



Jesus,
I trust in You.



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.

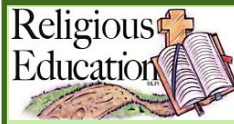
SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Contact the Church Office at least nine months prior to the planned date. No other arrangements should be made before contacting the Church Office.

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, April 7, Sunday of Divine Mercy

Masses, Church—8:00 a.m. (Fr. K) & 11:00 a.m. (Fr. K)

Children's Dismissal—11:00 a.m.

Rite of Anointing—All Masses

Monday, April 8, Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord;

Is 7:10-14; 8:10; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)

Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment

Tuesday, April 9, Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)

Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment

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)

Wednesday, April 10, Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 3:16-21

Daily Mass, Church—2:00 p.m. (Fr. K)

Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment

PSR Easter Season Mass, Church—5:00 p.m.

KC Meeting, KC Hall—6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 11, Memorial of Saint Stanislaus, Bishop and

Martyr; Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20; Jn 3:31-36

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. K)

Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment

Catholicism Class, KC Hall—7:00 p.m. (Fr. M)

Choir Rehearsal, Church—7:00 p.m.

Friday, April 12, Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)

Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment

Riverbend Mass—10:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 13, Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 p.m. (Fr. M)

Confessions, Church—2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m.

Vigil Mass, Church—4:00 p.m. (Fr. K)

Sunday, April 14, Third Sunday of Easter

Masses, Church—8:00 a.m. (Fr. K) & 11:00 a.m. (Fr. M)

Children's Dismissal—11:00 a.m.

KC Blood Drive & free Pancake Breakfast, KC Hall—9:00 a.m.—

12:30 p.m.

Mass Intentions

4/6, Saturday, 4:00 p.m.— for the Parishioners

4/7, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.— Johnnie Pennison, Cathy Madere, Sally Allan, Rosella & Donald Bernard, Rachel Celentano, Gloria Williams, Anne Fowler, for the intentions of Dave & Sue Mallaun, for the intentions of Bob & Carol Cothorn, Rennie Coludrovich, Jr., Sanders & Dobard Families, Lynwell Wilson

4/7, Sunday, 11:00 a.m.— Gary Buras, Loredia Terrebonne, Eric Hansen, Ante & Ane Jurisic, Theresa L. Bossier, Rosebud L. Dumesnil, Darlene Boudet, Lucille Bernard, Rosemary (Schaubhut) Hebert, Pat & Dolly Stakelum, Seth David Chedville, Doris Esponge Wimberley, Karen Cappiello, Francis Gainey, Michael Tesvich, Blaze St. Marie, Allyson Kirby

4/8, Monday, 7:30 a.m.— for the intentions of the Priest

4/9, Tuesday, 7:30 a.m.— for the intentions of the Priest

4/9, Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.— Blaze St. Marie

4/10, Wednesday, 2:00 p.m.— Martha Nolan

4/11, Thursday, 7:30 a.m.— Leslie J. Casler, Jr.

4/12, Friday, 7:30 a.m.— Blaze St. Marie

4/13, Saturday, 7:30 a.m.— for the intentions of the Priest

4/13, Saturday, 4:00 p.m.— Jerry Pigniolo, Eric Hansen, Larry Avist, Sr., Peter "Trae" Vujnovich, III, Alexandra "Allie" Boteler, Oliver & Margaret Koch, Beverly Hebert, Judy Ponson, Randall (Randy) Lemoine, Michelle Machella, Francis Gainey, Loyce Rousselle, Brian Cooper, Darrell Roy, Evelyn Jacksina, Blaze St. Marie, Abraham & Louis Paddio

4/14, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.— for the Parishioners

4/14, Sunday, 11:00 a.m.— Luko & Marija Bilic, Darlene Boudet, Lucille Bernard, Eric Hansen, Doris Esponge Wimberley, Seth David Chedville, Blaze St. Marie, Gary Buras, Allyson Kirby, Sanders & Dobard Families, Lynwell Wilson



Newly Baptized In Christ

OLPH would like to welcome our new parishioner that was Baptized in March: **Matthew Elias Wagner**, child of Caitlin and Joshua Wagner.



KC's Quarterly Mass, Blood Drive & Pancake Breakfast

The KC's are having a blood drive on Sunday, April 14, 2024 from 9:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m. at the KC Hall.

Please come out and give life by donating blood!!

****Free Pancake Breakfast****



POST LENT WEEKDAY MASS CHANGE: Beginning Monday, April 1st, weekday Mass times will resume at 7:30 a.m., excluding Wednesdays, which begin at 8:30 a.m. when school is in session.

