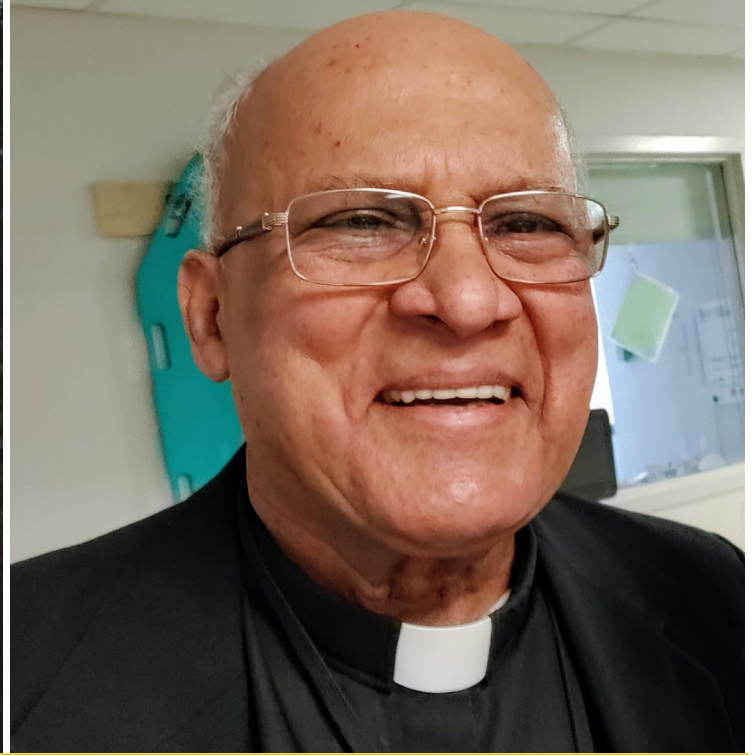


OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH
July 12, 2026
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Happy Retirement and Thank You, Fr. Sebastian

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Monday-Friday 8:00 am

Saturday 5:15 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am & 11:00 am

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 - 4:45 pm

GPS: 620 Amboy Ave. Edison, NJ 08837

Mailing Address P.O. Box 69, 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

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, Coordinator of Religious Ed.

Lourdes Hnath, Organist

Walter Springer, Business Administrator

Norma Izzo, Assistant Bookkeeper

Kelly-Ann Dunn, Parrish Secretary

Trustees

Joan C. Deyak, Robert Butvilla

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear OLP Family,

There's a nice story about a farmer who entered each year his corn in the state fair where it won a blue ribbon. One year a newspaper reporter interviewed him and learned something interesting about how he grew it. The reporter discovering that the farmer shared his seed corn with his neighbors, asked: *"How can you afford to share your best seed corn with your neighbors when they are entering corn in competition with yours each year?"* The farmer replied: *"Why sir, 'didn't you know? The wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbors grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn."*

Today, as we give an official farewell to Fr. Sebastian Kaithackal, CMI, (though his last day with us is July 24), I thought how appropriate the line in that story of the farmer is: *"If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn."* Fr. Sebastian helped others grow in goodness and healing. He was a hardworking missionary priest in north-India and he began his ministry in our Diocese as chaplain to the Cloistered Carmelite Nuns in Flemington. Then he served as Hospital Chaplain in the Hackensack Meridian Health network. During his full time ministry as chaplain at JFK Hospital, we were privileged to offer him residence in our OLP Rectory for the past six years out of his 31 years of service in the Diocese of Metuchen.

We, at OLP, are indebted to Fr. Sebastian for always helping us with Mass and Confessions. Many of our parishioners have told me that Fr. Sebastian anointed their dear ones who were in the hospital and prayed with them. He has been a spiritual guide and a source of unwavering support especially in times of sorrow to countless families. His gentle spirit has been a reflection of God's love for us. This year Father has completed 45 years as a priest – a remarkable testament to a life dedicated to serve the People of God in India and here in the United States. His is a journey of faith that touched countless hearts and left an indelible mark. The photo-collage in the parish hall downstairs is just a small reminder of that noble life of service.

As Fr. Sebastian returns to India to begin another chapter of his life, we offer him our heartfelt prayers, gratitude and best wishes. May his days be filled with joy, peace, and the warmth of God's unending love. Let me conclude with an excerpt from "To Bless the Space Between Us" by John O'Donohue, the renowned Irish poet and philosopher: *"When you look back on a life of goodness, it is not the single acts that stand out, but the underlying current of compassion and care that animates your presence. Your life has been a gift, a dwelling place of warmth and welcome. You have been a shepherd to the lost, a friend to the lonely, and a beacon of light in the darkness. The seeds you have planted in the hearts of others will continue to grow, bearing fruit in seasons you will never see. This is the quiet, enduring harvest of a well-lived life."*

Thank you and God bless you, dear Fr. Sebastian.

