



*A Catholic Community...  
Our Lady Queen of Peace  
& St. Thomas More*

**Our Lady Queen of Peace**  
601 Edgewood Ave. Rochester, NY 14618  
585-244-3010 - email: rourlady@dor.org

**Office Hours**  
OLQP T & Th 8:00-11:00  
STM M & W 8:00-11:00

**St. Thomas More**  
2617 East Avenue - Rochester, NY 14610  
585-381-4200 - email: stm@dor.org

**Mass Times**  
Monday, Wednesday: 7:00 a.m.  
Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 9:00 a.m.  
Holy Days of Obligation: as printed in bulletin

Other times - call first to be sure we're here.  
[www.olqpstm.com](http://www.olqpstm.com)  
Confessions before 4:30 Mass or by appointment

**Mass Times**  
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:00 a.m.  
Saturday 4:30 p.m., Sunday 11:00 a.m.  
Holy Days of Obligation: as printed in bulletin

**Sacrament of Baptism**

Parents are to notify a parish office soon after they know they are expecting. A pre-baptismal program is required.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)**

Adults seeking full initiation, Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, or those wishing to be in full communion with the Roman Catholic Church are asked to contact a parish office for more information.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturdays at 3:30 pm before evening Mass at both OLQP & STM. Also, by appointment, please call the office to schedule.

**Sacrament of Matrimony**

Arrangements must be made at least six months, preferably a year, in advance of the desired date. A marriage preparation program is required.

**Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick**

This Sacrament is available for individuals upon request and communal celebrations are periodically scheduled.

**Ministry to the Sick**

Please call a parish office concerning the needs of the sick, hospitalized or shut-ins. Those unable to attend Mass may have Communion brought to them.

**Prayer Network**

For prayer support in time of need, call Gerri Foos at 944-4888 or gfprayer@gmail.com

**Business Office**

Mary Kase, Racheal Stepien, Lisa Reina  
585-450-2999

**Available at both parishes:**

**Available at OLQP**



Handicap Access

Hearing Loop Access

Upon Request  
Low Gluten Hosts

Interpreter for the hearing impaired.

December 18, 2022

SAVE



“She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

MATTHEW 1:21

# Welcome...

We graciously welcome all new parishioners and visitors to our community. To register please fill out a "request card" available at church entrances. Please drop it in the collection basket or at the office. A member of our pastoral staff will contact you to complete your registration.

## Mission Statement

*The parishes of Our Lady Queen of Peace and St. Thomas More are Roman Catholic Communities that worship and live in faith. Nourished by the Sacraments, Scripture, and a diversity of individual gifts, we understand that our mission comes from Jesus Christ who calls us to teach, to preach, to serve those in need, and to be a presence of Christ in the world.*

## Mass Schedule

### Monday, December 19

**Is 13:2-7,24-25a Ps 71:3-4a,5-6b,16-17 Lk 1:5-25**

*OLQP* 7:00 AM Intentions of Marcella Schaarschmidt -  
Linda McCauley

### Tuesday, December 20

**Is 7:10-14 Ps 24:1-6 Lk 1:26-38**

*STM* 8:00 AM People of the Parish  
2:00 PM Jewish Home Mass

### Wednesday, December 21 St. Peter Canisius, priest, doctor of the church

**Sg 2:8-14 Ps 33:2-3,11-12,20-21 Lk 1:39-45**

*OLQP* 7:00 AM †Harriet & Rufus Dryer

### Thursday, December 22

**1 Sm 1:24-28 (Ps) 1 Sm 2:1,4-8 Lk 1:46-56**

*STM* 8:00 AM †Rachel LeChase

### Friday, December 23

**Mal 3:1-4,23-24 Ps 25:4bc-5ab,8-10,14 Lk 1:57-66**

*STM* 8:00 AM †Patrick Byrne - Family

### Saturday, December 24 Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

**Is 62:1-5 Ps 89:4-5,16-17,27,29 Acts 13:16-17,22-25 Mt 1:1-25**

*OLQP* 4:30 PM †Marie Byrne - Family  
*STM* 3:30 PM †Mancuso, Loiacano, & Sparacino Families -  
Richard & MaryAnn Loiacano  
5:30 PM †Robert M. Lawrence MD & John Charles  
Lawrence - Ruth A. Lawrence, MD  
10:00 PM †Marie O'Brien - Family

