



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, September 28, 2025 - Twenty-sixth 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

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

Rosa Cruz 973.325.0110 ext. 102

Email: 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 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 Friends,

Homily on Luke 16:1-8: The Dishonest Steward. (September 21)

The parable Jesus gives us is one of the most puzzling in the Gospels. A steward, caught mismanaging his master's property, quickly reduces people's debts in order to gain their friendship. And yet, the master praises him – not for his dishonesty, but for his cleverness, his shrewdness.

Jesus is not telling us that cheating is good. Augustine and other Church Fathers are very clear: deceit is never holy, never justified. The steward is praised for his **worldly** cleverness, but in the eyes of God his actions fall short.

What, then, is Jesus teaching us? That if people go to such lengths to secure material well-being and self-preservation, shouldn't we, with even more energy, zeal, and creativity, strive for what really matters – our eternal salvation and treasure in heaven?

A Modern Story

To bring this home, imagine this:

There was once a master carpenter, known far and wide for the quality of his work. After many years, he was ready to retire and spend his days quietly with his family. His employer, a long-time friend, asked him for one last favor: "Build me one more house."

The carpenter agreed, but his heart wasn't in it. He cut corners, used cheaper materials, and rushed the work. When he finished, he handed over the keys, not proud of what he had done.

Then came the surprise. His boss smiled and said, "This house is my gift to you." The carpenter was stunned. He realized that the house he would now live in every day was the one he had built carelessly.

Isn't that a parable for our lives? We are each building the "house" of our eternal destiny. If we live carelessly, cutting corners spiritually – neglecting prayer, skimping on love, living for ourselves – we may find that what we have built is not what we hoped for.

Doing Well and Doing Good

Jesus is not against doing well in life. He knows we need food, shelter, health, and security. But He insists that our

greatest energy should be spent not on feathering our own nest but on doing good that lasts into eternity.

Worldly shrewdness may win short-term approval, but it cannot buy eternal reward. True Christian prudence is not about clever self-preservation but about transparent honesty and generous love. As Augustine put it, love means willing the good of the other. The dishonest steward's actions barely reach that standard – he is still thinking mainly of himself.

Stewardship in Daily Life

This wisdom applies not only to business dealings but to every corner of our lives, especially marriage and family. A husband and wife are called to serve each other, not just to compromise but to seek together God's will. That is why we say marriage is not 50/50 but 100/100 – each giving fully, each stewarding not only material needs but the spiritual path of the family.

Family life, like the carpenter's house, is something we build day by day. If we cut corners – neglecting prayer, taking each other for granted, living only for ourselves – the "house" may stand, but it will not be what God intended. If, instead, we pour ourselves into it with generosity and love, then we will discover, in the end, that Christ Himself has been building with us, preparing us for our eternal home.

Conclusion

So this parable challenges us. If people can be so determined to secure a temporary future, how much more determined should we be to secure an eternal one?

Let us not be careless stewards, but wise ones. Let us invest our time, our love, our resources in what lasts forever. Let us make Christ Himself our steward, our mediator, the one who guides our every choice. For He alone can lead us to the home where no dishonesty, no corner-cutting, no short-term gain remains – only the joy of eternal friendship with Him. Amen.

In Christ's Peace,

Father Jim Ferry

OUR LADY OF LOURDES - SEPTEMBER 28, 2025



SATURDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER

5:30 pm Crystal Nzegwu (Special Intention)

SUNDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER

7:30 am People of the Parish
 9:30 am John D. Pflug, Sr.
 11:30 am Dextra Family

MONDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER

8:30 am Eric Abad (29th Ann.)

TUESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER

8:30 am Patrick Joseph Lynch

WEDNESDAY, 1 OCTOBER

8:30 am Richard Chiamonte

THURSDAY, 2 OCTOBER

8:30 am Donald Allen

FRIDAY, 3 OCTOBER

8:30 am Richard Chiamonte

SATURDAY, 4 OCTOBER

5:30 pm Julia Coates

SUNDAY, 5 OCTOBER

7:30 am People of the Parish
 9:30 am Rosary Altar Society
 11:30 am Rosario Palingcod

This week, September 28th, Bread & Wine a gift from Kathy & Joseph Petrillo, is in memory of **CONCETTA D'ARIES**.

PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2025	Goal
	\$ 6,800
Collection*: Sept. 13-14, 2025*	\$ 4,659
Deficit:	\$2,141

*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average



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

++ WEEKEND October 4-5, 2025
 ++ MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
5:30 pm	Andrew Novoa	Eileen Reilly Judy Albore (C)
7:30 am	Mary Cassels	Sister James Soon
9:30 am- Choir	Carol Ford	Annette Chiamonte Joe Petrillo (C)
11:30 am	Rachelle Brown	Carmelita Dizon

SUNDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER

7:30 am Mass
 9:30 am Mass
 9:30—11:45 am G. 7-12 (OLLC) (HALL)
 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal (Loft)
 10:30—11:30 am 1st Penance (Chapel)
 11:30 am Mass

MONDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER

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.

6:30 pm Finance Committee Mtg. (Rectory)

WEDNESDAY, 1 OCTOBER

6:30 pm Rosary (Grotto)

THURSDAY, 2 OCTOBER

10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for the Oct. 12th Bulletin. Call the Rectory at 973-325-0110
 6:00—8:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (Loft)
 6:30 pm Rosary (Grotto)

FRIDAY, 3 OCTOBER

5:30—7:30 pm 1st Friday Adoration
 6:30 pm Rosary (Grotto)

SATURDAY, 4 OCTOBER

3—5:30 pm Family Catechesis (HALL)
 4:15—5:00 pm Confessions in Church
 5:30 pm Mass
 6:30 pm Rosary (Church)

SUNDAY, 5 OCTOBER

7:30 am Mass
 9:00 am Recitation of Rosary (OLLC)
 9:30 am—12:30 pm RAS 87th Annual Mass & Communion Breakfast (OLLC) (HALL)
 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal (Loft)
 11:30 am Mass
 6:30 pm Rosary (Grotto)

Prayers Needed

Maria Colon	Reynaldo Rapada
Pierre Ferrus	Sister Jean Ruppel
Beverly McAllister	Adan Solsol
Mary McGuinness	Sonny Tiongson
Amante Organo	

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



ARCHDIOCESE
of NEWARK

Archdiocesan \$25,000 Grant to Lourdes

We are excited to announce that Our Lady of Lourdes Parish received a \$25,000 grant through the Archdiocese of Newark's Stewardship Endowment Grant Application process. This grant will enable us to invest in the \$100,000 replacement of the roof of the wing of the school which has suffered leaks in recent years. We are thankful and blessed to have received this grant as it provides us the opportunity to bring in the resources to live our mission.

This work is taking place during September 2025 and should finish by September 30, 2025. Please keep Our Lady of Lourdes in your prayers and please know you are all in ours as well. Also, please contact our office with any questions.

This grant is made possible through the Archdiocesan Annual Appeal. Gifts to the Annual Appeal are separate from regular parish giving. Your direct support of the Appeal helps fund important ministries across the Archdiocese and also strengthens Lourdes' eligibility for grants like this one. Thank you to our current Appeal donors! I invite you to consider a 2026 gift to the Appeal—if you have never given or given in the past—as your support of the Appeal has a local impact at Lourdes in terms of these grants.

In Christ's Peace
Father Jim Ferry



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
October 3, 2025
5:30–7:30 pm in Church

Join Us!

Jesus is waiting for You!



