



OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

One Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, New Jersey 07052

RECTORY/Parish Office 973.325.0110

LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG



Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/lourdeswestorange

Sunday, January 18, 2026 – Second 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

Office Manager

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,

This was my homily-message at Mass on January 1, 2026 – Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God: New Year’s Day: Resolution, Not Just Change

Many years ago, while planning a parish event with our beloved pastor, Monsignor Joe Petrillo, a group of us were trying to figure out which Fridays he might be available. We kept focusing on Fridays and asked him to check his calendar.

He looked up, smiled, and said, “Well, I’m free on my birthday.”

Now, his birthday happened to fall on a Friday that year – but that wasn’t really our question. Still, his answer made perfect sense. Because birthdays stand on their own. When someone asks your birthday, you don’t give the day of the week. You give the date. The date matters.

So do days like Christmas Day and New Year’s Day. These days don’t need explanation. They insist that we pause, look back, and look ahead. And whenever we do that, we start thinking about change. But not all change is the same.

This morning, I want to reflect briefly on three ways we talk about change: evolution, revolution, and resolution – and why resolution best describes the Christian life.

Evolution is gradual change over time. In science, it describes development across generations, and the Church has never rejected this insight. Creation unfolds under God’s providence, even as the human soul remains a direct gift from God. Still, evolution is slow and largely passive. It happens whether we choose it or not.

Spiritually, many of us change this way. We age. We gain experience. Some habits soften; others harden. But time alone does not make us disciples. Evolution by itself does not make us holy.

Then there is **revolution** – sudden, disruptive change, often born of crisis or suffering. The Church takes suffering seriously and always calls for justice, but she is cautious about revolutions, because one injustice can easily replace another. Even in society, resistance is justified only in extreme circumstances, and violence is never spiritually celebrated.

In our own lives, revolutions come through illness, loss, failure, or fear. Sometimes these moments wake us up. Sometimes they leave us shaken or frozen. In today’s Gospel, the shepherds experience something like this. They rush to Bethlehem, see something extraordinary, and we are told that they are amazed. But amazement alone does not last.

Mary shows us something deeper.

While others are amazed, Mary “treasures these things and ponders them in her heart.” Her response is not shallow or fearful. It is patient, receptive, and faithful. She does not try to control what God is doing. She cooperates with it. And that brings us to the third – and deepest – kind of change: **resolution**.

Resolution is not a New Year’s resolution that fades by February. In the spiritual life, resolution means a firm decision, sustained by grace, lived through daily cooperation with God’s will. Saint Alphonsus Liguori reminds us that holiness does not come from mastering every circumstance, but from accepting God’s will – especially what God permits to happen.

So the real questions are simple and demanding: Do I resolve to accept what I cannot control? My frailty, my limits, the plans that do not work out as expected? Mary did not control the mystery entrusted to her. She resolved to live within it.

Every human relationship teaches us this. Relationships evolve over time. They sometimes pass through revolutionary moments. But they are sustained by resolution. Marriage is a good example. Before a wedding, a relationship evolves. The wedding day itself can feel revolutionary. But a marriage is not sustained by a single dramatic moment. It is sustained by a promise renewed daily.

I remember helping at my sister’s wedding rehearsal. I was directing everything – where the bride stands, where the groom stands – when my sister gently said, “Why can’t you just call us by our names?” It was a small moment, but an important one. Marriage is not about an event. It is about a relationship lived day after day.

That is what Christian discipleship looks like too. Every day can be a new beginning. Every day can be a kind of New Year’s Day.

Recently, at a funeral Mass, I heard a prayer from the Franciscan tradition that captures what a resolved heart looks like. It asks not for comfort, but for courage: discomfort with easy answers, anger at injustice, tears for those who suffer, and even a bit of foolishness – the courage to believe we can make a difference.

This is not a prayer for an easy year. It is a prayer for a resolved heart. Discomfort, not to harden us, but to wake us up. Anger, not to make us violent, but to move us toward justice. Tears, not to paralyze us, but to soften our hearts. Foolishness – not recklessness, but Gospel courage.

On this first day of the year, we are not simply turning a page on the calendar. We are placing ourselves again under the care

(PASTOR COLUMN continued on Page 4)



SATURDAY, 17 JANUARY

5:30 pm Cristie Fernandez

SUNDAY, 18 JANUARY

7:30 am People of the Parish
9:30 am Pflug & Napolitano Family
11:30 am Serphin Fernandes (50th Ann.)

