

OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH  
APRIL 26, 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 4:00 - 4:45PM

GPS: 620 Amboy 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](mailto:mail@olpfords.org) Webpage: [www.olpfords.org](http://www.olpfords.org)

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK ....



Dear OLP Family,

I wish to reflect with you on two words that are very relevant this week.

**First, Shepherd:** Today, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, is known as ‘Good Shepherd Sunday’ since the focus is on Jesus who has accorded that beautiful title of ‘Good Shepherd’ to himself. In fact this is one of the seven “I am” sayings of Jesus in the Gospel of John. Claiming to be a shepherd, Jesus assumes the role of pastoring, protecting and caring for each of the sheep personally even to the extent of dying for the sheep. He did it in and through his life which was poured out as a libation for us humans. Jesus simply says, “My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish.”

Pope Leo XIV has emphasized the need for clergy and faithful to imitate the Good Shepherd by prioritizing mercy, unity, and pastoral care over division or selfish concerns. He has urged leaders to "smell like the sheep," – a phrase he borrowed from Pope Francis who had popularized it - seeking the lost and serving the vulnerable rather than acting as distant authorities. All of us can hear his voice in many ways: reading the Scriptures, listening to the voice of our own conscience, spending time in silent prayer, reading or listening to inspirational materials, etc.

**Second, Steward:** This past Wednesday was Earth Day, with the theme "Our Power, Our Planet," focusing on accelerating the transition to clean energy, community mobilization, and defending environmental protections! It was on April 22, 1970, that 20 million Americans took to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment in massive coast-to-coast rallies against oil spills, polluting factories and power plants, raw sewage, toxic dumps, pesticides, the loss of wilderness, and the extinction of wildlife.

Though Earth Day is a popular secular observance, the Catholic Church brings a distinct perspective to the discussion of environmental questions, by lifting up the moral dimensions of these issues and the needs of the most vulnerable among us. This unique contribution is rooted in Catholic teaching calling us to care for the whole of creation and for "the least of these." (Matthew 25:40). The Catholic bishops’ pastoral statement on the environment, *Renewing the Earth*, is worth reading. The appeal of Pope Francis in *Laudato Si (On Care for Our Common Home)* is addressed to "every person living on this planet" for an inclusive dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. Parishes, dioceses and other Catholic organizations continue to discuss issues affecting the environment that is civil and constructive, that invokes the virtue of prudence in seeking solutions, and that is more responsive to the needs of the poor. In short, we are called to be stewards of the Earth.

**This call to be stewards is a biblical mandate from God who tasked us with nurturing, protecting, and responsibly managing it. Genesis 2:15 commands humans to "work and keep" the garden. Psalm 24:1 states "the earth is the Lord's". These and other verses promote respectful care for the earth.**

Let us be good Shepherds following the Good Shepherd, and be good stewards following the biblical command. Easter Blessings!

Your brother in Christ,  
Fr. Abraham Orapankal

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

April 26 Sunday 8:00am

+Wayne Borg from Mary DeSapio

10:00am

+Charles Ouedraogo from Family

12:00 noon

+Rick Ponzo from The Ponzo Family

April 27, Monday 8:00am

+Msgr. Robert Zamorski from Nancy  
Gaid

April 28, Tuesday 8:00am

+For Our Parishioners

April 29, Wednesday 8:00am

+Lucy Quill from The Borg Family

April 30, Thursday 8:00am

+Susan Piccolo from Family

May 1, Friday 8:00am

+Olga & George Kagan from Emil Fericchi

May 2, Saturday 8:00am

+John Resko from Family

5:15pm

+John Gonyo from Delores & Diane  
Makrocki

May 3 Sunday 8:00am

+The Ward Family from The Borg Family

10:00am

+Paciencia Aviso from Family

12:00 noon

+ Emiliano Reyes from Family

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday April 26

9:30am - 2pm Social Concerns Clothing Drive - Parish Center

Monday - April 27

8:30am Novena - Church

8:00pm KOC 4th Degree - Parish Hall

Tuesday - April 28

7:00pm Parish Mass - Church

Wednesday - April 29

4:30 - 5:45pm Religious Ed. Grade 1,3,4 - Parish  
Center

**4:30-5:45pm Communion Practice for grade 2, &  
Individual Instructions - Church**

7:00-8:15pm Religious Ed. Grade 5-7, Parish Center

8:00pm KOC Officers Mtg - Parish Hall

Thursday - April 30

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal - Church

Friday - May 1

No Activities

Saturday May 2

10:00 am First Holy Communion

4:00pm Confessions - Church

Sunday May 3

12:00 noon Mass - May Crowning



The Our Lady of Peace Holy Name Altar Rosary Society would like to extend an invitation to **YOU** to attend our Hour with Mary event being held on Sunday, May 17, 2026 beginning at 3:00 p.m. in the Our Lady of Peace Church, Fords, New Jersey. *All* are welcome to attend. Please call Angela Chundak at 732-221-0977 for further information.

