



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, October 25, 2026 – Thirtieth 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.*

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME/A, OCTOBER 25, 2026



Dear Friends,

October 4 is the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi and the 800th anniversary of his death in 1226.

Franciscan sisters, brothers, and priests worldwide are honoring his memory and seeking his intercession. Below is an abridged article from the University of Notre Dame's McGrath Institute.

Additionally, Notre Dame's McGrath Institute hosts *Saturdays with the Saints*, a fall lecture series on home football game days. The September 12, 2026, lecture featured Saint Francis of Assisi. You can watch the recorded video on their website at <https://mcgrath.nd.edu/events/saturdays-with-the-saints/>.

Saint Francis of Assisi (Source: <https://faith.nd.edu/saint/st-francis-of-assisi/>)

Francis was born in Assisi, Italy in 1181 and baptized Giovanni di Bernardone. His father, Pietro di Bernardone, was a wealthy silk merchant whose trade brought him to France. Thus, Pietro took to calling his son Francesco, "the Frenchman."

12th-century Italy was populated with troubadours who traveled reciting courtly poetry. As a young man, Francis was captivated by these troubadours and spent his parents' money lavishly on friends and parties. His love of luxury stemmed from a natural generosity. One famous anecdote recalls a beggar asking for alms; Francis followed after him and gave him everything in his pockets.

Around 1202, Francis was taken captive during a military campaign against Perugia. In captivity, Francis suffered from illness, and his focus shifted radically toward following Christ. When he took up with friends again, he was noticeably distant. People remarked he must be deeply in love. "Yes," he

replied, "I am going to take a wife more beautiful and worthy than any you know."

Riding near Assisi one day, Francis met a leper covered in sores. Despite his initial repulsion, Francis dismounted, filled the man's hands with money, and leaned in to embrace him. This encounter inspired Francis to visit nearby hospitals to provide clothing and care for indigent patients.

While praying at San Damiano church, Francis heard a voice from the crucifix saying, "Francis, go and repair my house, which you see is falling down." Taking this literally, Francis sold rich cloth from his father's warehouse and gave the money to San Damiano's priest.

Pietro di Bernardone was outraged, beat Francis, and put him in chains. Pietro brought Francis before the bishop of Assisi to demand the money back. Francis obeyed, but went further: in front of the crowd, he stripped off all his clothing, turned to Pietro, and said, "Up until now I have called you father here on earth, but now I say, 'Our Father, who art in heaven.'"

Given a simple frock, Francis marked it with a chalk cross—his first habit—and began traveling as a mendicant, relying solely on the generosity of others.

Returning to Assisi, Francis rebuilt San Damiano himself, hauling stones from a quarry. After hearing a Gospel reading where Jesus sends disciples to preach without shoes or staff, Francis took off his shoes, gave away his few clothes, and started preaching repentance. Other young men joined him, and simplicity became the foundational rule of his order. In 1210, Pope Innocent III granted approval, officially forming the Franciscan Order.

Francis' command over animals is legendary: he once commanded birds to be quiet so they could listen, befriended a rabbit, and tamed a wolf in Gubbio.

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OUR LADY OF LOURDES – OCTOBER 25, 2026

Weekly Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, 24 OCTOBER 5:30 pm	Lawrence & Catherine DelPlato
SUNDAY, 25 OCTOBER 7:30 am 9:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish Richard Chiaramonte (2 nd Ann.) Agnes D. Bulger (20 th Ann.)
MONDAY, 26 OCTOBER 8:30 am	John D. Pflug, III (18 th Ann.)
TUESDAY, 27 OCTOBER 8:30 am	Nieves Malabanan
WEDNESDAY, 28 OCTOBER 8:30 am	Daphne Brown & Roger Apollon
THURSDAY, 29 OCTOBER 8:30 am	Thomas A. Bulger, Sr. (41 st Ann.)
FRIDAY, 30 OCTOBER 8:30 am	Andrew James Bruno
SATURDAY, 31 OCTOBER 5:30 pm	Emily Cupelli & Delfina Greco
SUNDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 7:30 am 8:30 am 11:30 am	People of the Parish Michael Grabler Robert Papale

Bread & Wine for the week of Oct. 25th: Offering from Nancy Lanfrank in Memory of **ARTHUR J. KELLER**.

