

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church
One Passaic Street, Ridgewood, NJ 07450 | 201.444.2000 | www.olmcridgewood.com

First Sunday of
ADVENT



December 1, 2024

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

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Dear Friends,

On Christmas Eve, December 24, 2024, Pope Francis will open and walk through the Holy Door into St. Peter's Basilica, marking the beginning of the Jubilee Year, 2025. Following an old command of God to Israel to celebrate a jubilee year every fiftieth year ("You shall treat this fiftieth year as sacred. You shall proclaim liberty in the land for all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee year for you." Lev. 25:10), since 1300 the Church has celebrated a Jubilee Year, not every fiftieth year but every twenty fifth year. The last Jubilee Year of 2000 was also the celebration of the two millennia since the birth of Christ. In the Bull of Indiction, (*Spes Non Confundit—Hope does not Disappoint*), the official document establishing the Jubilee Year, the Holy Father writes, "Now the time has come for a new Jubilee, when once more the Holy Door will be flung open to invite everyone to an intense experience of the love of God that awakens in hearts, the sure hope of salvation in Christ. We are about to make a pilgrimage marked by great events, in which the grace of God precedes and accompanies his people as they press forward firm in faith, active in charity and steadfast in hope."

As you and I look at our world, there can be so many signs of distress. With two wars raging, and even expanding, in eastern Europe and the Middle East, with the uncertainty of the consequences of the recent election, with the memory and the aftereffects of the pandemic, whose fifth anniversary we will "celebrate" this coming March, we need a word of hope. More than just a word. We need to reflect on a source of hope, not to escape but to face the challenges that lie ahead. Pope Francis offers us a vision for that hope, in Jesus Christ, and invites us to use this year to experience, in a more personal way, his presence in our lives and the hope that comes from that presence.

We enter today the season of Advent. While it may have lost its sense of waiting and expectation because the commercial world is already celebrating "the holiday season," (as I write this a full week before Thanksgiving I know that a popular FM station will begin Christmas music tonight), it has not lost the message that it is a season of hope—hope that the remembering of the coming of Jesus, **God with Us**, can still make a difference in our world. With the coming Jubilee Year, that celebration of hope is extended not just for the season but for the whole year, as Pope Francis writes, "sustained by this great tradition, and certain that the Jubilee Year will be for the entire Church a lively experience of grace and hope." And so, the theme for the Jubilee Year is **Pilgrims of Hope**.

As we begin this Advent season, may we keep that theme

in our minds and in our hearts. And let us bring that hope to the world, in our words and in our actions. Let it light up our lives, and because of it, may we light up the world. Over the course of the next three Sundays, I will summarize key points in Pope Francis' *Bull* to help us better fulfill our call, to be **Pilgrims of Hope**.

Grace and Blessings for Advent,
Fr. Ron

STEWARDSHIP

Images of the final judgment can be scary, especially if we have not been faithful to God's commands throughout our lives. However, the Christian Steward leaves nothing to chance. He/She has carefully planned their giving and followed the Lord's example of service and sacrifice, and is ready, no matter the day or the hour, to stand erect to meet God face to face. Are you?

Because this week's bulletin had to be in the hands of the publisher on 11/22, no figures are available for last week's collection or for the month of November. Both will appear next week. God bless your generosity in spreading the Gospel. As we begin a new liturgical year, is it time to think in a new way about how you support the parish. Electronic giving not only helps the parish to better manage its resources, but it also helps you be a "steady giver" in spreading the Gospel message. Please give it a thought. Thank you.



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 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.

Special Collection Next Weekend—December 7 & 8 RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Your gift provides vital support for senior Catholic sisters, brothers and priests. Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Checks may be made payable to OLMC, with "RFR" on the memo line, and dropped in the collection basket or in the boxes at the doors of the church. Donations may also be made through WeShare, under Second Collections, or through Venmo with "RFR" in the note field. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Join fellow parishioners to pray the rosary
each week in the Daily Mass Chapel.

Spanish—Sundays, 2:00PM
English—Thursdays 7:30PM

Sharing Tree 2024

Gift Cards Only Please



As in the past, we are supporting organizations providing services to homeless women and children, nursing homes, survivors of human trafficking, an inner city parish as well as families and individuals within our own community.

The needs continue to be great so whatever help you can provide is greatly appreciated. Gift Cards, in any amount, for VISA, Amazon, Target, Shop Rite, and Walmart are needed.

