



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, August 2, 2026 – Eighteenth 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,

What Jesus Multiplies

The Gospel for this Sunday tells the familiar story of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. It is easy to focus on the miracle itself: five loaves, two fish, more than five thousand people fed, and twelve baskets of leftovers. Yet before Jesus multiplies anything, something even more important happens. St. Matthew tells us that Jesus first **sees** the crowd and is **moved with compassion**. Every miracle begins with the compassionate heart of Christ.

That same theme runs through all three readings. The prophet Isaiah extends God's invitation: *"Come to the water... Come, receive grain and eat; come, without paying and without cost."* God's generosity is never earned or purchased. His grace is always the first gift. Then St. Paul proclaims one of the most reassuring passages in all of Scripture: *"What will separate us from the love of Christ?"* His answer is simple: nothing. Neither hardship, nor suffering, nor death itself can separate us from the love God has revealed in Jesus Christ.

Against that backdrop, the Gospel invites us to reflect on four simple spiritual movements that prepare us to receive God's abundance.

The First is Addition.

The disciples begin with almost nothing: five loaves and two fish. Yet they first have to bring them to Jesus. In much the same way, every Sunday we make a conscious decision to add ourselves to the assembly. We bring our joys, worries, successes, disappointments, and hopes. Sometimes we think of prayer as one more item to add to an already crowded schedule. Perhaps the better approach is just the opposite: to make prayer the center around which everything else is arranged. Like Mary sitting at the feet of Jesus, we allow Him to become the first priority rather than the last.

The Second Movement is Subtraction

John the Baptist expressed it beautifully: *"He must increase; I must decrease."* Subtraction does not mean thinking less of ourselves or believing God wishes to take something away from us. Rather, it means making room for God to act. We often come to the Lord with our

own plans already completed in our minds. Prayer gently invites us to loosen our grip, to listen, and to let God's wisdom reshape our own. Before Jesus blessed the loaves, He looked to His Father. Before we ask God to bless our work, we first allow Him to guide it.

The Third Movement is Recognizing Division.

When the disciples saw the hungry crowd, their first solution was to send everyone away. Jesus' response was exactly the opposite. He gathered the people together and told them to sit down. Throughout our lives, we also experience divisions: misunderstandings in families, friendships that have grown distant, old hurts that linger longer than we expected. The Eucharist continually calls us toward communion rather than separation. We cannot always solve every conflict immediately, but we can take the first step by refusing to let division have the final word. As St. Paul reminds us, nothing can separate us from Christ's love. That same love strengthens us to begin healing the divisions in our own lives.

Finally Comes Multiplication.

This is the part only God can accomplish.

The miracle did not begin because the disciples had abundant resources. It began because they entrusted their small offering to Jesus. Five loaves and two fish seemed hopelessly inadequate, yet in the Lord's hands they became more than enough.

The same is true today. We may feel that our patience is limited, our faith imperfect, our generosity too small, or our forgiveness incomplete. Yet Christ continues to multiply whatever is sincerely placed in His hands. He does not ask us to begin with abundance. He asks us to begin with trust.

When we receive Holy Communion, we do not multiply the Eucharist itself. Rather, we carry into the world the grace we have received. Christ's compassion becomes visible through our kindness. His mercy becomes visible through our forgiveness. His hope becomes visible through our encouragement of others. The fruits of the Eucharist continue long after Mass has ended.

Perhaps the most beautiful detail in today's Gospel is that, after everyone had eaten their fill, twelve baskets of fragments were collected. God's generosity was not merely sufficient; it overflowed. The leftovers remind us that God's mercy is never exhausted. His love is never barely enough. There is always more grace than our weakness, more forgiveness than our sins, and more hope than our fears. (Pastor column continued on Page 4)

