

*O*UR LADY of GOOD COUNSEL

Roman Catholic Church

668 Ridgewood Road • Washington Township, New Jersey 07676

Serving the people of Washington Township, New Jersey



Rev. Raymond Rodrigue - Pastor
Assisting Priests: Rev. Thomas J. Norton
Rev. Stephen J. Toth
Rev. Mr. Robert Glasner - Deacon
Mrs. Jennifer De Caux - Director of Rel. Ed
Mrs. Patricia Marcinek - Parish Secretary

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: olgwt@aol.com

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

In the aftermath of Christmas, I felt the need to take a few days off to catch my breath and regroup. As part of that process, I opted to kick back and mindlessly watch reruns of the old TV comedy series, Frazier.

For those not familiar with the show, it basically revolved around two brothers who were both relatively wealthy, big-city psychologists, in Seattle. The older brother had a popular radio show and the younger one, a successful Private Practice.

However, they were both extremely insecure and neurotic, never quite able to escape the primitive world they wanted to leave behind or truly enter into the sophisticated world they wanted to be part of, which is where most of the humor began.

In the course of any given episode, each would offer wise counsel and advice to the other. You would expect being psychologists themselves they should have been able to see their problems for themselves and deal with them appropriately. But in fact they needed somebody on the outside, to impartially help them look inward and see their problem and work out the solution.

There is a lot of truth behind the personal nearsightedness that led to the comedic genius of the show. And that is what both readings today touch upon.

In the First Reading, we read how Eli, the priest, helps the young boy Samuel to appreciate what he is hearing. Samuel is awakened three times by a voice in the night that he takes to be that of Eli.

After the third interruption, we are told that “Eli understood that the LORD was calling the youth.” Eli then helps Samuel to recognize that the voice he is hearing is no human voice, but rather the voice of God calling Samuel to serve him.

Young Samuel needed a spiritual mentor to help him appreciate what he was hearing.

In the Gospel, John the Baptist and two of his disciples are standing together when a man walks by. The disciples do not appreciate the significance of the stranger until John the Baptist says, “Behold, the Lamb of God.”

If John the Baptist had not helped his two disciples recognize who had just walked past them, they may never have become followers of Jesus. Those two disciples needed John the Baptist to help them appreciate the importance of the stranger they were seeing.

Like Samuel and like those disciples of John the Baptist, we also need help to appreciate and recognize the voice and the presence of God.

The Church is one such mentor and guide. Through its teaching and preaching, the Church helps us to appreciate the message of God found in the words of the Old and New Testament. Our connection to God's Church greatly increases the likelihood that someone will know our unique personal circumstances and can thus better help us to recognize and appreciate the voice of God and His presence in our lives.

It's a dangerous fallacy to think that we can figure out God's will for us on our own. We owe it to our friends and family to warn them against even trying.

Without impartial, outside help, we may very well sleep through God's calling, or not recognize when Christ crosses our path, and thus never become the followers of Christ we were meant to be.

Such an outcome due to personal nearsightedness would not be funny, nor would it have an uplifting ending.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

In today's Gospel we learn about one of at least two family relations that appear among Jesus' first disciples. Andrew is the brother of Simon, whom Jesus renames Peter. In next week's Gospel, we will learn about the brothers James and John, the sons of Zebedee. We know from the letters of Paul and other witnesses to the early Church that it was a common occurrence for an entire household to be baptized together. From the very beginning of the Church, families helped one another to know and follow Jesus. We hope and pray that this continues to be true in our family life.

Before your family gathers, look around your house and gather some items that your family might have that remind you of your faith. Perhaps you have a cross or crucifix displayed in your home, a statue of Mary, or statues or other art depicting saints. In today’s Gospel we learn about how Andrew led his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Read today’s Gospel, John 1:35-42.

In our family life, we also help to lead one another to Jesus. Talk together about the items that you gathered, discussing what these items mean to you and how you might use them during the day for prayer. Pray that your family will continue to help one another grow in our faith in Jesus. (Credit: Loyola Press)

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

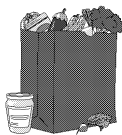
YOUTH GROUP meets this Wednesday at 7:00 pm in the Youth Room.

Our **First Reconciliation Retreat** is scheduled for Saturday, January 27th, from 10am-12pm in the Rackley Room and Church. Please pray for our second graders as they continue their faith journey to receiving their next sacrament.

