

MASS INTENTIONS

MON.,	Feb. 15th	Lenten Weekday
9:00	A.M.	Parishioners
TUES.,	Feb. 16th	Lenten Weekday
12:00	P.M.	Nancy Gorman r/o James & Mary Gorman
WED.,	Feb., 17th	Lenten Weekday
7:00	A.M.	Porfirio Goco r/o Gepicon Family
THURS.,	Feb., 18th	Lenten Weekday
12:00	P.M.	Deceased members of OLMV
FRI.,	Feb., 19th	Lenten Weekday
7:00	A.M.	Thomas Torney r/o The Fox Family
SAT.,	Feb., 20th	Lenten Weekday
8:00	A.M.	Emily Futey r/o The Ludwig Family
5:00	P.M.	Members of Peterson & Manicone Families r/o George & Carolyn Manicone
SUN.,	Feb., 21st	Second Sunday of Lent
8:00	A.M.	Paul Crivello r/o Wife, Priscilla
10:00	A.M.	Lorenzo Troia r/o Wife & Family
11:30	A.M.	Paul Murphy r/o Kevin & Alicia Donovan
1:30	P.M.	Comunidad Hispana

.....
Lenten Novena this
Monday, February 15, 7:00 pm in the church.

FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 14—21

Altar Candles

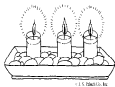
Robert & Loretta Goodwin r/o Goodwin Family

Tabernacle Candles

Gasper & Lorah Family r/o Marcella Lorah

Altar Flowers

Nodes & O'Farrell Families r/o Thomas & Pam O'Farrell



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 also requested for the recently deceased: Edward Rock and Eleanor Biondi.

~~~~~ **REMINDER** ~~~~~

Mass schedule change for Monday February 15th
Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 A.M. only.

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
TOMORROW, FEBRUARY 15th IN HONOR OF
PRESIDENT'S DAY.
 ~~~~~

*"Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?' 'Here I am,' I said, 'send me!'" (ISAIAH 6:8)*

Every day – in little ways and in big ways – God asks, "Whom shall I send?" Whether it is someone to take on a new ministry or just someone to open a door for a stranger, God constantly provides doors of opportunity. The next time you hear God calling, have the courage to walk through the door and say "Here I am, Lord."

### GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>February 6-7.....</b>    | <b>\$11,152.00</b> |
| Sisters of OLMV.....        | \$3,661.00         |
| Additional Christmas.....   | \$100.00           |
| Major Renovations Fund..... | \$1,675.00         |
| Weekly Expenses.....        | \$19,246.00        |

#### Opportunities to support your Parish

Did you know that in addition to Mass intentions for your loved ones you may remember them through the following memorial opportunities?

- Floral Memorial at the Altar
- Altar, Sanctuary or Tabernacle Candles
- Meditation Garden Remembrance Bricks
- A gift of cash, securities, or other assets to OLMV

#### Automatic Deposit (ACH Banking):

Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish has an arrangement with Provident Bank for Automatic Deposit (ACH Banking) for our parishioners. Many parishioners tell me that the only check they write out each week is the one for our church; that they do all their other banking through automatic deposit or online. Please find applications for automatic deposit banking that are available around the church entranceways. Completed forms should be returned to Father Pat. Please contact Father Pat if you want additional information about this program.

# A letter from our Pastor

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Just a few days ago, we came forward to receive ashes on our foreheads, announcing by this action that our Lenten time of renewal and reconciliation has begun. During these 40 days of preparation, we hope to encounter the Risen Christ as we open our hearts and souls to the Crucified Christ---during this Jubilee of Mercy!

In today's Gospel Jesus is tempted three times by Satan. We know that Jesus has spent time alone in the desert preparing for his Ministry. He has fasted and prayed in the desert, and he now encounters the great tempter as he begins the final phase of his own "desert experience." We are reminded that we too must enter into the "desert experience" of our own heart and soul if we are to really prepare to encounter the Lord in our lives.

Lent must be for us a time of prayer, a time of fasting, a time of giving and a time of learning. Throughout Lent we will certainly be tested by the evil one. Satan will work overtime as he attempts to move us away from the Lord. We must be prepared to experience powerful temptations at our weakest moments. And if our Lenten experience is to enrich us, we must be ready to fight temptation and to experience the presence of Jesus with open hearts. We must be willing to purify our souls through prayer and sacrifice. We must on guard against the challenges of the evil one who loves to trick us and pull us away from Jesus.

Now is the time to form the habit of praying each day for ourselves, for our families and for the members of our community. We must honestly look into our hearts and souls to discover what must be given over to prayer." It is important that we fast each day---fasting in body, in mind and in spirit. This means that we must look to our needs and wants and then ask, "How do I prepare to surrender my whole self to the love of God?" We each need to consider during Lent this simple question: "How do I respond generously to God for all he has given me?" In this Jubilee of Mercy, each of us must consider how to more effectively respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters in the world.