OLPH School News



**At Mass,
students
worshipped
beautifully
with the choir
and
Fr. Kyle.**



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Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for the Year 2024

April—For the Role of Women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.



Bible Verses for the Year!

April—KINDNESS

So, then, while we have the opportunity, let us do good to all, but especially to those who belong to the family of the faith. Galatians 6:10

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.

PSR—Living Way of the Cross



Divine Mercy Sunday Celebration

****All are invited to attend****

Sunday, April 7, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

St. Joseph's Church

1802 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, LA

Archbishop-emeritus Alfred Hughes, Celebrant

1:00 p.m. - Sacrament of Reconciliation

1:30 p.m. - Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary

2:20 p.m. - Divine Mercy Chaplet

3:00 p.m. - Mass

Blessing of those gathered with the relic of
St. Faustina to follow.

Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated on the second Sunday of Easter and is a religious observance celebrated mostly among Catholics. This year, it takes place on April 7. It is a significant time for reflection on the Christian faith. As Pope John Paul II stated, "It is a time where we are blessed with divine mercy as it reaches us through the heart of Christ crucified." Divine Mercy Sunday focuses on the gifts that flowed from Christ's death, burial, and resurrection — his mercy and love that were so freely given to humanity after such a betrayal. Divine Mercy Sunday concludes the Easter celebrations and welcomes the ultimate gift that Christ gave after his crucifixion.

History of Divine Mercy Sunday

The story of Divine Mercy Sunday, also known as "the Feast of the Divine Mercy," is thousands of years old. However, the official recognition of the day was only authenticated by the Vatican in 2000. Pope John Paul II declared the Sunday after Easter to be called "Divine Mercy Sunday." Since that declaration, it has been marked in the General Roman Calendar as a religious observance celebrated by Catholics worldwide.

The significance of the day can be attributed to St. Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun who experienced visions from Christ himself. Born in 1905, she served her parish well and communed with Jesus on several occasions where he communicated with her that he wished to be "a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners." St. Faustina, also known as the 'Secretary of Divine Mercy,' died in 1938 in Krakow at age 33 after suffering from Tuberculosis.

Divine Mercy Sunday is a space specifically designated for those who feel unworthy of God's love and Jesus's acceptance. In a vision, he told St. Faustina, "I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy." Divine Mercy Sunday, from its advent, has been a source of reconciliation with faith and God's mercy. It provides a specific day on which people from all walks of life can be humble themselves before God, and ask for his mercy, love, and forgiveness, which he grants to all those who are willing to ask for it. It is also about forgiveness and mercy, how Jesus offered his to us, and how we should act in kindness throughout our lives. <https://nationaltoday.com/divine-mercy-sunday/#how-to>

Next Sunday is the Third Sunday of Easter

Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19. You have killed the prince of life; God, however, raised him from the dead.

1 John 2:1-5a. Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that takes away our sins, and those of the whole world.

Luke 24:35-48. It was written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.



Peace Be With You

Chapter 20 of the Gospel of John emphasizes Peace and the Holy Spirit abiding within us. Christ's first word following His death is

"Peace". I do not find that I am naturally a peaceful person. I tend to get easily distracted and upset by life not being "fair", or agitated when things do not go exactly as I had planned. I am flawed. Yet so much greater than this is that I am also loved. Above all else, Christ has laid down his life for me. I owe it to Him to do my best to try to find an inner peace. It is often a battle. My mind races at night, dwelling on what might go wrong. It is by listening to the word of God that I calmed down and am reminded of who I really am. Through dedicating my time to Him in prayer and good deeds, He will rejuvenate me, like the Living Water He declares to the Samaritan woman.

Again and again we must acknowledge that the Holy Spirit resides in each of us, guiding us, and that in each passing moment we can become more like Christ. Pope Benedict XVI explained, "Every person carries within himself, a project of God, a personal vocation, a personal idea of God, on what he is required to do in history to build His Church, a living temple of His presence." I have a calling, a reason for why God has created me, I was chosen for this life to share God's glory with those around me. We may not always know where we belong or how each passing moment might unfold. While I may not be at peace on my own accord, with God's grace, He will remain in me as a source of peace through the Holy Spirit. He will help me find the way.

"Loving God, please grant me peace of mind and calm my troubled heart. My soul is like a turbulent sea. I can't seem to find my balance so I stumble and worry constantly. Give me the strength and clarity of mind to find my purpose and walk the path you've laid out for me". - Author

Unknown By Alexis Dallara-Marsh

Sponsor of the Week:



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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.