Some organizations have requested gift cards be in \$25 increments. This provides greater flexibility in distributing to those in need. **Whatever the amount, please clearly identify the value of the card (including the receipt is best).** Whatever generosity you can offer is greatly appreciated.

If you need assistance, or you know of someone in need, please contact Anne Denyeau. All requests are held in the strictest confidence.

Please place Gift Card(s) in an envelope labeled "Sharing Tree" and drop-off at the Rectory office no later than Monday, December 16th. The mail slot may be used after hours.

**DO NOT LEAVE GIFT CARDS IN THE CHURCH
DO NOT WRAP GIFT CARDS**

Questions? Contact Anne Denyeau
annerafterydenyeau@gmail.com or 201.970.1798



Ministry of Motherhood (MOMs)
THIS WEDNESDAY—DECEMBER 4TH
9:15AM—PARISH CENTER

SPECIAL GUESTS—SISTERS OF LIFE

All mothers are invited to a memorable morning with the Sisters of Life! Founded in 1991 in New York City, this vibrant religious order is known for their joyful witness to the Gospel and support of motherhood. The Sisters receive hundreds of speaking request each year so it is just so special for them to be with us!

Children are welcome! No RSVP required! Just come!!

For more information, go to www.olmcmoms.com or email Katherine Clark at OLMCmomsridgewoodnj@gmail.com

MOMS OF ALL AGES WELCOME! BRING A FRIEND!
COMPLIMENTARY BABYSITTING!

ADVENT MORNING PRAYER MONDAY-FRIDAY | 6:00AM

Join us for morning prayer this Advent season every Monday through Friday at 6:00AM in the lower level of the school building. Enter through the rear door.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Religious Education When Families Gather December Session

Mark Your Calendar

December 8, December 9, December 16

Cathy Hunt, chunt@olmcridgewood.com

Pat McGarvie, pmcgarvie@olmcridgewood.com

Religious Ed office at 201.444.0211

Jesus and Me Storytime

This Coming Saturday—December 7, 2024
Parish Center Meeting Room

Bring your child, grandchild or Godchild to a fun, faith filled, story time for young children ages 2 1/2 to 5.

To register contact Adriana DeCandia
thedomesticchurch61@gmail.com
\$10 suggested donation per family



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 1736
ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZEN
CHRISTMAS PARTY
SUNDAY—DECEMBER 15TH
1:30PM-4:00PM

PARISH CENTER—ALL SENIORS WELCOME!

The Ridgewood Knights of Columbus will host the annual Senior Citizen Christmas Party, including lunch, music and entertainment, as well as a visit and gifts from Santa! Questions? Call Mike Megnin, 201.689.0562, or Mark Stappenbeck, 201.906.0102.

Academy of Our Lady Home School Association Calendar Raffle

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(CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ACADEMY OF OUR LADY)

DRAWINGS BEGIN EARLY MARCH

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW! GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS!

Tickets will be available at the doors of the church
the next two weekends—Dec. 7 & 8 and Dec. 14 & 15

ACADEMY OF OUR LADY ANNUAL APPEAL

Mt. Carmel is proud to support Academy of Our Lady and 101 years of Catholic education! The future of our school relies on the generosity of our families, alumni, neighbors, and the parishioners of St. Catharine's and Our Lady of Mount Carmel. 100% of your contribution to our Annual Appeal helps cover day-to-day operating expenses. We hope you consider a gift to sustain the strong tradition of Catholic education in Bergen County for the next 100 years!



Donations may be made by
scanning the QR Code here.



Can you help Fr. Rolando?

As you know, Fr. Rolando is on temporary assignment and he has found the rectory to be in very poor condition. If you can provide any of the following items to help him over this immediate hurdle he would be extremely grateful.

Queen Bed Sheet Set (two sets would offer a spare); Pillow(s)/Pillow Cases; Queen Comforter; Bath Towels; Dish Towels; Pots/Pans; Dinner Plates; Mug/Cups; Drinking Glasses; Knives/Forks/Spoons; Tea Kettle; Kitchen Tools (cooking knives, spatula, etc.); Kitchen & Bathroom Cleaning Materials.

Additional Furniture Needs: Sofa set; Recliner; Lamps; Nightstand; Dresser; Office Table

Please email Fr. Rolando, directly, if you can provide any of the above—yadzki@yahoo.com

Smaller items can be dropped off at the Mt. Carmel rectory. Arrangements can be made for the larger items if Fr. Rolando is able to use them.



