



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 27, 2026 - Twenty-sixth 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 Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

This is to share with you an [abridged] article on the subject of forgiveness. In the Gospel, Peter asks if he must forgive “as many as seven times”. You and I might ask the question a different way, not in terms of numbers but in terms of memories. In other words, what if you endeavor to forgive but you still cannot forget?

Title: “Must I Forgive and Forget?” (Part 2 of 2)

(Source: <https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/to-forgive-or-not-to-forgive-that-is-the-question>) Author: TIM STAPLES
Date: 10/27/2022

Does God require us to forgive those who grievously wrong us, even when they are not sorry? And then completely forget about what they did?

A man—I’ll call him Robert—once wrote to me telling me a horror story about a [family member by whom he had been hurt]. To say [that he was treated] uncharitably ... would be an understatement. Of course, I am hearing only one side of the story, but his question boiled down to this: “Am I required to forgive, even though this person is not sorry for anything, and then to forget because God ‘forgets’ when he forgives and calls us to do the same? I must confess to you that I just cannot live this because I believe [this person] is dangerous to both me and my children.”

Scenarios like this—which, unfortunately, are not rare—raise some important questions about the nature of forgiveness. There are at least four points to be considered for clarifying the issues at hand:

Part 3. But God says, “I am he who blots out your transgression for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins” (Isa. 25:23). Shouldn’t we do the same?

This was Robert’s point. “When God forgives, he forgets. So, if we must forgive, we must forget as well, right?”

First of all, in Robert’s case, there is no imperative to forgive in the first place, because there is no evidence of contrition. But even if there were to be forgiveness here, forgiveness must be properly understood.

There is no such thing as divine amnesia. Jesus will not be forever in heaven asking, “How did these holes get in my hands and feet?” “I will not remember” is an anthropomorphic way of saying God will not forever hold sins against us that have been forgiven. This is not to say there are not temporal consequences for sin. Purgatory is a stark reminder of this.

I must interject here that Robert was relieved when he discovered he did not have to turn his brain off and endanger his children in order to

be a good Catholic. Poor Robert was thinking he had to forget everything his [this person] had done and act as though [there was nothing] wrong. And that is why he thought he just could not live the faith any longer. The truth is, God does not “forget” in that sense, and

neither should we. Not only should Robert remember what [the other person] had done, but he should act with caution in order to protect himself and his children.

Part 4. Jesus said, “Love your enemies” (Matt. 5:44). He did not say we have to “like” our enemies, and he did not say we do not have enemies. If you proclaim and live truth contradicting a world receiving its marching orders from “the father of lies,” you are promised to have enemies. We could start with the guys who want to kill us. Put them down in the “enemies” column.

Jesus calls us to “love [our] enemies and pray for those who persecute [us], so that [we] may be sons of [our] Father who is in heaven.” That means love is not an option; it is a commandment. But loving enemies does not mean you necessarily want to have them over to the house for supper. “Love” does not necessarily mean “like.” Indeed, it may be unhealthy or even dangerous to even be around your enemy, as may well be true in Robert’s case.

So, what do we do if we find ourselves in a situation like Robert’s?

The first step to loving and forgiving as God does is to recognize that we cannot do it apart from Christ. It is essential to meditate upon what Christ did for us on the cross and the fact that he loves us infinitely and forgives us over and over again. We have to get to the place where we acknowledge our powerlessness so that we can allow Christ to love and forgive in us and through us.

I recommended to Robert specifically that he ask God to help him to truly will the good for [the other person]—and a telling sign of whether this is so would be when he could sincerely pray to God for good to come to [the other person]—then he could rest assured that he is loving her as Christ commanded.

