

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

Third Sunday of
ADVENT



December 15, 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,

Continuing on from the Pope's *Bull*, inaugurating the Jubilee Year, *Hope Does Not Disappoint*.

"The death and resurrection of Jesus is the heart of our faith and the basis of our hope. Christ *dies, was buried, was raised and appeared*. For our sake, Jesus experienced the drama of death. The Father's love raised him in the power of the Spirit, and made of his humanity the first fruits of our eternal salvation. Christian hope consists precisely in this: that in facing death, which appears to be the end of everything, we have the certainty that, thanks to the grace of Christ imparted in Baptism, 'life is changed, not ended,' forever. Buried with Christ in Baptism, we receive in his resurrection the gift of a new life that breaks down the walls of death, making it a passage to eternity.

"What then will become of us after death? With Jesus, beyond this threshold we will find eternal life, consisting in full communion with God as we forever contemplate and share in his infinite love. All that we now experience in hope, we shall then see in reality. We are reminded of the words of St. Augustine: 'When I am one with you in all my being, there will be no more pain and toil; my life shall be true life, a life wholly filled by you.' What will characterize this fullness of communion? Being happy. Happiness is our human vocation, a goal to which all aspire. But what is happiness? What is the happiness we await and desire? Not some fleeting pleasure, a momentary satisfaction that, once experienced, keeps us longing for more, in a desperate quest that leaves our hearts unsated and increasingly empty. We aspire to a happiness that is definitively found in the one thing that can bring us fulfillment, which is love.

"Hope finds its supreme witness in *the Mother of God*. In the Blessed Virgin, we see that hope is not naïve optimism but a gift of grace among the realities of life. Like every mother, whenever Mary looked at her Son, she thought of his future. Surely she kept pondering in her heart the words spoken to her in the Temple by the elderly Simeon; 'This child is destined for the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed, so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' At the foot of the cross, she witnessed the passion and death of Jesus, her innocent Son. Overwhelmed with grief, she nonetheless renewed her *fiat*, never abandoning her hope and trust in God. In the travail of that sorrow, offered in love, Mary became our Mother, the Mother of Hope. It is not by chance that popular piety continues to invoke the Blessed Mother as *Stella Maris*, a title that bespeaks the sure hope that, amid the tempests of this life, the Mother of God comes to our aid sustains us and encourages us to persevere in hope and trust.

"In our journey toward the Jubilee, let us turn to Scripture and realize that it speaks to us in these words, 'may we who have taken refuge in him be strongly encouraged to seize the hope set before us. We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf has entered.' (Heb 6:18-20). The image of the anchor is eloquent;

it helps us to recognize the stability and security that is ours amid the troubled waters of this life, provided we entrust ourselves to the Lord Jesus.

“The coming Jubilee will thus be a Holy Year marked by the hope that does not fade, our hope in God. Let us even now be drawn to this hope! Through our witness, may hope spread to all those who anxiously seek it. May the way we live our lives say to them in so many words: ‘Hope in the Lord! Hold firm, take heart and hope in the Lord.’”

Grace and Peace,
Fr. Ron

PS. In his letter, the Pope speaks of the Sacrament of Penance as part of this journey of the pilgrim in hope. Why not begin this Jubilee Year now through reception of God’s love and mercy in this great Sacrament of Penance. The Sacrament will be celebrated three times this coming week, Monday, 12/16, from 7PM-8PM; Wednesday, 12/18—the Parish Penance Service at 7:30PM and Saturday, 12/21 from 1PM-2PM.

STEWARDSHIP

“The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love, he will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals.” Today’s 1st Reading is a real encouragement to deepen our commitment to discipleship, because God, Himself, rejoices over the committed disciple. The Christian Steward deepens that discipleship by his/her gifts of **Time, Talent and Treasure**. Do you believe that “God rejoices” over you?

The parish Stewardship of Treasure last week was \$14,257. God bless your generosity in support of the work of the Gospel. Electronic giving really helps the parish do a better job managing it’s resources. Please help by becoming an online giver. Just go to the **WESHARE** or **VENMO** link on our website homepage. It’s that easy.



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**DRAWINGS BEGIN EARLY MARCH
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**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 1736
ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZEN
CHRISTMAS PARTY
TODAY—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.

**THIRD THURSDAY
MEN’S BREAKFAST
THIS WEEK—DECEMBER 19, 2024**



Join us for breakfast this coming Thursday, immediately following the 6:30AM daily Mass. Time permitting, one of our priests will join us. For more information or to be added to our monthly reminder email, contact:

Mike McKeon, 201.726.2482 or mfmckeon1@yahoo.com

Sharing Tree 2024

Gift Cards Only Please



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

As in the past, we are supporting organizations that provide services to homeless women and children, nursing homes, survivors of human trafficking, an inner-city parish, and 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.

