

BEHOLD YOUR KING!

JOHN 19:14



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church



8968 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037 † 504-394-0314 † Fax: 504-394-0376

Web: www.olphbc.org † Email: churchoffice@olphbc.org

OFFICE HOURS—Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Please call between these times for routine parish business.

PASTORAL TEAM

Rev. Kyle V. Dave, Pastor
kdave@arch-no.org

Rev. William F. Maestri,
Ministry of Sacraments & Education

George "Ed" Merritt, Jr., Deacon
emerritt@arch-no.org

Brittany Breaux, School Principal
bbreaux@olphbcschool.org

Dawn Bassett, Administrative Assistant

Cecilia "CC" Merritt, Director of Religious Education and Adult Formation
cre@olphbc.org

Angel Boyd, Receptionist

Debbie Fagnano, Director of Music Ministry

TJ Lejeune & Kenneth Pouwels,
Maintenance Supervisors

OLPH SCHOOL

8970 Highway 23 † 504-394-0757

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

8968 Highway 23 † 504-394-0314

K.C. HALL

9016 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 7:30 a.m. & Vigil 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Monday 7:00 a.m.
Tuesday 7:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday 8:30 a.m. During the school year
(7:00 a.m. when school is not in session)
Thursday 7:00 a.m.
Friday 7:00 a.m.
First Friday Adoration: 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Holy Days: Consult the bulletin.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Tuesday 5:30 p.m.—6:15 p.m.
Saturday 2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m. or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK (ANOINTING)

By appointment only

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, are a living and growing Catholic community of faith, striving to follow and serve Christ. We are an evangelizing community, and we welcome others to fullness of life in Christ. With Mary we say "Yes" to God's call to pray together, worship consciously, and serve joyfully.

To visit our church website scan the QR code below:





NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you to a very friendly and enthusiastic community. Please fill out the information in the Binder on the Welcome Table located in the back of church or register at the Church Office. A Census Form can also be found on our website at www.olphbc.org.

Sacraments



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Baptisms are usually celebrated after any weekend Mass. Currently we only schedule one family at a time. Parents and godparents are required to attend a seminar prior to the Baptism. The seminar is usually held on the third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Day Chapel in Church. More information and required forms can be found on our website.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST COMMUNION: First Eucharist is celebrated the first Saturday of May for students in the 2nd grade or above. Children older than 2nd grade will be prepared on individual situations. The Sacrament of Reconciliation must be celebrated prior to Communion.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: Confirmation is celebrated in the Fall of 11th grade. Candidates who attend Catholic high school or are enrolled in the High School of Religion program come together for Sacramental preparation. All candidates are asked to pre-register in their freshmen year and no later than December of their 10th grade year. Information and registration can be found on our website: www.olphbc.org.

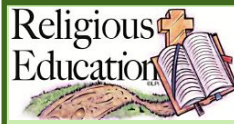
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Contact the Church Office at least nine months prior to the planned date. No other arrangements should be made before contacting the Church Office.

For more information on any of our Sacraments, contact C.C. Merritt in the Church Office or email cre@olphbc.org.



VISITATION OF THE SICK: Inform the Church Office when someone is sick, shut-in or hospitalized and unable to attend Mass.

FUNERALS: Inform the Church Office as soon as possible when someone in the family dies, preferably before contacting the funeral home.



Religious Education

The mission of OLPH's Religious Education program is to bring the "Good News" of God's love to all children and their families and to call them to commit their lives to Christ. Religious Education is available for children in Kindergarten through adults. We encourage parents to be parishioners of OLPH when registering students for Religious Education classes. Census forms can be obtained from the Parish Office during regular business hours, in the gathering area of the church or you can register online. Call C.C. Merritt, 504-394-0314, or email cre@olphbc.org for more information.

SUNDAY LITURGY OF THE WORD: Children in grades K-2nd are invited with a catechist during 11:00 a.m. Mass to the Day Chapel for the Liturgy of the Word for Children (September-May). A summary of the readings of the day is discussed on their level.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION: Our PSR program is divided in two parts. Family Faith Formation is the "academic" part with the textbook discussed at home as a family. Our Encountering Engaging Events are a chance to come together as a community to worship together, do crafts, or engage in traditional events like our Nativity Play and Living Way of the Cross.

