



2025 ANNUAL APPEAL

CASE FOR SUPPORT

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FORMING FUTURE
PRIESTS AND
SUPPORTING
RETIRED CLERGY

CARING FOR
THE POOR AND
VULNERABLE

PROCLAIMING
THE GOSPEL

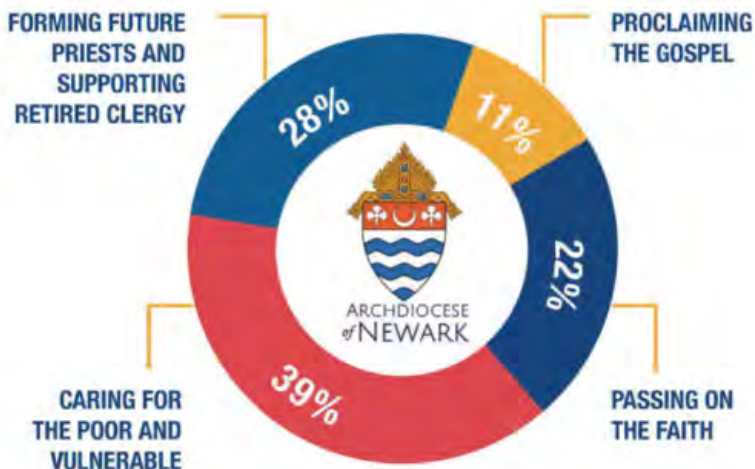
\$1,000,000

CARING FOR
THE POOR AND
VULNERABLE

\$3,500,000

FORMING FUTURE
PRIESTS AND
SUPPORTING
RETIRED CLERGY

\$2,500,000



**PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES
FUNDED INCLUDE:**

- Ministry to Multi-Ethnic Communities
- Office of Evangelization
- Office of Family Life
- International Missions
- Pastoral Ministry with the Deaf
- Ministry with Persons with Disabilities

**PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES
FUNDED INCLUDE:**

- Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
- Catechetical Office
- Campus Ministry at affiliated Colleges & Universities
- Catholic Schools

**PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES
FUNDED INCLUDE:**

- Catholic Charities
- Hospital and Prison Chaplaincy
- Respect Life Office
(Includes Mercy House and Pro-Life Efforts)
- Protecting God's Children

**PROGRAMS AND MINISTRIES
FUNDED INCLUDE:**

- Continuing Formation for Priests
- Seminarian Education
- Priest Health Care

PARISH DIRECTORY
www.olmcridgewood.com

Parish Office: 1 Passaic Street, Ridgewood, NJ 07450-4309
Phone: 201.444.2000 Fax: 201.444.2002

Parish Office Hours
Monday-Friday—9AM-8PM | Saturday-Sunday—9AM-2PM

SERVED BY

Rev. Msgr. Ronald J. Rozniak, P.A., Pastor
Ext. 201, ronr@olmcridgewood.com
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Ext. 403, nmckenna@olmcridgewood.com



Dear Friends,

As I mentioned last week, I have moved **Pledge Weekend** for the **Annual Appeal** from the 1st weekend in March to this weekend. We have the final Antioch Retreat (high school youth ministry retreat) for the year next weekend and it would be difficult to get to some of that, especially the closing mass and still preach at all the masses. And next weekend is also the last weekend before Ash Wednesday and I think it would be better to be in a more spiritual mood, rather than material, as we look forward to Lent.

First a re-cap of last year's **Appeal**. We ended the year with 521 households participating in the **Appeal**. That's 31 more than the previous year. Thank you to all 531 households. It marks a significant increase in parish participation. The total received was \$363,909.75 on pledges of \$387,427.10. Thank you for your generosity. As I have always said, no matter what the cause, this is an extraordinarily generous parish. While I didn't go back to check, I believe Mount Carmel is the single largest supporter of the **Appeal** for twenty-five years straight, even though we are not the largest nor the wealthiest parish in the Archdiocese. Thank you again. Because of your generosity to the **Appeal**, this past week the parish received a check from the Archdiocese for \$115,693.38, the rebate to the parish because it exceeded its goal. All because of you. **Thank you.**

As I mentioned three weeks ago, you should have already received **Appeal** materials and a letter from the Cardinal, as well as a letter from me. From those materials you have already received, I want to repeat a few points. The campaign funds what the Church is supposed to be about. First and foremost the Church must be about *Proclaiming the Gospel*, announcing to the world it is loved by Jesus Christ. While this is the responsibility of every baptized Catholic, there is a special place for those called to the priestly ministry and so *Forming Future Priests* must be a part of the Church's work, as well as *Supporting Retired Clergy*, those who have labored long and hard in the vineyard (myself included, sooner or later). *Passing on the Faith* to future generations is also an essential work of the Church and living Jesus' love, in concrete ways, drives the Church's mission in *Caring for the Poor and the Vulnerable*. This last mission of the Church is so important that it receives the largest portion of the funds raised through the Appeal.

