

# GOD ♥ BLESS MOTHERS



*Our Lady of Lourdes*

1 Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, NJ 07052  
973-325-0110 [lourdeswestorange.org](http://lourdeswestorange.org)



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

### Part 1. Mary as Mother

In the Catholic Church calendar, we might say that Mother's Day comes very early, right on January 1<sup>st</sup> the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. I share with you some of my thoughts from January 1<sup>st</sup> for Mother's Day:

This feast day is known as the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, January 1<sup>st</sup>. The reason Mary is given such prominence is not to place her above God, but reminds us that the incarnate God -- Jesus -- took his flesh and blood from the Virgin Mary.

As Mary's true son, Jesus didn't just take up residence for 9 months leading to Dec-25. Rather, he is the Son of God in flesh and blood through the flesh and blood of Mary.

Jesus is as united to Mary as any child to a mother, but also remains his own distinct person. You and I were conceived and born the same way.

This feast day also reminds us that it is the role of a mother to be pondering and to be praying continuously about the future of her children.

You as mothers, as godmothers, as mother figures in other people's lives, do this as well.

Your mother was called to ponder and pray in this way, and Mary our mother, our Blessed Mother is doing this as well

### Part 2. Gifts Received

Isn't it true that some of our most beloved - most remembered - Christmas gifts are those which were bestowed upon us by those who knew what we needed or wanted - but also given to us without us having to ask. The other person knew something which you did not know.

In a similar way, is it not a joy to discover and give a present to someone who has not asked for a particular gift, but would benefit from your insight, your discovery?

In other words, you know something which the other person did not know, which was hidden from the "general audience".

### Part 2. Jesus as Unexpected Gift but also Needed

A professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame - John Cavadini - wrote that we can learn from God's wisdom and plan something about Jesus' origin and his own plan for our salvation and about something perhaps we did not expect to be true, or did not expect to happen. (SOURCE: The Sex Life of Joseph and Mary by John Cavadini December 18, 2017 <https://churchlifejournal.nd.edu/articles/the-sex-life-of-joseph-and-mary/>)

These 2 ideas are also summarized in 1st Corinthians by St. Paul as the "foolishness that is truly wise" and the "weakness that is truly strong". Paul wrote: "God chose the foolish of the world to shame the strong and God chose the lowly and despised of the world, those who count for nothing, to reduce to nothing those who are something" (1 Corinthians 1:27-28)

### Part 3. God's Foolishness that is Truly Wise

It goes without saying that we would rather be "wise" than "foolish", or we would rather be "smart" than "foolish". But do we not learn - in our lives - that the smart choice or the wise choice is not always the most obvious one.

In God's plan, this is also the case. It would have seemed "obvious" for God to announce - on prime-time TV and in full HD - that Jesus is the Messiah, born of the Virgin. But, this was not his way. Such a plan would not have allowed him to build up the Holy Family, to build up the disciples, and later to suffer on the Cross.

"The marriage of Mary and Joseph is thus an intrinsic part of God's Wisdom, an intrinsic part of the logic of the Incarnation, which is the logic of God's *philanthropia*, a logic of foolishness, invisible to the ruling powers because it is, to them, foolishness

OUR LADY OF LOURDES - MAY 14, 2023



<b>SATURDAY 13 MAY</b> 7:30 pm Carmaleta Harris & Paul Harris
<b>SUNDAY 14 MAY</b> 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Filomena Napolitano & Elizabeth Pflug 11:30 am Camille Gagliano
<b>MONDAY 15 MAY</b> 8:30 am Blessed Virgin Mary (In Thanksgiving)
<b>TUESDAY 16 MAY</b> 8:30 am Mary Foley
<b>WEDNESDAY 17 MAY</b> 8:30 am Vincenzo Russo
<b>THURSDAY 18 MAY</b> 8:30 pm People of the Parish
<b>FRIDAY 19 MAY</b> 8:#0 pm Maureen Carroll
<b>SATURDAY 20 MAY</b> 5:30 pm Richard & Terry Rush
<b>SUNDAY 21 MAY</b> 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am John Gaeta 11:30 am Christian & Grace Okeke

<b>SUNDAY 14 MAY</b> 7:30 am Mass in Church 9:30 am Mass in Church 11:30 am Mass in Church 11:30 am <b>May Crowning &amp; Flower Procession</b>
<b>THURSDAY 18 MAY</b> 10:00 am <b>Deadline for News &amp; Announcements for the May 28th Bulletin. Call the Rectory at 973-325-0110.</b>
<b>SATURDAY 20 MAY</b> 4—5:15 pm Confessions in Church 5:30 pm Mass in Church





**SUNDAY 21 MAY**  
7:30 am Mass in Church  
9:30 am Mass in Church  
11:30 am Mass in Church

 This week's Bread & Wine, a gift from Kathy & Joseph Petrillo is in memory of **JOAN PAPALE & VIVIAN PETRILLO**.



*Dear Lord,*  
*Please watch over and support all mothers on earth and in heaven . . . and help them to know how much they are loved and appreciated on Mother's Day and every day. Amen*

 <b>May 20 - 21, 2023</b>			
Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	
5:30 pm	Michael Lanfrank	Judy Albore (Choir)	
7:30 am	Mary Cassels	Patricia Saway	
9:30 am	Kathy Petrillo	Joe Petrillo (Choir)	
11:30 am Choir	Carmelita Dizon	Virginia Dimapilis	



Michael Ang	Amy Lejano
Msgr. Edward Bradley	Mikaela Moncupa
Marti Carlos	Allison Sardinha
Lorelei Gotinga	Pat Schoeler
Fiona Graham	Sgt. Michael Williams
Cecile Leelin	

If you wish to have a friend or loved one prayed for, please call the Rectory at 973-325-0110.