HIGH SCHOOL OF RELIGION: Students in 9th through 12th grade not attending a Catholic High School are offered Faith Formation with academics at home, working at their own pace, but also some time to get together to discuss what they have learned with their peers about three times a year. It is intended to be an informal study with honest Catholic answers.

RCIA: Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic or completing Sacraments? Please join our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). We have a Year-Round RCIA process that you can enter into whenever you are ready. This is for you if you have never been baptized, if you have been baptized into another denomination and now want to become Catholic, or if you are an adult Catholic but have never been confirmed. Sessions will be held in person on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. (day and time can be adjusted to personal schedules). For additional information and to register, contact C. C. Merritt in the Church Office or email at cre@olphbc.org.

Archdiocese of New Orleans Safe Environment— Refer to the Web Site: <http://www.nolacatholic.org/safe-environment> for policies and procedures concerning safe environment and child protection

Scripture Readings & Events this Week

Sunday, March 24, Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Rosary, Church—7:25 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.
Masses, Church—8:00 a.m. (Fr. K) & 11:00 a.m. (Fr. M)
NO Children's Dismissal at 11:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal, Church—12:15 p.m.

Monday, March 25, Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11

Daily Mass, Church — 7:00 a.m. (Fr. M)
Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment
Cub Scouts, Cafeteria—6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 26, Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Daily Mass, Church—7:00 a.m. (Fr. M)
Church Office Closed
Confessions, Church—5:30 p.m.—6:15 p.m.
Novena—Mother of Perpetual Help, Church—6:50 p.m.
Daily Mass, Church—7:00 p.m. (Fr. K)
Lenten Series, Church—7:45 p.m.

Wednesday, March 27, Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34; Mt 26:14-25

Daily Mass, Church—8:30 a.m. (Fr. K)
Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment
Riverbend Mass—10:00 a.m.
Rehearsal for Holy Thursday, Church—7:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday, March 28; Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16b, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

Church Office Closed
Altar Society decorates church—8:00 a.m.
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, Church—7:00 p.m.
Adoration, Day Chapel—8:00 p.m.—12:00 a.m.

Good Friday, March 29; Is 52:13—53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1—19:42

Church Office Closed
Altar Society decorates church—8:00 a.m.
Passion Rehearsal, Church—10:00 a.m.
Celebration of the Passion of our Lord, Church—3:00 p.m.

Holy Land Collection

Stations of the Cross, Church—6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 30, Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter; Gn1:1—2:2 or Gn 1:1, 26-31a; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20 and 22; Gn 22:1-18 or Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11; Ex 14:15—15:1; Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18; Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13; Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Rom 6:3-11; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Mk 16:1-7

Altar Society decorates church—8:00 a.m.
Vigil Rehearsal, Church—9:00 a.m.
Choir Rehearsal, Church—7:00 p.m.
Easter Vigil Mass, Church—8:00 p.m. (Fr. K)

Sunday, March 31, The Resurrection of the Lord

Masses, Church—7:00 a.m. (Fr. K), 9:00 a.m. (Fr. M) & 11:00 a.m. (Fr. K)
NO Children's Dismissal at 11:00 a.m.
KC Easter Egg Hunt—10:15 a.m.

Mass Intentions

3/23, Saturday, 4:00 p.m.— for the Parishioners

3/24, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.— Rev. Msgr. Frank Lipps, Rosella & Donald Bernard, Sr. Beryl June Mallaun, MSC, Anne Fowler, Sanders & Dobard Families, Lynwell Wilson, for the intentions of Dave & Sue Mallaun, for the intentions of Bob & Carol Cothern

3/24, Sunday, 11:00 a.m.— Policar & Alzina Sponge, Darlene Boudet, Lucille Bernard, Eric Hansen, Doris Sponge Wimberley, Francis Gainey, Seth David Chedville, Hazel Gautreaux, Blaze St. Marie, Elaine Borne Shelley, Gary Buras, Leonora Adames, Allyson Kirby

3/25, Monday, 7:00 a.m.— for the intentions of the Priest

3/26, Tuesday, 7:00 a.m.—for the intentions of the Priest

3/26, Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.— Johnnie Pennison

3/27, Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.— Darrell Roy

3/28, Thursday, 7:00 p.m.— Wheldon Boyd, Jr.

