



#### 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

#### **Religious Education**

**Family Catechesis (Grades 1-6)** Mrs. Barbara Camp 973.325.0110 ext. 103 Email: <u>ollfamilyclass@aol.com</u>

#### <u>Religious Education</u> Sacrament of Confirmation (Grades 7-12) Mr. Paul Hirsch 973.325.0110 ext. 123 Email: <u>Confirmation.Class@lourdeswestorange.org</u>

#### **Religious Education**

Administrative Assistant Astrid Ramirez 973.325.0110 ext. 102 Email: <u>astrid.ramirez@lourdeswestorange.org</u>

## 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

#### 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.

#### <u>First Friday</u>

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm. There is  $1^{\text{st}}$  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 & Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes

The Force of Gravity (Part 2 of 3) "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself." (John 12:32)

In this Sunday's Gospel and of Advent, we read about the Son of Man drawing nearer and coming to us: "You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." (Matthew 24:44)

I'd like to reflect on this our hope of heaven and heavenly reward, referring to *Gravity*, a 2013 movie, in which the NASA astronaut Ryan Stone (Sandra Bullock) experiences not just gravity but other grave problems pulling her down.

The two lead characters are astronauts Ryan Stone (Bullock) and Matt Kowalski (George Clooney) who are in a crisis on a space station due to an explosion of shiny and sharp metal, thousands of miles from earth. They are the sole survivors.

Part 1 of this column was about the gravity-pull of prayer and essential nature of prayer, especially when we do not know the outcome.

In this Part 2, I would like to touch on the gravity-pull of persistence.

In the movie, gravity is a theme that indicates that we are all being drawn toward, sometimes, being drawn by our own experiences.

For Ryan Stone, she has experienced the death of her own child, a young daughter. And, in a review of the movie, Bishop Robert Barron observes what we see is Ryan's constant attempt to escape the reality and gravity of this tragic death.

Who would not?

Ryan is now thousands of miles above from earth, but she cannot escape – who could escape – the gravity of her daughter's death. I know we have not been thousands of miles above earth, but we have all tried to escape tragedy in our lives.

And, in the NASA space capsule, Ryan is now facing her own mortality.

Pope Benedict XVI reminded us that it is not health or achievement or fame that is the foundation for our hope of heaven, but rather love: "Love is the foundation of immortality, and immortality proceeds from love alone." (Introduction to Christianity) The Pope Emeritus admits, for example, every parent wants to continue to exist in his or her own children. For this very reason, the death of child is exceedingly painful.

The Good News of the Resurrection is not simply that our lives become pain-free or worry-free but that we also are physically resurrected in our own bodies. And, so are others. So, for the parent who has lost a child, a child who is part of her own body, the Resurrection of the body is important. It is best of all Good News.

Resurrection is also about the gravity of our partnership – not only the partnership of marriage, the partnership of being mother/father...but also about our partnership with Christ who gave himself up for us so that we might live and be joined also to each other in eternal communion.

In Christ's Peace, Father Jim Ferry



#### OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH - NOVEMBER 27, 2022



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Brendan Byrne Rita DiBiasi Michael DiPirro Eva Donnelly Doris Handschuh Amy Lejano Mary McGuiness John Mooney Frank Refinski Jacob Rivera Jaxson Rivera Pat Schoeler Laura Splendoria Harry Vendemia Maureen Bacal-Zerna

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

| ++++WEEKEND DEC 3 - DEC 4, 2022 |                   |                          |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Mass                            | Lectors           | Eucharistic<br>Ministers |  |  |  |  |
| 5:30 pm                         | Joy<br>Hayward    | Judy<br>Albore           |  |  |  |  |
| 7:30 am                         | Mary<br>Cassels   | Bless<br>Bernardo        |  |  |  |  |
| 9:30 am<br>Choir                | Carol<br>Ford     | Espie<br>Cain            |  |  |  |  |
| 11:30 am                        | Rachelle<br>Brown | Wendy<br>Sheyka          |  |  |  |  |



The Rosary Altar Society's December meeting and Christmas Luncheon will be held on:

Tuesday, December 6, at 11:00 am in Connor Hall.

**All Rosarians**: don't forget to bring a gift for an elderly man or women for the Little Sisters of the Poor. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Carol Ford, President



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION 1ST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH December 2, 2022 5:30–7:30 pm in Church

Join Us!

Jesus is waiting for You!

### St. Vincent DePaul Society

St. Vincent DePaul Society is hosting Christine's Soup Kitchen on **Saturday**, **12/03/2022** for Holy Trinity Episcopal Church. As of now the soup kitchen is



operating on a to-go-lunch basis. Lunches are prepared ahead of time and will be dropped off at Holy Trinity on the morning of **12/03/2022** so you will not have to serve at the soup kitchen itself. If anyone is interested in preparing or purchasing needed items please call Rosanne Bruno at 973-243-0679, or e-mail at travisb23@juno.com.

eace & Good Corner

Holiday gift wrap and cards are now available in the Peace & Good Corner. There is also a great selection of religious items for Christmas gift giving.

Please be sure to stop in.



To all who so graciously donated to our "Baby Shower". Several Sources Shelter in Ramsey, NJ is extremely grateful for your monetary donations totaling \$800.00, plus \$575.00 in Gift Cards and the beautiful assortment of baby gifts.

Your generosity and thoughtfulness are truly appreciated. God Bless.







# Annual Appeal Update (Goal Achieved for 2022)

Thank you for your support toward the Lourdes parish Annual Appeal Goal before the June 30 deadline which has resulted in both a 2022 reduction of \$15,000 in assessment expenses and an additional surplus refund.

As of November 14, 2022 your giving to the Annual Appeal 2022 amounts to \$35,148.50. Through your generosity, our surplus as of November 14 is \$6,938.50.

If you would like to make a gift, your gift will increase the surplus refund for Lourdes Parish. Call Father Jim Ferry with any questions.

### PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2022WEEKLY GOAL\$ 6800Collection\*: November 12-13\*\$ 4601Deficit:\$ 2199\* Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposit



For Your Stewardship of Time, Talent and Treasure.



# Thanksgiving Day / Advent / Holy Day Mass

<u>Thanksgiving Day</u>. Thursday November 24, 8:30 am Mass Your gifts of food for the poor are gratefully accepted at Mass.

Immaculate Conception. Thursday December 8. Holy Day of Obligation Morning Mass at 7 am, 8:30 am Evening Mass at 7 pm

Advent / Christmas Choir Festival of Song. J Saturday Dec. 10 Concert is immediately after Saturday 5:30 pm Mass

# Christmas & New Year's Mass

Christmas Eve. 4 pm, 5:30 pm, 10 pm (Dec. 24) Holy Day of Obligation

Christmas Day. 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am (Dec. 25) Holy Day of Obligation

New Year's Eve. 5:30 pm. (Dec. 31) Vigil of Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Holy Day of Obligation

New Year's Day. 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am (Jan. 1) Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Holy Day of Obligation

Children's Epiphany Pageant. Sunday January 8 Pageant is immediately after Sunday 11:30 am Mass

Our Lady of Lourdes, 1 Eagle Rock West Orange, NJ 07052 LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG Tel. 973.325.0110





151D (CK) • Our Lady of Lourdes Church • West Orange, NJ FOR ADVERTISING INFORMATION CALL: (800) 364-0684 • Bon Venture Services, LLC • P.O. Box 850, Flanders, N.J. 07836