

December 1, 2024 - First Sunday of Advent

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs



Very Rev. Francis J. Passenant, V.F. — **PASTOR**
Most Rev. Paul R. Sanchez, D.D. — **PASTOR EMERITUS**
Rev. Antonin Kocurek — **PAROCHIAL VICAR**

TRUSTEE
Veronica McCarthy
Roy Joseph

FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR
Edward Torres

DAILY MASSES
Monday–Friday: 8:05 a.m. & 12:05 p.m.
Saturday: 12:05 p.m. & 5 p.m. (Vigil)

ROSARY & CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY
Monday–Saturday after 12:05 p.m. Mass

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA
Mondays after 8:05 a.m. & 12:05 p.m. Mass



JOIN THE PARISH
Scan for parish registration
information and form

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION**
Deacon Thomas Jorgé

PASTORAL CARE DIRECTOR
Dennis Francis Portelli

SUNDAY MASSES
9 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1 p.m.

CONFESSIONS
Tuesday & Thursday: 11:30 a.m.
Saturday: 12:45 p.m.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Thursdays after 12:05 p.m. Mass
Evening Benediction resumes 3/6/25

CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM
First Sunday of each month at 2:30 p.m.
baptismprep@olqmchurch.org

WATCH SUNDAY MASS ONLINE
11:15 a.m.
ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/webcast

MUSIC DIRECTOR
David Close

**OLQM CATHOLIC
ACADEMY PRINCIPAL**
Anne Zuschlag

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION
Masses for Immaculate Conception
(Monday, Dec 9) at 8:05 a.m.,
12:05 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
(no Vigil Mass)

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE
Arrangements should be made at least
six months in advance, **prior** to the
proposed wedding date

GIVE NOW
Scan for online
parish giving



110 - 06 Queens Boulevard
Forest Hills, New York 11375
tel 718-268-6251; fax 718-793-2584
rectory@olqmchurch.org | ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org
OLQM Catholic Academy: tel 718-263-2622



OFFICE HOURS
Monday–Tuesday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Wednesday–Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(closed for lunch from noon to 1 p.m.)
Saturday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. No office hours Sundays

Masses for the Week

Saturday, November 30

Saint Andrew

8:05 a.m. Corrine Russo

12:05 p.m. Mercedes Gutierrez-Santiago

5 p.m. Luis and Gloria Lasprilla
[living; 50th wedding anniversary]

Sunday, December 1

9 a.m. **Family Mass** celebrated for the parishioners of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs
Children's Liturgy of the Word

Monday, December 2

8:05 a.m. Martin Quimson

12:05 p.m. Rev. Dario Betancurt

Tuesday, December 3

Saint Francis Xavier

8:05 a.m. Rev. Dario Betancurt

12:05 p.m. Marie Dougherty

Wednesday, December 4

Saint John Damascene

8:05 a.m. Livia M. Santiago-Reyes

12:05 p.m. Rachel Pengson

Thursday, December 5

8:05 a.m. Anna Marie Saglio

12:05 p.m. Susan Villani

Friday, December 6

Saint Nicholas

8:05 a.m. Elizabeth Sanchez

12:05 p.m. Ilawan family [living]

Saturday, December 7

Saint Ambrose

*No 8:05 a.m. Mass

12:05 p.m. Yik Lan Chan

5 p.m. Camilo Carreño

*REMINDER: The Saturday morning Mass has been discontinued effective the week of December 1, 2024.

