

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH

1911 UNION VALLEY ROAD • HEWITT, NJ 07421

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THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT • DECEMBER 17, 2017



From the desk of Fr. Hubert

Witness to the Light (John 1:6-8, 19-28)

I wonder how Bill Gates felt when he learned that, according to *Forbes Magazine's* ranking of the richest men in the world, he had fallen to number two? His place at the top of the list had been taken by Jeff Bezos, the Amazon billionaire. Do the world's billionaires secretly compete with one another, each striving to be first in power and influence? Or are they content to be very, very wealthy and very, very influential?

John the Baptist and Jesus of Nazareth had no aspirations to be the richest men in Judea. The riches that they sought were for the Kingdom of God, not the kingdom of men. But nowhere do we have any indication that John ever sought to be more than he was, or that he aspired to one-up Jesus. John was a puzzle to the Pharisees and Levites, the ruling religious authorities in Jerusalem. They asked him if he was the Messiah. No. Was he Elijah? No. Was he the Prophet? No. Well after they'd run through their top rankings and he hadn't claimed any of the positions, they wanted to know who he was.

John described himself as the soundtrack for the one who was coming, one that they didn't know. He was the road crew, straightening the crooked road for the one who was destined to travel after him. The authorities were frustrated by the vagueness of his answers, but what they failed to realize was that John had no interest in impressing them. He knew who he was and he knew what he was destined to do. He was preparing the people for the coming of the Lord.

The gospel of John puts it much more eloquently when he describes John the Baptist this way: "There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light."

To be a witness to the light is a momentous role. We can all, like John the Baptist, be witnesses to the light of the Lord this Advent Season. Jeff Bezos may be on his way to becoming the world's first trillionaire. He may lead us to new far horizons with his space travel projects. He may alter the way we do our grocery shopping by his acquisition of Whole Foods. He may transform the world of journalism by his ownership of the *Washington Post*. He may dominate the list of the world's richest people, or he may fall to another position as someone else takes his place.

These lists change as money and power shift in the unpredictable world of business. The light of Jesus does not change, or shift, or alter, no matter what is going on in our everyday world. There is no listing of the lights that shine the brightest in God's kingdom, because the nature of holy illumination is not to seek rankings. There is room for all of us to shine in service to the Lord. We are witnesses to the light of the World. Shine brightly!

Fr. Hubert

WHAT'S NEW?

CHECK OUT our website: www.olqpnj.org

Like us on FACEBOOK: *Our Lady Queen of Peace NJ -and- Polska Misja Katolicka - Hewitt*

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THIS WEEK

Altar Consecration This Afternoon

We welcome Bishop Arthur Serratelli this afternoon at 5:30 PM for a special Mass and Consecration of our new altar. All are invited to attend this unique and historical event for our parish.

Spiritual Christmas Cards

Rosarian Christmas cards for your special intentions, to be remembered at Christmas Eve Midnight Mass at Our Lady Queen of Peace, are still available for sale. Please contact Fran Sarnella at 201-452-1428.



Preparing Church for Christmas

We hope to complete most of the decorating for Christmas on **Monday, December 18 from 10 AM – 1 PM**. If you are available to help out, we'd greatly appreciate your hand.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Children's Choir
6:00 PM
10:00 PM Midnight Mass in English
12:00 AM Midnight Mass in Polish



Christmas Day

8:00 AM
9:00 AM in Polish
10:30 AM
12:00 PM

CHRISTMAS CONCERT THANK YOU

Thank you to all who attended and all who performed at our wonderful Christmas Concert on December 3rd. Truly our hearts and minds were inspired and prepared for the Advent Season and the coming of Jesus at Christmas.



CONFIRMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY



NEXT CLASS: Sunday, December 17, 2017.

We ask all Confirmation students to plan to attend the Mass and Consecration of the Altar beginning at 5 PM. Details to come.

WE WANT YOU! We are looking for confirmed juniors and seniors to be a part of our peer-led Antioch program that we are revamping for our Confirmation two program. It is a very enriching experience and looks great on college applications, NHS hours, or anywhere else service hours are required. If you're interested, e-mail us or stop by during one of our Confirmation two meetings.

CONTACT US at: youthministry@olqpnj.org Like us on Facebook: Our Lady Queen of Peace Youth Ministry.



New Year's Eve Gala



Our Lady Queen of Peace will be hosting a New Year's Eve Gala Sunday, December 31st in the school gym.

We welcome parishioners and friends to help us welcome in a Happy and Healthy 2018.

Festivities begin at 8 pm - with closing at 2 am

50/50 and gifts will be awarded.

