



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, February 22, 2026 - First 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

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 Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

As we begin the holy season of Lent, the Church invites us once again into a time of healing, conversion, and renewal through the ancient practices of **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving**. These disciplines are not ends in themselves. They are remedies for the heart—ways God gently restores what has been wounded by sin, fear, resentment, and self-reliance.

In February, our parish celebrates its feast day on February 11, recalling the apparitions of Our Lady of Lourdes and the humble witness of Saint Bernadette. Although Ash Wednesday and Lent move us forward liturgically, the message of Lourdes remains deeply relevant at the start of this penitential season. At Lourdes, Mary came not with spectacle or condemnation, but with a quiet call to **prayer and penance**, a call that continues to shape the Church's Lenten journey.

Bernadette herself knew suffering well. She was born into deep poverty and struggled with fragile health throughout her life. After the apparitions began, she endured suspicion, interrogation, and ridicule from both civil and religious authorities. Yet her response to suffering was neither dramatic nor bitter. Instead, it was steady, humble, and faithful. In Bernadette, we see a model for how Christians are invited to respond to pain—not by denying it, but by allowing it to be transformed.

Her witness teaches us that our response to suffering should be **proportional, purposeful, and penitential**—a helpful lens for our Lenten practices.

First, **proportional**. Bernadette did not exaggerate her suffering or retaliate against those who doubted her. She simply spoke the truth calmly and consistently, entrusting the outcome to God. This is not easy, especially when wounds are emotional rather than physical. Small slights can grow large in our minds. Criticism can appear to be like rejection. The Gospel warns us that unchecked anger can lead us away from communion and toward judgment. Lent invites us, through prayer, to allow God to restore clarity and proportion—to respond according to truth rather than impulse.

Second, **purposeful**. Bernadette never sought attention or advantage from the apparitions. She did not try to control the narrative or profit from what she had been

given. Her purpose remained fidelity to God. This is where fasting finds its deeper meaning. Fasting is not simply about food; it is about learning to let go—of control, comfort, recognition, and the need to be right. It asks us to examine our motives: Am I trying to win, to impress, to get even? Or am I seeking reconciliation, healing, and the good of the other? Purposeful fasting clears space for God to act where self-interest once dominated.

Third, **penitential**. At Lourdes, Mary asked Bernadette to pray and to do penance, uniting her sufferings with Christ. This is perhaps the most challenging response of all. When we are hurt or angry, our instinct is often to vent, distract ourselves, or replay the offense. Yet Lent teaches us another way. Like rescuers after an earthquake who pause the noise to listen for survivors, silence and prayer allow us to hear God's voice beneath the turmoil of our emotions. Almsgiving flows naturally from this penitential heart, turning us outward toward the needs of others rather than inward upon ourselves.

We see this posture perfectly in Jesus Himself. When confronted with the woman caught in adultery, surrounded by angry accusers, He does not shout or condemn. He bends down, writes in the dust, and speaks words that are both truthful and merciful. He does not deny sin, but He also refuses to crush the sinner. Ultimately, His response is fully penitential—because He will carry that sin, and ours, to the Cross.

As we move deeper into Lent, we ask God not only for healing of body and circumstance, but for the deeper healing of the heart. If our prayer restores proportion, our fasting refines purpose, and our almsgiving shapes mercy, then even our anger and suffering can become instruments of grace. Mary led Bernadette to prayer and penance. She leads us there still. And in that quiet place with her Son, we discover the healing that endures—found not in avoiding the Cross, but in allowing Christ to transform us through His Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

Blessed Lenten Season to you,

Father Jim Ferry



OUR LADY OF LOURDES - FEBRUARY 22, 2026



SATURDAY, 21 FEBRUARY

5:30 pm Carol Ann Sanchez

SUNDAY, 22 FEBRUARY

7:30 am People of the Parish
9:30 am Pflug & Napolitano Families
11:30 am JoAnne Chiaramonte

MONDAY, 23 FEBRUARY

8:30 am Blessed Virgin Mary

TUESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY

8:30 am Kathleen DiBiasi

WEDNESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY

8:30 am Monsignor James M. Cafone (11 Ann.)

THURSDAY, 26 FEBRUARY

8:30 am Romaine Rice (19th Ann.)

FRIDAY, 27 FEBRUARY

8:30 am Andrew Burrell

SATURDAY, 28 FEBRUARY

5:30 pm Trea Bougades

SUNDAY, 1 MARCH

7:30 am People of the Parish
9:30 am Anthony Tremarco
11:30 am Jaroslav Konvalinka

SUNDAY, 22 FEBRUARY

7:30 am Mass
9:30 am Mass
9:30-11:45 am G. 7-12 Retreat (OLLC) (HALL)
10:30 am Choir Rehearsal (LOFT)
10:30-11:30 am 1st Communion (CHAPEL)
11:30 am Mass

MONDAY, 23 FEBRUARY

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.

