

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 2025

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church



Josephite Fathers and Brothers

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Join us Live-Stream: YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/@OurLadyofPerpetualHelpSEDC>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyofPerpetualHelp.DC>

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

Youth Choir Director: Melanie Cobb

Seminarian Lawrence Omatola

The Angel of the Lord Appears to Joseph in a Dream



The **Fourth Candle** of Advent, often referred to as the **Candle of Love** or the **Angel Candle**, is lit during the final week of Advent. This candle represents the profound love that God has for mankind, culminating in the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ. It serves as a reminder of the love that is central to the Christmas story, emphasizing the importance of love in our lives and relationships.

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!**

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
 (Lunch Hour 12:30-1:30 pm)
OFFICE CLOSED: FRIDAY & SATURDAY

**MASSES ARE LIVE STREAMED ON THE
 OLPH WEBSITE**

Sunday 10:00 am Monday-Thursday 8:00 am
 Saturday 4:30 pm Mass not Live Streamed

Mass Intentions may not be made on
 Solemnities, Fridays, Saturdays nor Sundays.
 Mass Stipend Donation is \$10.00

Contact Doris Savoy in the Rectory, Ext. 2,
 or email dsavoy0642@aol.com.

SUNDAY DONUTS

Sunday fellowship with donuts and coffee
 will be held on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays ONLY.
 Organizations and/or Ministries, please
 contact Millicent Hawkins to advise when you
 will be able to assist on the 3rd Sundays.



Memorials are noted by † indicates deceased
 BD means Birthday AD means Anniversary of death

Sunday (21st)
 10:00 am For the People

Monday (22nd)
 8:00 am St. Joseph's Ladies' Auxiliary No.213, KOSJI

Tuesday (23rd)
 8:00 am Gloria A. Lessington
 Special Intention

Wednesday (24th)
 5:00 pm **Christmas Eve**

Thursday (25th)
 10:00 am **Christmas Day**

Quote for the week

*I don't need to try to emulate anyone. I just need to
 be the very best me I can be!*



Tuesday Night Virtual Bible Study
 with Deacon Ira Chase at 6:30 pm
 Studying Matthew

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

Meeting ID: 864 813 98261 Passcode: 509931

Wednesday Night Live Stream Bible Study
 with Father Cornelius will resume in February 2026



Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
 December 28, 2025

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6,10
Responsorial Psalm 146:6-7,8-9,9-10
Second Reading: James 5:7-10
Gospel Reading: Matthew 11:2-11



Collections Last Weekend Total \$6,749.00
 Envelopes \$2,524.00 On-Line \$4,225.00

Thanks to all OLPH parishioners for sending in your
 tithes and offerings. Please Note the amount
 recorded here is from envelopes marked
"My Sacrificial Gift" only.

Special envelopes are **not tithes**. The amount you
 put into those envelopes is recorded and provided
 to you in your Annual Contribution Statements.

FYI: If you send in envelopes for several months at a
 time, please note we **cannot back date your tithes**.
 They can only be recorded on the **actual date** you
 submit them.

FRIENDLY REMINDER: Please only use black or
 blue ballpoint pens when you write your checks.

2026 BOXED ENVELOPES

Available for **PICK-UP**
 Boxes are in alphabetical order.

**Reminder boxes CANNOT
 be mailed.**

Church Announcements

Sunday, December 21st:

8:45 am Sunday School and OCIA Classes

10:00 am Mass

Wednesday, December 24th:

**'T WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE
Christmas**

No 8 am Morning Mass

5:00 pm Vigil Mass

Thursday, December 25th:

**Merry
Christmas**

No 8 am Morning Mass

10:00 am Mass

Friday, December 26th:

Feast of Saint Stephen Saint Stephen, the First Martyr

His defense of his faith before the rabbinic court enraged his Jewish audience, and he was taken out of the city and stoned to death. His final words were a prayer of forgiveness for his attackers. Stephen is the patron saint of deacons and stonemasons.