Sanctuary Candle for the week of Oct. 25th: Offering from Carol Ford in Memory of **STEPHEN W. BLOOMFIELD**.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE	OCT. 31 - NOV. 1, 2026	
Mass	Lector	Eucharistic
5:30 pm	Pat Sigalas	Melinda Prather Colleen Barry (c)
7:30 am	Mary Cassels	Sister James Soon
9:30 am	Carol Ford	Espie Cain
11:30 am Adult Choir	Rachelle Brown	Virginia Dimapilis Paul Hirsch (c)
ALL SOULS DAY 8:30 am	NOV 2 Wendy Sheyka	Emily Kunz

Church Calendar

SUN., 25 OCTOBER 7:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 – 11:30 am 9:30 – 11:30 am 9:30 – 11:45 am 10:30 am 11:30 am 6:30 pm	Mass Mass 1 st Penance Class (Chapel) Gr. 6 Class (Rectorry) Gr. 7-12 Class (OLLC) (HALL) Choir Rehearsal (LOFT) Mass Rosary, Grotto
MON., 26 OCTOBER 8:30 am Miraculous Medal Novena following 8:30 am Mass on Monday. 6:30 pm	Daily Mass will be held Mon–Fri each Week in Church. Rosary, Grotto
TUES., 27 OCTOBER 6:30 pm	Rosary, Grotto
WED., 28 OCTOBER 6:30 pm	Rosary, Grotto
THUR., 29 OCTOBER 6:00 – 8:00 pm 6:30 pm	Deadline for Announcements for Nov. 1st Bulletin. Call the Rectorry- 973-325-0110 Choir Rehearsal Rosary, Grotto
FRI., 30 OCTOBER 6:30 pm	Rosary, Grotto
SAT., 31 OCTOBER 4:15 – 5:00 pm 5:30 pm 6:30 pm Maintenance Collection This weekend	Confessions in Church Mass Rosary, Grotto Corona Self Help all Masses this weekend.
SUN., 1 NOVEMBER All Saints Day Holy Day of Obligation 7:30 am 9:00 am 9:30 am 10:30 am 11:30 am	Mass Rosary Recitation (OLLC) Mass Choir Rehearsal (LOFT) Mass

Prayers needed

James Christiano, Frances Diaby, Mary McGuiness, Pete Markovic, Antonio Matias, Marc Reyes, Andrea Santucci, Gregory Vistica.

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

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME/A, OCTOBER 25, 2026

(Pastor's Column continued from Page 2)

Francis and the friars labored in fields for daily bread, begging door-to-door for food when work was insufficient, but never accepting money. The community grew to include thousands of men and women under Clare Offreduccio, expanding into Spain and France. Today, Franciscans form the largest religious community in the world.

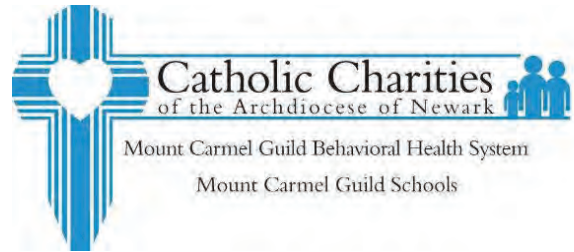
During his travels, Francis established a presence in Jerusalem. These friars became the *Custodia Terrae Sanctae*, serving for over 700 years as guardians of holy places and caring for local congregations.

In September 1224 on Mount Verna, Francis received the stigmata – the physical wounds of Christ. Suffering from the stigmata hastened his failing health. Calling death “Sister Bodily Death,” he died peacefully on October 3, 1226.

St. Francis, your love for God in Creation and in the poor continues to renew the church today – pray for us!

Father Jim Ferry

BEAUTIFUL OCTOBER !!



The beauty of fall with its cool temperatures and beautiful foliage displays energizes most people.

Would you be willing to channel some of your energy to gather any unwanted clothing, shoes, small appliances, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, and books (No reference books) for the Catholic Charities clothing bin?

Thank you.

