

# ***OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT***

***28 LIVINGSTON AVENUE, ROSELAND, NEW JERSEY 07068***



## **PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

**A faith community rooted in the Gospel Message of Jesus Christ, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish embraces all people. We seek to empower all to share their time, talent and treasure. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we grow together in faith, striving to follow the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.**

**Pastor  
Parochial Vicar  
Weekend Assistants**

**Rev. Robert G. Laferrera  
Rev. Stefano Hong  
Rev. Msgr. Joseph R. Reilly, Ph.D.  
Rev. Douglas J. Milewski, S.T.D.  
Rev. Frank J. McNulty, S.T.L., S.T.D.  
Sister Anita Gramer, C.S.JB.  
Cathy Gibbons, Ph.D.  
Donald Pennell  
Patty Braga  
Cathy Buchanan  
Mark Terranova and Linda Julian  
Linda Payonzeck**

**Pastor Emeritus  
Pastoral Associate-Sick & Homebound, Parish Outreach  
Director, Religious Education  
Music Ministry  
Youth Minister  
Coordinator, Liturgy/Adult Formation  
Parish Trustees  
Principal - Trinity Academy, PreK-8**

**RECTORY ..... 973-226-7288  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ... 973-226-5251, 973-226-6712  
FAX: 973-403-8871  
SR. ANITA GRAMER, C.S.JB.....646-427-4393  
CATHY BUCHANAN ..... 973-226-7288  
PARISH FAX ..... 973-226-4893**

**PARISH WEB SITE ..... [www.olbs.org](http://www.olbs.org)  
PARISH E-MAIL ADDRESS ..... [parishinfo@olbs.org](mailto:parishinfo@olbs.org)  
TRINITY ACADEMY WEB SITE ..... [www.trinityk8.com](http://www.trinityk8.com)  
TRINITY ACADEMY ..... 973-226-3386  
CATHOLIC CHARITIES (ESSEX COUNTY)  
973-266-7991**

**For BAPTISM and WEDDING inquiries, please contact the Rectory, 973-226-7288.**

### **SUNDAY MASSES**

<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>5:00PM</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 NOON and 6PM</b>
<b>WEEKDAY MASS</b>	<b>8:45AM, Monday-Saturday</b>
<b>HOLYDAY MASSES</b>	<b>6:45 AM, 8:45 AM; 12:05 and 7:30 PM</b>
<b>CIVIL HOLIDAY MASS</b>	<b>8:45 AM</b>
<b>CONFESSIONS</b>	<b>Saturday: 11:15 AM; Other times by appointment</b>
<b>PARISH OFFICE HOURS</b>	<b>Monday—Friday: 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM</b>

My brothers and sisters in the Lord,

We gather today as a faith community and remember the visit of wise men, the Magi, to the family of Nazareth. Our Nativity scenes at home and in church recreate, in a way, what took place that day when these visitors from the East made their appearance and came with gifts to offer to the Christ Child. As we gaze upon the scene of Mary, Joseph, the Christ Child, the shepherds and now the Magi, it truly can be an inspirational moment and one that adults and children have viewed for centuries. However, we can never forget the true significance of this visit by strangers from the East.

The coming of the Magi is found only in the Gospel of Matthew. It is not mentioned in any other Gospel. There is a significant reason for that.

Matthew was writing his Gospel for a Christian community that composed mainly of Christians who were converted from Judaism. As such, it was their belief at that time that the Messiah would come for the salvation of the Chosen People, the community of Israel. Since they were still novices in this new religion called Christianity, they had not yet come to fully understand the significance of the birth of the Son of God, that he came into the world to save all people.

The invitation from God to the Magi, who were Gentiles (people did not profess faith in the one God of the people of Israel), proclaimed loud and clear that the salvation offered by the Lord was not restricted only to the Chosen People, but was universal. People of all faiths, of all backgrounds, of all cultural origins, of all strata in society were able to be saved by the coming of the Lord Jesus. A similar invitation had been given to the shepherds on the night of Christ's birth. Again, this announcement to those who tended their flocks by night also had significance regarding who Jesus is and what his mission to the world would be.

Like the Magi, the shepherds were on the fringes of the circle of salvation and there were significant reasons for that. They were 1) poor and thus despised by the self-righteous; 2) they were considered unreligious since they did not, or rather could not, observe religious rituals since they could not leave their flocks untended, and 3) they were considered unclean since they came in contact with blood, especially at the birthing of lambs, and contact with blood was contrary to the law.

