

MASS INTENTIONS

MON., 9:00	Dec., 28th A.M.	The Holy Innocents Martyrs Mary Engelman r/o Daughter, Patricia
TUES., 12:00	Dec., 29th P.M.	Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord Buenaventura F. Sabale r/o Amelia S. Villar
WED., 9:00	Dec., 30th A.M.	Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord Anthony Michael Zotte r/o Debbie, Anthony Amando
THURS., 12:00 7:00	Dec., 31st P.M. P.M.	Seven Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord Christian Russo r/o The Russo Family Leo Collins r/o Wife
FRI., 9:00 12:00	Jan., 1st A.M. P.M.	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God Richard & Josephine Power r/o Casale Family OLMV Parishioners
SAT., 8:00 5:00	Jan., 2nd A.M. P.M.	Saints Basil the Great, Doctor of the Church Purgatorial Society Mass Catherine Nodes r/o Thomas & Pam O'Farrell
SUN., 8:00 10:00 11:30 1:30	Jan., 3rd A.M. A.M. A.M. P.M.	The Epiphany of the Lord Julie Erchick r/o Children & Grandchildren George Bradley r/o Wife, Carmie The Doria Family r/o John, Josephine Colasuonno Ninos y familias Comunidad Hispana

“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God.” (PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7)

St. Paul reminds us that our God is an abundant God, the ultimate giver of gifts. He promises to give us all that we need. When we trust that God will take care of us, it is easier for us to share what we have been given.

GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

Dec 20....NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING

Major Renovations.....	\$
Immaculate Conception.....	\$
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

- **Remembering Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish as we approach the end of the year:**

As we approach Christmas and the end of the year, we consider our gift to Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish. Very often it is in financially advantageous for us to make tax-deductible donations to our Parish as well as to other worthy organizations and ministries. As we approach the end of the year, sometimes there are also particular tax advantages associated with the donation of stocks, bonds, jewelry, and real property, etc., in addition to cash contributions. Please contact our pastor, Fr. Pat, if you have questions concerning a particular gift to our church.

- **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 web-site: 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 DEC. 27—JAN. 3

Altar Candles

Leo Collins r/o Wife

Sanctuary Candles

Zigmond Wysocki Family r/o The Family

Tabernacle Candles

Catherine Canavan r/o Toni Collins



A letter from our Pastor

My Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“Do you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” These are the words of the twelve year old Jesus to Mary and Joseph when they finally find him in the Temple. He is among the wise and learned ones and is discussing the questions of Jewish faith with them.

This is a reminder to us, barely two days since the great Feast of Christmas, that we too must be in the house of the Father! What exactly does this mean for us? It means, simply, that the experience of Christmas is not a singular event; rather it is an ongoing experience---Jesus present among us---now and always! We must be in the Father’s house! We must be always sharing the truth of God’s Word alive in the world---with everyone we meet.

As we consider today’s second reading, we are able to focus on our role as “spokespersons” for the Lord as we proclaim the word from “within the Father’s house. Today’s reading from Colossians is a blueprint for us as we begin to live out this “Year of Mercy” as God’s chosen ones.

“Put on heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another. . . And above all these put on love.” In today’s passage, Paul goes on to instruct us to be thankful, to let peace control our hearts, be filled with gratitude, and finally to make sure that all we do and say is in the name of Jesus Christ! Certainly this is a powerful blueprint for living out our lives as believers who dwell in the “House of the Lord.” As Catholic Christians, however, this is exactly what we are called to do---not just in this “Year of Mercy,” but always, as we respond to the truth of Jesus alive in our hearts.

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, and we know that Jesus, Mary and Joseph serve as icons of faith, icons of the manner in which we as the “family of God” should relate to each other. So central to who we are as Catholic believers is the action that must be an outgrowth of that faith. As we live this “Year of Mercy,” we are encouraged to reflect of that special “Beatitude,” “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall have mercy.” Our second reading encourages us to enter into the “Mercy of the Lord” by faithful observance of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

In declaring this “Jubilee Year of Mercy,” Pope Francis envisions a time in which people will become more merciful in their own lives and will bring God’s mercy to others. As we cultivate our own merciful hearts, the Pope expects we will more actively bring God’s consolation to the poor, enliven in the hearts of all a sense of human dignity ---especially for the poor, and a renewed desire for justice evenly administered to all.

As we emulate the Holy Family, we are encouraged to become true “missionaries of mercy who proclaim Jesus’ Gospel of Mercy in both word and action.

And, a blessed joy---filled New Year!

In peace and prayer,
Father Pat

PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

Dear Lord, bless our family. Be so kind as to give us the unity, peace, and mutual love that You found in Your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

St. Joseph, bless the head of our family. Obtain for him the strength, the wisdom, and the prudence he needs to support and direct those under his care.

