

# *Our Lady Queen of Martyrs*



Most Rev. Paul R. Sanchez, D. D. — **PASTOR**  
Very Rev. Francis J. Passenant, V.F. — **ADMINISTRATOR**  
Rev. Antonin Kocurek — **PAROCHIAL VICAR**  
Rev. Msgr. Joseph L. Cunningham — **PRIEST IN RESIDENCE**

## **MINISTRIES**

**“WE ARE BLESSED BY GOD’S GRACE”**

Please come and experience the many facets of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs parish  
*For additional information, visit [www.ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org](http://www.ourladyqueenofmartyrs.org)*

110 - 06 Queens Boulevard  
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

## 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** at **(718) 268-6251**.

### BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

The Sunday Morning Bible Study Group is an extension of the Arise Together in Christ program. Participants have found fellowship, grace, love and support through their interactions with one another, who want to grow deeper in our Catholic faith. It's a great opportunity to meet your parish peers and connect with others on a spiritual level. Topics of discussion have included "Longing for the Holy", "At Prayer with Mary", and the Gospels of Matthew and John. Presently we are studying the Gospel of St. Mark. For more information, contact **Noila Johnson** at **noilas@hotmail.com**.

The Monday evening "Through The Word" bible study group meets at 7:00 p.m. Anyone can join the study at anytime! For more information, contact **Joseph Terry** at **@josephterry@gmail.com**.

### 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 2nd Friday of each 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 occasional bus pilgrimages to the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy in the spring and the Blue Army Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in the fall. If interested, please leave a message for **Cely Deborja** at **(718) 268-6251**.

### CHARITY OUTREACH

Charity Outreach is a small organization of parish members who have joined together to help their neighbors in need. Members visit the homes of families who have requested help in an effort to assess such requests and to assist them when possible.

Several times a year, we arrange to have a truck from St. Vincent de Paul visit our parish on scheduled Sunday mornings to accept donations of gently used shoes and clothing. There is an ongoing vehicle donation program that allows parishes like ours to receive \$75 to \$200 for each car, truck or van (in any condition, running or not) donated. If you or someone you know—family member, friend or neighbor—has an old or neglected vehicle to dispose of, **(718) 491-2525** is the number to call. You can also support the work of Charity Outreach by placing a donation in one of their collection boxes located in the church.

If you know of a parishioner in need of assistance, or if you want to join Charity Outreach or learn more about additional ways to help, please call **(718) 268-6251, ext. 843**, and a volunteer will get in touch with you.

## 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 11:15 a.m. Mass every Sunday, and for all the major liturgies of the year. Weekly rehearsals are on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the choir loft. Rehearsals offer an opportunity to prepare the inspiring choral music that we sing each week at Mass.

In addition, the Sacred Music Society of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs is comprised of our choir, soloists, and members of the Oratorio Society of Queens. Under the direction of David Close, the Sacred Music Society presents an annual concert of Advent and Christmas music in December and all of the fundraising activity that goes on to achieve the concert presentation.

If you would like to join the choir, contact **Music Director David Close**. You can find him on Tuesdays in the church choir loft at 7:15 p.m. Come and introduce yourself or, better, talk to him beforehand. You can leave him a message by calling the rectory at **(718) 268-6251**.

## COMMUNICATIONS

We keep parishioners connected to the parish through the OLQM print bulletin, website, emails and social media. We act as a link to The Tablet, NET-TV (communications arms of the Diocese of Brooklyn/Queens) and nearby parishes. If you have good written and visual communication skills, know the fundamentals of design and production, and can simultaneously be creative and follow style guides, contact OLQM Communications about volunteer opportunities.

Volunteer work may be able to be done remotely from home. Social media know-how and knowledge of online design tools are helpful. Contact the rectory at **(718) 268-6251, ext. 12**, or e-mail **olqmcomm@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. Fr. Radu Titonea, chaplain at Forest Hills Hospital, leads periodic Monday evening meetings in the rectory basement meeting room. Future meeting dates and times are announced in the church bulletin.

## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

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

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 Director Dennis Portelli** at **(718) 268-6251** or **dfport@gmail.com**.

## HOME ACADEMY ASSOCIATION

The goal of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs' Home Academy Association (HAA) 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 academy principal and teachers. We provide a vehicle of healthy communication and exchange between home and academy. 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 email [info@olqmca.org](mailto:info@olqmca.org), or call the OLQM Catholic Academy office at (718) 263-2622.

## 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 **Denise Bertolotti** 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** at (718) 268-6251.

## OLQM CATHOLIC ACADEMY

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs (OLQM) Academy 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 Catholic Academy 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 Catholic Academy 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 academy, 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 academy's principal, **Mrs. Anne Zuschlag**, at (718) 263-2622 or [info@olqmca.org](mailto:info@olqmca.org).

## 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 the parish's 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 area's 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. They periodically gather in the church rectory after the Rosary for a meeting of prayer, planning and discussion.