We will be reciting the Rosary again in different languages this year. We are looking to expand on this venture. If you or someone you know can recite the Hail Mary in a language other than English, please also call Angela Chundak and give your name and language spoken. We would love to make tribute to our Blessed Mother while highlighting our very diverse Parish. Please help us to make this event a success!

Prayer is Power! We all need Prayer. Queen of the Rosary, Pray for us.



**Ministry Schedule for**

**May 2/3, 2026**

**5:15pm Mass**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Joan Deyak,  
Arlene Verendia, Barbara Balog

**Reader:** Bill Herring

**Altar Server:** The Delgado Family

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

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Tom Bednar,  
Roseanne Brady, Alan Nygard

**Reader:** James Carroll

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

**Eucharistic Ministers:** MaryAnn Shingola,  
Arlene & August Cezar

**Reader:** Annalise Dantes

**Altar Server:** Alex Gironda

**12:00 Noon**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Kevin Broesler,  
Lorraine O'Prandy, Frank Heelan

**Reader:** Thomas Deignan

**Altar Server:** Sienna Santos

**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, Elizabeth  
Savner, Joan Quinn

**Please pray for the Dearly Departed**

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, Julia Dischler

**Showing the way**

In San Salvador on March 24, 1980, an assassin  
killed Archbishop Oscar Romero with a single  
shot to the heart while he was saying Mass. Only  
a few minutes before, Archbishop Romero had  
finished a hope-filled homily in which he urged  
the people to serve one another. Since  
Archbishop Romero was demanding human  
rights for his people under oppression, he knew  
that his life was in danger. Still he persisted in  
speaking out against tyranny and for freedom.  
He once told newspapermen that even if his  
enemies killed him, he would rise again among  
his people.

*Today, good shepherds who lay down their  
lives are husbands and wives who can't do  
enough for each other to demonstrate their  
commitment to each other; parents who make  
countless sacrifices for the good of their  
children; teachers who spend untold hours  
instructing the weak students; doctors and  
nurses who work untiringly to show they care  
for their patients; employers who share profits  
with their workers; politicians who unselfishly  
promote the common good of their voters and  
parishioners who generously support their  
parish community*

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**STEWARDSHIP**

April 19, 2026

Utility Subsidy	\$ 1,144.00
Weekly Offering	\$ 5,610.00
Mail-in	\$ 613.00
Online giving	\$ 2,005.00
Total	\$ 9,372.50

**Stewardship of Treasure**

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

### **“I am the gate!”**

In his book 'The Holy Land', John Kellman describes a field pen. It consists of a circular stone wall about four feet high with an opening in it. Kellman says that one day a Holy land tourist saw a field pen near Hebron. He asked a shepherd sitting nearby, "Where's the gate for your pen?" The shepherd said, "I am the gate." The shepherd then told the tourist how he herded his flock into the pen each night and then lay down across the entrance. No sheep could leave the pen and no wild animal could enter it, without stepping over his body.

***We need to be good shepherds and good leaders. Every one who is entrusted with the care of others is a shepherd. Hence, pastors, parents, teachers, doctors, nurses, government officials, caregivers, among others, are all shepherds. We become good shepherds by loving those entrusted to us, praying for them, spending our time, talents and blessings for their welfare, and guarding them from physical and spiritual dangers. Parents must be especially careful of their duties toward their children by giving them good example. Above all, parents should pray for their children and infuse into them sound Christian moral principles.***

### **JESUS KNOWS ALL OF US BY NAME!**

There have always been people with a good memory for names: Napoleon, "who knew thousands of his soldiers by name . . ." or James A. Farley, "who claimed he knew 50,000 people by their first name . . ." or Charles Schwab, "who knew the names of all 8,000 of his employees at Homestead Mill . . ." or Charles W. Eliot, "who, during his forty years as president of Harvard, earned the reputation of knowing all the students by name each year . . ." or Harry Lorayne, "who used to amaze his audiences by being introduced to hundreds of people, one after another, then giving the name of any person who stood up and requested it." ***But can you imagine Christ knowing all his sheep by name? That's millions and millions of people over 2,000 years. No wonder we call him Master, Lord, Savior – watching over his flock, calling each by name.***