PARISH GIVING

FISCAL YEAR STARTING JULY 2026

GOAL:	\$6,800
COLLECTION*: 9/26/26 -9/27/26: *	\$3,976
Deficit	\$ 2,824
Repairs & Maintenance Collection	\$ 807

*Includes Online Giving Weekly Average Deposits

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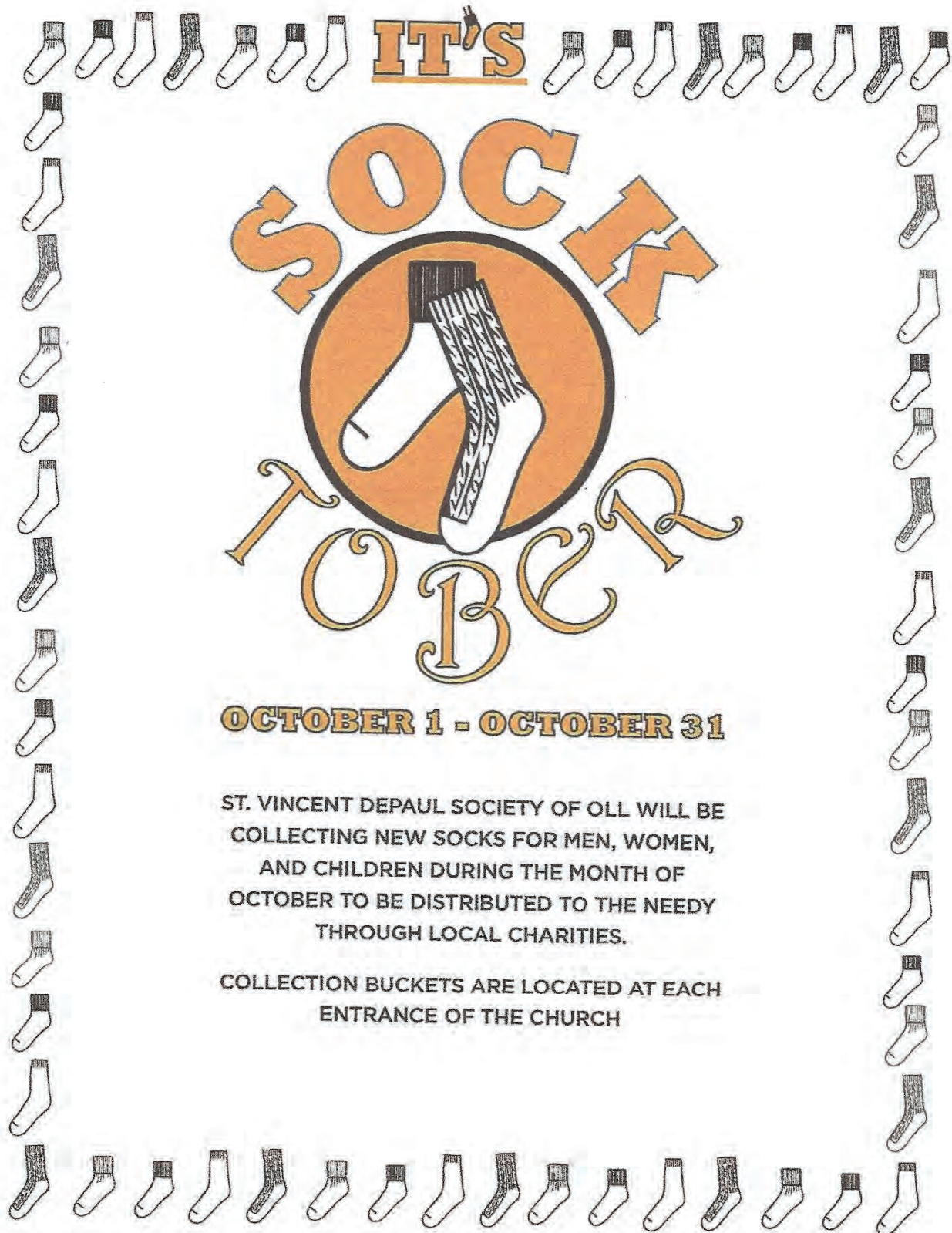


- Visit www.lourdeswestorange.org and click Give Online.
- Select the collection or event of your choice.
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REPORT FINANCIAL MISCONDUCT CONFIDENTIALLY

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.



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