

OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH

March 22, 2026

Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 11:00am to 12:00 pm
4:00pm to 4:45pm



GPS: 620 Amby Ave.

Edison, NJ 08837

Mailing Address P.O. Box 60,

Fords, NJ 08863

Parish Office: 26 Maple Ave.

Edison, NJ 08837

Hours: Monday-Friday

9:00am - 4:00pm

Phone: 732-738-7940

Email: mail@olpfords.org

Webpage: www.olpfords.org

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Saturday 5:15 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m.,
10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon

Weekday Masses:

Monday-Saturday:
8:00 a.m.

Last Tuesday of the month:
7:00 p.m.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

March 22, Sunday 8:00am

+Magdalena Dequito Ho from Maria
Raymundo

10:00am

+Linda Miles from Nancy Potts & Family

12:00 noon

+Deceased Members of the Ferlicchi from
Family

March 23, Monday 8:00am

+For Our Parishioners from your Pastor

March 24, Tuesday 8:00am

+Josephine Rose Laspino from The Dekon-
ski Family

March 25, Wednesday 8:00am

+Jimmy Laspino from the Dekonski Family

March 26, Thursday 8:00am

+Joseph Tintle from the Kennedy Family

March 27, Friday 8:00am

+Agathe Ouedraogo from Family

March 28, Saturday 8:00am

+Sal Gamba from Barbara Laregina

5:15pm

+Kathy & Bob Post from Marcella & Family

March 29 Sunday 8:00am

+Wayne Borg from Family

10:00am

+To the Glory of God from Virginia

12:00 noon

+Kyler Robertson from Mother Marianna &
Sister Anna

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday - March 22

1:30pm Baptism - Church

Monday - March 23

8:30am Novena - Church

8:00pm KOC 4th Degree Mtg. - Parish Hall

Tuesday - March 24

7:pm Blue Army - Church

Wednesday - March 25

4:30- 5:45pm Religious Ed. Grade 1 - Parish Center

7:00pm Parish Lenten Confession - Church

7:00pm Religious Ed. Lenten Confession Grade 2-7, II -
Church

8:00pm KOC Officers Mtg. - Parish Hall

Thursday - March 26

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal - Church

Friday - March 27

7:00pm Stations of the Cross - Church

Saturday March 28

8am - 4pm OCIA Retreat - Parish Hall

11:00am Confessions - Church

4:00pm Confessions - Church



PARISH LENTEN CONFESSIONS

MARCH 25, 2026

7:00PM We will have

More priest

Parochial Ministry

Rev. Abraham Orapankal, Ph.D. Pastor
Rev. Sebastian Kaithackal C.M.I., (In Res.)
Deacon John A. Raychel

Parish Services

Rev. John J. Zec, Ph.D., Music Director
Candida Gonzalez, Coordinator of Religious Ed.
Lourdes Hnath, Organist

Parish Staff

Walter Springer, Business Administrator
Norma Izzo, Assistant Bookkeeper
Dawn Aube, Parish/PREP Secretary

Trustees

Joan C. Deyak, Robert Butvilla

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear OLP Family,

Our parish buildings have been lying vacant from last summer. You must have seen the "Space available for rent" sign for some time now. We have received inquiries from interested parties. We are in the process of renting our space. God willing, it will happen from this summer onwards. Please say a prayer for a fruitful outcome.

At this time, I want to make sure that renting out the buildings should also take into consideration the access our parishioners need for using our facilities for approved activities. Achieving both our goals means that we need to have better security system for our buildings. Hence we have begun upgrading to electronic access to our buildings. As a first step, beginning this week, access to the Parish Center will be done via electronic keys/fabs. If you have a need to access the Parish Center please contact the Parish Office ahead of time. My hope is to make the sharing of our facilities/buildings by our parishioners and the leaseholders as smooth as possible. I invite us all to understand and cooperate for the common good of our OLP family.

In this context, I wish to share with you the good news that Troop 53, Boy Scouts of America, of Fords, have returned and have begun functioning in our Parish Center. I learned that the Troop was chartered to Our Lady of Peace Parish in Fords on April 14, 1943 and has been part of the Parish and community since. Hundreds of young men from Fords and the neighborhoods have passed through the Troop. Over 100 of these Scouts achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. (Good to note that only six percent of all youth who enter Boy Scouts nationally attain Eagle.) Many of these Scouts have gone on to be outstanding members of their communities as doctors, lawyers, educators, engineers, scientists, and many other careers. The Scouting program has evolved over the years to reflect the changes that have taken place in society and nation. Through its many changes the core has always been duty to God, country and service to others.

