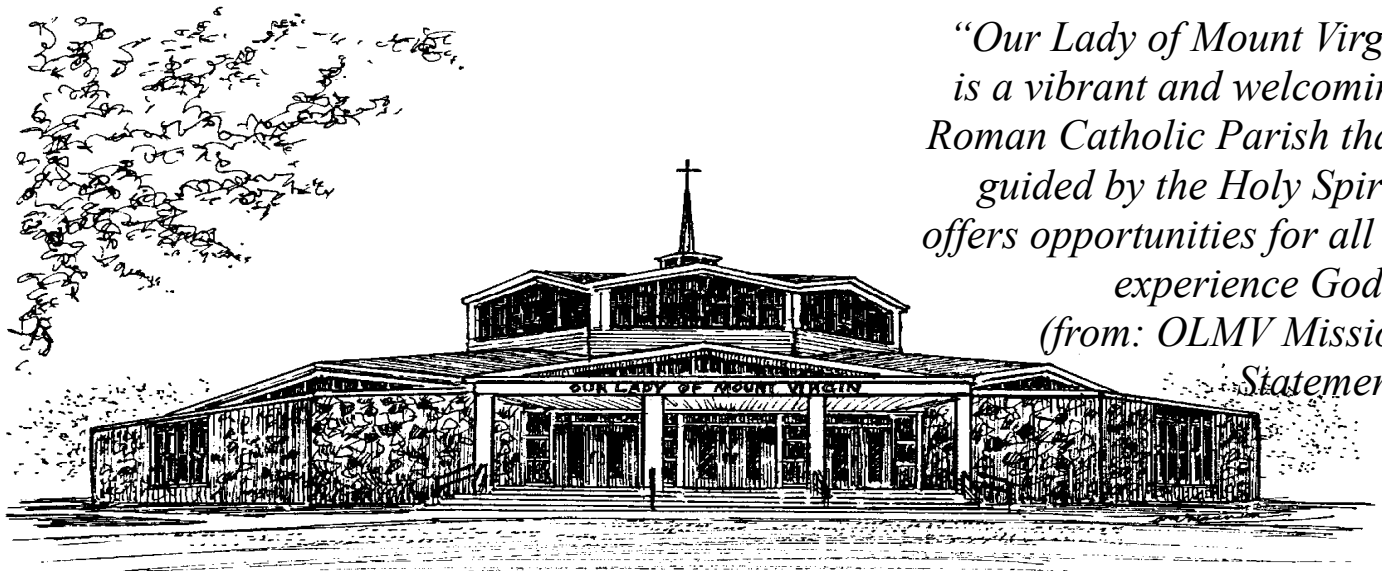


# Our Lady of Mt. Virgin Church

Very Rev. Patrick J. Kuffner, Pastor  
Deacon John R. Tietjen  
Deacon John Czekaj  
Sr. James Xavier Landi S.S.J., Pastoral Minister  
Dorothy Zmigrodski, Parish Catechetical Leader  
Anita McGinley, Catechetical Assistant  
Rives Cassel, Director of Sacred Music  
Ellen Fleming, Parish Office Manager  
Carol Valente, Pastor's Assistant, Financial Manager  
Gabriella Rosales, Parish Secretary, Hispanic Ministry  
Ed Kura, Facilities Manager

February 2, 2014

600 Harris Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey  
Parish Office: 732-356-2149 ext. 1001  
[www.olmv.net](http://www.olmv.net)



*“Our Lady of Mount Virgin  
is a vibrant and welcoming  
Roman Catholic Parish that,  
guided by the Holy Spirit,  
offers opportunities for all to  
experience God.”  
(from: OLMV Mission  
Statement)*

## MASS SCHEDULE:

**Saturdays:** 8:00 a.m. &

5:00 p.m. (Sunday Vigil Mass)

**Sundays:** 8:00, 10:00 & 11:30 a.m.

1:30 p.m. (Misa en Español)

**Weekdays:** 7:00 a.m. (M, W, F)

12:00 Noon (Tu, Th)

**Holy Days:** 7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

7:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon

## ADORATION:

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday after the Morning  
Mass – until 12:00noon

## CONFESSIONS:

Saturday from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m.  
and by appointment

## MARRIAGES:

Please contact the Parish Office  
at least one year in advance.

## INFANT BAPTISMS:

The Sacrament of Baptism is  
celebrated after the 11:30am  
Mass on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Sunday of each Month. Parents  
must be registered and active  
members of the parish, and  
must attend a Baptismal  
Preparation Class. Please  
contact the Parish Office for  
further information.

## VISITS TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND:

Eucharistic Ministers are pleased to  
bring Holy Communion to the  
homebound. Please contact the Parish  
Office to arrange for the Sacrament of  
the Anointing of the Sick or for a  
pastoral visit.

## APPLICATION:

New members are welcome at  
OLMV Parish and must complete an  
application form and interview  
process. Forms are available at the  
parish office.