Remember Our Sick

Guilberto Aguirre, Dennis Ascienzo, Baby Molly Catherine Banderberg, David Batista, Michael Bekman, Marco Benitez, Andrea Emilia Bernabe, Connie Brown, Rosita Cabral, Elizabeth Cabrera, Rafael Cabrera, Taylor A. Calder, Susan Campbell, Erin Campobianco, Gustavo Cáceres, Frances Cesarrano, Antonio Cordova, Elizabeth Cordova, Danny Cozzi, Norman Doucette, Baby Luka Dudashvili, Zenaida Faya, Domingo Galicia, Marie Gavosto, Lionel Genello, Elizabeth Hansen, Jennifer Holden, Nadine Ho-Sin Burton, Ginger Inabinet, Jeannine Jodhan, Noila Johnson, Migdalia Leon, Bendita Mandala, Fred Marks, Matilde Munoz, Aileen Nunag, Erny Ordenez, Jaime Andres Ortiz, Paul Christian Paiewonsky, Grace Perl, Maria Rodin, Msgr. Philip Reilly, Jason Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Valerie Rizzo, Enrique Roque, Patricia Tormey, Luigi Totumaccio, Jamie Vayone, Karimita Villegas, Teresa Wong—and all parishioners currently in nursing homes, hospitals or confined to their homes

Because of space constraints, we must periodically update the prayers for the sick. Names may be removed after three (3) months, unless the rectory is notified. Thank you for understanding.

WELCOME! Sound-enhancing assistive listening device is available if you have trouble hearing during Mass. Visit the sacristy for information. If a disability makes it difficult for you to fully participate at Mass or other activities of our parish, contact our Parish Advocate for Persons with Disabilities, Karen Mongiello, at disabilities.olqm@gmail.com, to make your special needs known.

Main Events of the Week

Sunday, December 1

GIVING TREE/TOY DRIVE WEEKEND 3

(Leave gifts under the tree in church; see page 4 for details)

10 a.m. *rectory meeting room:* **Sunday Morning Bible Study**

After 1 p.m. **Mass:**

Sacred Music Society Sweepstakes Drawing

Monday, December 2

After 8:05 a.m. and 12:05 p.m. **Masses church:**

Miraculous Medal Novena

7–8 p.m. **Zoom: “Through the Word” Bible Study**

Tuesday, December 3

11:30 a.m. *church:* **Confessions**

7:30 p.m. *church choir loft:* **Choir Rehearsal**

Wednesday, December 4

Religious Education

3:45–5 p.m. *levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 class*

7–8 p.m. *levels 5, 6, Confirmation, FFO*

7:45–9 p.m. **Zoom: Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group**

Thursday, December 5

11:30 a.m. *church:* **Confessions**

After 12:05 p.m. **Mass**

Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

(Evening Benediction resumes March 6, 2025)

6 p.m. *Ascan Ave. (between Queens Blvd. & Austin St.):*

OLQM Catholic Academy

Christmas Tree Lighting

Friday, December 6

ST. NICHOLAS DAY

6–8 p.m. *McLaughlin Hall:* **Martyrs Active Youth**

Organization (MAYO) Band Shirt & Karaoke Night

Saturday, December 7

12:45 p.m. *church:* **Confessions**

Remember Our Deceased

Marcos Martinez Sr.



Lucila Melendez

We pray for the men and women of our Armed Forces serving in the U.S. and abroad

Eric Böhm, Sergio Borrero, Thaddeus Buenaventura, Ricardo Cantillo, Bobby DiTroia, Armando Fellin, Andrew Gonzalez, A. Jay James, William (Will) Klos, Michael Le Floch, Louis Mannino, Gabriella Mattson, Justin Pabse, Rodney Ross, McNeely Royal, Jose J. Vaz, Mollie Rae Whitley, William Youssef, Phillip Whitley. **Please pray for all who risk their lives for our safety, including police, fire, corrections, and military personnel.**

This Week's Reflection

We are revisiting and sharing, in condensed form, some relevant and timeless pieces from the View from the Pew archives.—Father Passenant

A View from the Pew: Bless Us, O Lord

by Deacon Greg Kandra

At every meal, my wife and I sit at the dining table and take a moment to pray quietly together words that most of us learned before we were out of our childhood highchairs: *Bless us, O Lord, and these, Thy gifts, which we are about to receive through Thy bounty. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

It's one of the most familiar prayers we Catholics can utter—right up there with the Our Father and Hail Mary. And I suspect most of us don't give it more than a passing thought. But I'd like to make a suggestion: The next time you find yourself at the table, about to say grace, listen to those words as they escape your lips and consider what you are saying:

"Bless us, O Lord..." Father, confer on us Your blessing—a generous act of love that we really do not deserve.

