



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, July 12, 2026 – Fifteenth 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:

Saint Thomas: Our Twin Brother

Every year on July 3, the Church celebrates the feast of Saint Thomas the Apostle. Most people remember Thomas by one nickname: "Doubting Thomas." Yet that title is unfair. Thomas was not the only disciple who struggled to believe. When Jesus was arrested, the apostles fled in fear. When the women first announced that Jesus had risen, the disciples did not immediately believe them. Thomas simply happened to be absent the first time the risen Lord appeared.

John Henry Newman once observed that if another apostle had been absent that evening instead of Thomas, that apostle might have become known as "the doubter." Thomas was not uniquely weak in faith. He simply became the spokesman for questions that all the others had already experienced.

John's Gospel tells us something else about Thomas that is often overlooked. He is called *Didymus*, which means "the Twin." The Gospel never tells us whose twin he was. Perhaps that omission is intentional. Pope Francis once reflected that Thomas is "truly our twin brother." His story is our story. We recognize ourselves in him because we, too, want certainty. We, too, ask questions. We, too, sometimes wish we had seen what the apostles saw.

The remarkable part of the Gospel is not Thomas's doubt but Jesus' response. Jesus does not shame Thomas or reject him. Eight days later, He comes back specifically for him. He invites Thomas to touch His wounded hands and side. Christ meets Thomas in his weakness and leads him gently to faith.

Thomas responds with one of the greatest professions of faith in all of Scripture: "My Lord and my God!" His doubt does not become the end of his story. It becomes the doorway to an even deeper faith.

Saint Gregory the Great beautifully explained why Thomas's experience matters to every Christian: "The disbelief of Thomas has done more for our faith than the faith of the other disciples." Thomas asked the questions that many of us would have asked. Because he did, the

risen Lord answered them for the sake of the whole Church.

Perhaps that is why Thomas is called "the Twin." He is our twin because he reminds us that faith is not the absence of questions but the willingness to bring our questions honestly to Christ.

There is another way to think about the idea of a twin.

In the film industry, a stunt double or body double is chosen because he closely resembles the actor. The goal is not to draw attention to himself but to help the audience see the character. If the audience notices the double instead of the actor, something has gone wrong.

In a similar way, every Christian is called to resemble Jesus Christ. We cannot share His face or His voice, but we are called to share His compassion, His forgiveness, His humility, and His love. Our lives can point beyond ourselves to Him.

A spiritual director once gave me this advice: if someone speaks up in gratitude and gives credit for something you did to someone else, do not worry too much about correcting the speaker. It may be a sign that your parish is working as one body rather than as individuals competing for recognition. What matters most is not who receives the credit, but that Christ is served.

That is also a message from Saint Paul: The Church is "built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the capstone" (Ephesians 2:20). The apostles were never meant to become isolated heroes. Together they became the foundation upon which Christ continues to build His Church.

Thomas, our twin brother in faith, reminds us that Christ does not abandon those who struggle. He patiently meets us where we are, strengthens our faith, and then sends us into the world to resemble Him more closely.

May we be remembered not because people noticed us, but because through our words and actions they came to recognize Jesus Christ and could say with Thomas, "My Lord and my God."

In Christ's Peace,

Father Jim Ferry

OUR LADY OF LOURDES – JULY 12, 2026

Weekly Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, 11 JULY	5:30 pm	Karen Cham
SUNDAY, 12 JULY	7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish Robert Buoye Timothy, Margaret, Michael O'Shea
MONDAY, 13 JULY	8:30 am	Hugo Russo
TUESDAY, 14 JULY	8:30 am	Marjorie (Margie) Cole
WEDNESDAY, 15 JULY	8:30 am	Mal & Jennie Healy
THURSDAY, 16 JULY	8:30 am	Christine Dean
FRIDAY, 17 JULY	8:30 am	Sara Gatti
SATURDAY, 18 JULY	5:30 pm	Gabriella Miller
SUNDAY, 19 JULY	7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish Deceased Members of the Pflug & Napolitano Families Nell Roxborough, Norbert Roxborough

Bread & Wine for the week of July 12th:
Offering of Nancy & Michael Lanfrank in memory
of HELEN & CHARLES RICE.

