



# OLM Bulletin

40 Sullivan Drive, Jersey City, NJ 07305

February 23, 2020

The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

## LENT BEGINS THIS WEDNESDAY!

This Wednesday, February 26, is Ash Wednesday. On this day, Christians are marked with ashes as a sign of our desire to make good use of the season of Lent to turn from sin and to grow in our faithfulness to the Gospel. Ashes will be distributed on Wednesday, February 26, during the Masses and the Prayer Service listed below.

**Ash**   
**Wednesday**

7:00 am	Mass
8:30 am	Mass
3:00 pm	Scripture Service
7:00 pm	Mass

## 2020 LENTEN REGULATIONS

Lent is a time for prayer, fasting, and charity as we prepare to renew our baptismal promises at Easter. The practice of penance forms a necessary part of this preparation. The Church gives us the following regulations to help us make the season of Lent a particular time of penance and preparation for Easter.

1. **Ash Wednesday** (February 26) and **Good Friday** (April 10) are days of **Fast and Abstinence**.
2. **All the Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence**.
3. **A Day of Fast means that only one full meal is permitted**. Two smaller meals may be eaten. There is no food taken between meals. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast, though others are encouraged to fast. The days of fast are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
4. **On a Day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten**. Those 14 years of age and older are obliged to abstain from meat. For a serious reason, Church Law allows the pastor to dispense an individual from refraining from meat on a Friday during the Lenten Season.
5. **The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence** “substantially” or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
6. **Catholics should go to Holy Communion** at least once between the First Sunday of Lent (March 1) and Trinity Sunday (June 7). If necessary, they should celebrate the Sacrament of Penance. Our Parish Communal Penance Service is Monday, March 30, at 7:30 pm. Individual confessions are heard Monday through Saturday from 9 am to 9:30 am in the church.



# Pastor's COLUMN



Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy,

Greetings in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ!

**This Wednesday, February 26, is Ash Wednesday.** It marks the beginning of Lent. A season during which we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Easter and for the renewal of our baptismal promises. It is a season for prayer, fasting, works of mercy, acts of penance, turning from sin, and many other practices. We do those things every year with the hope and prayer that we will make those Lenten practices and discipline a part of our daily lives. We have to make them a habit.

**As we announced last weekend, *Appreciate the Word, Live the Word* is a fine way to reflect on the Word of God.** Those who participated in the past had a great experience. Besides coming to know more about the Word of God, they had the opportunity to come to know other members of the parish. So, I strongly encourage you to participate in the *Appreciate the Word, Live the Word* program.

**Also, the Holy Name Society invites** you to join them every Friday evening in reflecting on the suffering and death of Our Lord Jesus Christ as they pray the Stations of the Cross. See the schedule posted in this bulletin.

**I would like to remind you of the coming Annual Appeal Pledge Weekend** which is scheduled for March 7 and 8. Please be generous in sharing the blessings you have been given by the Lord. Remember that we will receive 100% of whatever is collected above our parish goal. You can place your pledge in the collection baskets or drop it in the parish office or send it directly to the Archdiocese of Newark.

**I also would like to inform you that we will send the proceeds of the Taal Volcano collection** to the Social Action Commission Office of the Archdiocese of Lipa in Batangas, Philippines.

**Last but not the least, I would like to re-enforce what Father Tom announced last weekend regarding the Jersey City Together meeting.** I encourage you to attend the meeting tomorrow, Monday, February 24, at 7:30 pm and to strongly voice what needs improvement in our neighborhood. After the shooting that happened a few months ago, safety is our top priority. Then there are issues about cleanliness, homelessness, parking, education and others. I pray that those issues will be addressed and resolved.

Thank you and God bless our community!

Love,  
+ *Father Marty*

## AN INVITATION FOR ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 7 & 8) & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 1

LIFENET will hold a Love and Life: The Challenge of Chastity Presentation next Sunday, March 1, from 9:30 am to 11:30am in the Maria Room.

Established in 1994, LIFENET is a non-profit educational organization that exists to attain equal rights for babies in the womb through education, advocacy and networking. They promote chastity as a solution to abortion.



The chastity presentation for teens covers the risks of sex outside marriage, including pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections and emotional and spiritual consequences.

