

# Second Sunday of Advent – December 10, 2023

Advent Theme: Get Your Business Fixed With Jesus!

## *Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church*



### **JOSEPHITE FATHERS AND BROTHERS**

1600 Morris Road, SE

Phone 202-678-4999

Washington, DC 20020

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Web Site: [www.olphsedc.com](http://www.olphsedc.com)

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### **PARISH STAFF**

**Very Rev. Cornelius K. Ejiogu, SSJ, Pastor**

Deacons: Ira Chase and Thomas Jones

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Bernice Waller

Director of Faith Formation: Ms. Cynthia Battle

Director of Music: Mr. Rawn Harbor



The second candle, also purple, represents **PEACE**. It is called the “**Bethlehem Candle**” as a reminder of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem.

A voice of one crying out in the desert: “*Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.*”

### **NEWCOMERS & VISITORS: WELCOME TO “THE CHURCH ON THE HILL”!**

Thank you for worshipping with us today. May you be blessed with hope, joy, love and peace while here! Should you want to join our parish family please contact a Minister of Hospitality, Priest, or call the Rectory for a Registration Form. Again, Welcome!

## OLPH History, Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Core Values

Matthew 28:18-20:

The Commissioning of the Disciples

Then Jesus approached and said to them, *"All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."*

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish** has a rich, black cultural history. From its formation in 1920, the Black Catholics of Anacostia contributed to its development and growth through their sacrifices of time, talent, skills and funds to provide a parish plant of their own. Thus, the uniqueness of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish places it in a leadership position to interact with other Black and non-black parishes in utilizing the gifts of Black spirituality through music, dance, education, and special action.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** We, the people, of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, therefore, acknowledge that our Pastoral Mission is to **proclaim** Christ and **teach** the "Good News", to **worship** and **bear witness** in the community, to **love and serve** as Jesus commanded, and to **preserve and share** our rich Black heritage.

**VISION STATEMENT:** "A Roman Catholic church that is actively visible in the Community, shares its spirituality through fellowship, and is committed to serving God."

### CORE VALUES

**BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS:** We will always speak the truth, respect the opinions and roles of all parishioners, and value each person, always maintaining Christian charity in all of our actions.

**SPIRITUAL GROWTH:** We will seek to increase the understanding of our Catholic faith and expand our spiritual growth by participating in and supporting charitable and spiritual activities, in addition to attending Mass.

**STEWARDSHIP:** We will become involved in church activities and commit our time, talent and treasures.

**INCLUSION:** We will be open and inviting by extending ourselves to all by sharing in our parish life; thereby, reaffirming our vision of being actively visible in the community.

**LEGACY:** We will preserve our rich Black cultural history by respecting the past, continuing in service and faith in the present, and committing to the future of OLPH.



## PARISH OFFICE HOURS & NEWS

MONDAY-THURSDAY 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

OFFICE CLOSED: FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

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MASSSES ARE LIVE-STREAMED ON  
THE OLPH WEBSITE

Sunday 10:00 am      Monday-Thursday 8:00 am  
Saturday 4:30 pm      NOT LIVE-STREAMED

## Mass Intentions

Mass Intentions are not made on  
Solemnities, Fridays, Saturdays or Sundays.

Saturday and Sunday Masses are offered  
For the People of OLPH until further notice.

(Since Sundays are not available, Monday Masses following the third Sundays are for Ladies' Auxiliary No. 213)

Mass stipend donation \$10.00

Contact Doris Savoy to reserve your intentions preferably by email: [dsavoy0642@aol.com](mailto:dsavoy0642@aol.com).

If you do not have internet access, call the Rectory  
Extension 2, Monday-Thursday 9 am-1:00 pm

When requesting your intentions, please check your calendar dates and make sure they are not on Fridays, Saturdays nor Sundays.

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## LENTEN FISH FRY

Lent begins February 16, 2024 and the preparation for a Lenten Fish Fry is beginning. It is anticipated that the Fish Fry will take place for only four weeks.

