



# OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

One Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, New Jersey 07052

RECTORY/Parish Office 973.325.0110

[LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG](http://LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG)



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**Sunday, December 15, 2024 - Third 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](mailto:ollwonj@verizon.net)

Website: [lourdeswestorange.org](http://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](mailto:Priscillacastro@lourdeswestorange.org)

### Religious Education

#### **Sacrament of Confirmation (Grades 7-12)**

Mr. Paul Hirsch 973.325.0110

Email: [Confirmation.Class@lourdeswestorange.org](mailto:Confirmation.Class@lourdeswestorange.org)

### Religious Education

#### **Administrative Assistant**

Rhea Catarroja 973.325.0110 ext. 102

Email: [rhea.catarroja@lourdeswestorange.org](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> 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,

Advent is a season that calls for heightened awareness and vigilance, a theme reflected in the Gospel. This reminds me of a previous experience of unexpected danger on a familiar street. It was a seemingly routine day, around 2 pm, when I found myself knocked to the ground by a bicycle messenger whom I hadn't seen due to a obstructing moving van. This incident, while momentarily shocking and causing no physical injury, became a profound lesson in acknowledging the presence of others in our lives.

The encounter made me ponder the meaning of Advent beyond a passive waiting for Jesus. Jesus is already present, and we are called to recognize the significance of our interactions with others and Him. The incident served as a metaphorical collision where both the messenger and I were obstacles to each other.

Jesus manifests his presence in three ways: the historical first Coming (Bethlehem), the future Second Coming in majesty, and the ongoing third Coming in mystery. It is this mysterious aspect that deserves our attention. Pope Benedict XVI highlights that our faith is not merely informative but a call to allow God to act in our lives through his performative word.

How do I get in the way? I get in the Lord's Way? How am I an obstacle?

I am an obstacle to the Lord's way, when I am so personally offended when things go the wrong way in my life, and I make things more of a problem than they really are.

I am an obstacle when I am too discouraged by lack of results. As the saying goes, I often want to build the city of Rome in 1 day. I am impatient. And while my impatience sometimes makes me work harder, it sometimes has the opposite effect of making me indifferent, lazy and arrogant.

Being an obstacle to the Lord's way occurs when personal offense amplifies life's challenges, making them more problematic than they are. Impatience can also hinder us, as the desire for instant results can lead to indifference, laziness, or arrogance. Recognizing these obstacles is the first step to getting out of the Lord's way.

So, there are 3 comings of Jesus- but there is a fourth coming – your appearance, my appearance, our cooperation with God's grace and performance in our lives.

Jesus invites us to come to him, understanding our struggles through his own life experiences. The church serves as a place where we can engage in a personal conversation with Jesus, our confidante and trusted friend. This interaction is not confined to the church building; it is a practice we are called to incorporate into our daily lives wherever we are.

On the day of my little accident, which left me physically unscathed, I was trembling and shaking. The one thing I realized as I brushed myself off and got up from the ground feeling a bit embarrassed, I was inclined at first to keep the whole thing to myself.

Shortly thereafter, I saw some of my co-workers and my boss. Telling them what happened, I was not sure how sympathetic or concerned they would be. What ensued was, at first, a concern for me that I was fine. That was to be expected. But, then, we proceeded to discuss and share our experiences about how dangerous this particular street could be.

Jesus invites us to engage in a personal conversation, understanding our struggles through his own experiences. The church serves as a space for this dialogue, extending beyond its physical confines into our daily lives. Personal encounters, like my accident, reveal the importance of seeking support when troubled. Friends who sympathize without judgment can make a significant difference, even if they don't solve our problems. The communal aspect of prayer, both within the church and beyond, reinforces our interconnectedness.

Sharing personal experiences, as I did with my co-workers, emphasizes the significance of having people who understand and sympathize with our challenges. This support is vital, whether in marriage, parenthood, or other aspects of life. Advent reminds us that we are not alone, fostering a sense of communal prayer and mutual understanding. It encourages us to bring our fears and challenges to God, recognizing that our relationship with Him is built through honest communication.

Regarding such communication in the confessional, I assure you, the priest is not there to shake you up or to shake you down. Rather, he is there to help you to know God's mercy in your life. You might have a fear about

(PASTOR COLUMN continued on Page 4)



**SATURDAY, 14 DECEMBER**

5:30 pm Gene & Kathleen Mooney

**SUNDAY, 15 DECEMBER**

7:30 am People of the Parish  
 9:30 am Chiaramonte & Catalano Families  
 11:30 am Janet Carden

**MONDAY, 16 DECEMBER**

8:30 am R J Mercado, Jr.

**TUESDAY, 17 DECEMBER**

8:30 am Joan Papale

**WEDNESDAY, 18 DECEMBER**

8:30 am Thomas A. Bulger, Jr. (27th Ann.)