Yet, similar to the Magi, the invitation to come and adore and to rejoice in this birth was not extended to the politically and religiously and economically correct in the society of that day. The invitation was offered to those who were on the fringes of the circle of salvation and, therefore, considered by the self-righteous to be beyond the scope of being saved.

Jesus would continue as an adult to touch those who were despised and looked down upon by others: the sick, sinners, tax collectors, foreigners. It seems ironically sad that the people to whom Jesus ministered in his time are the same people who are despised by some people today. Clearly, there is still a great need on the part of the disciples of the Lord to do what Jesus did – to minister, to serve, and, most especially, to accept, those who are still despised by many in society today.

The Magi came and offered what they brought to the Christ Child. The question for us to ask ourselves is this – what will we offer to the Lord today? How much of our time, which of our talents, what portion of our treasure will we give to the Lord. We must always remember that whatever we give will be used well by the Lord and by our parish community to continue to proclaim his presence in the world.

***Love and Peace,  
Fr. Bob***

**No Confessions—Jan. 11**

Because we will be having two celebrations of First Penance on Saturday, Jan. 11, there will be no regular confessions at 11:15 a.m.



**Saturday, January 4**  
**Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious**  
**8:45 am Special Remembrance Mass**  
**5:00 pm Judith Jensen**

**Sunday, January 5**  
**Epiphany of the Lord**  
**8:00 am Warren William Ciccone**  
**10:00 am Helen Shapanus**  
**12:00 pm Lisa Ellis & Gerard Ellis**  
**6:00 pm People of the Parish**

**Monday, January 6**  
**Christmas Weekday**  
**8:45 am Elsie Rodriguez, Special Intention**

**Tuesday, January 7**  
**Christmas Weekday**  
**8:45 am James & Marie Vreeland**  
**5:00 pm**

**Wednesday, January 8**  
**Christmas Weekday**  
**8:00 am Elsie Rodriguez, Special Intention**

**Thursday, January 9**  
**Christmas Weekday**  
**8:45 am William F. Hunt**

**Friday, January 10**  
**Christmas Weekday**  
**8:45 am Cyndy Serpe**

**Saturday, January 11**  
**Christmas Weekday**  
**8:45 am Kathleen Kaczynski**  
**5:00 pm Alice & Clay Reisman**

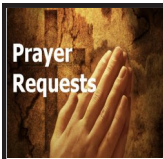
**Sunday, January 12**  
**Baptism of the Lord**  
**8:00 am Sr. Therese Ganly (living)**  
**10:00 am Vita & Luigi Mariani**  
**12:00 Carolyn Madden**  
**6:00 pm People of the Parish**

***This week the Sanctuary Candle is for Steve Tucciarone***



*Rest In Peace*

Lessie Gesumaria.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL.** Julia Soroko, Msgr. Peter J. McHugh, Michael Mingari, Erin Kate Reagan, Anna Marie Versacio, Chris & Stephanie DeMark, Alberta Parisi, Skip Hess, Jessica de la Paz, Miguel DeCastro, Linda Fullerton, Lucas Villarosa, Susie, Alain, Elie, June, Roger, Patrick, Louis Saporito, Jr, Andrew Boyle, David, Anne Murray, Ann Miola, Annemarie Magnoppi, Brian Glynn, Special Intention, Jeff, Christine Patton, James Caldwell, Brandon Glynn-Young, Terance Glynn, Peter C., Clara H., Lessie G., Barbara L., Cindy Michalowski, Ceclia, Robert, Sammy, Jennifer McEnroe, Barbara R., Eileen, Dorothy, J.V., Rosario DeGuzman, Fr. Jerry Orbos, Ernesto DeGuzman, Kosta Tsanakos, Catherine Bertero, Sr. Therese Ganly, Rosalee Tortoriello, Edmund Gerard Sherry, Brielle, Bernice Baker, Inez Leone, Theresa R, Rebecca Cox, Joanne J., Joanne M, Harold Engelke, Jacob Berard, Marie, Michael McHenry, Guy, Betty E, Bobbi Dugas, Michael, Dana, Servel Malinao, Cathy Bianco, Lynn Murray, Bill Murray, Aiden, Ceil, Richard, John.



