

MASS INTENTIONS

MON.,	Dec., 7th	St Ambrose, Bishop
7:00	A.M.	Jerome P. Kehoe, Sr. r/o OLMV Parish
7:00	P.M.	Americo & Lena Rick r/o Francis & Patricia Rick
TUES.,	Dec., 8th	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7:00	A.M.	Jose & Lourdes DelPrado r/o Jay & Daphne
12:00	P.M.	Gina Marie Colaluca r/o Mother
7:00	P.M.	Parishioners
WED.,	Dec., 9th	Advent Weekday
7:00	A.M.	Robert Schneider r/o Bob & Agnes Paulis
THURS.,	Dec., 10th	Advent Weekday
12:00	P.M.	Joshua Coburn r/o Florence Kisly & Family
FRI.,	Dec., 11th	Advent Weekday
7:00	A.M.	Maria Salerno r/o Children & Grandchildren
SAT.,	Dec., 12th	Our Lady of Guadalupe
8:00	A.M.	Michael Valentine r/o Gerri Sarboukh
5:00	P.M.	Pasquale Casuscelli r/o Tony & Monique Sasso
SUN.,	Dec., 13th	Third Sunday of Advent
8:00	A.M.	Anthony Masessa r/o Wife, Anna & Daughters, Theresa & Michelle
10:00	A.M.	Gerard Halloran r/o Shirley Halloran & Family
11:30	A.M.	Frank Basile r/o Lottie Murray & Family
1:30	P.M.	Comunidad Hispana de OLMV

Today's Readings

First Reading — Stand on the heights, Jerusalem; see your children rejoicing that they are remembered by God. A merciful and just God leads Israel in joy (Baruch 5:1-9)

Psalm — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126)

Second Reading — May your Love increase in knowledge to discern what is valuable that you may be blameless for the day of Christ (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11)

Gospel — John proclaims a baptism of repentance for forgiveness of sins. All flesh shall see the salvation of God (Luke 3:1-6)

GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

Nov. 21-22.....	\$8,903.50
Debt Reduction.....	\$404.00
Major Renovations.....	\$320.00
Nov. 28-29.....	\$10,898.00
Major Renovations.....	\$502.00
Catholic Campaign for Human Development.....	\$2,157.00
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

Is Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church in your will?

Parishioners who wish to make a gift of a specific amount or a percentage of an estate to support OLMV are encouraged to contact Father Pat for more information.

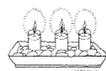
- **New OLMV "On-line Store" OLMV Religious Goods store:**

In partnership with the Catholic Alliance of the Holy Trinity, Our Lady of Mount Virgin has established an on-line or "e-store." Parishioners as well as members of the wider community will be able to access the on-line store through our website: olmv.net. Click on the Religious Gifts icon once you have accessed the store, you can choose items from the different catalogues. Please note the page number and number of the item as well as its cost. When you have finished shopping, just call the Catholic Alliance and place your order. Please remember to give the parish code so that our parish gets credit for your order. You will receive an e-mail bill that can be paid through "Pay-Pal." Orders will be shipped direct to you or to any address of your choice. The site seems a little onerous at first, but is really very simple once you get the hang of it. Whenever you shop through this site, you are also supporting Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish. The phone number for the Catholic Alliance is: 1-800-858-2372 and the code for our parish is: **OLMVNJ001**.

FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 6—13

Altar Candles

Amelia Zuccharelli r/o Antonio & Maria Lella



We offer our prayers ...

for all serving in the Military
 for unborn children
 for families around the world
 for those in need
 for those in hospitals & nursing homes..

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. Prayers are requested for the recently deceased: Louis V. Venuto and Muriel L. Gamble.

A letter from our Pastor

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“The word of God came to John.” We usually don’t spend too much time on these words from today’s Gospel as we tend to think about the message of the prophet Isaiah.

