The Catholic Faith Community of

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Oakland, New Jersey

Served by each other and by:
Rev. Thomas Paul Lipnicki, Pastor
Rev. John J. Cryan, Weekend Associate
Mr. Scott Becker, Confirmation Coordinator
Mr. Joel S. Peters, Pastoral Associate and Catechetical Leader
Ms. Kathleen Pignatelli, Director of Women's Spirituality
Mr. Michael Wada, Music Minister
Position Open, Youth Minister
Ms. Teresa Kilday, Parish Trustee
Mr. Joel Patron, Parish Trustee

The Eucharist

The Lord's Day:
5:00 p.m. (The Vigil)
8:00 and 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon
Weekdays:
8:30 a.m. (Monday - Saturday)
Holydays:
Please consult the bulletin

Live Streaming and Mass on Television:
Our Sunday Celebration of the Eucharist is *livestreamed* at 8:00 o'clock on Sunday mornings. Our Sunday Mass is always available on our Parish Website (www.olphoakland.org) as well as on Optimum Channel 77 and Verizon FiOS channel 2145

Christian Initiation:
Adults: We welcome all who are interested in becoming members of the Catholic Church, as well as those Catholics who would like to complete the Sacraments of Initiation (Eucharist and/or Confirmation). Please contact Pastoral Associate Joel S. Peters (201-337-7596) regarding the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA).**

Infants and Young Children *(under age 7***):** Parents may begin arrangements for the Baptism of their children by calling Ms. Susan Alter at the **Religious Education Office** (201-337-5537).

Catechetics:
Our Parish **School of Religious Education** is Family Friendly and offers several options. We offer **Kindergarten through Grade 9** which includes preparation for *First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion* and *Confirmation***.** For more information please call the **Religious Education Office** (201-337-5537).

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
25 Purdue Avenue
Oakland, New Jersey 07436
201 – 337 - 7596 (Parish Office)
(201 – 337 - 7810 - Fax)
www.olphoakland.org (Web Site)

Sacramental Reconciliation:
Experience the Sacrament of the Lord's forgiving love on Saturdays immediately following the 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Masses, by appointment or at any reasonable time upon request.

Religious Vocations:
Any man discerning a call to the **Ordained Priesthood** or the **Diaconate**, or any man or woman contemplating the **Religious Life** may consult with Father Lipnicki or Father Cryan, a vowed Religious or the Archdiocesan Vocations Office (973 – 497 - 4365).

Youth Ministry:
High School Youth Ministry – The Youth Group of Our Lady of Perpetual Help brings the faith to teenagers through retreats, weekly faith sharing, trips and recreational activities, with the central focus on building a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. All 8th through 12th Graders are welcome. *This position is currently unfilled.*

Christian Marriage:
Our Parish Family delights in the witness of Christ's love given by our married couples. Those who are contemplating marriage should contact Father Lipnicki or Father Cryan to begin preparation for this Sacrament.

Music Ministry:
Our Lady of Perpetual Help's Music Ministry enhances our Liturgies. The **Adult Choir** meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30. For information regarding the **Choir**, **Wedding** and **Funeral Music**, contact Michael Wada (201-337-7596 or Music@olphoakland.org).

Women's Spirituality:
Women's Spirituality is an opportunity for faith sharing, directed retreats, team retreats, individual spiritual direction and increased awareness of Parish Ministries and Community Involvement. For more information call Ms. Kathleen Pignatelli (201 – 337 – 7596).

Ministry to the Poor:
Our Lady of Perpetual Help's Ministry to those less fortunate includes *Bart's Pantry* which collects and distributes food to both Holy Spirit and Our Lady Help of Christians (East Orange) and Saint Mary's (Newark) Parishes on a monthly basis, in addition to Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Stewardship:
Time, *Talent and Treasure*: We encourage the members of our Parish Family to take time for themselves, to spend time with their family and to devote time to God. We invite all members to share their talent with the Parish. We embrace tithing 10% - with 5% being reserved for the Parish and 5% being donated to other charities.

Parish Registration:
All of our Parish Family Members should be registered. We welcome new parishioners and request that everyone help to keep our Records updated by notifying the Parish Office of any changes, e.g. address, telephone number, e-mail.

