

Masses for the Week

Sunday, December 26, 2021, The Holy Family

1 Samuel 1: 20 - 28; 1 John 3: 1 - 24; Luke 2: 41 - 52
8:00 a.m. The Intentions of Russell Rogers
- Req. The Rogers Family
10:00 a.m. Laura Heins
- Req. The Alvarez Family
12:00 p.m. Virginia Wohland
- Req. Her Family

Monday, December 27, 2021, Saint John the Apostle

1 John 1: 1 - 4; John 20: 1 - 8
8:30 a.m. Zdan Korduba
- Req. Oksana Koprduba

Tuesday, December 28, 2021, The Holy Innocents

1 John 1: 5 - 2: 2; Matthew 2: 13 - 18
8:30 a.m. Catherine, Joseph and Joey Gaul

- Req. Kathleen Gaul

Wednesday, December 29, 2021, Saint Thomas Becket

1 John 2: 3 - 11; Luke 2: 22 - 35
8:30 a.m. Thomas Darcey

- Req. Carol and Robert Quirk

Thursday, December 30, 2021

1 John 2: 12 - 17; Luke 2: 36 - 40
8:30 a.m. Ellie Warn

- Req. Her Family

Friday, December 31, 2021

1 John 2: 18 - 21; John 1: 1 - 18
8:30 a.m. Don Barney

- Req. The DiPentima Family

Saturday, January 1, 2022, Mary, The Mother of God

Numbers 6: 22 - 27; Galatians 4: 4 - 7; Luke 2: 16 - 21
9:00 a.m. The Intentions of Franci Locatelli

- Req. His Family

Sunday, January 2, 2022, The Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60: 1 - 6; Ephesians 3: 2 - 6; Matthew 2: 1 - 12
5:00 p.m. Anne R. Manley

- Req. Regina and Dino Manolis

Vincenza Pietropaolo

- Req. The Balsamo Family

10:00 a.m. **Linda Oliveira**

- Req. Anna and Dino Hardish

Catherine and Joseph Gaul

- Req. Kathleen and Pasquale Pignatelli

The Bread and Wine

used in the celebration of the Eucharist this week
are in memory of

Calogero Bertolino

with love from

His Family

658 - 2

Our Parish Family Shares

December 11 - 12, 2021

5:00 p.m.	\$ 1798.00
8:00 a.m.	732.00
10:00 a.m.	1582.00
12:00 p.m.	1311.00
Miscellaneous	1810.00
Total	\$ 7233.00

Accounts Payable \$142,251.07

Each of you must give as each has chosen in the heart,
not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a
cheerful giver.
- 2 Corinthians 9: 7

Of the 433 envelopes mailed to the members of our Parish Family 172 were returned two weeks ago. A total of \$6313.00 was contributed in Parish envelopes with \$920.00 contributed without using the envelope system. *ParishGiving* is not included in the collection totals. *GoFundMe* is also not included in this total

Electronic Payments (*ParishGiving*) for November amounted to \$8480.00 For information about our on-line giving program, go to the Parish Website: www.olphoakland.org.

What's New?

Attention Parish Family and Holiday Season Guests!

Saint James wrote in his letter: *Is there anyone sick among you?* More and more people are discovering that they suffer from **Celiac Disease** (statistics say 1 in 130 people!) and as such refrain from receiving the Eucharist. If you are one of these individuals, please do not hesitate to receive the Sacrament as we have 100% gluten-free hosts consecrated in the tabernacle. If you are a visiting relative or friend who is Celiac, please be know that Our Lady of Perpetual Help is pleased to accommodate you. Just let the Presiding Priest know when you approach him at Communiontime!

The Youth Group-sponsored **Fair-Trade Coffee House** was postponed until January 30th at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$5 and gets you all you can drink *Fair-Trade Coffee*, tea, and hot chocolate, as well as snacks.

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In the past several weeks you have seen in the bulletin the names of the four people who are currently enrolled in our *RCIA Program*: **Charlotte Meyer-Fuchs, Ed Eulas, Michelle Garnto and Christopher Roetman**. I ask you to please continue to pray for them, that their respective

spiritual journeys may be rich, life-changing, and move them ever closer to Christ and this faith community. I also invite you to consider and reflect on the baptismal promises made by your parents and godparents when you were baptized. At your Confirmation you renewed those promises and pledged to continue to live as Christ's disciple and to adopt His values and virtues. Your own spiritual journey is far from over! In fact, Confirmation was really a beginning. It was the start of a life of faith that you chose and embraced for yourself.

