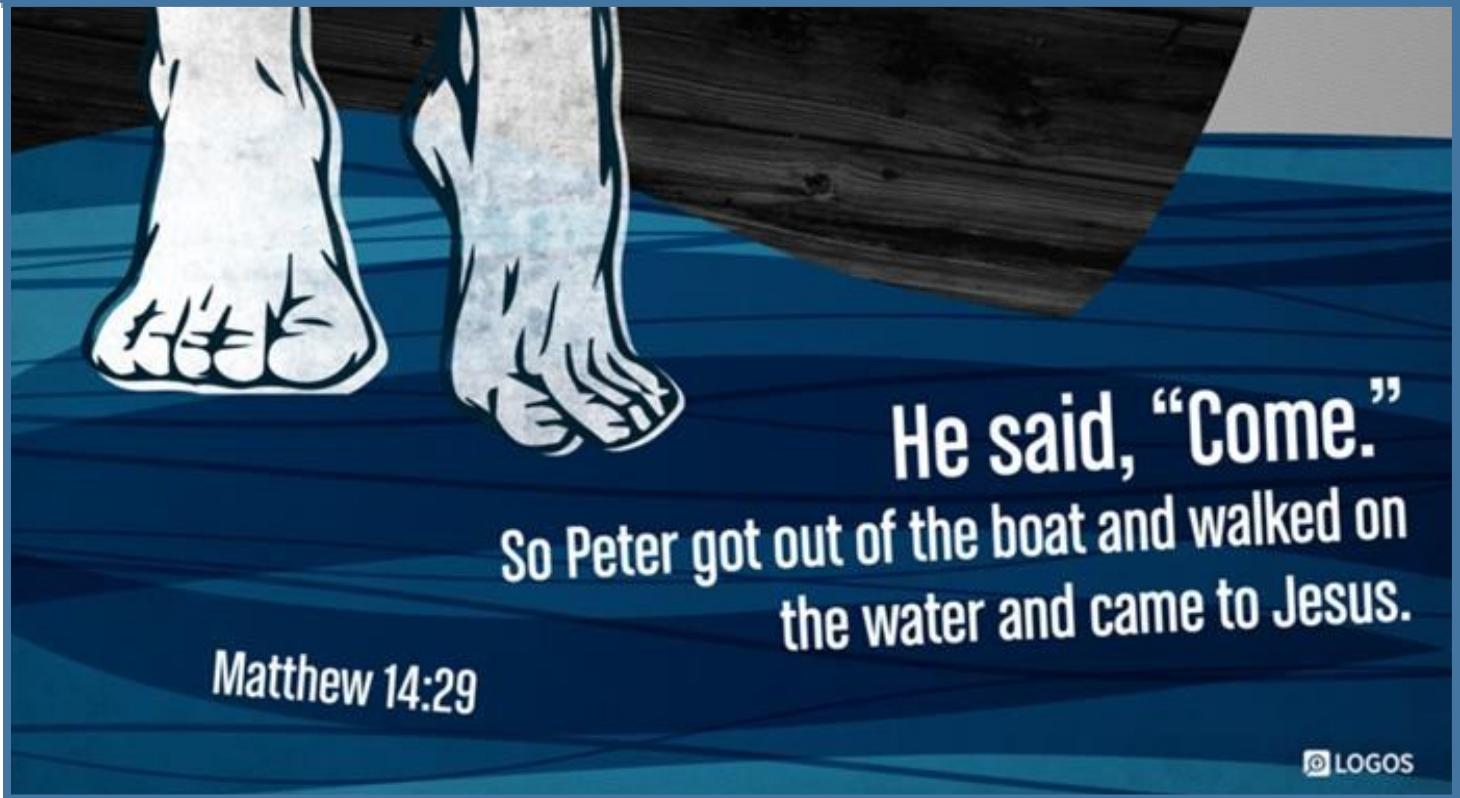


OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH

AUGUST 9, 2026

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A



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
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—Thursday 9:00am - 4:00pm
Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm (July-August)