We must each enter into our own desert experience these next forty days. We must follow the example of the Lord! May we become purified, renewed and reconciled as we experience Lent together! May we come to know and to serve Jesus more powerfully!

Lent is that special time to strive to know Jesus, to experience Jesus, and then to share Jesus with others. May we begin today!

Peace and Prayer during the holy season of Lent!

Fr. Pat

**Children's Ministry and Youth Group**  
**February 2016**


**Youth Group Meeting - February 14, 2016**  
**6:00-7:00 pm in the Parish Center Gym**

**Children's Liturgy- February 21, 2016**  
**10 am Mass**

**Snack, Craft and Fellowship to follow**  
**after Mass in the Church basement**

*A blessed Saint Valentine's Day to everyone. What a special day to remember someone you love by doing something really nice!!!*

**OLMV in the Electronic Age:**

Don't forget to visit us and like us on Facebook: Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church - Middlesex. 

If you haven't already done so, sign up for our parish's e-blast e-mail system. Information and directions can be found on our parish web-site: [olmv.net](http://olmv.net).

**MEDITATION GARDEN AND REMEMBRANCE WALKWAY**

It has been a great grace to see so many members of our parish stop by and visit our new Memorial Garden and Remembrance Walkway. Even on a cold clear day, it is a wonderful place to spend a minute or two in prayer. As you know, bricks are available for purchase. Each brick that is purchased assists our parish as we plan to address areas of our facility that need updating. Contact Father Pat to arrange the purchase of a brick. Bricks are available in three colors and two sizes (4" x 8" for \$150.00 and 8" x 8" for \$250.00). Memorial bricks are a powerful expression of our love for God and for OLMV Church.

## Lenten Schedule at OLMV:



### Lenten Activities at OLMV:

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Thursday from 6:30—7:30 pm (during Lent)

Lenten Novena is each Monday at 7:00pm in the Church

### **February 8 – March 21**

Stations of the Cross each Friday at 7:00pm in the Church

### **February 12 – March 18**

“Living” Stations – **March 25 at 7:00– pm** in the Church

Mass of Anointing – **Saturday, March 5 at 11:00am** in the Church

### **Merciful Like the Father:**

The Diocese of Metuchen will present a “3-Day Encounter with Mercy” at the Saint John Neumann Pastoral Center in Piscataway – Thursday evening, Friday evening and All day Saturday: March 31 through April 2. Through vibrant preaching, compelling testimonies and heartfelt prayer and music, you will experience the life-changing effects of God’s Mercy. Please see additional information on our parish bulletin boards.

### **Year of Mercy Adult Formation:**

The Diocese of Metuchen will sponsor Adult Formation Events at the Saint John Neumann Diocesan Center in Piscataway. Rev. Thomas Walsh will present “The Sacrament of Reconciliation: Experiencing God’s Mercy” on Tuesday, February 23 at 7:00pm; Martha Hennessy will present “Dorothy Day: A Saint of Mercy for our Time” on Thursday, April 21 at 10:00am and again at 7:00pm; Colonel (RET.), U.S. Armed Services Wanda L. Elizabeth Ann Good will present “PTSD and ‘Moral Injury’: Spiritual and Pastoral Implications and Call to Action on Thursday, May 26 at 10:00am and again at 7:00pm. Please find additional information on our parish bulletin boards.

### **Lenten Prayer Service for the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy**

On Sunday, February 28 at 7:00pm, Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church will offer a Lenten Prayer Service for the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy entitled “Merciful like the Father” (the motto for the Jubilee). In the soft glow of candlelight creating a peaceful, prayerful atmosphere, this prayer service will feature readings from sacred scripture with accompanying icons (stylized paintings of Jesus or another holy figure on wood) paired with readings from *Misericordiae Vultus*, Pope Francis’ Bull of Indiction (proclamation) for the Jubilee Year, and repetitive chants in the style of Taizé and other songs. Everyone is invited to attend this unique prayer service.

## DIOCESE OF METUCEN Lenten Instructions – 2016



Lent allows each of us to let our Catholic tradition of fasting and abstaining be an important reminder of what it means to suffer or to be without. This liturgical season is a blessed opportunity for us to unite with our brothers and sisters who are hungry, poor, homeless, or living on the fringes of society and to draw near to all those who suffer from illness, affliction, addiction or other serious burden. The following is a reminder of the Lenten instructions to use as a guide as we unite with those who suffer, near and far.

