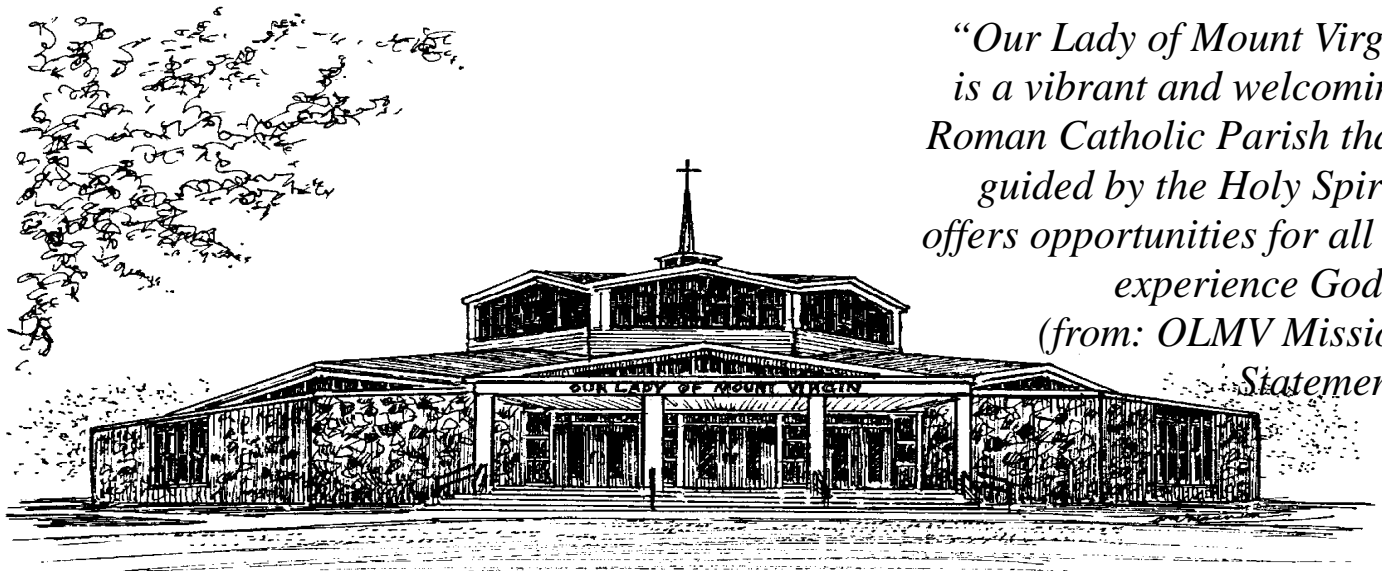


Our Lady of Mt. Virgin Church

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

December 15, 2013

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 15, 2013



Those who the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy.

-Isaiah 35:10

MASS INTENTIONS

MON., 7:00	Dec. 16th A.M.	Advent Weekday Parishioners
7:00	P.M.	Novena
TUES., 12:00	Dec. 17th P.M.	Advent Weekday Julia Millie r/o Sister, Ana Marie, Bob & Parents
WED., 7:00	Dec. 18th A.M.	Advent Weekday Brian Parenti r/o Parents & Family
THURS., 12:00	Dec. 19th P.M.	Advent Weekday Cibelli Family r/o Anne Stanzione
FRI., 7:00	Dec. 20th A.M.	Advent Weekday Collen Murray r/o Mom & Family
SAT., 8:00	Dec. 21st A.M.	Saint Peter Canisius Joseph Butera r/o Ann & Family
5:00	P.M.	Rita Matts r/o Betty Hewitt
SUN., 8:00	Dec. 22nd A.M.	Fourth Sunday of Advent Frances Marie Wiegmann r/o Donna Nalwasky
10:00	A.M.	Christopher Roy r/o Barry, Joan & Kimberly Proctor
11:30	A.M.	Bernard Salvatore r/o Lucy Bartolucci
1:30	P.M.	Por los favores recibidos y la intersection de la Sagrada Familia

ADVENT NOVENA – Our Advent Novena continues on **Mondays, December 16 and 23 at 7:00 P.M.** All are invited to attend.