### Sunday, December 25 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

**Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1-6 Heb1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18**

*OLQP* 9:00 AM †Ann Reinhardt - Family  
*STM* 11:00 AM †Joyce Desiderio - Lisa Pink



Sanctuary Lamp Intentions this week are in Memory of:

**STM** Jim Ryan, Sr.  
**OLQP** Rose Plozner



### Prayers Requested:

Please pray for the individuals who have requested our prayers: Patrick Brennan, William J. Burns, Beth Cain, Mary Jean Castellano, Roger Ciccarelli, Mavis Coward, Gary Feldman, Carol Foxenburgh, Mary Helen Hiller, Ginger Ierardi, John King, Steven Kistner, Barbara Labroi, John Lewman, Lourdes May, Ryan Maciaszek, Cecile McDonald, Janice Milliman, Kelly Farrell Murphy, Dolly Nolan, Quinn Oliphant, Bob O'Neill, Ellen Pernaselli, Daniel Ploppert, Marion Robinson, Rob Smith, Thelma Smith, Tom & Kathleen Sullivan, Barb Tindale, George Walsh, and Peppy Walsh.

This month we had forty of our second graders receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation! It is, in my opinion, the most misunderstood and misperceived Sacrament of all. Hollywood has long since hijacked the confessional scene to portray it as a dark foreboding lair, scary and uninviting. But nothing could be farther from the truth. Since peace and forgiveness doesn't sell as many tickets, I am afraid that dispelling this myth will be a part of my ministry for years to come.

The task to present the Sacrament in a positive light, especially to young second graders, can seem rather daunting. They are refreshingly honest. They do not mind sharing their nervousness toward admitting their sins to someone aloud for the first time. I understand their sentiments but then share in their joy as they come out of the confessional beaming as they have heard and understood the words, "Your sins are forgiven."

One of the exercises that we do with the kids prior is to rehearse the Reconciliation Rite. We practice what to say and what to do. During practice it is emphasized that they should not tell us a real sin, as only the priests can hear those. But for fun, they can make up the most outlandish sin they can think of! This way they can practice what it's like to have a horrible sin forgiven.

As you can imagine, the second-grade mind is still so fresh to the ideas of what sin is, and the examples they give sometimes teach us far more than we teach them. On this one occasion a student said, "I want to confess that I robbed all the banks and stole all the money." I nodded and asked, "Hmm.. and why did you need to steal all that money?" He looked up at me with a firm stare, "Because the poor don't have any and I'm going to give it to them!"

I am reminded at how easily we can overlook the harm we can do while achieving something that has all the appearances of God's will. In today's readings from St. Paul, we are reminded that we are a people set apart for the Gospel of Christ. Now, this can lead us down paths that serve our egos, politics, and personal ideologies more than our Savior if we are not careful. Being set apart does not mean to rely on our own opinions at all costs. It means dedicating our time and attention to what Jesus taught, did and wanted us to do. It means holding ourselves accountable and seeking forgiveness when we've gone off course.

This brings me back to the Sacrament of Reconciliation - literally and figuratively. In the age of "self-care," let's start with our souls! During this holiday time when the emphasis tempts us far away from Bethlehem and far too often down the aisles of Target; let's get back to what really matters and give our souls room for Christ to come. Let's pause and reevaluate the time we give for God to speak to us and guide us. Let's utilize the Sacraments that promise only grace and growth. It costs us nothing to seek this and God wants nothing more than to give it.

Many Advent Blessings my friends! Jennifer

**Advent = Hope Peace Joy Love**



When you support the Catholic Ministries Appeal, you celebrate your faith in thanksgiving with thousands of other Catholics within the Diocese of Rochester, ensuring that our church provides richly for the faithful within our Diocese. In this difficult time we invite you to, prayerfully, consider making your contribution to CMA.

Our parishes benefit from your donation. Visit <https://www.dor.org/giving/catholic-ministries-appeal/> for more information.