Your brother in Christ, in the name of our OLP Family

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

fatherabraham@olpfords.org



*Mass Intentions for the week of
July 12th*

July 12, Sunday 9:00am

+ Kelly Sharp from Steve & Kathy Whooley

+Holy Name Altar Rosary Society

11:00 am

+Hannah & Patrick Conlon from Family

July 13, Monday 8:00am

+Marie Gironda from The Coleman
Family

July 14, Tuesday 8:00am

+Msgr. Richard Lyons from Nancy Gaid

July 15, Wednesday 8:00am

+For Our Parishioners

July 16, Thursday 8:00am

+In Gratitude to the Blessed Mother from
Virginia

July 17, Friday 8:00am

+Philip Gouveia from The Gouveia
Family

July 18, Saturday 5:15pm

+Carole & Bill from JoAnn Grandal
and

+ Anne Santa from The Goggel Family

July 19, Sunday 9:00am

+Mrs. Stanowski from Paula Pincus
And

+Sally Urban from Jeanne Streckfuss
11:00am

+Sr. Vincent dePaul Malecki, OSF from
Friends

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday July 12

8:30 am Holy Name Altar Rosary Pray the Rosary -
Church

12:00 pm Father Sebastian Reception - Parish Hall

Monday - July 13

8:30 am Novena - Church

Tuesday - July 14

5:30 pm—9:30 pm Boy Scouts - Parish Center

7:00 pm Blue Army - Church

Wednesday - July 15

6:00 pm KOC Social Mtg. - Parish Hall

Thursday - July 16 No Activities

Friday - July 17

5:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal Mount/Lenahan -
Church

Saturday July 18

4:00pm Confessions - Church

Sunday July 19

2:00pm Wedding Mount/Lenahan



Celebrate Life: A Morning for Grandparents and Seniors
(55+)

"Aging with Purpose: A Life in Full"

with guest speaker, Joanie C. Lynn, APN of Saint Peter's Uni-
versity Hospital

All grandparents and seniors are welcome for a morning of
joy and renewal. A hot breakfast will be served.

<https://diometuchen.org/events/seniors-2026>

Thursday, July 23, 2026
9:30 am-12:30 pm

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center,
146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, NJ



Bread & Wine

In memory of

Anne Santa

from

The Goggel Family

Ministry Schedule for

July 18/19 2026

5:15pm Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Barbara Sinko,
Karen Senatore, Barbara Balog

Reader: Gloria DeMarzo

Altar Server: Delgado Family

9:00 a.m. Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Martin Verendia,
Tom Brady, Roseanne Brady

Reader: James Carroll

11:00 Noon

Eucharistic Ministers: Benjamin
Praval, Angela Chundak, Maria Frey

Reader: Frank Heelan

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, 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

Octavio Ruiz, John Harvie, Anthony Alexander, 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, Anna Verrico, Jonathan Lopez

STEWARDSHIP

June 28, 2026

Parish Assessment.....	\$832.00
Weekly Offering.....	\$4,319.00
Mail-in	\$762.00
Online giving	\$2,765.50
Peter's Pence Collection	\$832.00
Total	\$9,643.50

July 5, 2026

Weekly Offering.....	\$4,858.00
Mail-in	\$1,203.00
Online giving	\$3,088/50
Total	\$9,149.50

Stewardship of Treasure

Thank you for remembering your parish with your continued financial support; it is essential and much appreciated by our parish community. 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.org and click the Online Giving link and register with our church. Your support during the year helps sustain our Church

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

Not everything married couples say to each other is kind and gentle. Sometimes it's thorny or boring. Carve out 5 minutes (or more) for deep sharing today. Perhaps something like, "A fear, need, or joy I have is"

PARENTING TUNE-UP

When speaking to your kids (or anyone) consider these proverbs: "It is better to leave angry words unspoken than to mend the heart those words have broken." and "The tongue is the only instrument that gets sharper with use."

SPECTACULAR SCANDINAVIA/ ICELAND

Sept 21-Oct 1.

- * **11 Day Tour to Denmark-Sweden-Norway-Iceland. \$5999.**
- * **Package includes RT Airfare from Newark Intl via Iceland Air, top notch Hotels, Daily Breakfast / Dinner, Guided Tours, Deluxe Coach, Overnight Cruise, Medical Travel insurance, Daily Mass and more.**
- * **Please Call / Email JULIET HOBSON**
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☺SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY☺

A farmer and his pig were driving down the road when a cop pulled him over. The cop asked the farmer, "Didn't you know it is against the law to ride with a pig in the front of your truck?" The farmer replied, "No, I didn't know that." The cop asked the farmer where he was going and he said, "To Memphis". The cop said, "I will let you off the hook this time if you promise to take the pig to the zoo when you get to Memphis." So the farmer promised he would. Several days later the cop spotted the farmer with the pig driving down the road and he pulled him over again. The cop said "I thought I told you to take this pig to the zoo when you got to Memphis." The farmer replied, "I did and we had so much fun, I taking him to Kings Island now" ☺

