

# OUR LADY OF THE MOUNT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Welcome, Worship, Witness*

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Image Artist: Yongsung Kim



## *First Sunday of Advent | December 3, 2023*

### *Parish Office*

Laura Sepesi, Pastoral Assistant

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Kasia Sepesi, Administrative Assistant

& **Notary Public** | Ext. 104 | [ksepesi@olmwarren.org](mailto:ksepesi@olmwarren.org)

Michele Godleski, Bookkeeper & **Notary Public**

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Jerry Salemi, Business Administrator

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### *Office of Faith Formation*

Emma DeBorja, Parish Catechetical Leader

Ext. 113 | [edeborja@olmwarren.org](mailto:edeborja@olmwarren.org)

Caterina Caruso, Faith Formation Office Assistant

Ext. 112 | [ccaruso@olmwarren.org](mailto:ccaruso@olmwarren.org)

Robert D'Ambola, Safety Officer

Ext. 115 | [safetyofficer@olmwarren.org](mailto:safetyofficer@olmwarren.org)

### *Daily Masses*

Monday-Saturday | 9:15 AM Chapel

### *Clergy*

Rev. Sean W. Kenney, OFS, Pastor

### *Parish Office Hours*

Monday - Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Friday 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM

### *Join Us For Mass*

Sunday Masses | Saturday Vigil— 5:00 PM Church

Sunday— 8:00 | 10:00 | 11:30 AM Church

Confessions— Saturday 4:15-4:45 PM

Holy Days— 9:15 AM | 7:30 PM Church

## Daily Mass Intentions

**Sunday, December 3** *First Sunday of Advent*

- 8:00 AM** **Sister Ruthann Williams OP**  
r/o Alison Morrison
- 10:00 AM** **For the Intentions of David Crane**  
r/o Caroline, Jessica & Stephen
- 11:30 AM** **Antonio Antunes**  
r/o His Wife

**Monday, December 4** *St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church*

- 9:15 AM** **Tom Steffe**  
r/o Jennifer & Family

**Tuesday, December 5**

- 9:15 AM** **John & Wilhelmina Robinson**  
r/o The Carroll Family

**Wednesday, December 6** *St. Nicholas, Bishop*

- 9:15 AM** **Marie Romero**  
r/o Alison Morrison

**Thursday, December 7** *St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

- 9:15 AM** **Denise "Denny" Borrelli**  
r/o James Borrelli

**Friday, December 8** *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

- 9:15 AM** **For the Intentions of Our Parishioners**  
**7:30 PM** **For the Intentions of Our Parishioners**

**Saturday, December 9** *St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin*

- 9:15 AM** **Gaetano Sasso**  
r/o Stephanie Sasso
- 5:00 PM** **Janet Tobin**  
r/o Nancy Kardos

**Sunday, December 10** *Second Sunday of Advent*

- 8:00 AM** **Donna Barshatzky**  
r/o The Wasserstein Family
- 10:00 AM** **Charles Joseph Thomas**  
r/o Sellinger Family
- 11:30 AM** **For the Protection of Babies in the Womb & their Families**  
r/o Steve & Doreen Gliebe

*Please remember in your prayers the sick, homebound and disabled of our parish family, all those listed in the parish book of intentions, and all the men and women of the Armed Forces.*



**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
A Holy Day of Obligation  
Friday, December 8th Masses  
9:15 AM and 7:30 PM in the Church  
Parish Offices will be closed



## In Loving Memory

*Please pray for the families and loved ones of the departed who now enjoy everlasting life:*

**Arthur G. Petty**

*Husband of Patty*

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.*



## We Welcome Our Newly Baptized



**Ciara Joy Azzinnari**

*Daughter of Francesco and Heather*



## December 3, 2023 | First Sunday of Advent

*"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." - Mark 13:33*

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.



**Please join us for the 11:30 AM Mass on Sunday, December 10th! Come greet Bishop Checchio as he makes a pastoral visit to Our Lady of the Mount**



# Christmas Schedule 2023

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday, December 9  
3:45-4:45 P.M. Church

Monday, December 18  
7:30 P.M. Church

## MASSES

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 23

5:00 P.M. Church

Sunday, December 24

8:00 A.M. Church

10:00 A.M. Church

**NO 11:30 A.M. Mass**

## MASSES

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24

4:00 P.M. Chapel

4:00 P.M. Church

7:00 P.M. Church

Midnight Church

## MASSES

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25

10:00 A.M. Church

12:00 P.M. Church

## MASSES

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, December 30

5:00 P.M. Church

Sunday, December 31

8:00 A.M. Church

10:00 A.M. Church

11:30 A.M. Church

## MASSES

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God  
(not a holyday of obligation this year)