(Source: <https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/to-forgive-or-not-to-forgive-that-is-the-question>) Author: TIM STAPLES
Date: 10/27/2022

In Christ’s Peace,

Father Jim Ferry

OUR LADY OF LOURDES – SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

Weekly Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER 5:30 pm	Hugo Russo
SUNDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish Crystal Nzegwu (Special Intention) Rose Konvalinka (36 th Ann.)
MONDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am	Robert Toloso
TUESDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am	Michael Angelo Mesce
WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am	Joey Hofilena
THURSDAY, 1 OCTOBER 8:30 am	Michael Mooney
FRIDAY, 2 OCTOBER 8:30 am	Mary Ann Ryan
SATURDAY, 3 OCTOBER 5:30 pm	Edgar O. Bury Jr.
SUNDAY, 4 OCTOBER 7:30 am 9:30 am 1:30 am	People of the Parish Deceased Members of the Rosary Altar Society Kathleen DiBiasi

Alter Candle for : **BERNADETTE IGWAGU AND FAMILY**
from Chinyere Progress.

Bread and Wine for the week of Sept. 20th: Offering of
Our Lady of Lourdes 8th Grade Class of 2005 in
memory of **SISTER JEAN RUPPEL**.

Prayers needed

Mary Sue Brittle, James Christiano
Frances Diaby, Mary McGuinness
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., 27 SEPTEMBER 7:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 – 11:45 am 10:30 am 11:30 am	Mass Mass GR. 7-12 Class (OLLC) (HALL) Choir Rehearsal (LOFT) Mass
MON., 28 SEPTEMBER 8:30 am Miraculous Medal Novena following 8:30 am Mass on Monday.	Daily Mass will be held Mon–Fri each Week in Church.
TUES., 29 SEPTEMBER 6 – 7:00 pm	EGC Grades 1-5)
WED., 30 SEPTEMBER 6 – 7:00 pm	EGC Grades (6-8)
THUR., 1 OCTOBER 6 – 8:00 pm 5:30 – 7:30 pm 6:30 pm	Deadline for Announcements for Oct. 4 th Bulletin. Call the Rectory- 973-325-0110. Choir Rehearsal (LOFT) 1 st Friday Adoration (OLLC) Rosary Grotto
SAT., 3 OCTOBER 3:30 – 5:00 pm 4:15 – 5:00 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm	Family Catechesis (Gr. 1-5) (HALL) Confessions in Church Mass Rosary, Grotto
SUN., 4 OCTOBER 7:30 am 9:00 am 9:30 am 10:30 am 11:30 am 6:30 pm	Mass Rosary Recitation (OLLC) Mass, Rosary Altar Society Breakfast (HALL) Choir Rehearsal (LOFT) Mass Rosary, Grotto

MINISTRY SCHEDULE	OCTOBER 3-4, 2026	
Mass	Lector	Eucharistic
5:30 pm	Pat Sigalas	Emily Kunz Melinda Prather (c)
7:30 am	MaryEllen Chandler	Mary Cassels
9:30 am Adult Choir	Carol Ford	Myrna Regino Joe Petrillo (c)
11:30 am	Wendy Sheyka	Wendy Sheyka



Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace

The Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace are hosting an information session on Saturday, October 3, at St. Michael Villa in Englewood Cliffs, NJ, for those who may be interested in becoming CSJP Associates.

Date: Saturday, October 3

Time: 10 am to Noon (lunch following)

**Location: St. Michael Villa Shalom Center,
Englewood Cliffs, NJ**

RSVP: Cristina Turino: cturino@csjp.org | 201-568-6348



THANK YOU, FATHER JIM CHERN

We are grateful to **Father Jim Chern** for his many years of priestly ministry at Our Lady of Lourdes, including his service as **Parochial Vicar from 1999–2006** and, more recently, as a weekend assistant.

Because of the continued and vibrant growth of his ministry at the **Newman Catholic Center at Montclair State University**, **Father Jim Chern** will not be able to join us for Sunday Mass as regularly as he has in the past, although we look forward to welcoming **Father Jim Chern** back from time to time.

We thank **Father Jim Chern** for his devoted service to our parish and pray for him, his colleagues and FOCUS missionaries, the students of Montclair State, and all college students served through his work as **Director of Campus Ministry for the Archdiocese of Newark**.

