



Mass Schedule @ Main Church

Saturday Evening, 5:30 pm Sunday Morning, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am Confessions, Saturday 4:15 - 5:00 pm or anytime by appointment

Weekday Morning Mass

Monday – Friday 8:30 am @ MAIN CHURCH Monday 8:30 am Mass with Miraculous Medal Novena

Sacrament of Baptism

Celebrated *usually* the first Saturday of the month. Parents are required to meet with Father Jim Ferry. Please call RECTORY.

Sacrament of the Sick

Administered in an emergency at any time. Please call RECTORY when someone is ill or admitted to the hospital.

Sacrament of Marriage

Engaged couples are asked to make their arrangements one year in advance of their wedding. Please call RECTORY for an appointment with a priest.

<u>First Friday</u>

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm. There is 1^{st} Friday Adoration during the **"Fall"** months of September, October, November and December and the **"Spring"** months of March, April, May and June.

Peace and Good Corner Gift Shop

Religious articles, books and cards are available for purchase inside the church before and after all Masses or by appointment. Contact RECTORY.

New Parishioners

Welcome to Our Lady of Lourdes. Please register at RECTORY or call for registration forms.

MISSION STATEMENT The people of God in West Orange were called by the Holy Spirit in 1914 to form Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, a community centered on Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit remains with us today as we continue our journey to God. We are inspired by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, nourished by the Eucharist, called to respect life and proclaim our Catholic faith. We serve God by providing spiritual, educational, and social activities for our parish family as well as extending God's love and compassion to serve the greater community.

Served By:

Rev. James Ferry, Pastor Rev. James N. Chern, Weekend Assistant Rev. Robert K. Suszko, Weekend Assistant Mrs. Linda Chapman, Director of Music Mrs. Mary Cassels, Trustee Mrs. Eileen Reilly, Trustee

RECTORY/Parish Office: 973.325.0110 Fax: 973.325.9105 Email: <u>ollwonj@verizon.net</u> Website: lourdeswestorange.org RECTORY/Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Religious Education

Family Catechesis (Grades 1-6) Ms. Priscilla Castro 973.325.0110 Email: Priscillacastro@lourdeswestorange.org

<u>Religious Education</u> Sacrament of Confirmation (Grades 7-12)

Mr. Paul Hirsch 973.325.0110 Email: <u>Confirmation.Class@lourdeswestorange.org</u> **Religious Education**

<u>Administrativa</u>

Administrative Assistant Maggie Macias 973.325.0110 ext. 102 Email: Maggie.macias@lourdeswestorange.org



Dear Brothers & Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

I share with you this article / reflection based from National Catholic Register:

(Source: https://www.ncregister.com/blog/does-godchange-his-mind-when-we-pray)

Title: Does God Change His Mind When We Pray?

Author: Lillian Fallon March 29, 2019 [ABRIDGED]

Last summer, I was tempted to give up on praying to God.

Up to that point, my life felt like a Looney Tunes cartoon and I was Bugs Bunny trying to escape a haunted house full of closed doors that just led to more closed doors. Every attempt at finding employment was met with rejection and no matter how many novenas I prayed to get work, God just held up a sign that said, "Wrong way."

This question always floats to the forefront of my mind when my prayers seem to fall upon deaf ears. But haven't many of us secretly wondered this? We're told to pray unceasingly, but do our prayers have any real sway? In one breath we're told, "Ask and ye shall receive" and "Surrender to divine providence."

A couple months ago, the priest at Mass gave a homily on the Wedding at Cana.

In the homily the priest addressed the topic of whether prayer requests can cause God to change His mind. In this scene of Christ's first public miracle, Mary says to her son, "They have no wine" (John 2: 3). In reply, Jesus says, "O woman, what have you to do with me? My hour has not yet come'" (John 2:4). Yet, He changes the water into wine. The priest explained that Jesus initially had no intention of changing the water into wine, but because His mother suggested it — he changed his mind. All of this was to remind the congregation that prayer does have impact.

The pew creaked as Father leaned back, "Prayer is a conversation. If you're in a conversation with someone and you're thinking of how you can manipulate someone's response, well, that's not really a conversation — it's a script." His voice echoed, bouncing off the empty pews and then back to me. I thought of all the times I presented God with a manuscript of exactly how the story of my life was going to go.

