

The Parish Family of
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

One Passaic Street, Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450
www.olmcridgewood.com

COME WORSHIP WITH US

WEEKENDS

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sunday: 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:00am
12:30pm, 3:00pm (Spanish) and 6:30pm

WEEKDAYS

6:30am, 8:30am and 12:00 noon

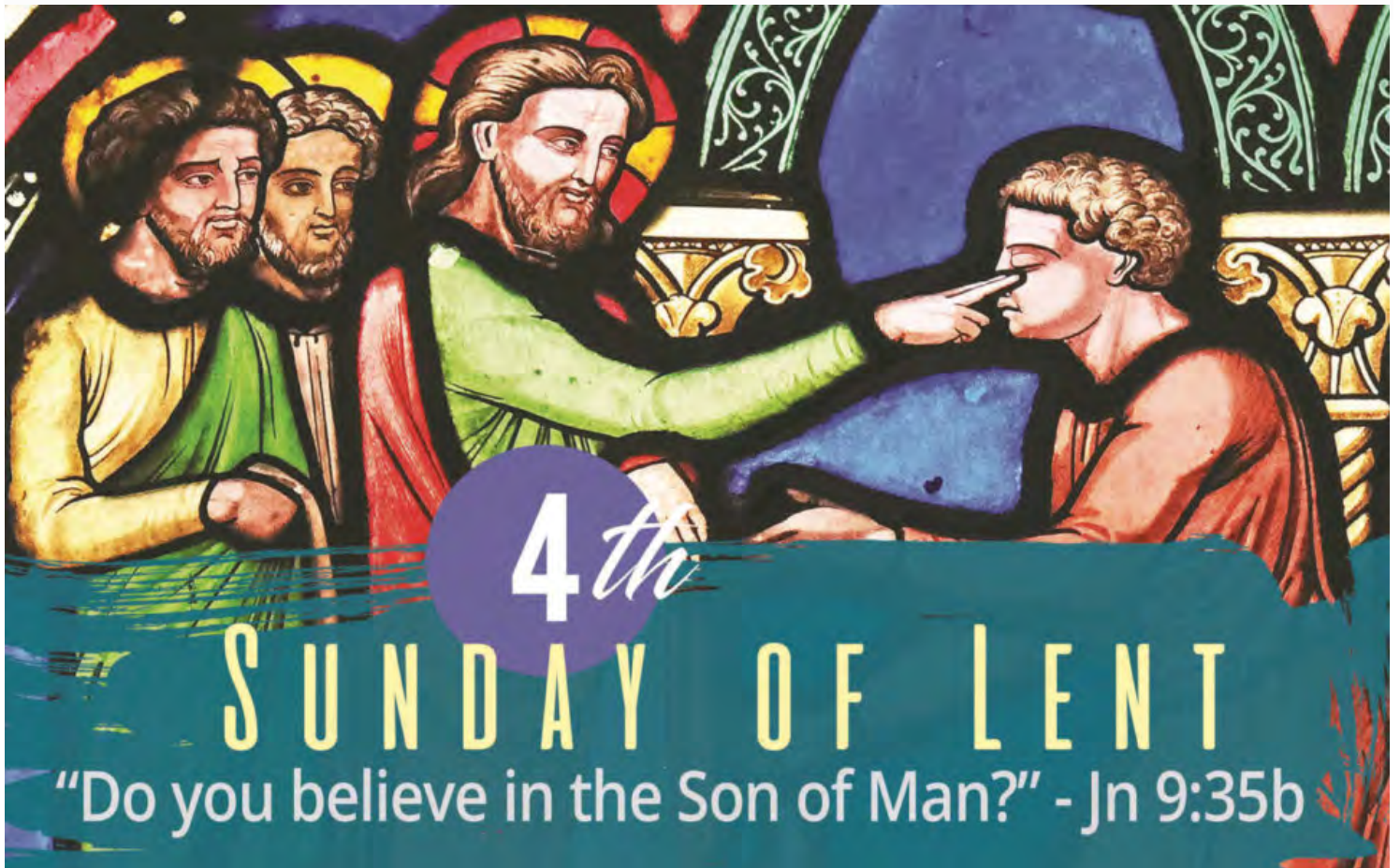
Saturdays: 8:30am

HOLY DAYS

Eve: 7:30pm (anticipated)

