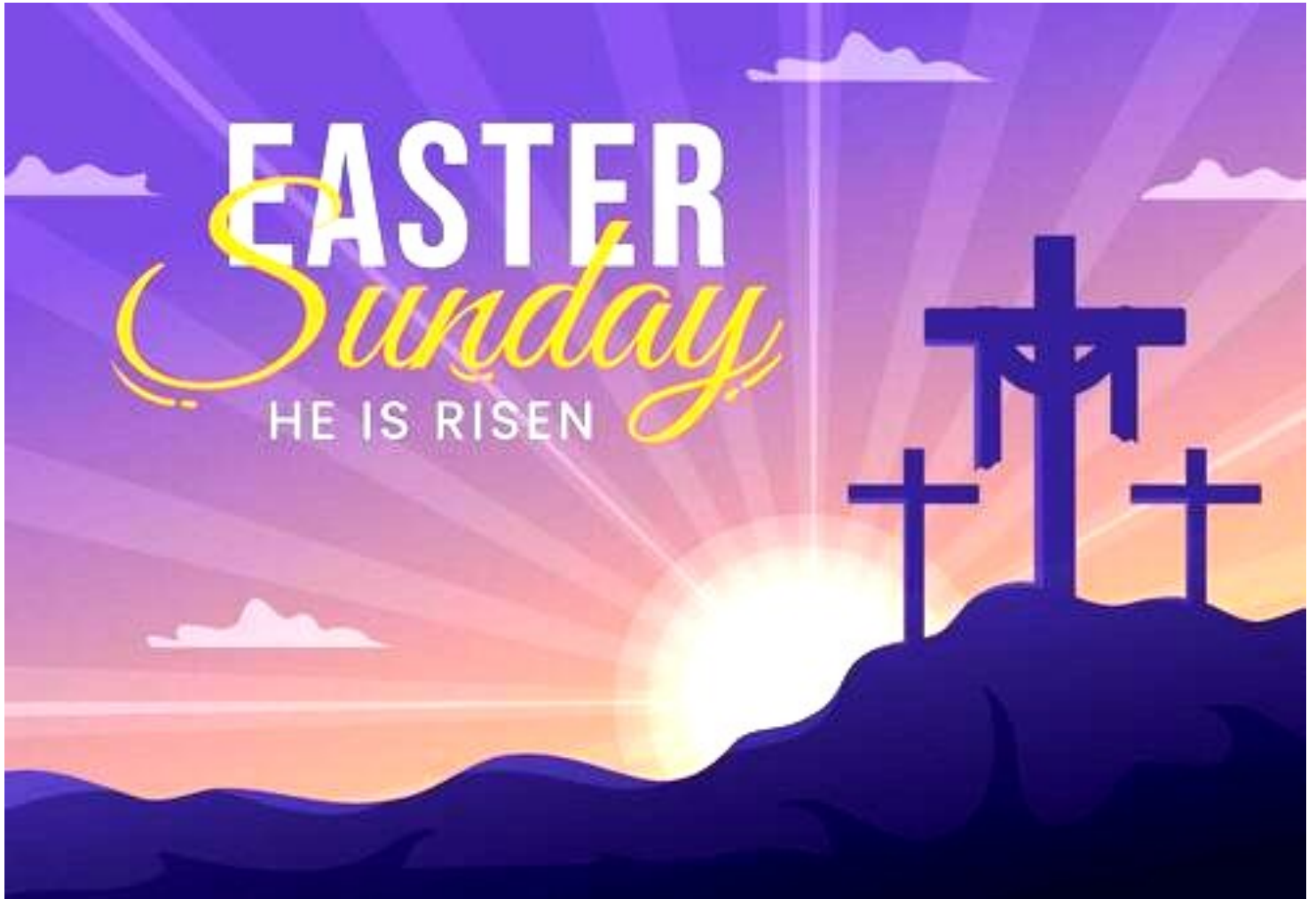


OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH  
APRIL 5, 2026



**HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS**

Saturday 5:15 p.m. Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 noon

Masses: Monday-Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

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

**SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION**

SATURDAYS 11:00 - 12:00 NOON, 4:00 - 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

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear OLP Family,

Easter Blessings to you and your dear ones!