Mother Mary, bless the mother of our family. Help her to be pure and kind, gentle and self-sacrificing. For the more she resembles you, the better will our family be.

Lord Jesus, bless the children of our family. Help them to be obedient and devoted to their parents. Make them more and more like You. Let them grow, as You did, in wisdom and age and grace before God and man.

Altar Rosary Society

Sunday, Jan. 3, 8:00 am

Mass & Communion

Super Bowl “Bake Sale” weekend of

February 6---7 after all Masses

Please mark your Calendars!!!



SAVE THE DATE... Tuesday, January 19, 2016 at 7:15 PM in the Church. Come along with our OLMV youth and welcome our brothers and sisters of other faiths and celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Plan to attend this special evening PRAYER SERVICE FOR PEACE! See Bulletin Board for more details.

*Father Pat, Father Mark, Father Peter, Deacon John C,
Deacon John T, Deacon Tom S, Sister James, Mrs.
Zmigrodski, Mr. Rives Cassel and
the parish staff wish all of
you and your families a Happy,
Holy and safe New Year !*



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Thank you Lord for giving me
the brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should
as each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom
that I might help a friend.
Give me strength and courage
so a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty
help me fill it with good
things.
Each new day fill with joy
and the happiness it brings.
Please give the
leaders of our world
a courage born of peace,
that they might lead us gently
and all the fighting cease.
Please give to all upon this earth
a heart that's filled with love;
a gentle happy way to live
with Your blessings from above.

REMINDER PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS---

Thursday & Friday, December 31 & January 1: **Closed**
PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF TIME FOR THE
FOLLOWING MASSES: Monday, December 28 &
Wednesday, December 30 — **9:00 A.M**
Tuesday, December 29 — **12:00 noon**
Thursday, December 31 — **12:00 noon & 7:00 P.M**
Friday, January 1 — **9:00 A.M. & 12:00 noon**

Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy



This feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph is a good time for us as a parish family, as individual families, and as individuals to reflect on the "mystery of mercy." In *Misericordiae Vultus* Pope Francis gives us words to guide our reflection:

"We need constantly to contemplate the mystery of mercy. It is a wellspring of joy, serenity, and peace. Our salvation depends on it. Mercy: the word reveals the very mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. Mercy: the ultimate and supreme act by which God comes to meet us. Mercy: the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his brothers and sisters on the path of life. Mercy: the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness."

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

**THE DEANERY SCHOOL-
HOLY SAVIOR ACADEMY**



Holy Savior Academy, 149 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield (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 1-1 Catechist is needed for Tuesdays from now until May for a 4th grade student. Please contact Dorothy Zmigrodski (732-356-2149 x 2011) if you would be interested in this volunteer position. The 1-1 student meets for approximately 45 minutes each week. Volunteers must be background checked, fingerprinted and attend a one-time workshop.

* **The OLMV Book Club** met and discussed the book "The Shack" by Wm. P. Young. Fr. Pat was our special guest during the meeting. Our next meeting is January 25th where we will discuss the book "Until Lily: The First in the Trilogy" by Sherry Boas. Please call or e-mail Dorothy Zmigrodski at dzmigrodski@olmv.net if you would like further information or would like to join our group.

Food Collection for Fish, Inc. January 16—17. We are asking each family to consider donating one or more of the following:

- A box of cereal or
- A package of rice or pasta or
- A canned good item or
- A can of coffee or
- A box of tea bags or

Any single non-perishable food item
Many in our parish are contributing a bag full of these items, and we are very grateful – but our collection would be "over the top" if every family would give even one item a month. Our last month's collection yielded 102 packages of food. Thank you and God bless you!



**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!

Few Notes from our Pastor:

Thank you:

Thank you to our **Christmas decoration crew**. Didn't the Church look just spectacular with the beautiful poinsettias surrounding the crèche scene! The powerful presence of the Christ-child in our midst certainly cannot be lost on anyone who visits and prays here at OLMV! Our decorators did a fantastic job hanging wreaths, preparing our flowers and plants and then placing them so beautifully in our chapels and around the church. OLMV is so fortunate to have many generous parishioners who support our Christmas Flower program each year. Thanks to them and to our faithful decorators (and don't forget our Maintenance staff!) we are able to honor the Christ-child with a beautiful church every year. May we remember to pray each time we are at Mass for the intentions of everyone who helped to make our church so beautiful for Christmas.