I truly believe the case statement, all that I have shared and all that's represented in the brochure speak to the strength of the Appeal and the fact that it represents the Church's outreach to those in need right here, among us, in our own backyard, brothers and sisters right around the corner from us. And for those who wonder whether the funds are actually going to these works, I quote the Cardinal from the Annual Appeal Brochure, "I humbly ask for your support. All funds collected through the Annual Appeal support the

programs and ministries designated in this campaign and detailed here.” While the appeal might not be as heart-wrenching as other appeals, as one for the fire victims in California, in the long run it is just as critical to the future of our faith in this area.

To repeat, *ad nauseam*, what is my goal? Obviously to raise more funds, both for these causes and for ourselves, through the long standing rebate policy of the Archdiocese. 50% of all funds over the parish goal, and collected by December 31, 2025, will be given back to the parish. But **participation** is the key word. After all these years, I think from the beginning of my pastorate, almost 28 years ago, you know what my principle goal has always been, year in and year out—to consistently increase the number of parish “households” involved in this support. Maybe hoping too much, could we possibly reach 550 households this year? Please help us in that quest. As we look around our country and the world, wars, conflicts, strife and division are everywhere. Couldn’t our nation and the world be a better place? *Proclaiming the Gospel* might just be a place to start.

To those who have already pledged/given, to this year’s **Appeal**, thank you. To those who have given in the past, please make your pledge this week. I have already made my pledge and I did notice (as they did last year) that the pre-printed material suggests a specific increase in the pledge amount. I must admit, I gave in and did increase my pledge. Within your own circumstances, if you can do that, I ask you to think and pray about it. To those who have not given, please join the hundreds of parish households who have added their voice and resources to see that the Gospel continues to be preached here in our community and throughout the four counties of northern New Jersey.

The format for the weekend is always the same, the video message from the Cardinal and a few words from me. For those who didn’t receive materials in the mail, there will be **Appeal** brochures in the pews, along with pledge envelopes. Please take one home with you, pray about it and hopefully, make a pledge this week and mail it directly back to the Archdiocese. Even better, there will be a link on our website homepage directly linking to the Archdiocesan **Appeal**. Either way, be sure to identify Our Lady of Mount Carmel-Ridgewood so your gift gets the proper credit.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Grace and Peace,
Fr. Ron



A recurring online gift
To Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
is the best way to sustain
the mission of this parish



Look for the **WeShare** link on our website homepage,
Scan this QR Code, or call 877.316.0260



You can support OLMC via Venmo!

Find us under “Charities” @olmcridgewoodnj
or scan the QR code here.

**BUDELMAN/JAMIOLKOWSKI
CONFIRMATION GROUP SERVICE PROJECT**

Today is the last day for donations to support our Confirmation project—renovating the children’s playrooms at St. Joseph’s Medical Center. Our hope is that our efforts (with your support) will provide comfort, joy and a break from their daily routines to relax and play as kids. We will also create wall art with the hope that it will inspire and provide these youngsters courage. Your support in this effort would be so greatly appreciated.

We will be collecting:

- **Books** (ages 5-15)
- **Legos**
- **Art Supplies** (bracelet making kits, painting/coloring/sticker books, crayons, colored pencils/markers, glitter, glue, construction paper, water color pens, construction paper, water color paper, water color & acrylic paints, paint brushes, pastels, chalk, sketch books, stamps, and craft scissors).

Donations may be placed in the collection boxes that will be at the doors of the church through **TODAY, FEBRUARY 23.**

Questions? Email robertsteph@me.com

STEWARDSHIP

“Give and it will be given to you... For the measure you measure with will be measured back to you.” These words from the Gospel encourage us to know that we should not fear generosity – in all things. Not only is generosity its own reward, it will also be rewarded. The Christian Steward freely offers gifts of **Time, Talent and Treasure**, knowing God will not be outdone in His generosity.