*Father Basil Pennington, a Catholic monk, has written about an encounter he once had with a teacher of Zen. Pennington was at a retreat. As part of the retreat, each person met privately with this Zen teacher. Pennington says that at his meeting the Zen teacher sat there before him smiling from ear to ear and rocking gleefully back and forth. Finally, the teacher said: "I like Christianity. But I would not like Christianity without the Resurrection. I want to see your resurrection!" Pennington notes that, "With his directness, the teacher was saying what everyone else implicitly says to Christians: You are a Christian. You are risen with Christ. Show me (what this means for you in your life) and I will believe."*

We observed the penitential season of Holy Lent; we participated faithfully in all the liturgical services of Holy Week. Today as we cap it all with the celebration of Easter, we ask ourselves this question: Does Easter impact how we live? Are we truly excited about our faith in the resurrection of Jesus who has the capacity to transform our lives with his grace?

The early Christians celebrated Easter with a tremendous sense of excitement. Throughout the entire Easter Season, the Angelus prayer is replaced by the joyous *Regina Coeli*, which begins, "Queen of Heaven rejoice, alleluia: For He whom you merited to bear, alleluia, Has risen as He said, alleluia." Unfortunately, for many Christians today, it is no longer obvious why Easter should be welcomed with such joy. Despite egg hunts and spring-themed decorations, Easter is treated as a second-class holiday, lacking the cheery traditions of Christmas and Thanksgiving (as well as their commercial importance). That doesn't change its highest importance.

Yes, the words of St. Augustine uttered 1500 years ago, repeated by St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict and Pope Francis, must be made our own: *"We are truly an Easter People, and Halleluiah is our song!"*

**Happy Easter!**

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

April 5 Sunday 8:00am

+To the Glory of God from Virginia

10:00am

+Peggy Schoen from The Schoen Family

12:00 noon

+Hector Perez from Amy & Bobby Claffy

April 6, Monday 8:00am

+Jimmy Dekonski from the Dekonski Family

April 7, Tuesday 8:00am

+Rasathy Edwin from Mercy Gabriel

April 8, Wednesday 8:00am

+Camilo Rodriguez from Candi

April 9, Thursday 8:00am

+For Our Parishioners

April 10, Friday 8:00am

+Manuel Tavera from Barbara DeRollo

April 11, Saturday 8:00am

+Linda Rose Sprague from

JoAnn Grandal

5:15pm

+Diane Spizasak Pede from Joann, Ben & Family

April 12 Sunday 8:00am

+Catherine Sadowski from Beth Ann Lynch & Family

10:00am

+Holy Rosary - Altar Rosary

12:00 noon

+Mario Alaimo from Emil



On Behalf of Father Abraham, Father Sebastian, Deacon John and the Parish Staff we would like to wish you a HAPPY EASTER TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

April 5 Easter Sunday

No Activities

Monday - April 6

Parish Office Closed

8:30am Novena - Church

Tuesday - April 7

7:00pm Blue Army - Church

Wednesday - April 8

No Religious Ed. Classes

Thursday - April 9

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal - Church

7:00pm Columbiettes Business Mtg. - Regina Caeli Room

Friday - April 10

No Activities

Saturday April 11

11am - 6:00pm Pre-Cana - Parish Hall

2pm Wedding - Church

Sunday April 12

9am-12pm Holy Name-Altar Rosary Mtg. -

Regina Caeli Room

9:30am Holy Name-Altar Rosary to pray the Rosary - Church

3:00pm Divine Mercy - Church

**STEWARDSHIP**

March 22, 2029

Weekly Offering \$ 5,400.00

Mail-in \$ 496.00

Online giving \$ 1,740.50

Total \$ 7,636.50

**Stewardship of Treasure**

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

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Your support during the year helps sustain our Church.



**Bread & Wine**

In memory of

**Peggy Schoen**

from

**The Schoen Family**

**Cape of Good Hope**

You may remember a geography lesson from elementary school in which you learned that the southernmost point of Africa is a point which for centuries has experienced tremendous storms. For many years no one knew what lay beyond that cape, for no ship attempting to round that point had ever returned to tell the tale. Among the ancients it was known as the "Cape of Storms," and for good reason. But then a Portuguese explorer in the sixteenth century, Vasco De Gama, successfully sailed East around that very point and found beyond the wild raging storms, a great calm sea, and beyond that, the shores of India. The name of that cape was changed from the Cape of Storms to the Cape of Good Hope.