In order to prepare for the Lenten Fish Fry

**A Meeting will be held on December 19, 2023**

**at 6:00 pm in the First Portable for all  
volunteers to meet with Millicent  
and Father Cornelius.**

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## RELIGIOUS ITEMS AVAILABLE

**THE LIVING FAITH (\$3.00)**

**THE WORD AMONG US (\$2.00)**

(Last Issue will be January 2024 – see note page 3)

**CANDLES (\$3.00 EACH)**

**2024 SAINT JOSEPH SUNDAY MISSAL  
(\$5.00 EACH)**

**CHECK WITH OUR  
MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY**

## Mass Intentions for the Week

Mass Intentions are available for the faithful departed and the needs of the living. Please note the weekend Masses are offered for the parishioners of our parish.

### Call the office to request a Mass intention.

An offering of \$10 is suggested.

**Memorials** are noted by: † Indicates **Deceased**

**BD** means **Birthday** **AD** means **Anniversary of Death**

### Saturday (9<sup>th</sup>)

4:30 pm For the People

### Sunday (10<sup>th</sup>)

10:00 am For the People

### Monday (11<sup>th</sup>)

8:00 am †Margaret Holt  
By Sahon Palmer

### Tuesday (12<sup>th</sup>)

8:00 am †BD Mary Shearard  
By George Shearard and Children

### Wednesday (13<sup>th</sup>)

8:00 am †Erik Richmond  
By Sahon Palmer

### Thursday (14<sup>th</sup>)

8:00 am †Charles Johnson  
By Sahon Palmer

### Saturday (16<sup>th</sup>)

4:30 pm For the People

### Sunday (17<sup>th</sup>)

10:00 am For the People

## The Word of the LORD

**Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)**  
**December 17, 2023**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11

**Responsorial Psalm** Luke 1:46-50,53-54

**Second Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

**Gospel Reading:** John 1:6-8,19-28

## QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

*The mind is like a parachute,  
it works best when it is open.*

## Weekly Highlights

### Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>:

10:00 am Mass

11:30 am Sunday School/RCIA Classes

### Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>:

#### **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Also known as the Virgin of Guadalupe is a Catholic title of the Blessed Virgin Mary associated with a series of five Marian apparitions in December 1531, and a venerated image on a cloak enshrined within the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. The basilica is the most visited Catholic pilgrimage site in the world, and the world's third most-visited sacred site. She is the patroness of the Americas as well as the patron saint of unborn children.

### Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>:

#### **Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**

Saint Lucy was a Christian martyr who died during the Diocletianic Persecution. She is venerated as a saint in the Roman Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran, and Eastern Orthodox churches. She is one of eight women (including Saint Mary) explicitly commemorated by Roman Catholics in the Canon of the Mass. She is the patron saint of the city of Syracuse (Sicily) and of virgins. Today's feast can easily be harmonized with Advent themes. The very name Lucy pulsates with light, a living symbol amid the season's darkness.

### Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>:

#### **Memorial of John of the Cross**

#### **Priest and Doctor of the Church**

The church celebrates today the memorial of Saint John of the Cross, a priest as well as a doctor of the church and is most known for the profoundly beautiful poetry and spiritual canticles that he wrote. The fire of his passion for the Lord is recorded in some of the most beautiful words ever written about a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. He has been nicknamed "the most mystical of all poets, and the most poetic of all mystics." Saint John of the Cross was beatified by Pope Clement X in 1675, and canonized by Pope Benedict XIII in 1726. He is the patron of contemplatives, mystics and Spanish poets.

10:30 a.m. LOC Pantry

### Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>:

4:30 pm Vigil Mass

### Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>:

10:00 a.m. Mass

11:30 am Sunday School/RCIA Classes

**ALERT! *The Word Among Us*** will be cancelled effective February 2024 issue (January issue will come). The Church orders 25 copies and we continually have to discard 20 copies each month. If you are interested in this publication, please check inside your copy, there is a subscription order form within it.