Masses for the Week

Saturday, December 24, 2022, Christmas Eve
Isaiah 62: 1 - 5; Acts 13: 16 - 25; Matthew 1: 1 - 25
4:00 p.m. **Virginia Wohland**
- Req. Her Husband Edward and Family
6:00 p.m. **Winfried Mueller**
- Req. His Sister Irmgard and Hans Brand

Isaiah 9: 1 - 6; Titus 2: 11 - 14; Luke 2: 1 - 14
10:00 p.m. **Ida Borroto**
- Req. The Colombo Family

Sunday, December 25, 2022, Christmas Day
Isaiah 62: 11 - 12; Titus 3: 4 - 7; Luke 2: 15 - 20
8:00 a.m. **Michael John Becker**
- Req. The Frisbie and Iannuzzi Families
10:00 a.m. **Butch McCaffrey**
- Req. Patty Sweeney
12:00 p.m. **In Thanksgiving**
- Req. The Pascual Family

Monday, December 26, 2022, Saint Stephen
Acts 6: 8 - 10, 7: 54 - 59; Matthew 10: 17 - 22
8:30 a.m. **The Intentions of Russell Rogers**
- Req. The Rogers Family

Tuesday, December 27, 2022, Saint John
1 John 1: 1 - 4; John 20: 2 - 8
8:30 a.m. **Zdan Korduba**
- Req. Oksana Korduba

Wednesday, December 28, 2022, The Holy Innocents
1 John 1: 5 - 2: 2; Matthew 2: 13 - 18
8:30 a.m. **Joseph, Kay and Joey Gaul**
- Req. Kathleen Gaul

Thursday, December 29, 2002, Saint Thomas Becket
1 John 2: 3 - 11; Luke 2: 22 - 35
8:30 a.m. **Grayce and Jack Ryan**
- Req. Their Daughter Colleen

Friday, December 30, 2022
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Sirach 3: 2 - 14; Matthew 2: 13 - 23
8:30 a.m. **Ellie Warn**
- Req. Her Family

Saturday, December 31, 2022, Saint Sylvester
1 John 2: 18 – 21; John 1: 1 – 18
8:30 a.m. **William Seaman**
- Req. The Molteni Family
5:00 p.m. **Patrick MacMahon**
- Req. His Wife and Family

Sunday, January 1, 2023
The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Numbers 6: 22 - 27; Galatians 4: 4 - 7; Luke 2: 16 - 21
5:00 p.m. **Patrick MacMahon**
- Req. His Wife and Family
8:00 a.m. **Anna Naused**
- Req. Her Family
10:00 a.m. **Shirley Alu**
- Req. The Ragas Family
12:00 p.m. **George Vallone**
- Req. Rosalie Maude

Our Parish Family Shares

December 10 - 11, 2022

5:00 p.m.	$ 1592.00
8:00 a.m.	783.00
10:00 a.m.	1536.00
12:00 p.m.	1390.00
Miscellaneous	1409.00
Total	**$ 6710.00**

Accounts Payable: $16,523.96

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 234 envelopes mailed to the members of our Parish Family 133 were returned *three* weeks ago. A total of $4325.00 was contributed in Parish envelopes at Sunday Mass with $976.00 contributed without using the envelope system. *ParishGiving* is not included in the collection totals.

Electronic Payments (*ParishGiving*) for November amounted to $8597.00 For information about our on-line giving program, go to the Parish Website: www.olphoakland.org.

What's New?

The schedule of Masses for Christmas Day is almost the same as every other weekend - except for next Saturday!

Saturday, December 24th
The Vigil of Christmas

8:30 a.m. **The Last Mass of Advent**
4:00 p.m. **The First Mass of Christmas**
6:00 p.m. **The Second Mass of Christmas**
10:00 p.m. **The Third Mass of Christmas**

Sunday, December 25th
Christmas Day

8:00 a.m. **The Fourth Mass of Christmas**
10:00 a.m. **The Fifth Mass of Christmas**
12 Noon **The Sixth Mass of Christmas**

Sunday, January 1, 2023
The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

5:00 p.m. **The Vigil Mass**
8:00 a.m. **The Second Mass of the Holyday**
10:00 a.m. **The Third Mass of the Holy Day**
12 Noon **The Fourth Mass of the Holyday**

Every registered Member of our Parish Family received the **Parish Christmas Mailing** detailing all the times and events for the Advent and Christmas Season. If you did

not receive this mailing, it means you are not registered with the Parish! Please register by filling out one of the forms available on the tables with the bulletins – or by going on-line and registering there.
And if you do not receive the weekly *Parish E-Blast* with the coming weekend's Bulletin attached, it means that we do not have your (current, up-to-date) e-mail. Please call the Parish Office (201 - 337 - 7596) or e-mail (parish@olphoakland.org). to provide this information. We want everyone to be included!