MONDAY, 19 JANUARY

8:30 am Thomas, Evelyn & Robert Clayton

TUESDAY, 20 JANUARY

8:30 am Robert Papale

WEDNESDAY, 21 JANUARY

8:30 am Anna Fiorilli

THURSDAY, 22 JANUARY

8:30 am Luigi Russo

FRIDAY, 23 JANUARY

8:30 am Norma Clark

SATURDAY, 24 JANUARY

5:30 pm Anna Fiorilli

SUNDAY, 25 JANUARY

7:30 am The People of the Parish
9:30 am Richard Kelley
11:30 am Felizardo Bacani



Altar Candles for the week of January 18: a gift from Anthony Fernandes & Family, in memory of **SERPHIN FERNANDES**.



Bread & Wine for the week of January 18: a gift from Anthony Fernandes & Family, in memory of **SERPHIN FERNANDES**.



Sanctuary Candle for the week of January 18: a gift from Nancy Lanfrank, in memory of **RHETA BRINKERHOFF**.

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE JANUARY 24-25, 2026

Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers
5:30 pm	Andrew Novoa	Melinda Prather Judy Albore (C)
7:30 am	Mary Cassels	Patricia Saway
9:30 am (Adult Choir)	Carol Ford	Espie Cain Joe Petrillo (C)
11:30 am	Wendy Sheyka	Wendy Sheyka

SUNDAY, 18 JANUARY

7:30 am Mass
8:30—11:30 am Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast (HALL)
9:30 am Mass
10:30 am Choir Rehearsal (LOFT)
11:30 am Mass

MONDAY, 19 JANUARY

Miraculous Medal Novena 8:30 am **DAILY MASS WILL BE HELD MONDAY THRU FRIDAY OF EACH WEEK IN CHURCH**
following 8:30 am Mass on Monday.



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Rectory Office will be closed.

TUESDAY, 20 JANUARY

5:30—6:45 pm 1st Comm. G7-12—(OLL)
6:30—7:30 pm 1st Penance Rehearsal G1-6 —(OLL)

THURSDAY, 22 JANUARY

Deadline for News & Announcements for the Feb. 1st Bulletin. Call the Rectory at 973-325-0110

6—8:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (LOFT)

SATURDAY, 24 JANUARY

12:30 pm 1st Penance G1-6 (OLL)
4:15—5:00 pm Confessions in Church
5:30 pm Mass

SUNDAY, 25 JANUARY

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

PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2025

Goal \$ 6,800
Collection*: Jan. 03-04, 2025* \$5,281
Deficit: \$1,519
*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average



For Your Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure.

Prayers Needed

Frances Maroon
Mary McGuiness

Please Note: Our Prayer List is now being renewed.

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)

of Mary, the Mother of God. She teaches us how to be amazed without being superficial, how to change without becoming destructive, and how to resolve without relying on ourselves alone.

And so we begin the year with the ancient blessing from the Book of Numbers, words Monsignor Petrillo loved to offer: "The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord let his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace."

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us. Teach us to ponder. Teach us to trust. Teach us to resolve. And may this new year find us not merely changed by time or crisis, but transformed by cooperation with God's will.

Happy New Year!

Father Jim Ferry

Church Capital Investment Fund Raffle



January 3, 2026

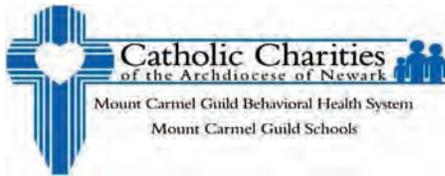
\$500 winner of 1st Drawing:

DIANNE M. REILLY

\$500 winner of 2nd Drawing:

JAYDEN BOUIE

Can you predict the events of 2026 with accuracy?



Who would dare to make such a claim? Here we are at the beginning of a new year and no one knows what the future will bring...unprecedented joy or deep sorrow? Many families and individuals have the resources to cope with whatever comes along. Catholic Charities reaches out to those who have very limited resources. Help us to continue our mission by contributing to our Donation Bin(s). We need used clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, tools, stuffed animals, novels, knickknacks, and children's books. Thank you and God Bless.



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.

Or Scan Here!



- 1 Visit www.lourdeswestorange.org and click Give Online.
- 2 Select the collection or event of your choice.
- 3 Set up your donation or payment. That's it!