Thank you and congratulations to **Jovita Aniang** and to her many volunteers who made our **Simbang Gabi** Mass such a powerful experience. Thanks also to everyone who helped to set up the church hall for the reception afterwards (and also to clean up!!!) and to everyone who donated refreshments. Prayer and worship followed by joyful celebration is such an important component of our **Filipino community**. OLMV is so pleased to be part of the **Simbang Gabi** Novena each year.

Thank you to our **Spanish community** who meet each Sunday to celebrate Mass here OLMV. Congratulations to them on the wonderful celebration on Sunday, December 20 in anticipation of Christmas and also on the truly spectacular reception afterwards. We are so fortunate to have a community that supports our parish in prayer and worship and in so many other ways!!!

Thank you to our **Chinese community** who meet here for Mass every 2nd Sunday each month and who come together every week for prayer ministry. The Chinese Catholic community has worshipped here for many years and has been very supportive of our church. **Thanks for your presence here at OLMV!**

We give thanks and praise to God for the many Catholic worshippers who come from so many cultural backgrounds and who participate in the liturgical life of our parish. In a very special way, we give thanks to the many parishioners who have been faithful here at OLMV over the decades---parishioners who are the "heart and soul" of our parish!!!

We are many but we are always ONE in faith!!!

As we look to a New Year, may we each continue to join together in worship and in proclaiming the truth of Jesus Christ present in our community and in the world!

- **PLEASE NOTE: We will not have Eucharistic Adoration on Friday, January 1, 2016.**

Evangelization Meeting... Saturday, January 9, at 10:30 am in Petra House... join us to plan our upcoming Ecumenical Prayer Service for Peace. New members WELCOME!

Winter Blood Drive – January 10, 2016. 8:00am – 1:00pm. Please mark your calendars for the date. As always, blood is in serious demand. New Jersey Blood Services is very grateful to our generous and caring donors. They have stated in previous letters of gratitude that "There is no substitute for caring people who take time to donate blood so that others may live." For more information regarding Medical Eligibility for blood donation please call 1-800-688-0900 or visit their website at www.nybloodcenter.org

ADULT CONFIRMATION SESSIONS are about to begin! Join this interested group who gather to deepen their love and commitment to Jesus and their understanding of the Catholic faith. If you are over 18 years of age and have celebrated Baptism and Communion, but not Confirmation, you are welcome to our **FIRST MEETING ON MONDAY, JANUARY 11 at 7:00 PM in PETRA HOUSE**. Please call Sister James to register or for further information (732-609-1091).

• **OLMV in the "Digital Age"**

Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish seeks to share the "Good News" that Jesus Christ is present among us. In support of our mission, we have established a **web-site**: www.olmv.net, a **Facebook page**: Our Lady of Mount Virgin Church – Middlesex, and a mass communication initiative (e-blast system) to which you can sign on by accessing our web-site and following the directions on the introductory page. In addition our parish has an **e-store** that can also be accessed through the introductory page of our web-site. Our parish has a committee of dedicated men and women who support our "Digital Communication" efforts. Please feel free to share with our pastor, Father Pat, your suggestions as to how we might more effectively communicate the presence of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in the digital age. Please check out our different communication initiatives. "Like" us on Facebook and remember to sign up for our e-blast initiative.

**2015 Bishop's Annual Appeal
Grace, Mercy & Peace**

The **Office of Family Life** empowers families to accept and embrace Catholic values by courageously modeling those values for society by the joyful acceptance of cultural diversity, the compassionate outpouring of love for those who are hurting or in need and for the ongoing affirmation of the dignity of all human life.

Boletín en Español
Domingo 27 de Diciembre del 2015
La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José

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

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

Passar 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 queremos agradecer por toda su colaboración y ayuda a la parroquia este año 2015!

Gracias por su gran generosidad durante los compartires de la Comunidad.

Esperamos que tengan un Feliz Prospero Año Nuevo y que sea Nuestra Señora del Monte Virgen el lugar donde se reúnan a celebrar la Santa Misa y que la Comunidad crezca en cantidad tanto como en espiritualidad. Gracias al grupo timon por su arduo trabajo durante el año y gracias Ana & Joaquin Palucha por su liderasgo.

NOVENA DE ADVIENTO EN ESPAÑOL:

Gracias a todos los que colaboraron con El rezo de la Novena de Adviento por nueve Domingos!
De Corazon 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.
- **Proxima Clase Bautismal:** Jueves 7 de Enero 7:30 pm. Familias que deseen participar deben llamar a la oficina parroquial.
- **Gracias** a todos los niños que participaron en el coro para el compartir navideno, se prepararon por más de un mes e hicieron un excelente trabajo! Agradecimiento en especial a el Señor Rives Cassel Por su tiempo con la preparación del coro de niños.

FELIZ AÑO 2016!!! Que Dios los bendiga ..

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
- Visitando a los enfermos

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. Gracias!