3/29, Friday — No Mass (Good Friday)

3/30, Saturday, 8:00 p.m.— Eric Hansen, Peter “Trae” Vujnovich, III, Esther Belsom, Alexandra “Allie” Boteler, Beverly Hebert, Berislav & Marija Murina, Kristo & Marija Murina, Michelle Machella, Francis Gainey, Seth David Chedville, Wheldon Boyd, Jr., Wheldon Boyd, Sr., Ray Oncale, Darrell Roy

3/31, Sunday, 7:00 a.m.— for the Parishioners

3/31, Sunday, 9:00 a.m.— Thomas George Whatley

3/31, Sunday, 11:00 a.m.— Joyce Ehrhard, August David Murla, Sr., Rev. Msgr. Frank Lipps, Vincent & Belle Ladner, Theresa L. Bossier and Leslie J. Casler, Jr., Kerry M. Casler, Rosebud L. Dumesnil and Emmette E. Dumesnil, Sr., Earl J. Bossier, Ronald P. Boudreaux, Darlene Boudet, Lucille Bernard, Rosemary (Schaubhut) Hebert, Pat & Dolly Stakelum, Ray Burke, Jr., Eric Hansen, Stipo & Anka Cibilic, Jan Shapard, Ante Ivo & Michael Tesvich, Andrew & Kate Probrica, Dinko Popich, Barbara Jurisich, Seth David Chedville, Michael G. Tredinich, Edward J. & June Tredinich, Farrell & Martha Nolan, Woody & Beverly Wilson, Ruby Pontiff Tredinich, Doris Sponge Wimberley, Anne Fowler, Sanders & Dobard Families, Lynwell Wilson, Fawn Cooper, Brian Cooper, Irwin Cooper, Peggy Walker, Blaze St. Marie, Elaine Borne Shelley, Gary Buras, Allyson Kirby



Easter Egg Hunt

The annual KC Easter Egg Hunt will be on Easter Sunday morning, March 31, 2024 behind the church. It will take place between the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses, about 10:15 a.m. All of the children of the community are invited. Please bring a bag or basket for the kids. **NOTE: Volunteers are needed to help set up. If interested, please call the church office.**

OLPH School News

Teachers & Students recently celebrated Dr. Seuss' 120th Birthday on March 2nd and embraced "Read Across OLPH Week".



SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Each year our school relies upon holding fundraisers to help pay for improvements within the school building, including the cafeteria. Funds from this fundraiser will be used to purchase NEW cafeteria tables and chairs. The school office will be selling Raffle Tickets after all Masses on the weekends of March 16/17 and March 23/24 at the back of church. *Please support our school by purchasing Raffle Tickets!*

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School Raffle

1st Place: \$1,500
2nd Place: \$750
3rd Place: \$500

DRAWING - LIVE Via Facebook
Wednesday, March 27, 2024
\$5/Ticket

Donations Benefit OLPH School Lic No. G-997



Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the Year 2024

March—For the New Martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.



Bible Verses for the Year!

KINDNESS - March



"Love is patient, love is kind." 1 Corinthians 13:4

Catholicism: Faith Seeking Understanding

In this year long theological, biblical, spiritual, and moral adventure, the Truth, Beauty, and Goodness of the Catholic Tradition will unfold. This journey into the richness of Catholicism is open to ALL: those well-versed in Catholicism; the newly arrived; those returning to their home of Faith; and to those who are curious and skeptical.

Catholicism is a UNIVERSAL, ever-expanding Canopy under which faith and reason; the everyday and the eternal; and the mystery and revelation of God's love become the foundation of our daily lives.



Starting Date:
Thursday, April 4, 2024

Time: 7:00 PM

Where: KC Hall, 9016
Highway 23, Belle Chasse

Presenter: Fr. Maestri

ALL are welcomed.

**Please bring your Bible and the updated
Catechism of the Catholic Church.**

Sponsored by OLPH, Educational Ministry.

Order of St. Louis IX Medallion

Two hundred forty-five laypersons who have devoted themselves to the work of the Catholic Church throughout the Archdiocese of New Orleans were awarded the Order of St. Louis IX Medallion in ceremonies March 3, 2024. Archbishop Gregory Aymond presented the awards at St. Catherine of Siena Church in Metairie. The ceremony included a prayer service and presentation of the medals.

The Order of St. Louis IX award was established in 1975 to honor laypersons who have contributed their time and talents to the church. In the past 48 years, more than 10,000 men and women have received the medallion as a token of thanks for their Christ-like service to the church.

