



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: <u>ollwonj@verizon.net</u> Website: lourdeswestorange.org RECTORY/Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

<u>Religious Education</u> Family Catechesis (Grades 1-6) Mrs. Barbara Camp 973.325.0110 Email: <u>ollfamilyclass@aol.com</u>

<u>Religious Education</u> Sacrament of Confirmation (Grades 7-12) Mr. Paul Hirsch 973.325.0110 Email: <u>Confirmation.Class@lourdeswestorange.org</u>

Religious Education

Administrative Assistant Maggie Macias 973.325.0110 ext. 102 Email: <u>Maggie.macias@lourdeswestorange.org</u>

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^{st} 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 and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

I share with you this article / reflection based from this Catholic site: <u>LinkToLiturgy.Com</u> which offers lessons based on our biblical readings.

(Source: https://linktoliturgy.com/the-cross-hope-not-scandal)

THE CROSS: HOPE NOT SCANDAL (Abridged Version)

"Rise, and do not be afraid"

Jesus brings Peter, James and John up a high mountain to teach them a lesson. The lesson is simple, "that it was impossible – for Him as well as for them – to reach the glory of the Transfiguration without passing through suffering." [1] Jesus does not want the Apostles or us to be paralyzed by fear when we see suffering and the cross, but to instead see the full picture, and to rise and be not afraid. If we think there can be glory without suffering, gain without pain, we are mistaken. The cross does not make sense if it stands alone. When the Christian looks at the cross, we know that what appears to be a loss is a gain.

Why is it helpful to keep the end in mind? Jesus reminds us to always keep the end in mind. The book of Sirach reminds us to remember our death, so that we will not sin. "In all you do, remember the end of your life, and then you will never sin." [6] We are reminded of our end on Ash Wednesday, when we are told, "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return." Blessed Junipero Serra, the apostle of California, said, "Always go forward, never turn back." What are the different kinds of ends? There are three ends: the end of a current event, the end of our life and our ultimate end, heaven. When we are going through tough times at the current moment, we remind our self that things will get better. The marathon runner is training, and he or she doesn't just get up and run a marathon in a day. It takes months of preparation, with many sore muscles, blisters, calluses, and pains. This pain doesn't deter the runner because he knows the end – crossing the finish line – will be worth it. During the marathon, the runner does not think of the mile they are currently running but rather the finish line. The golfer does not think about the middle of the hole he is on, which might include water or sand traps, but rather the green, where he is going.

We also know that death is not the end, but rather the beginning of the eternal life. Ultimately, we keep our eyes fixed on heaven, our final end. In the Transfiguration, Jesus gives his Apostles a glimpse of the glory of heaven. "The disciples experienced during the Transfiguration... ahead of time something that will constitute the happiness of paradise. In general, it is brief experiences that God grants on occasions, especially in anticipation of harsh trials." [9]

What are some experiences God has given us to prepare us to endure harsh trials?

In the movie, Life is Beautiful, German Nazis arrest Guido and his son, Joshua, and transfer them to a concentration camp. Protecting his son from the vile truth, Guido tells Joshua that they are just on a big holiday. To keep up Joshua's spirits, he tells him it's a big game for Joshua, claiming they must obtain 1,000 points to win a real tank and leave.

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(PASTOR COLUMN continued from Page 2

The cross of Christ was such a scandal that only 1 of the 12 Apostles, Saint John, was present at the Cross. It was not something that any of the Apostles wanted to witness or see. In the midst of horror, we need hope. We need a promise – a way out. In the midst of the great horror of a concentration camp, a father gave hope to his son. He gave his son a goal, a game, a focus. In the end, his son does get the "tank" when the allied forces roll into the camp in a big tank. In the end, he does win. Even though "the game" the dad makes up is not true, the reality is that the Guido gave his son hope and it saved him from despair. How much more powerful is the promise and hope that God gives us?

The Transfiguration is not only the truth of Christ's glory, but the promise of our future glory. The Transfiguration increases in us the virtue of hope, which "makes a person desire eternal life, which is the heavenly vision of God, and gives us the confidence of receiving the grace necessary to reach heaven."[10]

Sources / Notes:

[1] Father Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, O.C.D; Divine Intimacy; page 310

[6] Sirach 7:36

[9] Pope Benedict XVI

[10] Fr. John Hardon, S.J., Modern Catholic Dictionary; page 257

(Source: https://linktoliturgy.com/the-cross-hope-not-scandal)

In Christ's Peace, Father Jim Ferry



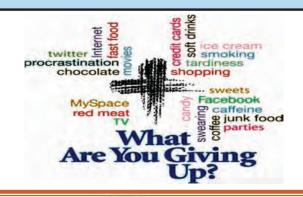


The Rosary Altar Society's MARCH Quarterly Meeting will be held on:



Monday, March 6, at 1:00 pm in Connor Hall.

All Rosarians: Please bring any gifts or donations that you may have for the Tricky Tray. Looking forward to seeing everyone there. Carol Ford, President



PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2022WEEKLY GOAL\$ 6800Collection*: Feb 18—19*\$ 4624Deficit:\$ 2176* Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit



For Your Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure.





The Rosary Altar Society will again hold a socially distant Tricky Tray on: Saturday, April 15, 2023 FUND RAISE: In Connor Hall at Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

We are now accepting gifts for our Tricky Tray. Gifts of NEW ITEMS are welcome and greatly appreciated by **Sunday, March 26th.**

Gifts may be left in the Church Sacristy or at the rectory on weekdays, between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm. For pick up contact Eileen Reilly at 973-980-4209 or email at trickytray@lourdeswestorange.org

(PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU LEAVE YOUR NAME ON THE GIFT.)

Your gift may also be as a monetary donor:

Gold Donor	\$100.00
Silver Donor	\$ 50.00
Bronze Donor	\$ 25.00

(Please make checks payable to "Our Lady of Lourdes")



Join us for our major fund raiser to help support the needs of our parish.

Eileen Reilly, Chairperson.



Tricky Tray Event Detail Flier + Registration & Ticket Order Form Go to LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG (click on "About our Parish, then Tricky Tray 2023")

Sign Up by April 10!!



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