



OUR LADY OF PEACE

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

CATHOLIC CHURCH



OLP MASS BOOK FOR 2027
OPENS SEPTEMBER 16TH
DETAILS ON PAGE 2



MASS READINGS

Sunday, 13 September 2026

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Sirach 27: 30 - 28: 7

Psalms: Psalms 103: 1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12

Second Reading: Romans 14: 7-9

Alleluia: John 13: 34

Gospel: Matthew 18: 21-35

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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Parish Office

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Office Hours

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Website

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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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear OLP Family,

Last Sunday we announced that our Mass Intentions Book for 2027 will be open from September 16 during Office hours), I thought it is helpful for us to know more about Mass Intentions.

Offering Mass with specific intention is an ancient and noble practice to pray for the living and the dead during Mass. The greatest and most powerful prayer we have is the Mass, since the fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption made present to us. Therefore, so many of us seek to book a Mass intention for our loved ones, living or deceased.

A Mass intention may be requested for: a deceased loved one; a living person who is sick or suffering; a living person who is celebrating a birthday, anniversary or other special moment in their life; in thanksgiving to God (including the Lord Jesus or the Holy Spirit); in thanksgiving for a favor received through the intercession of a Blessed or a Saint; or for a prayer intention (so long as the intention does not contradict Church teaching).

I'm told that there are many requests for scheduling Mass intentions in our parish. It is only natural that everyone will want to secure Masses for their chosen dates as soon as the Mass Book is open, as we do not entertain requests by email or phone. In order to be fair to all our parishioners, we will continue limiting four (4) Masses (3 weekday Masses and 1 Weekend Mass) per family. You can return on or after November 15 for additional Mass requests.

Here are the details of the different kinds of Mass intentions:

- 1. Announced Mass Intentions:** The suggested stipend for each Mass intention remains the same: \$10.00. The intention will be printed in the bulletin and announced during Mass. Please be sure to indicate if the person for whom the Mass requested is living (L) or deceased (D).
- 2. Multiple Mass Intentions:** With increasing requests for Mass intentions, it is a pastoral practice to allow two intentions for the same Mass, and these will be in the bulletin and announced at Mass.
- 3. Unannounced Mass Intentions:** There are times when parishioners ask for a Mass Intention during unforeseen special occasions such as death, month's mind, anniversary, etc., We accept such Mass intentions but these will not be announced in our parish Mass, as these will be sent either to the Office of Missions of the Diocese of Metuchen or to missionary priests who will offer these Masses faithfully as soon as they can. The suggested stipend remains the same: \$10.00. These Masses are available at any time.

I hope this detailed information gives us all a proper understanding of the Mass Intentions. Our dedicated staff look forward to welcoming you to the parish office.

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal
fatherabraham@olpfords.org





September 13, Sunday 9:00am
+Stella & Stanley Myslinski from Marcella & Family
&

+Holy Name Altar Rosary Society
11:00am

+Katherine Gamba from Barbara Laregina

September 14, Monday 8:00am
+Erlinda Go from Hiroshi & Elizabeth

September 15, Tuesday 8:00am
+In Gratitude of the Blessed Mother from Virginia

September 16, Wednesday 8:00am
+Margaret Dinkelacker
from Sarah Dinkelacker & Lisa Dzama

September 17, Thursday 8:00am
+For Our Parishioners

September 18, Friday 8:00am
+Julia & Thomas Dischler from Your Loving Family

September 19, Saturday 5:15pm
+Carl Szamareta from JoAnn Grandal
&
+John & Viola Katona from Bill & Joyce

September 20, Sunday 9:00am
+Judith Wendt from Wendt Family
&
+Anna Zmigrodski from Family
11:00am
+Joe & David Ferlicchi from Emil



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES



Sunday - September 13th
8:30am - Holy Name Altar Rosary - Pray Rosary - Church

9:00am-12:00pm Holy Name Altar Rosary Meeting - Regina Caeli Rm

Monday - September 14th
8:30am Novena - Church

Tuesday - September 15th
5:30pm-9:30pm Scouts - Parish Center
7:00pm Blue Army Devotion - Church

Wednesday - September 16th
4:30 - 5:45pm Religious Education
Gr 1 - 4 - Parish Center
7:00-8:15pm Religious Education
Gr 5 - 8 & I-I - Parish Center
6:00pm KOC Social Mtg - Parish Hall

Thursday - September 17th
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal - Church

Saturday - September 19th
4:00pm Confessions - Church

This Week's Sanctuary Candle

This week's Sanctuary Candle burns in loving memory of John and Viola Katona, offered by Andrew, Katelyn, and Emma. May their memory remain a blessing and their love continue to shine brightly in the hearts of those who remember them.

