

THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT— DECEMBER 12, 2021

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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.

COME AND WORSHIP WITH US

Masses

Saturday	5:00 pm
Sunday	7:30, 9:30 & 11:30 am
Weekdays	7:30 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 prayers the soul of :

Please pray for the sick : Helen Ahlquist, Logan Alseika, Judy Burns, Don DiStasio, Ramona Fernandez, David Gagliardotto, Philip Geron, Christopher Gore, Joseph Iacono, Frances Kayton, Conner LaVile, Angelo (Buddy) Latora, James Leung, Jim Looman, Janice Machin, Romaine Malaker, Martha Pares, Fred Perna, Joe Raughbaugh, Valerie Santiago, Michael Servello, Peter Spadaccini, Edward Stacy, Manny Teixeira, & Eve Vitale.

The Eucharistic Chapel Candles will burn this week for the parishioners of Our Lady of Lourdes.

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

Please Pray for our service members

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



Saturday, 5:00 PM	December 11th, St. Damasus Florenca Bazo Req. by Faith Formation
Sunday, 7:30 AM	December 12th, Third Sunday of Advent Bill Madden Req. by The Kontra Family
9:30 AM	Albert & Mary Chirichella Req. by Ann Crosta
11:30 AM	Charles Pocko Req. by Karen Shaneen
Monday, 7:30 AM	December 13th, St. Lucy Phillip Shaneen Req. by Karen Shaneen
Tuesday, 7:30 AM	December 14th, St. John of the Cross Bill Schrul Req. by Teri & Allison Schrul
Wednesday, 7:30 AM	December 15th Deceased 8th Anniversary Dave Belenetes Req. by The Family
Thursday, 7:30 AM	December 16th Nicholas Frungillo Req. by The Luaces Family
Friday, 7:30 AM	December 17th Pasquale Affinito Req. by Ann Schiano
Saturday, 8:00 AM	December 18th Nicholas Dominick Glynn Req. by Patty & John Amalfe
5:00 PM	Edward Manziano Req. by Theresa Manziano
Sunday, 7:30 AM	December 19th, Fourth Sunday of Advent People of the Parish
9:30 AM	Elizabeth Fenton Req. by The Fenton Family
11:30 AM	Rocco Ferano Req. by Elenora McMahon

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.

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 2022

The Mass Book for the year 2022 is now open!

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

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

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

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6, 7bc-9; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23;Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b;Lk 7:24-30

Friday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17;Mt 1:1-17

Saturday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19;Mt 1:18-25

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19;Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-4

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday of the Third Week of Advent begins with the Prophet Zephaniah's announcement of liberation and God's presence among the people after decades of their own infidelity.

In Luke's Gospel John the Baptist is the focus of the expectation in the people who come to him asking what to do.

He exhorts them to integrity and charity and announces the one who is to come:

"He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

Monday is the Memorial of Saint Lucy, Martyr.

Tuesday is the Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church.

We continue to focus on the first readings in this first part of Advent. From the Book of Numbers, we have the proclamation that

"a star shall advance from Jacob..."

Zephaniah is the prophet of impending doom, if the people don't abandon their idolatry.

But this week we read about consoling healing, "on that day," when the Lord comes.

Isaiah's message is full of promise:

"Turn to me and be safe ... for I am God; there is no other!"

On Thursday, we reach December 17th and in these last eight days of Advent the focus returns to the gospels with stories from Jesus' family in the time before he was born.

Matthew's gospel offers the genealogy of Jesus' family.

On the 18th we read Matthew's account of the nativity: Joseph decides to divorce the pregnant Mary until an angel appears to him in a dream, saying,

"It is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her."

On the 19th, in the first chapter of Luke's gospel, Elizabeth and Zechariah struggle with their inability to have a child.

They are told they will have a child named John who will be filled with the Holy Spirit.

When Zechariah doubts, he is struck speechless.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent begins the last week of Advent, which takes us to Christmas on Saturday.

The reading from Micah reminds us that of the seemingly unimportant town of Bethlehem,

"from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel."

Luke's gospel offers again the story of Mary's going to visit her cousin. Elizabeth understands immediately Mary's situation and praises God saying,

"How does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy."

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.

Mother Teresa

Quotes On Humanity, Peace & Love

"Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."

"God doesn't require us to succeed; he only requires that you try."



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!



December 5th = \$5500.00
Repair Fund = \$3222.00

SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

December 12th : Retirement Fund for Religious
December 25th : Christmas Gift



Christmas at the Rectory



The Parish Priests will offer an "Open House" for the Christmas season:

The Open House will be on Saturday afternoon
December 18th from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm.

All families are welcomed!

Please stop by, say hello, enjoy some refreshments and the company of other fellow parishioners to welcome in the Holy Season!



On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the pink/rose colored candle which is the shepherd's candle, or the candle of joy. We are reminded that Christmas is getting closer and this brings us joy. As we light the rose candle on this Gaudette ("rejoice") Sunday, we must remember to continue preparing ourselves for the coming of Christ. We can say this prayer over the candle:

**Dear God,
We pray that our hearts will be ready for your coming
Through your Son, Jesus Christ.
Help us to see how you want us to prepare. Amen**

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Family Faith

This Sunday is the Family Advent retreat after the 11:30 AM Mass. Please meet in the Church near the altar. Due to COVID restrictions, we ask that one parent attend with each child.

