



OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

One Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, New Jersey 07052

RECTORY/Parish Office 973.325.0110

LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG



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Sunday, April 5, 2026 - Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord



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

Website: 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

Religious Education

Sacrament of Confirmation (Grades 7-12)

Mr. Paul Hirsch 973.325.0110

Email: Confirmation.Class@lourdeswestorange.org

Religious Education

Office Manager

Rosa Cruz 973.325.0110 ext. 102

Email: rosa.cruz@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 1st 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.*

EASTER SUNDAY – April 5, 2026



Why Are We Here? — An Easter Reflection

At the 5th Sunday of Lent (March 22), we heard the Gospel of Jesus standing before the tomb of Lazarus. These reflections began there—but now, on Easter, we see them in a new light. Because what was revealed in that moment... is fulfilled in the Resurrection.

And so we begin with a question many of us have quietly asked: Why are we here?

Perhaps you have experienced attending one funeral, and then another soon after, with many of the same people—gathered again in a church, offering condolences, wondering and questioning what it all means.

To this question, there is a well-known answer from the baseball player Yogi Berra—who, by the way, used to worship here. He once said: “You should always go to other people’s funerals—otherwise, they won’t come to yours.”

It makes us smile. But it also points to something true: we show up for one another. We belong to one another.

Easter does not ignore that question—it answers it. We are here because death is not the end. We are here because Christ is risen. We are here because love is stronger than the grave.

A Family of Faith

In that Lenten Gospel, we met Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. They were not just figures in a story, but friends of Jesus—a household of faith.

In a sense, they were among the first “parishioners” of the Church on earth.

They welcomed Christ, listened to Him, struggled with doubt, faced loss, and held on to hope. In other words, they were like us.

A Real Death—and a Greater Promise

When Jesus arrived, Lazarus had been dead four days. Death was real, undeniable.

And Jesus responded in a deeply human way: He wept. He entered into the grief of Martha and Mary. He did not dismiss their sorrow. But He did not leave them there.

He called out: “Lazarus, come out.” And Lazarus emerged. This was not yet Easter, but a sign—a glimpse of something greater.

Because Lazarus would die again. At Easter, however, everything changes. Jesus does not simply raise another—He Himself rises, never to die again. And that changes everything.

From Lent to Easter

The Raising of Lazarus Gospel reveals familiar human experiences. There is **denial**—the instinct to avoid suffering and difficult truths. There is **delay**—the painful waiting for God to act. There is **disappointment**—“Lord, if you had been here...”

We have all known these moments. But Easter shows us that none of them have the final word.

Christ does not avoid death—He conquers it. God’s delay is not absence—it is preparation. Even disappointment can become a place of encounter.

To Martha, Jesus says: “I am the resurrection and the life.” On Easter, those words are fulfilled.

Each Life Is Loved

To love someone is to say, “It is good that you exist.” That is what Jesus reveals—at the tomb of Lazarus and in His own Resurrection. Each person is called by name. Each life matters. No one is forgotten. Even death does not erase the goodness of a life loved by God.

Why We Are Here

So, why are we here? We are here because we belong to a living community of faith—like Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. We are here because Christ calls us from darkness into life. We are here because our connection to one another does not end at death—it is deepened.

We continue to love by praying for those who have gone before us, remembering them, and entrusting them to God’s mercy—just as we hope others will do for us. But Easter also reminds us that our faith is

EASTER SUNDAY – April 5, 2026

(continued from page 2) not only about showing up in moments of celebration or commiseration.

We are called to something deeper. We are called to contemplation and meditation—to listen to God’s word, to reflect on His plan, and to allow Him to shape our lives. We pray and we petition—not to earn eternal life, which is God’s gift—but to grow into it, to live it even now. Again and again, God invites us to change, to turn back to Him, and to walk more closely with Christ.

The Final Word

When Jesus called Lazarus from the tomb, it was a sign. When Jesus rose from the tomb, it was the victory. Death is real. Grief is real. But they do not have the final word. Christ does. And His word is life.

So this Easter, we return to that question: Why are we here? We are here because the tomb is empty. We are here because Christ is risen. We are here because we are called—each of us, by name—into eternal life.

