



OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

One Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, New Jersey 07052

RECTORY/Parish Office 973.325.0110

LOURDESWESTORAGE.ORG



Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/lourdeswestorange

Sunday, December 10, 2023 - Second Sunday of Advent



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

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: ollwonj@verizon.net

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

Religious Education

Sacrament of Confirmation (Grades 7-12)

Mr. Paul Hirsch 973.325.0110

Email: Confirmation.Class@lourdeswestorange.org

Religious Education

Administrative Assistant

Maggie Macias 973.325.0110 ext. 102

Email: Maggie.macias@lourdeswestorange.org

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.

First Friday

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm. There is 1st 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.*



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,
Please join us for our Advent and Christmas Choir Concert with both our Children and Adult Choirs which will take place immediately after 5:30 pm Mass on Saturday December 9 at 6:30 pm.

I share with you this article / reflection based on Crossroads Initiative about the Gospel this Sunday:
(Source: <https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/2nd-sunday-of-advent-who-is-coming-to-town/>)

**PREPARE THE WAY - ADVENT
& ROAD CONSTRUCTION**

By: Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio

Advent's theme can be summed up in the words of Isaiah 40: Prepare the way of the Lord! But what are the mountains that need to be leveled and the valleys that need to be filled in? Here's a road map through the desert of Advent Road construction to the joy of Christmas.

Advent is a time of joyful anticipation. For someone even bigger than Santa Claus is coming to town.

The human race has been waiting a long time for his next and final visit. Actually, it waited a long time for the first visit. Things had gone awry quite early in the history of the human race. We went from Paradise to misery in the blink of an eye but found there was no way to get back into the garden. Only God could turn things around, but he was a long time coming.

[ADVENT - PREPARE THE WAY] There had to be some groundwork laid first—a slow, gradual preparation of the human race to get it ready for the historic encounter with its Savior. There were some ideas about God and his plan that had to be gotten across to the people. Moses was entrusted with the lion share of that job. But besides this doctrinal, intellectual preparation, there had to be spiritual and moral preparation as well. Calling the people of God to repentance and holiness was the specialty of the prophets, and given the magnitude of their job, there were many of them.

[FROM COMFORT TO ROAD CONSTRUCTION]

General George Patton once said of his soldiers “every young man needs a good pat on the back from time to time—sometimes high and sometimes low.” The Israelites were young, and God spoke to them both stern and comforting words through the prophets. Isaiah 40, for example, begins with comfort. It proclaims that captivity is over, that God is coming to the rescue, coming with power as a shepherd to feed his flock.

Yet it goes on to say that a road in the desert must be prepared for this coming. Prepare the way of the Lord! Valleys must be filled in. Mountains must be leveled. Crooked ways made straight. This is a massive undertaking, to tell the truth.

Actually, it would be easier if all we had to do was literally dynamite some mountainside. But the last and greatest of the prophets, John the Baptist, helps us understand the true meaning of Isaiah's words. The prep work needs to be done in us, not in sand and gravel.

[MOUNTAINS & VALLEYS] For the Messiah, the good shepherd to come, the way must be leveled and straightened. The heights blocking his approach were mountains of pride. The sin of pride exalts itself higher than God, erecting a barrier against him. It is characterized by know-it-all-ness and smug self-sufficiency. The tower of Babel is a great example of pride's futile arrogance.

But how about the valleys that must be filled in? Philosophers and theologians define evil as the privation of good, the lack of something that ought to be there. Lack of faith is a sin. The failure to pray is a sin. The absence of charity is a sin. These are all sins of omission, and these gaping holes need to be filled in to make a highway for our God.



[CROOKED WAY MADE STRAIGHT] In his fabulous space trilogy, CS Lewis calls Satan “the Bent One.” Because the nature of the deceiver is to take great blessings from God and twist them, misdirect them, so that they become curses. With a little twist, abundance becomes greed, marital love becomes lust, and piety becomes self-righteous hypocrisy. In Advent, these crooked ways must be made straight.


(Continued on Page 4)


OUR LADY OF LOURDES - DECEMBER 10, 2023



SATURDAY, 9 DECEMBER 5:30 pm Gene & Kathleen Mooney
SUNDAY, 10 DECEMBER 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Garrett Gurrieri & John D. Pflug, III 11:30 am Anthony Strollo
MONDAY, 11 DECEMBER 8:30 am Sr. Joan Eileen Butler, SC
TUESDAY, 12 DECEMBER Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe 8:30 am Virgin of Guadalupe Breakfast following Mass (Hall) Sponsored by the Legion of Mary
WEDNESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 8:30 am Abdon Domingo
THURSDAY, 14 DECEMBER 8:30 am Doris Handschuh
FRIDAY, 15 DECEMBER 8:30 am Sr. Joan Eileen Butler, SC
SATURDAY, 16 DECEMBER 5:30 pm Lawrence & Catherine Del Plato
SUNDAY, 17 DECEMBER 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Joan Papale 11:30 am Chrisostome Conserve


SUNDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2nd Sunday of Advent 7:30 am Mass 7:30 am—12 noon Pancake Breakfast KOC (Hall) 9:30 am Mass 9:30—11:30 am Mass, 1st Penance (OLLC, Chapel) 10:30 am Children's Choir (OLLC) 11:30 am Mass
 MONDAY, 11 DECEMBER 8:30 am Daily Mass will be held Monday thru Friday of each week in church. Miraculous Medal Novena following 8:30 am Mass on Monday. 6:30—7:30 pm 1st Penance/Comm GRADES 6-12 (Hall)
WEDNESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 6:30—8:30 pm Knights of Columbus Mtg. (Hall)
THURSDAY, 14 DECEMBER 10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for the Dec 24th Bulletin. Call the Rectory at 973-325-011. 6—8:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (OLLC)
FRIDAY, 15 DECEMBER 1:00—3:30 pm Soup Kitchen Prep (Rel Ed and Prayer rooms)
SATURDAY, 16 DECEMBER 8:30 am Mass Simbang Gabi Novena & Crèche Blessing 9:30—11:30 am Soup Kitchen at Holy Trinity 4:00—5:15 pm Fam. Cat. Epiphany Rehearsal Grades 1-6 (Hall) 4:15—5:00 pm Confessions in Church 5:30 pm Mass in Church
SUNDAY, 17 DECEMBER 3rd Sunday of Advent  7:30 am Mass 9:30 am Mass 10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal 11:30 am Mass 12:30—3:00 pm Christmas Décor OLLC

 This week's Altar Candles, a gift from J.A. Konvalinka is in memory of **SR. JOAN EILEEN BUTLER, SC.**

 This week's Sanctuary Candle, a gift from J.A. Konvalinka is in memory of **DORIS HANDSCHUH.**

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE DEC 16 - DEC 17, 2023

Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	
5:30 pm	Michael Lanfrank	Emily Kunz Eileen Reilly (Choir)	
7:30 am	Hermie Santos	Mary Ellen Chandler	
9:30 am Choir	Andrew Novoa	Myrna Regino Joe Petrillo (Choir)	
11:30 am	Julie Okeke	Virginia Dimapilis	


PRAYERS Needed For...

Janice Augustine Clarke Keith Hari Mary McGuiness Joan Monik	Joan Rivera Jaxon Rivera Pat Schoeler Laura Splendoria
--	--

If you wish to have a friend or loved one prayed for, please call the Rectory at 973-325-0110.



(PASTOR COLUMN continued from Page 2

ADVENT PREPARATION'S GOAL: THE HOLY SPIRIT

The last of the prophets, John the Baptist, lived his message. The mountains of pride had been leveled in him; the way cleared. He pointed not to himself, but to him whose sandal strap, he says, he is not fit to untie. He was as excited as anyone about Him who was to come. For John knew what He was bringing. "I have baptized you in water; He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit." The Messiah was coming to utterly immerse us in the power and wisdom of God in order to make us new people, able to be like God, able to do new and great things.

This is without a doubt worth preparing for.
Blessed Advent Season to you and yours,
In Christ's Peace,
Fr. James Ferry

**Church Capital Investment
Fund Raffle**

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE RAFFLE
WINNERS**

December 2, 2023
\$500 winner of 1st Drawing:
Carol Kurtyka
\$500 winner of 2nd Drawing:
Rosanne Bruno



IT'S SAFE. IT'S SIMPLE. IT'S CONVENIENT.

Support Our Lady of Lourdes today using your debit, credit cards, checking, or savings accounts.

Or Scan Here!



- 1 Visit www.lourdeswestorange.org and click Give Online.
- 2 Select the collection or event of your choice.
- 3 Set up your donation or payment. That's it!



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
WEST ORANGE COUNCIL #5519**



Sunday, 10th of DECEMBER 2023

8:30 am - 11:30 am

CONNOR HALL

\$10 DONATION - ADULTS AND CHILDREN 13 & OVER
\$5 CHILDREN 6-12
(No charge for any child 5 & under)

Pancakes, sausage, eggs, juice, and coffee will be served.
Please make plans for you and your family to attend. All proceeds will go towards supporting local charities in the West Orange area.

PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2023

WEEKLY GOAL	\$ 6800
Collection*: Nov 25—Nov 26*	\$ 5102
Deficit:	\$ 1698

*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit



*For Your Stewardship of
Time, Talent and Treasure.*

St. Vincent DePaul Society

St. Vincent DePaul Society is hosting **Christine's Soup Kitchen** on Saturday, **12/16/2023** for Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. As of now the soup kitchen is operating on a to-go-lunch basis.