Weekly Traditional In-Person

There are no classes the weeks of December 19 and December 26 due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

Family Promise Interfaith Hospitality Network Union County, NJ Tend My Sheep Ministry

The Christmas Holidays are almost upon us. This year we will be providing our Family Promise guests with holiday gift cards again, instead of traditional presents. No need to worry about not finding the right gift, delayed shipping or distribution issues; gift cards are always available. The link for the sign-up sheet is:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054EABA722A1FB6-tend1>

There is a Family Promise decorated box under our tree in the vestibule to collect the gift cards through Sunday, December 12, 2021 after the 11:30 mass. Please consider purchasing a gift card and placing it in an envelope marked Tend My Sheep Ministry to make a family's holiday special. If you are unable to shop, we are also accepting monetary donations. These can be placed in the box, put in the collection in an envelope marked **Tend My Sheep Ministry**, or dropped off at the rectory.

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Hahner, hahnerk@comcast.net or at (908) 789-4639 or Deacon Michael DeRoberts, mdroberts@aol.com, or at (908) 868-0727

**Thanks again for all you do to make
Our Lady of Lourdes a great parish!**

Deacon Mike and Karen Hahner
Coordinators



Christmas & New Year's Schedule 2021

CHRISTMAS MASSES & CONFESSIONS

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Saturday, December 18 at 1:00 - 2:00 pm
Monday, December 20 at 7:00 - 8:00 pm
Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Christmas Eve Mass

Friday, December 24 at 4:00 pm (Children's Mass)

Christmas Day

Saturday, December 25- Mass at Midnight
(preceded by Carols at 11:30 pm)

Saturday, December 25 at 9:30 am
Saturday, December 25 at 11:00 am

No Evening Mass on Christmas Day

NEW YEARS CHEDULE

Friday, December 31 at 7:30 am Mass Only

New Years Day 2022

Saturday, January 1 at 9:30 and 11:30 am
1:00pm Confessions

CHRISTMAS OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, December 24th and reopen on Monday, December 27th at 9 am.

We ask that you please refrain from any routine office requests during that time.

In case of an emergency, one of the priests can be reached by calling the Parish Office at 908-232-1162, Ext. 40
Follow the instructions.

A Blessed Christmas to everyone.



Circle of Compassion

Please note our appeal for Christmas donations for non-perishable seasonal food for St. Joseph's Social Service Center in Elizabeth and St. Rocco's in Newark. The requests from their parishioners have increased considerably this year.

Monetary donations are also acceptable, but it is important to place the donation in an envelope marked

"Circle of Compassion" to segregate these funds from the weekly collection.

We will do the shopping!

For further information contact :

Michael Billy : Bmichael103@aol.com (908 -233-4841)
Gerry Gallagher : mcas312@yahoo.com (908-232-4687)



A Quick Look at the Synod on Synodality 2023

Pope Francis announced the Sixteenth Ordinary Synod of Bishops, which will take place in 2023 in Rome. His theme for the Synod is for a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission. The term "synodality" means walking the same road together. We journey as a Church together, all of us – Pope, bishops, clergy religious, and those on the margins. The mission of Christ can only be accomplished by all of us collaborating together to make the Gospel heard in our time. Every age in Church history has had to figure out the best way to proclaim the Gospel and this is our time.

Pope Francis has asked for an extraordinary task to be done – that is, he wants to hear from every part of the Church throughout the world, those committed to the church, those who have left the Church, never been a part of the church, or who are poor, marginalized and don't feel welcome in the Church. Some say that this is the largest single consultation in the world! We are all asked to join in and be a part in the ways best for us and to be as inclusive as possible.

In this consultation, Pope Francis asks us to consider this question of proclaiming the Gospel and continuing his mission through prayer and discernment together. His overarching question is: *What does the Holy Spirit expect of the Church of the 21st Century?* Two subsequent questions to be used at the listening sessions to expound on this question are:

1. How is this "journeying together" happening today in your parish community, campus ministry, university, school, youth group, religious congregation or other area of Church life?
2. How are we "walking together" as a Church, and what steps does the Holy Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our journeying together?

For our Listening Sessions, which can take place in December until February, we have clarified those questions in order to be more specific to our particular circumstances.

The Synod 2023 will have three phases:

Phase One: The Diocesan phase in which we will all be able to reflect and give feedback to the Archdiocese – December 2021-February 2022

Phase Two: The Continental Phase in which all dioceses will synthesize feedback and send a report to the bishops' conference in Washington, DC (USCCB) by March 1, 2022. In turn, the USCCB will then synthesize feedback and send a report to the Vatican Synod Committee beginning April 2022.

Phase Three: The Universal phase, which will be the actual Synod of bishops in Rome in October 2023

We are asking for your help to set up our Church for Christmas on Wednesday December 22nd from 6 - 10 pm . It will be greatly appreciated!



"Christmas wafer"
(Oplatek)

Oplatek, the Christmas Wafer are available in the Parish Office or see Deacon Mike.

BROTHERS IN CHRIST

THE MEN'S GROUP OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES, WILL HAVE A MEETING ON MONDAY –DECEMBER 15, 2021 AT 7 PM. SCRIPTURE, CATHOLIC ISSUES AND WAYS TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY WILL BE DISCUSSED.

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO JOIN THIS CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP.

WEATHER PERMITTING WE WILL HOLD THE MEETING OUTSIDE IN THE PARKING LOT.



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