But it is important for us to meditate on the invitation from God that John become the prophet who will proclaim the Word. And as we consider the call of John, we are also asked to consider our call, each one of us, who are also invited to proclaim God’s Word! We understand that John was called by God to be the precursor of the Lord, to proclaim the coming of the Messiah. We are also called by our heavenly Father to proclaim the presence of Jesus Christ who is already among us today and will remain with us always.

We continue our Advent preparation as we enter into the second week of this time of joyful anticipation. We prepare in hope for the coming of the Lord at Christmas, and at the same time we acknowledge the power of Jesus who is already present in our hearts. Our hope is filled with joy and expectation. Joyful because we already know the truth that God’s Word is with us, expectant because we know that God’s Word is fulfilled in Holy Eucharist!

It is a great mystery of our faith that we await a Savior who is already present among us, and who will come again! And yet, this is exactly the Savior, the Messiah, whom we await, even now, with patience and hope. We are invited to meditate upon the beautiful exclamation of our faith spoken at the elevation of the Sacred Species: “Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.”

During the coming weeks we will continue to prepare for Christmas. For sure, we will prepare for both the spiritual and secular aspects of this special time of year. It is important to take time out each day to ensure that we keep the true meaning of Christmas in our hearts and minds, especially with the pressures and obligations of the season. Christmas first and foremost celebrates the entrance of Jesus Christ into the human condition. The Christ-child comes to begin that wondrous process of salvation of the human family.

We are Catholic Christians, so Advent is for us that special time when we reflect on the person of Jesus, alive and present in our hearts and souls. To truly prepare for the coming of the Lord, we need to take time away from our secular responsibilities in order pray, worship and open our hearts to the presence of our Savior.

It is easy to get lost in the overwhelming activities of this season. If we really wish to welcome the Christ-child into our hearts, we cannot allow our every-day activities to take us from our prayer and worship.

As Catholics, we come together during these special weeks to worship and pray for the coming of the Lord. Why? Because we do not prepare for just another “Happy Holiday.” We celebrate God’s action in the world 2,000 years ago. Mary said “Yes” to God, and God sent his Son into the world. For us it is and will always be “Merry Christmas!”

In peace and prayer,

Father Pat

CHRISTMAS JESSIE TREE



Parishioners are asked to take a tag from the Christmas tree, purchase the gift and return both gift and tag - **unwrapped** to the church by December 13th. Please leave the gifts in the Blessed Mother Chapel. Delivery will be made on December 14th. You may want to include a gift receipt with gifts of clothing.

We look forward to your continued support. We provide gifts to 10 organizations including Catholic Charities, Roosevelt Care Center, Great Expectations and a number of other organizations.

Volunteers are needed to sort, bag and deliver the gifts on Monday morning December 14, 2015 after the 7:00 am Mass.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



Our parish families are invited to attend the Knights of Columbus "Breakfast with Santa" on Sunday, December 6th. There is a special family rate of \$25 for families that includes Mom, Dad and all children in the family who are 14 years of age and under. Adult rate \$8, senior rate \$7, child rate is \$6.

The Knights look forward to sharing a great breakfast and some real parish fellowship with you. So plan to join Santa and the Knights at the Parish Center between 9:00 am and 11:30 am.

Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy

The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy proclaimed by Pope Francis will begin this Tuesday, December 8, 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, when the pope opens the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.



The pope chose this day to begin the Jubilee because "this liturgical feast day recalls God's action from the very beginning of the history of mankind. After the sin of Adam and Eve, God did not wish to leave humanity alone in the grasp of evil. And so he turned his gaze to Mary, holy and immaculate in love (cf. Eph 1:4), choosing her to be the Mother of man's Redeemer. When faced with the gravity of sin, God responds with the fullness of mercy."

(*Misericordiae Vultus*) Pope Francis also chose this day to open the Holy Door, since it is the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council.

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

Winter Faith-Sharing Sessions Beginning Soon!

Join us for a 6 session program as we reflect on the theme of God's **MERCY**, using the words of Scripture and the writings of Pope Francis. We offer both morning and evening sessions for your convenience: Wednesdays at 10 AM or 7:00 PM in Petra House. Come to **either** session-we **begin on Jan. 6th** (schedules are on bulletin boards around the church). All are welcome, but **you must pre-register in the parish office on or before Dec. 18th** as you will need your book to prepare for the first session. This is a great way to participate in the YEAR OF MERCY!