OUR LADY OF LOURDES – AUGUST 2, 2026

Weekly Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, 1 AUGUST	5:30 pm	Emeka Anyanyo
SUNDAY, 2 AUGUST	7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish Joseph Catalano (61st Ann.) Dr. Ignacio A. Chaves
MONDAY, 3 AUGUST	8:30 am	Vivian Petrillo
TUESDAY, 4 AUGUST	8:30 am	Carol Ford (Special Intention)
WEDNESDAY, 5 AUGUST	8:30 am	Sandra McDonald
THURSDAY, 6 AUGUST	8:30 am	Pat & Dot Healy
FRIDAY, 7 AUGUST	8:30 am	John O'Reilly
SATURDAY, 8 AUGUST	5:30 pm	Bernie Mooney
SUNDAY, 9 AUGUST	7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	Sean Michael Cassels (10th Ann.) Matilda & Michael O'Boyle Bernie Mooney



MINISTRY SCHEDULE	AUGUST 8-9, 2026	
Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Minister
5:30 pm	Pat Sigalas	Emily Kunz Eileen Reilly (c)
7:30 am	MaryEllen Chandler	Lou Volpe
9:30 am	JoAnn Melhorn	Joe Petrillo
11:30 am	Lynda Clement	Virginia Dimapilis

Church Calendar

SUNDAY, 2 AUGUST	7:30 am 9:00 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	Mass Rosary Recitation OLLC Mass Mass
MONDAY, 3 AUGUST	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, 6 AUGUST		Deadline for Announcements For Aug 16th Bulletin. Call the Rectory- 973-325-0110.
SATURDAY, 8 AUGUST	4:15 – 5:00 pm 5:30 pm	Confessions in Church Mass
SUNDAY, 9 AUGUST	7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	Mass Mass Mass



Prayers needed

Mary Sue Brittle, Mary McGuinness
Antonio Matias, Marc Reyes

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)

This week, perhaps the Lord asks us simply to bring Him what we have. It may seem as small as five loaves and two fish. But once placed into His hands, even the smallest gift can become the beginning of a miracle.

In Christ's Peace,
Father Jim Ferry

PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2025

GOAL:	\$6,800
COLLECTION*: July 18-19, 2026:	\$3,869
Deficit	\$2,931

**Includes Online Giving Weekly Average/*



ORATORY PREP SCHOOL, celebrating excellence for over 100 years, will be holding its **OPEN HOUSE EVENTS** on

Sunday, September 27, 2026, from 1-3 p.m., & on Thursday, October 22, 2026, from 6-8 p.m.

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425 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ.**

We ask that you register to attend on our website under the Admissions tab.

For further information, call 908-273-1084, ext. 1 or visit us at www.oratoryprep.org.



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.

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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.



**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
FAITH FORMATION**

Registration is Now Open!

*** \$100 ***
EXTENDED THROUGH **JULY 31**

After July 31, 2026, registration increases to **\$150.**

FINAL REGISTRATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 12, 2026

VARIOUS OPTIONS TO PAY

- Pay Online
- Pay at the Rectory

NEED DOCUMENTS?
Need documents emailed or sent to you?
PLEASE CALL 973-325-0110

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS
9:00 AM – 2:30 PM
MONDAY – FRIDAY
or call for an appointment

Please register as soon as possible!

**CLICK HERE
TO GO TO REGISTRATION PAGE**



Safe Environment Corner

Keeping Children Safe Away from Home

As children grow, parents may begin dropping them off for activities and returning later to pick them up. Before taking this step, families are encouraged to ask a few important safety questions:

- Are at least two adults present to supervise children at all times?
- Does the organization conduct background checks for adults who work with children?
- Does the organization provide appropriate training for adults who supervise children?
- Are there separate restroom facilities or clear restroom policies for adults and minors?
- Are isolated areas locked, restricted, or monitored?

Together, guided by our faith and our shared responsibility, we can help create safe and welcoming environments where every child is protected and cherished.

Anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct is asked to inform us so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and to provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Call the Coordinator for the Office of Accompaniment in the Archdiocesan Department for the Protection of the Faithful at 201-407-3256.

NEED A LAWYER? INJURED?



★ Call For A Free Legal Consultation ★



MARC J. BRENNER ESQ.



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