6:30am, 8:30am, and 12:00 noon

March 19, 2023





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

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Dear Friends,

Three years ago this past Friday, St. Patrick's Day, 2020, the last public masses were celebrated in this church which was then **locked** to the faithful. Think about these words. Who would have ever thought such a thing would be possible. And locked it remained for three months, actually one day short of three full months. And it began a time in our lives like no other any of us had ever experienced. In my column, I ended with these words, "I pray the Lord fills you with a peace that comes from a faith in his presence in your lives and you draw strength from that to face every day, every challenge, every burden with renewed confidence." While the pandemic has eased, other challenges still remain. May those words be ever true in our lives.

As I have said these past few weeks, the readings from the A Cycle, which we are in this year, are always used at masses in which the catechumens (those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil) are present because as they approach Baptism, these candidates are asked, one last time before entering the Church, if they really know what they are doing and make that final decision in favor of Faith. And for us, already baptized, these readings call us to revive that commitment which may have grown a little cold, in the last year or, maybe even, the last three years since Covid did a job on us. As with the gospel of the Samaritan woman (last week's Gospel), it is filled with symbols. The blind beggar is never identified by name and the word John uses to denote him implies the blind condition of humankind in general. This blind beggar (blind humankind) never asks for a cure, never asks to see. In fact, he seems almost comfortable in his blindness. Doesn't the world often seem comfortable in its blindness to the God Who created it? At least, until three years ago). Continuing the work of the Creator, Jesus molded clay and touched the man. This new sight that is about to be given (not restored, because the beggar was born blind) is a free gift from Jesus. Using mud as if it were an oil of anointing, or as if it was the earth from which the first "Adam" was created, Jesus smears it on the man's eyes and sends him off to wash (the waters of baptism) and having washed, he returns able to see. Eventually, after two run-ins with the Jewish leaders, he encounters Jesus again and now Jesus offers him the chance to believe. And the man responds that he believes, much as the Samaritan woman did in last week's gospel.

But notice the details of this Gospel. Confusion reigns supreme. In the mind of the cured beggar. In the minds of the onlookers and of his parents. Only not in the minds of the Jewish leaders because they have closed their eyes, their hearts and their minds to the possibility that Jesus might just be able to cure their hearts, which are blinder than their eyes. Clarity, belief, discipleship, for both the woman at the well and the blind man came slowly and not without effort. They needed to take that first step... These Gospels... challenge us to look deeply into the well of our own souls to discover whether Jesus is the one who is truly giving us the

answers to our lives and whether or not His light helps us to see those answers clearly. Even though the blind man could see, only slowly did he come to understand what that meant to him, but, in his heart, he was always open to the deeper experience. So too with us. As we travel along in life, we must always be open to a clearer understanding (sight) of the Lord's place in our lives. This is especially true now, as we still experience the effects of a pandemic that turned our lives up-side-down, masks, virtual everything, working from home, etc. Think about that.

In one of the prayers, offered today for the Elect (those to be baptized), the Church prays, "Pour out the same Holy Spirit on these Elect, who long for your sacraments. Guide them along the paths of right faith, safe from error, doubt and unbelief, so that with eyes unsealed they may come to see you face to face."

May our eyes, unsealed from doubt (about God's love), false idols (wealth, comfort, success, prestige), fears (Covid, failure, death), see **YOU** face to face, and be renewed again in spirit.

God Bless,
Fr. Ron

PS. Once again, if you have not as yet made a commitment to the **Annual Appeal**, please go to my video on the homepage of the website for an explanation of the need. Won't you join the 251 households who have already pledged, a great start but a long way to go to the 600 we are hoping for. The easiest way is to go to that same homepage and click on the link at the very top of the left hand side of the page.