The parish Stewardship of Treasure last week was \$11,022. God bless your generous support of the Gospel. A reminder—The best way to provide the parish with consistent and reliable resources is to use electronic giving—**WeShare/Venmo**.



**ST. PATRICK’S CELEBRATION
DINNER DANCE**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 8th
SCHOOL GYM—7:00PM-11:00PM**

Celebrate the life of Saint Patrick at the Annual Knights of Columbus Dinner Dance. Gather with family and friends and enjoy an all you can eat buffet including:

**Corned Beef & Cabbage, Chicken Scarpariello,
Eggplant Rollatini, Salads, Desserts, plus beer & wine!**

Entertainment Includes:

A Bagpiper, Irish Singers, & DJ

Reservations are \$60/person

**Mail your check, payable to
Knights of Columbus Council #1736 to:
Knights of Columbus
P.O. Box 278, Ridgewood, NJ 07451**

For questions or more information, contact Mark Mulvey
mmulvey22@gmail.com

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Religious Education
When Families Gather
Remaining February Session

Monday, February 24th—Parents Only Session
7:00PM-8:00PM—Parish Center

Academy of Our Lady  Home School Association

Calendar Raffle

92 CHANCES TO WIN!
EVERY TICKET CAN WIN MORE THAN ONCE! \$20/TICKET
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(CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ACADEMY OF OUR LADY)
GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!! DRAWINGS BEGIN MARCH 7TH!!
TICKETS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE IN THE MT. CARMEL RECTORY OFFICE
MONDAY-FRIDAY, 9AM-4PM

Academy of Our Lady presents...

Ladies Night Out

DINNER & FUNDRAISER
RAFFLES, 50/50, AUCTION ITEMS

March 20, 2025 ~ 6:30PM

Macaluso's, Hawthorne, NJ

\$100/person

Purchase Tickets by March 14th at
<https://payit.nelnet.net/form/tBdt8Yfb>
or by scanning the QR code here.

Information/Contact:

Kristy Dasilva, 917.848.6502 or
jill Tiyyagura, 551.579.3001.



Ministry of Motherhood (MOMs) Meeting
WEDNESDAY—MARCH 5TH
9:15AM—PARISH CENTER

In light of this month's meeting being Ash Wednesday, our gathering will be a special feature on Lent... *How to have your "best Lent ever."* Mark your calendars and bring a friend! No RSVP required. Complimentary babysitting!

MOMs presents: "The Way of the Cross" for Mothers
Wednesday, March 26th | 7PM | Parish Center

All women of the parish are invited. Experience the profound journey of Jesus' road of sacrifice and our path to redemption.

Questions? Email OLMCmomsridgewoodnj.com

For anyone reading the bulletin Friday...

YOUTH MINISTRY MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE
THIS WEEKEND—SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND
SCHOOL BUILDING DRIVEWAY—9AM-12NN

These Food Drives support: Fr. English Food Pantry, Social Services Association, Ridgecrest Senior Living and Healing Meals (fresh produce/food items). Your generosity is greatly appreciated by those served.

Questions? Contact Glen, gmccall@olmcridgewood.com

FR. ENGLISH FROZEN CASSEROLE DROP OFF
THIS WEEKEND AT THE FOOD DRIVE—9AM-12NN

FROZEN casseroles can be dropped off during our monthly Food Drive. Thank you for your generosity!

Questions? Call/Text Barbara—201.615.9624



First Saturday Devotion
This Coming Saturday
March 1st

DAILY MASS CHAPEL
FOLLOWING 8:30AM MASS

Everyone's invited to First Saturday Devotion for the intention of consoling and making reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Please come to pray the rosary

with us and meditate on the mysteries as Our Lady requested at Fatima.

Spanish Bible Study Beginning March 22nd

A Biblical Walk Through the Mass

Saturday, March 22, 29, April 5, 12 & 26
10:00AM—11:30AM | Meeting Room

Email Fr. Jakov or Alba to register
or for more information:
jvidov@olmcridgewood.com or albaludmer@yahoo.com

All are welcome but, please note,
this study will be conducted in Spanish

SETON HALL BASKETBALL OUTING

Join us for a group outing to the last men's basketball home game of the regular season! Seton Hall Pirates vs. Creighton Bluejays. **All families & friends** of the OLMC, St. Catharine, and Academy of Our Lady communities are invited. **Feel free to share the link!**

WHEN: Tuesday, March 4th, 7:00PM

WHERE: Prudential Center, Newark

COST: \$30 per ticket

(30% discount, reg. \$45)

To register, scan this QR code or

Follow this link: <https://payit.nelnet.net/>





**PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION
(PEA)
CHAPEL IS OPEN 24/7
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

What are some blessings of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration?