Phone

732-738-7940

Email

mail@olpfords.org
www.olpfords.org

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear OLP Family,

Every day this week, we celebrate the feast of a saint – some better known than others. I thought it worthwhile to reflect briefly on each of them:

Tomorrow/Monday is the feast of St. Lawrence, Deacon (died 258). He was martyred four days after Pope Sixtus II and four deacons were killed. Deacon Lawrence cared for the temporal welfare of the Roman church. He gave a radical witness to service to the poor, joyful generosity and strong faith. Here at OLP, we are blessed to have the ministry of Deacon John Raychel. We wish him a very happy feast tomorrow, and assure him of our prayers for his good health. .

Tuesday is the feast of St. Clare of Assisi (died 1253): An early follower of St. Francis, Clare founded The Order of Poor Ladies, which eventually became known as the Poor Clares. But do we know that she is the patron saint of televisions and computer screens? How so? Late in her life, she fell too ill to attend church, and one day the images and sounds of the entire Mass appeared in full on the wall of her room. This story must be why Pope Pius XII, who in 1957 named her the patroness of this new invention –television-that, in his words, “*is a wonderful instrument... which can be the source of very great wealth, but also of deep troubles.*”

Wednesday is the feast of St. Jane Frances De Chantal. (died 1641)She is relevant as a pioneering French noblewoman, wife, mother, widow, and co-founder of the Order of the Visitation of Holy Mary. She is recognized as the patron saint of mothers, widows, and people facing internal trials

Thursday is the feast of two saint-martyrs: 1) St. Pontian (died in 235) was the Pope but was arrested and exiled by emperor Maximinus. He resigned his papacy (the first Pope to do so) to make the election of a new Pope possible. **2) St. Hippolytus (died 235)** might have been remembered as a heretic and a schismatic if not for the strange workings of God’s providence. He felt the Pope was not adequate enough in his defense of the apostolic faith, so he broke away from the Church’s communion and established himself as the Pope. He was the first “anti-pope.” He too was arrested for being a Christian and was sentenced to a “living death” in the mines of Sardinia. It is in their captivity that Saints Pontian and Hippolytus reconciled with one another. Both died of torture and deprivation.

Friday is the feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe (died 1941). He was a Polish Franciscan Friar who volunteered to die in the place of a stranger in the German death camp of Auschwitz, located in the German-occupied Poland during World War II. He was active in promoting the veneration of the Immaculate Virgin Mary. Due to Kolbe’s efforts to promote consecration and entrustment to Mary, he is known as the ‘Apostle of Consecration to Mary.’

Saturday is the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is usually a holy day of obligation but because it is falling on a Saturday this year, it is not a day of obligation for us. Please note that even though we have no Saturday morning Mass, there will be an 8AM Mass this Saturday, August 15, to celebrate our faith that Mary “was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory.” All are welcome.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal
fatherabraham@olpfords.org



Mass Intentions

August 9, Sunday 9:00am

+Helen Rader from Wendt Family
&

+Holy Name Altar Rosary

11:00am

+Catalina Oasan from Sotela Family

August 10, Monday 8:00am

+Gil Wood Jr from Wife and Daughter

August 11, Tuesday 8:00am

+For Our Parishioners

August 12, Wednesday 8:00am

+Jimmy Anderson from Valerie Struchich

August 13, Thursday 8:00am

+Marie Gironde from Kathy and Ken Blaha

August 14, Friday 8:00am

+Philip Gouveia from Maureen

August 15, Saturday 8:00am

+Assumption of Mary

5:15pm

+Jose Martinez from JoAnn Grandal
&

+Helen & Jerry Bertekap from
Marcella & Family

August 16, Sunday 9:00am

+Kathrine & Sal Gamba from
Barbara LaRegina
&

+Edward Sheridan from Maryann & Family

11:00am

+Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Nigro from
Margie and Family



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES



Monday - August 9th

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

Tuesday - August 10th

8:30am Novena - Church

Wednesday - August 11th

7:00pm Blue Army Devotion - Church

Saturday - August 15th

4:00pm Confessions - Church

**SAVE THE
DATE!**

Altar Servers' Pizza Party
Sunday August 23rd after
11:00 am Mass

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

August 15 is the Feast of the Assumption of Mary: we honor her important role in Jesus' life from her initial "Yes" to her presence with the apostles after his death. Although we don't expect to be assumed into heaven, spouses sometimes get into trouble by assuming they know what the other thinks. Don't mindread. Check it out with words.



