

December 15, 2024 - Third Sunday of Advent

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs

Bambinelli Blessings



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

Christmas Schedule

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS

Reconciliation Monday, December 16
11:15 a.m., 4 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday, December 17 & 19
11:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 21
12:45 p.m.

*No Confessions on Christmas Eve
No Confessions on December 26*

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Tuesday, December 24
4 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass
with Children's Nativity Pageant

9 p.m. Christmas Carols *followed by*
Christmas Mass at Night

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Wednesday, December 25
9 a.m., 11:15 a.m. (Choir) & 1 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

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

*The 12:05 p.m. Mass on New Year's Day
will be celebrated for the intentions of
those memorialized with Christmas wreaths,
trees, and poinsettias and the donors to
the Christmas flower fund.*



JOIN THE PARISH
Scan for parish registration
information and form

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

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, December 14

Saint John of the Cross

No 8:05 a.m. Mass

12:05 p.m. Anna Velez

5 p.m. All Souls in Purgatory

Sunday, December 15

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

Monday, December 16

8:05 a.m. Fernando Saglio [living]

12:05 p.m. Natividad Castislanco

Tuesday, December 17

8:05 a.m. Domingo Galicia

12:05 p.m. Carmine Yodice

Wednesday, December 18

8:05 a.m. Alma M. Ilawan [living]

12:05 p.m. Josephine Orlando

Thursday, December 19

8:05 a.m. Robert Peter Ballerini

12:05 p.m. Ester L. Raymundo and Yolanda Panganiban [anniversary]

Friday, December 20

8:05 a.m. Enith D. Parra

12:05 p.m. Ignazia and Matteo Orlando

Saturday, December 21

Saint Peter Canisius

No 8:05 a.m. Mass

12:05 p.m. Celia McGoldrick

5 p.m. Rose Harach Brogno

Remember Our Deceased

Lenore Alexakis
Angela Ameruoso
Michael Bekman
Fr. Albert Bellantonio
Domingo Galicia
Ulises Giberga



Vlana George
Edna Mary Marmion
Gabe Nahoum
Msgr. Philip Reilly
Anthony J. Sarro
Frank Schaefer

Remember Our Sick

Guilberto Aguirre, Dennis Ascienzo, Baby Molly Catherine Banderberg, David Batista, Marco Benitez, Andrea Emilia Bernabey, 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, Marie Gavosto, Lionel Genello, Elizabeth Hansen, Jennifer Holden, Nadine Ho-Sin Burton, Ginger Inabinet, Jeannine Jodhan, Noila Johnson, Sherryl Kahn, Migdalia Leon, Bendita Mandala, Fred Marks, George McGarrity, Matilde Munoz, Aileen Nunag, Ernny Ordenez, Jaime Andres Ortiz, Paul Christian Paiewonsky, Grace Perl, Maria Rodin, Jason Rivera, Jaxson Rivera, Valerie Rizzo, Enrique Roque, Joseph Thomas, Patricia Tormey, Luigi Totumaccio, Jamie Vayone, Karimita Villegas, Teresa Wong—and all parishioners currently in nursing homes, hospitals or confined to their homes

Main Events of the Week

Sunday, December 15

BAMBINELLI BLESSING at ALL MASSES

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

4 p.m. church: A Christmas Festival Concert

Admission by ticket only. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Reconciliation Monday, December 16

Christmas Confessions at 11:15 a.m., 4 p.m. & 7 p.m.

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

6:45 p.m. rectory meeting room: Bereavement Support Group

7 p.m. Zoom: "Through the Word" Bible Study

Tuesday, December 17

"O" Antiphons of Advent Begin

Recited daily from Dec. 17 through Dec. 23

11:30 a.m. church: Confessions

7 p.m. rectory: Catholic Social Teaching Committee meeting

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

Wednesday, December 18

Religious Education

Christmas Carols and Pageant

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

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

**7–8 p.m. rectory meeting room: Remember & Hope:
A Theology of Advent Teaching Workshop**

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

Thursday, December 19

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)

Friday, December 20

**6–8 p.m. McLaughlin Hall: Martyrs Active Youth
Organization (MAYO) Christmas Party**

Saturday, December 21

*** FIRST DAY OF WINTER ***

12:45 p.m. church: Confessions

1 p.m. rectory meeting room: Baptism Instruction

(Please note the special day & time for class for Jan. 5 baptisms)

The Wine and Host

are offered in loving memory of

Robert Peter and Audrey Ballerini

—requested by Audrey & Robert D. Ballerini

**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 Passenaut

A View from the Pew: Peace on Earth

by Deacon Greg Kandra

The earth is at the end of another year, as darkness falls. The world remains troubled—haunted by petty problems and wars that keep erupting on the face of the planet. 'Tis the season, though, and we seek color and warmth. We light candles and sing songs and hang tinsel and wish each other well. We listen for angels and look for stars. And we wonder if there will ever be peace on earth.

