



# OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

One Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, New Jersey 07052

RECTORY/Parish Office 973.325.0110

[LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG](http://LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG)



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**Sunday, August 20, 2023 - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



## Mass Schedule @ Main Church

Saturday Evening, 5:30 pm

Sunday Morning, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am

*Confessions, Saturday 4:15 - 5:00 pm or  
anytime by appointment*

## Weekday Morning Mass

Monday - Friday

8:30 am @ MAIN CHURCH

*Monday 8:30 am Mass*

*with Miraculous Medal Novena*

### **Served By:**

Rev. James Ferry, Pastor

Rev. James N. Chern, Weekend Assistant

Rev. Robert K. Suszko, Weekend Assistant

Mrs. Linda Chapman, Director of Music

Mrs. Mary Cassels, Trustee

Mrs. Eileen Reilly, Trustee

RECTORY/Parish Office: 973.325.0110

Fax: 973.325.9105

Email: [ollwonj@verizon.net](mailto:ollwonj@verizon.net)

Website: [lourdeswestorange.org](http://lourdeswestorange.org)

RECTORY/Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

### Religious Education

#### **Family Catechesis (Grades 1-6)**

Ms. Priscilla Castro 973.325.0110

Email: [Priscillacastro@lourdeswestorange.org](mailto:Priscillacastro@lourdeswestorange.org)

### Religious Education

#### **Sacrament of Confirmation (Grades 7-12)**

Mr. Paul Hirsch 973.325.0110

Email: [Confirmation.Class@lourdeswestorange.org](mailto:Confirmation.Class@lourdeswestorange.org)

### Religious Education

#### **Administrative Assistant**

Maggie Macias 973.325.0110 ext. 102

Email: [Maggie.macias@lourdeswestorange.org](mailto:Maggie.macias@lourdeswestorange.org)

### Sacrament of Baptism

Celebrated *usually* the first Saturday of the month. Parents are required to meet with Father Jim Ferry. Please call RECTORY.

### Sacrament of the Sick

Administered in an emergency at any time. Please call RECTORY when someone is ill or admitted to the hospital.

### Sacrament of Marriage

Engaged couples are asked to make their arrangements one year in advance of their wedding. Please call RECTORY for an appointment with a priest.

### First Friday

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm. There is 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Adoration during the “Fall” months of September, October, November and December and the “Spring” months of March, April, May and June.

### Peace and Good Corner Gift Shop

Religious articles, books and cards are available for purchase inside the church before and after all Masses or by appointment. Contact RECTORY.

### New Parishioners

Welcome to Our Lady of Lourdes. Please register at RECTORY or call for registration forms.

**MISSION STATEMENT** *The people of God in West Orange were called by the Holy Spirit in 1914 to form Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, a community centered on Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit remains with us today as we continue our journey to God. We are inspired by the Gospel of Jesus Christ, nourished by the Eucharist, called to respect life and proclaim our Catholic faith. We serve God by providing spiritual, educational, and social activities for our parish family as well as extending God's love and compassion to serve the greater community.*



Dear Brothers & Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

***I share with you this article / reflection based from National Catholic Register:***

**(Source:** <https://www.ncregister.com/blog/does-god-change-his-mind-when-we-pray>)

## **Title: Does God Change His Mind When We Pray?**

**Author: Lillian Fallon March 29, 2019 [ABRIDGED]**

Last summer, I was tempted to give up on praying to God.

Up to that point, my life felt like a Looney Tunes cartoon and I was Bugs Bunny trying to escape a haunted house full of closed doors that just led to more closed doors. Every attempt at finding employment was met with rejection and no matter how many novenas I prayed to get work, God just held up a sign that said, “Wrong way.”

This question always floats to the forefront of my mind when my prayers seem to fall upon deaf ears. But haven’t many of us secretly wondered this? We’re told to pray unceasingly, but do our prayers have any real sway? In one breath we’re told, “Ask and ye shall receive” and “Surrender to divine providence.”

A couple months ago, the priest at Mass gave a homily on the Wedding at Cana.