Saturday, December 27th:

Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

He was one of the 12 disciples of Christ. Known as the disciple whom Jesus loved; John was a fisherman by trade when he was called upon to become an apostle. This disciple was one of the sons of Zebedee who followed our Lord. His story extends many years past the earthly ministry of Christ. John was known as an apostle, author, and the only apostle who was not killed by martyrdom, though not from lack of trying. He is the Patron Saint of poison sufferers, publishers and writers.

Sunday, December 28th:

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:45 am Sunday School and OCIA Classes

10:00 am Mass

ALSO would have been Feast of the Holy Innocents

Also called Childermas or Innocents' Day, Christian feast in remembrance of the massacre of young children in Bethlehem by King Herod the Great in his attempt to kill the infant Jesus. The feast is an excellent time for parents to inaugurate the custom of blessing their children. Parents can simply sign a cross on the child's forehead with the right thumb dipped in holy water and say: May God bless you, and may He be the Guardian of your heart and mind—the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit.

*Remember
In Prayer* 

HOMEBOUND, **HOSPITAL, or *NURSING/REHAB

*Robert Barden, Carolyn Brown, Carla Coleman, Agnes Dua, Edward Glover, *Cordella Gough, *Agnes Maxine Hart, Deborah Ogarro Kelly, *Edith Lee, Marie Lucas, *Helene Matthews, David McNeill, Deborah McNeill, Gloria Ann Moore, *Rose Quander-Nevedon, Antoinette Reese, *Cynthia Salter-Stith, *Amy Scroggins, George Shearard, Sudie Shelton, Augustine Thomas, New-Velvet Washington, and Kobe Williams

PRAYER REQUEST
WE ARE HERE TO PRAY FOR YOU

Clement Akoto, Evelyn Akoto, Lisa Alexander, Valarie Ashley, Frances Battle, Barbara Billings-Leftwich, Charlotte Blount-Lewis, John X. Briscoe, Sr., Michelle Brookings-Cheek, Thomas Henry Brooks, Hilda Brown, Selena Brown, Millicent Brown-Howard, Ronald Burton, Demarquis Carter, Dorita Carter, Louis Carter, Terneara Carter, Deacon Ira Chase, Judy Chase, William Clemons, Alberta Colbert, Margo Cooke, Roberta Dade-Young, Judith Dean, Sterling Dolman, Anne Donelson, Alvin Durham, Beverly Ford, Salim Franklin, Betty Franklin-Swammy, Toni Gaines, LaShawn Gaines, Sy Gaines, Eva Galloway, Bradley Gant, Dexter Goodwyn, Betty Graham, David Malcolm Greene, David Gross, Kathy Gross, Carlene Hawkins, Larry Holloway, Sr., Michael Howard, Lela Hagan, John Hawkins, Sr., Ken Houston, Crystal Jackson, Deacon Thomas Jones, Louis Jones, James King, Jessica King, Betty Lawson, Dianna Ledbetter, Crystal Marsh, Jeffrey Marshall, Shirel Marshall, Ngoki Masembwa, John Mason, Joseph Mason, Winifred Mason, Carolyn Matthews-Alston, Justine Middleton, Danielle Mitchell, Henrietta Moody, Maurice Moody, Yvonne Moody, Gloria V. Moore, Milton Morgan, Travia Neverdon-Stone, Dorethia Newby, Warren Newton, Marcia Marlene Oliver, Terrance Oxyner, Bettina Penny, Diane Penny, Lawrence (Lonnie) Penny, Marvin Penny, Pam Penny, Theresa Penny, Tina Penny, Yvonne Peterson, Deidre Dorsey Point, Brenda Price, Katalina Quander-Masembwa, Bishop John H. Ricard, SSJ, Brenda Robinson, Demetria Savoy, Julia Melva Scott, Madeline Scott, Bernadette Smith, Clementine Smith-Easley, Delores (Polly) Smith, Vivian Staples, Donna Stewart-Moore, Patricia Stewart-Brown, Michelle Stone, Kendra Tinsley, Joseph Thomas, Rose Thurston, Debra Tidwell-Peters, Juanita White, Nicky Wilkinson, Christal Williams, Brian Yeldell and Raymond Young

