



Our Lady of Charity, Pray for Us

PASTOR

Rev. Brian A. Izzo

(Email: pastor@olcbrookhaven.org)

IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Richard C. Williams

*Pastor Emeritus, St. Thomas the Apostle,
Chester Heights*

PARISH SECRETARY

Mrs. Joan Boyle

(Email: secretary@olcbrookhaven.org)

DIR. OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Ms. Jeanne Havrilla

(Email: olcharityprep@gmail.com)

PARISH MUSIC DIRECTOR

Mr. Pete McLaughlin

(Email: music@olcbrookhaven.org)

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT COOR.

MISS JESSICA DUBOIS

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RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

The Rectory is open for business Monday through Thursday 9:30 to 4:30 p.m.
Fridays: 9:30 to 1:00 p.m.

Weeknights, Saturdays and Sundays are by previously arranged appointment only.

Please call in advance for
Registration appointments or
Letters of Eligibility.

OUR LADY OF CHARITY

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

BROOKHAVEN, PENNSYLVANIA

Parish and Mailing Address: 231 Upland Road, Brookhaven, PA 19015

Telephone: 610-872-6192 Fax: 610-872-1120

New and Improved Parish Website: www.olcbrookhaven.org

Parish Email: info@olcbrookhaven.org

Religious Education: Call Rectory or Email: olcharityprep@gmail.com

Mass Schedule:

Weekend: Saturday Vigil 5:15 pm — Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Daily Mass: Monday through Saturday 8:00 a.m.

Holy Days: 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. (on the actual day)

Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day and Thanksgiving Day: 9:00 a.m.

Children's Liturgy of the Word: Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Mass

Confession:

Saturdays: 7:30 to 8 a.m.; 4:15 to 5 p.m.; and other times by appointment.

Baptism:

The Sacrament of Baptism is usually celebrated on the First and Third Sundays of each month at Noon. Please call the Rectory and speak to the parish priest to register. First-time parents and godparents are expected to attend a pre-baptismal formation session, which is offered on the second Sunday of the month in the Church after the 10:30 a.m. Mass as needed. To register for session, please call parish secretary before first Friday of each month.

Marriage:

Couples planning to be married should contact the Rectory at least 6 months in advance of the intended wedding date. Attendance at a Marriage Preparation program is required in accord with Archdiocesan Policy.

Sacrament of the Sick and Holy Communion:

The parish priests are happy to assist anyone who wishes to receive the anointing of the sick, or to receive Holy Communion. Special Ministers of Holy Communion also assist in taking Holy Communion to those parishioners who are unable to get to Mass. For more information, kindly call the Rectory.

Catholic School Policy

School-aged children of OLC may attend either **Notre Dame de Lourdes Catholic School** in Swarthmore or **Holy Family Regional Catholic School** in Aston. Our Parish does subsidize Catholic education for parishioners of OLC who are active and contributing members of the Parish, in accord with Parish Policy. For more information, please contact Father Izzo.

Children who attend public school are requested to register in our **PREP** Program beginning in first grade to seventh grade. PREP meets on Tuesday evenings from September to May from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. There is a minimal tuition requested to defray costs of the materials. No one is denied access to PREP because of an inability to pay.

Our Parish Mission Statement

We, the members of Our Lady of Charity Catholic Church, are devoted to building the Kingdom of God in our neighborhoods. Relying on the example of Mary, the first and best disciple, and our parish Patroness, we strive to encourage and promote discipleship by making her Son Jesus present to all through Word, Sacrament, love and service.

December 27, 2015
Sunday Within the Octave of Christmas
Feast of the Holy Family
 December is the month of the Holy Infancy

The special devotion which sets forth the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph as the model of virtue for all Christian households began in the seventeenth century. It commenced almost simultaneously in Canada and France: the Association of the Holy Family was founded in Montreal in 1663, and the daughters of the Holy Family in Paris in 1674. Numerous other congregations and associations under the patronage of the Holy Family have been established since that time, and they are spread over the world. In 1893 Leo XIII approved a feast for Canada, and Benedict XV extended the Feast of the Holy Family to the whole Church and it was celebrated on the Sunday after the Epiphany until 1970, when the revision of the Roman Calendar moved it to the Sunday within the Octave of Christmas.

ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES

SATURDAY,	<u>DECEMBER 26, 2015</u>
5:15 p.m.	Deceased of DiNicola ad DiCarlo Families
SUNDAY,	<u>DECEMBER 27, 2015</u>
8:00 a.m.	Joseph Blair
10:30 a.m.	Edward Small
MONDAY,	<u>DECEMBER 28, 2015</u>
8:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
TUESDAY,	<u>DECEMBER 29, 2015</u>
8:00 a.m.	Armando DiCarlo
WEDNESDAY,	<u>DECEMBER 30, 2015</u>
8:00 a.m.	F. Clark Walton
THURSDAY,	<u>DECEMBER 31, 2015</u>
8:00 a.m.	Holy Souls In Purgatory
5:15 p.m.	Marion & Anne Topolinicki
FRIDAY,	<u>JANUARY 1, 2015</u>
10:30 a.m.	Dan & Henrietta Fey and Michael Porsia, Sr.
SATURDAY,	<u>JANUARY 2, 2015</u>
8:00 a.m.	In Honor of St. Jude

SATURDAY,	<u>JANUARY 2 2015</u>
5:15 p.m.	George Amalfitano
SUNDAY,	<u>JANUARY 3, 2015</u>
8:00 a.m.	Members of Our Lady of Charity Memorial Society
10:30 a.m.	James Gannon

WEEKLY COLLECTION & ATTENDANCE REPORT

Sunday, December 13:	\$7,872.00
Number of Envelopes returned:	297
Number Attending Masses:	567
Block Collection Tally:	\$28,200.00
Number of Envelopes Tally:	365
Retired Religious Tally:	\$1,369.00
Number of Envelopes:	107
Immaculate Conception:	\$1804.00
Number of Envelopes:	144

As always, thank you for your continued support!

Due to the early submission of this bulletin, the Sunday, December 20, Christmas, Epiphany and Flower Collection will be noted on January 10, when the regular bulletin submissions resume.

Memorials for the Flower Envelopes will appear as an insert in the January 10 bulletin.

Greetings from Father Izzo

Merry Christmas!

*On behalf of Father Williams, I extend to you and your families
a very Merry Christmas.*

BISHOP MCINTYRE TO BLESS THE SANCTUARY IN JANUARY

**Bishop McIntyre will be coming to OLC to bless the Sanctuary
on January 10, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, at the 10:30 a.m. Mass.
All are encouraged to attend**

Some Well Deserved Thank Yous

To everyone who made our Church look so beautiful at this time of the year, I extend my gratitude. Our decorating committee has done another outstanding job this year, along with our sacristans, and my all-in-one handy man, Dominic, who took care of the Church exterior and the Rectory meeting room. Special mention to 3-S Electric, who again helped with the Nativity scene, and our lighted Angels; also, installing new Church bulbs in the chandeliers in the Nave and hanging the old-fashioned color-lights around the front of the rectory. Also, to Linvilla Orchards, Miller Greenhouses and Minutella's, who always provide such beautiful trees, flowers and plants, we are grateful.

Two weeks ago, two artists were here to hang their rendition of the Holy Spirit, appearing as a dove, in the Sanctuary. Charlie and Meghan did an outstanding job. This image of the Holy Spirit is a copy of the Holy Spirit painted by Diego Velazquez in his work entitled, *The Coronation of the Virgin*. I know it doesn't look it, but the mural itself, not counting the border, is five feet wide. I hope that you like it.

As a little aside, I was in the church, almost constantly, while they were working those two days to adhere the mural to the ceiling and then to complete the work. The first day was all about measuring and hanging the mural. The second day was about finishing touches and painting the circular border. You may remember that the scaffolding was very tall (3 and a half tall, in their terms, which is about 37 feet). Towards the end of the day, Charlie came down the rig, after painting the border around the painting and he yells out, "O thank goodness, it's round."
Not very easy to do, unless you're a pro!

