



OUR LADY OF PEACE

AUGUST 30, 2026

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

CATHOLIC CHURCH



Our Altar Servers who attended the 11AM Mass on 8/23/2026 with Fr. Abraham

Today's 2nd collection is for the missionary work in the Diocese of Kohima (Nagaland), India.



Thank you for your generosity that will help in the direct evangelization and various projects for improving the poor conditions of life there.

Hearty Welcome to Father Tholito for the Mission Appeal

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Abraham Orapankal, Ph.D. Pastor
Rev. Dawid Malik, in residence
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

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday Vigil | 5:15pm

Sunday | 9:00am & 11:00am

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday - Friday | 8:00am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday | 4:00pm

CONTACT US

GPS

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear OLP Family,

Every month has its own particular feasts, events, anniversaries etc. I am fascinated by the variety of celebrations that the month of September has in store for us:

- **The World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation:** September 1 marks the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and the start of the Season of Creation when Christians around the world unite to pray and reflect on the responsibility to protect the Earth. Established by the Orthodox Church in 1989 and later embraced by Pope Francis in 2015, this day marks the beginning of the Season of Creation (Sept 1 – Oct 4). It's a time to thank God for the gift of creation, seek forgiveness for harm done to the environment, and renew commitment to caring for our common home.
- **Feast of St. Teresa of Calcutta (September 5):** Better known as Mother Teresa, she was a Catholic nun and missionary known for her deep compassion and service to the poorest of the poor in India. Born in 1910 in Albania, she founded the Missionaries of Charity in 1950, dedicating her life to caring for the sick, dying, and abandoned. Her work gained worldwide recognition, earning her the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. Despite facing spiritual struggles, she remained devoted to her mission of love and service. She was canonized as a saint in 2016.
- **Labor Day (September 7, 2026):** marks the traditional end of summer and highlights the importance of work and the labor movement.
- **September 11:** This year is the 25th anniversary of 9/11, bringing heart-renting memories of that horrible tragedy inflicted on our nation.
- **Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 14):** Early in the fourth century, Saint Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She razed the second-century Temple of Aphrodite, which tradition held was built over the Savior's tomb, and her son built the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher on that spot. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman. This feast honors the cross as the instrument of our salvation.
- **Hispanic Heritage Month (starting on September 15):** celebrates the Hispanic contributions and the cultures of Latino communities enriching our country.
- **Our Lady of Sorrows (September 15):** Reflects on Mary's deep compassion and suffering during the Passion of Christ.
- **Feast of Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael (September 29):** Celebrates the three archangels named in Sacred Scripture, recognizing their roles as God's messengers, protectors, and healers.
- **It is good for us to know that the Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of September 2026 is for the care of water:** *"Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it."*

May each of these celebrations/anniversaries help us to be more conscious of our unity and solidarity with the human family - both secular and Christian.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal
fatherabraham@olpfords.org