In the homily the priest addressed the topic of whether prayer requests can cause God to change His mind. In this scene of Christ’s first public miracle, Mary says to her son, “They have no wine” (John 2: 3). In reply, Jesus says, “O woman, what have you to do with me? My hour has not yet come” (John 2:4). Yet, He changes the water into wine. The priest explained that Jesus initially had no intention of changing the water into wine, but because His mother suggested it — he changed his mind. All of this was to remind the congregation that prayer does have impact.

The pew creaked as Father leaned back, “Prayer is a conversation. If you’re in a conversation with someone and you’re thinking of how you can manipulate someone’s response, well, that’s not really a conversation — it’s a script.” His voice echoed, bouncing off the empty pews and then back to me. I thought of all the times I presented God with a manuscript of exactly how the story of my life was going to go.

“It’s hard for us not to approach prayer like that. We all do it. But God still works with us. At a certain early level

in prayer, the switch is either off or on — we either feel totally in sync with God because we’re getting what we want or we’re high and dry because we’re not getting what we want.”

Bingo.

I realized I had been looking at the Wedding at Cana all wrong. I was focusing too much on Jesus changing his mind and not enough on Mary’s role in the whole scene. Perhaps one of the most important words to come out of this entire passage is Mary’s, “Do whatever He tells you” (John 2:5). This is directed towards the servants at the wedding, but her words resonate to all children of God, especially since she is the Mother of the Church. She tells us to do whatever her Son tells us to. These words also reflect her fiat at the Annunciation; a complete surrendering of her will and she encourages us to do the same at the Wedding.

Father folded his hands and continued, “When asking God, ‘can I please have this?’ we should exhibit the same trust of Jesus at Gethsemane when he said ‘My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass me by. Nevertheless, let it be as you, not I, would have it’” (Matthew 26:39). Christ’s complete trust on the cross is certainly a sobering wakeup call after you’ve been moping around because of not getting a job.

For so long, I viewed life as a battle of the wills. My will vs. God’s. I always felt like I was at unfair disadvantage because, well, God is God. This perspective warped my mind into believing the whole purpose of my life is to be bossed around by God. I gritted my teeth whenever I said I was open to His will while simultaneously praying against it.

But in this life, we’re hardly forced into anything. We’re actually allowed to make any decision we want in life, even if it’s not what’s best for us. But God doesn’t watch us like rats in a maze, desperately searching for happiness like cheese. When we start going down one path, He offers us opportunity after opportunity to find Him again. Sometimes that opportunity means personal growth through redemptive suffering.

Like all sin, it boils down to pride and the belief that we know what’s best for us. We see ourselves as personal gods and in our limited two dimensional view, we aren’t able to see what is truly best for us or the reason behind the crosses we’re given for our salvation. God’s greatest creation is that good can come from bad, but it’s always our choice to choose the good. When we stop trying to change God, we surrender and allow for real graces to make real change in our lives.

Like Mary, when we present our desires or needs before God, we should have already surrendered and accepted his will regardless of the answer. It’s when we’re in this state of grace that we’re able to ask the right questions and able to receive God’s answer.

In Christ’s Peace,  
Father Jim Ferry



<b>SATURDAY 19 AUGUST</b> 5:30 pm Eustaquio Francisco Reyes
<b>SUNDAY 20 AUGUST</b> 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am John P. Sharkey 11:30 am Abdon Domingo
<b>MONDAY 21 AUGUST</b> 8:30 am Kathy Norman
<b>TUESDAY 22 AUGUST</b> 8:30 am Alice McCauley
<b>WEDNESDAY 23 AUGUST</b> 8:30 am Catherine Gascoyne
<b>THURSDAY 24 AUGUST</b> 8:30 am Carmine "Tony" Fiorilli
<b>FRIDAY 25 AUGUST</b> 8:30 am Alice McCauley
<b>SATURDAY 26 AUGUST</b> 5:30 pm Kathleen Whelan
<b>SUNDAY 27 AUGUST</b> 7:30 am People of the Parish 9:30 am Mary Ellen Bruno 11:30 am Mary Mooney