An old farmer wrote to his son in prison: "This year I won't be able to plant potatoes because I can't dig the field. I know if you were here you would help me" The son wrote back: "Dad don't even think of digging the field because that's where I buried all the money I stole from the bank. Police read the letter and the very next day the whole field was dug by police looking for the money but nothing was found. The next day the son wrote again: "Now plant your potatoes dad; it's the best I can do from here." ☺

What's a potatoes least favorite day of the week? Fry-day! ☺ My farmer friend told me that horse manure is excellent for strawberries. I said, "You may be right, but I still prefer whipped cream." ☺

GOD'S VEGETABLE GARDEN:

This is the story of the fussy vegetarian. A young woman was committed to being a vegetarian, but she was never satisfied with any of the fruit or vegetables she bought. For her, all melons were too ripe, or not ripe enough, all tomatoes were bruised or unripe, heads of cauliflower and broccoli were too big or too little. Then one day, driving down Tarpon Avenue, she drove past a new store with a long line of people waiting to get in. She looked, and the sign said, God's Fruit and Vegetable Stand. "Finally," she said, "I can get some decent vegetables and fruit." So she stood on line and waited. Hours went by before she walked through that door. She was enveloped in light, but she didn't see any apples or oranges or tomatoes or cabbage, or anything to buy. She walked to the light, and there was a counter there. And behind the counter, there stood God. She could tell it was God because of the light, and because he had an apron on with a big G on it. Anyway, she placed her order, "I would like some perfect broccoli, and some perfect carrots, some perfect tomatoes and a perfect melon. Also, if you have perfect Brussels sprouts, that would really be a miracle." "Sorry," God said, "I only sell seeds here." She went away disappointed!

Actually, God doesn't SELL seeds, He GIVES seeds to us. The seeds are His Word in its many expressions. But we have to do something with this precious gift. It simply is not enough just to hear the Word of God. We have to let it grow within us and influence our lives enabling us live like the People of the Word.

Keep Sowing the Seed!

One of William Barclay's friends tells this story. [William Barclay, *The Daily Study Bible*] In the church where he worshiped, there was a lonely old man, old Thomas. As he had outlived all his friends, hardly anyone knew him. When Thomas died, his only old friend had the feeling that there would be no one else to go to the funeral. So he decided to go, so that there might be someone to follow the old man to his last resting-place. There was no one else, and it was a miserable wet day. The funeral reached the cemetery, and at the gate there was a soldier waiting, an officer, but on his raincoat there were no rank badges. He came to the graveside for the religious ceremony. When the pastor finished his prayers, the officer stepped forward and gave a solemn military salute to Thomas in the closed coffin as if to a dead king. The friend walked away with this soldier, and as they walked, the wind blew the soldier's raincoat open to reveal the shoulder badges of a brigadier general. The general said, "You will perhaps be wondering what I am doing here. Years ago Thomas was my Sunday school teacher. I was a wild lad and a sore trial to him. He never knew what he did for me, but I owe everything I am or will be to old Thomas, and today I had to come to salute him at the end."

Thomas did not know what he was doing. No preacher or teacher ever does. Keep sowing the high-yielding seeds of the word of God. This is the GOOD news of today's Gospel for all of us, tenant farmers.



SEEDING
IS BELIEVING

Michael Pe's Heroism!

In 1998, sixteen-year-old Alden Tucker read a news story about Michael Pe, a fifteen-year-old boy of multiracial heritage who had contracted leukemia. Michael's only hope for recovery was a bone-marrow transplant; unfortunately, his exotic ethnic heritage--African-American, Hispanic, and Korean--drastically reduced his chances of finding a matching donor. Alden Tucker who is of the same ethnic mix as Michael immediately volunteered to serve as a donor. Because bone marrow donation is an invasive and painful procedure, federal law prohibits bone-marrow testing for people less than eighteen years of age. Alden Tucker wasn't about to take "no" for an answer. He began talking to reporters and legislators about changing the consent laws for bone-marrow donation. He also met and befriended Michael Pe. Just before Michael's death in 1999, Alden promised him that he would never give up the campaign to change bone-marrow donation laws. In March 2000, the Michael Pe Law allowing bone-marrow testing and donation by people under the age of eighteen was signed into law in the state of Washington. (Rebecca Cook in *Teen People*, cited in "Everyday Heroes," *Reader's Digest*, Nov. 2001.)

He was only a teenager but Alden Tucker made a difference. So can you and I, if we are willing to pay the price by sowing the seeds of the Gospel with a high level of commitment. A challenge for examination of conscience. The questions we need to ask ourselves are: Am I merely hearing God's word without understanding it? Does God's word meet with a hard heart in me? Am I too anxious about money, security, provision for retirement or old age? Is God's word taking root in me? Converting me? Transforming me? Enabling me to sacrifice? And what about the "fruits" that we are being invited to produce: justice and mercy, hospitality for the immigrant and those with AIDS, the dispossessed, the unborn, the single mother? By refusing to consider these, we may be missing the healing that the Word of God can bring into our lives.

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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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