



OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

One Eagle Rock Avenue, West Orange, New Jersey 07052

RECTORY/Parish Office 973.325.0110

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Sunday, September 6, 2026 - Twenty-third 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

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.*



Dear Friends,

Today's Readings: Ezekiel 33:7-9 -- Romans 13:8-10 -- Matthew 18:15-20

Work and Our Common Dignity: A Labor Day Reflection

Bishop Emeritus Paul S. Loverde, Diocese of Arlington

"Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary?" (Mk 13:55).

Christ Himself took up the tools of a carpenter, working with human hands for most of His life on earth. As we recall the image of Christ the worker, I invite you to reflect with me on the implications of this image for the observance of Labor Day. Each Labor Day, I cannot help but recall the blessed memory of my parents. My own father, who emigrated from Sicily at the age of 18, and my mother worked tirelessly to provide for me. They both worked long hours in low-paid factory jobs and sometimes unsafe conditions; they were determined people. They sent money back to Sicily to help relatives in need. Their work made a difference thousands of miles away.

Work is, in the words of John Paul II, "a fundamental dimension of Man's existence on earth" (*"Laborem Exercens,"* No. 4). The Church, in reflecting on the dignity and purpose of human work, offers faithfully a rich vein of social teaching. Among the teachings the Church commends for reflection, criteria for judgment and action, I would offer the following taken from our bishops' conference statement "A Catholic Framework for Economic Life:"

- *The economy exists for the person, not the person for the economy.*
- *A fundamental moral measure of any economy is how the poor and vulnerable are faring.*
- *All people have a right to life and to secure the basic necessities of life (e.g. food, clothing, shelter, education, health care, safe environment, economic security).*
- *All people have the right to economic initiative, to productive work, to just wages and benefit, to decent working conditions, as well as to organize and join unions or other associations.*

These seem especially appropriate for our reflection on Labor Day.

Therefore, Church teachings rightly remind us of the value of work: among other things, work enhances our human dignity, it is needed in order to form and maintain a family, and it contributes to the common good of our local, national and global communities. Workers today, like my parents in their time, know the value of what they do in order to provide for themselves and their families and to contribute to the development of society. Yet they also know the difficulties and challenges their work can bring, especially the need to balance time spent at work with time spent at home with their families.

These challenges are similar to those my own parents faced. Yet amidst all of the difficulties, my parents lived with hope. They were not alone. The Lord was with them. They drew near to the Lord every Sunday in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Their Italian culture, like the Latino culture, and like so many other cultures bound up with the saving message of Jesus Christ, prized the importance of the family – the "domestic church" – and of the Church.

They were not alone: the Church was there for them, just as I pray it is in the 68 parishes and six missions of our fast-growing diocesan Church of Arlington, where many of our nation's communities of immigrants live and work. These men and women work long hours, at times encounter misunderstanding and even hostility in their local neighborhoods and communities, and many experience the loneliness which comes from missing family far away.

This Labor Day let us reflect on the value of work and on how we recognize and respect the dignity of all workers, including those who have immigrated to our local area. Undoubtedly, we can do more. I pray that we are first and foremost people of charity. "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Mk 12:31).

This article appeared on catholicexchange.com on September 1, 2014, courtesy of the Arlington Catholic Herald.

In Christ's Peace,
Father Jim Ferry

OUR LADY OF LOURDES – SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

Weekly Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 5:30 pm	Akl N. Hajjar
SUNDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish Catherine Catalano Ricardo Santos
MONDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am	Akpahu Family Thanksgiving
TUESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am	Anthony Tremarco
WEDNESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am	Paul Francis Donohue
THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am	Neil Albore
FRIDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am	People of the Parish
SATURDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 5:30 pm	Bernie Mooney
SUNDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish Deceased Members of the Pflug & Napolitano Families Judit Barahona & Jacinta Cruz

Altar Candles for the week of Sept. 6th : Offering of Rosa Cruz & Victoria Gardinier In Memory of JUDIT BARAHONA.

Bread & Wine for the week of Sept.6th : Offering of Nancy Lanfrank in memory of BESSIE CORCORAN.

Sanctuary Candles for the week of Sept.6th: Offering of Michael & Nancy Lanfrank in Memory of PETER MONTEVERDE.

Prayers needed

Mary Sue Brittle, James Christiano
Frances Diaby, Mary McGuiness
Antonio Matias, Marc Reyes,
Gregory Vistica

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

Church Calendar

SUN., 6 SEPTEMBER 7:30 am 9:00 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	Mass Rosary Recitation (OLLC) Mass Mass
MON., 7 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am Miraculous Medal Novena following 8:30 am Mass on Monday.	LABOR DAY Daily Mass will be held Mon–Fri each Week in Church RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED
TUES., 8 SEPTEMBER 1:00 pm	RAS Meeting (Rectory)
WED., 9 SEPTEMBER 6:30 – 10:00 pm	Knights of Columbus Mtg. (Hall)
THUR., 10 SEPTEMBER 6 – 8:00 pm	Deadline for Announcements for Sept. 20 th Bulletin. Call the Rectory- 973-325-0110. Choir Rehearsal (LOFT)
SAT., 12 SEPTEMBER 4:15 – 5:00 pm 5:30 pm	Confessions in Church Mass
SUN., 13 SEPTEMBER 7:30 am 9:30 am 10:30 am 11:30 am	Mass Mass Choir Rehearsal (LOFT) Mass

MINISTRY SCHEDULE	SEPTEMBER 12-13, 2026	
Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Minister
5:30 pm	Michael Lanfrank	Eileen Reilly Melinda Prather (c)
7:30 am	Patricia Saway	Sister James Soon
9:30 am Choir	JoAnn Melhorn	Annette Chiaramonte Paul Hirsch (c)
11:30 am	Carol Ford	Carmelita Dizon

The **Rosary Altar Society's**
September Meeting will be
held on:



Tuesday, September 8th
at 1:00 pm in the Rectory

All Rosarians: Looking forward to
seeing you there.

Carol Ford, President



**SAVE THE DATES FOR OUR FALL
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October 18 at 11:00 am

October 22 at 6:30 pm

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www.rcan.org for the hotline and reporting link.

Special Mass Intention - August 30, 2026,
9:30 am Mass for the Intercession of the:
Virgin of The Swan

The **Virgin of the Swan (Virgen del Cisne)** is a venerated Marian image in southern Ecuador, especially in the town of **El Cisne** and the city of Loja. She is one of the most important religious figures in the region, credited with miracles, protection from illnesses and storms, and deep cultural significance.

According to local tradition, in **1594** the people of El Cisne faced a severe drought and plague of rats that destroyed crops. Before emigrating, they were told by the Virgin Mary to build a shrine in her honor. She appeared to a native woman while she was herding sheep, crowned with fragrant roses, promising to protect them and bring rain. The people built the church, and rain followed.

The statue known as “**La Churona**”, was carved by **Diego de Robles** of Quito and made of oak. It stands about 26 inches tall, holding the Child in her left hand and a scepter in her right. The image was later enriched with gilded robes and a crown, reflecting its status as protector of the people.

The Virgin of the Swan is revered as a **spiritual protector and guide**, and her feast is celebrated annually on August 15 in El Cisne.

Many thanks to our Ecuadorian parishioners for sharing the Virgin of the Swan with us. It was a beautiful Mass & procession.



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