



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

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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.

January 10, 2016
The Baptism of the Lord
January is the month of the Holy Name

In the former Liturgical Calendar, the Feast of the Holy Name used to be on the Sunday following the Octave of Christmas. It is now celebrated on January 3. It was begun in the sixteenth century, when it was celebrated by the Franciscan Order. In 1721 Pope Innocent XIII made the keeping of this solemnity Universal. The Name Jesus, i.e. Savior of the world, was brought by the Angel Gabriel from God: "For He shall save His people from their sins."

ANNOUNCED MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

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|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| SATURDAY, | <u>JANUARY 9, 2016</u> |
| 5:15 P.M. | Lucille D'Amato |
| SUNDAY, | <u>JANUARY 10, 2016</u> |
| 8:00 a.m. | Louise Delgott |
| 10:30 a.m. | Louise Dobinson |
| MONDAY, | <u>JANUARY 11, 2016</u> |
| 8:00 a.m. | Raffaela DellaVechia |
| TUESDAY, | <u>JANUARY 12, 2016</u> |
| 8:00 a.m. | Joan O'Neill |
| WEDNESDAY, | <u>JANUARY 13, 2016</u> |
| 8:00 a.m. | Angelo & Pauline Argentine |
| THURSDAY, | <u>JANUARY 14, 2016</u> |
| 8:00 a.m. | William Grogan, Sr. |
| FRIDAY, | <u>JANUARY 15, 2016</u> |
| 8:00 a.m. | Pro Populo |
| SATURDAY, | <u>JANUARY 16, 2016</u> |
| 8:00 a.m. | Elaine Lockbaum |

WEEKLY COLLECTION & ATTENDANCE REPORT

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| <u>Sunday, December 20:</u> | \$8,331.00 |
| Number of Envelopes returned: | 302 |
| Number Attending Masses: | 562 |
| <u>Sunday, December 27:</u> | \$7,661.00 |
| Number of Envelopes returned: | 315 |
| Number Attending Masses: | 533 |
| <u>Sunday, January 3:</u> | \$8,666.00 |
| Number of Envelopes returned: | 309 |
| Number Attending Masses: | 557 |
| <u>Christmas Collection Tally:</u> | \$31,154.00 |
| Number of Envelopes returned: | 453 |
| Number attending Masses: | 1,148 |
| <u>Christmas Flowers Tally:</u> | \$4,530.00 |
| Number of Envelopes returned: | 260 |
| <u>Mary, Mother of God:</u> | \$2,463.50 |
| Number of Envelopes returned: | 144 |
| <u>Block Collection Tally:</u> | \$30,505.00 |
| Number of Envelopes Tally: | 275 |
| <u>Retired Religious Tally:</u> | \$1,369.00 |
| Number of Envelopes: | 107 |
| Donation from Knights of Columbus: | \$500.00 |
| Social Committee Craft & Bake Sale: | \$216.60 |
| <u>Painting Donations Received:</u> | \$11,800.00 |

As always, I am grateful for your generous support of our Parish. In some of the totals above we surpassed last year, and in the others, we aren't too far off from last year. I am still waiting for the rest of the monies for the painting project to come in; however, we have received commitments which will cover the costs. Thank you for your continued support!

Greetings from Father Izzo

MORE CHRISTMAS THANK-YOU'S

For the past few weeks, I have mentioned many of the people who have helped to make this Christmas Season a very beautiful occasion at our Parish. Especially all those who helped to make our Church so beautiful, this year in very particular, you have our gratitude. To all our liturgical ministers who are ever so faithful in performing your service to our Parish, many thanks. Our Choir in particular, because they are only about 12 people, but yet, sound so full. Pete has asked me to mention that anyone interested in assisting in the Choir, a reminder that practice is on Thursday evenings at 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. in the Choir loft.

To our new parishioner Gerard (Jerry) Stavola, who is responsible for the new upholstery coverings and padding on the sanctuary chairs and kneelers. The fabrics, padding materials, and even some chair repairs, were very nicely done by Jerry and his assistant, and completely donated to us. Thank you Jerry.