Also, I wish to thank Color Quest Painting, for their excellent paint job of our Sanctuary.

Once again, we are grateful to the Bateman Funeral Home for providing our Parish Calendar. The Calendars arrived two weeks ago, and are quite popular, so there may not be any left this week, but please check the main entrances of the Church.

Reflections by Fr. Leonard Peterson
Feast of the Holy Family
December 27 2015

f it has not happened to us, we know it has happened to others. The TV news captures it with pictures and sound in all its pain and sadness. A little boy or girl wanders away from its parents, sometimes right out of the house, only to meet an ill-timed death. We get to see the tear-stained faces on camera and perhaps also hear the choking voices caught by a reporter's microphone. Soon a makeshift memorial of teddy bears and candles emerges at some significant spot. A true family tragedy.

Fortunately for the rest of us, we can watch from a safe distance, because for now at least, it's not our turn. A similar family happenstance is described in today's Gospel, although this one happened long before TV or even electricity, and it turned out not to be tragic. It lets us know that even for the holiest of people bad things happen. A young son lost in amid a crowded caravan through three whole days of searching. And when reunion finally occurs, a mild rebuke given to the parents who unfortunately forgot the boy's earthly mission, even though an angel had told them twelve years before.

One way or another we have all experienced family problems of one kind or another. They may not have escalated to the level of tragedy, but they have all been unwanted and hurtful. Hopefully, the happier times our family has enjoyed strike a balance, and we get through the other kind. It is important to recall from time to time that the good times are meant to sustain us. Though we have never taken any vows about it, we honor our families and stay loyal "in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, 'til death do us part."

Today's Christmastime Feast of the Holy Family "widens the focus", if you will, of the imaginary Church camera from that of the Child in the manger to the Child as a near adult, and the two adults who stood by the manger and now stand beside each other in fear and sadness. "Where can He be?" they ask themselves. "He's never done anything like this before." No wonder that when they finally reunite, His Mother asks her plaintive question "Why have you done this to us?"

Now we identify with the story in a way we didn't expect at first. How? By changing Mary's words only slightly and asking God when bad things happen to us "Why have you done this to me?" Yes, it's the old matter of the problem of evil that surfaces when bad things happen to good people. But angry fists or malicious thoughts hurled God's way are not the solutions to the situation. Instead we are to rely on the example of Mary and Joseph and how they handled things like this along with their unspoken appeal to us to trust. It's all part of being members of God's family. It's trusting God our heavenly Father to know what's best for us at all times.

There are a host of aphorisms that reflect on family. I was struck by this one as appropos for all the Christmas visiting that goes on: "Home is where you treat your friends like family, and your family like friends."

Visit the website **CatholicPhilly.com**, the online successor to The Catholic Standard and Times.



Visit catholicphilly.com/newsletter to sign up for our free, weekly email newsletter!

RECOMMENDED:
A new Catholic Radio Station
in our area
Relevant Radio 640
On the A.M. Dial

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

This Friday, January 1st is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Mass Schedule is as follows:

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Thursday, December 31
5:15 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Friday, January 1, 2016
10:30 a.m.
(NO 8:00 AM on New Year's Day)

Please Pray for our Beloved Dead
Kindly keep in your prayers:

Thomas Behan
Anne Wilson

for the happy repose of their souls and for the
consolation of their families and friends.

Christmas Flowers

Your loved ones will be remembered at all of our Masses during the Christmas season. Please make sure that the names are clearly marked on the envelope. They may be placed in any collection during December. The flower money is used not only during the Christmas season but throughout the year.

We will publish all the names from the envelopes received in the bulletin in January.

Rectory Office Hours

**The Rectory Business Office
will be closed this week
(December 28 through January 1).**

**The office will reopen on
Monday, January 4, at 9 am**

Thank You! Thank You!