We have been wondering about this for a long time. We pray for it. We hope for it. We wait for it, like children wait for Saint Nicholas. It is hard to wait in a cold and unforgiving time of year. But we do it. We live with it, this season of expectation, this unending upward spiral of hope.

I think, underneath the wrapping paper and ribbon, that this is the true essence of Christmas. It is hope.

It is the unwavering belief that help is coming. It is God's promise kept. It is the sure knowledge that soon the nights will grow shorter, and it will get warmer. It is the steadfast certainty of spring. Somewhere, under the cold earth, seeds are waiting.

This is the reason for the season. It is the assurance that God cares enough about us to become one of us. If He is able to do that, what else might He be capable of? We look to the skies, searching for a star.

We live in troubled times, on a troubled planet. But look up. Fireworks will explode. A ball will drop. Have hope.

Hope may well be a mysterious part of God's imprint upon us—one way in which He has tagged us as His own.

In this season, there may be no sweeter expression of God's continuing work within us than to hope for peace and pray for it.

I think God is hoping with us. And praying with us, too.



Third Week of Advent
("Gaudete Sunday")

REJOICE

*Rejoice in the Lord always.
I shall say it again: rejoice!
(Philippians 4:4)*

Order of Mass

Third Sunday of Advent

Cycle C—Choir Mass 11:15 a.m.

ENTRANCE

Missal #698—"Come Now, Almighty King"

MASS PARTS: A Community Mass (*Proulx*)

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-18a

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Cry out with joy and gladness; for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7

GOSPEL: Luke 3:10-18

HOMILY

OFFERTORY

*"E'en So Lord Jesus Quickly Come" (P. Manz)—Choir
Missal #51—"Waiting in Silence"*

COMMUNION

*"On Jordan's Bank" (arr. M. Archer)—Choir
Organ Meditation
Missal #338—"The Supper of the Lord"*

CLOSING HYMN

Missal #594—"Soon and Very Soon"

11:15 A.M. SUNDAY MASS LIVESTREAM
ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/webcast

Second Collections

- » Today's second collection is our Christmas gift to the church.
- » December 22, the second collection is to help defray the cost of winter fuel.
- » 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.



A Christmas Festival at 4 pm

TODAY: Tickets \$30 at the door. Children 12 & under free.

Remember & Hope

The Theology of Advent
A Two-Part Workshop



Take this opportunity to renew your hope in God's promises and prepare for Christmas by deepening your understanding of this sacred season. Our Advent workshop, presented by Dr. Joseph Terry, continues this week. Join us on **Wednesday, December 18 from 7-8 p.m. in the rectory meeting room**, as we reflect on Christ's first coming and anticipate His return.

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.

BLESS THE BABY JESUS!

May today's blessing of our statues of the Baby Jesus (Bambinelli) remind us of the wonderful gift that God our Father gives us in Christ Jesus.

—Weekly Collections—

	Dec 8
Candle Offerings	\$1,707.00
1st Collection	7,523.08
2nd Collection (<i>Pastoral Care</i>)	2,821.00
<u>Subtotal - In Church</u>	<u>12,051.08</u>
Online Parish Giving	7,134.44
Mail In	2,485.00
TOTAL	\$21,670.52
Weekly Income Needed *	\$24,500.00
Surplus/(Deficit)	(2,829.48)

* Amount needed weekly to meet church expenses; does not reflect other income sources. Our goal is to cover parish expenses through higher first collections, without having to depend on less reliable income streams.

Consider a Legacy Gift

Please remember the Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs in your will and estate planning. You may speak directly to Father Passenant or Bishop Sanchez at 718-268-6251. You may also find more information on leaving legacy gift at ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/planned-giving.

LET EVERY HEART PREPARE

*Receive the gift of God's mercy in
the Sacrament of Reconciliation!*

During Advent, we hear the Gospel story where John the Baptist call us to "Prepare the Way of the Lord." One of the best was for YOU to prepare yourself for Christmas is to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

On **Advent Reconciliation Monday, December 16**, we will have extended hours for Christmas confessions. Our priests will be hear confessions in the morning (11:15 a.m.), afternoon (4 p.m.), and evening (7 p.m.).