Sunday, December 31

5:00 P.M. Chapel

Monday, January 1

9:15 A.M. Chapel

## Scripture Readings

### For the Week of December 3, 2023

#### Sunday | First Sunday of Advent

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1  
Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

#### Monday

Is 2: 1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8:5-11

#### Tuesday

Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

#### Wednesday

Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37

#### Thursday | Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

#### Friday | Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1; 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

#### Saturday

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

#### Sunday | Second Sunday of Advent

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8



## Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a poinsettia and amaryllis sale after each Mass this weekend, December 2nd and December 3rd.



**Blessed Rafal Chylinski**



Born near Buk in the Poznan region of Poland, Melchior Chylinski showed early signs of religious devotion; family members nicknamed him “the little monk.” After completing his studies at the Jesuit college in Poznan, Melchior joined the cavalry and was promoted to officer rank within three years.

In 1715, against the urgings of his military comrades, Melchior joined the Conventual Franciscans in Krakow. Receiving the name Rafal, he was ordained two years later. After pastoral assignments in nine cities, he came to Lagiewniki, where he spent the last 13 years of his life, except for 20 months ministering to flood and epidemic victims in Warsaw. In all these places, Rafal was known for his simple and candid sermons, for his generosity, as well as for his ministry in the confessional. People of all levels of society were drawn to the self-sacrificing way he lived out his religious profession and priestly ministry.

Rafal played the harp, lute, and mandolin to accompany liturgical hymns. In Lagiewniki he distributed food, supplies, and clothing to the poor. After his death, the Conventual church in that city became a place of pilgrimage for people throughout Poland. He was beatified in Warsaw in 1991.

**Reflection**

The sermons preached by Rafal were powerfully reinforced by the living sermon of his life. The Sacrament of Reconciliation can help us bring our daily choices into harmony with our words about Jesus’ influence in our lives.

*Source: [www.franciscanmedia.org](http://www.franciscanmedia.org)*

**Saint Francis Xavier**

Jesus asked, “What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?” (Matthew 16:26a). The words were repeated to a young teacher of philosophy who had a highly promising career in academics, with success and a life of prestige and honor before him.

Francis Xavier, 24 at the time, and living and teaching in Paris, did not heed these words at once. They came from a good friend, Ignatius of Loyola, whose tireless persuasion finally won the young man to Christ. Francis then made the spiritual exercises under the direction of Ignatius, and in 1534, joined his little community, the infant Society of Jesus. Together at Montmartre they vowed poverty, chastity, obedience, and apostolic service according to the directions of the pope.

From Venice, where he was ordained a priest in 1537, Xavier went on to Lisbon and from there sailed to the East Indies, landing at Goa, on the west coast of India. For the next 10 years he labored to bring the faith to such widely scattered peoples as the Hindus, the Malaysians, and the Japanese. He spent much of that time in India, and served as provincial of the newly established Jesuit province of India.

Wherever he went, Xavier lived with the poorest people, sharing their food and rough accommodations. He spent countless hours ministering to the sick and the poor, particularly to lepers. Very often he had no time to sleep or even to say his breviary but, as we know from his letters, he was filled always with joy.

Xavier went through the islands of Malaysia, then up to Japan. He learned enough Japanese to preach to simple folk, to instruct, and to baptize, and to establish missions for those who were to follow him. From Japan he had dreams of going to China, but this plan was never realized. Before reaching the mainland, he died. His remains are enshrined in the Church of Good Jesus in Goa. He and Saint Thérèse of Lisieux were declared co-patrons of the missions in 1925.

**Reflection**

All of us are called to “go and preach to all nations—see Matthew 28:19. Our preaching is not necessarily on distant shores but to our families, our children, our husband or wife, our coworkers. And we are called to preach not with words, but by our everyday lives. Only by sacrifice, the giving up of all selfish gain, could Francis Xavier be free to bear the Good News to the world. Sacrifice is leaving yourself behind at times for a greater good, the good of prayer, the good of helping someone in need, the good of just listening to another. The greatest gift we have is our time. Francis Xavier gave his to others.

*Source: [www.franciscanmedia.org](http://www.franciscanmedia.org)*





## *Our Lady of the Mount* Annual Giving Tree

Please choose an ornament and return  
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**Sunday December 17, 2023**

All gifts will be brought to our sister parish  
**Most Holy Name of Jesus** in Perth Amboy  
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