PARENTING TUNE-UP

What do you and your child think God looks like? - a grandfather, wind, an earthquake, fire, a cloud, a ghost... (1 Kings 19: 9-13) Each of you draw your idea. Talk about the qualities of God that are beyond what you can draw.





Ministry Schedule

August 15th & 16th 2026

Saturday, 8:00 am Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: TBD

Reader: Corrine Ambrosi

Altar Server: TBD

Saturday, 5:15pm Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Barbara Sinko, Joan Deyak, Karen Senatore

Reader: Gloria DeMarzo

Altar Server: Delgado Family

Sunday, 9:00am Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Martin Verendia, Thomas Bednar, Kenneth Egan

Reader: James Carroll

Sunday, 11:00am Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Gary Coghlan, Maria Frey, Kevin Broesler

Reader: Angela Chundak

Altar Server: Sienna Santos



July 19, 2026

Weekly Offering	\$5,327.00
Mail-in	\$944.00
Online giving	\$4,809.00
Youth Ministry	\$867.00
Total	\$11,947.00

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. Please 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.

WE PRAY:

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 to Eternity

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, Rosario Arvisu, William Mahoney, Mario Rosario

For all those who are serving in the Military

An old story about trustful faith

In the middle of a dark winter's night in a small Midwest farming community, the two-story home of a young family caught fire. Quickly, parents and children followed their well-practiced emergency plan and made their way through the smoke-filled home out into the front yard. There the father quickly counted heads and realized that their 5 year-old son was not among them. Suddenly he heard a wail and looked up to see the boy at his bedroom window, crying and rubbing his eyes. Knowing the danger of reentering the house to rescue his son, the father called, "Jump, Son! I'll catch you!" Between sobs, the boy responded to the voice he knew so well. "But, I can't see you, Daddy!" The father answered with great assurance. "No, Son, you can't see me, but I can see you! Jump!" At that, the boy jumped into the smoky darkness and found himself safely cradled in his father's arms.

Our scripture today is about trusting - about having faith - about being able to discern the fact that our God is always with us, even in storms of life. The challenge of trusting faith is what Peter began with, but he looked at the raging waves and got scared. While we might emphasize Peter's fear, his sinking and his "little" Faith, we need to look also at his leap of Faith. Peter represents all who dare to believe that Jesus is Savior, take their first steps in confidence that Jesus is able to sustain them, and then forget to keep their gaze fixed on him when they face storms of temptations. From the depth of crisis, however, they remember to call on the Savior, and they experience the total sufficiency of his grace to meet their needs. It is this type of "little Faith" of Peter which Jesus later identifies as the rock on which he will build his Church. The only Faith Jesus expects of his followers is a Faith which concentrates solely on him. In other words, when we simply heed Our Lord, we can do great things. So, with His grace, we have to raise our awareness of God's presence in our lives. As we become more aware, we will step out and proclaim that presence, even in surprising places.

ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON GOD OR ON YOUR PROBLEMS?

There is a story about the famous statesman Bismarck who came into a friend's house and saw a portrait of himself on display in the friend's parlor. The picture portrayed Bismarck as a strong and forceful man. Bismarck shook his head and asked, "Is that supposed to be me? It can't be." Then he turned around to a picture his friend had of the fearful Simon Peter sinking beneath the waves and said, "That is I!" That is how we feel when we take our eyes off of Christ. Dr. Norman Vincent Peale tells how he once developed laryngitis because he worried about a speaking engagement at which he would be speaking to over a thousand people. When he sought medical help, his doctor said, "I didn't think I would ever have to give this kind of advice to Norman Vincent Peale: Focus your thoughts on God, don't focus them on your problems...when you focus on your problems, your nervous system tightens up so your blood doesn't flow harmoniously. As a result, you experience sickness. Focus your thoughts on God instead of on your problems..."