Contact our Customer Support Team at 877-316-0260 #2



How to Report Abuse

The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at 201-407-3256.



REPORT FINANCIAL MISCONDUCT CONFIDENTIALLY

If you suspect financial misconduct, use **EthicsPoint**, an independent and confidential reporting tool that helps the Archdiocesan community address issues while promoting positive parish, school and workplace environments. Visit www.rcan.org for the hotline and reporting link.



The Rosary Altar Society will hold their Tricky Tray on: **Friday, April 24, 2026** 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 **Monday, April 13th**. 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.

(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.

WE HAVE RETURNED TO AN IN-PERSON EVENT

Coming Soon - Pre-Event Ticket Sales
(Seating will be limited)

- For Details Call 973-980-4209 or
- Email: trickytray@lourdeswestorange.org



NEED A LAWYER? INJURED?



★ Call For A Free Legal Consultation ★



MARC J. BRENNER ESQ.



973-326-8902

- Personal Injury
- Workers' Compensation
- Social Security Disability

lawmarcbrenner.com • marc@lawmarcbrenner.com

222 RIDGEDALE AVENUE • CEDAR KNOLLS, NJ 07927

PLEASE
SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS
THEY SUPPORT
OUR PARISH

**POISON
Help**
1-800-222-1222

Essex Green
The Complete Service Center
For Foreign & Domestic Cars
 (973) 325-9808
402 PROSPECT AVE., W. ORANGE

**E & M
O'HARA**
INC.
Electrical Contractors
Free Estimates
973-325-3626
www.OharaElectric.com
Best Electrician
11-Time Winner
(Lic# 16744)
Offering quality
service for over
55 years.

**WREATHS
across
AMERICA**

★ KEEP MOVING FORWARD ★

To sponsor, volunteer or donate, visit
WREATHSACROSSAMERICA.ORG

VISION WORLD
We have moved our store to
Roseland Eye Care
178 Eagle Rock Avenue
Roseland, NJ 07068
Prescriptions Filled **973-736-0553**

CALL US TODAY!

YOUR AD HERE!

- Connect with a Dedicated and Engaged Audience
- Build Trust and Credibility
- Showcase Your Business to Those Who Actively Support Local Businesses
- Benefit From Our Online Presence and Extend Your Reach Beyond the Church Walls

Reserve Your Space Today!

Contact our advertising team at **800-883-4343** to discuss affordable advertising solutions.

Don't miss this opportunity to become a valued partner in the community.

**GEORGES & SONS
DUMPSTER INC.**

973-766-0096

**WE RENT CONTAINERS
10, 20, 30 YARDS**

Serving Essex, Union, Morris & Passaic County

- Demolition
- Construction Debris
- Concrete
- Asphalt
- Concrete Mix

Same Day Service

COMMERCIAL - RESIDENTIAL - INDUSTRY

READY.GOV

Don't be afraid... Be Ready

**ROOFING • CHIMNEYS
MASONRY • GUTTERS**

We Find & Fix Leaks!

**ROYAL PRO
CONSTRUCTION**

Family Owned/Operated • 20 Plus Years Experience
Lic. #13VH0934200, Bonded & Insured

732-589-9967

\$1100 OFF
Any New Roof Replacement

20% OFF
Any Roof, Chimney, Gutter, Masonry Repair and SENIORS

Please Continue
To Pray For

World Peace

ALL THINGS BASEMENTY!

WET BASEMENT?

Quality 1st Basement Systems

- WATERPROOFING & FINISHING
- FOUNDATION PROBLEMS
- HUMIDITY & MOLD CONTROL
- NASTY CRAWL SPACES

Contact us for a FREE ESTIMATE!
866-588-8317
BasementRepairNJ.com
NY Lic # 1274423 • NJHIC# 13VH01833300

FAMILY OWNED *Dangler Funeral Home of West Orange* **FAMILY OPERATED**

973-325-1212
www.danglerfuneralhome.com
~ Spacious Parking ~

DARREN T. DANGLER
MANAGER - N.J. Lic. No. 4004

KIP M. DANGLER
DIRECTOR - N.J. Lic. No. 3992

Serving All Faiths
Professional, Personal Service

Pre-Arrangements,
Traditional Services & Cremations

340 MAIN STREET • WEST ORANGE, NJ 07052