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration brings many spiritual blessings to individuals, parishes, and communities. Here are some key graces and benefits:

Deepened Relationship with Christ

Spending time before the Blessed Sacrament fosters a more intimate relationship with Jesus and allows for deeper contemplation and a personal encounter with the Eucharistic Lord.

Increased Peace and Spiritual Strength

Adoration brings inner peace, reducing anxiety and stress. It strengthens faith, hope, and love, helping individuals navigate life's challenges with greater trust in God.

Personal Transformation and Holiness

Regular time before the Eucharist leads to greater personal conversion and fosters virtues such as humility, patience, and charity.

Graces for Families and Vocations

Many vocations to the priesthood and religious life have been attributed to Eucharistic Adoration. It strengthens marriages and families by increasing faith and unity.

Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration is a source of countless graces, both seen and unseen, as it keeps the presence of Christ at the heart of a community 24/7.

SCHEDULED ADORERS URGENTLY NEEDED

Tuesday: 12NN-1PM; Wednesday: 8-9AM, 9-10AM;

Thursday: 10-11AM; Fridays: 6-7PM; Saturdays: 5-6PM

Contact Cynthia—551.574.1063, cynthiabtorres@yahoo.com

BLOOD DRIVE

Friday, February 28th | 12NN-6PM | Village Hall

Give From the Heart

- **Save Lives:** One donation can save up to three lives.
- **Health Benefits:** Blood donation can improve your overall well-being.
- **Feel Good:** Experience the reward of helping those in need.



TO SIGN UP:

**Call 646.656.5798 or email ssaeid@nybc.org
Include your full name and preferred donation time.**

Appointments are preferred but walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Please remember to eat, drink, and bring photo ID.

Mass Intentions—2025

Select 12:00 noon Mass intentions during 2025 will be available beginning Monday, February 24, at 10:00am. Cash, check, or Venmo accepted. Options are limited.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun. Feb. 23	1:30PM OCIA (MR) 1:30PM Bell Choir (PCB) 2:00PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 2:00PM Pray the Rosary—Spanish (Chapel) 4:00PM Spanish Apostolate (PCA) 5:00PM Jr. High 8C (PCB) 7:30PM Jr. High 8D (PCB) 7:30PM Morbelli/Romero Conf. Group (YCA) 7:30PM Budelman Confirmation Group (RE1)
Mon. Feb. 24	4:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 7:00PM WFG Parents Only Session (PC)
Tues. Feb. 25	9:30AM MOMs Grace Within (MR) 3:45PM Jr. High Grade 7 Makeup (PCA) 4:00PM Religious Ed Grades 1-6 (Gym) 5:00PM Choir Rehearsal (Church) 5:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym)
Wed. Feb. 26	7:00PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW) 3:45PM Jr. High Grade 8 Makeup ((PCA) 4:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 7:00PM Discovering Yourself (SMR) 7:00PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW) 7:00PM Spanish Choir Reh'l (Church)
Thur. Feb. 27	10:30PM Sunday Liturgy Scripture Study (SMR) 3:30PM Jr. High Youth Group (Gym) 4:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 5:30PM NCW 3 rd Community (YCB) 7:00PM Small Christian Community (Library) 7:30PM Pray the Rosary-English (Chapel) 8:00PM Marriage Enrichment/Prep (NCW)
Fri. Feb. 28	9:00AM SALT (SMR) 4:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym)
Sat. Mar. 1	9:00AM CYO Basketball (Gym) 9:00AM Men's Basketball (Gym) 10:00AM Spanish Bible Study Team Mtg (MR) 10:15AM First Communion Retreat (Church) 6:00PM Neocatechumenal Way (PC)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ILL MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

Joan Donegan Als, Andrea Aluisi, Frederick Bruno, Mike Bucci, Charles Buckley, Mary Alice Cesard, Kimberly Parsons Daub, Nick DiDonato, Maura Gillen Eidschun, Marie Evans, Kay & Bill Forster, Frank Gillen, Susan Hart-White, Joseph Hyon, Marc Johnson, Tom Keleher, Claudia LaFrance, Susan Lois, Campbell McArthur, Christine O'Brien, David Oswald, Margaret Peak, Mary Kathleen Ramge, Cathy Ricciuto, Francis Tedaro Ristor, Michael Runz, Nancy Steen, Don Strittmatter, Larry Switaj, Nickolas John Tedaro, Christina Volpe, Rochelle West, Rosemary Wright, Walter John Zelop, Jr.