"It's hard for us not to approach prayer like that. We all do it. But God still works with us. At a certain early level in prayer, the switch is either off or on — we either feel totally in sync with God because we're getting what we want or we're high and dry because we're not getting what we want."

Bingo.

I realized I had been looking at the Wedding at Cana all wrong. I was focusing too much on Jesus changing his mind and not enough on Mary's role in the whole scene. Perhaps one of the most important words to come out of this entire passage is Mary's, "Do whatever He tells you" (John 2:5). This is directed towards the servants at the wedding, but her words resonate to all children of God, especially since she is the Mother of the Church. She tells us to do whatever her Son tells us to. These words also reflect her fiat at the Annunciation; a complete surrendering of her will and she encourages us to do the same at the Wedding.

Father folded has hands and continued, "When asking God, 'can I please have this?' we should exhibit the same trust of Jesus at Gethsemane when he said 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass me by. Nevertheless, let it be as you, not I, would have it'" (Matthew 26:39). Christ's complete trust on the cross is certainly a sobering wakeup call after you've been moping around because of not getting a job.

For so long, I viewed life as a battle of the wills. My will vs. God's. I always felt like I was at unfair disadvantage because, well, God is God. This perspective warped my mind into believing the whole purpose of my life is to be bossed around by God. I gritted my teeth whenever I said I was open to His will while simultaneously praying against it.

But in this life, we're hardly forced into anything. We're actually allowed to make any decision we want in life, even if it's not what's best for us. But God doesn't watch us like rats in a maze, desperately searching for happiness like cheese. When we start going down one path, He offers us opportunity after opportunity to find Him again. Sometimes that opportunity means personal growth through redemptive suffering.

Like all sin, it boils down to pride and the belief that we know what's best for us. We see ourselves as personal gods and in our limited two dimensional view, we aren't able to see what is truly best for us or the reason behind the crosses we're given for our salvation. God's greatest creation is that good can come from bad, but it's always our choice to choose the good. When we stop trying to change God, we surrender and allow for real graces to make real change in our lives.

Like Mary, when we present our desires or needs before God, we should have already surrendered and accepted his will regardless of the answer. It's when we're in this state of grace that we're able to ask the right questions and able to receive God's answer.

In Christ's Peace, Father Jim Ferry





SATURDAY 19 AUGUST 5:30 pm Eustaquio Francisco Reyes

SUNDAY 20 AUGUST

7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am John P. Sharkey 11:30 am Abdon Domingo

MONDAY 21 AUGUST

8:30 am Kathy Norman

TUESDAY 22 AUGUST 8:30 am Alice McCauley

WEDNESDAY 23 AUGUST

8:30 am Catherine Gascoyne

THURSDAY 24 AUGUST

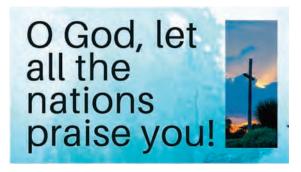
8:30 am Carmine "Tony" Fiorilli

FRIDAY 25 AUGUST 8:30 am Alice McCauley

SATURDAY 26 AUGUST 5:30 pm Kathleen Whelan

SUNDAY 27 AUGUST

7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Mary Ellen Bruno 11:30 am Mary Mooney



+++ WEEKEND

AUGUST 26 - 27, 2023

Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers		
5:30 pm	Pat Sigalas	Eileen Reilly (Choir)		
7:30 am	Mary Cassels	Mary Cassels		
9:30 am	Carmelita Dizon	Myrna Regino		
11:30 am	Julie Okeke	Wendy Sheyka		

SUNDAY 20 AUGUST	
7:30 am	Mass in Church
9:30 am	Mass in Church
11:30 am	Mass in Church
MONDAY 21 AUGUST	
8:30 am	
Miraculous Medal Novena	Monday thru Friday of
following 8:30 am Mass on	each week in church.
Monday.	
THURSDAY 24 AUGUST	
10:00 am	Deadline for News &
	Announcements for the
	SEP 3rd. Bulletin. Call the
	Rectory at 973-325-0110.
SATURDAY 26 AUGUST	
	Confessions in Church
-	
5:50 pm	Mass in Church
SUNDAY 27 AUGUST	
7:30 am	Mass in Church
9:30 am	Mass in Church
11:30 am	Mass in Church



Jesus said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that hour.