The Second Grade will participate at the 11:00 am Mass next Sunday, January 21st.

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 **Peanut Butter and Jelly, Pasta and Sauce, and Tuna**. 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.



FLOCK -We love having you as a part of our Flock! Keep in touch with us via email and text! Text OLGWWT to 84576 to receive alerts of parish events and news right to your phone! There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View full privacy policy & terms at flocknote.com/txt.

CONGRATULATIONS CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS
Last weeks winners of our calendar raffle were: January 5 - John Cicchetti, January 6 - Cathy Russo, January 7 - Mike O’Shea, January 8 - Colleen Gagliostro, January 9 - Vida Cucurullo, January 10 - Gus Calamari, January 11- Brian and Jackie Tofel. Tickets are available in the rectory for the remainder of the raffle which runs until January 31st

PARISH NEEDS COLLECTION will be taken up next weekend. Please be generous.

The 2025 Mass Book is now open.

STEWARDSHIP

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Sunday Collection 12/30 & 31, 2023 | \$3,883.00 |
| Last Year | \$3,634.00 |
| Increase | \$ 249.00 |

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|---------------------------------|------------|
| Sunday Collection 1/6 & 7, 2024 | \$3,576.00 |
| Last Year | \$3,751.00 |
| Decrease | \$ 175.00 |

Additional Christmas Collection was \$2,680.00.

PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE WEEK OF JAN 14TH

Let us pray this week for all those who are preparing for marriage and those newly married, may they see in the Miracle of Cana that Jesus wishes to bless them in their love and be a partner in their marriage

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.

ST, JOSEPH REGIONAL HS, MONTVALE, NJ presents “**LES MISERABLES**”. The cast is made up of talented boys from St. Joe’s and girls from a variety of high schools in Bergen, Rockland, and Westchester Counties, as well as from NYC. Performances will take place at the Inserra Theater on the campus of St. Joseph’s Regional HS on January 26th at 7:00 pm, January 27th at 2:00 and 7:00 pm, January 28th at 3:00 pm. February 2nd at 7:00 pm and February 3rd at 2:00 and 7:00 pm. There is a special Senior Citizen’s Preview Performance on Wednesday, January 24th, at 3:00 pm including a special nosh and a pre-show discussion at 2:15 pm, all for \$10.00 Tickets can be purchased the day of the show at the nosh. Regular tickets are \$17.00 and \$23.00 and are on sale now through SJR.Booktix.com or in person one half-hour before each show. Questions should be sent to SJRTheater@sjrnj.org or by calling 201-391-7422.

THIS WEEK AT OLGC

SUNDAY: 12:30 pm Baptism

MONDAY: MLK, Jr. Day

TUESDAY:

WEDNESDAY: 7:00 pm Youth Group

THURSDAY:

FRIDAY: 8:00 pm AA Meeting

SATURDAY:

SUNDAY: 11:00 am Mass with 2nd Grade participation

REMINDER

SUNDAY COMMITTEE - Next Sunday, January 21st, Group B under the direction of Nancy Peters 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 January 14, 2024

SATURDAY: 5:00 pm James Ryan II and Edward Ryan

SUNDAY: 8:00 am Pat Stella
11:00 am William O'Grady - 36th Anniversary

MONDAY: 8:45 am Pat Stella

TUESDAY: 8:45 am Law and Mc Glone Family

WEDNESDAY: 8:45 am Rosa Del Carmen Tarabay

THURSDAY: 8:45 am Maria Salazer

FRIDAY: 8:45 am Ed Ryan

SATURDAY: 8:45 am People of the Parish
5:00 pm Jennie Marcinek - 28th Anniversary

SUNDAY: 8:00 am Thomas Ingram
11:00 am Alfred Lombardi

SCRIPTURE READING

SUNDAY: 1 Sm 3:3b-10,19; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a,17-20; Jn 1:35-42

MONDAY: 1 Sm 15:16-23; Mk 2:18-22

TUESDAY: 1 Sm 16:1-13; Mk 2:23-28

WEDNESDAY: 1 Sm 17:32-33,37,40-51; Mk 3:1-6

THURSDAY: 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Mk 3:7-12

FRIDAY: 1 Sm 24:3-21; Mk 3:13-19

SATURDAY: 2 Sm 1:1-4,11-12,19,23-27; Mk 3:20-21

SUNDAY: Jon 3:1-5,10; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20



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