



OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

One Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, New Jersey 07052

RECTORY/Parish Office 973.325.0110

LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG



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Sunday, December 8, 2024 - 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

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 [abridged] article / reflection based from Crossroads Initiative:

Source: <https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/rejoicing-in-hope-advent/>

Advent as the Season of Hope
By: Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio

St. Paul, in I Corinthians 13:13, says these three – faith, hope and love – are the bottom line. They are called the theological virtues, the qualities that make us most like God.

We hear plenty about faith and love. But when is the last time you heard a rousing homily on hope? Why is hope important? And what is it precisely?

Hope & Goals

To accomplish great things in life, you need a future goal that is big enough to keep you motivated. The promise of a diploma makes college students stay up late writing papers when they'd rather be partying. The dream of Olympic glory gets the runner up early to put in miles while others are comfortably snoozing.

In the spiritual life, you'll never do great things for God unless you have your eye on the long term goal – indescribable joy in his presence forever. The ecstasy of gazing upon Him whose beauty eternally awes the hosts of heaven, the exhilarating company of friends, family, and fascinating people from all ages—purified, glorified, finished masterpieces of divine love—this is what “the day of Christ Jesus” (Philippians 1:6) will usher in, for those who are ready.

Confidence in God's Promise

The virtue of hope is the eager, energizing expectation of this glorious inheritance. And it's also the confidence that He who began the

work of salvation in us will bring it to completion (Phil. 1:6).

Some think Catholics live in fearful insecurity, perpetually worrying they may not make the grade. Calvinist Christians, on other hand, believe that once people accept Jesus as Lord and Savior, they are saved, period. God is faithful, they reason, and never reneges on his promises. So once saved, always saved.

So who is right? There is truth on both sides. God's promise is sure. He gives us grace to accept Christ and salvation. But his grace never comes in a way that short-circuits our freedom.

Assurance & Freedom

In other words, God never overpowers us and carries us away against our will. The possibility always remains that we will walk away, as did the Prodigal Son. Fortunately the Prodigal came to his senses and returned. But note that the Father did not send out a posse. The wayward son returned of his own accord. The story could have ended otherwise.

So is there a Catholics version of “blessed assurance”? Yes. We call it hope. We have confidence that God will give us the grace to persevere, and even better, to grow stronger in his love right up to the “day of Christ Jesus.”


Hope as ardent Desire


But hope is, according to St. Thomas Aquinas, a virtue not principally of the mind that believes in God's faithfulness, but of the will that longs for heaven with a desire that propels it forward to ever greater spiritual growth.


One opposite of hope is despair, failure to believe that God's mercies are never exhausted. But hope has other opposites as well. Like sloth, or spiritual laziness. When faced with the prospect of life forever with God, sloth yawns and says “BOR-ing.” Sound familiar?


(PASTOR COLUMN continued on Page 4)




<p>SATURDAY, 7 DECEMBER 5:30 pm Faith Nzegwu (Special Intention)</p>	<p>SUNDAY, 8 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.6 (OLLC, HALL) 11:30 am Mass in Church</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>MONDAY, 9 DECEMBER 8:30 am Daily Mass will be held Monday thru Friday of each week in church.</p>
<p>MONDAY, 9 DECEMBER SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  7:00 am Patrick Joseph Lynch 8:30 am People of the Parish 7:00 pm People of the Parish</p>	<p>Miraculous Medal Novena following 8:30 am Mass on Monday.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px;"> <p>SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION—Masses will be held: 7:00 am, 8:30 am and 7:00 pm</p> </div> <p>5 - 7:30 pm Fam Cat. (Hall)</p>
<p>TUESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 8:30 am James Flaherty</p>	<p>THURSDAY, 12 DECEMBER 10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for the Dec 22nd Bulletin. Call the Rectory at 973-325-0110.</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER 8:30 am Doris Handschuh</p>	<p>SATURDAY, 14 DECEMBER 12—1:30 pm Epiphany Rehearsals (OLLC) 4:15—5:00 pm Confessions in Church 5:30 pm Mass in Church</p>
<p>THURSDAY, 12 DECEMBER 8:30 am Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</p>	<p>SUNDAY, 15 DECEMBER 7:30 am Mass in Church 9:30 am Mass in Church 9:30—11:45am G. 7-12 (OLLC, HALL) 10:30—11:30 am Penance Class (Chapel) 11:30 am Mass in Church</p>
<p>FRIDAY, 13 DECEMBER 8:30 am Marissa Matias (In Thanksgiving)</p>	
<p>SATURDAY, 14 DECEMBER 5:30 pm Gene & Kathleen Mooney</p>	
<p>SUNDAY, 15 DECEMBER 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Chiaramonte & Catalano Families 11:30 am Janet Carden</p>	

 This week's Altar Candles, a gift from Helene Donnelly & Family is in memory of **DELLA GRECO**.

 This week's Bread & Wine, a gift from Helene Donnelly & Family is in memory of **DELLA GRECO**.


 This week's Sanctuary Candle, a gift from Helene Donnelly & Family is in memory of **DELLA GRECO**.



 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 14 - DEC 15, 2024	
Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	
5:30 pm	Joy Hayward	Eileen Reilly Judy Albore (choir)	
7:30 am	Mary Cassels	Lou Volpe	
9:30 am	JoAnn Melhorn Choir	Annette Chiaramonte Joe Petrillo (choir)	
11:30 am	Carmelita Dizon	Virginia Dimapilis	

(PASTOR COLUMN continued from Page 2)

Or how about presumption? Hope is humble confidence that God won't give up on me. Presumption is the arrogant expectation that God owes me mercy, regardless how neglectful I am of the ordinary means of grace which he offers us, like Mass, prayer, and Confession.

Hope is a spiritual muscle. But like all muscles, it must be exercised just to survive. Unused muscles atrophy. Use it or lose it.

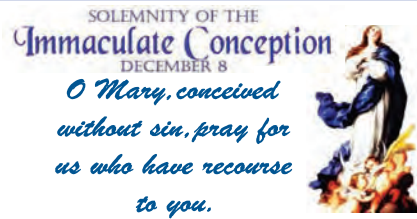
That's why each year the Church gives us a season of Hope, which we call Advent. Though our society has made it a season of indulgence, it is meant to be a season of training. It's time to blow on the spark of spiritual desire within us till it bursts into flame. Christmas lights are nice, but it is we who are supposed to be the light of the world.

This post is offered as a reflection on the readings for the Second Sunday of Advent, cycle C (Baruch 5:1-9; Philipians 1:4-6,8-11; Luke 3:1-6).

Source: <https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/rejoicing-in-hope-advent/>

REMINDER: The Solemnity of Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday December 9, 2024 which is a Holy Day of Obligation with Mass in the morning at 7 am and 8:30 am and Mass in the evening at 7 pm. In Christ's Peace,

Father Jim Ferry



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
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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
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in the West Orange area.**



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PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2024

WEEKLY GOAL	\$ 6800
Collection*: Nov 23-24*	\$ 5152
Deficit:	\$ 1648
*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit	



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



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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