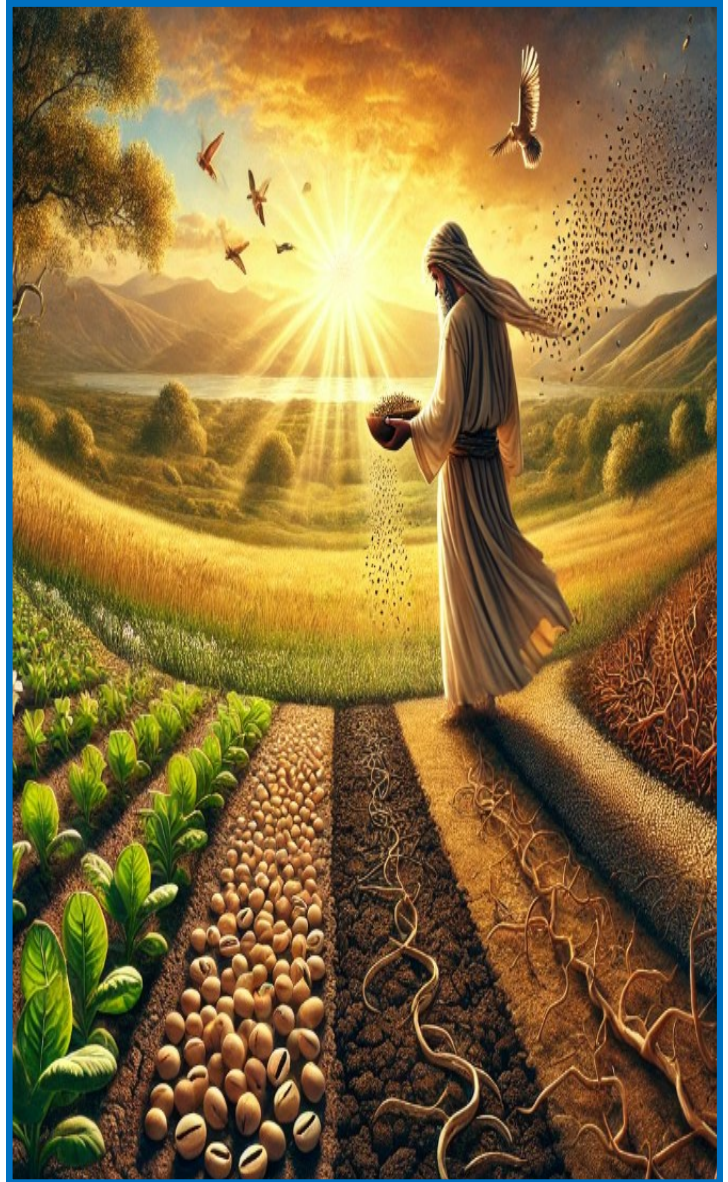


OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH

JULY 19, 2026
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Monday-Friday: 8:00 am

Saturday 5:15 pm

Sunday: 9:00 am & 11:00 am

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS 4:00 - 4:45 pm

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, Parish Secretary

Trustees

Joan C. Deyak, Robert Butvilla

GPS

620 Amboy Ave. Edison, NJ 08837

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 69, Fords, NJ 08863

Parish Office

26 Maple Ave. Edison, NJ 08837

Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Phone

732-738-7940

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www.olpfords.org

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Dear OLP Family, Let me share with you two relevant reflections.

Disobedience to the Pope: Some parishioners asked me recently: what is the difference between regular Catholics and SSPX Catholics, and why are SSPX excommunicated by the Vatican?

The Society of Saint Pius X (SSPX) is a controversial traditionalist Catholic organization founded in 1970 in Switzerland, by Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre. It is characterized by its strict adherence to the Traditional Latin Mass and its vehement opposition to the modernization reforms - like Mass in the vernacular, offering Mass in the wrong direction, Ecumenism, Collegiality - introduced by the Second Vatican Council. SSPX incurred excommunication on themselves in 1988, when Lefebvre consecrated four bishops, in explicit defiance of Pope John Paul II. In a spirit of reconciliation, Pope Benedict XVI lifted this excommunication in 2009, and Pope Francis further expanded the group's privileges, ordering during the 2015–2016 Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy that confessions heard by SSPX priests were valid; he subsequently extended this order indefinitely. But this month, on July 1st, despite repeated warnings, SSPX bishops consecrated four new bishops without a pontifical mandate - an act of open disobedience to the authority of the pope that carries automatic excommunication for the six bishops involved. Vatican also clarified that lay faithful who formally adhere to SSPX are also considered schismatic and can incur excommunication by continuing to attend SSPX services after the Church's formal pronouncement of a schism.

Misunderstanding about a Saint: This Wednesday, we celebrate the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene, who many mistakenly consider as a former prostitute, a label that was reinforced by her portrayal in various Hollywood films such as *Jesus of Nazareth*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Passion of the Christ* (always portrayed as the woman caught in adultery), etc.

