OUR LADY OF REFUGE, Orchard Lake MI

Today is The Epiphany of The Lord

January 5, 2025



Under the protection of Our Lady of Refuge and guided by the Holy Spirit, our parish family is dedicated to the propagation and deepening of our faith, rooted in the Sacraments, Sacred Scripture and Tradition of the Catholic Church. As stewards of the Father's gifts, we strive to reflect the love of Christ through the support of our parish and in our outreach and service to others.



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

6 O =

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

OUR LADY OF REFUGE MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES

Readings for the week of January 5, 2025

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/

Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22—4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44 Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19—5:4/Ps72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/

Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28,

29-30 (1)/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Observances for the week of January 5, 2025

Sunday: The Epiphany of the Lord
Monday: St. André Bessette, Religious
Tuesday: St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest

Next Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord

PRIEST SCHEDULE

Mon 1/6: 8:15am (Fr. Witek)

Tue 1/7: 8:15am (Fr. Witek)

Wed 1/8: 8:15am (Fr. Wally)

Fri 1/10: 8:15am (Fr. Witek)

Sat 1/11: 5:00pm (Fr. Witek)

Sun 1/12: 9:30am (Fr. Kurt)

11:30am (Fr. Tomy)

Mon 1/13: 8:15am (Fr. Witek)

Tue 1/14: 8:15am (Fr. Witek)

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday at 3:30pm (Fr. Witek)

INTENTIONS

Monday 1/6 Judy LaFata (+) requested by Toni Laiber

Tuesday 1/7 All member of the Joseph Merem family

Wednesday 1/8 Ray & Ann Gedeon (+) requested by the Majercik

Family

Mrs. Yager (Intentions) requested by Artha Horowitz

Friday 1/10 Mary Curell (+) requested by John Currell

Saturday 1/11 Our Lady of Refuge Parishioners

Rebecca Hallahan-Hurin (+) requested by Julia

Hallahan

Sunday 1/12 (9:30) Joan Tomlinson (+) requested by Ellie Simchak

(11:30) Joe Panian (+) requested by Dar Panian

Sabri Mansour Denha (+) requested by his wife &

daughters

Monday 1/13 Thaddeus Larek (+) requested by the McKune family

Tuesday 1/14 Michael Tucci (+) requested by Ellie Simchak

Mark Gozdzik (+) requested by his family & friends

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday 1/11:

Pat Seif Lucy Young

Sunday 1/12:

(9:30am)

Bob Harper Rudy Varela

(11:30am)

Rob Goodman Vanessa Garmo

A Note from Your New Music Director

Hello, everyone! My name is Joanne Gorney, and I am honored to serve as the Music Director at Our Lady of Refuge. This isn't a new beginning for me but rather a deepening of my connection to this wonderful parish, where I have been blessed to contribute for some time.

Many of you may already know me—I have been the parish bookkeeper for a few months now and have often stepped in as a substitute for my predecessor, Tim Smith, over the years. At my home parish, I have served as a cantor, lector, Eucharistic minister, and assistant music director. Through these experiences, I've had the joy of sharing in worship and growing in faith alongside others in our community.

My musical journey began at the age of three. By 13, I had earned an Associate Degree in piano performance from Trinity College London with Distinction, followed by a Licentiate Degree (Bachelor equivalent) in Piano Performance at 15, also with Distinction. At 12, I earned an Advanced Certificate in Organ, further solidifying my love for liturgical music. I was also honored to receive the Kawai Distinguished Student Award, achieving the highest Distinction in Southeast Asia.



I am the founder of MusicLife Academy, where I've had the privilege of teaching students of all ages, sharing my passion for music, and helping to create well-rounded musicians. With nearly 30 years of teaching experience, I am passionate about using God's gifts to unite us in song and praise to our Creator and Redeemer. Music has a profound ability to deepen our connection to God and one another, and I look forward to continuing to share that journey with all of you.