## Study <sup>the</sup> Bible with us

**Tuesday Night Virtual Bible Study 6:30 pm**

**Book of Hebrews with Deacon Chase**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86481398261?pwd=OHNBc2ZGdXh6WEtZcHVhS1pDZHg5UT09>

**Meeting ID: 864 813 98261**

**Passcode: 509931**

**Wednesday Night Bible Study 6:00 pm**

**Book of Job with Father Cornelius**

**OLPH Webpage Live Stream on Facebook**

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The OLPH Prayer Group also recites the Rosary daily at 12:00 Noon and 8:00 pm. To join call 725-735-9470.

Available also at 1-848-777-1212 Code 700037#

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**Collection last weekend: \$8,841.00**

**Many thanks** to all OLPH parishioners for sending in your tithes and offerings. You may continue to remit your offerings via mail (**Attention Mrs. Waller**), pay on-line, or dropped in the office mailbox.

*Thank you*  
FOR YOUR SUPPORT

### Share In Mission Fund

**Josephite GRAY** envelope



**Gabriel Network PINK** envelope



**OLPH Ladies of Charity BLUE** envelope

Greetings Parishioners,  
It would be **most helpful** if you would include your **checks** made out to the organizations listed above or **cash** placed in their respective envelopes. Thank you in advance for your support of these organizations.

## G.I.F.T.

Growing In Faith Together



**THEME:**

**GET YOUR BUSINESS FIXED WITH JESUS!**

**CONVERSATIONS AROUND THE TABLE**

**ISAIAH 40:1-5,9-11**

**PSALM 85**

**2 PETER 3:8-14**

**MARK 1:1-8**

1. Who in your life provides invisible work that makes yours possible? Whose work do you support in quite unacknowledgeable ways?
2. Do you proclaim God mostly in whispers or in shouts? Do you feel called to speak of God in intimate settings or in public ones? Do you work best through personal relationships or public ones?
3. What makes it hard to hear God's voice?
4. How could you make room for greater silence in your life?
5. How did the homily affect you? Did you gain any new insights?

*A Family*  
that prays together,  
stays together.

### **POPE FRANCIS' SPECIAL INTENTION FOR DECEMBER 2023**

**For Persons With Disabilities**

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

## Prayer Request

We are here to Pray for you

Clement Akoto, Evelyn Akoto, Lisa Alexander, Barbara Baylor, Frances Battle, Michelle Brookings-Cheek, Thomas Henry Brooks, Dorothy Brown, Millicent Brown-Howard, Ronald Burton, Demarquis Carter, Dorita Carter, Louis Carter, Terneara Carter, Judy Chase, William Clemons, Carla Coleman, Margo Cooke, Roberta Dade-Young, Judith Dean, Anne W. Donelson, Beverly Ford, Salim Franklin, Betty Franklin-Swammy, Toni Gaines, LaShawn Gaines, Sy Gaines, Joseph Gant, Dexter Goodwyn, Betty Graham, Tondra Hannah, Carlene Hawkins, Michael Howard (STA), David Malcolm Greene, Lela Hagan, John Hawkins, Ken Houston, James Jackson, Joan Jackson, Louis Jones, Vincent Jordan, Jessica King, Betty Lawson, Dianna Ledbetter, Charlotte Blount Lewis, Jimmy Logan, Crystal Marsh, Shirel Marshall, Ngoki Masembwa, Joseph Mason, Winifred Mason, David McNeill, Deborah McNeill, Justine Middleton, Elizabeth Moeller, Henrietta Moody, Maurice Moody, Yvonne Moody, Milton Morgan, Teresa Naylor, Travia Neverdon-Stone, Warren Newton, Mattie O'Neal, Terrance Oxyner, Alicia Palumbo, Domenick Palumbo, Bettina Penny, Diane Penny, Lawrence (Lonnie) Penny, Theresa Penny, Tina Penny, Yvonne Peterson, Deidre Dorsey Point, Brenda Price, Gladys Reid, Clementine Smith, Demetria Savoy, Amy Scroggins, Eric Scroggins, Donna Stewart-Moore, Michelle Stone, Kentra Tinsley, Joseph Thomas, Rose Thurston, Debra Tidwell-Peters, Marian Van Dyke, Lee Waller, Juanita White, Nicky Wilkinson, Charles "Sonny" Williams.