*Until Jesus Christ rose from the dead, death had been the "cape of storms" on which all hopes of life beyond had been wrecked. No one knew what lay beyond that point until, on Easter morning, Jesus arose. The ancient visions of Isaiah became the victory of Jesus over our last great enemy. Like those sixteenth century explorers, we can see beyond human death to the hope of Heaven and eternal life with the Father. More than that, we dare to believe that we shall experience in our own human lives exactly what the Son of God experienced in His, for the Risen Christ says to us, "Because I live, you shall live also." This is the heart of our Faith.*

**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**

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, Ted Symanski

**Ministry Schedule for**

**April 11/12**

**5:15pm Mass**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Julia Dischler, Karen Senatore, Barbara Sinko

**Reader:** Bill Herring

**Altar Server:** EmmaRose Felcetto

**8:00 a.m. Mass**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Margarita Cebulski, Kenneth Egan, Roseanne Brady

**Reader:** Thomas Bednar

**10:00 a.m. Mass**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Arlene & Augustus Cezar, Joan Deyak

**Reader:** Corinne Ambrosi

**Altar Server:** Ava Pridady

**12:00 Noon**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Angela Chundak, Gary Coghlan, Kevin Broesler

**Reader:** Frank Heelan

**Altar Server:** Sienna Santos



**Holy Name-Altar Rosary welcomes all to join them on Sunday April 12, at 9:30am to pray the Rosary to our blessed Mother before the 10:00am Mass.**

### Reasons to believe in the Resurrection of Jesus

(1) Jesus himself testified to his Resurrection from the dead ([Mark 8:31](#); [Matthew 17:22](#); [Luke 9:22](#)).

(2) The tomb was empty on Easter Sunday ([Luke 24:3](#)). Although the guards claimed ([Matthew 28:13](#)), that the disciples of Jesus had stolen the body, every sensible Jew knew that it was impossible for the terrified disciples of Jesus to steal the body of Jesus from a tomb guarded by an armed, 16-member Temple Guard detachment.

(3) The initial disbelief of Jesus' own disciples in His Resurrection, in spite of His repeated apparitions, serves as a strong proof of His Resurrection. Their initial disbelief explains why the Apostles started preaching the Risen Christ only after receiving the anointing of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.

(4) The transformation of Jesus' disciples transformed men who were hopeless and fearful after the crucifixion ([Luke 24:21](#), [John 20:19](#)), into men who now were confident and bold witnesses to the Resurrection ([Acts 2:24](#), [3:15](#), [4:2](#)).

(5) Neither the Jews and the Romans could disprove Jesus' Resurrection by presenting the dead body of Jesus.

(6) The Apostles and early Christians would not have faced martyrdom if they were not absolutely sure of Jesus' Resurrection.

(7) The Apostle Paul's conversion from a persecutor of Christians to a zealous preacher of Jesus supports the truth of Jesus' Resurrection ([Galatians 1:11-17](#), [Acts 9:1](#), [Acts 9:24-25](#), [Acts 26:15-18](#)).

(8) The sheer existence of a thriving, empire-conquering early Christian Church, bravely facing and surviving three centuries of persecution, supports the truth of the Resurrection

### Bright light in the "black holes" of life

Many of us must have heard of a "black hole." If you have ever watched movies or TV programs about travelling in outer space, like the TV series Star Trek, you will know what a black hole is. Roughly speaking, it is a spot in the vastness of space which astronomers believe is like a giant vacuum or whirlpool sucking everything around it into the hole. Using Newton's laws, scientists first theorized black holes in the 1790s but it wasn't until 1994 that the Hubble Space Telescope discovered a massive supersized black hole – fortunately a long way from our own galaxy. There is also a black hole in our galaxy, the Milky Way. What if scientists said that it was not beyond the realms of possibility that one day our sun and everything around it would be sucked into this "black hole," and everything would be gone?

