



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, May 10, 2026 – Sixth Sunday of Easter



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, Weeknd 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,

Part 1. Mary as Mother

In the Catholic Church calendar, we might say that Mother's Day comes very early, right on January 1st the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. I share with you some of my thoughts of January 1 for Mother's Day.

This feast day is known as the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, January 1st. The reason Mary is given such prominence is not to place her above God but reminds us that the incarnate God -- Jesus -- took his flesh and blood from the Virgin Mary.

As Mary's true son, Jesus didn't just take up residence for 9 months leading to Dec-25. Rather, he is the Son of God in flesh and blood through the flesh and blood of Mary.

Jesus is as united to Mary as any child to a mother but also remains his own distinct person. You and I were conceived and born the same way.

This feast day also reminds us that it is the role of a mother to be pondering and to be praying continuously about the future of her children.

You as mothers, as godmothers, as mother figures in other people's lives, do this as well.

Your mother was called to ponder and pray in this way, and Mary our mother, our Blessed Mother, is doing this as well

Part 2. Gifts Received

Isn't it true that some of our most beloved - most remembered - Christmas gifts are those which were bestowed upon us by those who knew what we needed or wanted - but also given to us without us having to ask. The other person knew something which you did not know.

In a similar way, is it not a joy to discover and give a present to someone who has not asked for a particular gift, but would benefit from your insight, your discovery?

In other words, you know something which the other person did not know, which was hidden from the "general audience".

Part 2. Jesus as Unexpected Gift but also Needed

A professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame - John Cavadini - wrote that we can learn from God's wisdom and plan something about Jesus' origin and his own plan for our salvation which we perhaps did not expect to be true or did not expect to happen. (SOURCE: The Sex Life of Joseph and Mary by John Cavadini December 18, 2017, <https://churchlifejournal.nd.edu/articles/the-sex-life-of-joseph-and-mary/>)

These 2 ideas are also summarized in 1st Corinthians by St. Paul as the "foolishness that truly is wise" and the "weakness that is truly strong". Paul wrote: "God chose the foolish of the world to shame the strong and God chose the lowly and despised of the world, those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who are something" (1 Corinthians 1:27-28)

Part 3. God's Foolishness that is Truly Wise

It goes without saying that we would rather be "wise" than "foolish", or we would rather be "smart" than "foolish". But do we not learn - in our lives - that the smart choice or the wise choice is not always the most obvious one.

In God's plan, this is also the case. It would have seemed "obvious" for God to announce - on prime-time TV and in full HD - that Jesus is the Messiah, born of the Virgin. But this was not his way. Such a plan would not have allowed him to build up the Holy Family, to build up the disciples, and later to suffer on the Cross.

"The marriage of Mary and Joseph is thus an intrinsic part of God's Wisdom, an intrinsic part of the logic of the Incarnation, which is the logic of God's *philanthropia*, a logic of foolishness, invisible to the ruling powers because it is, to them, foolishness and not wisdom."

Because Jesus is invisible in the marriage of Mary and Joseph, invisible to the ruling powers, this foolishness doesn't seem like wisdom to them, but it is wisdom to us.


Part 4. God's Weakness that is Truly Strong

Mary and Joseph are the parents, and biblically so designated, of Jesus only. Jesus is their son.

Thus, Jesus is not some "prodigy" or superhero from another planet who just landed here on Earth. Growing up as a child, then a young man and finally as an adult, this enables Jesus to conquer Satan and to conquer evil by giving himself up to death.


SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER/A – MAY 10, 2026

		
SATURDAY, 9 MAY	5:30 pm	Deceased Mothers
SUNDAY, 10 MAY	7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish Deceased Mothers Deceased Mothers
MONDAY, 11 MAY	8:30 am	Barbara Gerlach (46 th Ann.)
TUESDAY, 12 MAY	8:30 am	Andrea Toloso
WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY	8:30 am	Lawrence Furtado
THURSDAY, 14 MAY	8:30 am	Kathleen DiBiasi
FRIDAY, 15 MAY	8:30 am	Andrea Toloso
SATURDAY, 16 MAY	5:30 pm	Carmaleta Harris Paul Harris
SUNDAY, 17 MAY	7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish Deceased Members of the Pflug & Napolitano Families Vincenzo "Vinnie" Russo

 Church Calendar		
SUNDAY, 10 MAY	7:30 am 9:30 am 10:30 am 11:30 am 11:30 am	Mass Mass Choir Rehearsal (LOFT) May Crowning & Flower Procession Mass
MONDAY, 11 MAY	8:30 am Miraculous Medal Novena following 8:30 am Mass on Monday.	Daily Mass will be held Mon-Fri each Week in Church.
WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY	6:30 – 10:00 pm	Knights of Columbus Mtg. (HALL)
THURSDAY, 14 MAY	6:00 – 8:00 pm	Deadline for Announcements For May 17 th Bulletin. Call the Rector at 973-325-0110. Choir Rehearsal (LOFT)
SATURDAY, 16 MAY	4:15 – 5:00 pm 5:30 pm	Confessions in Church Mass
SUNDAY, 17 MAY	7:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 – 11:45 am 10:30 am 11:30 am	Mass Mass G 7-12 (OLLC) (HALL) Choir Rehearsal (LOFT) Mass

