

OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH
July 5, 2026
Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.

Saturday 5:15 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 11:00aM

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS 4:00 - 4:45PM

GPS

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Parish Office

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Webpage: www.olpfords.org

Parish Staff

Rev. Abraham Orapankal, Ph.D. Pastor

Rev. Sebastian Kaithackal C.M.I., (In Res.)

Deacon John A. Raychel

Rev. John J. Zec, Ph.D., Music Director

Candida Gonzalez, Coord. of Religious Ed.

Lourdes Hnath, Organist

Walter Springer, Business Administrator

Norma Izzo, Assistant Bookkeeper

Dawn Aube and Kelly Dunn, Parish Secretaries

Trustees

Joan C. Deyak, Robert Butvilla

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear OLP Family,

Happy July Fourth! This 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence is an opportune time to reflect upon the great privilege and responsibility of living in this “land of the free and home of the brave.” Our Bishops’ Conference consecrated our nation to the Sacred Heart of Jesus last month. Here in our parish too, we prayed the Novena to the Sacred Heart, culminating in the prayer of consecration on June 11.

Many Bishops have issued pastoral letters to their flocks on this occasion and I enjoyed reading some of them. One Bishop reflected on America’s history, praised the contributions of Catholics to the common good, and warned that the nation risks moral decline if it abandons God’s law. He highlighted the contributions immigrants have made throughout American history, noting that Catholicism itself grew from roughly 1% of the population in 1776 to about 20% today, largely because of immigration.

I was edified by the pastoral letter of Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore, titled “Charity & Truth: Toward a Renewed Political Culture.” Let me quote two paragraphs from him: *“Like the Church herself, we operate in a cultural atmosphere that is something like the air we breathe. Rarely is it entirely fresh and bracing. All too often it is polluted, even toxic. Such is the political atmosphere in which we find ourselves today. Political discourse has become more vitriolic than usual. Political violence and threats of such violence have erupted. There is deep polarization. Extreme ideologies of both the left and the right are being asserted — ideologies that reveal not only political division, but also cultural and even religious polarization.”*

“Anniversaries can easily tempt us into selective memory – remembering what was noble while forgetting what was painful or flawed. But the Church reminds us that authentic celebration emerges not from denial but from the courage to face both our strengths and our failures. Our nation has been, from its founding, a land of possibility. Yet, it has also been a land of profound contradictions. The Declaration of Independence proclaimed that all are created equal, endowed with certain unalienable rights. And yet, as we know, many were excluded from those very rights for generations. Similarly, the Church we love has been radiant with holiness and often disfigured by sin. To love one’s homeland and one’s Church is not to ignore their faults, but to commit oneself to their renewal — always in light of the Gospel.”

I invite us all to read this beautiful pastoral letter. As we celebrate our 250th anniversary, let us not forget to be grateful to those who have generously served our nation over the years — our founders, political leaders, legislators, members of the judiciary, public safety officials, and members of the military. Furthermore, we must never forget those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice by giving their lives to defend our freedom and human rights. Jesus said, “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” (Jn 15:13).

God bless America! Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal
fatherabraham@olpfords.org



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

July 5, Sunday 9:00am

+ Susan Gibson from Kathy & Steve
Whooley

+Frank DeMarzo Jr. from Nancy & John
Raychel

11:00 noon

+Jozefa Zimon from Stan

July 6, Monday 8:00am

+Evelyn Codd from Life Choices Resource
Center

July 7 Tuesday 8:00am

+For Our Parishioners

July 8, Wednesday 8:00am

+Marie Gironda from the Knights of
Columbus

July 9, Thursday 8:00am

+Florence Delaney from Jeannie & Family

July 10, Friday 8:00am

+Helen Gaid from Nancy Gaid

July 11, Saturday

5:15pm

+Raychel Smith from Joe Strucich

+ Joseph A. Strucich from Joe Strucich

July 12, Sunday 9:00am

+ Kelly Sharp from Steve & Kathy
Whooley

+Holy Name Altar Rosary Society

11:00 am

+Hannah & Patrick Conlon from Family

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday - July 6

8:30am Novena - Church

Tuesday - July 7

5:30 pm Boy Scouts - Parish Center

7:00pm Blue Army - Church

Saturday July 11

4:00pm Confessions - Church

Sunday July 12

8:3am Holy Name Altar Rosary Pray the
Rosary - Church

12:00pm Reception for Father Sebastian -
Parish Hall



**Father Sebastian will be retiring and
returning to India on July 24, 2026.**

**His Farewell Mass will be at 11AM on
July 12, immediately followed by a
reception in our parish hall at 12PM.**

**Please come and wish
Father Sebastian
good luck on his retirement.**



Bread & Wine

In memory of

Margaret Hagan

from

The Sheridan Family

Ministry Schedule for

July 11/12, 2026

5:15pm Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Joan Deyak,
Barbara Balog,

Reader: Bill Herring

Altar Server: Delgado Family

9:00 a.m. Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Alan Nygard,
Arlene Verendia, Margarita Cebulski

Reader: James Carroll

11:00 Noon

Eucharistic Ministers: Kathy Kazary,
Angela Chundak, Ronak Bantleman,

Reader: Thomas Deignan

Altar Server: Ashley Alfaro

STEWARDSHIP

Due to early publication, collection will be
posted in next week's bulletin.

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

Independence is an important step on the journey to adulthood, but marriage also requires dependence. I depend on you to keep your word, to be there when I'm feeling hurt, to watch the kids so I can have a break. How do you depend on one another?



