

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Communal Baptisms are held every month on the first Sunday at 1:30pm and on the third Saturday at 11:00am (except for Holiday weekends). Register a month or two in advance for Baptismal Program.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confessions)

Saturday 1:00pm-2:00pm &
Monday 7:00pm-7:30pm
(Sept-May)

Other times by pre-arranged appt. with a priest. Communal Penance celebrations (with individual confessions) are celebrated in Advent and Lent and will be announced.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Those who wish to enter the Catholic faith and Catholics who wish to complete the sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation are most welcome to begin the journey at any time. Call the Rectory.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Registered parishioners regularly practicing the Faith at our Parish are welcomed to contact the Rectory one year in advance of a proposed wedding date. Specific dates are only discussed after meeting with a Priest. Couples must attend a pre-Cana program and provide required Sacramental and other documentation.

VOCATIONS

Is God calling you to the priesthood or religious life? Speak to one of our priests or call the Archdiocesan Vocations Office at 973.313.6190, Newarkpriest.com

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of the *Anointing of the Sick* will be administered at anytime in an emergency and also at parish celebrations during the year. Consult the bulletin for dates. *Communion* is brought to the sick, the elderly and the homebound by priests of the parish and by Eucharistic ministers. The priests also visit the local hospital regularly. If you or a family member is hospitalized, please contact the Rectory to make arrangements.



The Parish Family of

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

One Passaic Street, Ridgewood, NJ 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

Fifth Sunday of Lent ~ April 3, 2022

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

Ex. 201, ronr@olmcridgewood.com

Rev. Anthony Palombo, Parochial Vicar

Ex. 202, apalombo@olmcridgewood.com

Rev. Frank J. Fano, Parochial Vicar

Ex. 203, fjfano@olmcridgewood.com

Rev. Mert J. Cordero, Valley Hospital Chaplain

Rev. Stephen Toth, Valley Hospital Chaplain

Valley Pastoral Care Office, 201.447.8150

Deacon Robert V. Thomann

robert_thomann@msn.com

Deacon Nicholas J. DeLucca

ndelucca@olmcridgewood.com

Deacon Bob Liwanag

bob.liwanag@olmcridgewood.com

MINISTRY ASSOCIATES

Peter Denio, Pastoral Associate for Adult Faith Formation

201.739.2674, pdenio@olmcridgewood.com

Sr. Mary Spano, Pastoral Associate for the

Sick, Elderly, Homebound

Ex. 402, mspano@olmcridgewood.com

Peter W. Sicko, Director of Music Ministry

Ex. 207, MtCarmelMusic58@aol.com

Cathy Hunt, Parish Catechetical Leader

201.444.0211, Ex. 401, chunt@olmcridgewood.com

Pat McGarvie, Asst. Parish Catechetical Leader

201.444.0211 Ex. 400, pmcgarvie@olmcridgewood.com

Glen McCall, Director, Parish Youth Ministry

201.444.9302, Ex. 300, gmccall@olmcridgewood.com

Natalie Cesario (DeCandia), Dir. of Jr. High Youth Ministry

201.444.9302, Ex. 302, ndecandia@olmcridgewood.com

Mrs. Carol LaSalle, Principal, Academy of Our Lady

Parish Grade School 201.445.0622

principal@academyofourlady.org

Tom Strahle, Chair, Parish Council

t.strahle@att.net

SUPPORT STAFF

Peggy Frazza, Parish Secretary

Ex. 205, pfrazza@olmcridgewood.com

Patti Roche, Receptionist

Ex. 200, lobby@olmcridgewood.com

Joan Lalonde, Accountant, Ex. 206

Jocelin Hernandez, Youth Ministry Administrative Asst.

201.444.9302, Ex. 301, jhernandez@olmcridgewood.com

Natalie McKenna, Safe Environment Coordinator

Ex. 403, nmckenna@olmcridgewood.com



Dear Friends,

-On the Material. The Annual Appeal.

This will be the last report on the Appeal until after Easter. As of today (3/30/22), \$219,525 has been pledged from 310 donors. Once again, thank you to all who have pledged and brought us over our stretch goal, not only in pledges but in cash received. You have supported the work of the Church of Newark and of the Gospel and have helped the parish meet all the milestones we need to in order to be eligible for the rebate which, as I have said, helps us make up for some of the shortfall caused by the ongoing consequences of the pandemic. But, as I have also said, our goal is to increase the number of households supporting the Appeal and we still have a long way to go, even to reach last years' number. Please join in supporting both the Church of Newark and OLMC as well.