**THURSDAY, 19 DECEMBER**

8:30 am Cecilia Fernandes

**FRIDAY, 20 DECEMBER**

8:30 am Mark Fernandes

**SATURDAY, 21 DECEMBER**

5:30 pm Kathleen & Owen Mooney

**SUNDAY, 22 DECEMBER**

7:30 am People of the Parish  
 9:30 am Michael Chiaramonte  
 11:30 am Deceased Members of the Pflug & Napolitano Families

**SUNDAY, 15 DECEMBER**

7:30 am Mass in Church  
 9:30 am Mass in Church  
 9:30 - 11:45 am G.7-12 (OLLC, HALL)  
 10:30 - 11:30 am Penance Class (Chapel)  
 11:30 am Mass in Church

**MONDAY, 16 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.

8:30 am SIMBANG GABI NOVENA (See Flyer)

**TUESDAY, 17 DECEMBER**

6:00 pm SIMBANG GABI NOVENA (See Flyer)

**WEDNESDAY, 18 DECEMBER**

6:00 pm SIMBANG GABI NOVENA (See Flyer)

**THURSDAY, 19 DECEMBER**

10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for the Dec 29th Bulletin. Call the Rectory at 973-325-0110.

6:00 pm SIMBANG GABI NOVENA (See Flyer)

**FRIDAY, 20 DECEMBER**

5:30 pm SIMBANG GABI NOVENA (See Flyer)

**SATURDAY, 21 DECEMBER**

4:15—5:00 pm Confessions in Church  
 5:30 pm Mass in Church  
 6:30 pm SIMBANG GABI NOVENA (See Flyer)

**SUNDAY, 22 DECEMBER**

7:30 am Mass in Church  
 8:30—11:30am KOC Pancake Breakfast w/ Santa (Hall)  
 9:30 am Mass in Church  
 11:30 am Mass in Church  
 3:00 pm SIMBANG GABI NOVENA (See Flyer)

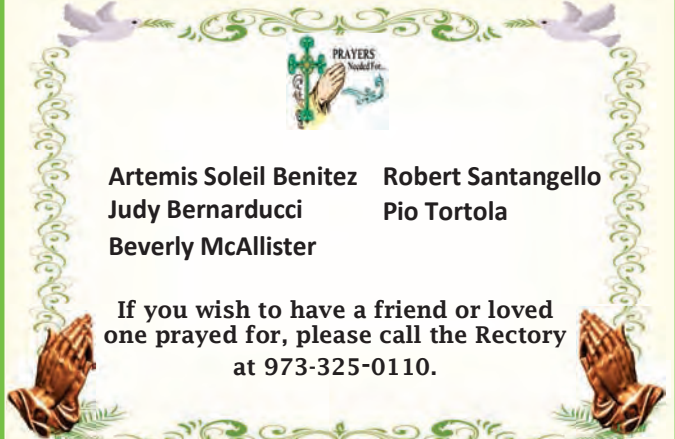


This week's Bread & Wine, a gift from Claire Beury & Charlie Allen is in memory of **JULIA COATES**.



This week's Sanctuary Candle, a gift from Claire Beury & Charlie Allen is in memory of **JULIA COATES**.

 <b>DEC 21 - DEC 22, 2024</b>			
Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	
5:30 pm	Michael Lanfrank	Emily Kunz Melinda Prather (choir)	
7:30 am	Bless Bernardo	Patricia Saway	
9:30 am	Kathy Petrillo	Myrna Regino	
11:30 am Choir	Wendy Sheyka	Paul Hirsch Wendy Sheyka (choir)	



**PRAYERS Needed For...**

**Artemis Soleil Benitez    Robert Santangelo**  
**Judy Bernarducci        Pio Tortola**  
**Beverly McAllister**

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)

talking to someone in your life, something difficult in your life that you might fear bringing up. That's something to bring to prayer, first to say: "Lord help me to communicate this. Give me the words to say." Because sometimes the thing that we fear saying is exactly what we are supposed to say or talk about it truthfully, charitably, and lovingly to others. Advent reminds us that we are called to watch out for Jesus, that He is already here and that we can watch for him each day.

Advent is more than a passive waiting; it is a call to vigilance, recognizing the presence of Jesus in our lives and others. The metaphorical collisions we experience can serve as opportunities for growth and learning. By identifying and overcoming personal obstacles, we can actively participate in the transformative process of Advent, fostering a deeper connection with God and those around us.

In Christ's Peace,  
Father Jim Ferry

**ADVENT FEATURE**

## GAUDETE SUNDAY



The Third Sunday of Advent is called *Gaudete Sunday*, the day when we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath (hence the 'pink candle' Sunday). Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near.

Gaudete means "rejoice". This day reminds us of the joy that is to come, and serves, amid this season of penance, as a kind of 'break' when we recall the hope we have because of the coming of Our Lord Jesus.

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**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.

**PARISH GIVING**

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2024

WEEKLY GOAL	\$ 6800
Collection*: Nov30-Dec1*	\$ 4312
Deficit:	\$ 2488

\*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit

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## 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  
973-325-0110 LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG**

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