Joan Clarke Mary McGuiness Joan Monik Jacob Rivera Jaxon Rivera Pat Schoeler If you wish to have a friend or loved one prayed for, please call the Rectory at 973-325-0110.



Oratory Prep School celebrating excellence for over 100 years, invites you to our Open House Events on

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023 FROM 1-3 PM,

AND ON

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2023 FROM 6:30-8:30 PM.

Oratory Prep is located at 425 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ.

We ask that you register to attend on our website <u>www.oratoryprep.org</u> under the Admissions tab. For further information, call 908-273-1084, ext. 1.

Oratory Prep is the Roman Catholic college preparatory school where motivated learners become confident men of integrity armed with the courage and competency to become the next leaders of their generation.

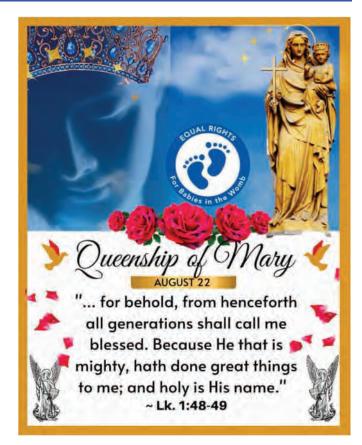


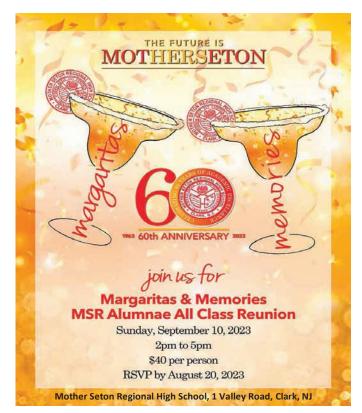
PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2023WEEKLY GOAL\$ 6800Collection*: Aug 5-6*\$ 4565Deficit:\$ 2235*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit

THANK

For Your Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure.





For more information and to Register, please visit the school's website at https://motherseton.org. Click on the 60th Anniversary Celebration Events link then on Margarita's & Memories.

Religious Education / RCIA Teacher Job Posting - Our Lady of Lourdes, West Orange, NJ (date: August 11, 2023)

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish seeks to hire a part-time employee to assist in our Religious Education program in the following areas. The schedule and times below may be negotiated with the Pastor based on employee's availability and student availability. This employee reports to the Pastor. Position is budgeted for an average of 6 hours per week.

Responsibilities

Teach 1st Penance and 1st Communion Class for Grades 7-12. Weekly program on Tuesdays (4:30 – 5:15 pm) and/or Sundays (10:30 am – 11:15 am) is in the Fall and Spring. (Hours can be adjusted based on student-teacher availability).

Teach RCIA for teenagers and/or adults preparing for Sacrament of Baptism, 1st Communion, Confirmation. Class is on Sundays 10:30 am to 11:15 am and will occur on Sundays on which 1st Penance / 1st Communion is not scheduled.

"Substitute" and "Co-Teacher" Grades 7-12 Confirmation Class. This weekly program (19 sessions) is on Sundays (9:30 am - 11:30 am) and selected Monday (6:45 - 8 pm).

Teach Adult Section of Family Catechesis on Monthly Basis. Grade 1-5 students are educated in Family Class setting (meeting once per month on Saturday and Monday in 2 sections with identical content. On Saturdays 4 – 5 pm and Monday 6 to 7 pm, the adults are taught while the children are in their separate groups.

Qualifications

Education. At the minimum, Religious Education/RCIA Teacher will hold Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree from an accredited university.

Computer Skills. The Religious Education/RCIA Teacher will possess adequate computer skills, especially familiarity with data entry for databases and MS-Word, PowerPoint, Publisher.

Audio Video Skills. Ability to setup and troubleshoot the laptop, projector, audio, video for presentations.

Bilingual. Proficiency or fluency in Spanish is desirable but not absolutely required. Comfort with use of software programs that provide translation services.

Resume/questions, email → fatherjimferry@lourdeswestorange.org Call 973.325.0110



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