OUR LADY OF LOURDES West Orange, NJ

**ANNUAL MASS &
COMMUNION BREAKFAST**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2025

**MASS
9:30 am
Church**



**BREAKFAST
to follow
10:30 am
Conner Hall**

All Are Invited
Cost \$25

Reservations: Bless Bernardo at 862-485-8499

**Deadline for Reservations:
SEPTEMBER 26, 2025**



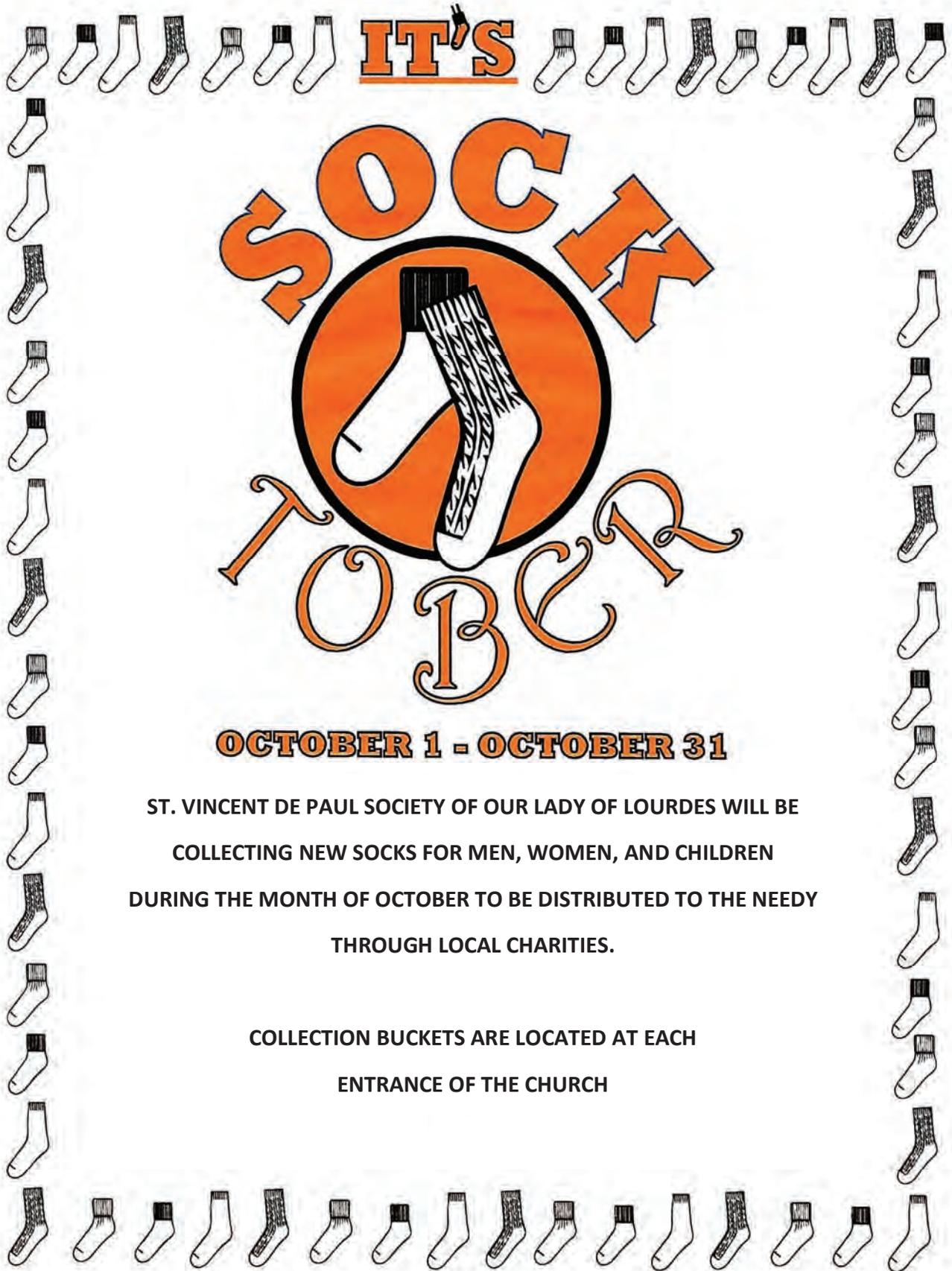
**KEEP CALM AND BUY
YOUR RAFFLE TICKET**

\$50 per ticket -

TEN \$500 Prizes to be awarded

**Drawings will be held :
Dec 2025-April 2026**

64 DAYS LEFT



IT'S
SOCKS
IN
OCTOBER

OCTOBER 1 - OCTOBER 31

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES WILL BE
COLLECTING NEW SOCKS FOR MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN
DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE NEEDY
THROUGH LOCAL CHARITIES.**

**COLLECTION BUCKETS ARE LOCATED AT EACH
ENTRANCE OF THE CHURCH**

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