### **How the unsinkable Bismarck was sunk!**

In the beginning of World War II, the Nazis commissioned a massive battleship named the *Bismarck*. It was the biggest fighting vessel the world had seen up to that time. With the *Bismarck* the Germans had the opportunity to dominate the seas. Very soon after it was commissioned, the *Bismarck* sank tons of Allied shipping and allied aircraft. Its massive armor plating resulted in the boast that the *Bismarck* was unsinkable. But the *Bismarck* was sunk. And it was sunk due to one lone torpedo. A torpedo hit the *Bismarck* in the rudder. As a result the battleship zig-zagged through the sea, unable to reach harbor. It was only a short while before the British navy was able to overtake and destroy it. No matter how large the battleship may be, it is doomed without a rudder to direct it.

***Floundering on the waters of chaos without a rudder, the Bismarck is a modern-day image of a world without the direction of Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Without the Lord, the world is headed toward chaos. But with the Lord there is guidance, direction and purpose in life. But how and from where do we get this direction and purpose? Our local parish is our sheepfold, and our pastors are our shepherds. Jesus is the High Priest, the Bishops are the successors of the Apostles, the pastors are their helpers and the parishioners are the sheep. Hence, as the good sheep of the parish, parishioners are expected to***

***a) Hear and follow the voice of our shepherds through their homilies, Bible classes, counseling and advice.***

***b) Receive the spiritual food given by our pastors by regular participation in the Holy Mass, by frequenting the Sacraments and by prayer services, renewal programs and missions.***

***c) Cooperate with our pastors by giving them positive suggestions for the welfare of the parish, by encouraging them in their duties, by lovingly correcting them with constructive criticism when they are found misbehaving or failing in their duties and by praying for them***

***d) Actively participate in the work of various councils, ministries and parish associations.***



## SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



A pastor was teaching the 23rd Psalm to little children. He told the children about sheep, that they weren't smart and needed a Shepherd to guide them and protect them from wild animals. He said: "You are the sheep and you need lots of guidance. So if you are the sheep, then who is the shepherd?" He expected all the kids to point out to him as the shepherd. After some silence, a young girl said, "Jesus! Jesus is the shepherd." The surprised pastor asked the little girl, "Well then, who am I?" The girl frowned and then said with a shrug, "I guess you must be a sheep dog."



The church council met to discuss the pastor's compensation package for the coming year. Later, the chair of council told the pastor: "We are very sorry, Pastor, but we decided that we cannot give you a raise next year." "But you must give me a raise," said the pastor. "I am but a poor preacher!" "We know that," the council chair said. "We hear you every Sunday."

It's been said that every pastor ought to have six weeks of vacation each year, because if he is really a good shepherd, he deserves it; and if he is not a good shepherd, his congregation deserves it.



## Knights of Columbus Fellowship with the Parishioners Sunday April 26, 2026 Parish Hall 11:00am All are welcome



### "Follow my voice!"

On September 11, 2001, the Pentagon was slammed by a hijacked airliner. People were trapped in the flaming building. A police officer ran inside and kept repeating in the darkness, "Follow my voice." Six people did. They owe their lives to that voice. We know the popular child's game called, "Follow the Leader." As children, remember when we played, "Simon says?" Whatever Simon says, we do, because, Simon is the leader of that game. At some point of our life, we all picked out leaders to follow, some good, some bad. Depending on whom we chose, we were led well or astray.

*Jesus says, "My sheep hear my voice." But hearing Jesus' voice is very difficult in the current environment of our lives. Each day hundreds of other "shepherds" are calling our names for our attention. They offer formulas for health, wealth and happiness. They offer formulas for solving problems, getting along in relationships, raising children, avoiding becoming popular and getting ahead.*

### 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 Altar Rosary Society will do home  
pick up: Please call Alan Nygard (732)-986-3199 to  
schedule a pick up. Please tell your friends and  
neighbors.**



Please keep our  
Religious Education  
students who will be  
making their First Holy  
Communion next  
Saturday in your prayers.

**Parochial Ministry:** Rev. Abraham Orapankal, Ph.D.

Pastor, Rev. Sebastian Kaithackal C.M.I., (in Res.),

Deacon John A. Raychel

**Parish Service:** 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/Rel. Ed. Secretary

**Trustees:** Joan C. Deyak, Robert Butvilla

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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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