The speaker will discuss the concepts of embracing "renewed purity", employing strategies for remaining pure, and the difference between lust and love. The talk concludes with a discussion on resisting peer pressure and a role play demonstration where students learn practical refusal skills to avoid situations which could lead to risky behavior.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

*Names of the sick to be prayed for will be published for 4 consecutive weeks. To re-submit or add names, email the office (olmchurchmail@gmail.com) or call 201-434-7500*

**Week Three**

Christopher Paul Smith

**Week Four**

John Halick

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

February 16, 2020

Regular Collection \$7,633

Maintenance \$ 963

Thank you so much for your generous support

### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 23

**The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18; 1 Corinthians 3:16-23;

Matthew 5:38-48.

### SHINING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

"Shining the Light of Christ" is this year's Annual Appeal of the Archdiocese of Newark. This appeal is to support the mission, programs and ministries of the Archdiocese. This year's goal for Our Lady of Mercy Parish is \$42,809. There will be 100% rebate to the parish of every dollar collected above our goal. Please be generous and support the Annual Appeal. Thank you!



## Appreciate the Word, Live the Word!

### NOW IS THE TIME FOR YOU TO SIGN UP FOR THIS GREAT LENTEN PROGRAM

Good things are worth repeating, and that certainly is the case with *APPRECIATE THE WORD, LIVE THE WORD*. This small group program, which took place in the Lent and Fall of 2019, helped participants to grow in their understanding of God's word and how that word might be applied to daily life. The program also helped them to make new friends and to grow in their faith.

The next session of *Appreciate the Word, Live the Word* will begin the week of March 1, the first week of Lent, and continue for five weekly sessions. Participants will meet in small group with other parish members to reflect on the Gospel for the coming Sunday. Groups will be meeting on different days at different times, so there is certainly a meeting time to fit your personal schedule.

Registration for this program is now open! Complete a sign up form available on the tables in the back of the church, or stop by the parish office. No previous knowledge of the Bible is needed, only a desire to grow closer to the Lord.



Last month, the OLM Wellness Committee asked parishioners to pick the health topics that most interested them. The topics, in order, that had the most responses were:

1. *Stress*
2. *Dementia*
3. *Diabetes*

*Depression* and *End of Life* were tied for fourth place.

Thank you to all those who took the time to complete the survey. The Wellness Committee will keep these results in mind as it plans for future presentations here at the parish.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT OLM DURING THE SEASON OF LENT



Let us journey with Jesus Christ during this Lenten season. The Stations of the Cross bring us closer to Jesus as we meditate on the great love He showed us in His most sorrowful Passion.

**The members of Holy Name Society invite you to join them at 7 pm on the following Fridays as they pray the Stations of the Cross.**

**February 28  
March 6, 13, 20, 27  
April 3**

### 2020 ANNIVERSARY LITURGIES

The annual tradition of honoring those couples here in Archdiocese of Newark who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of *Christian, sacramental marriage* in the year 2020 is now being prepared. These anniversary liturgies will be celebrated by Cardinal Tobin in the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

**Sunday, April 19, 2020 at 3 pm**  
**For couples celebrating 5 years or 25 years of marriage.**

**Sunday, May 3, 2020 at 3 pm**  
**For couples celebrating 50 years of marriage.**

It is our desire that every couple in the Archdiocese deserving of such recognition be present at the appropriate liturgy. The presence of a large number of couples will be a tender witness to the strength and stability of Christian marriage in today's society.

The official registration form and instruction sheet is available at the parish office. See Tina Lanting, our parish secretary, or call the parish office at 201-434-7500.

The parish office will forward **one registration form per couple** to the Family Life Office in Newark. Once received, they will acknowledge the reservation directly to the celebrating couple and provide you with directions to the Cathedral Basilica in Newark.

### ASH WEDNESDAY





MASS

INTENTIONS

**SATURDAY, February 22**

5pm Natividad Roxas  
r/b Ramoncito & Shirley Roxas & Family

**SUNDAY, February 23, 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8am For The People  
10am Emmanuel B. Astudillo  
r/b Edwin & Nora Dava  
12pm Florence Villa (L)(Birthday Blessing)  
7pm Regina Morley r/b Valentini Family

**MONDAY, February 24**

7am Zenaida Gaspar  
r/b Zaida & Patrick Generoso  
8:30 Aida Manelo Vibar r/b Victoria D. Chavez

**TUESDAY, February 25**

7am Gavino Abaya, Jr. r/b Tom McNamara  
8:30 Gavino Abaya, Jr. r/b Mimi & Ato Tuazon