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION (PEA)

**CHAPEL IS OPEN 24/7
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

We thank God for Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration at OLMC for 22+ plus years now. By the grace of God, OLMC is the only church in Bergen County where people can come 24/7 to sit in quiet prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. We must thank God for this great gift. Jesus makes himself easily available to us in person as we truly believe in the real presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist exposed at the PEA chapel.

PEA is made possible by our pastor, all the Scheduled Adorers, Substitute Adorers, and visitors of the Blessed Sacrament—as well as all the Coordinators who make sure all hours are covered. Thanks to all!!!

Everyone is invited to participate in Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration and to be an Adorer of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. Stop by the chapel any time. Better yet, sign up for an hour that is good for you.

SCHEDULED ADORERS URGENTLY NEEDED

Wednesdays: 4-5AM, 7-8AM;
Fridays: 2-3AM, 8-9AM, 6-7PM, 7-8PM;
Saturdays: 3-4PM, 5-6PM, 6-7PM

Contact Cynthia—551.574.1063, cynthiabtorres@yahoo.com

PREPARATIONS ARE BEING MADE! REGISTER NOW!

ANNUAL MEN'S CORNERSTONE RETREAT FRIDAY-SATURDAY—JANUARY 24-25, 2025

If your spiritual batteries are in need of a recharge, then this Cornerstone retreat may be God's answer. Registration is now open for our Annual Men's Cornerstone Retreat held in the Parish Center. Use the QR Code here to register now.



Expect to find camaraderie, fellowship and opportunity for renewal in a relaxed environment. This year's event is fast approaching, scheduled two weeks before Super Bowl LIX. Consider it a gift to yourself.

Questions/More Information

Contact Dan O'Keefe, danokeefe@icloud.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ILL MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

Joan Donegan Alsa, Frederick Bruno, Mike Bucci, Charles Buckley, 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, Cambell McArthur, Christine O'Brien, 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.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun. Dec. 1	1:30PM OCIA (MR) 1:30PM Bell Choir (PCB) 2:00PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 4:00PM MOMs Advent Dinner (PC) 7:30PM McHugh Confirmation Group (YCA)
Mon. Dec. 2	1:00PM Staff Meeting (MR) 5:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 7:00PM Summer Program Advent Session (PC) 7:30PM Men's Cornerstone (MR)
Tues. Dec. 3	3:45PM Jr. High 7A (PC) 4:00PM Religious Ed Grades 1-6 (Gym) 5:00PM Choir Rehearsal (Church) 5:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 7:00PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW) 7:30PM Finance Council (MR)
Wed. Dec. 4	9:15AM MOMs Monthly Meeting (PC) 3:30PM Women's ISP Team (SMR) 3:45PM Jr. High 7B (PC) 4:00PM First Penance Preparation (Church) 5:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 7:00PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW) 7:00PM First Penance Preparation (Church)
Thur. Dec. 5	10:30AM Sunday Liturgy Scripture Study (SMR) 3:30PM Jr. High Youth Group (Gym) 5:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 5:30PM NCW 3 rd Community (YCB) 7:00PM Small Christian Community (SMR) 7:15PM WCST Post Retreat Meeting (MR)
Fri. Dec. 6	10:30AM WCST Bible Study (Library) 5:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 6:00PM Spanish Play Rehearsal (MR) 7:30PM Inspire: Young Adult (NCW)
Sat. Dec. 7	9:00AM CYO Basketball (Gym) 9:00AM Men's Basketball (Gym) 9:00AM AoOL Girls Basketball (Gym) 9:00AM First Penance Preparation (PCB) 10:30AM Jesus & Me Story Time (MR) 2:00PM Spanish Play Rehearsal (MR) 6:00PM Neocatechumenal Way (PC)



30th Anniversary Gala
"A Child is Born"

Wednesday, Dec. 11, 2024—6:00PM
Westmount Country Club
Woodland Park, NJ

Enjoy an evening filled with entertainment and marvelous food. There will be a Venetian hour and a few surprises too! For reservations or more information, call 973.497.4520 or visit www.lifeneteducation.org/gala

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS SERVING IN THE MILITARY:

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



TODAY'S READINGS

Monday, Dec. 2

- + 6:30AM **Jerry Lawson**
req Dcn. Bob & Tessie Liwanag
- + 8:30AM **John Kenworthy**
req Mark & Marie McCready
- +12:00NN **Bart Allen Krup**
req Maria Pama & Family

