



OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

One Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, New Jersey 07052

RECTORY/Parish Office 973.325.0110

LOURDESWESTORAGE.ORG



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Sunday, December 1, 2024 - First 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

Rhea Catarroja 973.325.0110 ext. 102

Email: rhea.catarroja@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 & Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

I share with you this article based on Crossroads Initiative:

<https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/advent-the-reason-for-the-season/>

**ADVENT - THE REASON FOR THE SEASON -
1ST SUNDAY ADVENT C**

Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio

The Advent season is more about preparing for the second coming of Christ than for Christmas. To prepare for his final coming is more about action than end-times speculation. For the 1st Sunday of Advent, cycle C.

Advent is simply the Latin word for "coming." If we can manage to meditate on any "coming" in December besides the comings and goings of Christmas shopping, it would be Christ's coming to Mary in a stable.

But the liturgy of the first three weeks of the Advent season speaks of another coming, the second and final coming of Jesus at the end of time.

THE END TIMES?

From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to return. Many have claimed to recognize the signs of his imminent return and even have tried to predict the actual date. They've had some explaining to do when he failed to show up as forecast.

I have news for you. I am absolutely certain that we, today, are truly living in the end of the times. How do I know? Because we've been living in the last days since Jesus has ascended into heaven (1 John 2:18, 1 Peter 4:7).

ACTION VS. DISTRACTION

When is Jesus coming back? That's the wrong question. The last trumpet, Jesus riding on the clouds . . . is all this to be taken symbolically or literally? Wrong question again.

Have you heard the joke about the young priest who rushes into the pastor's office and says "The Lord has been spotted walking up the aisle of the Church. What do we do?" The pastor looks up with alarm and says: "For God's sake, Father, look busy!"

We should not be wasting our time theorizing about dates, or the nature of the rapture or the final tribulation. This is a distraction. Rather, we are not just looking busy but actually be busy preparing the way for his return.

Advent is a reminder to be prepared and ready, not weighted down, neutralized, and utterly distracted by the cares of this world (Luke 21: 34-36). Advent calls us, as Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 3, to work to make greater progress in the life of holiness, "putting on" the character of Christ. This means preparing the way by calling others to faith in Christ, since all baptized Catholics are called to be evangelizers.

ADVENT - LABOR BEFORE BIRTH

The second coming of Christ, like the first, involves a birth. Only this time will it be the birth of a new heaven and a new earth (2 Peter 3:13; Romans 8:19-23; CCC 1042). Birth is always preceded by labor and travail. In fact birth is a sort of crisis that puts everyone involved in the test. The labor pains to bring one baby to birth are intense enough. Imagine the labor pains prior to the birth of a whole new creation.

With all due respect to the Left Behind fantasies, faithful Christians won't be spared the tribulation preceding His final coming any more than Mary and Joseph were spared the tribulations surrounding his first coming (CCC 672, 1 Corinthians 7:26). The idea of a secret rapture snatching Christians away from what the Catechism calls "the final cosmic upheaval" (CCC 677) appears nowhere in the Bible or ancient tradition. It is an idea concocted by a sectarian Protestant teacher in the 19th century and was immediately rejected as dangerous by many other Protestant pastors.

Why? Because if we think we'll be exempted from suffering, then why prepare for it? And when a crisis does in fact come, we may buckle under pressure.

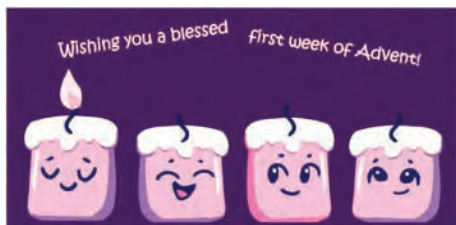
(PASTOR COLUMN continued on Page 4)