(PASTOR COLUMN continued from Page 2

and not wisdom.”

Because Jesus is invisible in the marriage of Mary and Joseph, invisible to the ruling powers, this foolishness doesn't seem like wisdom to them, but it is wisdom to us.

**Part 4. God’s Weakness that is Truly Strong**

Mary and Joseph are the parents, and biblically so designated, of Jesus only. Jesus is their son.

Thus, Jesus is not some “prodigy” or superhero from another planet who just landed here on Earth. Growing up as a child, then a young man and finally as an adult, this enables Jesus to conquer Satan and to conquer evil by giving himself up to death.

Jesus does not conquer Satan by “pulling rank” publicly.

Rather, Jesus conquers Satan and evil by emptying, emptying His divine identity into a hidden person, a hidden child. His public identity is that he is the ordinary son of Joseph and Mary. His later to-be-revealed identity – as the Messiah – will catch some by surprise.

In this regard, Jesus allows us to become part of his body part of his life. And it also reminds us that we enter into God's plan and God's kingdom by many sufferings by many tribulations. This was part of Jesus Jesus's way. He goes before us in secret ways but in also ways that will be known to all.

Our Lady, Mother of Perpetual Help, Pray for Us.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Pray for Us.

Father Jim Ferry




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<b>Collection*: April 29-30*</b>	<b>\$ 4227</b>
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\* Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit



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for additional information!**

**"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good,**

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY**



**PIRATE TREASURE  
TRICKY TRAY 2023**

**POST-EVENT SUMMARY**

We are happy to report that 175 registered guests visited Connor Hall from 8:00 am—4:00 pm on April 15th to try their luck at winning more than 300 gift baskets, 4 Special Prizes and a Fair Share drawing.

A sincere **THANK YOU** to all of our **VOLUNTEERS** for the time and energy that was put into yet another successful Tricky Tray. We couldn't do this without you!

**THANK YOU** to all of our **VENDORS & DONORS** for your extreme generosity. The Tricky Tray is our largest fundraiser and helps support the needs of our parish.

**THANK YOU** to our Tricky Tray **GUESTS** for coming out to support our fundraiser.

*Please show your appreciation by supporting the many local businesses in West Orange and surrounding communities.*

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In Loving  
Memory



**Mary Ann Rosenbaum**  
July 24, 1945 - September 22, 2021

*Eternal rest grant unto her,  
O Lord, and let perpetual  
light shine upon her.  
May she rest in peace. Amen.*

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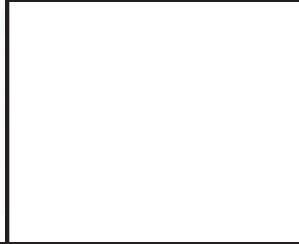
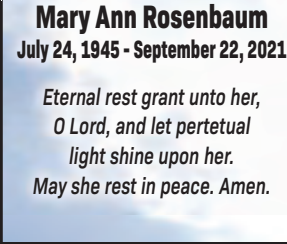
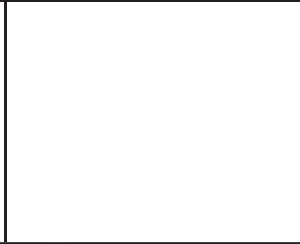
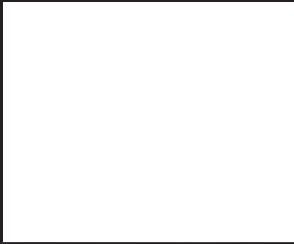
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WED. & FRI. 10:00-5:30  
SAT. 10:00-4:00

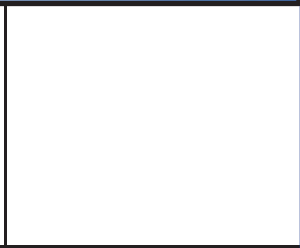
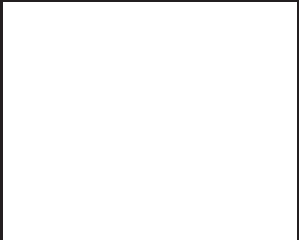
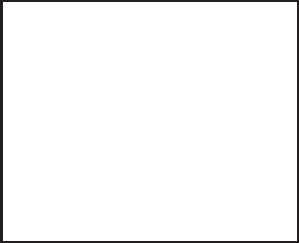
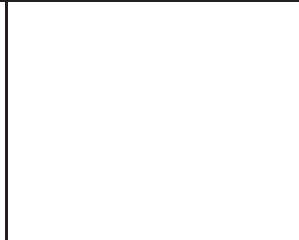
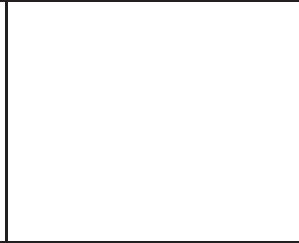
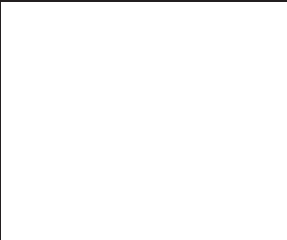
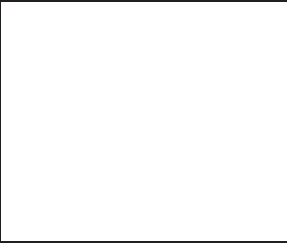
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