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, 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

Thomas J. Felcetto, Evelyn Mrozek, Mildred
Manresa, Marie Girona, Evelyn Codd, Gary
Dzama, Michael Sena, Marie Pugliese, Stefan
Wysocki, Julia Dischler, Angelo VanNostrand,
Eleanor Kavejon, Ronald G. Cunningham,
Margaret Hagan, Marie O'Mullan, Arlene Stec,
Angela Canales, Jennifer DeSantis, Angela
Sossa, Louise Sutch, Thomas Katchisin,
Patrick Kennedy

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☺ SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY ☺

Father William, the old priest, made it a practice to visit the parish school one day a week. He walked into the 4th grade class, where the children were studying the states, and asked them how many states they could name. They came up with about 40 names. Father William jokingly told them: "When I was your age, I knew the names of all the states. How come you don't?" One smart boy raised his hand and said, 'Yes Father, but in those days there were only 13 states.' ☺

Alvin: My great-grandfather fought with Napoleon, my grandfather fought with the French and my father fought with the Americans. **Alex:** Your relatives couldn't get along with anyone, could they? ☺

Only in America can a pizza get to your house faster than an ambulance. ☺

Only in America do people order double cheeseburgers, a large fry, and a DIET coke. ☺

Only in America do banks leave both doors open and then chain the pens to the counters. ☺

Only in America . . . do we use answering machines to screen calls and then have call waiting so we won't miss a call from someone we didn't want to talk to in the first place. ☺

Only in America do we buy hot dogs in packages of ten and buns in packages of eight. ☺

WORK, PLAY, LOVE AND WORSHIP!

The Mayo Clinic announced a sure cure for getting rid of that tired feeling. Tests revealed that people are chronically tired because they live unbalanced lives. And so they took Dr. Richard Clark Cabot's famous formula for life - WORK, PLAY, LOVE and WORSHIP. These are the ultimates of life that must be held in proper balance - work, play, love and worship. The Mayo Clinic made them a symbol, four arms of equal length. They said that whenever one or more of those arms becomes a stub, then the result in unhappiness, and unhappiness is usually the forerunner of fatigue. Thus, a business man's arm may be long on work but short on play and worship. A debutante's arm may be long on play and short on work. A spinster may be long on work and worship and short on play and love. The old saying that "all work and no play make Jack a dull boy" is psychologically sound. And so, "all work and no worship" leads to chronic fatigue. It's a simple, psychological and physical fact. Jesus asks us to come to him to rest!



"The heroes are the guys who didn't come back."

One of the most famous pictures from World War II must surely be the photo of five valiant Marines raising an American flag on the island of Iwo Jima. The young man in the center of the photo was John Bradley. After the war, Bradley moved back to Antigo, Wisconsin, married his high school sweetheart, and raised a family. Although John Bradley won the Navy Cross for saving a fellow soldier's life, he preferred not to talk about the war. And he absolutely refused to accept the hero worship that others tried to force on him. One of the few comments Bradley ever made about the war, he made to his young son, James. In response to James' remark about heroism, John Bradley replied, "The heroes of Iwo Jima are the guys who didn't come back." ("The Man in the Photograph" by James Bradley from *Flags of our Fathers. Reader's Digest*, Nov. 2000, pp. 125-129.)

JULY FOURTH IS OUR NATION'S 250th BIRTHDAY!

Yes, 250 years ago, in 1776, the Continental Congress, representing the 13 colonies, approved the Declaration of Independence. But that was only the first step on the road to freedom as a sovereign nation. Many other steps followed - trials, tribulations, discussions, debates, violence, tragedies, hunger, sickness, deaths - to make the contents of that document a reality for us to enjoy that freedom given to us by those who went before us. Today, 250 years later, when we see how that freedom is abused and how our "pursuit of happiness" is hindered, we need to revisit the most famous words from the Declaration and make a self-examination to see how we can make a difference in our world by living the spirit of this great document:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness."

"Veni, vidi, dormivi"

National Public Radio had a story about a club that has been formed at a high school in Greenwich, Connecticut. The club is called the Power Nap Club! A group of students go to a room at the end of the school day where they turn off the lights, put their heads on their desks, plug in a tape of quiet classical music, and take what they call a "power nap" for about a half hour. "Their club tee-shirts are decorated with a cardinal (the school mascot), wearing a little nightcap on his head. Inscribed on the tee-shirt is a new version of an old Latin motto, 'Veni, vidi, dormivi: I came, I saw, I slept!' The club was formed not because these are lazy high school students, but exactly the reverse. These kids are going to school all day, participating in sports, volunteering in the community, going to church or mosque or synagogue, and holding down part-time jobs. They're exhausted. And they've learned that just a little nap makes all the difference in the world" (Carlton Young).

In the Gospel today, Jesus offers rest to those "who labor and are burdened" if they will accept his "easy yoke and light burden." By declaring that his "yoke is light," Jesus means that whatever God sends us is made to fit our needs and our abilities exactly. The second part of Jesus' claim is: "My burden is light." Jesus does not mean that the burden is easy to carry, but that it is laid on us in love and is meant to be carried in love, and that love makes even the heaviest burden light.

Dear OLP Family,

Upon the request of Fr. Abraham, I reflected on my 14 years of service here and am sharing with you all that:

- I loved helping parishioners when they are in need or just needed an ear to listen to them.
- I loved watching the children in our Religious Ed. program faces light up when they are learning about God and their prayers or when they see me outside of the Church to say hi.
- I remember when my husband passed away suddenly and everyone comforted me in so many ways, I felt an overwhelming love from our parishioners.
- Working here has given me an extended family that I would not have if I have not worked here.

I thank God for these blessings and for the blessings you all have been to me these years. A big THANK YOU to all of you dear parishioners and your families, especially those that I got to know and helped in the parish office and the Religious Ed office. I am looking forward to my new adventures with my family and grandchildren. I will continue to attend this wonderful OLP Church and I will see you in Church.

Dawn Aube



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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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