

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs



Most Rev. Paul R. Sanchez, D. D. — **PASTOR**

Rev. Francis J. Passenant — **ADMINISTRATOR**

Rev. Antonin Kocurek — **PAROCHIAL VICAR**

PARISH EXPO

“THANKING GOD THROUGH OUR SERVICE”

Please come and experience the many facets of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs parish

For additional information, visit www.ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org

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Forest Hills, New York 11375

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rectoryolqm@aol.com | ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org

OLQM School: tel 718-263-2622

Description of Ministries

ALTAR SERVER SOCIETY

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs is blessed with more than 100 members of the Altar Server Society. Altar Servers assist with the parish worship by being present at the liturgical services and Masses. They add to the services with their assistance to the priest and the solemn performance of their duties. Under the direction of David James, the Society is a valuable asset to the parish and is open to all young people of the parish, beginning in the fifth grade. Anyone may join at any time into high school, as long as they desire to be of service to the parish by participating in the liturgical services.

Many of our servers really enjoy their participation, and look forward to serving, especially for the Holy Days or special events. The members offer a service to the parish, while enjoying the experience and the satisfaction of doing something well for the parishioners. If interested, please contact **Fr. Passenant** or **David James** at **(718) 268-6251**.

BIBLE STUDIES

The parish offers evening Bible Studies sessions at various times of the year to all who wish to participate. Our Bible Studies program goes beyond offering parishioners a weekly opportunity for Christian fellowship and faith sharing—it augments our experience of the Liturgy of the Word during Mass and helps to make our private scriptural studies more spiritually fruitful and enriching.

Sessions are under the tutelage of either a priest or experienced lay and religious instructors who shed new light on scripture and help bring God's Word alive. Each course of study runs up to six weeks and is dedicated to either a specific Gospel or Book of the Bible, or to a particular church history theme. Instruction is followed by an informal discussion and time for questions.

Sessions are held on Monday evenings, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the rectory's main meeting room. If interested, please contact **Fr. Kocurek** at **(718) 268-6251**.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

We pray together to worship God and to share our faith. Group meetings consist of spontaneous prayer, scripture reading and the exercise of charismatic gifts. Regular meetings take place every Friday at 7:30 p.m., in the rectory's main meeting room. Members engage in Bible Study (ongoing every second Friday of the month), prepare one of the altars for the yearly Corpus Christi procession, and assist in the celebration of the Feast of St. Lorenzo Ruiz in September.

The group also arranges bus pilgrimages to the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy in the spring and the Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima in the fall. Newcomers are welcome. If interested, please leave a message for **Remy Leal** at **(718) 268-6251**.

CHOIR

Saint Augustine once said that those who sing pray twice. Not only is that true, but the choir experience is also a wonderful way to participate in the life of the parish by lifting your voice in praise of our Lord, in the company of fellow parishioners who have dedicated themselves to the enhancement of our liturgy through sacred song.

The Choir of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs sings at the 11:30 a.m. Mass every Sunday, and for all the major liturgies of the year. Weekly rehearsals are on Tuesdays at 7:45 p.m. in the choir loft. Rehearsals offer an opportunity to prepare the inspiring choral music sung each week at Mass. Specific roles for ministers of music include the leader of song and choir singers.

In addition, the Sacred Music Society of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, comprised of the choir, orchestra, soloists, and the Oratorio Society of Queens, presents the annual Christmas Concert in December and all of the fundraising activity that goes on to achieve the concert presentation. Introduce yourself to **Music Director David Close**, or leave him a message by calling the rectory at **(718) 268-6251**.

COMMUNICATIONS

We inform parishioners about OLQM. This committee is responsible for communications that emanate from the parish: the weekly bulletin, news announcements, fliers, email communications, and the OLQM website. We act as a link to The Tablet and NET-TV (the communications arms of the Diocese of Brooklyn/Queens) and other parishes in our deanery. Volunteers wishing to contribute their professional skills in graphic arts, writing, editing, marketing or social media are welcome to contact the OLQM Communications department. Depending on your interests and time availability, we could use help especially in the areas of pro bono graphic design, logo design or poster printing services (for annual events such as the Christmas Fair or special events).

If interested, please contact the rectory at **(718) 268-6251**, ext. 12, or e-mail olqmm@aol.com, attn: **Karen Brogno**.

CONSOLATION/BEREAVEMENT

The Consolation Ministry attends Wake Prayer Services and assists families in preparation for the Christian Funeral Rite of the Church. We update the Funeral Liturgy Planner and Music Selection sheets as well as provide additional support to families during this difficult time for them.

The Bereavement Support Group offers spiritual support to parishioners (as well as non-parishioners) who have recently suffered a loss. We offer a caring environment, hope and comfort; we are non-judgmental and respect privacy in all aspects of the grieving process and point toward healing. We typically meet every first and third Monday of every month at 7 p.m. in the rectory parlor room, unless there is a holiday schedule.