Rectory Emergency  
732-667-8034

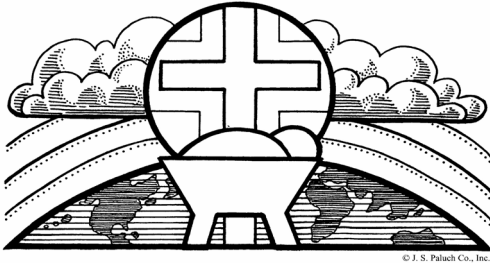
Fax  
732-356-1302

Religious Education  
732-356-2149 ext. 2010

Adult Faith Formation  
732-609-1091

# The Presentation of the Lord

February 2, 2014



He had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way.

-Hebrews 2:17

## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>MON.,</b> 7:00	<b>Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup></b> A.M.	<b>Fourth Week in Ordinary Time</b> James Efinger r/o 7:00 A.M. Mass Group
<b>TUES.,</b> 12:00	<b>Feb. 4<sup>th</sup></b> P.M.	<b>Weekday</b> Parishioners
<b>WED.,</b> 7:00	<b>Feb. 5<sup>th</sup></b> A.M.	<b>Saint Agatha</b> James DeLario r/o Chester & Clara Sadowski
<b>THURS.,</b> 12:00	<b>Feb. 6<sup>th</sup></b> P.M.	<b>Saint Paul Miki and Companions</b> Cynthia Ellis r/o Sisters & Mother
<b>FRI.,</b> 7:00	<b>Feb. 7<sup>th</sup></b> A.M.	<b>Weekday</b> Porfiro & Angelita & Jose Tito Goco r/o Gepigon Family
<b>SAT.,</b> 8:00	<b>Feb. 8<sup>th</sup></b> A.M.	<b>Weekday</b> Robert Conway r/o Philip & Nancy Sidotti
5:00	P.M.	Margaret Harrity r/o Husband & Family
<b>SUN.,</b> 8:00	<b>Feb. 9<sup>th</sup></b> A.M.	<b>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Mary Welsh r/o Denise & Joe
10:00	A.M.	John B. Maggio r/o Carrie & Chris DiCostanzo
11:30	A.M.	Robert J. Conway r/o Michelle & John Vaca
1:30	P.M.	



### Memorials Week of February 2—9

#### *Altar Candles*

Robert & Loretta Goodman r/o The Goodman

Family

#### *Tabernacle Candles*

Noel P. & Mary Orane r/o Daughters & Family

**THE YEAR END CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS FOR TAX PURPOSES CAN BE OBTAINED BY CALLING THE PARISH OFFICE DURING THE WEEK.**

### Mark your Calendars:

**Our Lenten Novena begins on Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 P.M. in the church.**

**PRAY FOR THE SICK...**In your charity please pray for the sick of our parish, the sick who remain in our intentions and those whose names are kept on our prayer list in the sacristy and vestibule. Prayers are requested for the recently deceased: Erika Peckhardt & Tom Mendelson.

## A Prayer for Marriage

Heavenly Father, through the intercession of the Holy Family,

Help us treasure the gift of marriage that reflects the love of Christ for the Church, where the self-giving love of husband and wife unites them more perfectly and cooperates in your plan for new life created in your image.

Help us support men and women in their vocation of marriage, especially in difficult times when they join their sufferings to Christ on the Cross.

Help us uphold the institution of marriage in our society as the place where love is nurtured and family life begins.

Help us acknowledge that our future depends on this love and on your providential care for us. Amen

*Please pray daily for the vocation of marriage.*

Thank you to all of our generous parishioners who supported our monthly **Collection for FISH**, we collected 195 bundles of food and 2 cases. Our next collection will be: **February 15—16**. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who was so generous in supporting last week's Annual Collection for Catholic Education.

### The weekend of Feb. 8—9



Altar Servers

**5:00 P.M.—** Katelyn Carmona

Amelia Casale

Taylor Anthony

**8:00 A.M.—** Jonathon Massarelli

Tommy McNulty

**10:00 A.M.—** Alexis Labrada

Lorenzo Troia

T. Sviderskis-Carroll

**11:30 A.M.—** Arista Parillo

Jackie Mai

Christina Mai



*"You will show me the path to life, abounding joy in your presence, the delights at your right hand forever." (Psalm 16:11)* Jesus has shown us the path to abounding joy. It comes when we give generously of ourselves. It comes when we love and serve one another. Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus we don't always recognize Jesus' way. Or maybe we just try to ignore it.

**January 25—26.....\$7,669.00**  
 Additional Christmas.....\$235.00  
 Spanish Mass (Jan. 12).....\$450.00  
 Major Renovations.....\$493.00  
 Catholic Education.....\$2,361.00  
 Weekly Parish Expenses.....\$19,246.00

**THANK YOU TO OUR PARISHIONERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT TO OLMV !!!**

**2013 Bishop's Annual Appeal**  
**Faith, Family, Community**

The *Maria Regina Residence* provides a suitable home for our retired priests in recognition of faithful service to God and His Church. Your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal is another way to thank these men who have dedicated their lives to the people of God.