Finally, and once again, to many of you and many others who were here during Christmas and throughout the Christmas season, who expressed your joy and gratitude at seeing our Church so beautifully decorated. Thanks for saying so. Christmas brings so many people back to OLC, so many were surprised at what they saw, and still others, who were visiting after many years in others places, were very happy with the Sanctuary. One woman, who was visiting from St. Thomas, but who had been from here many years ago, remarked, that she has never seen any other Church, anywhere, so beautifully decorated for Christmas. Yes, I brag a little, but, I hope you agree, that the reason for my bragging is not in vain: but, for God, and for you.

WELCOME TODAY BISHOP MCINTYRE AT THE 10:30 A.M. MASS.

I thank you for helping me welcome Bishop McIntyre today for the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The Bishop is here today to Bless the new Mural of the Holy Spirit, as well as the Sanctuary renovations in general, as well as celebrate the Mass.

In preparing for today's blessing, I extended an invitation to all those who assisted with the Sanctuary Project. Hopefully, joining us will be Mr. Nilo Rjigelo of Green Lands Design, the Architect, Mr. Harry Falco and his team, the General Contractors, and Mr. Derek Shine and his team, the Painters, who were working this past week, putting the finishing touches on the St. Joseph Shrine.

NEW VOTIVE CANDLES TO BVM AND ST. JOSEPH

During the Christmas season, we began to receive prayer intentions at the new Shrines for St. Joseph and Our Lady of Grace Shrines near the sanctuary with the use of our new candle stands.

Before or after Mass, please feel free to light a candle at these shrines. There are two sizes for you to choose and a modest donation for each size. Please know that we are using wax candles, which are safely contained in recyclable and fire-safe cups, and that these candles will burn for their intended durations. (The small votives are 6 hours, larger candles for 3 days).

Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

Reflections by Rev. Leonard Peterson

Endorsements. The airwaves have already been replete with them through political ads for this year's presidential candidates. Depending on the perceived quality of the endorser, the candidates tout the fact.

Another kind of endorsement is exhibited in today's gospel selection from Luke, and superlatives abound when we take notice. Here on the occasion of Our Lord's baptism no less than the other two Persons of the Most Blessed Trinity make their presence known and their opinions expressed. The Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus, described by Luke as coming "in bodily form like a dove." The dove among Jews of that time symbolized the hopes of men and women for love, life, and union with God. Then God the Father speaks with an intimate and unparalleled embrace: "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased." Linking both of those we could describe it as a "Wow moment."

It is necessary for us to recognize that St. Luke is not saying that Jesus became something He was not before His baptism. It is we, his readers or hearers, that are told something more about Jesus. We also learn more than we knew about God's plan, because His baptism inaugurates Jesus' earthly mission.

All of this points to two observations important for us in our daily lives and for our personal mission. First of all, there is the importance of our own baptism. It was the greatest gift our parents could have given us after that of life itself. They brought us to the font of new life and we became that day adopted son or daughter of God Himself. What a gift our parents gave us! No dove appeared and no Voice from heaven was heard but God nonetheless came among our family and friends gathered around our infant selves that day to smile upon us as new members of the family which is His Church.

Do you know the actual day when you were baptized? Do you celebrate it each year? Do you know the name of the priest or deacon who performed the ceremony? A good project for this week would be to look up that information and then celebrate it.

Your baptism was also the day that God endorsed you as His very own adopted child. It was not meant just as a point of pride, but rather as His belief in you and His reliance upon you to fulfill your life's mission. Do you know what it is? In general terms, it was to make Him known and loved. In particular terms, that is yours to discover through prayer and reflection.

The other observation as we read the baptismal account of Jesus is for us to be renewed in our belief that Jesus is God. That may seem superfluous to mention here. But there is a none too subtle attack on that belief all around us, especially in the media. It holds that Jesus was just another good religious leader of His time. A "nice guy" yes, but not God. Dangerous thinking for a Christian. Such thinking leads to disregard for Sunday Mass and disrespect for the Eucharistic presence.

In this highly charged political year it is good to remember that we also are "candidates" of a certain kind. That is, candidates for a place in heaven. Through Baptism and the Eucharist, as well as the other sacraments, we acknowledge that our candidacy enjoys a unique endorsement from a loving and merciful God.

Mary's Simple and Amazing Guide to Discipleship

By Cynthia Millen · Used with Permission from www.Catholicstand.com

God approached a young woman, and she said, “Yes.” Next, what she didn’t say was even more noteworthy. She didn’t say, “I will do this.” Instead, she said, “Let it be done unto me.”