READERS: Please pick up your new 2016 Workbook in the Mary Chapel. Name labels are on each book. Thank you!

Simbang Gabi – 2015 – at OLMV on December 16:

The Filipino Apostolate of the Diocese of Metuchen is again sponsoring **Simbang Gabi**, a series of Masses for nine consecutive days, which honors the Blessed Virgin Mary in preparation for the coming of the Lord. Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish will host the second night of **Simbang Gabi – 2015 on Wednesday, December 16 at 7:30pm**. The theme for the Simbang Gabi celebration this year is "The Year of Mercy." All parishioners are invited to spend time at Mass as we prepare to welcome the Baby Jesus at Christmas. For additional information about **Simbang Gabi** at OLMV, please contact Jovita Anigi at 732-384-5329.

THE DEANERY SCHOOL- HOLY SAVIOR ACADEMY



Holy Savior Academy, 149 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield (www.holysavioracademy.com)

Holy Savior Academy is accepting 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.



December 2015 Children and Youth Ministries Updates

December 13 - 10 am Mass - Children's Liturgy
Enjoy a snack, fellowship and ornament making for the OLMV Christmas tree.

December 13 - 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Afternoon Christmas Movies in the Parish Center Gym (Grades K through 4th)

Need some time for last minute errands, let the OLMV Youth Group help you!!!

Christmas Movies; Light Snack and drink
Craft, Single child \$5; family \$10

December 13— Youth Group
6:00 to 7:00 pm
Christmas Party
Parish Center Gym



A "Deer Ridge Singers" Christmas

The Deer Ridge Singers, directed by Daren L. McCann, will present a Christmas concert here at **Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church on Sunday, December 13 at 7:30pm**. The program will feature holiday works for choir, brass, oboe and percussion. The varied program contains something for everyone. Tickets are \$22 in advance or \$25 at the door. For information or advanced tickets, contact Daren L. McCann at 908-757-1151.



Few Notes from our Pastor:

♦ **Advent Novena:** Monday, December 7, 7:00 pm in the church.

♦ **New Vestments:**

Thank you to the OLMV Knights of Columbus, Council 12700, for their generous donation to our church which provided for the purchase of new purple vestments to be used during Advent and Lent.

Thank you also to Joe and Emily DeScenza for their generous donation of new, matching red vestments, given in thanksgiving on the occasion of the 100th birthday of Emily's mom, Amelia Zuccarelli.

♦ **Feast of the Immaculate Conception – Holy Day:**

Tuesday, December 8 is a Holy Day, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The special schedule of Masses is: Monday, December 7 – 7:00 pm Vigil Mass (Novena Prayers to follow)

Tuesday, December 8 – 7:00 am, 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm

♦ **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe:**

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe falls on Saturday, December 12 this year. We will honor Our Lady under the title of Our Lady of Guadalupe at the 5:00 Vigil Mass on this date. Mass will be celebrated in both English and Spanish as we honor the Blessed Mother who is our patroness here at OLMV. All are invited.

♦ **Advent Penance Service:**

Our Annual Advent Penance Service here at OLMV will take place on Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the Church. Following a short service, a number of priests will be available to hear confessions. Now is the time, during Advent, for us to be at peace with the Lord by sharing in the powerful Sacrament of Reconciliation. All parishioners are invited.

♦ **Please note:**

Breakfast with Santa (K of C) this Sunday, December 6– Parish Center

Food for Fish Collection – weekend of December 12/13

Children's Liturgy – December 13, 10:00 am Mass with crafts for the children to follow – in the Church Hall

Note: There will be no 12:00noon Mass on Thursday, December 24.