*"Black holes" are symbols of hopelessness, and the message of Easter tells us that there is something beyond those "black holes". Maybe this "black hole" includes grief for a loved one, anxiety over a work situation or what is happening in our family. Maybe it is a "black hole" of depression and stress, and we feel there is nothing we can do to change what is happening. Maybe it's the "black hole" of sickness and pain. Maybe it's the "black hole" of guilt and failure. Whether those "black holes" are right here and now or show up at some time in the future, Easter tells us there is hope, there is a living Saviour and Friend who will help us when we feel as if we have been sucked into the deepest darkness. Easter tells us that there is nothing to fear. We have a risen Saviour who promises never to leave us, to love us always, always to brighten our darkest paths, and to guide us from death to eternal life in Heaven. Even when we are in the middle of something deep and dark, our risen Saviour will always be there with us. "I am the Living One! I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever. I have authority over death and the world of the dead" (Revelation 1:8). <http://science.nationalgeographic.com/science/space/universe/black-holes-article/>*

**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



## SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



A Sunday school teacher had just finished telling her third graders about how Jesus was crucified and placed in a tomb with a great stone sealing the opening. Then, wanting to share the excitement of the Resurrection, she asked: "And what do you think were Jesus' first words when He came bursting out of that tomb alive?" A hand shot up into the air from the rear of the classroom. Attached to it was the arm of a little girl. Leaping out of her chair she shouted out excitedly "I know, I know!" "Good" said the teacher, "Tell us, what were Jesus first words?" And extending her arms high into the air she said: "TA-DA!"



One lady wrote in to a question-and-answer forum. "Dear Sirs, Our preacher said on Easter, that Jesus just swooned on the cross and that the disciples nursed Him back to health. What do you think?" Sincerely, Bewildered. She got this reply: "Dear Bewildered, Beat your preacher with a cat-of-nine-tails, nail him to a cross; hang him in the sun for 6 hours; run a spear through his side...put him in an airless tomb for 36 hours and see what happens." Sincerely, Charles.



How does Easter end? With an "R"!

How can you make Easter preparations go faster? Use the eggs-press lane!



What should you do to prepare for all the Easter treats? Eggs-ercise!

Therapist: What's been up lately? Chocolate bunny: I don't know Doc, I just feel so hollow inside.

364 days of the year parents say: Do NOT eat anything you find on the ground. But on Easter they say: Go and search in the field for candy a strange giant bunny left for you, kids!



### Cape of Good Hope

You may remember a geography lesson from elementary school in which you learned that the southernmost point of Africa is a point which for centuries has experienced tremendous storms. For many years no one knew what lay beyond that cape, for no ship attempting to round that point had ever returned to tell the tale. Among the ancients it was known as the "Cape of Storms," and for good reason. But then a Portuguese explorer in the sixteenth century, Vasco De Gama, successfully sailed East around that very point and found beyond the wild raging storms, a great calm sea, and beyond that, the shores of India. The name of that cape was changed from the Cape of Storms to the Cape of Good Hope.

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### Resurrection Bay, Alaska

In the movie *The Hunt for Red October*, the opening scene was filmed in Resurrection Bay, Alaska. This dramatic setting received its name in 1792 when the Russian trader and explorer Alexander Baranov was forced to find refuge there during a vicious storm on Easter Sunday. Resurrection Bay has the distinction of remaining ice-free even in the dead of winter. Even in squalls and storms, it provides safe harbor.

*As Christians, we anchor our souls in Resurrection Bay. The world may be caught in a thousand tempests, and storms may arise from all directions. But the empty tomb assures us of tranquility and a passageway to Heaven that will never ice over. Jesus died and rose again to give us peace with God and the peace of God -- life both eternal and abundant. We anchor our souls in the haven of rest because Easter is a feast which gives us hope and encouragement in this world of pain, sorrows and tears. It reminds us that life is worth living. It is our belief in the Real Presence of the Risen Jesus in our souls, in His Church, in the Blessed Sacrament and in Heaven that gives meaning to our personal, as well as to our common, prayers. Our trust in the all-pervading presence of the Risen Lord gives us strength to fight against temptations and freedom from unnecessary worries and fears. The prayer of St. Patrick, the Apostle of Ireland, reads: "Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ within me, never to part."*

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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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