On the Spiritual, as we get closer to Holy Week and Easter.

On this 5th Sunday of Lent, once again the Church celebrates a scrutiny with those preparing for baptism. And there are lessons in this celebration for those preparing for full communion, as well as for all of us. For three weeks now, all have been invited to scrutinize, to examine our lives and to uncover and heal all that is weak, defective and sinful in our lives, and to strengthen all that is good. In all of these reflections, and in the blessings of the rites themselves, celebrated at the 11:00AM Mass, we are invited to receive new strength for our spiritual journey and to open our hearts more and more to the Christ Who is the living water (1st Scrutiny—the Samaritan woman at the well) with which we will never thirst again; the light of the world (2nd Scrutiny—the man born blind) with which we will never be blinded again by the world's allure; and the resurrection and the life (today), the eternal glory to which we are called. As we celebrate this 3rd Scrutiny today, may we all find new hope on our journey to Life, especially as we have learned from our two year wandering in the desert of the pandemic that we cannot make this journey alone, without the hope that comes from faith in Jesus Christ, **the Way and the Truth and the Life.**

The Gospel which will be read at all the other masses is the story of the woman caught in sin. St. Augustine, in his commentary on this Gospel scene refers to it as the contrast between misery and mercy. The misery of the life she has chosen to live almost leads to her ugly death at the hands of this crowd that has gathered to condemn her. And the misery of the crowd is evident when they are challenged by Jesus to ask themselves if they, in fact, are without sin themselves. And they went away, "one by one," very much alone in the recognition of their own sinfulness. Then, mercy shines through, as Jesus brings peace to her troubled soul. "Has no one condemned you? Neither do I condemn you."

In the old liturgical calendar, this Sunday would have been called Passion Sunday, or the 1st Sunday of Passiontide. In those days, all the statues and crucifixes would have been veiled in purple (taken from the last line of the Gospel

always read on this Sunday, “And Jesus hid himself, and went out from the temple” John 8:59). That practice had been abrogated but has now been restored as an option.

One of the upsides of that practice was that it reminded the worshipper that Holy Week was right around the corner, that if Lent had been meaningless up to that point, it was now time to get serious, that there was still time left to make Lent happen, for the better. The starkness of the church building was meant to shock us into realizing the sacrifice of Jesus which we are about to remember in Holy Week. (By the way, we are trying to do that as well by removing all flowers and plants from the church, so please don't bring any new ones until after Easter). The environment was meant to be a visible reminder of the journey we were on with the Lord.

So, now is a good time to do the same in our lives. Has Lent been helpful? Has it led us into a deeper union with the Lord? Has it helped us open our hearts to his presence, His grace, His love? **It's still not too late to make that happen.** As I wrote last Sunday, one way (that would probably make up for all Lenten deficiencies) is to experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation, confession. How long has it been? Pre-pandemic? Or even longer? Why deny yourself the incredible peace and closeness with Jesus that comes from this Sacrament? A peace that the woman in today's Gospel surely felt when she left Jesus. I guarantee it—you won't regret it. Please take note that for a number of reasons there will not be a Penance Service on Tuesday, 4/12 but opportunities are still available on Saturday, 4/9 and again on Wednesday, 4/13. Please check the full schedule in another place in this bulletin.

And speaking of Holy Week, next Sunday is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. It is during Holy Week that we celebrate the most sacred days in our faith-life. I realize that it is also spring recess for local schools. I would encourage all those who will be away to find some ways to honor this most sacred week on the Christian calendar.

For those who are around, especially on Palm Sunday, I remind you of our special Palm Sunday Procession, which will be the first time we've held it since 2019. Parishioners will gather at Veterans' Field, at the band shell, at 11:30, for the blessing of palm and the procession through the streets of Ridgewood (on the sidewalk) to the church for the 12:30 Mass. As you can imagine, this will be a great opportunity to give witness to Jesus Christ, his place in our hearts and lives, and in our Catholic faith. And it will also give witness to the vibrancy of Mount Carmel as a community of Catholic believers, after the struggles of these last two years, whose faith strengthens them to face the realities of our world, whether they be the violence, the pandemic or the divisions in our Church, our nation and our world. I encourage great participation from the parish community, especially our parish families, parents and children who will be in town, as we begin the start of the holiest week on the Christian calendar.

