



# OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH

WELCOME TO OUR LADY OF GRACE PARISH

*Please join us to Pray, Smile, Listen, Encourage,  
and Invite Others to Come Home!*

February 9, 2020

## SABBATH MASSES

Saturday

4:00 pm.

Sunday

8:00 am, 10:00 am, 12:00 pm.

## DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday at 9:00 am.

## CONFESSION

Friday 8:30 am - 8:50 am

Saturday 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm

Monsignor Martin P. Ryan,  
D. Min.  
Pastor

Mrs. Denise Bartelson  
Director of Faith Formation

Mr. George Zamary  
Pastoral Assistant

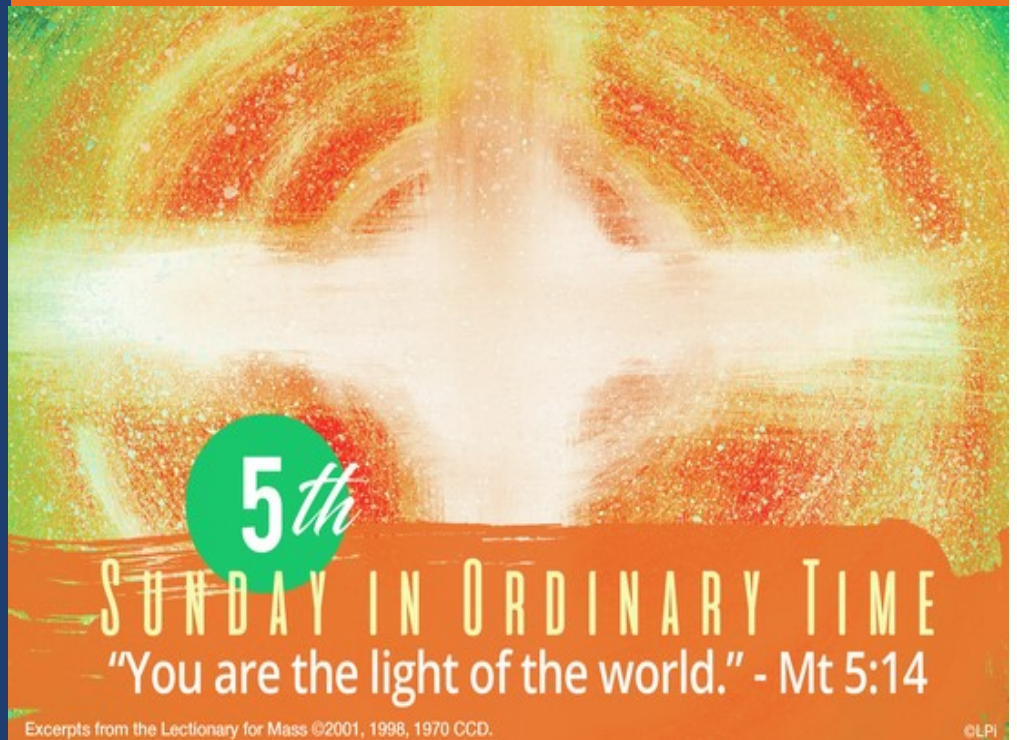
Mrs. Stacey Breyan  
Office Staff

Ann Baker  
Bookkeeper

Mr. Matthew Roumeles  
Director of Music Ministry

Ms. Tina Manus  
Choir Director

Mr. Howard Wardlow  
Finance Council Chairman



## Sacrament of Baptism

If you wish to have your child baptized at Our Lady of Grace, we ask families to register in the parish and attend "Growing-up Catholic," our parish baptism program.

For information regarding dates and times of baptisms, please speak with Stacey at the Parish Office: (203)377-0928 during the week or email: [staceybreyan@olgstratford.com](mailto:staceybreyan@olgstratford.com). For additional information regarding "Growing-Up Catholic," contact Melissa Lembo: 203-556-0611 or email: [baptismprogram@olgstratford.com](mailto:baptismprogram@olgstratford.com).

## Sacrament of Matrimony

For those wishing to enter the Sacrament of Matrimony, please contact the Parish Office (203-377-0928) one year prior to the date of your wedding. The couple must meet with the parish priest to review all the legal and canonical requirements.