PLAN AHEAD... The **Parish Office** will be closed **Tuesday, December 24th** and **Wednesday, December 25th** and will re-open on **Thursday, December 26th at 10:00 am.**



Memorials

Week of December 15—22

Altar Candles

James Donald Reilly r/o Mom, Dad, BJ & Jaime

Sanctuary Candles

Philip Grinnell r/o Lil Ziomek & Family

Tabernacle Candles

Edward J. Orloski r/o Frieda Schell

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: Eva Torres.



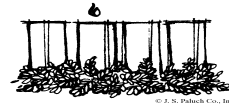
The following couple was married on Saturday, December 7, 2013.
Gisella Cardenas & Marvin DeLeon
We pray that our Lord will bless them with every grace as they begin their married life.

Thank You to all who helped with and also who attended our **Penance Service** last Monday. Our guest priests were impressed with the spiritual depth of our parishioners.



A heartfelt **"Thank You"** to *Rives Cassel* and all who assisted in the beautiful Taize prayer service that took place on Sunday night. It is so unfortunate that the inclement weather kept people away. It was a beautiful and prayerful event which provided those in attendance the opportunity to spend quiet time with the Lord.

Parish office will close at 12:30pm on **Wednesday, December 18.**



Remembering your Parish at Christmas

Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish thrives because so many generously provide support in many different ways. As we approach Christmas and the end of the year, we are reminded that often there are wonderful tax benefits to end of year generosity to the parish. Please feel free to contact the pastor about specific donations or bequests to the parish at this time of year.

The weekend of Dec. 28—29



Altar Servers

5:00 P.M.— James Lawrence
Erin Rooney

8:00 A.M.— Richie McNulty
Tommy McNulty

10:00 A.M.— Alexis Labrada
T. Sviderskis-Carroll
Sheridan Hoyt

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. Like the disciples on the road to Emmaus we don't always recognize Jesus' way. Or maybe we just try to ignore it.

Dec. 7—8.....\$9,373.00
Retired Religious Collection.....\$2,951.00
Immaculate Conception.....\$2,458.00
Major Renovations Fund.....\$985.00
Spanish Mass (Dec. 1).....\$291.00
Weekly Parish Expenses.....\$19,246.00



Tuesday, December 24, Vigil

4:00 P.M. (a Special Liturgy with our parish children.)

7:00 P.M. Mass

12:00 Midnight Mass

(Lessons and Carols at 3:30, 6:30 and 11:30 P.M.)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, December 25

8:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.

Due to the large crowds who attend Mass on Christmas, the last Mass will be celebrated at **12:00 noon**

Tuesday, December 31

12:00 Noon and 7:00 pm (Vigil Mass)

Wednesday, January 1, 2014

Holy Mother of God

9:00 A.M. And 12:00 Noon

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

Thanks you to our Knights for organizing Breakfast with Santa again this year. The Knights do so much to support our parish in so many different ways!

The Knights established the "Father Blaise Baran Scholarship Fund to honor outstanding young adults from our parish as they graduate from high school. Each year before Christmas, the Knights make a number of Christmas related products available which sustain their scholarship program and invite us to actively participate in announcing the presence of the Lord to our community. The Knights thank you for your support. Knights are in the vestibule after weekend Masses and will be happy to share Christmas "Oplatke," buttons, magnets and signs. As you support the Knights of Columbus, you support the Catholic Church. Bottoms can also be purchased in the Parish Office and after all weekend Masses during Advent for \$5.00 each or 2 for \$8.00.