Last month, the **Revelation Revelers** started examining the most challenging and curious Book in Scripture: **Revelation**. At our last session a week ago, we finished up our discussion about just who may be the author and then embarked on the first chapter - which we didn't have time to finish! Our next session will be on Monday, January 9th in Connors Hall at 7:30 p.m. Come learn more about this challenging book!

Attention Holy Day 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! *658 - 3*

All are welcome to Church of Saint Mary (20 Legion Place, Closter) for the **Third Saturday Recovery and Healing Mass** on Saturday, January 21st at 12:00 Noon. This special Mass speaks to those affected by the use and abuse of drugs and/or alcohol and for those who love them. Following Mass, all are welcome to a meeting and refreshments in the Community Hall.
For information please contact *The Father Jim McKenna Memorial Fund* (201 – 281 - 6247) or visit our website at https://fatherjimmckenna.org/).

The Bread and Wine

used in the celebration of the Eucharist this week
are in

Thanksgiving

with love from

The Pascual Family

Give Thanks and Remember

On Sunday, December 10, **Bart's Pantry** delivered the monthly food donations that we buy from Shop-Rite and the food that were donated through the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Pantry to Holy Spirit/Our Lady Help of Christians Church (East Orange) and to Staint Mary's Church (Newark). In addition to that, Bart's Pantry gave 20 donated turkeys to Holy Spirit/Our Lady Help of Christians Church and gave Sister Linda of Saint Mary's Church over 300 Shop-Rite gift cards which were all possible because of the generous outpouring of support from you, our Parishioners. In spite of all the challenges that come our way, because of your love and generosity, we raised $8000 for the **2022 OLPH Christmas Giving Tree.** Your generosity does not only provide food for the families in Holy Spirit/Our Lady Help of Christians Church and Saint Mary's Church but it gives hope that tomorrow is a better day knowing that someone truly cares. The birth of our Lord Jesus Christ gives us hope eternal knowing that our Father truly cares and loves us to send His only Son to save us and give us the gift of salvation and eternal life. May this Christmas and the coming New Year be a beacon of hope to us all that a better life is in store for us, not only here on earth but in our lives and in our hearts. God bless us all!

Youth Ministry News

On Sunday, December 11th, more than two dozen 5th-8th Graders gathered for their **Middle School Youth Ministry Christmas Party**. They were promised a gingerbread house contest, so they started the afternoon by breaking into teams to make their creations while feasting on pizza and listening to Christmas music.
Once we made sure there was no more frosting on the tables (or on our hands and faces), we moved onto the next activity. We had plenty of wrapping paper, ribbons, and bows, but we didn't have any gifts?! Well, we knew what to do—our teams chose one lucky member to get wrapped! Our *Confirmation Candidate Volunteers* and the Youth Minister Kristen picked a winner, and they basked in their victory by picking a prize from the prize bin.

Gaudete Sunday is all about JOY, and there was plenty to go around at our Christmas Party! If you were one of the lucky ones to attend, we hope to have you back soon. If you didn't come this time, fear not, we will meet again very soon for tons of fun!

Come to the **High School Youth Ministry Christmas Party** in Connors Hall today, Sunday December 18th from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Put on your ugliest Christmas sweater, because Youth Ministry is back at Our Lady of Perpetual Help! Pizza will be served, please bring a snack or beverage to share! Prizes will be awarded for the best holiday attire.