2015 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Grace, Mercy & Peace

This weekend our parishioners will have the opportunity to contribute to the 2015 Bishop's Annual Appeal during our In-Pew campaign. The appeal supports more than 25 ministries serving over 500,000 Catholics in the four counties of the Diocese of Metuchen. If you have yet to make a gift, please prayerfully consider making a pledge by completing the information on the envelopes provided. If you have already contributed, thank you.

* **Christmas Flowers:** *

* Christmas Flower *
* Remembrance envelopes are *
* included in the envelope *
* packet. All donations are used *
* to defray the cost of flowers at the altar and *
* around the church chapels during the Christmas *
* season. Envelopes are placed by the Tabernacle *
* during the Christmas season and our loved ones *
* are remembered in prayer during Masses *
* throughout the Christmas season. Thank you to *
* our parishioners whose generosity makes it *
* possible for our church to reverence the Christ- *
* child in such a beautiful manner each year. *



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* **Annual Used Coat Drive:**

* Congratulations to Adrienne Sviderskis-Carroll and her *
* volunteers (Religious Education Students and Altar *
* Rosarians) for their hard work in sorting over 200 coats *
* and around 500 winter accessories such as hats, gloves, *
* sweaters and scarves. Thank you to our generous *
* parishioners who gave so many quality used (and new) *
* items to this annual drive. FISH depends on us to help *
* the less fortunate in our area to be warm during the *
* coming winter months. Our annual Used Coat Drive is *
* a great example of how our parish really does live out *
* the corporal Works of Mercy!

* **Annual Giving Tree:**

* Our Giving Tree is located at the rear of the Church *
* and is filled with gift tags. Parishioners are invited to *
* take a tag and to return a gift to the Chapel of the *
* Blessed Mother. Special thanks to Mary Czachur for *
* organizing this event each year. Thanks you to Bill *
* and Patty Reents for taking the time to make the *
* different gift tags. Thank you to our many volunteers *
* who show up each year to help with the sorting and *
* distribution of gifts. Thanks you to everyone who *
* participates in this special project that helps to make *
* Christmas just a little bit brighter for so many who *
* have special needs.

Boletín en Español
Domingo 6 de Diciembre del 2015
II Domingo de Adviento

**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!

Atención

Comunidad Hispana!!!

Les invitamos a reservar el **20 de Diciembre** para una Misa especial y un compartir Navideno

- Villancicos cantados por los niños de la parroquia.

Todos los niños interesados en participar lo pueden hacer anotándose después de Misa con Ana y Joaquin o pueden sus padres llamar durante horas de oficina para registrarlos. Será un momento muy lindo para toda la Comunidad entera en estas festividades!

**MAS INFORMACIÓN POR VENIR EN
FUTUROS BOLETINES!**



NOVENA DE ADVIENTO EN ESPAÑOL:

LES INVITAMOS A REZAR EL SANTO ROSARIO A LA 1:00 PM EN LA IGLESIA TODOS LOS DOMINGOS.
ESPERAMOS PODER CONTAR CON SU PRECENCIA!!!

ATENCIÓN COMUNIDAD!

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

**Banner Bearers needed for the Christmas
Midnight Mass**

We are looking for four banner bearers for the Christmas Midnight Mass. If you are a high school student or an adult and you would like to carry a banner for the Mass, please see Rives Cassel after any weekend Mass or call the office. There will be one rehearsal.



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

All calls for assistance are confidential
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!

Evening Prayer in the tradition of Taizé

From Darkness to Light

On Sunday, December 6, at 7:00 P.M. in the church, Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish will celebrate an evening prayer service in the tradition of the ecumenical community in Taizé, France. Set in the soft radiance created by glowing candles surrounding icons, meditative chants will be interspersed between readings of sacred scripture including prophecies of the coming of the Messiah and reports of the impending birth of Jesus as chronicled in the gospels. Silence will provide time for personal meditation and reflection. This special Advent prayer service will help you leave the stress of everyday life at the door and feel the calming influence of contemplative communal prayer.

Come wait in joyful expectation for the
birth of our Lord.
Come pray through song,
scripture, and silence.
Come meditate in the soft glow of candlelight.