Lunches are prepared ahead of time and will be dropped off at Holy Trinity on the morning of **12/16/2023** so you will not have to serve at the soup kitchen itself. If anyone is interested in preparing or purchasing needed items please call Rosanne Bruno at 973-243-0679, or e-mail at travisb23@juno.com.





Advent - Christmas Calendar 2023

	<p><u>Advent & Christmas Choir Concert</u> Saturday Dec. 9 with Children & Adult Choirs! 6:30 pm (immediately after 5:30 pm Mass)</p>
---	--

Simbang Gabi Mass & Blessing of Outdoor Nativity Scene

Saturday December 16: Morning Mass @ 8:30 am

Confessions, Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation ("Advent Hours")

Saturdays (usual time) 4:15 – 5 pm

Saturday December 2 Confessions after Mass, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Monday December 4 6:45– 7:45 pm

► Or call 973.325.0110 for Appointment ◀

<p><u>Christmas Eve (12/24)</u> 4 pm MASS (Children's Choir) 5:30 pm MASS (Adult Choir) 7 pm Misa en Español (Misa de Nochebuena) 10 pm MASS</p> <p><u>Christmas Morning (12/25)</u> 7:30 am MASS, 9:30 am MASS, 11:30 am MASS</p>
--

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God (Jan. 1, New Year's Day)

+ Mass at 5:30 pm (Dec. 31) + Mass at 9:30 am (Jan. 1)

Children's Epiphany Pageant (Sun. January 7, immediately after 11:30 am Mass)

<p>Our Lady of Lourdes, One Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, NJ 07052 973.325.0110 LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG</p>

NEED A LAWYER? INJURED?



★ Call For A Free Legal Consultation ★



MARC J. BRENNER ESQ.



Certified By The Supreme Court of New Jersey
As A Workers' Compensation Law Attorney

973-326-8902

- Personal Injury
- Workers' Compensation
- Social Security Disability

lawmarcbrenner.com • marc@lawmarcbrenner.com

222 RIDGEDALE AVENUE • CEDAR KNOLLS, NJ 07927

**Support Our
ADVERTISERS**
They Support
Our Parish

Help your community,
the environment,
& yourself



Patronize your
local businesses

Essex Green

The Complete Service Center
For Foreign & Domestic Cars

(973) 325-9808

402 PROSPECT AVE., W. ORANGE

**POISON
Help**

1-800-222-1222

poison.org

Call or go online
to get free,
confidential help
for suspected
poisonings.

**E & M
O'HARA**
INC.
Electrical Contractors

Free Estimates
973-325-3626
www.OharaElectric.com

Best Electrician
11-Time Winner
(Lic# 16744)
Offering quality
service for over
55 years.

VISION WORLD

We have moved our store to
Roseland Eye Care
178 Eagle Rock Avenue
Roseland, NJ 07068

Prescriptions Filled **973-736-0553**

ROOFING • CHIMNEYS MASONRY • GUTTERS

**We Find & Fix
Leaks!**



**ROYAL PRO
CONSTRUCTION**

Family Owned/Operated • 20 Plus Years Experience
Lic. #13VH0934200, Bonded & Insured

732-589-9967

\$800 OFF
Any New Roof
Replacement

15% OFF
Any Roof, Chimney,
Gutter, Masonry Repair
and SENIORS

Please Continue
To Pray For



World Peace



**WREATHS
across
AMERICA**

This season, sponsor a
veterans' wreath at
a cemetery near you.

To sponsor, volunteer or donate, visit
wreathsacrossamerica.org

READY.GOV

Don't be afraid...Be Ready

ALL THINGS BASEMENTY!

WET BASEMENT?

**Quality 1st Basement
Systems**

- WATERPROOFING & FINISHING
- FOUNDATION PROBLEMS
- HUMIDITY & MOLD CONTROL
- NASTY CRAWL SPACES

Contact us for a FREE ESTIMATE!

866-588-8317
BasementRepairNJ.com

NY Lic # 1274423 • NJHIC# 13VH01833300

FAMILY OWNED

Dangler Funeral Home of West Orange

FAMILY OPERATED

973-325-1212

DARREN T. DANGLER
MANAGER - N.J. Lic. No. 4004

www.danglerfuneralhome.com
~ Spacious Parking ~

KIP M. DANGLER
DIRECTOR - N.J. Lic. No. 3992

Serving All Faiths
Professional, Personal Service

340 MAIN STREET • WEST ORANGE, NJ 07052

Pre-Arrangements,
Traditional Services & Cremations