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668 Ridgewood Road • Washington Township, New Jersey 07676

Serving the people of Washington Township, New Jersey



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Sunday Masses: Saturday 5:00 pm, Sunday 8:00 and 11:00 am

Daily Masses: 8:45 am

Confessions: By Appointment - Call 201-664-6624



Rectory Phone: 201-664-6624 • Rectory Fax: 201-664-0095

Parish E-mail: olgawt@aol.com

Parish Website: <http://www.olgawt.org> •

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****** FROM THE PASTOR ******

Of all the titles given to Christ within the Christian tradition, the title 'King' can be the most misleading.

When we think of kings, we usually think of a way of life that is far removed from anything we might ever experience. We think of a life of power, pomp and privilege.

That is hardly the image or lifestyle we associate with Christ.

However, in point of fact, the only time the people of the Gospel recognized Jesus as King, was when he hung from a Roman cross, naked and dying.

All four of the gospels are agreed that the sign over the head of Jesus as He was crucified read, 'Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews'.

Granted, this broken, beaten, failed, and shamed human being was being proclaimed King as a cruel joke. Yet, all four of the evangelists recognized the ironic truth in that mockery.

Jesus came to proclaim the Kingdom of God. He made present, through His words and deeds the reign of God, in particular the reign of God's love.

The first Christians recognized that this unconditional divine love was most powerfully present when Jesus was hanging from the cross.

It wasn't immediately obvious, but in time, people came to realize just how accurate and appropriate the title of King was for the man who, out of love for His people, would conquer death by dying.

God's merciful love reached out to us, in and through, the One who was hungry and thirsty, who was wounded and naked, who was imprisoned on the cross and a stranger to all who looked upon him.

Christ's Kingship was made manifest through His encounter with the Cross.

A true hero will never refer to himself by that title. He will tell you that he simply did what needed to be done. The same can be said of Christ. He never referred to Himself as King. We call Him that because we came to recognize His Kingship through His suffering. He simply did what needed to be done.

Thus it should come as no surprise really, to hear Christ say, "in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

We continue to encounter the King of Kings, in the person of those who suffer, when we do what needs to be done.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In today's Gospel, Jesus teaches us that we will be judged on only one thing: the acts of mercy we have shown to the least among us. Jesus identifies with the least ones; thus we serve Jesus whenever we serve one of the least ones. The Church calls the actions that Jesus described in today's Gospel the Corporal Works of Mercy. These works are to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to bury the dead, to shelter the homeless, to visit the sick and imprisoned, and to give alms to the poor. In these actions we show God's compassion and mercy to those in need.

As you gather as a family, recall the list of the Corporal Works of Mercy. Talk about some concrete examples of how your family might do these actions in your community and then discuss why it is important that we do these things. Read Matthew 25:31-46. Ask: Why does Jesus say we ought to do these works of mercy? (Because whenever we show mercy to another person, we show mercy to Jesus himself.) Choose one Corporal Work of Mercy that your family will act upon this week. Pray together that your family will see and serve Jesus in the least ones among us. Loyola Press - Sunday Connection

PARISH NEWS

PARISH FOOD COLLECTION - Let us not forget our food pantry. There is still a great need for donations of non-perishable food, paper products, personal hygiene items, etc. The suggested donations are **Soup, Tuna, Crackers/Cookies**. We thank you in advance for helping those who are less fortunate than most of us. Donations may be placed in the basket at the back of the church.



YOUTH GROUP meets on Wednesday at 7:00 pm in the Youth Room.

CONGRATULATIONS CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS - Last weeks winners of our calendar raffle were: November 17 - Don Weinpahl, November 18 - Katie Mulroy, November 19 - Hugh Rodgers, November 20 - Dennis Farrell, November 21 - June & Brian Mulroy, November 22 - Denise Celuch, November 23 - Jenn Hess. Tickets are available in the rectory for the remainder of the raffle which runs until January 31st

CARING TREE - Once again, our Caring Tree is supporting the work of the Sisters of Life Convent in Manhattan. They help women that chose life for their unborn child. So, let us join together, to make their clients and children's Christmas bright. There will be basket of tags in the Rackley Room for CCD families and a tree on the closet door in the front entrance of the Church with tags. Take as many ornaments as you would like, purchase the gift, **do not wrap**, and place the tag on it. Please have all gifts returned to the back of the Church or Rackley Room before **December 10th** for sorting and delivery. Thank you in advance and God Bless you and your family. Claudia Carroll (201-741-1042) Caring Tree Custodian.



FIRST FRIDAY EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will be held this Friday, December 1st, from 7:00-8:00 pm in the church. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

PRAYER INTENTION - WEEK OF NOV. 26TH

Let our prayer intention this week be for a return to the Church of our lost brothers and sisters during this coming Advent and Christmas Season.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Carlo Nastasi father of Debra Nastasi

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

ANCIENT GREECE & EPHEBUS - Fr. Stephen Toth will be leading a pilgrimage in the footsteps of the Apostle Paul to Ancient Greece and Ephesus including a 4 day cruise on the Aegean Sea to the Greek Isles from April 29th to May 10th, 2024. For more information call Syversen Touring at 1-800-334-5425.