<b>SUNDAY 20 AUGUST</b> 7:30 am Mass in Church 9:30 am Mass in Church 11:30 am Mass in Church
<b>MONDAY 21 AUGUST</b> 8:30 am <b>Daily Mass will be held Monday thru Friday of each week in church.</b> <b>Miraculous Medal Novena following 8:30 am Mass on Monday.</b>
<b>THURSDAY 24 AUGUST</b> 10:00 am <b>Deadline for News &amp; Announcements for the SEP 3rd. Bulletin. Call the Rectory at 973-325-0110.</b>
<b>SATURDAY 26 AUGUST</b> 4:15—5:00 pm Confessions in Church 5:30 pm Mass in Church
<b>SUNDAY 27 AUGUST</b> 7:30 am Mass in Church 9:30 am Mass in Church 11:30 am Mass in Church



Jesus said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that hour.

+ WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE		AUGUST 26 - 27, 2023	
Mass	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	
5:30 pm	Pat Sigalas	Eileen Reilly (Choir)	
7:30 am	Mary Cassels	Mary Cassels	
9:30 am	Carmelita Dizon	Myrna Regino	
11:30 am	Julie Okeke	Wendy Sheyka	



Joan Clarke	Jacob Rivera
Mary McGuiness	Jaxon Rivera
Joan Monik	Pat Schoeler

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



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FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2023

WEEKLY GOAL \$ 6800

Collection\*: Aug 5-6\* \$ 4565

Deficit: \$ 2235

\*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit



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**Queenship of Mary**  
AUGUST 22

"... for behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. Because He that is mighty, hath done great things to me; and holy is His name."  
~ Lk. 1:48-49

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**6**  
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**Religious Education / RCIA Teacher  
Job Posting - *Our Lady of Lourdes, West Orange, NJ*  
(date: August 11, 2023)**

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish seeks to hire a part-time employee to assist in our Religious Education program in the following areas. The schedule and times below may be negotiated with the Pastor based on employee's availability and student availability. This employee reports to the Pastor. Position is budgeted for an average of 6 hours per week.

**Responsibilities**

**Teach 1<sup>st</sup> Penance and 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Class for Grades 7-12.** Weekly program on Tuesdays (4:30 – 5:15 pm) and/or Sundays (10:30 am – 11:15 am) is in the Fall and Spring. (Hours can be adjusted based on student-teacher availability).

**Teach RCIA for teenagers and/or adults preparing for Sacrament of Baptism, 1<sup>st</sup> Communion, Confirmation.** Class is on Sundays 10:30 am to 11:15 am and will occur on Sundays on which 1<sup>st</sup> Penance / 1<sup>st</sup> Communion is not scheduled.

**"Substitute" and "Co-Teacher" Grades 7-12 Confirmation Class.** This weekly program (19 sessions) is on Sundays (9:30 am – 11:30 am) and selected Monday (6:45 – 8 pm).

**Teach Adult Section of Family Catechesis on Monthly Basis.** Grade 1-5 students are educated in Family Class setting (meeting once per month on Saturday and Monday in 2 sections with identical content. On Saturdays 4 – 5 pm and Monday 6 to 7 pm, the adults are taught while the children are in their separate groups.

**Qualifications**

**Education.** At the minimum, Religious Education/RCIA Teacher will hold Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree from an accredited university.

**Computer Skills.** The Religious Education/RCIA Teacher will possess adequate computer skills, especially familiarity with data entry for databases and MS-Word, PowerPoint, Publisher.

**Audio Video Skills.** Ability to setup and troubleshoot the laptop, projector, audio, video for presentations.

**Bilingual.** Proficiency or fluency in Spanish is desirable but not absolutely required. Comfort with use of software programs that provide translation services.

**Resume / questions, email → [fatherjimferry@lourdeswestorange.org](mailto:fatherjimferry@lourdeswestorange.org)**

**Call 973.325.0110**

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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.

Please Continue  
To Pray For



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