In addition to my musical endeavors, I co-founded Hosanna Ministry, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to supporting missionary religious sisters and nuns from Christian-persecuted countries. Through scholarships, spiritual retreats, and partnerships with Catholic institutions, we provide these women with the resources to pursue graduate studies in theology in the U.S., equipping them to return to their home countries and continue their mission of evangelization and service.

I must admit, I never imagined myself as a music director. In fact, I resisted this path for quite some time. Yet God, in His persistence, kept nudging me. Time and time again, opportunities arose, and each time, I hesitated. Through much prayer—and three very firm "no's" to God—I wrestled with the idea. But God never gave up on me. Slowly, through prayer, reflection, and His gentle yet unwavering guidance, I began to see His plan more clearly. As I look back, I see how God has been orchestrating this path for me all along.

His timing is always perfect, even when it doesn't align with ours, and His call is always faithful, even when we resist. It is with humility and excitement that I embrace this role, trusting that He will guide me every step of the way.

On a personal note, I am a wife and mother to two wonderful sons, Bryan and Zackary. In my down-time, I enjoy reading, traveling, and sipping hot water or tea—coffee has never been my thing! Cooking and gardening are also passions of mine, though my busy schedule doesn't leave much time for either.

I am thrilled to serve Our Lady of Refuge as the new music director. If you feel called to worship God through song, I warmly invite you to join our choir. St. Augustine reminds us that "When you sing, you pray twice." Let's come together to lift our voices in praise and prayer.

Thank you for your support and trust. I look forward to what God has in store for us as we journey together in faith and music.

Staff

Family-Moderator Our Lady of Refuge Fr. Suresh Rajaian, SAC

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Our Lady of Sorrows

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Prince of Peace

Fr. Andrew Dawson

St. Andrew Kim

Rev. Seungsoo Oh

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Dir. Of Rel. Ed.

Tony Kreucher

School

Lauri Hoffman, Principal 248.682-3422 Principal: lhoffman@olr-school.net

Website: olr-school.net

Why Be Registered?

Are you registered at Our Lady of Refuge parish? Sometimes, people attend Mass at this parish for several years, but never officially register. Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and to make a commitment to the life of Our Lady of Refuge community.

Being a registered parishioner makes the process much easier when it is time for baptisms, Faith Formation registration, weddings, when asked to be a baptismal or Confirmation sponsor, and even funerals.

If you would like to register in the parish, please call the Parish Secretary at (248) 682-0920. We welcome you to our parish family!



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OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

(Fiscal Year: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025)

December 28 & 29, 2024

Offertory: \$4,471 Online Giving: \$2,428 **Total: \$6,899**

Weekly Budget: \$13,530

YTD Budgeted: \$365,310 YTD Actual: \$307,655

Under Budget: (\$57,656)

WORSHIP

LISA MARIE BLANEK 248-682-0920 EXT. 1114 LBLANEK@OLORCC.ORG

World Marriage Day Couples' Dinner

3 COURSE SET MENU

ONLY \$100.00 PER COUPLE

BOOKING NOW

RSVP Lisa Marie Blanek at 248-418-7212 or email lblanek@olorcc.org

Prepayment is required for booking and space is limited. SATURDAY 15 TFEB 6:30pm

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LITURGICAL MUSIC

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Front Row: Kim Smith, Amanda Crecelius, Sonia Lee

Second Row: Annabelle Shina, Dianne Kreucher, Maria Mirowska, Pat Seif, Glenna Reno, Joellen Shortley, Cheryl Biallas, Kathy Dodge

Third Row: Sarina Sitto, Shiloh Brikho, Caitlin Dodge, Candace Becker, Anne Dishnow-Patterson, Gale Jolly, Gwen Smith, Lisa Marie Blanek, Val Whalen, Mark Wagener, Melba Harris, Carolyn Benson

Fourth Row: Tim Smith, Joanne Gorney, Johanna Harper, Judy Palazzolo, Celeste Stawiarska Fifth Row: Greg Barnes, Dan Whalen, Bryan Gorney, Tom Wydra, F. Patrick Devine, Gary Barnes, Mike Blanek, Carl Godell

Epiphany Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. O God, with your judgment endow the king, and with your justice, the king's son; He shall govern your people with justice and your afflicted ones with judgment.

