



# 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, March 30, 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Lent



## 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**

Rosa Cruz 973.325.0110 ext. 102

Email: [rosa.cruz@lourdeswestorange.org](mailto:rosa.cruz@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

***I share with you this article / reflection based from Crossroads Initiative about the Gospel of the Prodigal Son for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent.***

(Source: <https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/the-prodigal-son-and-the-golden-calf/>)

The Prodigal Son & the Golden Calf  
Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio

Jesus' parable of the Prodigal Son and Israel's worship of the Golden Calf are some of the best known of all Bible stories. The connection? Maybe they both reveal much about the nature of sin, idolatry, grace . . . and of the Father's merciful love.

Everyone knows the bible stories of the Prodigal Son and the Golden Calf. But they don't usually put the two together as do the readings for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary time. So what do the two tales have in common?

#### SIN, IDOLATRY & THE GOLDEN CALF

Answer: they both speak volumes about the nature of sin. Think about it. God sees an enslaved people in miserable bondage to the mightiest nation on earth. He champions their cause, smashes the armies of Pharaoh, brings them out of Egypt into freedom, and makes them his own chosen people. And while he is giving to their leader a blueprint for their new life, they decide to worship what their next-door neighbors, the Canaanites, worshiped: power, virility, fertility, prosperity. The golden bull symbolizes all those things, and for this very reason, was a leading idol in the Ancient Near East.

#### THE PRODIGAL SON

Now let's look at the Prodigal Son. He's born into a prosperous family and receives all good things from his father. But rather than waiting for his dad to die, he demands his inheritance now, thumbs his nose at his father, takes the money and runs. He wastes all that he has on partying and fast living, pursuing the very same idols as the Israelites did in the desert.

The food sated him. The wine exhilarated him. The carousing titillated him. But after it was all over, he found himself broke, empty, and alone.

This is the grand illusion of sin. It is dangled before our eyes as the key to fulfillment and happiness. It is all about enjoying the gifts of creation in defiance of the Creator, in a way contrary to his wise and loving design. And because those things were in fact created good by God, it seems to work at first. Sin initially tastes good. But ultimately, it always turns sour and leaves us with an empty, aching sadness. In contrast, God's will may at first sting but later brings a profound joy that makes our hearts sing.

#### MERCIFUL LOVE OF THE FATHER

So how do the stories of the golden calf and the Prodigal Son differ? It's really the difference between the Old and New Testaments, between a preliminary, partial revelation of God and the full revelation of God in Christ. In Exodus, God Almighty reacts to sin with righteous anger, as he did in Genesis when he sweeps the world clean of sin through the flood. If not for Moses' intercession, he likewise would have destroyed the bull-worshippers and started over.

In the gospel, God, the compassionate Father, looks past the sin to focus on the sinner. The older brother of the Prodigal wants punishment. The Father insists on mercy.

#### REPENTANCE OF THE PRODIGAL SON

There is a very important point in the story that should not escape our attention. The motivation of the prodigal son is not sincere sorrow at how badly he has offended his father. It is not even that he misses his father. It comes back simply because he is hungry. He admits his sin and wants pardon, yes, but it is to save his skin.

Does the Father care? Does he insist that the son's contrition be pure or perfect? Does he even pay attention to the son's rehearsed speech? No. He is overjoyed that the son has begun the journey home, for whatever reason. He lavishes gifts upon him before he even gets to the house.

(Pastor Column continued on Page 4)



**SATURDAY, 29 MARCH**

5:30 pm Helen & Walter Supczynski

**SUNDAY, 30 MARCH**

7:30 am People of the Parish

9:30 am Catherine Catalano

11:30 am John O'Connor

**MONDAY, 31 MARCH**

8:30 am Linda Rieck

**TUESDAY, 1 APRIL**

8:30 am Ann Strollo

**WEDNESDAY, 2 APRIL**

8:30 am Dr. Loida C. Ortanez

**THURSDAY, 3 APRIL**

8:30 am John F. McMahon

**FRIDAY, 4 APRIL**

8:30 am Grace Colby Drury, Aiden Drury & Anthony Drury

**SATURDAY, 5 APRIL**

5:30 pm Fred & Bev DeMeo

**SUNDAY, 6 APRIL**

7:30 am People of the Parish

9:30 am Michael Chiaramonte, Jr. (8th Ann.)

11:30 am Millie Cassidy

**PARISH GIVING**

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2024

WEEKLY GOAL \$ 6800

Collection\*: 3-15/3-16, 2025\* \$ 4521

Deficit: \$ 2279

\*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average



For Your Stewardship of  
Time, Talent and Treasure.

