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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 ******

Do any of you remember the song, "Winchester Cathedral?" It was a fairly popular song back in the sixties and early seventies. I always thought it was the Beatles singing it, so I was surprised to learn recently, that it was actually recorded by some obscure group I'd never even heard of.

I only mention the song because today's readings reminded me of my visit to Winchester Cathedral, and more specifically, the great rose window that stands majestically over the main entrance.

While admiring the window, I was informed that the original stained glass window was destroyed by the Puritans during the English Civil War, because it contained images of saints, and they were very much opposed to such imagery in churches.

When the people of Winchester eventually reclaimed their cathedral, they discovered all the broken stained glass still on the floor of the Cathedral.

It would not have been possible to put it all back together again in the way it originally was. So instead, they took the pieces of stained glass and put them together in a random fashion, until the very large circular frame was filled. That is what people see today.

When you look at this huge window of stained glass, the shapeless pattern has a strange beauty of its own. And when the sun sets in the West and the sunlight comes through that window, it is a very striking sight, indeed.

In today's gospel reading, Jesus calls Simon, Andrew, James and John, to abandon their fishing nets and follow Him. In the same gospel passage, but from Matthew, Jesus goes on to identify Himself as a "great light that has dawned on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death." This is a direct quote from the prophet Isaiah, referring to the Messiah to come. A little later on, Jesus will say to his disciples, 'you are the light of the world'.

With these two statements together, Jesus is saying that He has come into the world as a great light, but he needs disciples through whom this light can continue to shine through time. That is why, after arriving into Galilee as this 'great light', Jesus immediately began to call people to follow him. Fishermen initially, then tax collectors and all sorts of other people from all sorts of different backgrounds, men and women alike. These were to be his light bearers. They were to be the broken stained glass through which his light would shine.

Today, we are those light bearers; we are the ones through whom Jesus wishes to shine his great light, the light of God's love for all humanity.

We may feel that we are not up to the task, that, in various ways, our lives are too broken and shattered to be of any use to the Lord. Yet, there is never a time that the Lord's light cannot shine through us, as long as we are open to his presence and are generous in response to that presence, like Simon, Andrew, James and John in the gospel reading.

The work of making that Cathedral's shattered glass a source of a great light was a shared work. It was together that people of faith made this possible. We need each other, the community of faith, if we are to be channels of the light of the Lord's presence today.

Every day we are called to be the Lord's light, even if we feel broken and shattered. Every day we can become that light with the Lord's help, and with the help of each other.

God Bless,
Fr. Ray

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.

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 **Canned Tuna, Pasta and Sauce and Peanut Butter and Jelly**. 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 OLGJWT 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 12 - Jackie Woods, January 13 - Angelina Mahan, January 14 - Cambria, January 15 - Patrick McGlone, January 16 - Cara Bayer, January 17 - Trudy Yunker, January 18 - Christina Mariconti. Tickets are available in the rectory for the remainder of the raffle which runs until January 31st

SECOND COLLECTION next weekend will be for Communicating God's Word. Please be generous.

PRAYER INTENTION FOR THE WEEK OF JAN 21ST

Let us pray this week for all the members of our parish to step forward and use their gifts in the service of the mission of the Church which Christ has entrusted to each of us in Baptism

STEWARDSHIP

Sunday Collection 1/13 & 14, 2024	\$4,180.00
Last Year	\$3,525.00
Increase	\$ 655.00

BAPTISM

Abigail Elizabeth Stross daughter of Michael David and Jessica Lynn Russo Stross.

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

ACADEMY OF OUR LADY, 180 Rodney Street, Glen Rock is hosting an OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, January 28th, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. All are invited to attend!

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL IN ORADELL is hosting an OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, January 28th, from 1:00-3:00 pm. Come see how a Pre-K-8 education ignites faith and illuminates minds! You'll have the opportunity to meet our teachers and tour both Lower School and Upper School buildings. Can't make it, but still interested in learning more? Call 201-261-2388 to schedule a private tour.

ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY located in Hillsdale provides an academically excellent Catholic education to students in pre-k 3 through eighth grade. Please join us for one of our OPEN HOUSES which will take place on Sunday, January 28th, from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm and Tuesday, January 30th, from 9:00 am to 10:30 am. To register for our Open Houses, please go to <https://sjahillsdale.org/visit>.

SINGLES SUPPORT GROUP from St. Peter's Parish in River Edge, NJ is sponsoring a trip to Texas from March 6th to 13th, 2024. Fly from Newark to Dallas where bus tour begins. From Dallas, travel to Fort Worth, Waco, San Antonio and Houston, Tour includes bus transportation, 7 nights hotels, 11 meals, plus visits to Dealy Plaza, Southfork Ranch, a rodeo, river cruise in San Antonio, a tour of the Space Center in Houston and MUCH more. For details and reservations please call or text Kathy Marshall at 201-615-7824 or email at teacherkmm@yahoo.com.

HANDBAG BINGO AT OUR LADY MOTHER OF THE CHURCH, Woodcliff Lake - 2nd Annual Handbag Bingo with Tricky Tray, 50/50 and Raffles on Wednesday, March 13th, Doors open at 6:00 pm, First game will be called at 7:00 pm in the McCarthy Center (Gym). BYOB and appetizers. Water, coffee and light desserts will be served. Guest must be 18 years or older. Last year this event sold out several weeks in advance so grab your tickets ASAP

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT - February 9-11, 2024 at Marianist Family Retreat Center, Cape May Point, NJ, 08212. Come join other young adults (ages 22-35) married or single, to take a step back from our busy lives. This will be a time to examine your personal faith and your relationship with God, your family members and yourself. Our time will be filled with prayer experiences, peer group discussions, Eucharist and lots of fun! Cost \$145.00 per person. Register at www.capemaymarianists.org or call 609-884-3829.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Theodore E. "Ted" Squilanti father of Janet Squilanti and Thomas Squilanti

THIS WEEK AT OLGC

SUNDAY: 11:00 am Mass with Second Grade participation

MONDAY:

TUESDAY:

WEDNESDAY: 7:00 pm Youth Group

THURSDAY:

FRIDAY: 8:00 pm AA Meeting

SATURDAY: 9:15 am Men's Group
10:00-12:00 pm First Reconciliation Retreat

SUNDAY:

REMINDER

SUNDAY COMMITTEE - Next Sunday, January 28th, 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 January 21, 2024

SATURDAY: 5:00 pm Jennie Marcinek - 28th Anniversary

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

MONDAY: 8:45 am Jill Ax

TUESDAY: 8:45 am Catherine Okulski

WEDNESDAY: 8:45 am Lillian Ax

THURSDAY: 8:45 am Patricia Stella

FRIDAY: 8:45 am William Denehy - 21st Anniversary

SATURDAY: 8:45 am People of the Parish
5:00 pm Steven Kohlreiter

SUNDAY: 8:00 am Intentions of Katherine Ryan
11:00 am Giuseppe Fulco

SCRIPTURE READING

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

MONDAY: 2 Sm 5:1-7,10; Ps 89:20-22,25-26; Mk 3:22-30

TUESDAY: 2 Sm 6:12b-15,17-19; Mk 3:31-35

WEDNESDAY: 2 Sm 7:4-17; Mk 4:1-20

THURSDAY: Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22; Mk 16:15-18

FRIDAY: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Mk 4:26-34

SATURDAY: 2 Sm 12:1-7a,10-17; Mk 4:35-41

SUNDAY: Dt 18:15-20; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28



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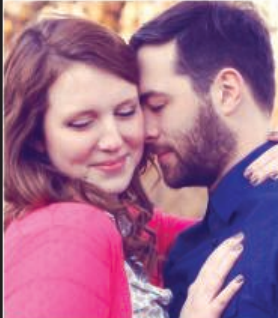
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