Thank you for your generous response to the Retired Religious collection last week. Many of us remember with real fondness the many men and women who gave of themselves freely to provide educational opportunities and to provide medical assistance in our time of need. Many elderly sisters, brothers and order priests now depend on our generosity to ensure that they can receive proper care in their declining years. For so many years they helped us and I know that God blesses us as we remember them each year.

MEDITATION GARDEN AND REMEMBRANCE WALKWAY—

Have you purchased your memorial brick yet? Memorial bricks are a beautiful way to show your support for OLMV Parish and to honor family members. Bricks can be ordered through the parish office: \$150.00 for a 4" x 8" brick and \$250.00 for a 8" x 8" brick. When we work together in praise of God---then the Lord's presence becomes powerfully present --- right here in Middlesex!



My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"Are you the one, or must we look for another?" This is the question that John the Baptist's followers ask Jesus in today's Gospel passage. It is a very serious question, for what the Baptist is really asking is "Are you the Chosen one; are you the Messiah of God." The Baptist is sitting in a dungeon and he knows that he will probably die soon, so this is a question that has great magnitude. Can John go to his death knowing that his work is done and that the Messiah is now here, ready to complete the mission that John had begun?

As he so often does, Jesus responds to the question posed to him indirectly: "Look around. The blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear and the poor have the Good News proclaimed to them." With this statement, Jesus sends John's followers back to him. Isn't Jesus really saying, "Let John know that he can now rest in the bosom of the Lord for eternity? His work is complete. The Word is alive and active in the world." Jesus affirms for John and his followers that, indeed, the Messiah is present and active in the world in the person of Jesus---Jesus is the "one who is to come."

As Jesus is the "one who is to come" for the Baptist, so is Jesus the "one who is to come" for us. Jesus is the one whom we await---Jesus is the presence of God, alive in the world, today and always!

We are compelled in faith to continue our Advent journey. We are asked to continue to experience this time of hope and joyful expectation. Like the disciples of the Baptist, we are asked to "look around" and to see with our physical eyes and also our spiritual eyes, God's work alive in our world.

As we come alive in faith, opening our souls to appreciate the truth of Jesus' presence among us, we come to realize how his presence really does open us up to grace and goodness, There can be no doubt that as we become open to the presence of the Lord, that we begin to experience the personal miracles in our lives.

In today's world where there seems to be no peace and where the collective soul of humanity seems to be so filled with hurt and agitation, it is the Lord who is the source of peace and serenity and hope for our future. In a world that is so filled with doubt, anger, greed, hate, distrust and suspicion, it is only our faith in the power of Jesus that allows us to hope for the miracles that do happen in our lives every day.

We must continue to prepare in hope and joyful expectation during these remaining days of Advent. Now is the time to take stock of our own relationship to the Lord, and to ask, ourselves, "are you the one?" Can there be any doubt but that Jesus is the one?

In peace and prayer,
Father Pat



**THE DEANERY SCHOOL:
HOLY SAVIOR ACADEMY**

For information, please contact the school administration at 908 - 822 - 5890 or log on to the school's web page at: Holy SaviorAcademy.com

CHRISTMAS FLOWER Thank you to our many generous parishioners who support our annual Christmas Flower collection. Thanks to your generosity, Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church always looks beautiful as we celebrate Christmas, and also as we come together to celebrate the presence of the Lord at Mass each weekend during the year. Flower remembrances will be places on the Tabernacle altar during the Christmas season, and loved ones will be remembered by our priests during Mass each day.

THANKS also to all who attended our Advent Penance Service. Special thanks to the priests of our Diocese who assisted with confessions.

Winter Bible Study Beginning Soon!!!

Join us for a 6 session program (plus celebration) as we deepen our discipleship and more fully **EMBRACE THE KINGDOM!** Both morning and evening sessions are offered for your convenience: Wednesday at 10 AM or 7:00 PM in Petra House. Come to either the evening or morning sessions, which begin on January 15 (schedules are on bulletin boards around the church). All are welcome, but you must pre-register and there is a \$12 book fee. Please come to the parish office to register on/before January 6. Books will be given out at registration so you can prepare for the Introductory Session!

