



# 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, February 23, 2025 - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



## 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,

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Feast Day of Our Lady of Lourdes was February 11. This is an abridged version of my homily for Sunday February 9 when we also observed Masses in Honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Our Lady of Lourdes.

This homily is a reflection on the Gospel of the Miraculous Catch of Fish (Luke 5:1-11) and Bernadette's own miraculous experience of the apparitions of the Blessed Mother.

### **Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes & This Sunday's Gospel (Luke 5:1-11)**

The Gospel episode of Jesus leading the disciples to a miraculous catch of fish follows a night of darkness and failure, bringing the dawn of new direction.

There is a familiar saying: "It is always darkest before the dawn." This holds true for the disciples – in the dark with no fish -- and also scientifically and spiritually.

I recently experienced this in a way that told me something – losing (and later finding) my phone. As I turned off the lights one night, I realized the phone was missing. I searched multiple times, called my own number, but heard no ring tone. Like Peter and the apostles fishing through the night, I was in the dark, catching nothing. Eventually, I gave up and went to sleep, unsettled.

After searching in vain, I gave up, feeling unsettled. The next morning, someone introduced me to the "Find My Device" app, which made my phone ring – even on silent. To my relief (and mild embarrassment), I found it under a pile of dishes. A small lesson: guidance and clarity come when we are open to receiving them.

### **Darkness & Discouragement**

Have you ever felt your efforts – to find a solution, communicate, or forgive – were in vain? Like Peter, we may struggle without results. Darkness brings discouragement, but daylight brings direction.

### **Faith & Trust**

The Gospel reminds us to turn to God, especially when all seems lost. Just as Peter followed Jesus'

instruction and cast his nets again, we too are called to trust. Often, we resist asking for help, yet grace enters when we do.

### **Our Lady of Lourdes**

This Sunday, we honor Our Lady of Lourdes, who appeared to Bernadette Soubirous in 1858. Despite hardship, Bernadette received the vision of a "beautiful lady" who identified herself as "I am the Immaculate Conception." Though Lourdes became a place of miraculous healings, Bernadette herself did not benefit materially. Instead, she embraced humility, dedicating her life to God in quiet service.

### **What is a Miracle?**

John Henry Newman observed that miracles may capture attention but don't necessarily change hearts. Many seek miracles in sports, health, or finances, yet the greatest miracles are often unseen – like a transformed heart.

Consider love: on a first date, emotions may be overwhelming, but love deepens through commitment, sacrifice, and faith. Similarly, Jesus' miracles weren't for spectacle but to reveal His presence and call us to deeper trust.

### **Seeing Beyond the Extraordinary**

Jesus called Peter not just to witness but to participate in the miracle. Likewise, miracles in our lives invite us to trust, reflect, and act.

While I was grateful to find my phone, it hasn't made me perfectly mindful of where I place it. Similarly, witnessing a miracle doesn't automatically instill lifelong faith. Instead, we are called to recognize God's constant presence beyond extraordinary moments.

### **The Greatest Miracle**

Recognizing his sinfulness, Peter fell before Jesus, yet Christ called him to follow. So too, before Communion, we acknowledge:

"Lord, I am not worthy... but only say the word, and my soul shall be healed."\*

May Mary, Mother of Mercy, intercede for us.

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us. Notre Dame de Lourdes, priez pour nous.

In Christ's Peace,  
Father Jim Ferry



<b>SATURDAY, 22 FEBRUARY</b> 5:30 pm James H. Howlett. Sr.
<b>SUNDAY, 23 FEBRUARY</b> 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Filomena Napolitano (47th Ann.) 11:30 am Victor Malonzo
<b>MONDAY, 24 FEBRUARY</b> 8:30 am Alberta Greco
<b>TUESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY</b> 8:30 am Marie Aurore Heurtelou
<b>WEDNESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY</b> 8:30 am Romaine Rice (18th Ann.)
<b>THURSDAY, 27 FEBRUARY</b> 8:30 am Raquel Pascual
<b>FRIDAY, 28 FEBRUARY</b> 8:30 am Trea Bougades
<b>SATURDAY, 1 MARCH</b> 5:30 pm Alfonso Solimene
<b>SUNDAY, 2 MARCH</b> 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Deceased Members of the Pflug & Napolitano Families 11:30 am Jaroslav Konvalinka