And like those first faithful “parishioners”—Martha, Mary, and Lazarus—we are invited to believe, to hope, and to live as people who know: that even if we die, we will live. Alleluia.

In Christ’s Peace,

Father Jim Ferry



		
Saturday, April 4	5:30 pm	People of the Parish
Sunday, April 5	7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish People of the Parish People of the Parish
Monday, April 6	8:30 am	John Fernandes
Tuesday, April 7	8:30 am	John Healy
Wednesday, April 8	8:30 am	Millie Cassidy
Thursday, April 9	8:30 am	Luigi Russo
Friday, April 10	8:30 am	Mary Ellen Quilty
Saturday, April 11	5:30 pm	David McCaffrey
Sunday, April 12	7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish Michael Chiamonte, Jr. (9 th Anniv) Loreto Aversali

Altar Candles for the week of April 5


Gift of J.A. Konvalinka Family in loving memory of **Jaroslav and Rose Konvalinka**

Sanctuary Candle for the week of April 5

Gift of The Nalupta Family in loving memory of **Paloma Gonzales**


Stream Mass on YouTube at
www.youtube.com/@lourdeswestorange


Follow us on Facebook at
facebook.com/lourdeswestorange

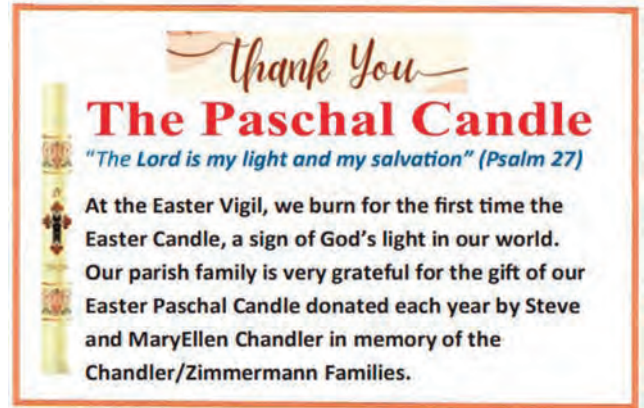

Prayers Needed

Emeka Anyanyo Jeffrey Beauzil Paul Di Francescantonio Simon Gutowitz Frances Maroon	Beverly McAllister Mary McGuinness Sister Jean Ruppel
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If you wish to have a friend or loved one prayed for, please call the Rectory at 973-325-0110.

EASTER SUNDAY – April 5, 2026

Church Calendar	
Sun. April 5 	EASTER SUNDAY 7:30 am Mass 9:30 am Mass 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal (loft) 11:30 am Mass
Mon. April 6	Daily Mass at 8:30 am. Monday - Friday <i>Miraculous Medal Novena</i> Monday after 8:30 am Mass
Tues April 7	8:30 am Mass
Wed. April 8	8:30 am Mass 6:30-10pm K of C meeting
Thu. April 9	8:30 am Mass 6 - 8pm Choir rehearsal
Fri. April 10	8:30 am Mass
Sat. April 11	8:30 am Mass 3- 5:30pm Family Catechesis 4:15 – 5 pm, Confessions 5:30 pm Mass
Sun. April 12	7:30 am Mass 9:30 am Mass 9:30-11:30am Gr. 6 Rel Ed Class 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal (loft) 11:30 am Mass



“HE IS NOT HERE, FOR HE HAS BEEN RAISED JUST AS HE SAID.” MATTHEW 28:6



Ministry Schedule, April 11-12

2nd Sunday of Easter Vigil Mass		
	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers
Saturday 5:30 pm	Pat Sigalas	Judy Albore Melinda Prather (c)
2nd Sunday of Easter Mass		
7:30 am	MaryEllen Chandler	Bless Bernardo
9:30 am	JoAnn Melhorn	Espie Cain
11:30 am	Lynda Clement	Virginia Dimapilis Wendy Sheyka (c)

Report of Sunday Offering

Parish Giving Fiscal Year starting July 1, 2025	
Goal	\$6,800
Collection: Mar 21-22, 2026 **	\$ 4,755
Deficit	\$ 2,045
** includes Online Giving Weekly Average	



We are still accepting gifts for our Tricky Tray. Gifts of NEW ITEMS are welcome and greatly appreciated by Monday, April 13th.