But there is no scriptural basis for this inference of Mary Magdalene as a prostitute. She has been confused with the unnamed sinner in Chapter 7 of Luke. In that story, a woman bathes Jesus' feet with her tears, anoints them with ointment from her alabaster jar, and dries them with her hair. Nowhere does it say that this woman was a prostitute, and nowhere is she identified as Mary of Magdala. Then in Luke 8:2, Mary Magdalene is mentioned as one of the group of women who were following Jesus and says that seven demons had been cast out of her. Having a demon in a woman is no indication that she was a prostitute. Jesus delivered men also from demons. In fact, all the four Gospels present her as a devoted follower, a financial supporter of Jesus's ministry, and one of the first witnesses to his resurrection (Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-11; John 20:1-18).

In honor of the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene this week, July 22, let's commit ourselves to correcting this unfortunate mislabeling whenever we encounter it in homilies, at Scripture study, or in adult faith formation, or even in ordinary conversation. Let's restore the good name of St. Mary Magdalene as the "Apostle to the Apostles" because she was sent to tell the Apostles the good news of the Resurrection (Matthew 28:1-10).

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

fatherabraham@olpfords.org



Mass Intentions

July 19, Sunday 9:00am

+Mrs. Stanowski from Paula Pincus
&

+Sally Urban from Jeanne Streckfuss

11:00 am

+Sr. Vincent dePaul Malecki, OSF from
Friends

July 20, Monday 8:00am

+Daniel Catananzi from Joe

July 21, Tuesday 8:00am

+For Our Parishioners

July 22, Wednesday 8:00am

+Marie Gironda from The Devane Family

July 23, Thursday 8:00am

+Charles Laspino from The Dekonski Family

July 24, Friday 8:00am

+Evelyn Codd from Pat Bustin

July 25, Saturday 5pm

+David Frederick from Kathy & Steve
Whooley
&

+Elaine Quattrone from Dolores Quattrone

July 26, Sunday 9:00am

+Paul Coleman from The Wendt Family
&

+Juliano & Corazon Marquez from The
Lazaro Family

11:00am

+Rick Ponzo from Val



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES



Sunday July 19

2:00 pm Wedding of
Glenn Mount and Kelly Lenahan



Monday - July 20

8:30 am Novena - Church

Tuesday - July 21

5:30 pm Boy Scouts - Parish Center

7:00 pm Blue Army - Church

Wednesday - July 22

7:00 pm—Columbiettes—Regina Caeli
Room

Saturday July 25

4:00pm Confessions - Church

Sunday July 26

10:00 am— KOC Fellowship - Parish Hall

1:00pm—Baptism - Church

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP



"For we do not know how to pray as we ought." (Romans 8: 26) Praying together is one of the most intimate (and scary) deeds a couple can do. Revealing our innermost thoughts and feelings can be a risk. But try and see how wonderful it can be because it brings you two closer than ever!

PARENTING TUNE-UP



Consider adding this to your family prayer. If you don't have a family prayer tradition, start one with this ancient prayer: "May God bless you and keep you! May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you! May God look upon you kindly and give you peace!" (Numbers 6:22-27)



July 25th and 26th 2026

Saturday, 5:15pm Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Maria Frey,
Joan Deyak
Reader: Bill Herring
Altar Server: Ava Pridady

Sunday, 9:00am Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Kenneth Egan,
Alan Nygard, Arlene Verendia,
Reader: Thomas Bednar

Sunday, 11:00am Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Greg Coghlan,
Arlene Cezar, Augustus Cezar
Reader: Angela Chundak
Altar Server: Ashley Alfaro



July 12, 2026

Weekly Offering.....\$4,890.00
Mail-in\$845.00
Online giving\$2,210.50
Repairs and Maintenance ..\$950.00
Total\$8,895.50

Stewardship of Treasure

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WE PRAY FOR:

For those who are sick, or in nursing homes and hospitals

Eunice McLaughlin, Raymond Miller,
Danielle Maglies, Rolando Rey, Christine Mary Brown, Donna Ferrara, Lonie Ebarle,
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,
Mercedes de Leon, Eve Morawski, Andrew Southern, Shelly Greene, Danuta, Debra
Ambrosi, Michael L., Wendy Snee, Catherine Miller, Tano Camarillo, Elizabeth
Savner, Joan Quinn, Marien Zondlo, Wilson Aguirre, William Riggio

For those who have passed

Madeline Strong, 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

For all those who are serving in the Military

Good folks sometimes do stupid things!