**WEDNESDAY, February 26, Ash Wednesday**

7am Gavino Abaya, Jr. r/b Melanie Trujillo  
8:30 Erlinda Matias (L)(75<sup>th</sup> Birthday)  
7pm Arturo Palmieri r/b Rene Punsal

**THURSDAY, February 27**

7am Ernesto Balingit (Death Anniv)  
r/b John Balingit  
8:30 Gavino Abaya, Jr.  
r/b Manuel & Lerma Acosta

**FRIDAY, February 28**

7am Gus Attisano  
8:30 Mikaela Catuncan (L) (13<sup>th</sup> Birthday)  
r/b Catuncan Family

**SATURDAY, February 29**

8:30am Purgatorial Society  
5pm For The People of The Parish

**SUNDAY, March 1, First Sunday of Lent**

8am For The People of The Parish  
10am Absalon Serrano r/b Annie Casino  
12pm Edison Fandialan r/b Annie Casino  
7pm Emmanuel "Buloy" Goopio

**OFFERING OF BREAD & WINE**

The offering for the bread to be used this week at our Masses was given in honor of **Erlinda B. Jacinto** on her birthday.

The offering for the wine to be used this week at our Masses was given in Memory of the **Deceased of the Parish.**

**OFFERING FOR SANCTUARY LAMPS**

The lamp burning over our tabernacle in the Church this week is offered for **Nerisa Padilla Braga.**

The lamp burning over our tabernacle in the Chapel this week is offered for the **People of the Parish.**

**PARISH INFORMATION**

Our Lady of Mercy Roman Catholic Church  
40 Sullivan Drive, Jersey City, NJ 07305  
Phone: 201-434-7500

Web: olmnj.org Email: olmchurchmail@gmail.com

**Office Hours:**

Monday to Friday 8 am – 3 pm  
Saturday 9 – 1 pm

*Pastor*

Reverend Father Marty B. Jacinto

*Parochial Vicars*

Father Thomas Iwanowski  
Father Ranulfo D. Docabo

*Sunday Associate*

Father Renato J. Bautista

*Permanent Deacon*

Deacon Meynardo Espeleta

*Pastoral Associate For Faith Formation & Youth / Young Adult Ministries*

Regina 'Jeng' Matias-Villa

*Assistant for Youth Ministries*

Jayvee Dacasin

*Director of Music Ministries*

Michael Rivera

*Parish Trustees*

Presy Lorenzo & Renato Tuazon

**MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday: 5 pm

Sunday: 8 am, 10 am, 12 noon, 7 pm

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday – Friday: 7 am & 8:30 am

Saturday: 8:30 am

**RECONCILIATION/ CONFESSIONS**

Monday - Saturday 9 am to 9:30 am  
or by Appointment.

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND**

If you, a family member or neighbor is hospitalized or confined to home and wish a visit from a parish priest, contact the Parish Office. Homebound or hospitalized parishioners may also request the Sacrament of the Sick by contacting the Parish Office.

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place every First Friday of the month from 9 am until 12 noon in the Chapel.

**REQUESTING BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To submit an announcement for our parish bulletin, send it in digital form to **OLMChurchMail@gmail.com** Please put **BULLETIN** in the subject line. All submissions must be received seven days in advance for consideration.

**REMINDER**

Young Adult Program, **LOVE IS A DECISION**, is today, Sunday, February 23, from 5 to 6:30 pm in the OLM Parish Center (the former convent at 250 Bartholdi Avenue.



**PLEASE JOIN US  
TOMORROW, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, AT 7:30 pm  
IN THE MARIA ROOM  
FOR AN IMPORTANT COMMUNITY MEETING  
WITH MAJOR CITY OFFICIALS!**

The OLM Chapter of *Jersey City Together* urges you to attend a special Community Meeting tomorrow, Monday, February 24, at 7:30 pm in the Maria Room.

We are happy to announce that Captain Patrick Sullivan, the new South District Police Commander (responsible for our area of the city), Mr. Jake Hudnut, Jersey City Chief Municipal Prosecutor and head of the Quality of Life Task Force, and officials from other agencies are also scheduled to be present at the meeting.

This meeting is taking place to respond to various issues recently raised by residents. We urge you to attend and to invite your neighbors. Topics to be discussed include safety, crime, increasing parking, animal control, the Country Village Park/Greenway. Your presence will make a difference. The more people who attend, the more the City will pay attention to our local concerns!