### PLEASE REVIEW THE ABOVE LISTINGS

When Names Can Be Removed, Contact Doris Savoy.

## Sending Healing Prayers

### HOMEBOUND, \*\*HOSPITAL and/or \*NURSING/REHAB

Alice Bethea, \*Robert Barden, Carolyn Brown, Agnes Dua, \*Cordella Gough, Terry Hawkins, Hilda Kearney, \*Edith Lee, Marie Lucas, Gloria Ann Moore, Katalina Quander-Masembwa, Rose Quander-Neverdon, Marcia Marlene Oliver, Antoinette Reese, Cynthia Salter-Stith, George Shearard, Delores Smith, Augustine Thomas, New-Velvet Washington, \*Jean Westray, and Kobe Williams.

## Entering the Hospital?

Parishioners planning to enter the hospital are encouraged to receive the **Sacrament of the Sick** prior to admission.

Because of privacy laws, hospitals no longer notify parishes of a parishioner's stay. **Please notify the Rectory** of the name of person, hospital and room number, also **when the person returns home.**

## PARISHIONER NEWS



William & Darlene Shelton 16<sup>th</sup> on December 8<sup>th</sup>  
Darrell & Kelly Tucker 31<sup>st</sup> on December 26<sup>th</sup>



12<sup>th</sup> Kathy Gross  
13<sup>th</sup> Jasmine Campbell  
19<sup>th</sup> Robert Waller  
20<sup>th</sup> Deloris Harrison  
22<sup>nd</sup> Maurice Blassingame Margaret Short  
24<sup>th</sup> Eva Galloway Robert Moody  
25<sup>th</sup> Hilda Brown Donne' Hawkins  
26<sup>th</sup> Joseph Gant Stephanie Johnson  
30<sup>th</sup> Theresa Green Cain  
31<sup>st</sup> Le'Quania Williams

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### Pray for the Repose of the Soul of

**Nettie Evangeline Biscoe** (DOD 12-2-23)

Mother of April Brooks

Funeral Services: Monday, December 18, 2023  
Visitation 10 am Mass of Christian Burial 11 am  
Burial at Quantico – No Repast

### REMINDER Funeral Services for

**Charles Alphonso Smith, Jr.** will be held on

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

Visitation 9 am Mass 10 am

Repast immediately follows Mass

## GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER

**THE GIVING TREE IS UP!!  
PLEASE SUPPORT THE LADIES  
OF CHARITY WITH THEIR  
CHRISTMAS PROJECT.**

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**THE LADIES OF CHARITY ALSO  
NEEDS HELP WITH TURKEY  
DONATIONS.**

## Retirement Fund For Religious

Sponsored by the National Religious Retirement Office

### Support a Lifetime of Service!!

Women and men religious have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education and care for those in need—usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As they age, they require essential care and medications. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. **Please give generously.**

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## 2024 Wedding Anniversary Mass to Celebrate the Vocation of Marriage

Office of Family Life

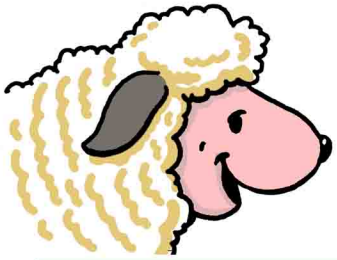
This year Bishop Evelio Menjivar-Ayala will celebrate the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass to honor the Vocation of Marriage on Saturday, February 10, 2024, 10:00 a.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. This Annual Mass is a celebration of the living vocation of all couples who provide a Catholic witness to the beauty of the Sacrament of Matrimony. **Couples must register with the parish office by Saturday, January 27, 2024** to attend the Mass and/or receive a certificate from Cardinal Wilton Gregory in honor of their anniversary year.

