Gospel, so much so that we will be judged on it.

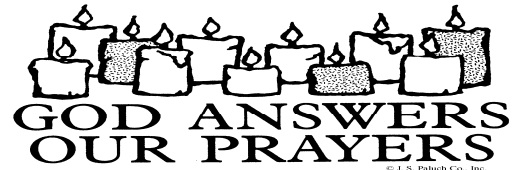
ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED



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.

Sunday of the Divine Mercy

THE SCRIPTURES



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15;
Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8;
Mt 7:7-12

Friday: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27:1, 7-9, 13-14;
Phil 3:17 -- 4:1 [3:20 -- 4:1]; Lk 9:28b-36

On the Second Sunday of Easter, as we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, we get a picture of how the early community gathered around as “Many signs and wonders were done among the people at the hands of the apostles.” John’s Gospel gives us two post-resurrection stories that feature Thomas, the doubting apostle. “Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”

Monday we remember St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church. Thursday is the Memorial of St. Anthanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church. Friday is the Feast of Ss. Philip and James, Apostles.

The Acts of the Apostles all this week offers us the challenges the apostles faced from the earliest communities and from the Jewish authorities.

For the remaining five weeks of the Easter season, our readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and from John’s Gospel, with stories of Jesus’ ministry not heard during the Ordinary Time of the liturgical year.

The weekday readings begin with the frightened Pharisee, Nicodemus, coming at night to speak to Jesus, asking how anyone can be “born again.” Jesus says we must be born of water and Spirit. John’s gospel offers a poetic look at light and darkness, good and evil: “the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light...” But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God. John writes, “For the one whom God sent speaks the words of God.” After Jesus’ disciples tell him to send 5,000 people away, he shows them how to feed them all. He walks across the sea to meet his apostles in their boat, saying, “It is I. Do not be afraid.”

John’s Gospel brings us a wonderful story for the Third Sunday of Easter. After the events of Good Friday and the joy of Easter Sunday, Peter longs to return to his old life. “I am going fishing.” he says. In a scene reminiscent of the original call of Peter, Jesus appears to the group after a futile night of fishing but is unrecognized by his followers. He calls out to Peter in the boat and tells him where to drop his fishing nets. The fish overflow the nets and they suddenly recognize him: “It is the Lord!” Jesus cooks them breakfast and asks Peter three times if he loves him. Peter, puzzled, affirms three times that he loves Jesus - just as he denied him three times during the Passion. “Feed my sheep,” Jesus says to him.

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.

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.**

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!

you are
NOT *alone*

HOLY MASS ON THE LITURGICAL FEST OF DIVINE MERCY**MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS**

"Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book" (Jn 20:30). The Gospel is the book of God's mercy, to be read and reread, because everything that Jesus said and did is an expression of the Father's mercy. Not everything, however, was written down; the Gospel of mercy remains an open book, in which the signs of Christ's disciples – concrete acts of love and the best witness to mercy – continue to be written. We are all called to become living writers of the Gospel, heralds of the Good News to all men and women of today. We do this by practicing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, which are the hallmarks of the Christian life. By means of these simple yet powerful gestures, even when unseen, we can accompany the needy, bringing God's tenderness and consolation. Thus continues the great work of Jesus on Easter day, when he poured into the hearts of his fearful disciples the Father's mercy, bringing them the Holy Spirit who forgives sins and bestows joy.

Truly, God's mercy is forever; it never ends, it never runs out, it never gives up when faced with closed doors, and it never tires. In this forever we find strength in moments of trial and weakness because we are sure that God does not abandon us. He remains with us forever. Let us give thanks for so great a love, which we find impossible to grasp; it is immense! Let us pray for the grace to never grow tired of drawing from the well of the Father's mercy and bringing it to the world. Let us ask that we too may be merciful, to spread the power of the Gospel everywhere, and to write those pages of the Gospel which John the Apostle did not write.

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**

It's Time to Register for Faith Formation!

If you have a student entering public school 1st grade in September, please contact the Faith Formation Office to register for class. The preparation for First Holy Communion begins in 1st grade, so don't miss out!

If you have a child in Catholic school who will be in 2nd grade or 9th grade beginning in September, please contact the Faith Formation Office to register for sacrament prep for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Remember that in the Archdiocese of Newark, all children receive the sacraments at their parish, not in Catholic school.

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

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.

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

**A Message from Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R
Archbishop of Newark**

Spiritual Closeness in a Time of Social Distancing: Seven Suggestions. As Christians, we encounter Jesus in his people—our families and friends, our neighbors and fellow parishioners, our co-workers and school mates, even people we don't know personally (strangers) who we come in contact with as we go about our daily lives. Jesus tells us that we find him in the “least of these” brothers and sisters (cf. Mt 25: 31-46), so being close to them means being close to him. During this unprecedented time of pandemic, we need to be especially concerned about those who are experiencing intense anxiety, feel lonely and abandoned, and who really count on public worship for their own support. We also should be concerned about how the spiritual lives of our people will be impacted by the drastic changes we are all experiencing for the first time in our lives. The Eucharist and the celebration of the Mass are so central to our Church that their absence is really felt deeply by us. “Social distancing” is necessary for the common good, but we need to counter this with a dramatic increase in what Pope Francis calls “spiritual closeness.” How can we stay close to Jesus, and all our sisters and brothers, at a time when concern for them demands that we keep our distance? How can we remain spiritually close at the same time that we practice social distancing? Here are some simple 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 a spiritual communion (see below).
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 the laundry, and more—look for opportunities to offer up your activities to God in gratitude for his closeness to you.
6. To the extent that you can, share your financial resources with those in need. Online giving is available for most religious, educational and charitable organizations, but if that's not an option for you, you can write a check and mail it, or set aside some cash to give to someone in need once the current stay at home order has been lifted.
7. Be patient with yourself and those you love. This is a strange and difficult time for all of us. Frustration and anger are understandable reactions. We need to help each other remain calm and trust in the healing power of Jesus who is close to us—now and always.

Prayer for 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 I 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.

**Divine Mercy Sunday
(Pending Developments)**

Today, 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.)

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.