Annual Appeal the 2023

Donate online: www.rcan.org/sharing

Make sure to select **Our Lady of Mt. Carmel—Ridgewood**
From the drop-down menu

Checks (payable: 2023 Annual Appeal) may also be placed
in the collection basket, the boxes at the doors of the
church, or mailed/dropped off at the rectory.

STEWARDSHIP

"You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth." Today's 2nd Reading reminds us that the Christian not only keeps the commandments but "produces" goodness in his/her life. The Christian Steward understands this call and uses his/her gifts of **Time, Talent and Treasure** to produce goodness for the Lord. Do you?

The parish Stewardship of Treasure in the in-pew collection last week was \$22,423. God bless all who are generous in support of the spread of the Gospel. A reminder—electronic giving, **WeShare**, better helps the parish budget for its work than any other method of giving.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Confirmation Group
Ava, Jess, Francesca, Finn, Teagan, Delilah, Timmy,
Toby, Julia, Justin, Luke

SPRING CLEANING SUPPLIES DONATION DRIVE

for the residents of Ridgcrest Senior
Housing in Ridgewood—an independent
living, affordable housing community for older
adults and people with disabilities.

ITEMS NEEDED

Dish Soap
Detergent
Scrub Sponges
All Purpose Cleaner (without bleach)
Paper Towels

Donations may be placed
in bins at the doors of the church.

**THANK
YOU!**

**NOW
Through
March 26 2023**

Reserve Now at www.ridgewoodkofc.org



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

**THIS SATURDAY, MARCH 25th
SCHOOL GYM—7:00PM–11:15PM**

Celebrate the life of Saint Patrick at the Knights of Columbus Council 1736 annual 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, beer & wine! Reservations are \$70/person

Entertainment includes: Bagpipers, Irish Dancers,
and the spirited, band—*McLean Ave*

Reserve Now at www.ridgewoodkofc.org

Questions? Contact Jeff Voigt
meddevconsultant@aol.com or 201.790.1521



A Recurring Online Gift to Our Lady of Mt.
Carmel is the best way to sustain the
mission of this parish all year long.

Look for the **WeShare** link on our homepage
or call 877.316.0260

Fourth Sunday of Lent



Religious Education March Theme: Sacraments

Children in Grades 3-8 will attend Reconciliation this month. The registration links will be sent out to all families in the Religious Education and Jr. High programs. Available dates are as follows:

ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Monday, March 20: 4PM-5PM; 7PM-8PM
Wednesday, March 22: 4PM-5PM; 7PM-8PM



A Way of the Cross for Mothers

Monday, March 27th – 7:00PM
Parish Center

The Ministry of Motherhood

"Treasuring Christ When Your Hands Are Full"
Invites you to

A MOMs Evening Gathering

Led by Jenny Hogan and Deirdre Costello

"Lord Jesus, I go from place to place. I rush from here to there. Today, let me go with you. Let me be a part of your journey, so that I may start to understand your great love for me and reflect that love to those around me."

Join us for this very special Stations of the Cross experience, that was written by J. Katherine Reilly, specifically for mothers. Spend the evening with MOMs. Bring a friend! Complimentary babysitting!

RSVP greatly appreciated! Scan this QR Code. This will allow us to have enough handouts & properly provide for babysitting.



Visit us at www.olmcmoms.com

The Community Thrift Shop—Midland Park TURN AROUND SALE DAYS!

Tuesday/Wednesday, March 28 & 29: 1/2 Price Storewide
Thursday, March 30: Brown Bag Sale
\$6.00/Bag ~ Fit as much as you can!
Store Closed April 1st

Thrift Store reopens Monday, April 3
for Seasonal Donations only.