"And these, Thy gifts..." Would You also bless the food sitting before us? Seeing this food on our table, when we know others are going hungry, we realize that this is all part of a harvest that You have graciously provided us. It is truly a gift.

"Which we are about to receive..." The gift has been given, and we will accept it into our hearts and into our bodies.

"Through Thy bounty..." We cannot forget that it is here because of Your ever-generous creation: the earth You made, the soil You enriched, the seeds You allowed to bud from ripening plants, the creatures You placed on this earth to roam the fields, feed at the rivers, and nest in the trees.

"Through Christ, our Lord..." We ask all this through Your beloved Son, our savior and our brother, Jesus Christ.

"Amen." Yes. The punctuation at the end of every prayer, the affirmation at the end of every hope. Yes. We seal this with our hearts and our assent.

Try it sometime. Especially in the post-Thanksgiving blur, when there will be leftovers to enjoy and extra helpings of God's blessings for us to pray over, prayers of thanks have even more meaning. Take a moment to think about what it all means. You just might find yourself going back for seconds.

THURSDAY DEVOTIONS -Winter Schedule-

From December 5 to February 27, Thursday Benediction and Adoration will be held immediately after the 12:05 p.m. Mass. **Evening Benediction at 7:30 p.m. resumes on Thursday, March 6, 2025** (the day after Ash Wednesday).

Order of Mass

First Sunday of Advent

Cycle C—Choir Mass 11:15 a.m.

ENTRANCE

Missal #44—"O Come Divine Messiah"

MASS PARTS: A Community Mass (*Proulx*)

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul!

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4.2

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

HOMILY

OFFERTORY

"Let All Mortal Flesh" (G. Holst)—Choir

Missal #40—"Come Lord Jesus"

COMMUNION

*"Zion Hears the Watchmen's Voices" (J. S. Bach)—Choir
Organ Meditation*

Missal #518—"Christ, Be Our Light"

CLOSING HYMN

Missal #59—"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

11:15 A.M. SUNDAY MASS LIVESTREAM

ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/webcast

Second Collections

» Today's second collection is for maintenance of the OLQM Catholic Academy school building. There is also an envelope for the Religious Retirement Fund.

» December 8, the second collection is for Pastoral Care.

» At any time, use the special envelope to contribute to the Parish Endowment Fund (ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/blue-envelope). If using the Parish Giving portal online, select Blue Envelope from the pull-down menu.

» For online Parish Giving technical support, call 866-307-7140, Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

First Week of Advent HOPE

*Be vigilant
at all times.
(Luke 21:36)*





OLQM CHRISTMAS Giving Tree & Toy Drive

We are helping Catholic Charities collect gifts for children & teens in need. Here's how to participate:

- Choose a gift tag from the church tree designating a boy or girl & their age. Tags will be available for 2 weekends starting **November 16th & 17th**. Then shop for a brand-new, age-appropriate gift.
- Return your gift **UNWRAPPED**, and with the original tag attached, and place it under the tree. Gifts must be returned by **December 8th**.

IDEA: For teens, brand-new gift cards are a flexible option so they can pick out something they truly need or want.

Blessings for a Happy Advent & Christmas to All!

NOV 16/17 to DEC 7/8 2024

Tips for Participating in the Christmas Giving Tree & Toy Drive



There's one more week to go for our Giving Tree project! When returning gifts, place them under the tree in the church UNWRAPPED. Please don't leave them unattended in the church vestibule.

New gift cards can be placed in an envelope marked "GIVING TREE" and left in the mailbox outside the rectory door.

If you missed getting a gift tag these last two weekends or found no tags were left, don't worry—you can still participate. Simply bring a brand-new and UNWRAPPED gift for a child or teen to the tree or the rectory **no later than Sunday, December 8**.

The gifts donated by OLQM parishioners will be delivered to Catholic Charities Santa's Toy Shop at St. Gabriel's parish in Elmhurst. There, parents and guardians who present a birth certificate for each child can select presents for their children. Thank you for your kindness!