Tickets are \$75/pp and are available at the

Parish Offices 973-728-8162

Proceeds will be used for altar renovation



Tickets are available after all Masses this weekend in the Gathering Space.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER



Breakfast with Santa Sunday, December 17

Don't miss Santa and a hearty belly filling Breakfast at the Knights Annual Breakfast with Santa. The elves have been busy preparing the eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, muffins, buns and more. Bring the "good" kids and all under 10 will eat free!!! Santa will be there from 9 AM – 11 AM to get their last minute wishes. Don't miss out on the best breakfast in the parish...guaranteed!! Treats for all the children who attend. 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM.

Creche Display at Town Hall

The OLQP and St. Joseph's Knights have secured a 1 day permit to display the creche in front of town hall on Christmas Eve. We invite you to join us for even a few minutes to show your support for why we celebrate the season. A good turnout will let the township know the importance of the day to our community. Please join us! 10 AM – 4 PM Sunday, December 24.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, December 17th

K of C Breakfast – 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM – Cafeteria

Baptisms – 2:00 PM – Church

Consecration of the Altar – 5:30 PM - Church

Both Confirmation Classes -5:30 PM - Church

Al-Teen– 7:30 PM - Gathering Space

Al-Anon – 7:30 PM - Annex

AA – 7:30 PM - Cafeteria

Monday, December 18th

Decorate Church for Christmas – 10 AM-1PM – Church

Tuesday, December 19th

Children's Choir – 5:45 PM – Church

Adult Choir – 7:00 PM – Church

Boy Scouts Troop Committee – 7:00 PM – Gym

Wednesday, December 20th

Boy Scouts – 7:00 PM – Gym

Knights of Columbus – 8:00 PM – K of C Hall

Thursday, December 21st

Bible Study – 7:00 PM – Library

Friday, December 22nd

Parish Offices Closed

Polish Retreat – 7:00 PM – Church

Saturday, December 23rd

Legion of Mary – 9:30 AM – Library

AA – 2:00 PM - Cafe

Confessions – 4:00 PM – Church

Polish Retreat – 7:00 PM – Church

Sunday, December 24th

Knights of Columbus Creche – 10 AM – 4 PM – Town Hall

Christmas Eve Mass – 4:00 PM – Church

Christmas Eve Mass – 6:00 PM – Church

Midnight Mass in English – 10:00 PM – Church

Midnight Mass in Polish– 12:00 AM – Church

FINANCIAL UPDATE



The Parish belongs to all of us, and only through the parish community can we achieve our goals. The Challenge is Ours!!!

Parish debt as of December 3, 2017: \$573,636.41

Sunday Donations

Sunday, December 10, 2017 \$6,463.00

Diocesan Assessment \$1,714.00

Immaculate Conception, December 8 \$1,514.00

Our weekly goal \$13,500

Bishop's Annual Appeal Update: (as of December 5, 2017)

Our Lady Queen of Peace, Hewitt

2017 Goal: \$23,100.00

Pledged to Date: \$21,935.00

of Donors to date: 95

SHOP-RITE GIFT CARDS

Week Ending December 10, 2017

Sold – \$3,790.00

Profit – \$189.50

Total Profit since July 1, 2017 – \$3,736.75

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS



Tuna, Pasta Sauce, Canned Fruit

SHARE-A-GIFT THANK YOU



Thank you to everyone who participating in the Share-a-Gift Ministry: all those who provided gifts, all those who helped pack them up, and all those who distributed them. More than 430 gifts were packaged into 85 bags, providing gifts for 140 children in 55 families.

GREAT WAY TO BEGIN THE NEW YEAR

Join us for an Afternoon of Reflection

PRAYING IN COLOR:

SEEING THE HOLY

IN THE ORDINARY



AN AFTERNOON OF REFLECTION FOR WOMEN

**Sunday, January 21, 2018
12 – 4 PM, beginning with Mass**

Free will offering will be taken up at event to cover expenses.

Program to include:

- Mass and Lunch
- Reflections on Mathew 18:3, Psalm 145
- Introducing New Ways of Praying
- Creating, silent reflection, sharing and prayer



This event is open to all Christian women, so bring your friends, relatives and neighbors.

For further information or to register contact: Mary Beth Osiecki at 973-728-8162, ext. 309 or mbosiecki@olqpnj.org. Registration forms available at church exits, on our parish Facebook Page, and in the parish office.

ALTAR CLEANING



Week of December 17, 2017
Team 4 – Mary Schouten and Cecilia Cassella

POLISH MISSION:

The Polish Mission at Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish was established in 2009 by the initiative of his Excellency Bishop Arthur Serratelli. The first Mass in Polish was celebrated in this parish September 6, 2009.