**INTERFAITH GATHERING**...Join us on Wednesday, February 12 at 12:30 pm for an **ABRAHAM'S TABLE Presentation and Luncheon**. We will have speakers representing the 3 Abrahamic Faiths, and our own Deacon Candidate, Thomas Sommero, will be our Catholic representative. This is a wonderful opportunity to express and live out what we experienced during the Year of Faith. Please sign your name on clipboards on the tables around the church so we can have an estimate of how many people will be coming to share in this gathering. All are welcome...bring a friend!

**NAOMI TEA**...Sunday, February 9...12:30—2:00 pm in **Petra House...we welcome ALL WIDOWS** to join us for a gathering to share prayer, conversation, and refreshments. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet friends and discover others who have suffered the same loss. No need to register; just come and bring a friend. Remember to bring someone who might need a ride or a personal invitation. Small bite-sized desserts to share are also appreciated!



**Religious Education:** First Penance Service: February 10 at 7:00 pm in the Church.  
February 18: NO CLASSES.

When a loved one dies, our world is forever changed. For the heartbroken, daily life is overwhelmed with sadness. The simplest of tasks becomes a monumental challenge as our minds and hearts are clouded with tears, loneliness, fear and possibly anger. If you are suffering over the death of someone you loved, perhaps the 8 week Bereavement Group at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, in Metuchen, may help you during this painful time. Their experienced, caring and trained facilitator will help guide you on your **Journey Through Grief**.

**Wednesday evenings for 8 weeks beginning February 19 – April 9, 2014**  
**7: 00 PM**

**Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi**  
**(Parish Center)**  
**45 Library Place**  
**Metuchen, NJ**

Please call **Jessie Flynn 732-895-2563** or **Jo Flanigan 732-548-0100 x. 225** for further information. Pre-registration is required.

**DIOCESAN FESTIVAL AND CHAMBER CHOIRS** are currently seeking new members for the spring diocesan liturgies including the Rite of Election and Chrism Mass. The choir is conducted by Thomas DeLessio, Diocesan Director of Liturgical Music, with group vocal technique by Matthew LaPine, choral music teacher of Bernards HS. Festival Choir serves as an extension of the Ministry of parish choirs. We strive to provide an experience that is affirming and enriching to our members. For full schedule and further information, contact Thomas DeLessio at 732-562-1990 ext. 1636.



## My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today, we move out from the ordinary days of the year as we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Today we celebrate the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple and the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It has also been a long tradition of our Church to bless the candles that will be used at liturgical events throughout the year on this date.

The Mosaic Law required the parents of a first-born male child to “redeem” him forty days after his birth by the presentation of a lamb for a holocaust offering at the temple. The poor were allowed to substitute two turtle doves as their offering. In addition, the mother would present herself to be purified. After the holocaust offering and the prayers of the priest for her, she was cleansed. The parents of Jesus complied with the Law of Moses; Jesus was presented and Mary was purified.

In today's Gospel passage from Luke, Jesus' presentation takes place in the presence of Simeon, the “just one,” and Anna, the “prophetess.” It is very powerful to consider Jesus' first solemn introduction to the house of God in context with Simeon and Anna who represent all that is best in the hopes and traditions of the House of Israel. These “ancient ones” seem to have an instinctive awareness that Jesus is, indeed, the Messiah who has been expected for so long. The ancient holy ones confirm that Jesus is the “Holy One of God.”

While the “Feast of the Forty Days” has been celebrated in the Church since the early part of the fourth century, the tradition of blessing candles was not commonplace until the eleventh century.

The blessing of candles can take place within the context of Mass or at a separate time during the day. Special prayers are recited and the different candles that will be used in various liturgical celebrations during the year are blessed. Prayers are recited and usually the candles are sprinkled with holy water and then are incensed. Members of the congregation, carrying lighted candles, join the presider in procession throughout the church while other candles are displayed. During the procession, the prayer of Simeon, the “Nunc Dimittis,” is recited.

The procession and blessing of the candles reminds us that we share the “Light of Christ,” the light first recognized so long ago by both Simeon and Anna.

A question: Have you been reading the book, **Rediscovering Catholicism**? Today as we consider Jesus as the true light – presented in the Temple as a light for all to see, shouldn't we be doing all we can to re-ignite within ourselves the bright light of the Lord? Shouldn't we be sharing the light beyond ourselves?

In peace and prayer,  
*Father Pat*

**Catholic School Tuition Assistance:** Applications for financial aid through the Diocese of Metuchen Tuition Assistance Program for the 2014—2015 school year are now available at all diocesan elementary and secondary schools. Completed applications must be mailed to Private School Aid Service, post-marked no later than Monday, March 31, 2014. Please visit the diocesan website at: [www.dioemetuchen.org](http://www.dioemetuchen.org), for further information.



## INFORMATION SHEET

### CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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600 Harris Ave.  
Middlesex, NJ

### PHONE

732-356-2149

### CONTACT PERSON

Karen Gallagher

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