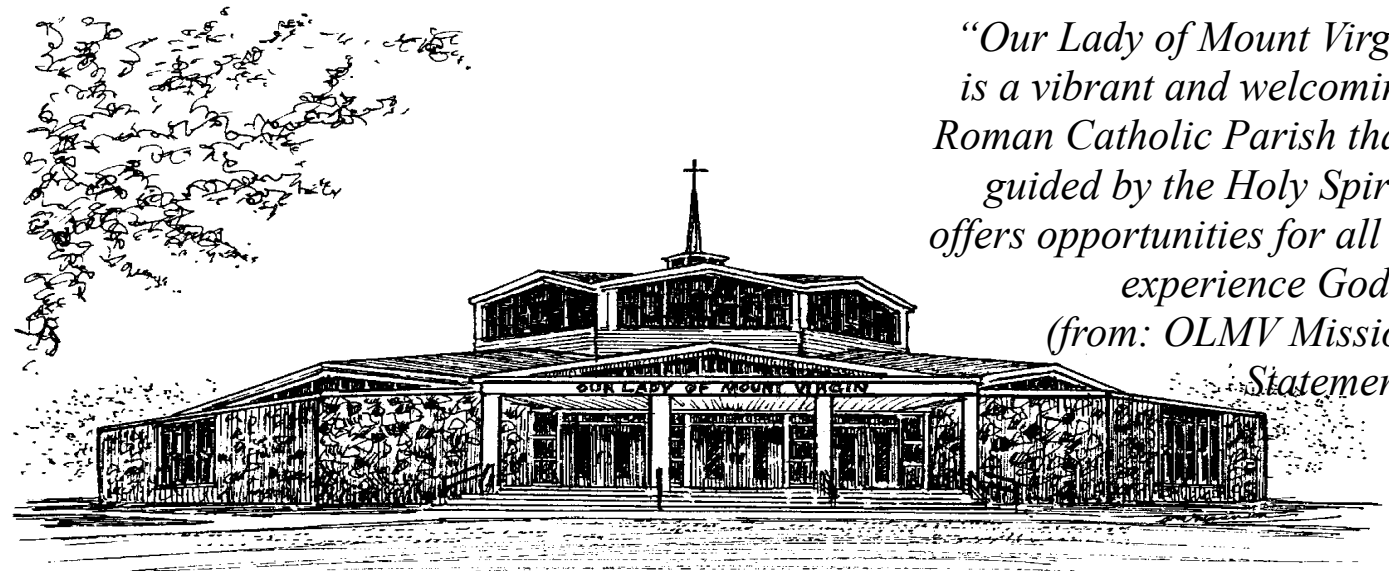


Our Lady of Mt. Virgin Church

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

March 2, 2014

600 Harris Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey
Parish Office: 732-356-2149 ext. 1001
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:

1st and 3rd 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 1st, 2nd and 3rd 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

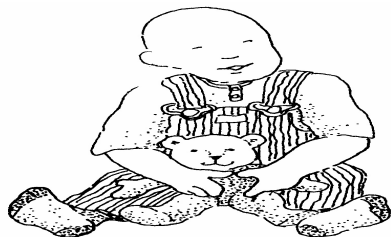
Fax
732-356-1302

Religious Education
732-356-2149 ext. 2010

Adult Faith Formation
732-609-1091

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

March 2, 2014



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Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you.

-Isaiah 49:15

MASS INTENTIONS

MON.,	March 3rd	Weekday
7:00	A.M.	Parishioners
7:00	P.M.	Novena
TUES.,	March 4th	Weekday
12:00	P.M.	Armando & Maria Rossi r/o Enzo & Susan Ragucci
WED.,	March 5th	Ash Wednesday
7:00	A.M.	Henry Patullo r/o Michael & Doreen April
10:00	A.M.	Service
12:00	P.M.	Deceased Parishioners of OLMV
5:00	P.M.	Service
7:00	P.M.	Tom Mendelson r/o Anne LaPointe
THURS.,	March 6th	Thursday after Ash Wednesday
12:00	P.M.	Stephanna Niziol r/o Walter & Jeanne Niziol
FRI.,	March 7th	Friday after Ash Wednesday
7:00	A.M.	Noel P. & Mary Orane r/o Daughter & Family
SAT.,	March 8th	Saturday after Ash Wednesday
8:00	A.M.	John LaMicela r/o Enrico Tripoli & Family
5:00	P.M.	Mary & Joe Lucas & Anne Burati r/o Sharon Lucas
SUN.,	March 9th	First Sunday of Lent
8:00	A.M.	Parishioners
10:00	A.M.	Felice D'Alessandro r/o Enzo & Susan Ragucci
11:30	A.M.	Bernard Salvatore r/o Family
1:30	P.M.	Unidad Parroquial

LENTEN NOVENA TO OUR LADY:

Monday, February 24, 7:00 pm in the church.

OLMV UPCOMING EVENTS:

K of C "Pasta Night" March 22 in the Church Hall from 6:00 pm—8:00 pm.

Altar Rosary Society - Please see next bulletin for updated information.

JUST A REMINDER: The Sacrament of Penance is available each Saturday: 3:30 - 4:15 P.M.

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 by the recently deceased: Mary T. Petrichko.



ASH WEDNESDAY (MARCH 5TH) SERVICES

Mass with distribution of ashes
7:00 am, 12:00 Noon & 7:00 pm

Liturgy of the Word with distribution of ashes
10:00 am and 5:00 pm.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday at 7:00 pm.

LENTEN INSTRUCTION



The days of **fast and abstinence** are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

All Fridays of Lent are **days of abstinence**. The **Easter Fast begins** at the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday until the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday.