So that the Church of Metuchen may be spiritually one in a common observance of Lent, the following days of fast and abstinence are to be observed by all Catholics of the Diocese who enjoy the blessings of good health:

1. The days of fast and abstinence are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
2. All other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.
3. From the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday until the celebration of the Easter Vigil on the evening of Holy Saturday, the Easter fast is suggested so that, with uplifted and welcoming hearts, we may be ready to celebrate the joys of the Resurrection. This ancient tradition, intimately connected with the *Rites of Holy Week* and the *Order of Christian Initiation of Adults*, is encouraged, especially in those places baptizing catechumens at the Easter Vigil.

The obligation to fast applies only to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59. To fast in the Catholic tradition means to limit oneself to one full meal during the day so as to experience hunger.

The obligation of abstinence affects all Catholics who have reached the age of 14. Abstinence in the Catholic tradition means to abstain from meat.

The obligation of fast and abstinence, as a whole, is a serious obligation. While failure to observe any penitential day in itself may not be considered serious, the failure to observe any penitential days at all, or a substantial number of them without good cause, would be considered a grave matter. Those unable to abstain for a valid reason on any given Friday of Lent are asked to perform some other penitential act, or to abstain on another day.

My faithful brothers and sisters, in our fasting and abstaining this Lent, I pray that we each may choose to embrace this small suffering rather than accept it with misery or complaint. For, if we are joyful in our Lenten observances, we will be granted an opportunity to more fully understand the true sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for all humanity by accepting death on the cross in order to gain our eternal salvation.

+Most Rev. Paul G. Bootkoski  
Bishop of Metuchen

**Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy**



In *Misericordiae Vultus*, the Bull of Indiction (or Proclamation) of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy (#17), Pope Francis says:

“The season of Lent during this Jubilee Year should also be lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God’s mercy. How many pages of Sacred Scripture are appropriate for meditation during the weeks of Lent to help us rediscover the merciful face of the Father! We can repeat the words of the prophet Micah and make them our own: You, O Lord, are a God who takes away iniquity and pardons sin, who does not hold your anger forever, and are pleased to show mercy. You, Lord, will return to us and have pity on your people. You will trample down our sins and toss them into the depths of the sea (cf. 7:18-19).”

There will be a number of opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation here at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church during the season of Lent. These include confessions on the Thursdays of Lent from 6:30 to 7:30pm and on Saturdays from 3:30 to 4:15pm. There will also be a communal Penance Service on Tuesday, March 8 at 7:00pm.

May we use this Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy to shape our lives to be “Merciful like the Father.”

**Employment Opportunities:**

**Pre-school teacher: Must have Early Childhood Certification. Part time ( 4 hours per day, 5 days per week)**

**Teacher assistants: Part time and full time.**

**Please e-mail your resume to [brightbeginnings1995@gmail.com](mailto:brightbeginnings1995@gmail.com)**

**FOOD COLLECTION FOR FISH  
FEBRUARY 13-14  
WE THANK YOU IN ADVANCE  
FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**



**OLMV ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY "HELP LINE"**  
732-356-2149 ext. 6

**VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM:**

donate a vehicle to help the less fortunate.

To do so please call the help line: 732-356-2149 ext. 6

The St Vincent de Paul Society,  
thanks our parishioners for their support.

Donations cards can be found at the church entranceways.

God bless you!

**THE DEANERY SCHOOL-  
HOLY SAVIOR ACADEMY**



Holy Savior Academy, 149 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield  
([www.holysavioracademy.com](http://www.holysavioracademy.com))

Holy Savior Academy accepts students coming into pre-kindergarten through grade 8. Please contact the school at **908-822-5890** to arrange an interview or to have a tour of the facility.

**A Reminder: EUCHARISTIC ADORATION** begins after the 7:00 A.M. Mass on **Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>** and will end at **10:30 am**. Please notice the time change. Come and enjoy the peace of a little quiet time with Jesus this Lent.

**IT'S TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL  
LENTEN BABY SHOWER**



The baby shower is to benefit the Pregnancy Aid Center in Raritan, New Jersey. This is an all volunteer organization dedicated to helping women in crisis pregnancies. They have helped hundreds of women choose alternatives to abortion. Their motto is "Give life a chance." The volunteers at the Center stress the need for basic items such as undies, receiving blankets, diapers, sleepers and baby food.

Please bring your unwrapped gifts to the Blessed Mother Chapel the weekend of March 5-6, 2016. Delivery will be March 7th.

**Altar Rosary Society  
Upcoming Event**



**Retreat at Shrine of St Joseph  
April 28, 2016**

**JOURNEY THROUGH GRIEF:**

Have you lost of loved one? This is about joining our "Journey Through Grief." Our mission is to find healing, comfort and peace. When a loved one dies, our world changes. Our hearts are broken and the simplest things of life become an enormous challenge as we are faced with sadness, loneliness and, even anger.