A reminder once again **Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration** will end immediately after the 6:30PM Mass on Palm Sunday, 4/10, and resume at 7:00AM on Easter Monday,

4/18. By church regulation, there should be no adoration from Holy Thursday until Easter. The extra days allow our maintenance staff to take care of the floors.

God Bless,
Fr. Ron

STEWARDSHIP

“I consider everything as loss...I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish.” In the 2nd Reading, Paul reminds the reader of what's important and what's not. Christ—yes. All else—no. The Christian Steward tries to put Christ, and the Kingdom, first, offering gifts of **Time, Talent and Treasure** to keep his/her focus on Christ, to grasp the prize—life on high in Jesus Christ. Where is your focus today?

The parish Stewardship of Treasure for the 4 Sundays of March was \$107,582. It was received as follows:

WeShare Online Giving:	\$53,316
Collection Boxes & Funds	
Mailed to the Rectory:	\$54,266

God bless your generous support of the work of the Gospel.

As a comparison, church support for the 4 Sundays of March, 2021 was \$99,366 and for the month of March, 2020 (the beginning of the lock down) was \$78,042; but for the 5 Sundays of March, 2019 (pre-pandemic), it was \$129,725. Thank you for your continued support as we inch our way back to “normal.”

2022 Annual Appeal

Donate online: www.rcan.org/sharing
Select Our Lady of Mount Carmel—Ridgewood
from the drop-down menu!

Checks may also be placed in the boxes at the doors of the church or mailed to/dropped off at the Rectory.

Checks Payable: 2022 Annual Appeal

Pledges made by June 30th and fulfilled by December 31st aid in reducing our assessment & are used to calculate our rebate.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY LITURGIES THE CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART CELEBRANT: CARDINAL JOSEPH TOBIN, C.Ss.R

We are excited to announce that we are preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of valid marriage in the year 2022. Any couple who would have celebrated their Silver or Gold Anniversary in 2020 or 2021, when we were unable to host these celebrations, is welcome to join us!

(Certificates will read “Silver” or “Gold,” not 26 or 51.)

April 24, 2022 3:00PM 5 & 25 Years
Deadline to Register—April 14, 2022

May 15, 2022 3:00PM 50 Years
Deadline to Register—May 5, 2022

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2022

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions Saturday, April 9, 1:00-2:00pm

Confessions Wednesday, April 13, 7:00-9:00pm

Note: No Confessions Monday, April 11 or Saturday, April 16

PALM SUNDAY—April 10

Saturday Eve: 5:30pm

Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am

12:30pm, 3:00 (Spanish), 6:30pm

11:30am—Blessing of Palm & Procession from Veterans Field to the Church for the 12:30pm Mass

HOLY THURSDAY—April 14

Morning Prayer—8:30am

Mass of the Lord's Supper—7:30pm

GOOD FRIDAY—April 15

Morning Prayer—8:30am

Celebration of the Lord's Passion—3:00pm

HOLY SATURDAY—April 16

Morning Prayer—8:30am

Blessing of Easter Baskets—12:00 Noon

Solemn Easter Vigil—8:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY—April 17

8:00am

9:30am

9:30am (Auditorium)

11:00am

11:00am (Auditorium)

12:30pm

12:30pm (Auditorium)

3:00pm (Spanish)

NO 6:30 PM MASS ON EASTER SUNDAY

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!

LENT MORNING PRAYER | Monday-Friday | 6:00AM

Lower Level of the School Bldg.

Enter through the rear door.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS ARE PRAYED EACH FRIDAY DURING LENT
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE 12NN MASS**

All are Welcome to Pray the Rosary

Thursday Evenings 7:30PM

Daily Mass Chapel



In response to Mary's request at Fatima for a devotion to the rosary for the conversion of Russia and to stop war, the parish community is invited to pray the rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy in the Daily Mass Chapel at 7:30PM each Thursday evening through May 12th, *except Holy Thursday*.