EASTER SUNDAY – April 5, 2026

2026-2027 Religious Education Registration Now Open
1st Penance, 1st Communion, Confirmation (Grades 1–12) included.

Scan code to register and pay ONLINE
Paper forms available at church and rectory
Printable forms on lourdeswestorange.org
under "Faith Formation" > "Religious Ed. Registration



Register early - \$60 per child until May 25!

Save \$\$ with Discount!

\$ 60 / child – by May 25

\$ 80 / child – by June 25

\$ 100 / child – until July 25

**Final Registration
Deadline:**

August 12, 2026

Office Hours: 10 am – 2pm, Mon-Fri., or call (973) 325-0110 for registration appt.

Class Calendar Overview (Starts September 2026)

▶ **Grade 1-5:** Saturday 3 – 5:30 pm [or] Monday 5 – 7:30 pm

Parent must attend with child / madre o padre tiene que asistir con el estudiante

▶ **Grade 6** Sunday 9:30 – 11:45 am

▶ **Grade 7-12** ____ Sunday 9:30 – 11:45 am

(+ additional Tuesdays for "First Communion preparation" if your child has not already made First Communion)

Times are subject to change. We will always send out a notice.



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[Protecting God's Children and You]

To ensure child safety, all parish employees and volunteers participate in the Protecting God's Children (VIRTUS) program which has 2 components with deadlines for re-certification:

Background Check: You will be notified when you are due by parish office

Training: If your VIRTUS training is due in 2026, the parish office will contact you.

New Training for 2026: Those who maintain certification by reading monthly VIRTUS articles must complete a one-hour online module, Healthy Boundaries. After completing this module, you will be certified for five years and will no longer need to read monthly articles.

Please complete this Healthy Boundaries module by May 20, 2026. All others may complete the module at any time to renew certification.

To begin, visit virtus.org. For assistance—including help with login or locating your username—contact the rectory office at 973-325-0110 or email rosa.cruz@lourdeswestorange.org.

Thank you for helping us protect our children and strengthen our parish.

EASTER SUNDAY – April 5, 2026



The Rosary Altar Society will hold their **Tricky Tray** on **Friday, April 24, 2026** in Connor Hall at Our Lady of Lourdes.

WE HAVE RETURNED TO AN IN-PERSON EVENT

Doors Open at 6pm

Cost: \$35

(Includes 25 Regular & 15 Super Tickets, Sandwich, Chips, Beverage and Dessert)

Reservations: Annette 973-325-3545

(Must be 18 years old to attend)

Registration Deadline: Mon, April 20

Reserved Seating limited to 200 Guests. Register Early. First Come, First Served.

Registration forms available in bulletin, church and online lourdeswestorange.org > "About our Parish"> "Tricky Tray 2026"

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

- For Details Call 973-980-4209 or
- Email: trickytray@lourdeswestorange.org

< KID'S > KORNER

Gospel Today

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord | John 20:1-9

On Easter morning Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and found it empty. She hurried to get Peter and John. Peter entered first, and when John entered he "saw and believed."

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A-MAZE-ING



Help little chick find the way back to bunny & lamb.



CELEBRATE NEW LIFE THIS EASTER!



Color the newly hatched chick.

BIBLE WORD SEARCH

Find all the words... left, right, up, down or diagonally.



Jesus	Y	R	A	M	S	T	O	N	E	A
Early	Y	L	R	A	E	N	O	M	I	S
Stone	J	E	W	G	N	I	N	N	U	R
Tomb	E	C	S	D	E	P	P	A	R	W
Removed	S	N	L	A	J	N	I	I	E	B
Entrance	U	A	O	L	O	L	S	O	M	T
Mary	S	R	V	E	H	E	I	H	O	O
Magdalene	O	T	E	N	N	W	R	N	V	M
Running	E	N	D	E	V	E	I	L	E	B
Loved	P	E	T	E	R	L	O	R	D	N
Simon										
Peter										
John										
Wrapped										
Linen										
Saw										
Believed										
Risen										
Lord										



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