Tuesday, Dec. 3 *Saint Francis Xavier, Priest*

- + 6:30AM **Joan Flores**
req Ellen Dowling
- + 8:30AM **Maureen & Brendan Malley**
req Peter O'Malley & Family
- +12:00NN **Dr. Cristeta Laurente**
req Larrie & Cesar Veloso & Family

Wednesday, Dec. 4 *Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church*

- + 6:30AM **Joseph Caramiello**
req Lori & Mike O'Reilly
- + 8:30AM **Elizabeth Steen**
req Nancy Steen
- +12:00NN **Helli Unger Engel**
req The Engel Family

Thursday, Dec. 5

- + 6:30AM **Sondra Varoli**
req ChristLife Friends of Donna
- + 8:30AM **Robert Skrivaneck**
req Linda Bullaro
- +12:00NN **Kevin Lucey**
req John & Jean Boyle

Friday, Dec. 6 *Saint Nicholas, Bishop*

- + 6:30AM **Fortuna Genot**
req Joel & Michelle Lustberg
- + 8:30AM **Olga Lord**
req Her Daughters
- +12:00NN **Ronald Heser**
req Rick & Kathy Bourn

Saturday, Dec. 7 *Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church*

- + 8:30AM **Gervasio Factura, Jr.**
req The Factura Family
- 5:30PM **For the People of the Parish**

Sunday, Dec. 8 *Second Sunday of Advent*

- + 8:00AM **Rocco & Olivia Alfieri**
req Mitch & Judy Santlofer
- + 9:30AM **Domenico Tarabocchia**
req Nick & Josephine Tarabocchia
- +11:00AM **Danny McGinley**
req His Family
- +12:30PM **Francisco Sanabria**
req Terry Sanabria & Ron Reedy
- + 3:00PM **Oscar Bedoya & Nelly Nino**
req The Bedoya Family
- 6:30PM **Special Intention**
of Angelina Mia Mazzola
req Mitch & Judy Santlofer

1. Jeremiah 33:14-16

Jeremiah preached to a Jerusalem that was shaky and insecure, principally because the kings who ruled sought protection in earthly alliances and not in the God of Israel. As a result, Jeremiah's oracles are generally warnings of doom and destruction for the kingdom and its people. But today's excerpted reading is from those few chapters when the prophet looks ahead to a brighter future, based on God's faithfulness promised long ago to King David, promising a king who is right and just, one close to the Lord, for whom God will secure justice.

2. 1 Thessalonians 3:12—4:2

In this work, the earliest Christian writing, Paul looks forward to the final coming of Jesus, a grand entrance with all who lived holy lives and have become saints. This is the task for all who have accepted Jesus as Lord—to become more like Him and grow in love, both for the community and for the world.

3. Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

On this 1st Sunday of Advent, the Church begins reading from the Gospel of Luke, Cycle C, which continues (for the most part) throughout the year. Today's excerpts come from the chapter (21) which focuses on the events that will surround Jesus' final coming. When using the title, Son of Man, the Gospel almost always refers to Jesus' role as judge and this final coming represents the ultimate consummation of God's plan. This coming will be ushered in by cosmic signs, never seen before and so dramatic as to be recognizable by all. Because it clearly will not be soon (Luke seems to be the first of the Synoptics to hold this position), complacency becomes a real problem. Luke warns against allowing this to develop. Preparedness and readiness should be the watchwords for the faithful.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK

1. Have I accepted Paul's prayer and challenge to "increase and abound in love for one another and for all"? How?
2. Have I become "drowsy," in the practice of my faith because of the influence of worldly wisdom, especially when it comes to personal prayer and weekly worship?
3. Will I have the strength to "stand before the Son of Man"? If He comes today? Tomorrow?

NEXT WEEKEND'S PRESIDERS

Sat. 12/7	5:30PM	Fr. Ron
Sun. 12/8	8:00AM	Fr. Frank
	9:30AM	Fr. Frank
	11:00AM	Fr. Jakov
	12:30PM	Fr. Jakov
	3:00PM	Fr. Galvez
	6:30PM	Fr. Ron

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

DO NOT REPLY TO TEXT MSGS. OR EMAILS FROM FR. RON REQUESTING A FAVOR.

Fr. Ron would **NEVER** communicate such a need in that manner.



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