Prayers needed

Emeka Anyanyo, Jeffrey Beauzil,
 Paul Di Francesscantonio, Simon Gutowitz,
 Antonio Matias, Beverly McAllister,
 Mary McGuinness, Marc Reyes.

Please Note: Our Prayer List
will be renewed on July 15th.

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

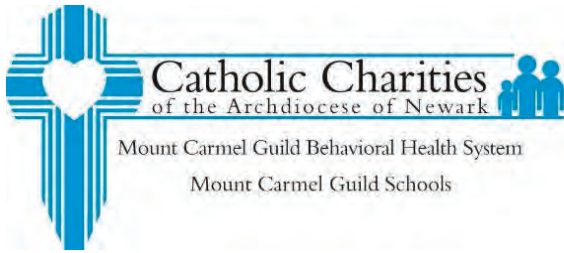
Church Calendar

SUNDAY, 12 JULY 7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	Mass Mass Mass
MONDAY, 13 JULY 8:30 am Miraculous Medal Novena following 8:30 am Mass on Monday.	Daily Mass will be held Mon–Fri each Week in Church
THURSDAY, 16 JULY	Deadline for Announcements For July 26th Bulletin. Call the Rectory- 973-325-0110.
SATURDAY, 18 JULY 4:15 – 5:00 pm 5:30 pm	Confessions in Church Mass
SUNDAY, 19 JULY 7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	Mass Mass Mass



MINISTRY SCHEDULE	JULY 18-19, 2026	
Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Minister
5:30 pm	Michael Lanfrank	Judy Albore Eileen Reilly (c)
7:30 am	Patricia Saway	MaryEllen Chandler
9:30 am	Kathy Petrillo	Joe Petrillo
11:30 am	Carmelita Dizon	Wendy Sheyka

ACCOUNTABILITY WITH HEARTFELT THANKS



Catholic Charities received a check for \$2,693 as a result of your generosity to the Donation Bin(s) from December 1, 2025, to May 31, 2026. These funds combined with monies from other parishes throughout the Archdiocese enabled Catholic Charities to meet the needs of the dejected, deprived, disadvantaged, and depressed.

Each day, more than 1,500 individuals and families turn to Catholic Charities for help and we answer that call. Your donations make this response possible. Thank you and please continue to “feed the Bins.” Thank you so much.



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- Visit www.lourdeswestorange.org and click Give Online.
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- Set up your donation or payment. That's it!

IT'S SAFE, SIMPLE & CONVENIENT

St. Vincent DePaul Society

St. Vincent DePaul Society is hosting **Christine's Soup Kitchen** on **Saturday, 8/1/2026** for Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. Now the soup kitchen is operating on a go-lunch basis. Lunches are prepared ahead of time and will be dropped off at Holy Trinity on the morning of **8/1/2026** 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.



PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2025

GOAL:	\$6,800
COLLECTION*: June 27-28, 2026:	\$3,903
Deficit	\$2,897

**Includes Online Giving Weekly Average/*

PARISH ENVELOPES Cathedral Letter Concepts will not be sending monthly envelopes for July in order to catch up production for its 3,000 plus customers. Please use a previous month's envelope you still have available and write the correct date on it.

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.

EQUAL RIGHTS NIGHT

A Pro-Life Educational Evening for Young Adults
to advance the cause of the unborn child



featuring

Dr. Michael Giuliano,
Neonatal-Perinatal Physician

presenting

**"Modern Obstetrics:
Healthcare or Eugenics?"**

**Tues. July 14, 2026
6:30-8:30 PM**

**Archdiocese of Newark
171 Clifton Ave.
Newark, NJ 07104**

**\$10 per person at door
Pizza, Presentation & Dessert**

**Register at:
lifeneteducation.org/equal-rights-night
by: 7/12/2026**



Business Casual Attire

**For more info: 973-497-4520 or
info@lifeneteducation.org**

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