This year's OLPH recipients of the Order of St. Louis IX were Greg Abdelnoor, Jacquelyn Ortolano & Rodney Ledet.



***Congratulations Greg, Jacquelyn and Rodney!
Thank you for your dedication to our parish.***



Straight Talk **by: Father William Maestri** **Sin: All in Your Mind?**

What would the season of Lent be without a dose of sin-talk? For many it would be more appealing, easy to digest and more in line with a rush to Easter glory. However, such would not be the mission given to Jesus by the Father (Jn 12: 27-32). This would be a Jesus of our making. It would be a Christ without a cross. It would be a discipleship without a disfiguration, and one without a transfiguration (Mk 9: 2-10). It would be a resurrection without a crucifixion.

The result for us is a redemption that is an illusion without a future. There can be no Easter Sunday, no forgiveness of sin, if Jesus had not first endured Good Friday. St. Paul teaches: "if Christ has not been raised, then empty is our preaching; empty too, your faith...you are still in your sins.... If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are the most pitiable people of all. (1 Cor 15: 12-19).

Several decades ago, the influential psychiatrist, Karl Menninger asked, "Whatever became of sin?" Such a question comes with urgency in a culture which is horizontal (secular) and closed to the vertical (transcendent). In our modern context, sin-talk has been replaced by therapy-talk.

The following chart highlights this transition:

Spiritual	Therapeutic
Sin	Sickness
Moral	Maladjusted
Responsible	Victimhood
Disorder of Soul	Disease
Sacramental	Therapeutical
Repentance	Guilt-Free
Priest	Mental Health "Clergy"
Self-Discipline (Virtue/Grace)	Control by experts
Freedom	Submission to "program"
Transformation	Total Self-Acceptance
Faith	Religion as False, Illusion
Perfecting/Life-Long	Fully Actualized

While Sigmund Freud is long dead, his cultural influence lingers on. We have re-framed sin, "missing the mark", into a this-world malady with the goal being, "to get well adjusted". While not minimizing the contributions of modern psychiatry, it has come to hogging the road to mental health. What is questioned is the belief that psychiatry is the only credible way to advance mental health. Noted philosopher, Charles Taylor writes, "It [therapeutic resolution] is as a total metaphysic that it risks generating perverse results". (*A Secular Age*, p. 623). What is denigrated is the spiritual as either an illusion, or worse, an enemy to human well-being. There has been a resurgence in valuing the religious dimension for providing patients with a wholistic approach to health care: research "suggests that religious participation in general, and religious service attendance in particular, is a powerful health resource affecting outcomes ranging from longevity and depression, to cancer survival and suicide". (Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health).

The focus on sin and death is not a return to the "dark side" of Christianity. Pope Benedict wrote: "There is no contradiction between Jesus' proclamation of joy and his acceptance of death on the Cross for many. On the contrary: only through this acceptance and transformation of death does the message of grace acquire its full depth." (*Jesus of Nazareth, Part Two*, pp. 124-5).

Next Sunday is Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43. We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Colossians 3:1-4. Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

John 20:1-9. The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.



EASTER FLOWERS

We are accepting donations toward Easter flowers used in Church. Donation envelopes are available on the information table in the back of Church. Please write clearly on the envelope so that the memorial may be published in the bulletin.



The Sanctuary Light by the tabernacle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. It is a mark of honor to remind the faithful of the presence of Christ, and is a profession of their love and affection.

The Sanctuary Light will burn this week in loving memory of: **Anne Fowler**, requested by Dolly Roy; and **Elaine Borne Shelley**, requested by Dolly Roy.

If you would like to have the Sanctuary Light burn in memory of a loved one, call the Church Office. The donation for the Sanctuary Light is \$10.



Sponsor of the Week:



Look to the back now! Look and remember to support these businesses when you need a product or service. Also, tell them "thank you" for their interest in Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church



invites you,
in the Crucified and Risen Lord Jesus Christ,
to the Triduum and Easter Celebrations:
Holy Thursday, March 28, 2024
Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7 PM,
followed by Nocturnal Adoration in the Church
Good Friday, March 29, 2024
Celebration of the Passion of the Lord at 3 PM
Stations of the Cross at 6 PM
Holy Saturday, March 30, 2024
Easter Vigil Mass at 8 PM
Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024
Masses at 7 AM, 9 AM, & 11 AM

If you are unable to attend, please visit our Facebook page to watch via livestreaming.