FASTING- to limit yourself to one full meal during the day so as to experience hunger applies to Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59.

ABSTINENCE- to abstain from meat and all meat products applies to all Catholics 14 and over.

May our Lenten prayers, fasting and works of mercy help us prepare to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord with renewed minds and hearts.



The following "little one" was Baptized on February 16, 2014 Marissa Ann Melchiorre, daughter of Mark & Dina Melchiorre

The weekend of March 8—9



- 5:00 P.M.—** Solena Maleze
Erin Rooney
- 8:00 A.M.—** Kevin Meier
Joey Meier
- 10:00 A.M.—** Sydney Kukoda
Nicky Kukoda
James Lawrence
- 11:30 A.M.—** Natalie Zychlinski



"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.

February 22—23.....	\$10,462.00
Spanish Mass (Feb. 21).....	\$376.00
Major Renovations.....	\$755.00
Human Development.....	\$2,421.00
Weekly Parish Expenses.....	\$19,246.00

2013 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Faith, Family, Community

The *Office of RCIA* supplies resources, support, leadership formation, and consultation services to parishes implementing a Catechumenate process in accord with the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. This is just one of many ministries supported by your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Fifth Annual Knights of Columbus "Knight of Comedy:"

Once again, Vinnie Brand, star of TV and Radio, will headline our annual K of C "Knight of Comedy." Reserve Friday evening, April 4th, 2014 – 7:30pm, and plan to attend this incredibly funny yearly event that takes place in our parish center auditorium. For only \$25.00 per person, patrons enjoy a great show with two professional comedians, and partake of a truly "gourmet" BYOB Cocktail Hour with complementary hors d'oeuvres. Tickets will be available after weekend Masses in the vestibule, and will also be available in the parish office. Watch for additional information in upcoming bulletins.



SAINT PATRICK'S DAY BAKE SALE:

The *OLMV Cultural Diversity Ministry* will sponsor our **Annual International Night** this year on **Saturday, May 31, 2014**. In anticipation of this special yearly parish event, the Ministry will sponsor its annual "*Saint Patrick's Day Bake Sale* after all Masses on **Saturday, March 15 and Sunday, March 16**. The members of the *Cultural Diversity Ministry* thank you in advance for supporting this event that raises funds in support of *International Night*.

Altar Rosary Society upcoming event: Retreat at the Shrine of St. Joseph in Sterling, NJ, Thursday, April 10, 9:30 am to 3:00 pm: \$35.00 each which includes hot lunch. Transportation is not included. We will car pool from the church. For more information please see an officer of the Altar Rosary Society. This retreat is open to all parishioners, as long as seats are available. The maximum is number 50 people.

CROCHETERS AND KNITTERS:

For those of you who are new to Project Linus, we are a national non-profit organization and we offer comfort and security to children going through a crisis through the gift of handmade blankets. Blankets are needed for all age groups from infant to adolescents. The blankets are distributed to hospitals in the area and given to police for children involved in the accidents.

We have expanded the Linus project to include baby blankets to our new-born children on the occasion of their baptism into our church. We are looking for pastel colored knitted or crocheted blankets. Blanket can be dropped off in the parish office. *Special thanks to all who participate in this beautiful ministry.*

Looking ahead:

**Wednesday April 2 - PARISH LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE
7:00 P.M.**

reserve the date and plan to spend quality time with the Lord as you continue to prepare for Easter!



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is amazing that Ash Wednesday is only a few days away and we are now beginning to look hopefully toward spring as well to the joyful time of Resurrection. We prepare to enter into the holy season of Lent and begin our yearly preparation so that we are ready to share in the Easter celebration with hearts and souls that have been purified by our prayer, our fasting and our alms-giving.

Our Church, in its wisdom had long expressed the necessity of entering into a three-fold period of preparation so that we really are ready to meet the Resurrected Christ on Easter morning. Probably this year more than most, we can look to nature as a metaphor to who we are in relation to our Savior. This year, especially since the beginning of January we have experienced so much bitter cold and so much snow and ice, that even our hearts seem to be frozen. We look longingly to the bright sunshine and warmth of an early spring. We can't wait until the huge mounds of sloppy ice and snow are only a memory, and the early crocuses are already in bloom.

In a certain way, don't our souls slowly become covered by the dirt and grime of our sinfulness, laziness and greed? Just like the landscape in our front and rear yards, our souls seems to be covered with heaviness, weighed down by the stain of sin. We feel the lethargy that attacks our spiritual selves and we long to be free, once again, of all that binds us to wrongdoing.

Ash Wednesday is a special day in the heart and mind of most Catholic believers. So many flock to church to step forward to receive the sign of the cross on the forehead. The public wearing of the "cross of ashes" is a powerful statement that we are one with the Lord---one in his suffering and one in his resurrection.

During the holy season of Lent we are invited to look into our hearts and souls and consider areas where we have not been in tune with Jesus. We are invited to discipline ourselves during Lent by practicing some form of fasting, so that we can better control ourselves. We are invited to spend some extra time in prayer, reconnecting with God and opening our hearts to his love. We are invited to give alms, that is, to share with some generosity the goodness that God has given to us.

Lent for us should be a time when we strip away the spiritual blocks of spiritual ice and mounds of spiritual snow that have separated us from the presence of God in our lives.

Now is the time to begin thinking about how we will open our hearts and souls to the Lord during the holy season of Lent. On Wednesday, may we step forward, receive the sign of the cross, turn away from sin, and then may we proudly live the presence of Jesus Christ for all to see.

Today Jesus teaches that we cannot serve both God and mammon. As we prepare for Lent, let us endeavor to serve God and God alone!

Father Pat

INFORMATION SHEET

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Karen Gallagher

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