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

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

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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Religious Education When Families Gather December Sessions

Parents Only Session
Tomorrow, Monday, December 16, 7:00PM, Parish Center

Cathy Hunt, chunt@olmcridgewood.com
Pat McGarvie, pmcgarvie@olmcridgewood.com
Religious Ed office at 201.444.0211



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

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2024 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

RECONCILIATION PENANCE SERVICE

This Wednesday, December 18th—7:30PM

CONFESSION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH—1:00PM-2:00PM

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16TH—7:00PM-8:00PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21ST—1:00PM-2:00PM

NO CONFESSIONS CHRISTMAS EVE

MASS SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00PM* 5:30PM* 7:00PM

Carols Begin at 11:30PM

MIDNIGHT

*Mass will be celebrated in both the Church and the Auditorium at this time.

WEDNESDAY, CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00AM 9:30AM 11:00AM 12:30PM
12:30PM (SPANISH-AUDITORIUM)

GRATITUDE FROM FR. ROLANDO

A couple of weeks ago, you may have heard or read in the bulletin about the urgent need to restore the St. Lawrence Church rectory in Weehawken. Many of you responded with great generosity, and on behalf of St. Lawrence Church, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the parishioners of Our Lady of Mount Carmel for your thoughtful donations and overwhelming support, both material and spiritual.

A special word of thanks to Msgr. Ron for his kindness and generosity in allowing me the opportunity to reach out to the parish community and invite everyone to be part of this important restoration effort.

Your generosity and kindness have truly touched my heart. Although there is still work to be done, your willingness and initiative have been deeply inspiring, making even the most challenging tasks easier to manage. Thank you for being a shining example of faith in action.

May God abundantly bless you, not only for sharing your blessings, but also for your efforts in bringing joy to the parishioners of St. Lawrence. If you wish to reach out to me, or to send a donation, I'm including my email and address below.

Please know that you are always in my prayers!

God bless you!

Fr. Rolando Yadao
St. Lawrence Church
22 Hackensack Avenue
Weehawken, NJ 07086
yadzki@yahoo.com



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION (PEA)

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

St. Alphonsus Mary Liguori believed that spending time in devotion before the Holy Eucharist would bring the most good in life and consolation in death and eternity.

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

Sundays: 1-2PM; Wednesdays: 4-5AM, 7-8AM;
Fridays: 2-3AM, 8-9AM, 6-7PM, 7-8PM;
Saturdays: 3-4PM, 5-6PM

Contact Cynthia—551.574.1063, cynthiabtorres@yahoo.com

For anyone reading the bulletin Friday...

YOUTH MINISTRY MONTHLY FOOD DRIVE THIS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH 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 SATURDAY 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

SOCK-TOBER RECAP

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Sock-Tober Collection this year! Over 1,400 pairs of socks were collected and have been donated to Oasis—A Haven for Women and Children in Paterson, Eva's Village in Paterson, Center for Hope and Safety in Rochelle Park, and the Veterans of America. They were all so incredibly grateful and moved by your generosity. Thank you again!

Mass for Recovery and Healing Saturday, December 21st | 12:00 Noon St. Mary's Church, 20 Legion Place, Closter

All are welcome at this monthly Mass offered for the support, healing and recovery of those affected by substance use disorder. At this December Mass, we will continue our tradition of collecting new socks, underwear, hats, and scarves for those in treatment who need them.

For more information, please contact The Father Jim McKenna Memorial Fund: <https://fatherjimmckenna.org/> or 201.281.6247.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sun. Dec. 15	1:00PM Women's ISP Team (SMR) 1:30PM OCIA (MR) 1:30PM KofC Senior Citizen Party (PC) 2:00PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 4:00PM Spanish Apostolate (PCA) 5:00PM Jr. High 8C (PCB) 7:30PM Jr. High 9D (PCB) 7:30PM Budelman Confirmation Group (RE1) 7:30PM Meleski Confirmation Group (YCB)
Mon. Dec. 16	5:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 6:00PM Spanish Play Rehearsal (MR) 7:00PM WFG Parents Only Session (PC)
Tues. Dec. 17	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) 7:00PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW) 7:30PM Men's Cornerstone MR
Wed. Dec. 18	3:45PM Jr. High Grade 8 Makeup (PCA) 5:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 7:00PM Neocatechumenal Way (NCW) 7:30PM Parish Penance Service (Church)
Thur. Dec. 19	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) 7:30PM Men's Cornerstone (MR)
Fri. Dec. 20	5:30PM CYO Basketball (Gym) 6:00PM Spanish Play Practice (MR)
Sat. Dec. 21	7:30AM Men's Cornerstone (MR) 9:00AM CYO Basketball (Gym) 9:00AM Men's Basketball (Gym) 9:00AM AoOL Girls Basketball (Gym) 2:00PM Spanish Play Practice (MR) 6:00PM Neocatechumenal Way (PC)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ILL MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

Joan Donegan Als, 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.