Justice shall flower in his days, and profound peace, till the moon be no more. May he rule from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

The kings of Tarshish and the Isles shall offer gifts; the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring tribute. All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him.

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you. For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor he shall save.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

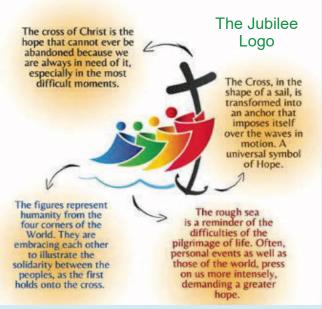
TONY KREUCHER 248-682-0920 EXT. 1142 RE@OLORCC.ORG

Merry Christmas! This week, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, when the kings or magi or wise men came to visit the infant Jesus. The word epiphany is connected to the word 'reveal'; this feast recalls when God revealed himself in the infant Jesus to the world, represented by the three kings.

Many cultures around the world celebrate this day, also, by spending it with family and have their own traditions. In some countries, today is the day for gift-giving, not Christmas, because the kings offered gifts to Jesus. In other countries, the day is celebrated with a special 'king's cake' that is usually something like a large croissant and sometimes in the shape of a ring. A small figurine of a baby Jesus may be baked inside and the lucky person who finds the baby in his or her slice of the cake is king or queen for the day - or has to make dinner for everyone else! Part of truly being king is to serve others, like Jesus did, who is King of the Universe.

We are also now in the Jubilee of Hope proclaimed by Pope Francis, which began on December 29, 2024. One of the challenges of Christianity is to continue the joy of Christmas throughout the year. We have spent the four weeks of Advent hoping for Jesus' coming, and we continue to hope for his return. The joy of Christmas is the fulfillment of our Advent hope, but joy quite often eludes us when our hopes go unfulfilled and our prayers unanswered. Please visit aod.org/jubilee to find ways that you may continue to be a joyful missionary disciple throughout the coming year and to participate in the Jubilee of Hope.





EVANGELICAL CHARITY

JOELLEN SHORTLEY 248-682-4099 ECC@OLORCC.ORG

Pope John XXIII's Christmas Prayer

O sweet Child of Bethlehem, grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas. Put into the hearts of men and women this peace for which they sometimes seek so desperately and which you alone can give to them. Help them to know one another better, and to live as brothers and sisters, children of the same Father.

Reveal to them also your beauty, holiness, and pur

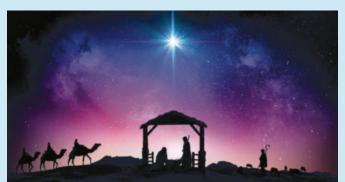
Reveal to them also your beauty, holiness, and purity.

Awaken in their hearts

love and gratitude for your infinite goodness.

Join them all together in your love.

And give us your heavenly peace.



The Roman Missal's prayer for the Christmas Mass at Dawn:

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of your Incarnate Word, the light of faith, which illumines our minds, may also shine through in our deeds.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

May these prayers enliven our observance of this sacred time.

Blessings for you and your family in this holy season!

Food Pantry

There is an urgent need for food in our community. With the increase in shoppers to our food pantry we are running out of many food items. We would appreciate you considering donating the following

Pasta Sauce Cereal (not Cheerios)

Pasta (elbows, penne, rotini & spaghetti) Any type of canned Soup

Diced Tomatoes Liquid dish soap - big and small containers

Toilet Bowl Cleaner Laundry pods

Body wash (Men's & Women's) Deodorant (Men's & Women's)

Shampoo Conditioner

OUR LADY OF REFUGE NEWS AND EVENTS

Attention

We are excited to enhance our liturgical environment with fresh cut flowers each weekend. We invite you to contribute \$50.00 or donate a bunch of fresh flowers in memory of a loved one. Your generosity will be acknowledged in the bulletin with a note recognizing the person you're honoring.