FALL COURSES FROM IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SEMINARY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY - Interested in learning more about your faith? Learn more about graduate theological courses offered this Fall in Biblical Studies, Church History, Christian Ethics, Systematic Theology, Pastoral Theology, Spirituality, Evangelization, and Multicultural Catechesis. For details, please e-mail theology@shu.edu or call Elizabeth Vacchiano at 973-761-9633.

Join **IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SEMINARY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY** for our annual daily Advent reflection series on "**The Hospitality of Advent**" as we prepare for the coming of our Lord at Christmas. Meditations are sent by email from December 3 through December 24. Consider with us how Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth, and other great figures of the Gospels and Church tradition welcomed Jesus into their hearts. How might Jesus be beckoning us this Advent to a greater understanding and appreciation of God's desire to come to us, dwell within us, and be welcomed into our homes and hearts? How might this year's Advent be a journey of an ever-deepening hospitality of the heart? **P l e a s e r e g i s t e r a t** <https://www.shu.edu/theology/immaculate-conception-seminary-advent-series.cfm>.

THE ARM OF ST JUDE THE APOSTLE will be visiting Church of the Assumption, 29 Jefferson Avenue, Emerson on Thursday, December 7th. Veneration begins at 2:00 pm, a special Mass in honor of St. Jude will be celebrated at 7:00 pm and veneration ends at 10:00 pm.



THIS WEEK AT OLGC**SUNDAY:****MONDAY:****TUESDAY:****WEDNESDAY:** 7:00 pm Youth Group**THURSDAY:****FRIDAY:** 7:00-8:00 pm First Friday Exposition
and Adoration of the
Blessed Sacrament
8:00 pm AA Meeting**SATURDAY:****SUNDAY:** 12:30 pm Baptism Prep. Session**REMINDER****SUNDAY COMMITTEE** - Next Sunday, December 3rd,
Group C under the direction of Joe Molnar is scheduled for
duty at the rectory.**ARCHDIOCESAN CRISIS PREGNANCY HELPLINE** - 1-
888-4 OPTIONS.**WEBSITE** - Our website is www.olgcwt.org. You can find
our bulletin on it, schedules and Religious Education news,
parish activities and Parish Giving. Check us out.**THE SUNDAY MASS** - WCTV broadcasts the Sunday
Mass from OLGC on Optimum channel 77 or Fios channel
24 every Sunday at 8:00 am and 12:00 noon. Every Sunday
the televised Mass produced by the Passionist Community is
available in the New York Metropolitan area. (WLNY at 9:00
am; WNYW at 5:30 am.) Mass is also available on EWTN at
8:00 am and noon. Check your newspaper or television listing
for the channel number. Closed Captioning is also available.**MISA EN ESPANOL, DOMINGO 2:00 pm** - St. Andrew's
Church, Washington Avenue in Westwood, 201-669-3900.
Please note new time and phone number.**MASS TIMES** - Free Ministry to traveling Catholics for
Nationwide Mass times and locations on the internet at:
www.Masstimes.org or by phone at 858-207-6277 and then
entering the zip code for where you are going.**CATHOLIC RADIO** - "Relevant Radio" is a Catholic
program with music and interesting information located at 1430
AM. In addition to the general audience, this might be
appealing to the home-bound and/or visually impaired.**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

of November 26, 2023

SATURDAY: 5:00 pm Ronald, Barbara and
Matthew De Young**SUNDAY:** 8:00 am John Joseph Mirende
11:00 am Carmella Wardell -
35th Anniversary**MONDAY:** 8:45 am Joseph Fulco**TUESDAY:** 8:45 am John O'Connell -
5th Anniversary**WEDNESDAY:** 8:45 am Joseph Fulco**THURSDAY:** 8:45 am Raymond Rodrigue**FRIDAY:** 8:45 am Joseph Fulco**SATURDAY:** 8:45 am People of the Parish
5:00 pm Andrew Wegryniak -
20th Anniversary**SUNDAY:** 8:00 am Gary Lombardi
11:00 am John Kristofich**SCRIPTURE READING****SUNDAY:** Ez 34:11-12,15-17; 1 Cor 15:20-26,28;
Mt 25:31-46**MONDAY:** Dn 1:1-6,8-20; Lk 21:1-4**TUESDAY:** Dn 2:31-45; Lk 21:5-11**WEDNESDAY:** Dn 5:1-6,13-14,16-17,23-28; Lk 21:
12-19**THURSDAY:** Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22**FRIDAY:** Dn 7:2-14; Lk 21:29-33**SATURDAY:** Dn 7:15-27; Lk 21:34-36**SUNDAY:** Is 63:16b-17,19b; 64:2-7; 1 Cor 1:3-9;
Mk 13:33-37**SANCTUARY LAMP**The Sanctuary Lamp will burn during the week of November
26th in memory of John O'Connell, 5th Anniversary.

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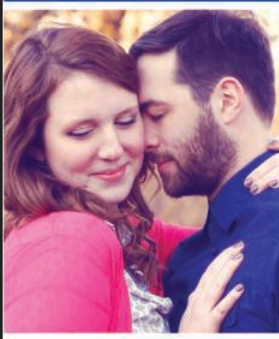
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