FACEBOOK PAGE: Polska Misja Katolicka - Hewitt

Masses in Polish:

- Sunday 9:00 AM
- First Fridays and Holy Days 7:30 PM

PASTORAL STAFF

Father Hubert Jurjewicz, Ph.D.	Parish Administrator
Father Kamil Stachowiak	Parochial Vicar
Deacon Charles Roche	Deacon
Deacon David Cedrone	Deacon / Baptism Ministry
Mary Beth Osiecki	Ministries/Outreach/Evangelization
Patricia Golczewski	Business Administrator
Janet Scheil	Religious Education
Kevin Flynn	Youth Minister/Confirmation
Alan Morales	Music Director
Marian Dul	Organist for Polish Mass
Joseph Osiecki	Information Technology
Pat Cedrone	Baptism Ministry
Patricia Callahan	Trustee
John Buechel	Trustee

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	5:00 PM
Sunday	8:00 AM
	9:00 AM (Polish)
	10:30 AM
	12:00 Noon



DAILY MASSES

Monday thru Saturday	9:00 AM
Rosary Recited	8:30 AM
First Friday	7:30 PM (Polish)
Holy Day Vigil Mass	7:00 PM
Holy Day Masses	9:00 AM
	6:30 PM
	7:30 PM (Polish)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Friday from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM October - June, followed by Benediction

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Office closed on Fridays.



PARISH MEMBERSHIP

We welcome all new parishioners! We ask that you register to ensure your full participation in the life of the parish. Registrations forms are available at church exits, in the parish office or call and a form can be mailed or e-mailed to you.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please kindly submit all bulletin material to olqpnj@gmail.com. Please note that in order for articles to be published in next week's bulletin they need to be submitted no later than 10 AM of the prior Tuesday.

CONTINUING CATHOLIC DEVELOPMENT

Grades K-6	Sunday, 9:00 - 10:15 AM
Grades 1-4	Tuesday, 4:30 - 5:45 PM
Grades 5-8	Tuesday, 7:00 - 8:15 PM
Grades 9-12	2-Year Confirmation Preparation (2X month)
	Confirmation 1 – Sunday, 5:00 - 6:00 PM
	Confirmation 2 – Sunday, 6:30 - 7:45 PM

POLSKA MISJA:

Polska Misja przy parafii Najsłodszej Marwi Panny Królowej Pokoju, powstała w 2009 roku z inicjatywy Jego Ekscelencji



Ks. Biskupa Artura J. Serratelli, S.T.D., S.S.L., D.D. Pierwsza Msza Święta w języku Polskim została odprawiona w tej parafii szóstego września 2009 roku.

FACEBOOK: Polska Misja Katolicka - Hewitt

Msza Święta w Języku Polskim:

- Niedziela godz 9:00AM
- każdy pierwszy piątek o godz. 7:30 PM

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS

We celebrate the sacrament of Baptism most Sundays. Parents are welcome to have the Baptism celebrated either at a week-end Mass or at the Liturgy of Baptism at 2:00 PM two Sundays a month. To make arrangements for Baptism please call the Parish Office or e-mail baptism@olqpnj.org. Godparents must be confirmed, be active members of the church and attend Mass regularly. A sponsor certificate is required from each godparent.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Before Daily Mass	8:40-9:00 AM
Saturday	4:00 - 4:45 PM

(or by appointment with Fr. Hubert or Fr. Kamil)

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please contact Parish Office and set up an appointment. Any Catholic couple needs approximately a year to prepare for the Sacrament of Marriage, which includes sessions with the Priest celebrating the marriage and attendance at Pre-Canva conferences.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK / HOSPITAL VISITS

We are strongly committed to the spiritual care of the sick. Because of privacy laws, hospitals and nursing homes are not allowed to release the patient's religious affiliation. Therefore, we must depend on families of our sick parishioners to inform us of their whereabouts and condition. Please notify the parish office of any need for a home or hospital visit.

RCIA - The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

is a program for people who seek full initiation in the Catholic Church through the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation, which are received at the Easter Vigil. For information, please contact the parish office.

Sacrament Preparation Available in Polish

Sacramental Catechesis for First Communion and Confirmation is also available in Polish.

EARLY CHILDHOOD ACADEMY (Pre-School Academy)

Religious Based Formal Preschool, PreK and K Prep programs for ages 2 ½ - 6.
Before and After School Program for Grades K-6
Contact Mercedes Debrecki at 973-506-7533 for more information.

PRAYER CHAIN:

Your sisters and brothers of the Parish will gladly pray for your needs. Please call Jenelle Hopkins at 973-853-7240 or e-mail her at prayer.chain@olqpnj.org.