This Week's Bread and Wine

This week's Bread and Wine are offered in loving memory of John and Viola Katona, offered by Karen and Jeff. May this offering be a prayerful remembrance of their lives and a celebration of their lasting love.



September 19th & 20th 2026

Saturday, 5:15pm Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Barbara Balog, Joan Deyak, Karen Senatore

Reader: Bill Herring

Altar Server: Delgado Family

Sunday, 9:00am Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Kenneth Egan, Alan Nygard, Martin Verendia

Reader: Thomas Diegnan

Altar Server: Brienne Szylar

Sunday, 11:00am Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Kathleen Kazary, Ronak Bantleman, Maria Frey

Reader: Frank Heelan

Altar Server: Sienna Santos



The Social Concerns Ministry will be holding a Fall Blood Drive at the Parish Center October 4th 2026. More information to follow.



Week of September 13th

Due to the holiday weekend we will list the offering totals in next week's bulletin

CALLING OUR SILVER AND GOLDEN COUPLES

Couples celebrating their 5th or 25th or 50th or 50+ wedding anniversaries in 2026 are invited to attend the Silver and Gold Anniversary Prayer Service on Sunday, October 18, 2026, at 3:00 PM, at the Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi, 32 Elm Ave, Metuchen, NJ 08840. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://diometuchen.org/silver-and-gold-anniversary-celebration>

LIFECCHAIN – October 4

LIFE CHAIN is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 90 minutes praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by participants of all faiths, especially the Christian community, that abortion kills children and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception until natural death. Several locations within the Diocese will host as prayer sites. For more information, please visit <https://diometuchen.org/humanlifeanddignity>

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, Bill Herring, Elaine Cerreta

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

“I left my anger at the gates of that prison!”

Pete Peterson was appointed U.S. ambassador to Vietnam in the late 1990s. Long before that, however, Peterson had served six years as a prisoner of war in the dreaded “Hanoi Hilton” prison camp. He endured unspeakable brutality, starvation, and torture at the hands of his captives. They robbed him of six years of his life he will never get back. Never. And when asked how he could return to this land as an ambassador, he replied, “I left my anger and regret at the gates of that prison when I walked out in 1972. I just left it behind me and decided to move forward with my life.” (*Shoulda, Coulda, Woulda: Live in the Present, Find Your Future* by Dr. Les Parrott, (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2003).)

Seventy times seven: Peter asked Jesus how often he ought to forgive his brother, and then answered his own question by suggesting that he should forgive seven times. It was the Rabbinic teaching that a man must forgive his brother three times. The Biblical proof for this was taken from the first and second chapters of Amos where we find a series of condemnations on the various nations for three transgressions (Am.1:3,6,9; Am.1:11,13; Am.2:1,4,6). From this it was deduced that God's forgiveness extends to three offences, and that he visits the sinner with punishment at the fourth. Also, seven was a holy number to Jewish people, symbolizing perfection, fullness, abundance, rest, and completion. Peter expected to be warmly commended. But Jesus' answer was that the Christian must forgive seventy times seven. In other words, there is no reckonable limit to forgiveness.

Judy Lawson forgives her son's murderer!

Before her death, Judy Lawson became the spiritual Mother of scores of hardened criminals. On her last Mother's Day, according to Bill Myers, she received 40 Mother's Day cards from former criminals whose lives she touched. Her prison ministry began eighteen months after her son was brutally murdered. She knew it was God's will for her to forgive the murderer, and she had spoken the words, but she continued to harbor ill will toward the man who had robbed her of her son. She had agreed to never say "no" to God, so when she heard Him saying, "I want you to love the man who killed your son," she had no choice but to fight the natural rage boiling up and to practice Christian love and forgiveness. While visiting a prison to support a friend at a parole hearing, she came face-to-face with the murderer. Controlling her inner struggle in faith, she spoke to the man. "Richard," she said, "my name is Judy Lawson—you murdered my son and I want you to know that I love you and I forgive you." The man began sobbing and the prison guards had to remove her from the facility. She sent the murderer letters. He sent them back. But she continued to write. Her family said, “Stop.” Her pastor said, “Stop.” But her God said, “Continue.” Soon, God's grace broke through and the vicious killer and the victim reconciled and began a ministry together with Judy proclaiming grace and forgiveness to inmates.