OLPH Church—504-394-0314 www.olphbc.org



NOCTURNAL ADORATION

(8:00 pm—12:00 a.m.)

AFTER HOLY THURSDAY MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

After the Mass, the altars are stripped, the holy water fonts are emptied, and the Blessed Sacrament is carried through the church in procession to a place of reposition. All of the beautiful symbols of Christ's Presence in the tabernacle are removed to give us the sense of His entering most fully into His Passion.

We invite parishioners and ask our ministries and organizations to spend time with Jesus during this time of Nocturnal Adoration. Our goal is to always have people praying before Christ. The primary objective is to watch and pray with us in solidarity with the Lord. We ask for coverage throughout the night. Please don't leave Jesus alone.

Stewardship

All things are possible with God



Church Financials Fiscal Month Ending December 31, 2023

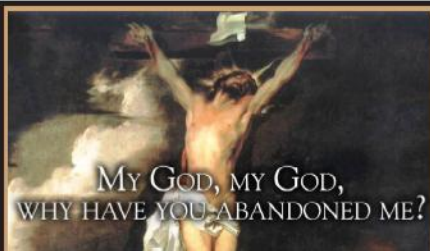
Total Income \$ 399,000
Total Expense \$ 323,000
Net Gain/(Loss) \$ 76,000*

*includes Fair Net Proceeds of \$90,000

Thank you to our parish family members who faithfully support our parish. May God bless you for your generosity!

Online Giving Is Available on Our Website at www.olphbc.org (click on Give Online), or simply scan the QR code with your phone. You can easily create your donation account online and make changes at any time.



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**With Friends Like These...**

This year, we hear the Passion from the gospel of Mark. One thing unique about this reading is the emphasis on Jesus being abandoned by his disciples. First, the leaders of the disciples, Peter, James, and John, cannot even support Jesus in his

agony in the garden: They fall asleep, three times. Then there is Judas, who seeks out the chief priests to make a deal with them, Peter, who denies Jesus three times, and the disciples who flee when he is arrested. The crowds who cried, "Hosanna!" a few days before, now call for him to be crucified. Even Simon the Cyrenian had to be forced to help carry the cross.

What does this tell us? With friends like these, who needs enemies? No, the point is that Jesus died specifically for these people, not because they were once friends, but because they were sinners, who needed Jesus. All but one of them ended up as saints. And the one who didn't was Judas, who gave up on Jesus, instead of coming back to him for forgiveness. When we find ourselves in sin, when we think that everything we do is wrong, or when we think we can't possibly deserve to be loved by God—that is when God can help us, if we just stop hating ourselves and start loving and trusting the Lord. It is not the time to pretend we have avoided the big sins, or to brag about some of the good we may have done. Instead of trying to convince God that we deserve his mercy, simply agree that you need his help. God loves sinners who know they need his forgiveness and don't deserve it.

But maybe you have already been forgiven and wonder what's next. Remember the ones you would not expect to support Jesus: The centurion supervising his crucifixion proclaims him Son of God. A member of the Sanhedrin gives Jesus a burial place. The women who were there to the end. These were people who did not claim to be worthy, just did what they could to show their love. Ask Jesus each morning when you wake up, "What can I do for you today?" and do what you can.

Tom Schmidt

**Lenten Rice Bowls**

Rice Bowls are still available at the back of the church. Since 1975, CRS Rice Bowl,

the brightly colored cardboard almsgiving box that is a familiar annual Lenten sight in parishes across the country, has invited Catholics to pray, fast, and give in solidarity with the world's poor. **For more information** about the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl program and to donate, visit crsricebowl.org. **Please turn in Rice Bowls by Holy Thursday. We will have collection baskets available. Your Lenten gifts change lives. Thank you!**

**Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land**

Every year on Good Friday, a collection is taken up in

Catholic Churches to support the work of the Franciscans working in the Holy Land. Christians there rely heavily on the help that comes to them from this worldwide collection. The Franciscans of the Custody of the Holy Land have the unique responsibility to care for the Holy Places as well for the "Living Stones," the Christians living there. It is vital that we support Christians living in the Holy Land, in order to maintain a Christian presence in the very land made holy by the life, death and Resurrection of Jesus. For more information, go to: <https://myfranciscan.org/good-friday/>

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