Eucharistic Adoration: Continues on Friday, December 20 right after the 7:00am Mass until noon. Come and spend some quiet time with the Lord.

Children's Liturgy

Our next Children's Liturgy is scheduled for Sunday, December 22, the Fourth Sunday of Advent at the 10:00am Mass with a craft and refreshments to follow. As always, all of our parishioners are invited to come together downstairs in the Church Hall after the 10:00am Mass for refreshments and conversation. Hope to see you there.



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

All calls for assistance are confidential.

VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM:

donate a running or non-running vehicle to help the less fortunate.

To do so please call the help line at 732-356-2149 x 6

The St. Vincent de Paul Society Conference of Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish has made available Spiritual Donation Cards, found in baskets at the entrances of the church. A donation to the Society may be made in honor of a loved one, living or deceased. Please fill out the envelope, place your donation in it and leave it in the parish office or the collection basket. The lovely card may be sent to the person of your choice. 100% of your donation is used to assist those in need in our community. Your support is truly appreciated.

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

Jesus & Java are monthly young adult gatherings where 20- and 30-year-olds discuss relevant issues/topics that affect their lives. It is a time to grow in faith, make new friends, and enjoy a warm cup of coffee and goodies to conclude the day. This is just one of the formation and networking opportunities offered by the *Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry* which are supported by your gift to the Bishop's Annual Appeal.

Thank you .

**CAN YOU SAVE YOUR MARRIAGE?
RETOUVAILLE—A LIFELINE FOR
TROUBLE MARRIAGES**

If your marriage has become unloving and uncaring, or if your relationship has grown cold or distant, if you are thinking of separation or divorce, or if you are already separated or divorced, but (both of you) wish to try again—then the RETOUVAILLE program may help you.

The next program begins the weekend of February 28—March 2, 2014. All inquires are confidential. For further information please call the Family Life Office (days) 732-562-1990 ext. 1624.

"Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised..." Matthew 11:4-5

When Jesus cured the sick we called it a miracle. Yet God has blessed us with many good things – our eyesight, our hearing, our talents, our health and so much more – and we often take it all for granted. The good steward recognizes every blessing in life as a miracle from God and strives to use those gifts for God's honor and glory.

<<<<<<<<<<<<RINCÓN ESPAÑOL >>>>>>>>>>>>

NOTAS DEL PADRE PAT...

*Adoración al Santísimo - Viernes 20 de Diciembre a partir de las 7:00 am hasta las 12:00 del medio día.

Ven y pasa un momento a solas con Jesús..

*Horarios Festivos de Misas y Vigilias en el mes de Diciembre:

Martes 24 de Diciembre- 4:00pm y 7:00pm

Misa a las 12:00 de la media noche.

Miércoles 25 de Diciembre: 8:00am, 10:00 am y 12:00 del medio día.

María Madre de Dios: Misa Iero de Enero, 9:00 am y 12:00 medio día.

Nuestras oficinas estarán cerradas los días 18 de Diciembre a partir de la 12:30 pm. El 24 y 25 de Diciembre la Oficina estará cerrada.

- Próximo compartir: 22 de Diciembre después de Misa. Les invito a colaborar con algún plato para compartir. Para mas información o para donar algo llamar a la oficina durante horas de trabajo (732-356-2149)

-Si desean tener la intención de la Santa Misa en memoria de algún ser querido o por alguna intención en especial, pueden pasar por la oficina y reservar Misas para este nuevo año 2014. Cada Misa tiene un costo de \$10.00.



costo

INFORMATION SHEET

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

911166: Our Lady of Mount Virgin
600 Harris Ave.
Middlesex, NJ

PHONE

732-356-2149

CONTACT PERSON

Karen Gallagher

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