We need to forgive, forget and be reconciled: In the light of eternity and the shortness of our span of life, harboring old grudges is pointless. Neighbors who remained hostile and unforgiving till their death are buried a short distance from one another in the same cemetery. Our ability to forgive is the measure of the depth of our Christianity. The forgiveness that we offer others is the indispensable condition which makes it possible for us to receive God's forgiveness and to pray meaningfully: “Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.” Let us remember St. Francis Assisi's prayer: “It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.” Our failure to offer pardon means that we have forgotten God's goodness or have not fully appreciated the unconditional forgiveness we have received from Him. What God expects from us is limitless forgiving and an ability to gloss over faults and to keep on loving even in the face of insults.

06 MORE TO LOVE

September 13, 2026 Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

Loose cannon inside the ship in storm

French author Victor Hugo has a short story titled, "93." In the midst of this tale a ship at sea is caught in a terrific storm. Buffeted by the waves, the ship rocks to and fro, when suddenly the crew hears an awesome crashing sound below deck. They know what it is. A cannon they are carrying has broken loose and is smashing into the ship's sides with every list of the ship. Two brave sailors, at the risk of their lives, manage to go below and fasten it again, for they know that the heavy cannon on the inside of their ship is more dangerous to them than the storm on the outside.

So it is with people. Problems within are often much more destructive to us than the problems without. Today, God's word would take us "below decks" to look inside ourselves concerning the whole matter of forgiveness. We may never forget the hurt we have experienced, but we can choose to forgive. As life goes on and we remember an incident that was hurtful and caused great anger, we need to remind ourselves that with God's grace we have already forgiven the one that hurt us. Time does heal memories. Time can dull the vividness of the hurt and thus the memory will fade. We must never let the person who hurt us own us. Forgiveness finally changes us from prisoners of our past to being liberated and at peace with our memories. Visualize those who caused such destruction as sinful men needing the redeeming grace of Jesus Christ.



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



Two little brothers, Harry and James, had finished supper and were playing until bedtime. Somehow, Harry hit James with a stick, and tears and bitter words followed. Charges and accusations were still being exchanged as their mother prepared them for bed. She said, "Now boys, what would happen if either of you died tonight and you never had the opportunity again for forgiving one another?" James spoke up, "Well, OK, I'll forgive him tonight, but if we're both alive in the morning, he'd better look out." 😊

While checking his bags at the airport, a man became indignant with the employee who handled luggage. For several minutes he belittled the young man and criticized his every move. Surprisingly, the employee didn't seem troubled by this man's verbal abuse. After the angry passenger entered the airport, a woman approached the luggage handler and asked, "How do you put up with such injustice?" The young man said, "It's easy. That guy's going to New York, but I'm sending his bags to Brazil." 😊

The mother ran into the bedroom when she heard her seven-year-old son scream. She found his two-year-old sister pulling his hair. She gently released the little girl's grip and said comfortingly to the boy, "There, there, she didn't mean it. She doesn't know that it hurts." He nodded his acknowledgment, and she left the room. As she started down the hall the little girl screamed. Rushing back in, she asked, "What happened?" The little boy replied, "She knows now." 😊

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

AN "EMOTIONAL CONFLICT PREVENTION STRATEGY" IS TO PUT YOUR SPOUSE ON YOUR CALENDAR. SCHEDULE A WEEKLY DATE AND/OR AN ANNUAL ENRICHMENT DAY OR WEEKEND



PARENTING TUNE-UP

"HOW OFTEN MUST I FORGIVE?" (MT 18:21). KIDS MAKE MISTAKES, ARE SELFISH, OR SOMETIMES JUST PLAIN MEAN. FORGIVENESS DOES NOT MEAN THERE IS NO CONSEQUENCE FOR BAD BEHAVIOR. DON'T FEAR TO GIVE A PUNISHMENT, BUT WRAP IT IN LOVE AND A WAY TO EARN FORGIVENESS.



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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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