The beauty of the faith journey for our RCIA Catechumen (Charlotte) and Candidates (Ed, Michelle and Chris) and is that it also becomes our journey. Their call to deeper communion with Christ is also our call. Their journey of increasing conversion is also our journey. Their transformation by grace in faith is also our transformation. By supporting and praying for them, and by witnessing to our own faith as we live it in the sacramental life, we immerse them into the life of this parish community and surround them with care. Conversely, their experiences become the catalyst, the reminder, and the invitation to all of us to enter more deeply into the Paschal Mystery, whereby we died with Christ in baptism so that we may rise to new life in Him. As we move closer to the great baptismal feast of Easter, when Charlotte will be fully initiated at the Easter Vigil Mass, and as we move closer to the Easter Season (from Easter to Pentecost), when Ed, Michelle, and Chris will complete their initiation into the Church, I invite you to ponder your own walk with Jesus and actively consider how you can walk a parallel journey of conversion and transformation. What a profound and sublime thought that the Holy Spirit is leading our entire parish community to greater love and faith through these four individuals. What a grace that we are bonded with them in Christ, and they are bonded with us!

If you know anyone who is thinking about becoming a Catholic or completing their initiation into the Catholic Church, please have them contact me. Maybe that someone is you!

658 - 3

I ask you to regularly pray for our *Catechumen Candidates*. I also invite you to follow the RCIA process with them and thus renew your own Baptismal Commitment to be Jesus' disciple.

- Joel S. Peters

Our new camera set up for filming Mass is fully functional! All four cameras run into the (former) choir loft to a computer, where Mass is edited/live streamed. Normally, the Mass is always livestreamed at 8:00 a.m. but that is not always possible for Brian, the sole operator of the equipment. Assistants are needed to help out when he cannot film at 8:00 a.m. or when there is a request to livestream a Funeral (a paid service). The system is surprisingly easy to use and a Parish **Video Ministry** would be ideal. That way, the filming of Mass could be shared among a larger group.

658 - 3

We also need someone to replace the long-serving **Don Burns** who facilitates the Mass with the Oakland Cable Network after 8:00 a.m. Mass. If you are interested in learning the system and joining this ministry, please e-mail Brian (youth@olphoakland.org). If you can assist with the facilitation of Mass please see Don Burns at 8:00 a.m. Mass!

Catechetical News

We are moving right along! Thanks to the 28 Volunteers we have—Catechists and Aides—who give so generously of their time and efforts, our **Religious Education Program** is able to minister to over 200 students. It is such a pleasure to see our school building buzzing with activity on those Sundays and Wednesdays when classes are in session. It is gratifying to know that our catechists and aides are sharing their faith with our youth, and I am grateful for their willingness to give of themselves.

Our Second Graders are on task to receive two Sacraments this Program Year: **First Reconciliation** in January 2022, and **First Holy Communion** in May 2022. It is such a wonderful sight to see the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Masses on a Religious Education Sunday, when our Church is filled with parents and their children. This is a great example and visible reminder of what it truly means for us to be a parish community. We are at our best when we gather as a community centered on Christ's presence in the Eucharist. I want to heartily encourage our Religious Education Families to join us for worship not only on Religious Education Sundays, but on every Sunday, when we encounter Christ in a unique and special way in the Sacrament of the Altar. We need the spiritual strength and sustenance that the Lord gives us in the Eucharist to successfully maneuver through the difficulties and challenges that life throws at us.

Parents, please take note that an update handout titled "Important Information" has recently been sent home with your children. It details our program policies, and it provides some reminders about relevant concerns and pieces of information. The handout is also available on our parish website under the Religious Education tab. Scroll down slightly to the *Documents* box on the left side of the page. It is linked there as "Important Information." Please be sure to review its contents.

On behalf of myself, Sue Alter (Administrative Assistant), and the Catechists, Aides, and Substitutes who minister to our children, I want to wish all our Religious Education Families—and the entire Parish—a most blessed, peaceful, and holy Christmas Season. May Christ, the only true Light of the World, renew His presence within and among us.

- Joel S. Peters

Youth Ministry News

The Youth Group will not meet today, Sunday December 26th. We will, however, meet on Sunday, January 2nd at

7:00 p.m. in Connors Hall. All 8th – 12th graders are welcome to attend!

This Thursday, December 30th, the Youth Group will be going bowling at **Holiday Bowl** in Oakland! Please e-mail Brian (youth@olphoakland.org) for more information or to reserve a spot.

Preparations are underway for **Antioch XVIII**, which will take place March 11th – 13th. Our Team is made up of **Emily Bonini, Hunter DeYoung, Madison Goffredo, Cora Mayer-Costa, Miranda Miner, Sawyer Mulfinger and Apollo Pascual**. Please pray for them as they begin their journey to Antioch!

The Sanctuary Lamp
burns this week in memory of
Calogero Bertolino
with love from
His Family

Can't make it to Mass every Sunday but you still want to support your Parish?

Our Lady of Perpetual Help is happy to offer **ParishGiving** for making parish donations for the weekly offering. You may choose to have your donations made on a monthly basis, and automatically debited from your bank account or charged to your credit card. The program is optional, but does offer benefits to all of us: It provides an easy way to budget donations and, if you use your credit card, it allows you to take advantage of the benefits your credit card company offers. It also enables our parish to receive a steadier cash flow, especially during these challenging times. Consider **ParishGiving** as a means to support Our Lady of Perpetual Help even when you are away.