Mass Cards

If you would like a Mass for a deceased person, please contact the Church Office. A beautiful Mass card with an image of Our Lady of Perpetual Help will be mailed to the person of your choice for an offering of \$5 per Mass. Send your \$5 donation to the Church Office, with the name of the Mass intention, name and address where the card is to be mailed, and who's making the request.



The flowers in church this week were donated in loving memory of:

Loredia Terrebonne, requested by Donnie & Lettie Kennair; and **Cathy Madere**, requested by The Madere Family.

Church Flowers—Anyone who wishes to donate the flowers in church in memory of a loved one for a particular weekend may call the church office. The donation is \$50 payable to the Altar Society.



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: **Jerry Pignuolo**, requested by Fannie, Children & Grandchildren; and **Loredia Terrebonne**, requested by Donnie & Lettie Kennair.

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.

Stewardship

All things are possible with God



Devote Time



Share Talent



Give Treasure



A way of life

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.



Sunday of Divine Mercy



Straight Talk by: **Father William Maestri** **Hidden Persuaders**

The U. S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that in the Fourth Quarter of 2023, personal consumption accounted for 68 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (the monetary value of goods and services). The GDP is a sign of the economic health of a society.

In recent decades, the last four popes - Paul VI, John Paul II, Benedict XVI, and Francis - have raised concerns about consumer-ISM and its promotion of a consumer MENTALITY. Such a mentality (lifestyle and values) is one which prioritizes "having rather than being... [it weaves] a

web of false superficial gratification...which are objectively improper and often damaging to physical and spiritual health." (Pope St. John Paul II). Pope Francis' concern is that a consumer mentality reduces human relationships to the "purely utilitarian", so that we come to view "human beings [as] consumer goods to be used and then discarded." (*Laudato si'*).

The consumer mentality is not confined to the individual, but affects society and the relationship between nations: "Nations can fall prey to...soul stifling materialism. The development We speak here cannot be restricted to economic growth alone. To be authentic, it must be well rounded, it must foster the development of each man and of the whole man." (Pope St. Paul VI, *Populorum Progressio*). Pope Benedict XVI challenges the Church, nations, and each individual, "to a serious review of lifestyle which in many parts of the [developed] world is prone to hedonism and consumerism regardless of their harmful consequences."

This challenge to awareness, a call to conscience, is not confined to Church voices, but has resonated in the secular realm. The astute social philosopher, Vance Packard (1914-96), in his classic work, *Hidden Persuaders* (1957), warns of the power modern means and forms of advertising have on society.

Packard reminds us that current advertising techniques, linked to economic growth, are grounded in fermenting discontent: "what probers are looking for, of course, are the whys of our behavior so that they can more effectively manipulate our habits and choice in their favor." The interaction between seller and consumer is based on deceit: merchant and customer each hide behind the mask of the deal, the "must have" and "feigned indifference". Relationships are reduced to transactional contests in which each party joust for "the best deal". The outgrowth of such an UNSocial contest, a war of cunning, is a government intervention - the Consumer Protection Agency! Now it is not only the buyer who is to beware (caveat), but the seller as well: if the merchant is a swindler, then the buyer has a potential law suit. Such is the modern marketplace.

A concluding question: How are Christians to live in our consumer society? We must open ourselves to "Jesus [who] dwells in our heart, the center of life is no longer my ravenous and selfish ego, but the One who is born and lives for love" (Pope Francis). An evaluation of lifestyle calls for us to be with and for the other, hence rejecting an individualism that isolates and embraces an ethic of the sharper elbows. Rather, we are to embrace solidarity as defined by Pope St. John Paul II: "[It] is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress...it is a firm [commitment] to the common good...the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all."

Solidarity is conjoined to subsidiarity and counters that "collectivism" which consumes the giftedness, uniqueness, and contributions of each person. Furthermore, it encourages the contributions of the "little platoons of virtue", (Edmund Burke) - families, associations, unions, small businesses, and community centers, which foster integral humanism (mind, body, and soul).

In effect, solidarity and subsidiarity form a "double movement", that is, "from top to bottom and from bottom to top", (Pope Francis). Hence, solidarity is not collectivism nor is subsidiarity rugged individualism. All authentic human relationships are expressions of the Gift of Self. And so are economic relationships. Economic transactions are not value neutral. Pope Benedict XVI reminds us: "In commercial relationships, the principle of gratuitousness and the logic of gifts as an expression of fraternity, can and must find their place within normal economic activity...[they] must be structured and governed in an ethical manner.... Every economic decision has a moral consequence". (*Caritas in Veritate*).



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