Please join us to respond to Our Blessed Mother's request.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

**Aedan Cannon, Matthew Casale,
Edgar Delgado, James Nardelli, Robert Smith**

NEWS FROM ACADEMY OF OUR LADY



Our students are participating in the Rube Goldberg competition this year. The *Bulldog Builders*, Lily, Ana, Madison, Emma and Massimo designed and created a machine for this year's Rube Goldberg theme "Open a Book." Rube Goldberg competitions emphasize teamwork and out-of-the-box problem-solving. The Bulldog Builders machine was submitted and can be seen on YouTube. We are hoping to make it to the next round of competition. Many thanks to our team moderator, Laura Kramer.

This year, the Archdiocesan Office for Youth & Young Adult Ministry is conferring special awards upon two student athletes and a parent volunteer to affirm, congratulate and recognize hard work, talent and sportsmanship. This year the recipients are: Michael Fair, Grade 7 and Molly Quinn, Grade 8. Our parent volunteer recipient is Tom Kramer. The Recognition Ceremony is on April 3rd in the Cathedral Basilica.

Please continue to keep the students and staff of Academy of Our Lady in your prayers.

Carol La Salle, Principal

ACADEMY OF OUR LADY CALENDAR RAFFLE RESULTS RECENT WINNERS!

3/25/22	Lorraine Casey	#1190	\$300
3/26/22	Theresa Roberts	#0765	\$50
3/27/22	Gene & Gigi Papasso	#0138	\$50
3/28/22	Mysliwiec Family	#0154	\$50
3/29/22	Louis Sansano	#0857	\$50
3/30/22	Fred Saoud	#1678	\$50
3/31/22	Ronnie Cahill	#0448	\$50

Dunphey/Gaglioti/Bennet Group
Confirmation Service Project

OASIS ~ A HAVEN FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN

We are collecting school supplies for Oasis in Paterson. If you would like to contribute, please consider donating any of the following item(s). **THANK YOU!**

**PENS, PENCILS, CRAYONS, COLORED PENCILS, ERASERS,
BOOK BAGS, & OTHER SCHOOL TYPE SUPPLIES**

**Drop off ~ 599 Heights Rd, Ridgewood
or call/text 917.796.9314 to arrange for pick up**

A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

On March 23, 2022, after serious discussion, the Latin-rite Diocesan Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province of Newark (encompassing the State of New Jersey) decided, by unanimous vote, to transfer [permanently] the observance of the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord to the 7th Sunday of Easter, effective this year. As a result, in 2022, the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord Jesus will be celebrated in all the Latin-rite dioceses of New Jersey on Sunday, May 29, 2022, (as it is in most dioceses in the United States) replacing the liturgical celebration and readings of the 7th Sunday of Easter.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Part of the RCIA journey of faith is to participate in the Scrutinies. These are RCIA steps that are intended to scrutinize a catechumen's heart and mind to develop and deepen a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. At each Scrutiny, the catechumen is invited and challenged to express publicly and privately where he or she is in her journey of faith to become a Catholic.

At OLMC, the Scrutinies are celebrated at the 11:00AM Mass. The First Scrutiny was on March 20th with the Gospel reading about Jesus encountering the Samaritan woman at the well. The Second Scrutiny was on March 27th with the Gospel reading about Jesus healing the blind man at the Pool of Siloam. The Third Scrutiny will be today, April 3rd, with the Gospel reading about Jesus bringing Lazarus back from the dead.

Gabriela Blacido is the candidate who is participating in these Scrutinies to help prepare her on a journey to receive Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist in the Easter Vigil. The parish is invited to pray for her.

**YOUTH MINISTRY
FOOD DRIVE
THIS SATURDAY
APRIL 2ND | 9AM-12NN**



All non-perishable food accepted. No expired items please.

The members of Mt. Carmel's youth group will conduct a drive through collection this weekend to benefit the Fr. English Food Pantry, Social Services Assn. and Ridgecrest Senior Living.