Join us for Morning Prayer
Monday-Friday—6:00AM
Lower Level of the School Bldg

Stations of the Cross
Prayed Every Friday during Lent
Immediately Following the 12:00NN Mass.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS SERVING IN THE MILITARY:
Aedan Cannon, Matthew Casale, Edgar Delgado,
James Nardelli, Robert Smith

ACADEMY OF OUR LADY CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS!

3/10/23	\$100	Christina O'Brien, #251
3/11/23	\$50	Lisa Sayih, #284
3/12/23	\$50	Campoli Family, #309
3/13/23	\$50	Deirdre/John Sweeney, #451
3/14/23	\$50	Bonnie Frank, #765
3/15/23	\$50	Kevin Leonard, #1358
3/16/23	\$50	Paola Joosten, #268

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

In the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** journey of faith is the **Scrutinies**. These are RCIA steps after the **Rite of Election** intended to scrutinize the elect's heart and mind to develop and deepen a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. At each **Scrutiny** (celebrated on the third, fourth and fifth Sunday of Lent), the elect is invited and challenged to express publicly and privately where he or she is in her journey of faith to become a Catholic.

The **Second Scrutiny** is this weekend at the **11:00AM Mass**. The reading, from the Gospel of John, is about Jesus healing the blind man at the Pool of Siloam.

Stella Song is the elect who will participate in these **Scrutinies** to help prepare her spiritual journey to receive Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist in the Easter Vigil. The OLMC parish community is invited to pray for her.

ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY LITURGIES

To Be Celebrated at

THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART

April 16, 2023 3:00PM 50 Years

Deadline to Register—Wed., April 7th

May 7, 2023 3:00PM 5 & 25 Years

Deadline to Register—Mon., April 13th



To register contact Patti Roche
201.444.2000 x200 or proche@olmcridgewood.com

LADIES NIGHT OUT—RESERVE NOW!

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 2023—6:30PM

BIAGIOS, PARAMUS

Join us for Ladies Night Out—a dinner and fundraising event to benefit Academy of Our Lady Tuition Assistance Program. The evening includes basket raffles, 50/50, auction items and more. Your ticket includes beer, wine, dinner and music! For reservations or to offer donations, contact:

Kristy DaSilva, klisi18@gmail.com, 917.848.6502

Jill Tiyyagura, jillavella@gmail.com, 551.579.3001

Maura Bannen, mcobrien1@gmail.com, 201.956.2565

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



Our first Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Communion Breakfast was a great spiritual and social experience. It comes after 25 years of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at OLMC which began in 1998.

We started with one hour of Adoration. Fr. Ron saw it was good and approved lengthening the hours until Adoration became perpetual in 2002.

It was really nice to gather together as Adorers for the Mass at Mt. Carmel and the breakfast which followed at Season's. The coordinators took the occasion to thank Fr. Ron for installing Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration within our parish.

Everyone is invited to participate in Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration. Better yet, sign up for a scheduled hour once a week, every week to help keep the door open to anyone seeking peace, to anyone seeking God.

Contact Cynthia Torres, cynthiabtorres@yahoo.com



(L) The PEA Communion Breakfast Mass held Saturday, March 11th concludes.
(R) PEA Coordinators thank Fr. Ron for his support of this faith filled ministry.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun. Mar. 19	12:00NN CYO Basketball (Gym) 1:30PM Bell Choir Rehearsal (PCB) 1:30PM RCIA (MR) 4:00PM Spanish Apostolate (PC) 5:00PM Jr. High 8C (MR) 7:30PM Jr. High 8D (MR) 7:30PM Micala Confirmation Group (YCA)
Mon. Mar. 20	5:00PM Summer Heatt (Gym)
Tues. Mar. 21	4:00PM Religious Ed Grades 1-6 (Gym) 5:00PM Children's Choir (Church) 6:00PM Summer Heatt (Gym) 7:00PM Adult Choir (Church) 7:30PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW)
Wed. Mar. 22	3:45PM Jr. High Grade 8 Makeup (PCA) 6:00PM Summer Heatt (Gym) 7:30PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW)
Thurs. Mar. 23	5:00PM Summer Heatt (Gym) 7:00PM WCST Circle of Prayer (PC) 7:30PM Pray the Rosary (Chapel)
Fri. Mar. 24	5:00PM Summer Heatt (Gym) 6:00PM Jr. High Lock In (PC)
Sat. Mar. 25	9:00AM K of C Set Up (Gym) 7:00PM K of C St. Patrick's Dinner Dance Reservations available at: www.ridgewoodkofc.org