For more information, email **Yorke Mizelle** at ymizelle@gmail.com or call him at the rectory, **(718) 268-6251**.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHCs) serve one of the most important ministries of the parish: actually bringing Jesus to others, by visiting the homebound and those confined to nursing homes or hospitals, and by giving Communion at Mass.

More than a volunteer service, this is an actual ministry that requires a one-day diocesan-sponsored training session. Serving as an EMHC is a wonderfully rewarding ministry that can bring abundant graces, while also bringing the Body of Christ to our brothers and sisters in faith. If interested, please contact **Pastoral Care Administrator Dennis Portelli** at **(718) 268-6251** or dfport@gmail.com.

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The goal of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs' Home School Association (HSA) is to promote the educational enrichment and foster a clear understanding of the mutual educational responsibilities of both parents and teachers. HSA acts as a liaison between the parents, the school principal and teachers. We provide a vehicle of healthy communication and exchange between home and school. In addition, we provide parents with a series of ongoing presentations and services that will aid them in the serious responsibility that is theirs as parents.

The HSA sponsors fundraising initiatives in an effort to maintain tuition rates and support educational programs. If interested, please contact **Martha Kuzma** at hsa@olqmschool.com, or call the OLQM School office at **(718) 263-2622**.

JOB NETWORKING/ CAREER COACHING GROUP

This group seeks to create a resource and forum for individuals who want to change their employment status. If you are unemployed, underemployed or seeking an alternative to your current occupation, you can participate to share search skills and strategies.

Group meetings are virtual, with the facilitator and others networking and holding discussions through email, by phone, video-conferencing and public webinar presentations. For more information, contact **Anne Marie Cooley** at olqjobsearch@gmail.com.

LECTORS

God's Holy Word is proclaimed to the gathered assembly by ministers who have been entrusted with this responsibility. They are commissioned to communicate God's word in the liturgy. This ministry requires a one-day diocesan-sponsored training session, and periodic meetings are held. Lectors are expected to thoroughly prepare their reading and provide a clear, unhurried delivery.

If interested, please contact **Fr. Passenant** or leave a message for **Irene Nash** at (718) 268-6251.

MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY

Members of the Ushers Society, also known as Ministers of Hospitality, are a knowledgeable and gracious resource to all parishioners and visitors to Our Lady Queen of Martyrs. They welcome members of the congregation ("meet, greet and seat"), aid in making the various processions more effective and efficient, take the various collections, and distribute the weekly church bulletins efficiently. Anyone is welcome to become a Minister of Hospitality. Potential candidates are expected to be present and neatly dressed at one of the Sunday Masses on a regular basis. We are in need of new ushers to assist with this important ministry.

If interested, please contact **Fr. Passenant** or leave a message for **John Gregory** at (718) 268-6251.

OLQM SCHOOL

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs (OLQM) School is a Catholic, parochial, coeducational school with classes from Preschool to Grade 8 (Preschool includes full-day and half-day Pre-K and half-day Nursery programs). OLQM School seeks to provide a quality education by assisting in the creative formation of the student. Students are invited to share and nurture a love for learning. We strive to foster mutual respect and peace that flows from proclamation of the gospel message in an educational setting.

OLQM School believes that Jesus Christ is the core of our existence. We endeavor to teach as Jesus taught, through providing an educational program rich in spiritual, as well as academic growth. It is our belief that Jesus Christ is ever present in our classrooms, fostering Christian growth through word, worship, community and service. Students are encouraged to explore their own strengths and challenges through varied instructional methodology. Our knowledge of both student and community fosters an environment that recognizes the varied cultures and customs of each individual. Through the various methods employed throughout the school, we strive to cultivate a nurturing environment in which our students feel safe, secure, and free to express their individual talents. We endeavor to educate the whole child, and to prepare children not only for their immediate future, but to provide them with the skills necessary for long-term success.

Please contact our school's principal, **Mrs. Anne Zuschlag**, at (718) 263-2622 or info@olqmschool.com.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care is a group of men and women who want to reach out to our Catholic neighbors as friends and become a part of their spiritual journey. Members are dedicated to the love of Our Lord and Our Blessed Lady through prayer and the care of those in our parish who cannot join us for Mass on Sunday, or are homebound on a daily basis.

Many of our members are Eucharistic Ministers who distribute Holy Communion to our homebound relatives and friends, aided by a team of those who have joined to be with them in prayer and adoration. They are also invaluable in helping during the weekly Masses and prayer services held at all the nursing homes, and in offering intercessory prayer.

The active members of Pastoral Care start the day with the 12:05 p.m. Mass and the Rosary and Chaplet of the Divine Mercy. Each Tuesday, following the Rosary and Chaplet, they gather in the church rectory for a weekly meeting of prayer, planning and discussion.