To participate, please complete the form found on the shelf in the gathering space. Place it in an envelope and either drop it in the collection basket or deliver it to the Parish Office.

Thank you for your consideration and help.

Jubilee Holy Year Christmas Pilgrimage of Detroit Area Historic Churches

On Thursday, January 9, you are welcome to join Prayer Pilgrimages as we plan to visit & tour Assumption Grotto, Ss. Peter & Paul Jesuit Church, Sweetest Heart of Mary Church with Holy Mass, Old St. Mary's Church, St. Joseph Shrine, Most Holy Redeemer Church, St. Francis d'Assisi Church, & Basilica of Ste. Anne de Detroit along with the opportunity to gain the Jubilee Holy Year Plenary Indulgence recently promulgated by the Holy Father for 2025. All of these churches are expected to still have their Christmas decorations & creches up for viewing. Lunch on your own in Mexicantown. Bus motorcoach pickup/returns from Sterling Heights' Ss. Cyril & Methodius Activities Center (8 AM Departure, 9 PM Return), New Boston's St. Stephen Church (8 AM Departure, 9 PM Return), & Brighton's St. Patrick Church (7:30 AM Departure, 9:15 PM Return). Total cost is \$45 per person. To reserve or more information, please visit www.prayerpilgrimages.com and/or contact Michael Semaan at 248-250-6005.

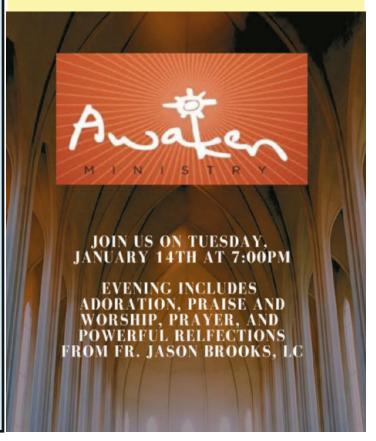
We are Pro-Life, Pro-Woman, Pro-Family!

Do you have a passion for protecting the Unborn, the women who bore them & their families?



Come join parishioners to pray in front of the "women's clinic" in West Bloomfield @ 10:00am. The address is 6765 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. Park in the Stage Deli parking lot.

We will be praying the rosary on the first Saturday of every month.



Pray for the men and women who serve in our Armed Forces

"Dear Lord Jesus and Mary, Mother of God, hold all these brave souls in the palm of your hand; comfort them and their families. Send angels of protection, love and comfort to all the service men nd women still at war, bring them home safely and comfort their families. We ask this through Christ Our Lord, Amen."

Rev. P. Nowak-Army (Chaplain)
Clare Bizer-Coast Guard
Eugene Bizer-Coast Guard
Christopher Bowman-Coast Guard
Daniel Culbertson-Navy
Michelle Culliver-Army
Nora Dinverno-Army
Steven Dinverno-Army
Nicholas Harbaugh-Marines
Joshua Hartley-Air Force
Nova Howard -Army
Liam Lynch-Army
Gunnar Ottman-National Guard



Please contact Cora Armitage at 248-736-6228 to add or remove a name.

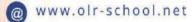
APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN AT OUR LADY OF REFUGE SCHOOL

You may now apply for the 2025-2026 school year.
We are full in our preschool program.

















COME & SEE open house Tues, January 14th, 7–8 PM

Our Lady of Sorrows Family Center - St Mark Room (Bldg adjacent to school)

Questions? Emailthroughlifeschanges@gmail.com Surviving Divorce is a Catholic divorce healing program from Ascension Press. OLS is offering this video series and facilitator-led, 11-week divorce healing program to all individuals seeking post-divorce healing. Cost is \$65. Begins: Tues, January 21st, 7-8:30 PM

Location: Our Lady of Sorrows Family Center 24040 Raphael, Farmington, MI 48336

Register for the 11-week program:

In person at the Come & See Event or by scanning below!



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