If you are unable to stop by our church during those times, then consider visiting another church near where you work or will be traveling that day. Every parish in the entire Diocese of Brooklyn/Queens and Archdiocese of New York will have extended confession hours on December 16.

"With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation." Are you considering a vocation as a priest, deacon, or in the consecrated life? Contact the Vocation Office at 718-827-2454 or email vocations@diobrook.org.

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):
admn.olqm@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](https://www.facebook.com/OLQMChurch)

YouTube:
[@OLQMStewardship](https://www.youtube.com/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

Bereavement Support at Christmas

Holidays can be difficult for those who have experienced the recent loss of a loved one. The parish bereavement group is a welcoming and comforting community of individuals who help one another deal with grief. They meet once a month, usually the third or fourth Monday. They meet next this **Monday, Dec. 16 at 6:45 p.m.** in the rectory basement meeting room. Questions? Contact the group facilitator Mike Acquilano at bereave@olqmchurch.org.

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.

Monday Evening Bible Study Wraps Up with Advent Reflections

Our Monday evening Through the Word Bible Study program on Zoom will take an indefinite break following the **final session on January 6, 2025**. For these remaining weeks, the study topic is reflections on the Sunday readings for Advent and Christmastide

Although the live Zoom sessions will pause, the collection of Through the Word recordings will remain available for on-demand viewing at [YouTube.com/@bktheologian](https://www.youtube.com/@bktheologian), offering an opportunity to revisit past studies or explore them for the first time.

Our thanks to study leader Dr. Joseph Terry and everyone who participated and contributed to making the Monday gatherings a meaningful part of our church's ministry the past few years.

Consider Joining the Catholic Social Teaching Committee

This parish committee has been meeting for several years discussing many documents of Catholic Social Teaching and summarizing key elements of that teaching in the parish bulletin. 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 attend our meeting this week on **Tuesday, December 17 at 7 p.m.** in the rectory.



Antiphons of Advent

Recited at the Masses through Dec 23

The “O Antiphons” are brief prayers recited or sung at Mass daily during the Octave before Christmas. On the eighth day, December 24, Christmas Eve, the prayer is part of the Christmas Vigil. Each prayer begins with “O” and expresses an Old Testament hope for the coming of the Messiah. The O Antiphons are the inspiration for the hymn “O Come, O Come Emmanuel.”

December 17—O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18—O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19—O Root of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all his people: come to save us without delay!

December 20—O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21—O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

December 22—O King of all nations and keystone of the Church: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

December 23—O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!

Take home a copy of the O Antiphons prayers that we have in church and recite the short prayers at home as part of your preparations for Christmas. The prayer sheet, which explains the Latin roots and meaning of each prayer, is also available online at ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/o-antiphons.



Old St. Nick Day Tradition

by Amy Snorteland, Math Support Teacher

Students at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Academy celebrated the December 6th feast of Saint Nicholas with a time-honored tradition: a visit from Santa himself! All students placed one shoe outside their classroom door for Saint Nick to fill with some treats. This was a fun way for students to learn the real story of Santa Claus—that his charity and love for others, in the likeness of Jesus, is what makes him a true saint.

A SPARKLING WELCOME TO THE SEASON

The Christmas tree on the grounds of OLQM Catholic Academy is a gift for all who stroll along Ascan Avenue. May its light bring you peace and joy! Photo courtesy Robert Schnell. More pictures of the December 5th tree lighting ceremony are on our website in the photo gallery.



Please Fulfill Your Appeal Pledges by December 31

We have successfully raised \$114,568 for the diocesan annual Appeal, fulfilling our parish's 2024 obligation. So far, \$172,296 has been paid of a total of \$180,372 pledged by 333 donors. Please continue to make all outstanding pledges. The surplus amount paid, which now approaches \$58,000, will come back to our parish. God bless you all for your generosity!



Student Honors

The following students from our parish have been cited by **ST. FRANCIS PREPARATORY SCHOOL** for achieving Honor Roll status. Congratulations to all for honors earned!

Natalia Borges, Maya Delgado, Gabriella Edwards, Grace Edwards, Chance Hoskins, Isabella Jimmo, Dominic John, Valentina Lorenzo, Angela Morales, Sofia Orozco, Safiya Richens, Alexander Setari, Asha Mariana Tetangco, Maria Vulaj, Brooke Welz, Xavier Youngman

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 Sunday readings for Advent and Christmastide until Jan 6. Contact Dr. Joseph Terry (josephterry@gmail.com) to request the Zoom link. Archived recordings 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).