Our Parish Advent Giving Tree

Our Advent Giving Tree is yet another fine example of our living our name's sake. We continue a long standing tradition to live out that wonderful command of God: *Where charity and love prevail, God is ever found.*

Because of your many gifts we were able to once again able to bring joy and happiness to families who are served by:

The Bernardine Center,
Catholic Social Services,
Don Guanella Village
and some of our parish families.

Because of you 629 gifts were collected at Charity and delivered to these local service agencies.

A special thanks to all the volunteers who helped to prepare the labels and tags for the gifts and to those who helped to sort and bag the packages.

Scripture Study

Join us in the new year for
OLC Scripture Study resuming
Wednesday evenings,
starting January 13, 2016 at 7:00 PM.

Why not start out the New Year with a spiritual goal of gaining a deeper understanding of the Sunday Scripture Readings and how to apply them to your daily life?

Join us on Wednesday evenings, starting January 13 at 7:00 to 8:30 pm in the Rectory Conference Room (enter through the rear ground floor door). Open your heart to the graces and blessings of the Bible. No Bible Study experience is necessary. Beginners are encouraged and very welcomed. Sessions are very casual and informal. Bring a friend! For more information, contact facilitator, Patty Platt, at teeta054@comcast.net or 610-494-7142.

Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother—A Great Adventure Bible Study

St. Mary Magdalen, Media
9:30 to 11:15 a.m.
2nd & 4th Tuesdays from Jan. to April

As Catholics, we have a profound reverence for the Blessed Mother. We turn to her in prayer, in the Mass, in the Rosary, and in Marian devotions. We honor her with special feasts—celebrating the significant events in her life. We place images of her in our churches and homes. The better we know Mary, the better we will know her Son. This Bible Study will place you in the midst of the powerful drama of her earthly life, taking you through her joys and her sorrows. Mary will become a part of your daily life, and in your daily life, you will become more like Christ.

Contact Nicky Verna (nicky@verna.com or 610-639-3816 by 12/28/15. Cost is \$20 for study materials.

Parish Calendar of Events this Week:

Tuesday, December 29

Legion of Mary, 5 pm, Rec. Conf. Room

Wednesday, December 30

Fresh Hope A.A., 5:30 pm, Rec. Mtg. Room

Saturday, January 2

Serra Club Meeting, 8:30 am, Rec. Mtg. Room
Confession, 7:30 to 8 am & 4:15 to 5 pm, Church

Liturgical Ministers' Schedules for Next Weekend

Saturday, January 2, 5:15 p.m.

Lector: Michael Costigan
Special Ministers: Lynn McMonagle,
Margaret Flanagan, Gail Costigan



Sunday, January 3, 8:00 a.m.

Altar Server: S. Lynch
Lector: Joan Boyle
Special Ministers: Judy Wright,
Antoinette Bonacquisti, James Heslin



Sunday, January 3, 10:30 a.m.

Altar Server: A. & A. Mielechowsky
Lector: Cindy Gallo
Special Ministers: Dominic DiFiore,
June Stolnis, Elizabeth Hermansen



Prayers For The Sick

Peter Adamonis, Doreen Ash, Adele Blonski, Virginia Bernero, Janet Bischof, Jean Brower, Betty Burns, Shawn Burns, Theresa Carlin, Patricia Cawley, Joseph Crilly, Gerald Cucchi, Jean Curran, Josephine D'Amico, Jacob DelPrato, Maria DiPaola, Louis Finsterbusch, Ruth Ford, Gina Gasiorowski, Alice Gordon, Betty Hart, Mary Layer, Elaine Loflin, Michelle (Lamont) Maher, Michael Mattera, Cameron McCarthy, Len McClintock, Michael McGettigan, Jill Nix, Sandy Partin, June Ramsey, Ted Stahl, Susan Sutsko, Maryanne Talley, Victor Testoni, Joseph & Seraphine Traub, Adelaide Vernon, Mae Was-sel, Shirley West.