It is important for us to know that many young people of our diocese are now, or previously have been, involved in Scouting BSA in Cub Scout Packs and Troops, Crews, and Posts, sponsored by our parishes and schools. Each year in our diocese, we celebrate a Scout Mass to recognize all those involved in scouting. Through the National Catholic Committee on Scouting awards program, Catholic scouts are provided the opportunity to earn age appropriate religious emblems, and activity patches and pins.

The Bishops of the United States formed the NCCS in the 1950s to oversee the development of a spiritual presence in the activities of scout programs associated with the Catholic Church. The Diocese of Metuchen is a member of the NCCS and follows its national guidelines on Catholic scouting. The diocesan Catholic Scouting Apostolate also follows guidelines set forth by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Office of Youth Ministry when it comes to ministry programs for adolescents.

I am very happy to welcome Troop 53 back to our OLP Parish.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal



**Ministry Schedule for
March 28/29, 2026**

5:15 p. m.

Eucharistic Ministers: Barbara Sinko
Barbara Balog, Karen Senatore
Reader: Bill Herring
Altar Server: The Delgado Family

8:00 a.m. Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Kenneth Egan,
Alan Nygard, Margarita Cebulski
Reader: Thomas Carroll

10:00 a.m. Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Arlene & Augustus Cezar,
Joan Deyak
Reader: Knights of Columbus
Altar Server: Brienne Szylar

12:00 Noon

Eucharistic Ministers: Kevin Broesler,
Gary Coghlan, Lorraine O'Prandy
Reader: Bill Herring
Altar Server: Alexis Nwinyi



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

COME AND JOIN US EVERY
FRIDAY FOR A DIFFERENT STATION EACH
WEEK DURING LENT AT 7:00PM

REMINDER

ALL FRIDAYS DURING LENT ARE DAYS OF
ABSTINENCE (NO MEAT)

Please pray for the Sick

Eunice McLaughlin, Raymond Miller,
Danielle Maglies, Anna Verrico, Rolando Rey,
Christine Mary Brown, Donna Ferrara, Lonie Ebarle,
Julia Forsythe, Joanne M., Maria Lavid, Teddy Sabo,
Lisa Sabo, Norma Nebus, Nancy Gaid, Joan Trainor,
Peter Rutkowski, Renata Wisnik, Raul Ramos,
Veronica Roush, Suzanne Pontes Sarisky, Kelly Lease,
Maria Turek, Evelyn Prince, Alex Deliso, John
Herring, Marie Burke, Bill Herring, Mercedes de Leon,
Eve Morawski, Andrew Southern, Shelly Greene,
Danuta, Debra Ambrosi, Michael L., Wendy Snee,
Catherine Miller, Tano Camarillo

Please pray for the Dearly Departed

Kevin Mitro, Jacqueline Collie, John Warshany, Irene
Newman, Fr. Daniel Sloan, Barbara Felcetto, Arlene
Herman, Joyce Trasky, Viola Davitt, Agnes Smith,
Anne Trepono, Debbie Hernandez, Donald Jantas,
Darlene Holowka, Debbie Mullen, Madeline Strong,
Octavio Ruiz, John Harvie, Anthony Alexander,
Thomas J. Felcetto, Evelyn Mrozek, Mildred Manresa,
Marie Gironda, Evelyn Codd, Gary Dzama, Michael
Sena, Marie Pugliese, Stefan Wysocki

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 2, 2026 Holy Thursday Mass 7:00pm
Service of Sorrows 9:00pm
April 3, 2026 Good Friday Service 3:00pm
Stations of the Cross 7:00pm
April 4, 2026 Blessing of the food 1:00pm
Easter Vigil 7:00pm
April 5, 2026 Easter Sunday
Mass Times 8:00am, 10:00am,
12:00noon

“Mike, Come out!” “Sally, come out!”