THURSDAY, 26 FEBRUARY

Deadline for News & Announcements for the March 8th Bulletin. Call the Rectory at 973-325-0110.

6-8:00 pm Choir Rehearsal (LOFT)

SATURDAY, 28 FEBRUARY

4:15-5:00 pm Confessions in Church
5:30 pm Mass

SUNDAY, 1 MARCH

7:30 am Mass
9:00 am Recitation of Rosary (OLLC)
9:30-11:30 am G.6 six (OLLC) (HALL)
9:30 am Mass
10:30 am Choir Rehearsal (LOFT)
11:30 am Mass

1st Sunday of Lent



Today with Jesus we begin our Lenten Journey to Jerusalem.

As we travel alongside Jesus over these weeks we will reflect upon our own communities of today. On this 1st Sunday of Lent we go with Jesus into the wilderness as he reflects on his ministry. What is God calling him to do and be? What kind of a Messiah will he be?



PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2025

Goal \$6,800
Collection*: Feb. 7-Feb. 8, 2026* \$3,898
Deficit: \$2,902

*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average



For Your Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure.

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE FEB 28-MAR 1, 2026

Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	
5:30 pm	Michael Lanfrank	Judy Albore Eileen Reilly (C)	
7:30 am	Mary Cassels	Sister James Soon	
9:30 am	Carol Ford	Myrna Regino	
11:30 am (Choir)	Lynda Clement	Virginia Dimapilis Wendy Sheyka (C)	

Prayers Needed

Emeka Anyanyo
Paul Di Francescantonio
Nadia Manrique Marcos
Frances Maroon
Beverly McAllister
Mary McGuiness
Sister Jean Ruppel

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

Pilgrimage to
IRELAND

April 27 - May 5, 2026
9 days / 7 nights.

Pilgrimage to Ireland A pilgrimage is a physical act of devotion, leaving your comfort zone so that you can mirror the soul's journey toward heaven. Join Fr. Peter Wehrle, Pastor of Our Lady of the Lake for a 9-day journey that will take you through Ireland's stunning landscapes and rich heritage, shaped by its Celtic saints and a history rooted in faith and spirituality. Travel with Bayard Pilgrimages as we will depart on Monday, 4/27 and return on Tuesday, 5/5. Saints Brigid, Columban, Columba of Iona, Kieran, and Patrick will guide our journey as we explore the land, reflect on Scripture, and celebrate daily Eucharist. The goal of this trip is to change the pilgrim's heart and life, making us more open to God. What better place to do that than the beautiful Emerald Isle. For details about the pilgrimage visit living-faith.com/pilgrimages-Ireland or call 844-411-1121



Church Capital Investment
Fund Raffle



February 7, 2026

\$500 winner of 1st Drawing:

VIVIAN LOBO

\$500 winner of 2nd Drawing:

JOSEPH CATARROJA

The Rosary Altar Society's MARCH Meeting will be held on:

Tuesday, MARCH 3rd, at 1:00 pm in the Rectory.

All Rosarians: Looking forward to seeing everyone there. Carol Ford, President



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

MARCH 6, 2025

5:30-7:30 pm in Church

Join Us!

Jesus is waiting for You!



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.

Sunday, March 9th



SET YOUR CLOCK
ONE HOUR FORWARD
BEFORE GOING TO
BED SATURDAY
NIGHT

2026 LENTEN DAILY DEVOTIONAL

BASILICA OF THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

February 22, 2026
First Sunday of Lent
 Gospel Reading: Matthew 4:1-11
"Then the devil left Him; and behold angels came and ministered to Him."
Action: Identify one temptation that weakens you and ask Jesus for strength.

February 23, 2026
Monday, 1st Week of Lent
 Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:31-46
"As long as you did it to one of these My least brethren, you did it to Me."
Action: Perform a hidden act of charity.

February 24, 2026
Tuesday, 1st Week of Lent
 Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:7-15
"This is how you are to pray: Our Father who art in heaven..."
Action: Pray the Our Father slowly, meditating on each phrase.

February 25, 2026
Wednesday, 1st Week of Lent
 Gospel Reading: Luke 11:29-32
"This generation seeks a sign; but no sign will be given it except the sign of Jonas..."
Action: Spend 5 minutes in silence asking Jesus to speak to your heart.

February 26, 2026
Thursday, 1st Week of Lent.
 Gospel Reading: Matthew 7:7-12
"Ask, and it will be given you: seek and you will find."
Action Ask God for one specific grace today.

February 27, 2026
Friday, 1st Week of Lent.
 Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:20-26
"Go first and be reconciled with your brother."
Action: Seek reconciliation or pray for the desire to reconcile.

February 28, 2026
Saturday, 1st Week of Lent.
 Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:43-48
"Be you therefore perfect, as also your heavenly Father is perfect."
Action: Pray a Hail Mary for Someone you struggle to love.



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Lenten Meditation Packets

Please pick up a Lenten Meditation Packet prepared by the 6th Grade Religious Education Class.

They will be available near the Peace & Good entrance.



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