August 30, Sunday 9:00am

**+Marie Gironda from Cheryl Montross
&**

+Josephine Montross from Cheryl Montross

11:00am

+Mary & Joseph Lyons from Family

August 31, Monday 8:00am

+Marie Gironda from Pat Bustin

September 1, Tuesday 8:00am

+Marie Gironda from Candi Gonzalez

September 2, Wednesday 8:00am

+Virgilio Bautista from Berlin & Novie Families

September 3, Thursday 8:00am

+Christopher Porcelaina from Family

September 4, Friday 8:00am

+For Our Parishioners

September 5, Saturday 5:15pm

**+Joseph Czapora from his Brother
&**

+Tony Yanello from Dolores Quattione

September 6, Sunday 9:00am

**+Virgilio Bautista from Berlin & Novie Families
&**

+Ed Delaney from Jeannie & Family

11:00am

+Russell D'Antico from Sister Margie & Family



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES



Sunday - August 30th

Mission Appeal

10:00am - KOC Fellowship - Cafeteria

Monday - August 31st

8:30am Novena - Church

Tuesday - September 1st

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

7:00pm Blue Army Devotion - Church

Wednesday - September 2nd

7:00pm KOC Business Mtg - Parish Hall

Thursday - September 3rd

7:00pm Columbiettes Officers Mtg - Regina Caeli Rm

Saturday - September 5th

Wedding - Sajul / Jagasia

4:00pm Confessions - Church

YOU ARE THE *best*

Our Lady of Peace Church Knights of Columbus, Council 9199, would like to thank the parishioners of Our Lady of Peace for their generosity in supporting the Menlo Park Veterans Home charity drive. Your gifts reflect the Christian virtues of compassion, charity, and love of neighbors that are at the heart of our parish community. Most importantly, your thoughtfulness helps our veterans know that they are remembered, valued, and held in prayer. Your kindness has warmed the hearts of these veterans, and we are deeply grateful for your support. Thank you so much for your gifts.

(submitted by Mike Wernicki, Faithful Comptroller)

SAVE THE DATE

THE SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY WILL BE HOLDING A FALL
BLOOD DRIVE AT THE PARISH CENTER OCTOBER 4 TH 2026.

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW.



Ministry Schedule

September 5th & 6th 2026

Saturday, 5:15pm Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Barbara Sinko,

Barbara Balog, Joan Deyak

Reader: Bill Herring

Altar Server: Delgado Family

Sunday, 9:00am Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Alan Nygard,

Roseanne Brady, Thomas Bednar

Reader: James Carroll

Altar Server: Brienne Szylar

Sunday, 11:00am Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Gary Coghlan, Kevin

Broesler, Lorraine O'Prandy Reader:

Angela Chundak

Altar Server: Ashley Alfaro



THIS WEEK'S ALTAR FLOWERS ARE OFFERED IN HONOR OF ERWIN N. & ANA R. ESQUEA IN CELEBRATION OF THEIR 24TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS THEIR MARRIAGE WITH MANY MORE YEARS OF LOVE, JOY, AND HAPPINESS.

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, Zairis D. Peña, Augie Elio

For those who have passed to Eternity

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, Michael Wytanis, Norma Nebus, John Sarisky,
Janice Cucchiara

For all those who are serving in the Military



God Can Do It: We Can Help

Week of August 23rd

Weekly Offering.....\$5,180.00

Mail-in.....\$554.00

Online giving.....\$2,000.50

Total.....\$7,734.50

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. 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.

CAN SUFFERING LEAD TO ANY GOOD?

When a bud goes through the pain of bursting, it is transformed into a beautiful flower. When a pupa struggles out of a cocoon, it is transformed into a charming butterfly. When a chicken breaks the shell and comes out it becomes a lovely bird. When a seed bursts the pod and falls to the ground it begins to grow as a plant. When we undergo the suffering and pain of life we are strengthened. Arthur Golden reminds us, "Adversity is like a strong wind. It tears away from us all but the things that cannot be torn, so that we see ourselves as we really are." (Arthur Golden, *Memoirs of a Geisha*). St. Paul wrote: "Suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope (Romans 5:3-4)." Suffering is not the last thing in life. It leads us to something greater, as long as we are ready to accept its challenges. "A bend in the road is not the end of the road... unless you fail to make the turn." Conclusion? Graceful acceptance of temporary suffering results in lasting glory.

"WHY CAN'T OTHERS DO MORE...?"

You may know the thrilling story of Glen Cunningham, a young man whose legs were so badly burned when he was a boy that doctors said he would never walk again. However, this determined champion went on to win an Olympic gold medal as a miler. Even more importantly, Glen Cunningham devoted his life to helping troubled young people. Once, his wife asked, "Glen, why do we have to give so much more than others? No one else is doing what we are." Glen answered, "That's the reason, Ruth. No one else is doing it."