CALLED OR NOT, GOD IS PRESENT!

Above the office door of the Swiss psychiatrist, Carl Jung (1875-1961), hung a stone plaque inscribed with the words: Called or Not, God is Present. Jung's sign encapsulated in a few words what the joint testaments of Judaism and Christianity have put forth in hundreds of thousands of words for centuries, viz., that the transcendent almighty God chooses to be with humankind, to commune with us, to love and move among us, to be near, to abide, to be present whether called or not, in peace, as well as in panic. God's presence is a dynamic divine presence, ever communing, ever revealing, ever abiding, ever calling, ever drawing near. *This Sunday's first reading relates the experience of the prophet Elijah who sought and realized the presence of God in the peaceful silence of Horeb (Sinai). Peter and the disciples (gospel) experienced the presence of God in the person of Jesus whose power over the sea calmed their panic and fostered their faith. Paul, in the second reading from Romans, lamented the fact that not all of his fellow Israelites had come to know the saving presence of God as he had, on the road to Damascus.*

THE YOUNG PASTOR WHO WANTED TO RETIRE!

One upon a time a battered parish priest approached his bishop. "I want to retire," he said. "You're not old enough to retire." "Yeah, but I'm worn out. My laity are fighting one another, my young people don't come to Church. My parish Council has no guts. My teenagers drink too much. My staff members are in constant conflict. A couple of women are trying to take over the parish. Men can't stand the tension. My collections are down. Spies are reporting me to you every week. Grammar school kids are breaking windows and writing graffiti. I receive anonymous hate mail every day." The bishop sighed loudly, that West of Ireland sigh which suggests the advent of a serious asthmas attack. "Let me tell you about my problems." The two men sat in silence for a few minutes after they had exchanged woes. Then the Bishop said: "Well, congratulations on having a lively parish. It's still alive and kicking and Jesus is active in your parish boat calming the sea." So, the pastor went back to his parish resolving to walk on the stormy parish sea with Jesus. He did not resign.

CALLING ALL OUR ALTAR SERVERS

We appreciate the ministry that our boys and girls do as Altar Servers at Mass Sunday after Sunday. We want to celebrate all of you, our Altar Servers, on Sunday August 23 at the 11AM Mass. And we will have a pizza party for you after the Mass. Come and celebrate.



*Did you know...OLP Bulletins are available online? **Visit** our **website** www.olpfords.org and click on ***Weekly Bulletin***.*

☺ SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY ☺

In one of his books, Mark Twain recalls a visit to the Holy Land and a stay in Capernaum. It was a moonlit night, so he decided to take his wife on a romantic boat ride on the Sea of Galilee. Twain asked a man in a rowboat how much he would charge to take them out on the water. The man saw Twain's white suit, white shoes and white hat and supposed he was a rich Texan. So he said the cost would be \$50. Twain replied, "\$50?!! No wonder Jesus walked on water!" ☺

Joe heard a rumor that his father, grandfather and great-grandfather had all walked on water on their 21st birthdays. So, on his 21st birthday, Joe and his good friend Brian headed out to the lake. "If they did it, I can too!" he insisted. When Joe and Brian arrived at the lake, they rented a boat and began paddling. When they got to the middle of the lake, Joe stepped off of the side of the boat... and damn near drowned. Furious and somewhat shamed, he and Brian headed for home. Then Joe arrived back at the family farm, he asked his grandmother for an explanation. "Grandma, why can I not walk on water like my father, and his father, and his father before him?" The feeble old grandmother took Joe by the hands, looked into his eyes, and explained, "That's because your father, grandfather, and great-grandfather were born in snowy January...you were born in July, dear." ☺

What did the ocean say to the beach? - Nothing, it just waved! ☺

My sister told me she won't scatter my ashes in the ocean. She said there was already too much trash in it. ☺

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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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