SUGGESTED ITEMS

Tuna, Canned Chicken, Spam, Small Canned Hams,
Shelf Stable Milk, Rice, Peanut Butter, Jelly,
Complete Pancake Mix, Syrup, Coffee, Tea,
Hot Chocolate, Soup, Canned Veggies, Pasta Sauce,
Cheerios (original), Oatmeal, Pop-Tarts,
Boxed Jello/Pudding Mix (no/low sugar), Muffin Mix,
Cake Mixes, Canned Icing (for kid's birthday cakes)
Ketchup, Mayonnaise, Saltines/Ritz Crackers, Salad
Dressings, Canned Black Beans, Laundry Detergent,
Toilet Paper, Tissues, Olive Oil (small bottles),
Personal Care Items (soap, shampoo, deodorant),
Depend Brand Adult Women's Briefs (all sizes)

**Questions may be directed to Glen McCall
gmccall@olmcridgewood.com, 201.444.9302**

MINISTRY OF MOTHERHOOD (MOMs)

THIS WEDNESDAY—APRIL 6TH

PARISH CENTER | 9:15AM



Blessed are you, spring! We welcome spring after the winter cold, and come together to celebrate this time of growth. Join us on April 6th in the Parish Center for prayer and reflection, as we come out of our winter hibernation. MOMs founder Linda English will be leading us in a reflection titled *Spring, a Season for Rising*.

**Reach out to Angela Krempel with any questions or to be added to the OLMC MOMs email list.
a_krempel@hotmail.com; list:https://olmcmoms.com**



SUPPORT FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

Checks Payable:
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES
with Ukraine on the Memo Line

Drop in the boxes at the doors of the church
or mail/bring to the Rectory.

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

CHAPEL IS OPEN 24/7

MAXIMUM OF 6 PEOPLE PERMITTED IN THE CHAPEL



SCHEDULED ADORERS NEEDED!

Sundays: 1-2AM; 4-5AM; 5-6AM; 10-11AM
Mondays: 3-4PM; 11PM-12Midnight
Tuesdays: 1-2AM; 3-4AM; 12NN-1PM; 9-10PM
Wednesdays: 2-3AM; 3-4AM; 11PM-12Midnight
Thursdays: 3-4AM; 10-11AM; 11AM-12NN; 10-11PM
11PM-12Midnight
Saturdays: 3-4AM; 7-8PM

TO SIGN-UP, PLEASE TEXT/EMAIL

6AM-12NN: Connie, 201.788.9153, siciliansun8@aol.com
12NN-6PM: Mary, 201.394.6396, marycutro@gmail.com
6PM-12MN: Mike, 201.887.3556, reinhardmike@yahoo.com
12MN-6AM: Cynthia, 551.574.1063, cynthiabtorres@yahoo.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ILL MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

Martha Bombardier, Francis Cabrera, Reynaldo Caling, Art Carpenter, Ellin Carroll, Peter Colgan, Maria de la Rosa, Joan D'Gerolamo, Agnes Duffy, Irene Frey, Maria Garate, Kitty Gill, Frank Gillen, Sydney Heinold, James E. Hough, Marc Johnson, Tom Keleher, Ryan Kelly, Lorenzo Kim, Claudia LaFrance, Anna Lobascio, Beverly Magner, Dennis Maloney, Emeteria Mariano, Juan Martinez, John McGowan, Gemma Miller, Mark Mongon, Pat Mullen, Bea O'Rourke, Joseph Pasculli, Cathy Ricciuto, Michael Runz, Donald Schwenker, Mark Steppe, Don Strittmatter, Dennis Tomala, Sebastian Yarleque, Walter John Zelop, Jr.

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

**THE CELEBRATION OF MASS WILL BE LIVE STREAMED TODAY
SUNDAY, APRIL 3, 2022**

11:00AM—FR. ANTHONY | 3:00PM—FR. MERINO (SPANISH)