And then she thanked God for allowing her to be the one with whom He would give flesh to the most remarkable intrusion of divinity into human time: Jesus Christ.

Pope Francis is right when he says that we have not fully examined the genius of women in our Catholic theology. I am not a theologian, but it seems that the first place to begin is with Mary. Just as each statement uttered and each action taken by Jesus has deeper, Scriptural meaning, every statement and action by Mary teaches us how to be His disciple.

Mary allows God to work through her totally and without interference. She does not, like Zachariah, question the truthfulness of God’s messenger. Rather she naturally asks how she could be pregnant since she is a virgin, and then accepts Gabriel’s response fully and without doubt.

Thus “Let it be done unto me” should be our first prayer and response each day to our Lord. It is not for us to decide how God will work in this world or to tell Him what we are going to do for Him. Rather, by opening ourselves entirely to His handiwork in us and through us, we allow His grace to fill us and thereby entirely do His will. He will use us in ways we could never imagine possible, if we only allow Him.

Mary’s next discipleship lesson occurs at the Marriage of Cana. Noticing that the wine had run short, Mary does not say, “Jesus, make more wine.” Rather, she merely says to him, “They have no more wine.” She puts the problem forth to Him just as we should put our problems before God. We should not suggest solutions or devise plans and ask His approval. Instead, we should lay out the troubles we are having, and then ask that His will be done, trusting that He will always take care of us in the best way. He always does. Then we must listen.

Mary’s last known words in the Scripture reinforce the idea that we must always be listening to God in preparation for doing His will. “Do whatever He tells you.” This is a two part statement. First, we must listen to what our Lord tells us, and second, we must act as He has requested. Listening to our Lord requires silent time, focus on the Scriptures, and an openness to see and hear God speaking through those whom we may least suspect to be His messengers. By listening to an unknown woman at a wedding, a unsuspecting waiter was able to lay the foundation for a miracle. By promptly filling up six large purification jars with water, and drawing out some for the head-

water, several anonymous servers witnessed a miracle. Such are the kinds of amazing things which can happen to us if we actively listen to God's requests and "do whatever He tells" us.

Finally, Mary was not ashamed to be known as one who loved Jesus. Unlike many of the disciples who fled after Jesus' arrest, Mary stayed close by during the torturous trek to Calvary. Even though He was humiliated, mocked, and vilified by the crowd, she stayed steadfast in her love and association with Him. The opinion of the crowd did not turn her away from her Son, before, during, or after His suffering, death, and Resurrection. Could we be as steadfast and trusting?

Isaiah tells us in [Chapter 58](#) that if we refrain from "following [our] own pursuits", "seeking [our] own interests" or "pursuing [our] own affairs," but instead "delight in the Lord", He will make us "ride upon the heights of the earth"! Saying "Yes" to God, seeking that His will be done, listening for His voice, and acting accordingly results in the most amazing and powerful witnesses to God's beauty, power, and design. As a servant of God, we go along for the ride of our life, an awe-inspiring, joyous, daily adventure, throughout our entire life on earth, and for all eternity. What better way is there to live than this.

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES

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| SATURDAY, | <u>JANUARY 16, 2016</u> |
| 5:15 p.m. | Joseph & Louise Pino |
| SUNDAY, | <u>JANUARY 18, 2016</u> |
| 8:00 a.m. | Hart & Lipton Families |
| 10:30 a.m. | Mary DiSimone 24th Anniversary |

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, Robert 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, Maryanne Talley, Joseph & Seraphine Traub, Adelaide Vernon, Mae Wassel, Shirley West.

Liturgical Ministers' Schedules for Next Weekend

Saturday, January 16, 5:15 p.m.

Lector: Alice Kachelries



Special Ministers: Janice Sawicki,
Lynn McMonagle, Gail Costigan

Sunday, January 17, 8:00 a.m.

Altar Server: As Assigned



Lector: Cynthia Vicente

Special Ministers: Antoinette Bonacquisti,
Elizabeth Hermansen, Dolores Lavelle

Sunday, January 16, 10:30 a.m.

Altar Server: As Assigned



Lector: Doreen McGettigan

Special Ministers: Eileen Wilson,
Corinne O'Grady, John Moletteri