**WE ASK YOUR PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING MEN AND WOMEN WHO ARE SERVING OUR COUNTRY IN THE ARMED FORCES:** Capt. Joseph Thomer, USAF; Airman Michael Traynor, USAF, CPL Joseph M. Venutolo (LaRiccia), US Marine Corps; Matt Tolliver, US Coast Guard; Lt. John Werner, US Army; Capt. Bill Morgan; LCPL : CPL. Michael Festa, US Marine Corps; LCPL Daniel Veltre, US Marine Corps, Ensign Dylan Pennell, US Navy, Stephen, US Navy, and for all those involved in conflicts throughout the world and their families.

**Sunday Evening Mass**

Each Sunday evening, we gather and celebrate the Eucharist at 6:00 PM. If you cannot be with us on either Saturday evening or Sunday morning, please join us and share the Eucharist on Sunday evening. *We especially hope that our teen parishioners will come to this Sunday evening Mass and then join Patty Braga, our Youth Minister, and the other teens of our parish for Youth Group.*

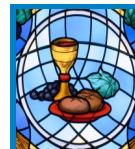


**Thank you, Mr. Unger**

A special word of thanks to Mr. Don Unger for donating the work necessary to light up the church, rectory and school for the



Christmas season. We received so many compliments on how beautiful these parish buildings looked and how festive they were for Christmas. Don, thank you for donating the work necessary to light up the church, rectory and school.



**If you wish to bring forward the Offertory Gifts of Bread and Wine at Sunday Mass, please come to Church 15 minutes early and notify one of the priests.**

**God's Plan for Giving** – *“The measure of your free-will offering shall be in proportion to the blessing the Lord, your God, has bestowed on you .”(Deuteronomy 16:10)*

Collections for December 21 – 22 \$ 9,973.00  
Collection for same weekend 2018 \$ 10,155.00  
Collections for December 28 – 29 will appear in the January 11 - 12 bulletin

N.B. *The amount that we receive from Parish Giving, our electronic giving company, will be listed once at the end of each month rather than each week. Each weekly collection in a given month would be increased by one-fourth of the monthly electronic collection amount.*

*“Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.” From the Gospel of Matthew.* The image of the Magi kneeling before the Christ Child and opening their treasures for him is an image that we should all try to follow each day. In gratitude for all that we have been given, we are called to generously share all of our gifts, not just the ones we pick and choose. God wants us to be generous with everything, especially that one thing that means the most to each of us individually.

### **Electronic Giving**

There are flyers at the doors of the church regarding the use of electronic giving for our parishioners to support OLBS. This is an easy and deliberate way for parish families to decide what their weekly offering. Then they no longer will have to use envelopes each week. *We ask that our parish families consider electronic giving. Please contact Patty Braga at the rectory – [patty@olbs.org](mailto:patty@olbs.org) – if you have any questions.*



### **Blessings on our 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders**

Next Saturday, Jan. 11, our second graders will receive the sacrament of Penance for the first time. They will be able to come before the Lord and to rejoice in the gift of his loving forgiveness as they confess what they have done wrong and what they need to change in their young lives. *Please pray for these little ones next Saturday, that they may come to know the unconditional love of God shown to them through this sacrament of healing and forgiveness.*

### **New Hymnals**

We still have hymnals which can be donated in memory of a loved one or in the name of a donor. Thanks to those who have already donated one or more hymnals. The reaction to the new hymnals by our parishioners has been very positive and we appreciate that. *The donation form for hymnals can be found on our website – [olbs.org](http://olbs.org).*



### **This week's Highlighted Ministry: All Parish Ministries**

As we enter a new year of grace – 2020 – we again are asking our parishioners to open their hearts and to offer their talents as the need arises to participate in parish ministries when an invitation is extended. A new year reminds us that time is a gift from God and that, like all gifts, it needs to be used well and wisely. We pray that our parishioners will offer their time and talent when asked to do so, so that our mission as a parish to proclaim and to serve may be fulfilled.

### **Epiphany Home Blessings**

There is a wonderful religious devotion that has come to be associated with the feast of the Epiphany. That devotion is the blessing of homes. We invite our parishioners to take with them as they leave Mass today a home blessing. The blessings can be found near the parish manger scene in the vestibule of the church. Please feel free to take one home and to pray the blessing with your family.

### **Epiphany Greetings**

The feast of the Epiphany calls us to remember that the family of Nazareth was visited by the Magi who offered gifts to the Christ Child as Mary and Joseph looked on. We pray that the homes of our parish families will be blessed with peace, unity, joy, and grace in the coming year.