**Happy
Anniversary** 

Darrell & Kelly Tucker 33rd on December 26th



20th Deloris Harrison
 22nd Maurice Blassingame Margaret Short
 24th Eva Galloway Robert Moody
 Jennifer Tilghman
 25th Hilda Brown Donne' Hawkins
 26th Joseph Gant Stephanie Johnson
 30th Theresa Green Cain
 31st LeQuania Williams

In your prayers remember the soul of

Christine Wingfield Jenifer (DOD 12-7-25)

Mother of Joseph Jenifer, Jr.

Services will be here at OLPH

Tuesday, December 30th

Visitation 10 am

Mass of Christian Burial 11 am

Interment Mount Olivet Cemetery

Repat in Panorama Room after Interment

May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace!

Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass

National Marriage Week (February 7–14, 2026) celebrates the gift of sacramental marriage. Join us at the **Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass** to honor the Vocation of Marriage on Saturday, **February 14, 2026, 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, **please register with your parish office by February 6, 2026**, to attend the Mass and/or request a certificate in honor of their anniversary year. All married couples and their families are welcome, regardless of how long you have been married. Please contact your parish office to register. The Mass will be celebrated in English and Spanish. Contact Mrs. Bernice Waller with your information at her email: bwaller@live.com.

From the Pastor's Desk

Family Connection

Joseph and Mary are our models for family life and for service of God. Even when the circumstances seemed unclear, Joseph trusted God. Healthy family life is built upon trust, trust in God and trust of one another. Spend some time talking as a family about the importance of trust in your family life, including the ways in which the children trust the adults in the family as well as the ways in which the adults trust the children. Then read today's Gospel. Talk about Joseph's trust of God and reflect together on how your family trusts in God. Pray together that your family life will be built on trust, as was the family life of Joseph and Mary. Pray and sing together an Advent song, such as "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."



Father Byrd, Father Isaac and Father Matthew

who will be taking care of our

Mass celebrations

beginning December 27th

until January 22nd.



December 24, 2025 through

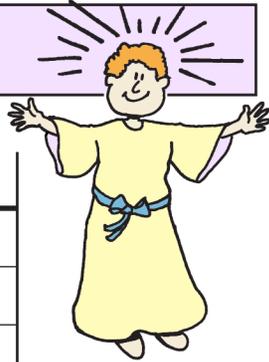
January 2, 2026

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OLPH Nip & Sip by the Men's Club will be held on Friday, January 9, 2026. Tickets are available from James King 202-439-3360.

What else did the angel say?

Use this code to find out.

	□	○	△	*	▽
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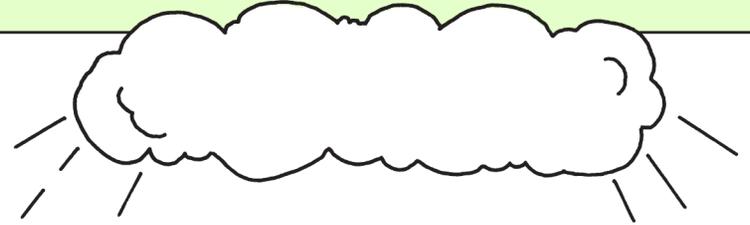
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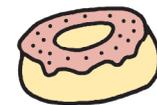
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This took place to fulfill what the Lord had said. What other name did God say the baby would be called?

Add and subtract letters to find the answer.



 - grl +  - ouse +

 - tch +  - dot

+  - purs +

 - umbrella =

*

This word means “God with us.”

*In some Bible versions, this name is spelled starting with an “E”.