**LINKS TO OUR STREAMED MASSES ARE AVAILABLE
ON OUR WEBSITE—WWW.OLMCRIIDGEWOOD.COM**



TODAY'S READINGS

- Monday, April 4** *Saint Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*
 + **6:30AM Daniel Loprieno**
 req Matthew Loprieno
 + **8:30AM Marvia Beamon**
 req Liam Jones & Family
 +**12:00NN Rita Indovino**
 req Orzetti Family
- Tuesday, April 5** *Saint Vincent Ferrer, Priest*
 + **6:30AM John McInerney**
 req Marge Merhige & Family
 + **8:30AM Pascal Quimbo**
 req His Family
 +**12:00NN Umberto Picinic**
 req Marija & Michael Picinic-Lizzi
- Wednesday, April 6**
 + **6:30AM Raymond Harvier**
 req The Blau Family
 + **8:30AM Joseph Anthony Sidote, Jr.**
 req Barbara & Joanne Sidote
 +**12:00NN Deceased Members of the Engel Family**
 req Patricia & Richard Engel
- Thursday, April 7** *Saint John Baptist de la Salle, Priest*
 + **6:30AM Stephen Sawula**
 req Arthur & Susan Maroney
 + **8:30AM Wendell Field**
 req Mark & Lynn Mongon
 +**12:00NN The Azzolini Family**
 req Pat & Pauline Azzolini
- Friday, April 8**
 + **6:30AM Walter Matesic**
 req Mary Bollhofer & Family
 + **8:30AM Angel Caceres**
 req The McClure Family
 +**12:00NN Pauline Juliano**
 req Her Family
- Saturday, April 9**
 + **8:30AM Carmen V. Arcelo**
 req The Yeloso Family
 + **5:30PM Anne R. Lodewick**
 req The Lodewick Family
- Sunday, April 10** *Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord*
 + **8:00AM Vincent Chester**
 req Rosemary Chester
 + **9:30AM Louis DeSario**
 req Noreen & Jim Delaney
 +**11:00AM John Reeves**
 req Peggy Mulqueen
 +**12:30PM Marilyn & John Byrne**
 req Patti Mistrick
 + **3:00PM Laszlo Moharita—3rd Anniversary**
 req Yadira Moharita
 + **6:30PM Pedro Espinoza**
 req His Family

- Isaiah 43:16-21**
 In the oracles of Deutero-Isaiah (a second, unnamed prophet), a word of encouragement is uttered to a people spiritually depressed by their circumstances. Though they are wiser than their ancestors, acknowledging that the collapse of the nation came about because of their pride and infidelity, their powerlessness brings them to the edge of despair. Into this world of lost hope steps the unnamed prophet, reminding them of God's deliverance in the past, and encouraging them to believe God was preparing to enter their world anew. They, in their turn, must be ready to recognize and welcome these new actions of God.
- Philippians 3:8-14**
 In the excerpt, Paul weighs his path to life in Christ against his former path to righteousness, Judaism and obedience to the Law. On those scales, Paul comes to acknowledge his former life, and its accomplishments as rubbish. Only his life in Christ counts for anything. To this end, Paul gives himself fully to Christ, desiring to know Him in His service and His suffering, in His dying and rising. Though he is possessed by Christ, Paul must push on with that last lunge forward and he encourages the Philippians to do the same.
- John 8:1-11**
 In this famous story of "entrapment," we see Jesus at His best. The scribes and the Pharisees have no interest in the woman. Their sole intent is to trap this upstart rabbi. Jesus responds by blatantly ignoring them, doodling in the dust. Instead, Jesus uses the law against them, asking who is without sin. Only when they all disappear does He turn to the woman, showing compassion, but challenging her to choose a better way of life. She is offered a second chance, a chance to choose the right way.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- Have you ever expended that energy of which Paul speaks ("straining forward") in your efforts to live more deeply the Christian life?
- Have you ever shown, or even felt, gratitude to Christ for his forgiveness?
- Considering the human tendency to judge, do I ever engage in a little "stone throwing"?

NEXT WEEKEND'S PRESIDERS
 (always subject to change)

Sat. 4/9	5:30PM	Fr. Frank
Sun. 4/10	8:00AM	Fr. Ron
	9:30AM	Msgr. Sheeran
	11:00AM	Fr. Frank
	12:30PM	Fr. Ron
	3:00PM	Fr. Anthony
	6:30PM	Fr. Anthony

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

Join fellow parishioners in supporting Our Lady of Mt. Carmel through online giving. Click on **WeShare** at www.olmcridgewood.com or call 800.950.9952





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201.857.5100

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AVAILABLE

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Joyce M. Johnson, DDS
Joshua B. Austein, DMD
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wecare@westridgewooddental.com
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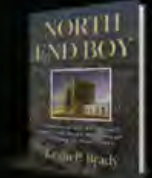
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