

December 3, 2023 - 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**  
Lorna Stark

**SUNDAY MASSES**  
Saturday: 5 p.m.  
Sunday: 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 1 p.m.

**DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION**  
Deacon Thomas Jorge

**PASTORAL CARE DIRECTOR**  
Dennis Francis Portelli

**WEEKDAY MASSES**  
(Monday–Saturday)  
8:05 a.m. & 12:05 p.m.

**MUSIC DIRECTOR**  
David Close

**OLQM CATHOLIC  
ACADEMY PRINCIPAL**  
Anne Zuschlag

**HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION**  
Vigil Mass at 7:30 p.m.  
Masses at 8:05 a.m. & 12:05 p.m.

## CONFESSIONS

Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 a.m.; Saturday at 12:45 p.m.

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

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

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
Thursdays 12:40 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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

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



## 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



## This Week's Reflection from Catholic Teaching

### Reasons of the Heart 1: Conscience and the Disposition to Faith

*"In the depths of his conscience, man detects a law which he does not impose upon himself ... the voice of conscience speaks to his heart."*  
(Gaudium et Spes)

**REFLECT:** The catechism states that "deep within his conscience, man discovers a law which he has not laid upon himself but which he must obey. Its voice, ever calling him to love and to do what is good and to avoid evil, sounds in his heart at the right moment." But many refuse to listen to their conscience, preferring to ignore it. Their willful obtuseness to the stirrings of their heart leaves them ill-disposed to believe an authority beyond themselves.

St. John Henry Newman notes that those attentive to the stirrings of their heart are "well disposed to faith." We experience conscience as an interior authority that judges our motives and actions. Reflecting on this, we are open to the existence of a "Being exterior to ourselves; for else whence did it come?" and to a "Being superior to ourselves; else whence its strange, troublesome peremptoriness?"

We also experience the difficulty of discerning the true voice of conscience from the promptings of our passion and pride. Reflecting on this, we "thirst" for "authoritative guidance," something or someone who will provide certain knowledge of what is right and good. Finally, even when we try to follow our conscience, we soon discover to our sorrow that we do this imperfectly or not at all. Reflecting on this, we experience the harshness of a guilty conscience and seek relief.

On hearing the Gospel, Newman states, the man "who has been seeking conscience's author, right knowledge and hoping for mercy," will find it wonderful and thrilling—something to pursue and even believe. On the other hand, Newman warns, "the man who is without the due religious dispositions I have been describing, simply is not moved at all ... it will not even occur to him that he ought to rise, and look about him."

**LEARN:** Read St. John Henry Newman's sermon, titled "Dispositions for Faith," at <https://tinyurl.com/4nzt7ue>. Watch Bishop Barron's YouTube presentation on Conscience and Morality, at <https://tinyurl.com/3zmfhrpt>.

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](http://www.nyscatholic.org/nys-catholic-conference-action-center)

## Order of Mass

### First Sunday of Advent

*Cycle A—Choir Mass 11:15 a.m.*

#### ENTRANCE

*Missal #44—"O Come, Divine Messiah"*

**MASS PARTS:** A Community Mass (*Proulx*)

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.*

**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

**GOSPEL:** Mark 13:33-37

#### HOMILY

#### OFFERTORY

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

*Missal #40—"Come, Lord Jesus"*

#### COMMUNION

*"Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying" (P. Nicolai)—Choir*

Organ Meditation

*Missal #599—"Christ, Be Our Light"*

#### CLOSING HYMN

*Missal #69—"Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"*

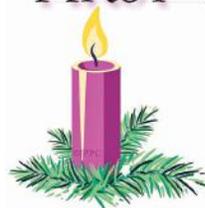
**11:15 A.M. SUNDAY MASS LIVESTREAM**

[ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/webcast](http://ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/webcast)

## Second Collections

- » Today's second collection is for Christmas Music & Liturgy. There is also an envelope for the Religious Retirement Fund.
- » On December 10, the second collection is for winter fuel.
- » At any time, use the special envelope to contribute to the Parish Endowment Fund ([ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/blue-envelope](http://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.

## FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT HOPE



In faith and in hope we begin Advent this week with the first candle. Everything we see and hear this month — the Christmas trees, lights, cards, carols, Santa hats — prepares us for Christ's birth.

## Advent at OLQM

**Sunday, December 10**

**A Christmas Festival.** 4 p.m. in the church. Admission to the concert is by ticket only.

**Tuesday, December 12**

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

**Sunday, December 17**

**Bambinelli Sunday.** All Masses. Bring the baby Jesus statue from your home creche to church for a special blessing.

**Monday, December 18**

**Reconciliation Monday.** Extended hours for Christmas confessions: 11:15 a.m., 4 p.m. & 7 p.m.

**Christmas Mass Schedule Next Week**



### Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Sacred Music Society **A Christmas Festival** Sunday December 10, 2023 at 4 pm



Come celebrate the Christmas season with **A Christmas Festival** presented by the **Sacred Music Society of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs** with Maestro David Close and John Easterlin, tenor, Paula Jean Rocheleau, soprano, and Barbara Podgurski, piano, with the chorus of the Sacred Music Society.  
Sing along and share in the joy of Christmas carols and holiday favorites!

**John Easterlin, featured artist**  
**Paula Jean Rocheleau, soprano**  
**Barbara Podgurski, piano**  
**Regina J. Faighes, narrator**  
**David Close, conductor**

**Tickets: \$30**

Children 12 and under, free.  
Tickets will be available at the Rectory during office hours.  
For more information, call 718.268.6251

*Photo: Adriana Lopetrone Photography*



Thank you for your generosity to OLQM Parish!

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

## Annual Catholic Appeal Pledges Are Due by December 31

Parish Goal: \$114,568 (Achieved!)  
Donors: 317  
Pledged: \$153,759  
Paid Pledges: \$143,703

Your response to the 2023 Annual Catholic Appeal has been phenomenal. We have successfully met our Appeal goal for this year. In fact, we are \$29,000 over goal in paid pledges! Another \$10,000 in pledges is outstanding. Please fulfill all outstanding pledges by December 31. Amounts paid over goal are refunded to our parish. God bless you for your generosity!

## 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](mailto:bereave@olqmchurch.org).

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Vigil Mass Dec 7 @ 7:30pm

Holy Day Masses Dec 8 @ 8:05am and 12:05pm

## 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](mailto: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.

### —Weekly Collections—

	Nov 19	Nov 26
Candle Offerings	\$1,576.00	\$1,838.00
1st Collection	\$8,063.00	7,699.26
2nd Collection	\$2,631.00	2,531.00
	<i>pastoral care</i>	<i>major repairs</i>
Thanksgiving Day (11/23)	-	3,511.00
2nd Collect. (11/23 major repairs)	-	1,120.00
Christmas Flowers	-	1,639.26
<u>Subtotal - In Church</u>	<u>12,270.00</u>	<u>18,338.52</u>
Online Parish Giving	\$4,293.27	3,869.36
Mail In	\$2,090.00	3,080.00
TOTAL	\$18,653.27	25,287.88
Weekly Income Needed*	23,150.00	23,150.00
Surplus/(Deficit)	(4,496.73)	2,137.88

\* 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.

### Special Collections

Campaign for Catholic Development (11/19) \$1,408.00  
Special collections taken throughout the year do not accrue to the parish/

### 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 Passenart or Bishop Sanchez at 718-268-6251. You may also find more information on leaving legacy gift at [ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/planned-giving](http://ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/planned-giving).

## OLQM Giving Tree & Toy Drive

Nov 25/26 to Dec 9/10

\* Leave all gifts UNWRAPPED with the original tag attached at the designated drop-off point in the church or bring them to the rectory during business hours. Please avoid leaving gifts unattended in the church vestibule.