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



TODAY'S READINGS

Monday, Dec. 16

- + 6:30AM **Brian Cummings**
req Richard & Marie Cummings
- + 8:30AM **Dominic "Don" Crowe**
req Joanne Archer
- +12:00NN **Constanza Garcia Morales**
req The Engel Family

Tuesday, Dec. 17

- + 6:30AM **Thomas Barnes**
req Frank & Jean Muchel
- + 8:30AM **Moya McEnroe**
req Jean & John Boyle
- +12:00NN **Alba & Camilo Garcia**
req Richard & Patricia Engel

Wednesday, Dec. 18

- 6:30AM **Special Intention of Steven Uber**
req Yvonne Uber
- + 8:30AM **Joseph Anthony Sidote, Jr.**
req Barbara & Joanne Sidote
- +12:00NN **Richard Genot**
req Joel & Michelle Lustberg

Thursday, Dec. 19

- + 6:30AM **Jerry Lawson**
req Stephen & Jennifer Schoenster
- + 8:30AM **Clara Traina**
req Jim & Lorraine Reynolds
- +12:00NN **Terry Abate**
req Rose Sullivan

Friday, Dec. 20

- + 6:30AM **Mary Frances Cone**
req Meghan Murphy & Family
- + 8:30AM **Edward Lubarski**
req The Roberson Family
- +12:00NN **Bob Morris**
req Kay Gilmartin

Saturday, Dec. 21 *Saint Peter Canisius,*

- Priest and Doctor of the Church*
- + 8:30AM **Georgine & Joseph Irving**
req TheCooney Family
- + 5:30PM **Francis & Paula Bergen**
req Adele Bergen

Sunday, Dec. 22 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

- + 8:00AM **Maureen Barron**
req The Barron Family
- 9:30AM **For the People of the Parish**
- +11:00AM **Ellen G. Hughes**
req The Dunworth Family
- +12:30PM **Danny McGinley**
req His Family
- + 3:00PM **Marleny Cardona Pulgarin**
req Amparo Campos
- 6:30PM **In Thanksgiving Patricia & Richard Engel—Wedding Anniversary**
req Their Children

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

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

1. Zephaniah 3:14-18

In the first two chapters of this book, the prophet enumerates the many sins of the people and announces a day of judgment. However, in this chapter, he promises that God will be in the midst of the repentant people, removing from them the proud and the arrogant. He will be a God exuberant in celebrating a new beginning in their salvation history, singing and dancing with them.

2. Philippians 4:4-7

Paul's message to the community at Philippi is one of unadulterated joy in the awareness of God's nearness. Despite being in prison, Paul is free of worries and encourages his readers to be similarly free, for the coming of Jesus brings peace. Rather than worry, Paul exhorts the community to pray, in thanksgiving for everything and anticipation of still greater gifts.

3. Luke 3:10-18

Tapping into the messianic expectations of his contemporaries, John's preaching is so enthusiastic that his listeners ask him to tell them what to do. Rather than telling them to abandon their lives and join him in the desert, John tells them to reshape their character and behavior through adhering to God's call for justice within their current social structure, share their clothing and their food, be honest and be fair. Denying he is the Messiah, himself, John warns that the Messiah **IS COMING**, and he will separate the good from the wicked.

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK

1. Paul assures his readers that in their personal lives, Jesus is enough for them. Is Jesus enough for you, or do you look for more, more people, more things, more whatever?
2. Is it easy for you to imagine God rejoicing over you? Why would God rejoice over you?
3. The Baptist was very specific about the advice he gave. If you asked him what should you do, what might be his response?

NEXT WEEKEND'S PRESIDERS

Sat. 12/21	5:30PM	Fr. Jakov
Sun. 12/22	8:00AM	Fr. Ron
	9:30AM	Fr. Frank
	11:00AM	Fr. Frank
	12:30PM	Fr. Ron
	3:00PM	Visitor
	6:30PM	Fr. Jakov

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



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mdenio@bvsl.net

Jon Bock
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