If you are willing and seeking spiritual growth, you're one of us. Just come to one meeting. If interested in joining our ranks, please contact **Pastoral Care Director 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:

□ **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA):** A journey of Faith for individuals age 18 and older. RCIA provides ways to become a baptized Catholic, complete the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist, and reaffirm your faith and participate fully in the life of the Catholic Church. Please contact **Veronica McCarthy**, at **(718) 268-6251, ext. 827** or **olqmrca@gmail.com** for more information.

□ **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 Liturgy of the Word:** Presented at the Sunday Family mass at 9 a.m., for children ages 4 to 9. Periodically the Children's Choir performs the music at this mass.

□ **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 **Director of Religious Education, Deacon Thomas Jorge**, or **Dennis Portelli** 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. In normal times, 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 have switched indefinitely from in-person Saturday afternoon monthly meetings in the rectory basement to Zoom calls, usually on the second or third Saturday of the month at 1 p.m. For the latest updates and news, call the hotline **(718) 361-3201**, or e-mail **Denise DeMaria** at **dmtdemaria@hotmail.com**.

## SOCIAL ACTION

The mission of OLQM's Catholic Social Action Committee is to affirm and protect the inherent dignity of each person as a beloved child of God by:

- Educating parishioners on Catholic social teaching.
- Promulgating the prayerful study of Catholic social teaching as a primary tool in the forming of our Catholic conscience and identity.
- Advising on ways of organizing, advocating, and working for social change that are consistent with human dignity and the social teaching of the Church.
- Identifying threats to human dignity facing our parish, diocese, and the Church.
- Evangelizing by being Salt and Light to our community through Catholic ministries of social change and social witness during a time of increasing agnostic/atheistic secularization of society.

If you are interested in Catholic social teaching in action, please consider joining our committee.

Contact **Bishop Sanchez** or **Fr. Passenant** in person, by phone (718) 268-6251, or email them at [rectoryolqm@aol.com](mailto:rectoryolqm@aol.com).

## 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. If interested, please contact **David Lee** at [olqmstewardship@gmail.com](mailto:olqmstewardship@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. Other WWME-related activities are held periodically at our parish or nearby in the Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens.

For more information, contact **Bob and Melinda Nobbs** at (718) 805-7032, or visit [www.bq-wwme.org](http://www.bq-wwme.org) or call (877) NYS-WWME.



## YOUTH GROUPS

The Martyrs Active Youth Organization (MAYO) is open to 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, grow in our faith and hopefully begin to develop into the next leaders of our parish. Please visit [www.mayoyouth.com](http://www.mayoyouth.com) for more details.

The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) runs three programs. These programs are open to all children who live within the boundaries of the OLQM parish, attend OLQMCA, or are members of the OLQM parish.

The CYO basketball program is open to boys and girls from grades 3 to 8. Home games and practices are held at P.S. 101. If interested in participating or becoming a coach, please contact **Richie Allen** at (917) 609-4341, or [richard.allen@ropesgray.com](mailto:richard.allen@ropesgray.com).

The CYO Flyers track program is open to boys and girls 5 years and older. Practice is held at the Juniper Park track. If interested in participating, please contact **Teresa Hubert** at [tmastra66@verizon.net](mailto:tmastra66@verizon.net).

Tri-M Swimming is open to boys and girls ages 9 to 14. Practices are held at Grover Cleveland High School and the Community House. If interested please contact **Tom Chiofalo** at [tlvc38@aol.com](mailto:tlvc38@aol.com).



## JOIN THE PARISH

Scan for parish registration form and instructions

## ADVOCATE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The Advocate for Persons with Disabilities assists persons with disabilities to be able to fully participate in Mass and other activities at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs.

OLQM is a parish family seeking to be the welcoming and warm presence of Jesus Christ to the diverse peoples of the area, including persons with disabilities. A disability can be physical, sensory, mental or developmental.

OLQM will do its best to accommodate your special needs, when possible. Please contact **Karen Mongiello**, the Parish Advocate for Persons with Disabilities, via email at [disabilities.olqm@gmail.com](mailto:disabilities.olqm@gmail.com), or call the rectory at (718) 268-6251.



Parish registration is the best way to certify parish membership and to declare your desire to be a part of our Catholic community. It is important for maintaining sacramental records and for when you are seeking baptisms or weddings in our church. Registration also helps us, as a parish, to better know and serve the needs of all parishioners, old and new.

# *Our Lady Queen of Martyrs*

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# **TIME AND TALENT**

Please complete this form and return it to a church representative.

Title \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Would you like to be involved in any of our parish activities?**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Altar Server Society                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Martyrs Active Youth Organization (MAYO) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bible Study Groups                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers)        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charismatic Prayer Group                  | <input type="checkbox"/> OLQM Catholic Academy                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charity Outreach                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Pastoral Care                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choir                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious Education                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Single Adults Group                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consolation/Bereavement                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Action                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion | <input type="checkbox"/> Stewardship                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home Academy Association                  | <input type="checkbox"/> St. Pio Prayer Group                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lectors                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Worldwide Marriage Encounter             |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Sports                             |