Dr. A. L. Jenkins was an emergency-room doctor for 48 years in Knoxville, Tennessee. In this capacity, Dr. Jenkins saw the best and the worst side of the field of medicine. But his most vivid memories are of those moments that are medically unexplainable. Dr. Jenkins recalls one man who was dead on arrival in the emergency room. It was Dr. Jenkins' policy to attempt resuscitation anyway. After fifteen minutes of CPR, the previously dead man began to show signs of life. The man sat up, looked around him, then said to Dr. Jenkins, “Oh, I wish I was still out there! It was beautiful!” The man would never explain what he meant, but would only repeat that the place he had been was “so beautiful, so beautiful.” (Kristi L. Nelson, “From near-death to dynamite,” *The Knoxville News-Sentinel*, date unknown).

Now, many explanations have been given for so-called near-death experiences, including chemical changes in the brain. But, all explanations aside, it is amazing how these experiences affirm what the Bible teaches us about life beyond the grave. There will come a time when the doctor can do no more for us, but somewhere on the other side, Christ will say, “Mike, come out!” “Joe, come out!” “Sally, come out!” This is a story that affirms resurrection.

What a friend we have in Jesus!

One of the simplest and the most consoling hymns ever written is: *'What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and grief's to bear! What a privilege to carry, everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit; O what needless pain we bear, All because we do not carry, everything to God in prayer.'*

Joseph Scriven wrote this hymn in 1857. He was a Christian missionary working in Canada, when he heard that his mother was seriously ill in Ireland. He could not go there to be with her. Instead, he wrote a consoling letter enclosing it with the words of this hymn, and mailed it to her. He offered to her in her illness the company and the comfort of Jesus. He knew that in times of illness and loneliness, there is none who can give us a better company and comfort than Jesus. There can be no greater friend than Jesus.

STEWARDSHIP

March 15, 2026

Catholic Relief	\$ 1,184.00
Weekly Offering	\$ 5,163.00
Mail-in	\$ 1,038.00
Online giving	\$ 3,079.50
Total	\$ 10,464.50

Stewardship of Treasure

Thank you for remembering your parish with your continued financial support; it is essential and much appreciated by our parish community.

CLOTHING DRIVE APRIL 25th & 26th

Our Lady of Peace Holy Name Altar Rosary Society will be conducting a Clothing Drive on the Weekend of April 25th & April 26th.

Please bring all wearable:

men's, women's and children's clothing
shoes, belts, handbags, stuffed animals,
pillows, blankets, towels and bed linens to
the Parish Center GYM

Saturday, April 25th from 2:00pm to 6:30pm
and Sunday, April 26th from 9:30am to 2:00pm.

All clothing must be in plastic bags,

NO coat hangers.

**To better serve our Parish Family and Community,
The Holy Name Society will do home pick up.**

**Please call Alan Nygard (732)-986-3199 to schedule a
pick up. Please tell your friends and neighbors.**

Another easy way to manage your church giving is with Online Giving. You can manage your giving or give a one-time gift.

Visit our church website, www.olpfords.ort and click the Online Giving link and register with our church.

Your support during the year helps sustain our Church.

Chrim Mass

Chrim Mass is on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, 4PM at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, Metuchen. All are encouraged to join in-person (or watch via livestream), the ancient, grace-filled Chrim Mass at the Cathedral. To watch the Chrim Mass livestream, visit <https://diometuchen.org/chrim-mass>

Food Assistance



For a complete listing of food banks in Middlesex County please call 732-729-0880 or for more information please visit www.middlesexcountynj.gov.

OFFERTORY GIFTS

Anyone who wishes to present the gifts at the Offertory of the Mass (especially if the Mass is being offered for a member of your family or at your request) should speak with one of the ushers at the main entrance to the Church before Mass.

2026 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

ONE IN CHRIST: CALLED TO LOVE AND SERVE


Our parish goal, determined by the Diocese, is \$64,000. The total amount received at the Diocese is \$37,479.00. Thank you to all our parishioners who have given so generously to the 2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not made a pledge, there is still time to participate. Mail your gift to: Diocese of Metuchen Bishop's Annual Appeal, PO Box 4000, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4000 or give online at: <https://diometuchen.org/BAA>.




SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY




Three friends were discussing death and one of them asked: "What would you like people to say about you at your wake service while your dead body in the coffin is visible to everyone?" The first of the friends said: "I would like them to say, he was a great humanitarian who cared about his community." The second said: "He was a great husband and father who was an example for many to follow." The third friend said, "I would like them to say, 'Look, he's moving in the coffin!'"