**THIS WEEKEND
SATURDAY, MARCH 18TH
9:00AM—12:00 NOON**

DRIVE THRU SCHOOL BLDG DRIVEWAY

FR. ENGLISH

Anything high in protein!! Bagged or Canned Beans (Black & Kidney are popular), Chick Peas, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Nuts, Canned Meats (Chicken, Spam, Hams), Tuna, Pop Tarts, Complete Pancake Mix, Syrup, Coffee, Tea Bags, Ritz or Saltine Style Crackers, Raisins, Pasta, Pasta, Sauce, Shelf Stable Milk, Canned Veggies, Oatmeal, Cereal, Hot Chocolate Packets, Granola Bars, Juice—Apple, Tomato, V8, Jiffy or Similar Muffin Mix

SOCIAL SERVICES

Complete Pancake Mix, Syrup, Cereal, Oatmeal, Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Peanut Butter, Jelly, 100% Fruit Juice, Hearty Soups, Canned Tuna/Chicken/Ham, Rice, Hot Chocolate Mix, Canned Veggies, Shelf Stable Milk, Cleaning Products, Laundry Detergent

RIDGECREST

Depends for Women any size, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Canned Chick Peas, Tuna, Canned Chicken, Green Tea, Shelf Stable Milk, Anything Low/No Sugar (pudding, Jello, pancake syrup, candy), Sponges, Toilet Bowl Cleaner, Salad Dressings, Mayonnaise, Lentils, Bagged Beans, Sugar Free/Reduced Sugar Instant Oatmeal, Cereal-Cheerios in yellow box & Raisin Bran

FR. ENGLISH PANTRY—FROZEN TRAY MINISTRY

**FROZEN CASSEROLE DROP OFF
THIS SATURDAY AT THE FOOD DRIVE**

FROZEN casseroles can be dropped off during our monthly Food Drive, **THIS SATURDAY—March 18, 9AM-12NN**. Thank you for your generosity!

Questions? Call/Text—201.615.9624

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ILL MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

Oscar Bedoya, Reynaldo Caling, Art Carpenter, Peter Colgan, Maria de la Rosa, Kay & Bill Forster, Joan D'Gerolamo, Agnes Duffy, Kitty Gill, Frank Gillen, Susan Hart-White, Marc Johnson, Tom Keleher, Claudia LaFrance, Anna Lobascio, Dennis Maloney, Juan Martinez, Cambell McArthur, Gemma Miller, Mark Mongon, Pat Mullen, Bea O'Rourke, Joseph Pasculli, Margaret Peak, Cathy Ricciuto, Francis Tedaro Ristor, Gerard Rolling, Michael Runz, Donald Schwenker, Barbara Sidote, Don Strittmatter, Larry Switaj, Nickolas John Tedaro, Dennis Tomala, 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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