Monday, December 9

Immaculate Conception ~ Holy Day of Obligation

When a holy day of obligation falls on Sunday, the solemnity moves to the following Monday. This year, the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary—our national patronal feast day—is transferred from Sunday, December 8 to Monday, December 9. **Masses on December 9 will be held at 8:05 a.m., 12:05 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. (Note: There is no Vigil Mass on December 8, the Second Sunday of Advent.)** The second collection on the Immaculate Conception will be forwarded to *The Table's* "Bright Christmas" fund. Like last year, Fr. Passenant will personally match what we receive.

Meaning of the Advent Wreath

The wreath of evergreen branches holds four candles for the weeks of Advent—three violet and one rose. The candles are lit before the Mass opening prayer each Sunday. The rose candle will be lit on the Third Sunday. The circular shape reminds us the world belongs to Christ; the ribbons in the wreath signify our connection to Him.

—Weekly Collections—

Because of an early closing, the collection figures for Nov 24 week were not available in time for publication. They will be reported in a future bulletin.

Contact Us

MAIN PHONE AND EMAILS

Rectory Office:
718-268-6251
rectory@olqmchurch.org

Emergency (last rites):
718-810-9788 (after office hours)

Fr. Passenant (Pastor):
admnlolqm@yahoo.com

Bishop Sanchez (Pastor Emeritus):
rectory@olqmchurch.org

OLQM Catholic Academy:
718-263-2622
info@olqmca.org

Religious Education Office:
718-263-0907
olqmreled@gmail.com

OCIA Office:
718-268-6251, ext. *827
olqmrcia@gmail.com

OLQM Charity Outreach:
718-268-6251, ext. *843

ADDITIONAL EMAILS
Baptisms:
baptismprep@olqmchurch.org

Bereavement Support:
bereave@olqmchurch.org

Bulletin Subjects:
olqmcomm@olqmchurch.org

Disabilities Advocate:
disabilities.olqm@gmail.com

MAYO (Youth Organization):
youth@olqmchurch.org

Pastoral Care Office:
dfport@gmail.com

FIND US ONLINE
ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org

Facebook, Instagram,
X/Twitter:
@OLQMChurch

YouTube:
@OLQMStewardship

OLQM Catholic Academy:
www.olqmca.org

LIVESTREAM MASS
Sundays @ 11:15AM. The Mass is available in its entirety on demand using the "past livestreams" link at ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/webcast

Drawing after today's 1 p.m. Mass

Sacred Music Society Sweepstakes

Say hello to a choir member after any Mass and ask if any sweepstakes tickets remain available. Only 100 tickets are being sold at \$50 each—offering great odds to win the \$1,000 prize! The drawing is today, so good luck.

Choir members are also selling Christmas concert tickets (cash, check, credit card). Thank you for supporting the Sacred Music Society of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs.

A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Concert of Advent & Christmas Music

Sunday, December 15 at 4 p.m.

Tickets \$30 | Children 12 & under free

Note: If purchasing concert tickets in the rectory, only cash and check are accepted.



Our Lady Queen of Martyrs

Sacred Music Society

A Christmas Festival

Sunday December 15, 2024 at 4 pm



Engage deeply with the season of Advent through our two-week workshop, “Remember & Hope: A Theology of Advent,” presented by Dr. Joseph Terry. Sessions are on **December 11th and 18th, from 7–8 p.m., in the rectory meeting room.** As we reflect on Christ’s first coming and anticipate His return, take this opportunity to renew your hope in God’s promises and prepare for Christmas by deepening your understanding of this sacred season.

Music, Hope, and Giving

The sweet voices you on Sunday mornings are from our Children’s Choir. Their songs and smiles brighten the 9 a.m. Mass on Sundays. Here they are with Fr. Passenant and their teacher, JoAnn Longobardi, in front of our Giving Tree at the start of this year’s Christmas Toy Drive on Sunday, November 17.