You can enroll on-line at olphoakland.org or call the Parish Office. There are also forms available in our Church Home.

Scripture Reflection

Luke 2: 41 – 52

Joseph, Mary, and Jesus went to Jerusalem for Passover, as was their custom. On the way back home, Jesus' parents thought He was in the caravan with relatives, but He had remained behind in Jerusalem teaching in the Temple. For three days they were greatly anxiety-ridden trying to find Him. When they finally did and questioned Him about His disappearance, He told them that He "must be in my Father's house."

What can I do to make my family a holy family?

What does this passage teach us about family obligations and the higher obligations of our relationship with God?

Do I prioritize religious formation in my children like Joseph and Mary did with Jesus? Am I as attentive to their spiritual growth as to other kinds of growth?

What's Happening

	<u>Holy Family Sunday, December 26th</u>
	Mass in our Church <i>Home</i> , on <i>Cable Television</i> , the <i>Parish Website</i> and <i>Live Streamed</i> at 8:00 a.m.
7:00 p.m.	No Youth Group
	<u>Monday, December 27th</u>
7:00 p.m.	RCIA
	<u>Tuesday, December 28th</u>
7:00 p.m.	Men's Spirituality Group
	<u>Saturday, January 1st</u>
9:00 a.m.	Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
	<u>Epiphany Sunday, January 2nd</u>
	Mass in our Church <i>Home</i> , on <i>Cable Television</i> , the <i>Parish Website</i> and <i>Live Streamed</i> at 8:00 a.m.
7:00 p.m.	Youth Group
	<u>Wednesday, January 5th</u>
4:15 p.m.	Religious Education
	<u>Thursday, January 6th</u>
7:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
8:00 p.m.	Troop 49 Boy Scouts
	<u>Friday, January 7th</u>
7:00 p.m.	Rosary Devotions
	<u>Saturday, January 8th</u>
9:00 a.m.	First Reconciliation Retreat
	<u>Sunday, January 9th</u>
	Mass in our Church <i>Home</i> , on <i>Cable Television</i> , the <i>Parish Website</i> and <i>Live Streamed</i> at 8:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m.	Confirmation Preparation
7:00 p.m.	Youth Group

Let us Pray

For those preparing for Marriage: Danielle Mulieri and Paul Conboy, Jennifer Stead and Daniel Dimond, Katrina Buczkowska and Brendan Miccio

For those preparing for Baptism: Amanda and Anthony Alsano (Anthony Ralph), Megan and Robert Redzia (Robert Thomas), Ivana and Kelvin Rodriguez (Amelia Rose and Alexander Jose)

For our Military Personnel: Kaitie Gaffney (US Army, Fort Drum, New York), Elliot Stura (US Marines, Hawaii), Richard E. Rasmussen (Seoul), Kevin Leahy (US Army, Fort Belvoir, Virginia)

For those who have died: Rita Ann Piretra

For the sick: Samantha Eulas, Jody Peters, Hans Brand, William Brockmann, Jim Craw, Erica Trojan, Timothy Tedesco, Neil Andrito, Diana Lepore, Bunny and Ralph Mondare, John Jarosz, Michael Tapper, John Rowin, Mary Abel, Kimberly Klain, George Vallone, Julia Furey-Bastian, Jordan Stashi, Robert Guarinello, Matthew Polifonte, Fiona Ramsay, Howard Koch, William Bennett, Julia Hennessy, Debbie Persaud, Nancy Tomkins, Christopher DiFrancesco

ATTENTION 4TH GRADERS AND UP:



**ALTAR
SERVERS
WANTED!**



No experience is necessary. We will train you.
This is an important ministry for our young people.

Fill out the form below and return it to the Religious Education Office.
You will be contacted by the Pastoral Associate to set up a training session.

* PLEASE PRINT *

Student's Full Name _____

Boy Girl Grade _____ Home Phone _____

Name of Parent(s) _____

Address, Town, ZIP _____

Parent's Email Address _____

Preferred Mass (check one): Sat. 5:00pm Sun. 8:00am 10:00am 12:00pm

If needed, he/she can serve: Sat. 5:00pm Sun. 8:00am 10:00am 12:00pm

Any time of year he/she is unavailable? _____

THE ROSARY

**'If I had an army to say the Rosary, I could
Conquer the WORLD"**

(Pope Pius IX)

**Come join us every Friday at 7:00 p.m. in our Church Home to
pray the Rosary.
Rosary beads and instructions will be provided.**



The Rosary is a powerful weapon. If you desire peace in your hearts, in your homes, in your family and in your country, recite the Rosary every day. Let not even one day pass without saying it, no matter how busy you may be.

Questions call Theresa @ 201-248-0082

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NOTHING ON THIS PAGE WILL BE IN THE PRINTED COPY

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

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Run 6

Comments: