

December 17, 2023 - 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 18
11:15 a.m., 4 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday, December 19 & 21
11:30 a.m.
Saturday, December 23
12:45 p.m.
No Confessions on Christmas Eve
No Confessions on December 26

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

Sunday, December 24
Masses are on the regular weekend schedule
for the Fourth Sunday of Advent
5 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass
9 p.m. Christmas Carols followed by
Christmas Mass at Night

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

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

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASSES

Monday, January 1, 2024
Feast of Mary, the Mother of God
(Holy Day of Obligation)
10 a.m. & 12:05 p.m.

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



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Forest Hills, New York 11375
tel 718-268-6251; fax 718-793-2584
rectoryolqm@aol.com | 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 2 p.m. No office hours Sundays

Masses for the Week

Saturday, December 16

8:05 a.m. Domingo Galicia [living]

12:05 p.m. Souls in Purgatory

5 p.m. Carmine Yodice

Sunday, December 17

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

Monday, December 18

8:05 a.m. Grazilia Suarez

12:05 p.m. Josephine Orlando

Tuesday, December 19

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

12:05 p.m. Robert Peter Ballerini

Wednesday, December 20

8:05 a.m. Clara Ceparano

12:05 p.m. Ignazia and Matteo Orlando

Thursday, December 21

Saint Peter Canisius

8:05 a.m. Andrew Joseph Weber

12:05 p.m. Janet Carlson [living]

Friday, December 22

8:05 a.m. Natividad Jumalon

12:05 p.m. Victoria Batalla

Saturday, December 23

Saint John of Kanty

8:05 a.m. Sonia Orbegoso

12:05 p.m. Ignazia and Matteo Orlando

5 p.m. Stanley and Halina Daniszewski

Main Events of the Week

Sunday, December 17

All Masses: BAMBINELLI BLESSING

10 a.m. *rectory basement meeting room (use glass door by the Mary statue):*
Sunday Morning Bible Study

2:30 p.m. *rectory:* **Baptism Instruction**

“O” Antiphons of Advent

Recited daily from December 17 through December 23

Reconciliation Monday, December 18

After 8:05 a.m. & 12:05 p.m. Masses
Miraculous Medal Novena

Confession Times

11:15 a.m., 4 p.m. & 7 p.m.

6:45 p.m., *rectory basement meeting room:*

Bereavement Support Group Meeting

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

Tuesday, December 19

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

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

Wednesday, December 20

Religious Education Christmas Carols/Pageant

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

7–8:15 p.m. levels 5, 6, Confirmation, FFO

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

Thursday, December 21

FIRST DAY OF WINTER

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

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

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, December 23

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

Remember Our Sick

Victoria Bagasan, Raymond Bajarías, Grace Banks, Robert Battista, Donald Begota, Viola Binua, Jorge A. Castillo Lepe, Antonio Cordova, Elizabeth Cordova, Cely de Borja, Sister Ann Barbara De Siano IHM, Norman Doucette, Baby Luka Dudashvili, Alvaro Fuentes Leal, Domingo Galicia, Stephen Gavosto, Lucille Giannone, Jorge Guzman, Anne Hansen, Miriya Healing, Jo-Ann Henry, Ruth Henry, Anita Hsu, Mary Hughes, Tommy Jorge, Cipriana Jorge, Elizabeth Ann Jiyun Kim, Elaine M. Kuzlik, Elyse Locurto, Marites Macapagal, Lillian MacColl, Daniel McCarthy, Nellie Milite, Matilde Munoz, Karen Nassauer, Peter Nicolais, Jorge Ospina, Antonio Pellegrino, Amelia Perdomo, Richard Perl, Dennis Portelli, Jovanka Radeka, Maria Rodin, Ariana Rose, Dr. Anthony Sarro, Terrence and MaryAnna Scudieri, Alice Singh, Robert Sorsaia, Lineth Vaz, Carlos Eduardo Villegas, Graciela Guzman Villegas, Stanislaw Wolk, Giovanni Wong, Teresa Wong, Jennifer Yamamoto, Julio Enrico Yanez, Deacon Elias Yepes, Sandra Zalbe—and all parishioners currently in nursing homes, hospitals or confined to their homes

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.

The Wine and Hosts

are offered in loving memory of

Robert Peter Ballerini

—requested by *Andrey & Robert D. Ballerini*

Remember Our Deceased

Msgr. John E. Delendick

Laura Ifeoma Ike

Martin Jimenez



Mary McCarthy

Peter Shaver

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 from Catholic Teaching

Pope St. John Paul II on Advent

"Advent is, so to speak, an intense training that directs us decisively toward him who already came, who will come, and who comes continuously." (Pope St. John Paul II)

REFLECT: "God is the future of the human person and of the world. If humanity loses the meaning of God, it will close itself to the future and inevitably lose the perspective of its pilgrim journey in time. Why birth, why death? Why sacrifice, why suffering? To these questions, Christianity offers a satisfying answer. For this reason, Christ is the hope of humanity. He is the true meaning of our present because he is our sure future. Advent reminds us that he has come, and that he will come. The life of believers is a continuous and vigilant waiting for his coming." (Pope St. John Paul II, December 1, 2002)

"As an expert Mother, the Church knows better than any other institution the difficulties and sufferings that are part of the human condition. She knows well that in the life of many ... sadness prevails over joy, anxiety over hope. It is particularly to these men and women that the Christmas message is proclaimed in a preferential way because Christ brought the good news of salvation to the poor, to prisoners freedom, and to those in sorrow joy...."

"The serious problems surrounding human life sometimes make it difficult to recognize the gifts of Christ. The mission of the Church, that is coached by the Holy Spirit, is precisely that of making his gifts visible and of witnessing to their presence. Today humanity yearns especially for the gifts of joy and peace. It is our mission as believers, with the eloquence of love expressed in deeds, to become every day the prophetic ferment of a world reconciled by love and animated by divine joy. May the Blessed Virgin Mary, whom we honor as the 'Cause of our joy' help us to be faithful to this mission." (Pope St. John Paul II, December 16, 2001)

LEARN: Read Pope St. John Paul II's December 16, 2001, Advent message at <https://tinyurl.com/975erxcn>, and his December 1, 2002 Advent message at <https://tinyurl.com/3ctac2mv>. Watch Bishop Barron's YouTube presentation on the Spirituality of Advent at <https://tinyurl.com/y4sj4zk4>.

Be an Informed Citizen. To learn more about legislative issues that affect us as Catholics and how you can express your opinions to our elected officials, we encourage you to sign up for "Action Alerts" from the NY State Catholic Conference. www.nyscatholic.org/nys-catholic-conference-action-center

Order of Mass

Third Sunday of Advent

Cycle A—Choir Mass 11:15 a.m.

ENTRANCE

Missal #39—"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

MASS PARTS: A Community Mass (*Proulx*)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

My soul rejoices in my God.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28

HOMILY

OFFERTORY

"E'en so Lord Jesus Quickly Come" (*P. Manz*)—*Choir Missal #52—"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"*

COMMUNION

"On Jordan's Bank" (*arr. M. Archer*)—*Choir Organ Meditation Missal #68—"Creator of the Stars of Night"*

CLOSING HYMN

Missal #59—"The Advent of Our King"

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

Second Collections

- » Today's second collection is My Christmas Gift to My Church.
- » On December 24, the second collection is for Christmas Music and Liturgy. There is also an envelope for the annual Christmas Day Collection for Catholic Charities Brooklyn and Queens.
- » 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 Parish Giving technical support, call 866-307-7140, Mon–Fri, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT JOY



CHRISTMAS CONFESSION & MASS TIMES
appear on today's cover and can be found online at ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org.

The rectory offices will be closed on
Tuesday, December 26.

O

Antiphons of Advent

Prayers to recite
through Dec 23

The “O Antiphons” are 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 these short prayers at home as part of your preparations for Christmas. The prayer sheet also explains each prayer’s Latin roots and meaning; it is also available online at ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/o-antiphons

LET EVERY HEART PREPARE
RECONCILIATION MONDAY



The Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the best gifts to give yourself for Christmas!

We are offering extended hours for confessions in preparation for Christmas. On **Monday, December 18**, our priests will be available to 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 a church near where you work or will be traveling that day and inquiring about their confession schedule. Every parish in the entire Diocese of Brooklyn/Queens and the Archdiocese of New York will have extended confession hours on December 18.

Bereavement Support at the Holidays

The holiday seasons can very difficult for people who have experienced the death of a loved one. Memories serve as constant reminders of loss. Watching others celebrate can be overwhelming. The parish bereavement support group is a welcoming community of individuals who have faced loss and help one another to better deal with grief. They meet once a month (third or fourth Monday). The next meeting is **December 18 at 6:45 p.m.** in the rectory basement meeting room (use the glass door behind the Mary statue). For more information, contact the bereavement group facilitator Mike Acquilano at bereave@olqmchurch.org.

Thank You for Taking the “Bright Christmas” Challenge!

Your spirit of giving shines bright! We collected \$998 for **The Tablet’s Bright Christmas Fund** during a second collection at Masses for the Immaculate Conception on December 8. And, as promised, Father Passenant matched your gift amount and has sent a donation of \$2,001 to the fund.



Having a Wonderful Christmastime at OLQM Catholic Academy—The Christmas Tree Lighting at the school on December 4 was a joyful celebration for everyone present. Over the last year, the tree has grown 30 inches and is now 11 feet tall! It was a fun way to kick off the Christmas season together. These OLQMCA students are, of course, on Santa’s nice list. We look forward to seeing them and everyone at Christmas Masses next week.



Music for Christmas at OLQM We will sing favorite hymns and carols at all the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day! The Christmas Eve Vigil Mass with children’s pageant begins at 5 p.m. Also on December 24th, beginning at 9 p.m., as we come together to worship on this holy night, our music ministry will perform a organ prelude and selection of Christmas carols, to be followed by Christmas Mass at Night. Christmas Day Masses are at 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m. (choir), and 1 p.m.

—Weekly Collections—

| | Dec 10 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Candle Offerings | \$ 1,561.00 |
| 1st Collection | 7,069.10 |
| 2nd Collection (<i>winter fuel</i>) | 3,058.10 |
| Immaculate Conception-HDO (12/8) | 2,550.08 |
| <u>Subtotal - In Church</u> | <u>14,238.28</u> |
| Online Parish Giving | \$ 5,202.86 |
| Mail In | \$ 3,139.00 |
| TOTAL | \$22,580.14 |
| Weekly Income Needed* | 23,150.00 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | (569.86) |

**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.*

Immaculate Conception 2nd Collection \$ 998.00**

**Matched and sent to The Tablet Bright Christmas Fund; see p. 4

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 Passenat or Bishop Sanchez at 718-268-6251. You may also find more information on leaving legacy gift at ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/planned-giving.

Contact Us

PHONE AND EMAIL

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

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

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

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

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

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

ADDITIONAL EMAIL

Administrator’s Office:
adm.olqm@yahoo.com

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

Sunday @ 11:15AM. Available in its entirety on demand using the “past livestreams” link at ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/webcast

Annual Christmas Day Collection for Catholic Charities

Pope Francis said: "Blessed are the open hands that embrace the poor and help them; they are the hands that bring hope."

Each year on Christmas Day, we ask that you extend a hand to your neighbors by making a generous gift to Catholic Charities to assist them in their work. Catholic Charities of Brooklyn and Queens brings hope to the poor daily—helping the homeless seeking food and shelter, individuals and families struggling with addiction or mental illness, young families in need of early childhood services, and seniors confronting loneliness and depression and with affordable housing worries.

Please use the special envelope to give to the Catholic Charities Christmas Day Collection. You will be helping to make all the difference in the world to someone. May the Lord bless your generosity with the peace and joy of Christmas.



GIVING TREE THANK YOU

Catholic Charities thanks you for your kindness as they deliver all the gifts you brought to the Christmas Giving Tree and Toy Drive. It is a wonderful tradition and so appreciated by the young people in our diocese who receive the gifts.

Two Weeks to Go before End of Year

Annual Catholic Appeal Pledges Are Due by December 31

Your response to the 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal has been extraordinary. We successfully met our Appeal goal for the year. Indeed, **we are \$43,300 over goal** in paid pledges! Another \$7,100 in pledges is outstanding. Please fulfill all pledges by December 31. The amounts paid over goal are refunded to our parish.

Parish Goal:
\$114,568
Achieved!

Pledged: \$164,980
Paid Pledges: \$157,868
Donors: 318

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of
Adults



If you are 18 years of age or older and interested in becoming Catholic, or if you need to complete your Sacraments of Initiation, RCIA is the answer to your prayers. RCIA guides you through the process of discernment, prayer, and education. 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.

Community Services

Mental Health Services at St. John's University Center for Psychological Services (152-11 Union Turnpike). Testing and therapy for children, adolescents, and adults. To make an appointment, call 718-990-1900.

Assisted Living Residence and Respite Care Available at Dominican Village, founded by the Sisters of St. Dominic of Amityville, NY. To schedule a tour or to request more information, email jford@dominicanvillage.org or call 631-842-6091.



Faith Sharing Groups at OLQM

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

Sunday Morning Bible Study: 10–11 a.m. Meets in-person in the rectory basement meeting room (use glass door behind the Mary statue). Current study is St. Luke's Gospel. Contact Noila Johnson: noilas@hotmail.com.

Monday "Through the Word" Bible Study: 7–8 p.m. Current study topic is the Eucharist. To join on Zoom, contact josephterry@gmail.com. Archived recordings of the weekly bible studies 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: 2917352357 (PW: 031011).