### **500 Club Raffle**

Tickets will be on sale after all Masses for our 2020 500 Club raffle. The cost per ticket is \$120.00 and the first drawing will take place on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of this month, January 24. This cost allows the buyer to be eligible to win every month of 2020. The months prize is \$2,000.00.



If you know of a Homebound person who cannot get to church on a regular basis, and you bring Holy Communion to them, please notify Sr. Anita. Please give Sr. Anita your name, telephone number & The Homebound person's name. Sr. Anita 646-427-4393 or [sranita@olbs.org](mailto:sranita@olbs.org)

### ***Morning Prayer – 8:15 AM***

We gather every Monday-Friday morning at 8:15 AM in the church to pray Morning Prayer. This public prayer of the church is a wonderful way to unite our prayers with those of the thousands of other Catholics in parishes, convents, and monasteries who pray Morning Prayer. This prayer is new for so many Catholics; yet we hope that more and more of our parishioners will join us, especially if you cannot be with us for Mass at 8:45 AM.

**Save the Dates  
Women's Retreat**

*A Center for Christian Renewal*

**Weekend**  
March 20,21 & 22, 2020  
San Alfonso's Retreat  
House  
on the ocean in Long Branch, NJ

**Fire Lanes**

*Please remember* – if you are parking on Sunday morning in an area not a regular space, that is a **No Parking Fire Zone**. Parking there could potentially prevent firefighting equipment from getting through if there were a fire in the church or other parish building. *Please respect the safety of others and park only in designated spaces.*



**Sanctuary Memorials**

Parishioners can offer a donation of \$15 for the Sanctuary Candle – the candle near the tabernacle - to burn in memory of a loved one, in honor of a special event, such as a 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary or simply in the name of a family in the parish. You can also memorialize the bread and wine for a week in the same way as the Sanctuary Candle. The donation for the bread and wine for one week is \$25.00. Please come to the rectory office and speak to Debbie or Patty for more information. These remembrances will be listed in the bulletin, directly below the list of those remembered at parish Masses.



**Hospital Privacy**

Please remember that current privacy laws regarding patients in hospitals do not allow the hospitals/pastoral care offices to contact parishes if their parishioners are in the hospital. If you or a loved one are going into the hospital and want a priest to visit you or that loved one, please call the rectory office.



**Readers & EM's at Sunday 6:00 PM Mass**

If you are one of our parish readers or Eucharistic ministers and would be able to periodically read or minister at our Sunday evening 6:00 PM Mass, please email Fr. Bob – [frbob@olbs.org](mailto:frbob@olbs.org) – and let him know what date (s) would be good for you. *Thank you for ministering at our Sunday evening Mass.*

**Do You Need Prayers?**



We have a **Prayer Chain** here at OLBS. What is a **Prayer Chain**? It's a group of parishioners who have committed themselves to pray for people in our parish or their families who have a special need for prayer, e.g., out of work and need a job, a serious illness, surgery, etc. **What do you need to do?** It's very simple. Call the rectory and tell us the first name **ONLY** of the person who needs prayer and, if you wish, what is the reason for the prayer. *(That last part is not required.)* We are waiting to pray for all those who need our prayer, so call the rectory and let us know what your prayer need is.

**Marriage, Divorce & Church Annulment**  
**What Does the Church Really Teach ?**

**Saturday, January 18, 2020 from 10:00 am -12:00pm**  
All are welcome to this presentation about the church annulment process followed by a Q & A session. Maybe you have asked the questions, What is Marriage? Is annulment just "catholic divorce"? Can divorced people receive the Eucharist? How do I start the annulment process? Or maybe you would just like information & support. Coffee and Snacks. Sponsored by the Family Life Office.

Holy Mass will be celebrated at 8:45AM in the Church for those interested in attending before the presentation.

**Presented by:**

**Lauren Tamara, BA, CADC**

**Location :**

**Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, Classroom #1  
Classroom #1 is located to the left in the Main Church Building**

**If interested please contact:**

**Lauren Tamara, BA CADS**

973-497-4327 or email: [Lauren.Tamara@rcan.org](mailto:Lauren.Tamara@rcan.org)

**"Want to learn to knit or crochet?"**

**Needleworks is offering knit and crochet lessons at our regular meetings every**

**Wednesday...free of charge!! We have the yarn, please just bring your own crochet hook or knitting needles and let's get started.**



**From Needleworks Ministry:**

We would like to remind everyone that if they know of anyone in need of a prayer shawl or lap blanket to please contact us. We do not need a name. We just want to provide some comfort for those in need. You can call the Rectory @ 973-226-7288 to make a request or you can come to one of the weekly meetings and inquire in person.