<b>SATURDAY, 22 FEBRUARY</b> 4:15—5:00 pm Confessions in Church 5:30 pm Mass
<b>SUNDAY, 23 FEBRUARY</b> 7:30 am Mass 9:30 am Mass 9:30—11:45am G.7-12 (OLLC) (HALL) 10:30—11:30 am 1st Communion Class (Chapel) 11:30 am Mass
<b>MONDAY, 24 FEBRUARY</b> 8:30 am <b>Daily Mass will be held Monday thru Friday of each week in church.</b> Miraculous Medal Novena following 8:30 am Mass on Monday.
<b>THURSDAY, 27 FEBRUARY</b> 10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for the Mar. 9th Bulletin. Call the Rectory at 973-325-0110
<b>SATURDAY, 1 MARCH</b> 3—5:30 pm Family Catechesis (HALL) 4:15—5:00 pm Confessions in Church 5:30 pm Mass
<b>SUNDAY, 2 MARCH</b> 7:30 am Mass 9:00 am Recitation of Rosary (OLLC) 9:30 am Mass 9:30—11:45 am G. 7-12 (OLLC, HALL) 10:30—11:30am 1st Communion Class (Chapel) 11:30 am Mass



This week's Altar Candles, a gift from Gamie & Rosalinda Saniel is in memory of **RICHARD CHIARAMONTE**.



This week's Bread & Wine, a gift from Gamie & Rosalinda Saniel is in memory of **RICHARD CHIARAMONTE**.



This week's Sanctuary Candle, a gift from Gamie & Rosalinda Saniel is in memory of **RICHARD CHIARAMONTE**.



++ WEEKEND MARCH 1-2 2025 MINISTRY SCHEDULE ++				
Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers		
5:30 pm	Andrew Novoa	Emily Kunz Judy Albore (choir)		
7:30 am	MaryEllen Chandler	Mary Cassels		
9:30 am	Carol Ford	Annette Chiaramonte		
11:30 am Choir	Rachelle Brown	Virginia Dimapilis Wendy Sheyka (choir)		

**Prayers Needed**

Artemis Soleil Benitez	Beverly McAllister
Judy Bernarducci	Robert Santangelo
Oscar Diaz	Pio Tortola
Mai Fernandez	Peggy Vassallo
Langan Family	

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





**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
**1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH**  
**March 7, 2025**  
**5:30–7:30 pm in Church**

**Join Us!**

*Jesus is waiting for You!*

**St. Vincent DePaul Society**

St. Vincent DePaul Society is hosting **Christine's Soup Kitchen** on **Saturday, 3/15/2025** 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 **3/15/2025** 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 her at [travisb23@juno.com](mailto:travisb23@juno.com).



Thanks to you—the people of Our Lady of Lourdes—through the goodness of your prayers and donations, we collected **151 cans of soup** for our **Souper Bowl 2025 Soup Can drive**.

Your donations were distributed to our local food pantry. They will be greatly appreciated by the many that depend on our generosity to help families with food insecurity.

**PARISH GIVING**

**FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2024**  
**WEEKLY GOAL** \$ 6800  
**Collection\*: 2-08/09, 2025\*** \$ 4048  
**Deficit:** \$ 2752  
 \*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average



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



**Sunday, 9th of MARCH 2025**

**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.**

The **Rosary Altar Society's March meeting** will be held on:

**Tuesday, March 4, at 1:00 pm in the Rectory.**

**All Rosarians:** Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Carol Ford, President



**We Are BLESSED TO RECEIVE**

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

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

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## TRICKY TRAY

The Rosary Altar Society will hold their  
“Over the Rainbow” Tricky Tray on:

**Saturday, April 26, 2025** in Connor Hall at  
Our Lady of Lourdes.

We are now accepting gifts for our Tricky Tray. Gifts of **NEW ITEMS** are welcome and greatly appreciated by **Sunday, April 6th**. Gifts may be left in the Church Sacristy or at the rectory on weekdays between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm. For pick up contact Eileen Reilly at 973-980-4209 or email at [trickytray@lourdeswestorange.org](mailto:trickytray@lourdeswestorange.org)

**(PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU LEAVE YOUR NAME ON THE GIFT.)**

Your gift may also be a monetary donor:

Gold Donor	\$100.00
Silver Donor	\$ 50.00
Bronze Donor	\$ 25.00

**(Please make checks payable to “Our Lady of Lourdes”)**



**Join us for our major fund raiser to help support the  
needs of our parish**

**Eileen Reilly, Chairperson.**



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