**Please contact Mrs. Waller in the Rectory at 202-678-4999, Ext.1 or email her at: [bwaller@live.com](mailto:bwaller@live.com)**

- 1) Provide your name as you would like it to appear on the Anniversary Certificate
- 2) Number of Years of Marriage you are celebrating
- 3) Do you have a special story you would like to share in consideration for inclusion in *The Catholic Standard*?

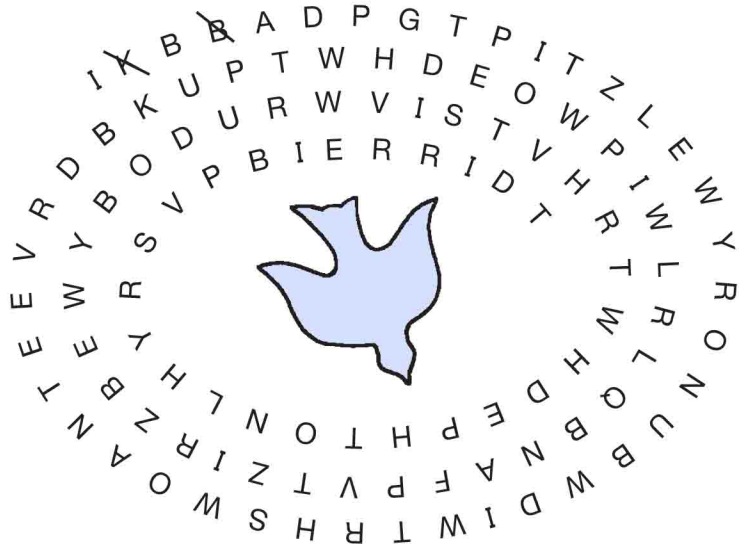
## A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU!!

**ON BEHALF OF FATHER CORNELIUS AND THE HOLIDAY MARKET PLACE  
COMMITTEE WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR COMMITMENT AND  
DEDICATION TO HELP MAKE OUR PARISH FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS!**



John said that One who was more powerful than he would come after him.

Cross out every other letter and write the remaining letters on the lines below. The puzzle has been started for you.



" I b \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_,  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_."



Ages 7+

December 10, 2023 • Mark 1:1-8

## Preparing the Way for Jesus

It was written in the book of Isaiah that someone would prepare the way for Jesus.

Cross out every letter that appears four or more times.  
 Unscramble the remaining letters to fill in the blanks.

A	V	H	T	H	N	O	K
O	K	E	K	O	V	E	D
S	A	B	D	A	B	V	A
H	B	V	T	M	K	O	T
T	H	K	E	V	D	A	G
D	S	O	B	H	R	T	B

A \_\_\_\_\_

***Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church***

***1600 Morris Road, SE***

***Washington, DC 20020***




Find 15 things that are different in the 2nd picture.


A black and white line drawing depicting a scene from the Bible. Jesus, with a beard and long hair, stands on a rock in the center-right, wearing a simple robe and having his arms raised in a gesture of blessing or teaching. He holds a staff in his left hand. A group of men, also in traditional robes and some with beards, are gathered around him, looking towards him with varying expressions of interest and skepticism. The background shows a simple landscape with a sun in the upper right and a cloud in the upper left. The drawing is done in a simple, sketchy style with bold lines.




Use the code to fill in the missing letters.




A	N
M	R



L	D
I	U



S	O
T	W



E	H
C	Y

Four 2x2 grids of letters are shown, each with a symbol above it. The symbols are a star, a heart, a triangle, and a circle. The letters in the grids are:

A	N
M	R

L	D
I	U

S	O
T	W

E	H
C	Y