### Thanks for so many hands to help!

We want to extend a word of sincere thanks to all those who, in any way, made our celebration of the Birth of the Lord such a prayerful and joyful experience. Whether you decorated or cleaned or sang or read or served or ministered the Eucharist or greeted those coming to Mass – each of these ministries contributed so much to our time of prayer together. *May the Lord bless all those who gave of their time and talent to bring joy to the hearts and lives of our parishioners and visitors on Christmas Eve and Day!*



Please come and join us. We will celebrate Mass together at 6pm, and the meeting will be in the youth room from 7pm-9pm.

All teens grades 8th-12th are welcome!

January 5 th: meeting

January 12th: meeting

If you have any questions, please contact [patty@olbs.org](mailto:patty@olbs.org).  
\*\*\* please let me know if there are any dietary restrictions.



 Moms, Dads, Grandparents, Nannies, Babies and Toddlers  
.....All Are Welcome!!

Come join us for coffee, support, conversation and fun. Come for coffee, come for a small break in the morning, come for adult conversation, whatever the reason, just come. We meet in the Youth Room, which is located in the rectory.

January 15th

January 29th

From 9:30am-11:00am

RSVP to

[patty@olbs.org](mailto:patty@olbs.org)

Mark your calendars/save the date!! Hope to see you there!



*Thank You*

### Christmas Collection

We thank all those who prayerfully gave their Christmas offering to OLBS. Obviously, this collection is crucial for our parish since it allows us to “catch up” on paying expenses related to the operation of the parish. Our primary mission as a faith community is the proclamation of the Gospel and collections, whether on Sunday or Christmas/Easter, allow us to have the resources necessary to complete our mission. *Thus far, our collection for Christmas 2019 has totaled \$ 55,388.00.*

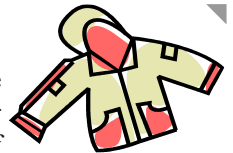
### Thanks for the Christmas Cookies

We want to offer a word of thanks to all who made Christmas cookies for our Homebound. Thank you and God Bless. Cathy B.



### The weather outside is frightful ...

especially for people who do not have adequate shelter. It may be frigid for us as we run our errands in and out of our warm cars. Imagine being outside permanently . . .



Would you consider donating a gently used coat to help our brothers and sisters in Christ keep warm during these cold months ahead? The greatest request is for sizes large and extra-large, so layers can be placed underneath. If you are able to provide a coat, racks and hangers will be placed in the gathering space for your donation.

The collection will take place this weekend January 4/5. After the 12:00 mass on January 5, the main door to the church will be left open until 2:15. If anyone would like to take one or more of the coats for a person in need, kindly do so. Any remaining coats will be distributed to individuals and area shelters.

### E-MAIL ADDRESSES FOR STAFF MEMBERS AND SUPPORT STAFF

Fr. Bob Laferrera  
Fr. Stefano Hong  
Sr. Anita Gramer  
Cathy Gibbons  
Donald Pennell  
Patty Braga  
Cathy Buchanan  
Deborah Krulik  
Elaine Styles

[frbob@olbs.org](mailto:frbob@olbs.org)  
[frstefano@olbs.org](mailto:frstefano@olbs.org)  
[sranita@olbs.org](mailto:sranita@olbs.org)  
[cathy@olbs.org](mailto:cathy@olbs.org)  
[donp814@aol.com](mailto:donp814@aol.com)  
[patty@olbs.org](mailto:patty@olbs.org)  
[liturgy@olbs.org](mailto:liturgy@olbs.org)  
[deborah@olbs.org](mailto:deborah@olbs.org)  
[elaine@olbs.org](mailto:elaine@olbs.org)

### Food Certificates

As you already know, food certificates to local supermarkets are on sale before and after Mass on Saturday evening and Sunday morning/afternoon. The proceeds from this sale - \$5.00 for every \$100.00 worth of certificates purchased – goes to help us feed the hungry. We remember that the Lord said, “*When I was hungry, you gave me to eat; when I was thirsty, you gave me to drink.*” Through the purchase of food certificates, you can help the parish serve the needs of the hungry. *When you come to Mass and purchase food certificates, you can help us to help others in need.*