The pastor was visiting a terminally sick parishioner in the hospital. As he started consoling the patient the sick man said: "Don't worry about where I am heading to, Father. I have friends in both places." 

A funeral director called a man for further instructions about his mother-in-law's body. "Do you want her embalmed, cremated or buried?" "All the three!" the man answered promptly. "Don't take any chances." 

After an atheist died, a friend looked at him in the casket, shook his head, and remarked: "All dressed up and no place to go."

A man was surprised to read the announcement of his own death in the obituary column of the local newspaper. Ringing up his close friend, he enquired, "Did you see the announcement of my death in the paper this morning?" "Yes," was the frightened answer in a shivering voice. "But where are you speaking from? Heaven or Hell?" 

"Roll away the stone, unbind him and let him go."

There are so many dark areas in our private lives. We often bind ourselves with chains of addiction to alcohol, drugs, sexual deviations, slander, gossip, envy, prejudices, hatred and uncontrollable anger, and we bury ourselves in the tombs of despair. Sometimes we are buried in the tomb of selfishness, filled with negative feelings such as worry, fear, resentment, hatred, and guilt. Jesus asks us today to seek his help and that of the community around us to loosen those chains and come out of tombs of our own creation. Is there an area of life where hope is gone? Why not invite Jesus to visit this area? If we want Jesus to visit our dark dungeons of sin, despair and unhappiness, let us ask Jesus during this Holy Mass to bring the light and the power of the Holy Spirit into our private lives and liberate us from our tombs. Are there times when we refuse to let God enter into our wallets, fearing that faithful tithing will endanger our savings?

When we receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, Jesus will call our name and command, "Come out!" Jesus calls each of us by name to come out of our graves and to help others to do the same.

"Lazarus, come out! Mary, come out! Jim and Joe, Kathy and Lisa, come out!" This is particularly Good News to someone who is addicted, whether to a chemical substance or to unsavory habits.

"Lazarus, come out!" This is good news for the person who has lived an empty, meaningless life, "Lazarus, come out!" This is good news for the tired, the hurting, the person at his or her wit's end.

"Lazarus, come out!" This is good news for all of us: "Lazarus, come out!" This can be the beginning of a new life.

Good news and bad news

John and Jim were professional players with the Atlanta Braves who lived and breathed baseball. These guys breathed, discussed, ate, and slept baseball. One of their big concerns was whether there would be baseball in Heaven. They loved baseball so much that they were not sure at all they wanted to spend eternity in heaven unless they could play baseball. They had an agreement that the first one who died would somehow get a message back to earth, letting the other know whether baseball was in heaven or not. Well, it happened. John died, and Jim grieved. He grieved for days - deeply saddened over his friend John's death. About two weeks went by, and then it happened. Jim was awakened in the middle of the night by the calling of his name, "Jim, Jim, Jim, wake up! This is John." "John, where are you?" "I'm in Heaven - and I have some good news and bad news. It's exciting, Jim. We do have baseball in Heaven. It's great. We play every day and there are marvelous teams, and tough, exciting competition." "That's great," said Jim. "But what's the bad news?" "Well," said John, "You are scheduled to pitch next Tuesday."

We live in a world that is filled with death. We kill each other in acts of murder, abortion, euthanasia, execution, war and terrorist activities. We kill ourselves through suicide, drug and alcohol abuse, smoking, overwork, stress, bad eating habits, and physical neglect. We watch calmly as others die from poverty, hunger and malnutrition, homelessness, unemployment, poor education, disease, child abuse, arms proliferation, discrimination, pollution, and destruction of the environment. The most important question is: am I ready to face my death? A strange question and its truthful answer are found in the sacred scriptures of the Hindus. "What is the greatest wonder in the world?" The answer is: "All of us know that we will surely die, but each of us foolishly thinks that he or she will not die any time in the near future." Let us not be foolish; let us be wise, well-prepared and ever ready to meet our Lord with a clear conscience when the time comes.

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Dr. Joseph Seeman, Sr.
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515 New Brunswick Ave., Fords, NJ 08863
732-738-0030 / Fax 732-738-4040
Dr. Seeman, Sr. has been a devoted parishioner of Our Lady of Peace for 60 years, has been part of OLP from Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation, Reconciliation and Marriage, and has served the community for 35 years.

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