Parishioners may call the Rectory with the name of a family member who is sick to have them included in our prayers.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

Timothy Bombace, Aedan Cannon, Edgar Delgado,
Nick Haddad, Durkin McCarthy,
John Morano, James Nardelli, Michael Ortolani,
Robert Smith, Thomas Tesoriero

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Monday, Feb. 24

- + 6:30AM **J. Anthony Annese**
req Anna Anagnos
- + 8:30AM **Moya McEnroe**
req Monica & Ed McCabe
- +12:00NN **Rose & Harry Stockhouse**
req anne & George Skau

Tuesday, Feb. 25

- + 6:30AM **Audrey Bessel**
req Jeanne & Michael Bessel
- + 8:30AM **Danny McGinley**
req His Family
- +12:00NN **Robert Thomann, Jr.**
eq His Parents

Wednesday, Feb. 26

- + 6:30AM **Karen Mulvey**
req Mark Mulvey & Family
- + 8:30AM **Rev. Joseph Wiseman**
req Jean & John Boyle
- +12:00NN **Patricia Engel**
req The Engel Family

Thursday, Feb. 27 *Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church*

- + 6:30AM **Forest Mark Massa**
req Nicholas & Fay Piscitelli
- 8:30AM **Special Intention of Lynn Ciccia**
req Tony Esposito
- +12:00NN **Maev Shugrue**
req Mary Klingenburger & Ann Acker

Friday, Feb. 28

- + 6:30AM **Virginia Mullin**
reg Bernadette Reilly
- + 8:30AM **Lucy Caceres**
req The McClure Family
- +12:00NN **Deceased Members
of the Daniel Mulholland Family**
req Jean & John Boyle

Saturday, Mar. 1

- + 8:30AM **Vincent Chester**
req Rosemarie Chester
- + 5:30PM **Deceased Members
of the Engel Family**
req Richard & Patricia Engel

Sunday, Mar. 2 *Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

- + 8:00AM **Kathy Gresco**
req The Hunt & Murphy Families
- + 9:30AM **Rita & Ramond Lewis**
req The Lewis Family
- 11:00AM **For the People of the Parish**
- +12:30PM **Raymond John DeLeon**
req The Gallo Family
- 3:00PM **Special Intention
of Edgar & Julian Delgado**
req The Delgado Family
- + 6:30PM **Andrea Schroen Bernstein**
req The Schroen Family

TODAY'S READINGS

1. 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

This excerpted passage (actually a collection of several broken verses), highlights the difference between the two kings, (the present king) Saul and (the future king) David. Saul surrounds himself with human agents of protection, thousands of soldiers, barricades, his spear. David relies only on the Lord, His will and His justice. For Saul, the kingship is his; for David, the kingship is the Lord's.

2. 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Paul continues his admonition to the Corinthian community about the absolute need to have faith in the resurrection of Jesus. In today's excerpt, he compares Adam, the first man, to Christ the last Adam. The first became a living soul, the second, in his death and resurrection, became a life-giving spirit. The first is linked with decay, the second with a new order of humanity. The first with a body bound to the earth, the second the image of a man of heaven.

3. Luke 6:27-38

The Lucan Jesus continues to expound on the way a disciple lives in the presence of God's Kingdom. In today's excerpt, the Lord offers three principles with specific examples of practical application. The principles are reciprocity (treating as we want to be treated), love of enemies (not just loved ones), and mercy (as God to us, so we to others). They may be summed up in one phrase, like-for-like. As God to us, so we to each other.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK

1. What examples of forgiveness or revenge have you encountered that have touched you or disturbed you recently? If not exactly revenge, what about "holding a grudge"?
2. Is there one person in your life, right now at this moment, with whom you could offer forgiveness over revenge, kindness over hostility?
3. We will be judged, in part, on how we extended mercy to others. Are you ready for that judgment today?

NEXT WEEKEND'S PRESIDERS

Sat. 3/1	5:30PM	Fr. Frank
Sun. 3/2	8:00AM	Fr. Frank
	9:30AM	Fr. Ron
	11:00AM	Fr. Jakov
	12:30PM	Fr. Frank
	3:00PM	Fr. Jakov
	6:30PM	Fr. Ron

Late changes appear on the website
after 12NN the Saturday of that weekend.



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