A true disciple examines his or her conscience every day asking three questions about discipleship: a) Did I sacrifice a part of my time, talents and income for my parish and the missionary activities of the Church? b) Did I Practice self-control over my thoughts, words, deeds and use of mass media, and put loving restriction on the cell phone and Internet activities of my children? c) Did I train my children in my faith in a loving, providing, redeeming God by teaching and encouraging them to spend some time together as a family to pray, to read the Bible, to pardon each other and ask for God's pardon for the sins and failures, to thank God for His blessings and to participate in the Sunday school classes and youth programs.

MARY LOU RETTON LOSING TO WIN

In the 1984 Olympics at Los Angeles, 16-year-old Mary Lou Retton became the first American girl to win a gold medal in gymnastics. To accomplish this extraordinary feat, she had to make sacrifices during her two years of intensive training prior to the Olympics. While other teenagers were enjoying themselves with a full schedule of dating and dancing, Mary Lou Retton could only participate on a very limited basis. To improve her skills she had to practice long hours in the gym; to nourish her body properly she had to practice long hours and to increase her confidence she had to compete frequently in meets. But what Mary Lou Retton gave up in terms of good times and junk food was little compared to what she gained when she won her Olympic gold medal. What she lost in the usual social life of a teenager she found in the special setting of becoming a champion gymnast – acceptance, camaraderie and respect. Mary Lou Retton's Olympic experience illustrates somewhat Christ's paradox in today's Scripture: "Whoever would save his life will lose it. But whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

VALERIE PRICE TOOK UP THE CROSS!

Twenty-three-year-old Valerie Price went to Somalia to work as a nurse. She wanted to help people who had nothing. She wanted to offer them a better way of life. Valerie was concerned about her safety, but nothing could stop her from doing her work. She was put in charge of a feeding center in Mogadishu. Through her efforts, children who had been near starvation were fed. Valerie even established a school so the children could learn and have some hope for the future. She became nationally known for her committed service. Valerie, however, was killed by armed bandits outside the school she had started.

She was willing to risk her life to help other people. Her story, like those of millions of others, is the story of a Christian who accepted the challenge of Christian discipleship given in today's Gospel, by "denying themselves, taking up their crosses and following Jesus."

"Quo Vadis Domine?"

There is an ancient legend about Peter, which became the basis for a famous book and motion picture. At the time of the great persecution under Nero, the Christians of Rome told Peter to leave. "You're too valuable," they said. "Get out of town! Find your safety! Go to another place and preach the Gospel." Peter hastily hurried out of town as fast as he could. But as he hurried along the Appian Way, away from the Eternal City, he was met by Christ, going toward the city. Peter said to him in Latin, "*Quo vadis, Domine?*" "Where are you going, Lord?" To which Jesus replied, "Back to Rome, to be crucified with my people. Where are you going, Peter?"

Peter's eyes filled with tears of remorse, as he turned and walked back to Rome, where, according to tradition, he was crucified head downward, feeling that he was not worthy to die in the same manner as had his Lord. Jesus' question to Peter comes to us also. "Where are you going?" Are we going with Christ, or away from him and from his cross? That's the really important question. It doesn't matter how far we have traveled. What does matter is the direction in which we are going.



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



- Amusing Notice at a housing complex: The elevator is being fixed for the next day. During that time we regret that you will be unbearable.
- Amusing Notice at a hotel reception: Please leave your values at the front desk
- Inscribed in stone over the great front doors of an old church that was being restored was: "This is the gate of heaven." Just below it someone had placed a small cardboard sign that read: "Use the other entrance."
- Why should you always look at the fine print? Because the devil is in the details.
- I was asked at my last job interview if I was a natural born citizen? I had to tell the truth: "Nope. I was born Cesarean!"

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

Infidelity is not always physical. A more subtle form is Emotional Infidelity. It can start when one spouse feels under-appreciated and gets affirmation from someone outside the marriage. Sometimes work (paid or volunteer) or even the needs of one's own children can be the source. Giving time and attention now can prevent an emotional affair later.



PARENTING TUNE-UP

"You duped me, O Lord, and I let myself be duped." (Jeremiah 20: 7) Sometimes each of us makes a fool of ourselves. Share a time that you did something foolish and how you recovered. It will give your child hope that they too can recover.



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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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