**Date: April 7 through May 26, 2016**

**Time: Thursdays from 2:30 - 4:00 P.M.**

**Place: Petra House, 630 Harris Avenue, Middlesex (between the Church and Meditation Garden) parking and entrance in the back of the building**

**Moderators: Monique Sasso (732-356-9001)**

**Pat Oeskovic (732-356-8886)**

*Boletín en Español*  
*Domíngo 14 de Febrero del 2016*  
*I Domingo de la Cuaresma*

**REGISTRARSE EN LA PARROQUIA  
ES IMPORTANTE!!**

**Para calificar para la preparación sacramental (Bautizo, Eucaristía, Confirmación, Matrimonio) AQUELLOS QUE NECESITAN REGISTRARSE...**

Pasar por las oficinas y recoger un formulario de inscripción y un sobre de bienvenida.

**INFORMACION SACRAMENTAL**

- **Bautizo, Confirmación, Primera Comunión, Matrimonios** llamar a nuestras oficinas de Lunes a Jueves a partir de las 8:30 am—2:00 pm (732) 356.2149 ext. 1001.
- **Bautizos:** Los padres **DEBEN SER MIEMBROS ACTIVOS E INSCRITOS** en la Iglesia OLMV ACTIVOS significa: venir a misa y usar sobres dominicales.

Los padrinos tienen que ser Católicos practicantes de alguna Iglesia donde vivan.

Los padres deben asistir a una clase de preparación para el bautismo.

-Matrimonios: Favor llamar a nuestras oficinas (732) 356.2149 ext. 1001.

- **Clases de Preparación Bautismal** (1er Jueves de cada mes 7:30 pm en la casa Petra.) Familias que deseen participar deben llamar a la Oficina parroquial, ser miembros registrados y activos de la parroquia.
- **Clases de Catecismo:** Las inscripciones se han cerrado para este año 2015-2016. Gracias!

**Actividades y anuncios de la parroquia  
Nuestra Señora del Monte Virgen**

- **Adoración al Santísimo:** Primer y tercer Viernes de cada mes, de 7:30 am—12:00 medio día, son todos invitados a pasar un tiempo en devoción y en oración con el Santísimo.
- **Collecta de alimentos para los más necesitados FISH:** Tercer Domingo de cada mes. Las bolsas de comida las pueden dejar en la capilla donde se encuentra la estatua de la Virgen María.
- **Próxima Clase Bautismal:** Jueves 4 de Febrero 7:30 pm. Familias que deseen participar deben llamar a la oficina parroquial.

**Gracias** a todos feligreses que de una u otra ayudan cada semana para el crecimiento de la Comunidad y por escoger a Nuestra Señora del Monte Virgen ser su lugar donde puedan servirle a Dios.

*Que Dios los bendiga...*

**AÑO DE LA MISERICORDIA  
JUBILEO DE LA MISERICORDIA**



En Misericordie Vultus, la Proclamación de el Jubileo de la Misericordia (#17), el Papa Francisco dice:

“La Cuaresma de este Año Jubilar sea vivida con mayor intensidad, como momento fuerte para celebrar y experimentar la misericordia de Dios. ¡Cuántas páginas de la Sagrada Escritura pueden ser meditadas en las semanas de Cuaresma para redescubrir el rostro misericordioso del Padre! Con las palabras del profeta Miqueas también nosotros podemos repetir: Tú, oh Señor, eres un Dios que cancelas la iniquidad y perdonas el pecado, que no mantienes para siempre tu cólera, pues amas la misericordia. Tú, Señor, volverás a compadecerte de nosotros y a tener piedad de tu pueblo. Destruirás nuestras culpas y arrojarás en el fondo del mar todos nuestros pecados (cfr 7,18-19).”

Habrán muchas oportunidades para celebrar el Sacramento de Reconciliación aquí en la parroquia durante la Cuaresma. Esto incluye confesiones los Jueves en español de 6:30—7:30 pm.

Usemos este Jubileo de la “Misericordia para ser Misericordiosos como el Padre.”

**ATENCIÓN COMUNIDAD!**

**Clases de Inglés como segunda lengua:  
Los miércoles de 6-8 pm en el Centro Parroquiano.**

**UNA INVITACION ESPECIAL PARA  
TODOS LOS FELIGRESES!!!**

Dios nos ha dado tantos dones y talentos que pueden ser compartidos con la Iglesia. Si deseas ser voluntario en la Iglesia de alguna manera, puedes tomar en cuenta algunas de las siguientes áreas en las cuales podríamos necesitar de tu ayuda:

- Ministro Eucarístico
- Monaguillos
- Lectores
- Ministros de Hospitalidad
- Lectores
- Sirviendo una mes al mes en el café social

**Recuerden que somos una Comunidad nueva y estamos trabajando en el desarrollo de la Comunidad el pueblo de Dios, invita a un familiar o un amigo a asistir a Misa y hasta parte como miembro activo de esta gran tarea para todos que es el crecimiento de nuestra comunidad.**