Catholic Social Teaching Committee—Consider Joining

This parish committee has been meeting for several years. It has discussed many documents of Catholic Social Teaching and summarized key elements of that teaching in the parish bulletin and on our parish website. At its next meeting, the committee will discuss Pope Francis’s call in his 2015 encyclical to care for our common home, the work of God’s creation. If you are interested in learning more about the committee, you are invited to the next committee meeting, which will take place on **Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at 7 p.m.** in the rectory.

Advent Calendar

Monday, December 9: **Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)** *Three Masses at 8:05 a.m., 12:05 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. (There is no Vigil Mass on Sunday, 12/8).*

Wednesday, December 11: **Church closes at 1:30 p.m.**
for concert preparations.

Wednesdays, December 11 & 18: **Theology of Advent**
7–8 p.m. in the rectory basement meeting room. All are invited to this two-part workshop. See p. 5 for more details.

Thursday, December 12: **Our Lady of Guadalupe**
At the 12:05 p.m. Mass, the congregation is invited to bring roses to arrange in vases at the base of the picture of Our Lady.

Weekend, December 14/15, **Bambinelli Sunday**
Bring the baby Jesus statue from your home Nativity set to any Mass for a blessing.

Sunday, December 15: **A Christmas Festival**
4 p.m. in the church. Concert admission is by ticket only (see p. 5).

Tuesday, December 17–Tuesday, December 24:
O Antiphons
These prayers are recited or sung at the Masses as meditations in the final days of Advent as we await the birth of Christ.

Christmas Schedule

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS

Reconciliation Monday, December 16:
Extended confession hours at 11:15 a.m., 4 pm. & 7 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday, December 17 & 19: *11:30 a.m.*
Saturday, December 21: *12:45 p.m. (last opportunity)*
No Confessions Christmas Eve & December 26

CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24
4 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass
with Children's Nativity Pageant
9 p.m.* Christmas carols followed by
Mass during the Night for the Nativity of the Lord
**in person and livestreamed*

CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, December 25
9 a.m., 11:15 a.m.* (Choir) & 1 p.m.
** in person and livestreamed*

NEW YEAR'S DAY

**Feast of Mary, the Mother of God
(Holy Day of Obligation)**
5 p.m. Vigil Mass on Tuesday, December 31, 2024
10 a.m. & 12:05 p.m. Masses on January 1, 2025

“To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.” Are you being called to grow in holiness as a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister?
Contact the Vocation Office at 718-827-2454 or email vocations@diobrook.org.

Please Continue to Fulfill Your Pledges

We have successfully raised \$114,568 for the diocesan annual Appeal, fulfilling our parish's 2024 obligation. So far, \$157,256 has been paid of a total of \$168,412 pledged by 324 donors.

The surplus amount paid, which now stands at about \$42,600, will come back to our parish. So please continue to make all outstanding pledges by Dec 31.



Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

OCIA (formerly RCIA) is a program for adults age 18 or older who want to join the Catholic Church or complete their Sacraments. OCIA guides you through the process of discernment, prayer, and education. To sign up, contact olqmrcia@gmail.com or call 718-268-6251, ext. 27, and leave a message (including a callback number). All emails and calls will receive a response.

Faith Sharing Groups at OLQM

Are you looking to explore the Bible with others? Join a parish group.



Sunday Morning Bible Study: 10–11 a.m. Weekly in the rectory basement meeting room (use glass door behind the Mary statue). Current study: St. Luke's Gospel.

Monday “Through the Word” Bible Study: 7–8 p.m. on Zoom. Current study: the Acts of the Apostles. Contact Dr. Joseph Terry (josephterry@gmail.com) to request the Zoom link. Archived recordings can be viewed on demand at www.YouTube.com/@bktheologian.

Wednesday Catholic Charismatic Prayer: 7:45–9 p.m. Weekly Zoom prayer meetings with bible study on the 3rd Wednesday. Join to pray together and for one another. Learn how God's word is alive and relevant in our daily lives. Meeting ID: 82120186604 (PW: 765136).