If you're willing and seeking spiritual growth, you're one of us. Just come to one meeting. Please contact **Pastoral Care Administrator Dennis Portelli** at **(718)268-6251** or **dfport@gmail.com**.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education offers comprehensive programs to parishioners of different ages and needs, as follows:

- **RCIA:** Prepares adults to join the Catholic Church and to complete their Sacraments of Initiation.
- **Adult Confirmation:** Prepares adults for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- **Religious Education:** Instructs public school children in their Catholic faith throughout their years in elementary school, and prepares them for the reception of Sacraments.

□ **Children's Catechumenate:** Prepares older students for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist).

□ **Gathering Sessions:** Informal adult meetings designed to develop the spirituality of parents and parish adults through Scripture and conversation.

If interested, please contact **Deacon Bill McNamara** at **(718) 263-0907** or **olqmreled@gmail.com**.

SINGLE ADULTS GROUP

The OLQM Single Adults Group is dedicated to providing opportunities to interact on social, spiritual, service and educational levels for personal enrichment and fulfillment. Shared experiences by those in the single state should result in closer ties to the spiritual life of the parish and more active participation. Members engage in a variety of activities, including group dinners, lectures/talks, entertainment and networking with other Catholic adult groups in the NYC area. Our group is open to all currently single adults — never married, separated/divorced or widowed. We generally meet in the rectory's main meeting room on the second Saturday of the month at 1:30 p.m., except for the summer months, when the meetings are the second Thursday at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call the hotline **(718) 361-3201** or leave a message for **Denise DeMaria**.

SOCIAL ACTION

The primary goal of the Social Action Committee is to help maintain a Catholic Presence in the Public Square, to stay engaged in the social, political and religious sphere which can profoundly impact Catholic principles. To this end, change is possible through parishioners willing to bring forth a positive view with a broad vision. Personal expertise is utilized to help raise public awareness and advocate reform whenever pervasive injustices occur. If interested, please call the rectory at **(718) 268-6251**.

STEWARDSHIP

As the parish's Stewardship Committee, we are committed to cultivating stewardship and discipleship as a way of life in our parish. We seek to educate the family of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs about the wonderful ministerial and outreach opportunities available to us. We attempt to connect the time and talents of our parishioners with the time and talent opportunities for service at OLQM. We embrace the concept of sacrificial giving of our treasure back to God, in thanksgiving for all He has entrusted to us. Currently, we meet one evening a month in the rectory parlor room; commitments may be long or short, depending on your availability. The only requirements to join us are an honest desire to make OLQM the best possible parish, and a collaborative spirit of sharing creative ideas. We seek dynamic individuals from all age groups. If interested, please contact **David Lee** at olqstewardship@gmail.com.

ST. PIO PRAYER GROUP

St. Pio da Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) placed at the center of his life and apostolic work the Cross of his Lord as his strength, his wisdom and his glory. Inflamed by love of Jesus Christ, he became like him in the sacrifice of himself for the salvation of the world. In his following and imitation of the Crucified Christ, St. Pio was so generous and perfect that he could have said: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me" (*Galatians* 2:20). And the treasures of grace which God had granted him so lavishly and unceasingly, he passed on through his ministry, serving the men and women who came to him in ever greater numbers, and bringing to birth an immense host of spiritual sons and daughters.

The Padre Pio Prayer Group at Our Lady Queen Of Martyrs meets on the second Wednesday of each month after the 12:05 p.m. Daily Mass. If interested, please come and introduce yourself at one of the Wednesday prayer meetings.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) is a movement within the Catholic Church that offers weekend experiences for good marriages, to strengthen communication and nurture a deepened appreciation of the Sacrament of Marriage. WWME also assists Our Lady Queen of Martyrs in sponsoring the annual parish celebration of World Marriage Day, which is observed the second Sunday in February.

For more information, contact **Richard and Karen Ann St-Cyr**, the couple in our parish who are active in WWME at stcyrlovers@gmail.com, or visit www.wwme.org.

YOUTH GROUPS

The Martyrs Active Youth Organization (MAYO) is open to all 7th and 8th graders, focusing on bringing the youth of the parish together in a safe, nurturing, but most importantly fun environment. We participate in amazing activities and community service projects while growing in our faith and beginning to develop into the next leaders of our parish. MAYO meets every other Friday from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in McLaughlin Hall. If interested, please contact **David James** at **(718) 268-6251** or e-mail olqmyouth@gmail.com.

The OLQM Sports Committee runs the CYO basketball program, which consists of an annual clinic for 1st and 2nd grade children and CYO-sanctioned teams in grades one through eight. Our home games are played in the OLQM gym and P.S. 101. All children living within the boundaries of the OLQM parish are welcome to participate. OLQM students can also participate in the St. Margaret's track program. If interested in participating or becoming a coach, please contact **Richie Allen** at **(718) 268-6251**.

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TIME AND TALENT

Are you interested in participating in one (or more) of our volunteer activities?
Please complete this form and return it to a church representative.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE : _____ (home/work/cell)

E-MAIL: _____

OCCUPATION: _____

SPECIAL SKILLS: _____

I am interested in the following ministries: _____