**SUNDAY, 30 MARCH**

7:30 am Mass

9:30 am Mass

9:30—11:45am Grade 6—(OLLC) (HALL)

11:30 am Mass

**MONDAY, 31 MARCH**

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.

**WEDNESDAY, 2 APRIL**

6:30—10:30 pm K of Columbus mtg. (HALL)  
Essex Federation Mtg.  
w/ Bishop Cruz

**THURSDAY, 3 APRIL**

10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for the Apr. 13th Bulletin. Call the Rectory at 973-325-0110

**FRIDAY, 4 APRIL**

5:30—7:30 pm 1st Friday Adoration

**SATURDAY, 5 APRIL**

3—5:30 pm Family Catechesis (Hall)

4:15—5:00 pm Confessions in Church

5:30 pm Mass

**SUNDAY, 6 APRIL**

7:30 am Mass

9:00 am Rosary Recitation (OLLC)

9:30—11:45 am Grade 7-12—(OLLC) (HALL)

9:30 am Mass

10:30—11:30 am 1st Comm Class (Chapel)

11:30 am Mass



**WEEKEND APRIL 5-6, 2025**  
MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers			
5:30 pm (Choir)	Pat Sigalas	Melinda Prather Eileen Reilly (c)			
7:30 am	Bless Bernardo	Lou Volpe			
9:30 am	Carol Ford	Joe Petrillo			
11:30 am (Children's Choir)	Carmelita Dizon	Michelle Gizzi Wendy Sheyka (c)			

**Prayers Needed**

Artemis Soleil Benitez  
Judy Bernarducci  
Mai Fernandez

Langan Family  
Beverly McAllister  
Robert Santangelo  
Pio Tortola

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

## GRACE

The elder brother insists that he does not deserve such treatment. The Father does not contest this. The Prodigal deserves nothing. But the Father, in his generous mercy, gives him everything.

God's freely given; unmerited grace precedes even our expression of sorrow. In fact, without God's grace, we can't even make the first step on the road back to him. He loves us when we were yet sinners and seems to lavish the greatest graces on the most undeserving.

Ask St. Paul about this. Perhaps he writes more about grace than any other biblical author because he needed it so much more. Wasn't it Benjamin Franklin who said that God helps those who help themselves? Paul, the foremost of sinners (1 Timothy 1:15), understood that it is quite the opposite: God helps those who can't help themselves. That's what grace is all about.

(Source: <https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/the-prodigal-son-and-the-golden-calf/> )

In Christ's Peace,

Father Jim Ferry



## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

**April 4, 2025**

**5:30–7:30 pm in Church**

***Join Us!***

Scan to register



# SC 5K

## St. Cassian 5K Run & Kids Fun Run Saturday, April 12, 2025

Brookdale Park, Bloomfield NJ 07003

**START:**

Kids Fun Run – 9:00am 5K – 9:30am

**Pre—Registration**

<https://runsignup.com/Race/NJ/Bloomfield/SaintCassian5k>



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## Spring Open House



**Wednesday | April 2 | 6:30 PM**  
For students in grades 6-8 and transfers

**Athletics Info Session - MSDA Athletic Center 5:00-6:15pm**  
Meet our Athletic Director, Trainer, coaches, and student athletes to learn more about the Mount's athletic offerings.

- Transportation Available
- Family Tours
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- Mountie for a Day

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# TRICKY TRAY

Sponsored by Rosary Altar Society

Our Lady of Lourdes Connor Hall  
One Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, NJ  
(Use Marked Entrance on Mississippi Avenue)

[\\*Lourdeswestorange.org](http://Lourdeswestorange.org) (select About our Parish, Tricky Tray 2025)

## Saturday April 26, 2025

Guests are invited to walk through & select baskets between

### 8:00am and 4:00pm

The pre-event program will be posted on our “website by April 21st.

### Drawing of Baskets will begin at 5:00pm

Drawing will be posted by 7:30pm on our \*website

**Please make reservations by Monday, April 21st**  
(complete registration & ticket order form on back)

**Tickets will be sold in Bundles (see below)**

**Reservation Contacts: Ann Pflug 973-325-2212**

#### BUNDLE A—Cost \$20

25 Regular Auction Tickets  
15 Super Auction Tickets  
3 Fair Share 50/50 Tickets

#### Bundle C—Cost \$35

25 Regular Auction Tickets  
15 Super Auction Tickets  
3 Fair Share 50/50 Tickets  
6 Special Tickets: may be used for any combination of Specials

#### Bundle B—Cost \$40

50 Regular Auction Tickets  
30 Super Auction Tickets  
6 Fair Share 50/50 Tickets

#### Bundle D—Cost \$70

50 Regular Auction Tickets  
30 Super Auction Tickets  
6 Fair Share 50/50 Tickets  
12 Special Tickets: may be used for any combination of Specials



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