<p>SATURDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 5:30 pm Mary Sharkey</p>	<p>SUNDAY, 1 DECEMBER 7:30 am Mass in Church 9:00 am Recitation of Rosary 9:30 am Mass in Church 9:30 - 11:45 am G. 7-12 (OLLC, HALL) 11:30 am Mass in Church ADORATION AFTER MASS</p>
<p>SUNDAY, 1 DECEMBER 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Nancy Bergenty 11:30 am Eileen Ryan</p>	<p>MONDAY, 2 DECEMBER 8:30 am Daily Mass will be held Monday thru Friday of each week in church.</p>
<p>MONDAY, 2 DECEMBER 8:30 am Doris Murtagh (3rd Ann.)</p>	<p>MONDAY, 2 DECEMBER 8:30 am Daily Mass will be held Monday thru Friday of each week in church.</p>
<p>TUESDAY, 3 DECEMBER 8:30 am James Flaherty</p>	<p>Miraculous Medal Novena following 8:30 am Mass on Monday.</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY, 4 DECEMBER 8:30 am Eileen Ryan</p>	<p>TUESDAY, 3 DECEMBER 11:30 am RAS Christmas Luncheon & Membership Mtg. (Hall)</p>
<p>THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 8:30 am James Flaherty</p>	<p>THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for the Dec 15th Bulletin. Call the Rectory at 973-325-0110.</p>
<p>FRIDAY, 6 DECEMBER 8:30 am In Thanksgiving</p>	<p>SATURDAY, 7 DECEMBER 3—5:30 pm Family Catechesis (Hall) 4:15—5:00 pm Confessions in Church 5:30 pm Mass in Church 6:30 pm Choir Christmas Concert (OLLC)</p>
<p>SATURDAY, 7 DECEMBER 5:30 pm Faith Nzegwu (Special Intention)</p>	<p>SATURDAY, 7 DECEMBER 3—5:30 pm Family Catechesis (Hall) 4:15—5:00 pm Confessions in Church 5:30 pm Mass in Church 6:30 pm Choir Christmas Concert (OLLC)</p>
<p>SUNDAY, 8 DECEMBER 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Garrett Gurrieri & John D. Pflug III 11:30 am Lawrence & Catherine Del Plato</p>	<p>SUNDAY, 8 DECEMBER 7:30 am Mass in Church 9:30 am Mass in Church 9:30—11:45am G. 6 (OLLC, HALL) 10:30—11:30 am Penance Class (Chapel) 11:30 am Mass in Church</p>



This week's Bread & Wine, a gift from Nancy & Michael Lanfrank is in memory of **STELLA V. KELLER**.



PRAYERS

Artemis Soleil Benitez Robert Santangelo
Judy Bernarducci Pio Tortola

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

++ WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE		DEC 7 - DEC 8, 2024	
Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	
5:30 pm	Andrew Novoa	Emily Kunz Melinda Prather (choir)	
7:30 am	MaryEllen Chandler	Bless Bernardo	
9:30 am	Carol Ford	Espie Cain	
11:30 am	Lynda Clement	Virginia Dimapilis	

(PASTOR COLUMN continued from Page 2)

ADVENT - SEASON OF EXPECTANT JOY

But doesn't all this talk of tribulation put a damper on the festive holiday season?

Are parents any less excited about the birth of their first child because they may have to take a natural childbirth class or talk to the doctor about pain meds and cesarean sections? There is no birth without labor. So, during Advent, as we rejoice in hope over the imminent new arrival, perhaps we ought to do everything possible to make sure that the labor goes successfully. That way there'll be something to rejoice about.

And we better not dilly-dally. It could be any day now.

This post on how best to prepare for the coming of Christ is a reflection on the readings for the 1st (first) Sunday of Advent, cycle C (Jeremiah 33:1-16, 1 Thesalonians 3: 12-4:2, Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).

Source: <https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/advent-the-reason-for-the-season/>

In Christ's Peace,


Father Jim Ferry

PARISH GIVING


FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2024

WEEKLY GOAL	\$ 6800
Collection*: Nov 16-17*	\$ 4641
Deficit:	\$ 2159

*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit



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EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION


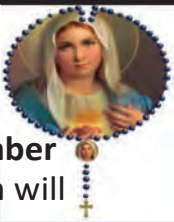
1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

December 6, 2024

5:30-7:30 pm in Church

Join Us!

Jesus is waiting for You!

The Rosary Altar Society's December meeting and Christmas Luncheon will be held on:


Tuesday, December 3, at 11:30 am in Connor Hall.

All Rosarians: don't forget to bring a gift for an elderly man or women which will be placed under the Giving Tree. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Carol Ford, President

St. Vincent DePaul Society

St. Vincent DePaul Society is hosting **Christine's Soup Kitchen** on **Saturday, 12/14/2024** 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 **12/14/2024** 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.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
WEST ORANGE COUNCIL #5519

Breakfast with Santa



Sunday, 22nd of DECEMBER 2024

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.



Advent - Christmas Calendar 2024



Advent & Christmas Choir Concert

Saturday Dec. 7 with Children and Adult Choirs!

6:30 pm (immediately after 5:30 pm Mass)

Simbang Gabi Mass & Blessing of Outdoor Nativity Scene

Monday December 16: Morning Mass @ 8:30 am

Confessions, Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (“Advent Hours”)

Saturdays (usual time) 4:15—5:00 pm

Other hours to be announced

+ or call 973-325-0110 for Appointment

Christmas Eve (12/24) 4 pm MASS (Children’s Choir) 5:30 pm MASS (Adult Choir)

7 pm Misa en Espanol (Misa de Nochebuena)

10 pm MASS

Christmas Morning (12/25) 7:30 am MASS, 9:30 am MASS, 11:30 am MASS

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 5, immediately after

11:30 am Mass

**Our Lady of Lourdes, One Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, NJ 07052
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