Fans of country music revere the name of George Jones. Jones has had enough hit songs on his hundred or so albums to make the careers of ten singers. Sometime back, George was nearly killed in an automobile accident. He was talking on his cell phone. When the news first came out, many of his fans probably assumed that George was off the wagon again. Along with George Jones's talent and genius came a dark side. Jones had a reputation for wild living and self-destructive behavior. In the **past** he had struggled with a serious addiction to alcohol and drugs. His addictions were so severe that Jones would literally do anything to fuel his habit. At one time, George was almost outwitted by his then-wife, Tammy Wynette. To keep him away from the local bar, Tammy took George's car keys. But George's determination to feed his addiction won out. He hopped on his riding lawn mower and rode ten miles to the nearest bar. [Randy Scott, *Country Music Revealed* (New York: MetroBooks, 1995), p. 60.] Why otherwise good people allow themselves to get trapped in self-destructive patterns of behavior is beyond our understanding. And where does such behavior come from? Can we get off the hook by saying, "The devil made me do it?" Is it genetic?

THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS ALWAYS GROWING!

It started small when Christ established it, like a mustard seed as told by Jesus in today's Gospel. Just a few disciples gathered in a room on the first Easter Sunday. And it starts small wherever it goes. St Augustine of Canterbury had only a handful of monks when he crossed the English Channel around the year 600 to evangelize the barbaric Anglo-Saxons. Just over a century earlier, St Patrick had gone to the even more barbaric land of Ireland, which even the Roman Empire had never conquered, all by himself. It starts small inside our souls as well. The voice of conscience, God's voice within us, is often only just a whisper, like a tiny breeze. Christ's Kingdom starts small, like a mustard seed, like a little bit of yeast in a huge batch of flour - but it's alive, and so it is always growing.

And so, 100 years after St Augustine and a couple of buddies arrived in England, the English Church was exporting hundreds of saints and missionaries back to continental Europe to evangelize the new waves of barbarian invaders. By the time of St Patrick's death, an entire nation of primitive tribes had been united under the Christian Faith. And so, even if God's voice is only a whisper in our conscience, when we follow it, He works wonders. But when you plant a mustard seed, you expect something to happen. Christ's Kingdom is always alive, dynamic, always growing. And so, if we ever find ourselves bored with our Christian Faith, it's simply because we have wandered away from Jesus.

HERE'S A "WEED-GATHERER"!

A teenage daughter asks her father, "Why don't you go to Church?" He replies, "Because the Church is full of hypocrites." "What do you mean by a hypocrite?" she asks. He thinks for a moment and answers, "A hypocrite says one thing and does something else." "That sounds like you, Daddy!" she replies. "I'm no hypocrite!" he responds. "Yes, you are," she says. "You tell me that going to Church is important. You say that I have to go to Church, but then you don't go. You say one thing and do another. Doesn't that make you a hypocrite? I wish you could go with me because there is room in the Church for one more hypocrite."

BAD CHOICES ARE "WEEDS" RUINING OUR LIVES!

You may have read about a 61 year-old Massachusetts grandmother who ended up in a mess of trouble sometime back. It was on the first day of her new job as a school bus driver. She took some wrong turns and made some poor decisions as to which roads to take. She got so lost that she wound up in the state of Connecticut. Because she had already picked up ten kids on her route, an all-points bulletin was issued for her on charges of kidnapping, and, since she had crossed the state line, the F.B.I. was called in. After finally locating the lady and interrogating her, the police and F.B.I. agents concluded that she had made some wrong turns and had simply lost her way. So they released her. *A few wrong turns. It happens in life. It happens to good people. A few bad judgments and suddenly you are lost, entangled, trapped in the weeds, a golfer might say. Sometimes much is at stake. A marriage. Your health. The safety of others. Pulling weeds is an important part of a successful life.*

"TWO WOLVES WITHIN YOU!"

"Have you ever noticed that the people who are bad sometimes are the very same people who are good sometimes?" It reminds us of a story called, "Two Wolves." It goes like this: An old Cherokee is teaching his grandson about life. "A fight is going on inside me," he said to the boy. "It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves. One is evil - he is anger, envy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego." He continued, "The other is good - he is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion, and faith. The same fight is going on inside you - and inside every other person, too." The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, "Which wolf will win?" The old Cherokee simply replied, "The one you feed." *Today's Gospel parable reminds us that we are a mixture of good and evil and, hence, instead of judging others we have to lead exemplary Christian lives and leave the judgment to God.*



The Parish is in need of Readers and Altar Servers. For more information and to apply, please contact the Parish Office at 732-738-7940



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☺ SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY ☺

I've started growing herbs in my garden. To help identify them I'm growing them in alphabetical order. My neighbor asked me, "How you find the time?" I said, "Thyme? Easy, it's right here next to the sage." ☺

A priest started to water his garden. He bowed his head and began with a prayer: "Lettuce spray..." ☺

A married couple were walking through a garden when suddenly a dog ran towards them. They both knew it will bite them.. The husband lifted his wife to let the dog bite him rather than his sweetheart. The dog stopped before them, unsure what to do, barked a little and ran away. The husband put his wife down, expecting a hug and a few kind words of gratitude from her. But his wife shouted, "I've seen people throwing stones & sticks at dogs, this is the first time I see someone trying to throw his wife at a dog ☺ The philosopher who said, "work well done never needs doing over," never weeded a garden. ☺

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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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