Mt. Saint Domenick Academy Open House



for girls in grades 6,7,8

OPEN HOUSE DATES:

Thursday, October 8 at 6:30pm

Sunday, October 25 at 1:00 pm

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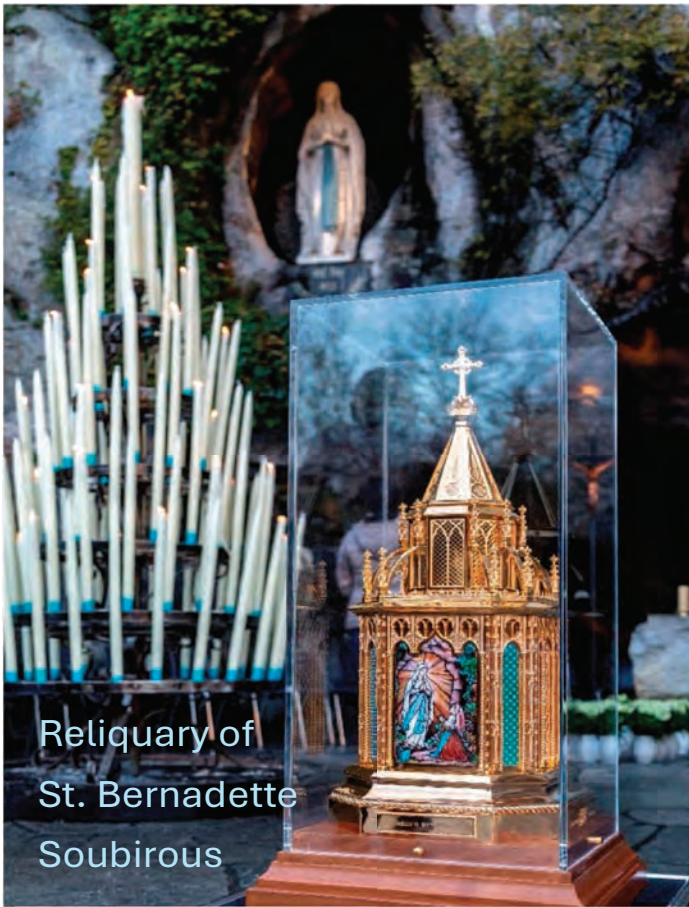


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If you suspect financial misconduct, use **Ethics Point**, an independent and confidential reporting tool that helps the Archdiocesan community address issues while promoting positive parish, school and workplace environments. Visit www.rcan.org for the hotline and reporting link.



Reliquary of
St. Bernadette
Soubirous

**RELIC
REHEARSAL
ALL VOLUNTEERS
SEPT. 30TH
6:30pm
CHURCH**



**OUR LADY OF LOURDES
West Orange, NJ**

**ANNUAL MASS &
COMMUNION BREAKFAST**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2026

**MASS
9:30 am - Church**



**BREAKFAST TO FOLLOW
10:30 am - Conner Hall**

ALL ARE INVITED

COST \$25

Reservations: Abegail (Abhy) Gonzalez at 862-438-4135

Deadline for Reservations: September 25, 2026

Sponsored by the Rosary Altar Society



1000 Strong Rosary for Life

Live via conference call

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2026, at 7:00 pm

Please join the virtual **"1000 Strong Rosary for Life Conference Call"** on Tuesday, **October 13th at 7:00 pm** which is being organized by LIFENET. Join priests from throughout NJ to pray for the Protection of Babies in the Womb and in reparation for the sin of abortion. *Note: October 13th is the 109th anniversary of the 'Miracle of the Sun' at Fatima.* Our Lady wants us to pray the rosary! For more info: 973-497-4520.

Register at: [lifeneteducation.org /1000strong](https://lifeneteducation.org/1000strong)

Call-in Number: 1-401-252-0031

Access Code: 759297 #

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