\* If you weren't able to get a gift tag last week, that's OK — YOU CAN STILL PARTICIPATE. Purchase a thoughtful, shiny-new gift for a child or teenager and bring it, unwrapped, to church **no later than Sunday Masses on December 9/10** — in time for Catholic Charities to collect the gifts for its Santa Workshops.

\* Gift cards that are brand-new are welcome for teens so that they can pick out something they truly need or want. Gift cards can be dropped in the rectory mailbox (write "Giving Tree" on the gift card envelope).



**Thank you for your generosity!**

**Early Bulletin Deadlines for the Holidays.** If your church group has a news announcement heading into Christmas and New Year, please submit your material early. Email [olqmcomm@olqmchurch.org](mailto:olqmcomm@olqmchurch.org). All announcements are subject to approval. Thank you.

## Contact Us

### PHONE AND EMAIL

Rectory Office:  
718-268-6251  
**NEW:** [rectory@olqmchurch.org](mailto:rectory@olqmchurch.org)

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

OLQM Catholic Academy:  
718-263-2622  
[info@olqmca.org](mailto:info@olqmca.org)

Religious Education Office:  
718-263-0907  
[olqmreled@gmail.com](mailto:olqmreled@gmail.com)

RCIA Office:  
718-268-6251, ext. \*827  
[olqmrcia@gmail.com](mailto:olqmrcia@gmail.com)

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

### ADDITIONAL EMAIL

Administrator's Office:  
[adm.olqm@yahoo.com](mailto:adm.olqm@yahoo.com)

Baptisms:  
[baptismprep@olqmchurch.org](mailto:baptismprep@olqmchurch.org)

Bereavement Support:  
[bereave@olqmchurch.org](mailto:bereave@olqmchurch.org)

Bulletin Subjects:  
[olqmcomm@olqmchurch.org](mailto:olqmcomm@olqmchurch.org)

Disabilities Advocate:  
[disabilities.olqm@gmail.com](mailto:disabilities.olqm@gmail.com)

MAYO (Youth Organization):  
[youth@olqmchurch.org](mailto:youth@olqmchurch.org)

Pastoral Care Office:  
[dfport@gmail.com](mailto:dfport@gmail.com)

**FIND US ONLINE**  
[ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org](http://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](http://www.olqmca.org)

### LIVESTREAM MASS

Sunday @ 11:15AM. Available in its entirety on demand using the "past livestreams" link at [ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/webcast](http://ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org/webcast)

## In the Spirit of Thanksgiving

On November 19, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, Father Passenant and Bishop Sanchez stood shoulder to shoulder with fellow religious leaders from the community for the Interfaith Prayer Service. This annual gathering, held this year at the Forest Hills Jewish Center, reminds us that there are good people everywhere and an abundance of reasons to be grateful and to pray together and praise God.



## Recently at OLQM



### SMS Sweepstakes:

*The winner of the Sacred Music Society Sweepstakes was Maria Ribar, with ticket #22! Witnesses to the drawing on Sunday, November 26, were (l to r): David Close, Robert Sorsaia, Christian de los Santos, and Yves Mtabouti.*

**Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive, Part 2:** *On Thanksgiving Day, we collected more essential provisions to fill another two vans from Catholic Charities Community Outreach Services. A heartfelt thank you to all who gave to help feed our neighbors in need this holiday season.*



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:josephterry@gmail.com). Archived recordings of the weekly bible studies can be viewed on demand at [www.YouTube.com/@bktheologian](http://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).

### Car Donations for Charity

The Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn—also known as St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP)—will give back **\$100/\$200** to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs for each donated car, truck, or van (any condition, running or not). If you or a family member, friend, or neighbor have an old or neglected vehicle to dispose of, please call SVDP. The number is **718-491-2525**. Free towing is available. Visit [SVDPAuto-BrooklynQueens.org](http://SVDPAuto-BrooklynQueens.org) for more information. Thank you for your participation.