Altar Candles for the week of May 10th: A gift from
J. A. Konvalinka in memory of **ROSE KONVALINKA.**

Bread & Wine for the week of May 10th: A gift from Joseph &
Kathy Petrillo in memory of **JOAN PAPALE & VIVIAN PETRILLO .**

 Ministry Schedule		
MAY 16- MAY 17, 2026		
Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers
5:30 pm	Michael Lanfrank	Eileen Reilly Melinda Prather (c)
7:30 am	Mary Cassels	Bless Bernardo
9:30 am Adult Choir	Carol Ford	Espie Cain Myrna Regino (c)
11:30 am	Wendy Sheyka	Wendy Sheyka



*A Mother's Day Prayer for you
May you have all the joy your heart can
hold... All the smiles a day can bring...
All the Blessings a life can unfold.*

Prayers needed

Emeka Anyanyo, Jeffrey Beauzil,
Paul Di Francesscantonio,
Simon Gutowitz, 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.

(Pastor's Column continued from Page 2)

Jesus does not conquer Satan by “pulling rank” publicly.

Rather, Jesus conquers Satan and evil by emptying, emptying His divine identity into a hidden person, a hidden child. His public identity is that he is the ordinary son of Joseph and Mary. His later to-be-revealed identity – as the Messiah – will catch some by surprise.

In this regard, Jesus allows us to become part of his body part of his life. And it also reminds us that we enter into God's plan and God's kingdom by many sufferings by many tribulations. This was part of Jesus's way. He goes before us in secret ways but in also ways that will be known to all.

Our Lady, Mother of Perpetual Help, Pray for Us.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Pray for Us.

In Christ's Peace,

Save
the
Date



**SATURDAY
JUNE 20TH**

SUPPORT OUR LADY OF LOURDES TODAY



Contact our Customer Support Team at
877-316-8260 #2

Or Scan Here!



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

IT'S SAFE, SIMPLE & CONVENIENT

PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2025

GOAL:	\$6,800
COLLECTION*: Apr 25-Apr 26, 2026:	\$4,140
Deficit	\$2,660

*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average/

St. Vincent DePaul Society



St. Vincent DePaul Society is hosting **Christine's Soup Kitchen** on **Saturday, 5/23/2026** 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 **5/23/2026** 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 at travisb23@juno.com.



LIFENET Cocktail Party Fundraiser

Thursday, June 4th – 6:30-8:30 pm

Park Avenue Club, 184 Park Ave., Florham Park

Tickets \$75 per person – RSVP by: 5/17/26

Visit www.lifeneteducation.org/cocktailparty to register.

**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.



2026-2027 RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

Forms are in church, in rectory and online - See "Options/How to Pay" below"

PER CHILD TUITION:

\$60, until May 25

\$80, until June 25

\$100, until July 25

Late Registration \$150, July 26-August 12

Final Registration Deadline:

August 12, 2026

OPTIONS/ HOW TO PAY:

Cash/ Check

(payable to Our Lady of Lourdes)

- Visit Rectory with required docs
- Drop in Sunday Collection Basket

Website - lourdeswestorange.org

>> "Faith Formation / Religious Education"

>> "Religious Education Registration"

or, Scan Here



*2026-27 Lourdes
Religious Education
Registration code*

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS for each student
(Documentos requeridos para cada estudiante),

- (1) ___ Baptismal certificate (Copia de certificado de bautismo);
- (2) ___ Birth certificate (Copia del certificado de nacimiento);
- (3) ___ 1st Communion certificate (if completed) (Copia de certificado de primera comunión si se completo);
- (4) ___ Registration form (Formulario de inscripción);
- (5) ___ Photography consent at the end of form (Formulario de consentimiento para fotografía)

QUESTIONS/ RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

973-325-0110 (9am-2:30pm)

rosa.cruz@lourdeswestorange.org

fatherjimferry@lourdeswestorange.org

DEAR PARENTS, GODPARENTS, AND FAMILY MEMBERS,

This program prepares your children for First Communion and Confirmation, but it also depends on your participation as a family. This is not only about learning—it is about **faith, commitment, and service**.

The most important expectation is faithful Sunday Mass attendance.

We ask that you **bring your children to Mass every Sunday**, not only on class days. Some parishes track attendance, but we choose to trust you. This trust is rooted in the promise you made at your child's baptism—to raise your child in the faith. That means practicing your faith, attending Mass regularly, and guiding your children to do the same. **Thank you for your support and partnership.**