What's Happening

Saturday, Christmas Eve, December 24th

4:00 p.m.	**The First Mass of Christmas**
6:00 p.m.	**The Second Mass of Christmas**
10:00 p.m.	**The Third Mass of Christmas**

Sunday, Christmas Day, December 25th

8:00 a.m. **The Fourth Mass of Christmas**
10:00 a.m. **The Fifth Mass of Christmas**
12:00 p.m. **The Sixth Mass of Christmas**

Tuesday, December 27th

7:00 p.m. **Men's Faith Sharing**

Friday, December 30th

8:30 a.m. **Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family**
7:00 p.m. **Rosary Devotions**

Sunday, January 1st

The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
Masses in our Church *Home*, on *Cable Television,* the *Parish Website and Live Streamed at 8:00 a.m.*

Wednesday, January 4th

4:15 p.m. **Religious Education Classes**

Friday, January 5th

7:00 p.m. **Rosary Devotions**

A Stewardship Way of Life

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone.
- Isaiah 9: 1 - 2

What beautiful words the Lord God spoke to the people through the Prophet Isaiah. God filled the people with great hope that darkness would be shattered by the light and that sadness and gloom would be no more.

We still await the fullness of this prophecy to come to pass. The human heart needs to be changed. Gold wants only the best for everyone ye not everyone experiences the best as they encounter sadness and darkness and gloom.

Today we celebrate the coming of Jesus - the *Light of the World*. We emerge from any spiritual darkness and allow the fullness of his light to shine on us. Yet there is still the physical, human gloom that we must rise above and which we must help others to rise above.

Every time we share our *Time* or *Talent* or *Treasure* with someone we are helping that person or those persons to rise above the limitations that this life can place upon us. We are being Christ's *Light* for them in the midst of mortal darkness and gloom.

The Sanctuary Lamp

burns this week in memory of

James S. Gaffney

with love from

The Martin and Sadonie O'Brien Family

Young Adult Ministry News

We will kick things off in January with a Happy Hour and Brunch. More details to come soon. Spread the word that *Young Adult Ministry* is coming to Our Lady of Perpetual Help!

Weekly Scripture Reflection

John 1: 1 - 18

This reading is the prologue to John's Gospel. The opening words, "In the beginning…" recall the exact same opening words to the creation account in Genesis 1. The Word, who was with the Father from all eternity, is at the Father's side and is the agent through Whom the Father brings all of creation into existence. All things came to be through Him. He is the light that shines in the darkness and overcomes it. John the Baptist testified to Him. He came to His own people, but they did not accept Him. The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us—literally, tabernacled with us. From His fullness we have all received "grace in place of grace." No one has even seen the Father, but the Word—the Son—has revealed the Father to us.

How do you feel after reading this prologue? How does it speak the Father's love for you?

Ponder, reflect on, and pray the important words of this prologue: the Word, beginning, life, light, testimony, children of God, glory, and full of grace and truth.

The Person who created everything that exists became a human being. What does that fact say about Him? What does it say about us?

Christmas Calling: Be a blessing throughout the entire day and bring joy and peace to others. Start no quarrel, no division. Bring healing and wholeness to your family.

Let Us Pray

For those preparing for Marriage: Christina Wiggin and Andrew Krasnavage, Mariana Barros de Oliveira Lima and Christopher Napolitano, Heather Gysbers and Tyler Darrah, Mary Kate Cleary and Ranfis Joel Bréton, Christina Patron and Jason Francisco, Katrina Buczkowska and Brendan Miccio

For those preparing for Baptism: Maria and Dario Altamirano (Noah Xavier), Rossana and Lee Blowe (Lorenzo Roman), Deanna and Christopher Bonvino (Giovanni Michael)

For those who have died: Elaine Fuchs

For our Military Personnel: Kevin Leahy (US Army, McDill AFB, Florida) Matthew O'Neill (US Army, Fort Drum, New York), Kaitie Gaffney (US Army, Fort Carson, Colorado), Elliot Stura (US Marines, Hawaii), Kevin Leahy (McDill AFB, Florida)

For the sick: Anne Backes, Thomas Leahy, Lauren Vallone-Brecher, Elizabeth Cebrik, Grady Smith, Richard E. Rasmussen, Jim Craw, Erica Trojan, Neil Andrito, Diana Lepore, John Jarosz, Michael Tapper, John Rowin, Mary Abel, Kimberly Klain, Julia Furey-Bastian, Jordan Stashi, Robert Guarinello, Matthew Polifonte, Fiona Ramsay, Howard Koch, William Bennett, Julia Hennessy, Debbie Persaud, Nancy Tomkins, Christopher DiFrancesco

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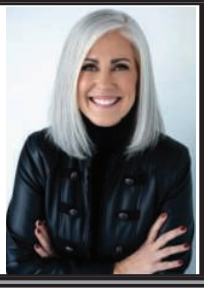

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