**STM**  
Goal - \$74,000.00  
\$43,028.00 as of 12/9  
58.15% of goal 84 Donors

**OLQP**  
Goal - \$68,000.00  
\$32,379.00 as of 12/9  
47.62% of goal 78 Donors



FAITH FORMATION

Jennifer Abdalla is looking for a 7th grade teacher to fill in on 2 Sunday nights a month from 6:00-8:00. This would be for the months of February, March & April. If you feel called to help out in this important ministry, please contact her at 244-3010 or [jennifer.abdalla@dor.org](mailto:jennifer.abdalla@dor.org)

**Mark your calendar now: High School Youth Group begins January 2023**

If you're looking for a place to belong, where you can really be yourself, explore and deepen your faith, ask the BIG life questions, and be a part of a community of friendship, faith, and fun, we hope you'll try coming to youth group. Friends are always welcome (they don't have to be Catholic). And you can talk about what's important to you with people who really want to listen and get to know you. No matter where you're at with God or how cool you are at school, youth group is for you! Beginning January 29, 2023.

Second year Confirmation students (9th Grade) are welcome to join us on their 'off weeks.'  
Youth Group Meetings: Jan 29, Feb 12, 19, March 5, 19, April 2,23, May 7,21

**Questions?** Call our youth & young adult minister Nora at her office at OLQP at 585-244-3010 x106 or email her at [nora.bradbury@dor.org](mailto:nora.bradbury@dor.org)

The Tuesday morning knitting/crochet group has been hard at work since September and have provided many, many warm hats, gloves, mitten, scarves, and blankets for those less fortunate in our area. They have been so hard at work that they are running out of yarn and really depend on donations from our parish family. If you have extra yarn around or wish to purchase some please drop it at the office at OLQP.



**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS & DECORATIONS**

**STM & OLQP**

If you would like to make a donation for the Christmas decorations this year, please fill out this form and place it in an envelope marked **Christmas Flowers** along with your offering and place it in the collection basket or send to church by **December 20th**.

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Donor \_\_\_\_\_

**1st Eucharist Preparation**



First Eucharist Prep sessions will be starting in March. **Your child must have received 1st Reconciliation before receiving 1st Eucharist.** If your child participated in First Reconciliation preparation this past fall, I will presume you are continuing in First Eucharist preparation unless you have told me differently.

Contact Jennifer Abdalla at [jennifer.abdalla@dor.org](mailto:jennifer.abdalla@dor.org)

1st Eucharist Camps will be held on **April 15th & April 22nd**

First Eucharist is scheduled to be celebrated on **May 7, 2023**

**Lector assignments for next weekend 12/24-25**

- OLQP **4:30** - Peter Lutz
- 9:00** - Kathy Revekant
- STM **3:30** - **LECTOR NEEDED**
- 5:30** - Dennis Regan
- 10:00** - MaryAgnes McAvoy
- 11:00** - Mary Scardetta

**Communion Ministers for Christmas Masses**

- OLQP **4:30** - Margot Lutz, Olive & Tom Strifolino
- 9:00** - Sr. Connie Bickford, Dcn. Art, **NEED 1**
- STM **3:30** - Dcn. Art, **NEED 2**
- 5:30** - Richard & MaryAnn Loiacano, Dcn. Art
- 10:00** - Margie Rick, Diane Waterstreet, **NEED 1**
- 11:00** - Marie D'Lima, Eufemia Mariano, **NEED 1**

Please let Robin know if you are available to fill the open slots - [robin.levy@dor.org](mailto:robin.levy@dor.org). Thanks.

**Quote of the Week**

Advent means "arrival." As we anticipate the birth of Jesus Christ, we must remember that God appeared in these tender places — in human flesh, in the womb of a refugee, at the site of vulnerability and oppression.  
- Sarah James, "Reclaiming Advent as the Season of the Midwife"

**Prayer of the Week**

May we see persons with disabilities as you see them Lord; as beloved children who do not need fixing, but as needed members of our community.



Altar flower sign-ups can be found at the church entrances if you want to provide the altar flowers at either church for January through June. The flowers you provide in memory of or in honor of a loved one would need to be delivered to church on Saturday afternoons for the weekend liturgies.

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

	<b>Monday</b> December 19	<b>Tuesday</b> December 20	<b>Wednesday</b> December 21	<b>Thursday</b> December 22	<b>Friday</b> December 23	<b>Saturday</b> December 24	<b>Sunday</b> December 25
AT OLQP						Choir Rehearsal & Mass 3:30pm	<b>Merry Christmas</b>
AT STM			Liturgical Choir & Instrument Rehearsal 7:00-10:00pm			Liturgical Choir Rehearsal & Mass 9:00pm	



***Christmas Bucket List***

- Be*  
**1. BUY PRESENTS**
- 2. WRAP GIFTS** *someone in a hug*
- 3. SEND GIFTS** *love*
- Donate*  
**4. SHOP FOR FOOD**
- 5. MAKE COOKIES** *memories*
- Be*  
**6. SEE THE LIGHTS**



Our Christmas Mass schedule will be as follows:



**STM**  
Saturday, December 24th  
3:30pm, 5:30pm, 10:00pm  
Sunday December 25th  
11:00am

**OLQP**  
Saturday, December 24th  
4:30pm  
Sunday December 25th  
9:00am

**Christmas Masses at OLOL/SA are as follows:**

**OLOL**  
Saturday December 24th - 5:30pm, 10:00pm  
Sunday December 25th - 9:30am

**St. Anne**  
Saturday, December 24th - 4:00pm, Midnight  
Sunday December 25th - 11:30am

**November Financial Report**

**Our Lady Queen of Peace**

<b>Week Ending for:</b>	<b>Sunday Mass Collection</b>
November 6	\$5,274
November 13	\$3,741
November 20	\$3,458
November 27	\$4,272

**November EFT gifts \$6,333**

**November Totals**

Attendance	871
Sunday Collection	\$23,078
Sunday Collection Budget	\$25,376 ( <b>\$2,298 unfavorable</b> )

**Year-to-Date Totals**

Sunday Collection	\$126,803
Sunday Collection Budget	\$139,568 ( <b>\$12,765 unfavorable</b> )

**St. Thomas More**

<b>Week Ending for:</b>	<b>Sunday Mass Collection</b>
November 6	\$5,520
November 13	\$8,196
November 20	\$3,752
November 27	\$8,255

**November EFT gifts \$4,045**

**November Totals**

Attendance	1102
Sunday Collection	\$29,768
Sunday Collection Budget	\$26,668 (3,100 favorable)

**Year-to-Date Totals**

Sunday Collection	\$142,726
Sunday Collection Budget	\$146,674 ( <b>\$3,948 unfavorable</b> )

"An unfavorable monthly variance indicates the total "weeklies" donated during November 2022 do not meet budgeted expectations and our financial obligations may not be met."

**Staff**

**Rev. Joseph A. Hart** Pastor  
hart@dor.org

**Rev. Dan Condon** Assisting Priest  
fr.dan.condon@dor.org

**Deacon Art Cuestas** arthur.cuestas@dor.org

**Nora Bradbury-Haehl**  
Pastoral Assoc./Youth & Young Adult Ministry  
nora.bradbury@dor.org

**Jennifer Abdalla**  
Director of Faith Formation/Pastoral Minister  
jennifer.abdalla@dor.org

**Dawn Savacool** Administrative Asst. for FF  
dawn.savacool@dor.org

**Meghan Kellogg** Music Director/OLQP  
meghan.kellogg@dor.org

**Connor Doran** Music Director/STM  
cdoranmusic95@gmail.com

**Mary Ann Obark** RCIA Coordinator  
maryann.obark@dor.org

**Robin Levy** Administrative Assistant  
robin.levy@dor.org

**Mary Kase** Regional Finance Director  
mary.kase@dor.org

**Corner**

*“When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.”*

MATTHEW 1:24

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. Joseph was a model of these pillars of our faith. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.



### Due to early submission for bulletin publication the Sacrificial Giving amounts are unavailable this week.

Fiscal Year: July 1, 2022—June 30, 2023

Thank you for sharing your gift of treasure. May the Lord bless you for your generosity.

Please go to our website at [olqpstm.com](http://olqpstm.com) to donate online. Click on Connect Now. Please contact Mary Kase 450-2999 if you have any questions. Please contact Mary Kase by phone or email at [mary.kase@dor.org](mailto:mary.kase@dor.org) **BEFORE** considering making a stock transfer to donate to your parish.

**Catholic Schools in Area:**

**Seton Catholic School**  
Grades Pre-K-6  
Mary Kate Koecheler, Principal  
473-6604



**St. Louis School**  
Grades Pre-K-5  
Mrs. Eileen Schenk, Principal  
586-5200