TODAY'S READINGS

- Monday, Mar. 20** *Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary*
+ **6:30AM Anne & Raymond Bolduc**
req The Bolduc Family
+ **8:30AM Margaret & Stan Gordon**
req Patricia & David Hughes
+**12:00NN Patricia Engel**
req Jose & Adela Vazquez
- Tuesday, Mar. 21**
+ **6:30AM Robert Minicus**
req Kevin & Maureen Ward
+ **8:30AM Joseph & Georgine Irving**
req The Orzetti Family
+**12:00NN Al Lalonde**
req John & Jean Boyle
- Wednesday, Mar. 22**
+ **6:30AM John Pierce**
req Frank & Karen Sheehy
+ **8:30AM Eugenio Garrido**
req The McClure Family
+**12:00NN Annie C. Raible**
req Tom & Kathy Lamont
- Thursday, Mar. 23** *Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop*
+ **6:30AM Thomas & Brian Judge**
req Their Family
+ **8:30AM Fran O'Brien**
req Linda English
+**12:00NN John Gerard Redl**
req The Redl Family
- Friday, Mar. 24**
+ **6:30AM Annie Ivers**
req John & Jean Boyle
+ **8:30AM Marcial Gonzalez**
req Luis Gonzalez
+**12:00NN Philip W. McGinn, Jr.**
req Dcn. Bob & Tessie Liwanag
- Saturday, Mar. 25** *The Annunciation of the Lord*
+ **8:30AM James Mooney**
req Denise Cauda
+ **5:30PM Maria Teresa Fabbo**
req Grace & Pat Gallo
- Sunday, Mar. 26** *Fifth Sunday of Lent*
+ **8:00AM Dorothy Rutkowski**
req Charlie & Terry Zabielski
+ **9:30AM Philip Sandora**
req The Sandora-Carr Family
11:00AM For the People of the Parish
+**12:30PM Vera & Bill Wiseman**
req Ed & Monica McCabe
+ **3:00PM Patricia Engel**
req Rubi Fernandez
6:30PM Special Intention of Anthony & Stacy Mazzola
req Mitch & Judy Sanglofer

1. Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

Having rejected Saul as king, because Saul rejected God's leadership in his own life and the life of the kingdom, God now directs Samuel to find a replacement. But it is God who will choose. Impressed by the first son of Jesse, Samuel comes to learn that the Lord knows far better the heart (and character) of those who stand before him and none of them turn out to be the one, until the youngest, David, is sent for. And here is the one who receives God's spirit, the spirit David will allow to guide him and the kingdom.

2. Ephesians 5:8-14

Darkness is the symbol of evil and death. To come to Christ in faith is to escape the darkness. But there are implications of living in this light. Such believers must produce the fruits of such a life, goodness and righteousness. They will also expose all deeds of darkness. In all this, they must realize that the light by which they live comes not from themselves, but from Christ.

3. John 9:1-41

As is often the case in the seven signs presented in the Johannine Gospel, this narrative is another example of Johannine irony, a blind man comes to sight, literally, but, more importantly, spiritually, while those who are physically sighted are really spiritually blind. The drama unfolds in the interactions between the blind man and his neighbors, the blind man and the Pharisees, the Pharisees and the blind man's parents and, finally, the blind man and Jesus. Throughout all of these interactions, the reader follows the blind man as he slowly comes to faith in Jesus, as the One come from God, to reveal the truth about God and to lead sinner back to Him.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK

1. What "blindness" blocks me from seeing what my life is really like?
2. Who are the "blind beggars" who might be able to help me see Jesus in places I miss?
3. What one truth do I see most clearly in my life?

NEXT WEEKEND'S PRESIDERS

(always subject to change)

Sat.	3/25	5:30PM	Msgr. Sheeran
Sun.	3/26	8:00AM	Fr. Frank
		9:30AM	Fr. Ron
		11:00AM	Fr. Anthony
		12:30PM	Fr. Ron
		3:00PM	Fr. Anthony
		6:30PM	Fr. Frank

Late changes appear on the website after 12:00NN on the Saturday of that weekend.



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Journey to the Holy Land

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Fatima, Lourdes & Shrines of Spain Pilgrimage

Land Tour Dates: May 12, 2023 - May 23, 2023 | July 7, 2023 - July 18, 2023

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Land tour starting at \$1969 per person (based on double occupancy)

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Land Tour Dates: May 28, 2023 - June 6, 2023 | August 20, 2023 - August 29, 2023

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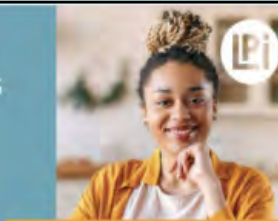
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