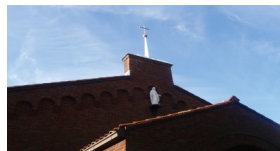
## PARISH INFORMATION

**Office/Rectory:** 203-377-0928 x13  
**FAX:** 203-377-5235  
**Office Hours:** Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm  
**Religious Education:** 203-375-6133  
**Bingo:** 203-375-2005  
**Finance Council Chairman:** 203-745-6655  
**Parish Website:** www.olgstratford.com

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

*Please pray for:* Bernard Ardry, Lois Balga, Ted Balga, Thomas Boiano, Anna Curry, Barbara Dlouhy, James Farrell, Peter Faustine, David Gombos, John Goncalves, Flo & Mike Gorlo, Nancy Griffin, John Knapik, Elaine Lagor, Marge Martire, Maida Mayernick, Owen McNaboe, Michael Meade, Frances Mudre, Barbara Muth, David Oleynik, Sal Pace, Tom Penny, Eugene Richard, Mary Roviello, Carol Ruggio, Monsignor Martin Ryan, Rev. Leo Spodnik, Laura Tutunjian, Shirley Tutunjian, Ann Ward, Andrew Yankowski, George Zmary, Sr.

*Welcome to  
 "Our Little Church."*



## Welcome Sheet

We have seen many new faces in our Church in recent weeks. We invite you to join us! Please begin the process of becoming a member by completing the "Welcome Sheet" on the last page of the bulletin!



## On-line Giving Program

We would like to thank those who have joined our on-line giving program. We are finding that parishioners are having difficulty in making a donation to the second collection. For customer assistance please call 1-800-348-2886 choose option 1.

To insure the proper date for your donation, we will be announcing each month the **second collections and their dates. (Hope for the Future Collection Feb 23, and Ash Wednesday Feb 26<sup>th</sup>.)**

## Hope for the Future Collection

We ask your assistance in building the future of the parish. Your donations in the Hope for the Future Envelope on February 22/23, will keep us current with our bills!

## Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends,

I want to point out to you an important announcement in our bulletin. Please pay attention to the PRAYER WALK! (page 4) People in our parish praying for the intentions of others. Whether you have an intention to be prayed for, or you want to join us in prayer. Come and walk with Jesus and others!

Msgr. Ryan

## Lent is coming February 26th

### Ash Wednesday Schedule

7:30 am Prayer Service, 9:00 am Mass,  
 12:00 pm (noon) Prayer Service,  
 3:30 pm Prayer Service, 5:30 pm Mass, and  
 7:30 pm Prayer Service

### Stations of the Cross

Lenten Fridays at 12:00 (Noon)

## Lenten Fasting and Abstinence during Lent

The rules for **fasting** and abstinence in the United States are: Every person 14 years or older must abstain from meat (and items made with meat) on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent. Every person between the age of 18 and 59 (beginning of 60th year) must **fast** on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting is one full meal and two smaller meals and fast between meals.

## CRS Rice Bowls

This year we invite our households to work and pray to care for the hungry throughout the world!

During Lent our community will participate in CRS Rice Bowls, a faith-in-action program that invites us to reflect on the challenges of global hunger– and our responsibility to respond to the needs of our global human family.

Please consider these suggestions in your family's Lenten plan:

\*Use your CRS Rice Bowl and Lenten Calendar daily to guide your prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

\*Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to watch videos of the people and communities you support through your Lenten gifts to CRS Rice Bowl.

## World Day of Prayer for the Sick

On February 11<sup>th</sup> we will join with the Churches around the world to pray for the sick person. Our Lady of Grace parish will have a notebook available on the weekend of February 8/9 for the names of people you wish to remember on February 11<sup>th</sup>!

### My Spiritual Life

#### Pray Everyday

Join Bishop Caggiano every day in prayer. Simply text the word pray to 55778 and join The Face of Prayer.

#### Brochure Racks

Please visit the Brochure Racks in the Church. We have added new titles to the featured brochures!

#### Virtus

We are currently reviewing all volunteers who serve in the parish. If you took the Virtus Training while you were a member of a different parish, you will need to update your Virtus profile. We will be in contact with you for a copy of your Virtus Certificate.

#### Creating a Safe Environment for our Parish

We need all of our parish volunteers to be Virtus Trained, and to take a Background Check!



#### Flu Season

I hope you have taken the time to receive your annual flu shot. Please use the hand sanitizer stands as you enter and leave church. Please consider the following:

- If you are feeling ill, please stay at home and watch Mass on TV.
- Contact George Zamy at the Parish Office if you will have an extended period at home so you might receive Communion at home.
- At the Sign of Peace, please extend the Sign of Peace in gesture (nod, bow, wave) and do not shake hands.
- The clergy and Eucharistic Ministers will use hand sanitizer before distributing Communion.
- Please realize your health is important.



#### HELP NEEDED Our Lady of Grace Bingo!

On Tuesdays at Our Lady of Grace under the direction of Bill Soisson and many dedicated volunteers Bingo is held in our gym. Bingo is a great asset to our parish. Currently, we are reaching out to our parishioners to get more volunteers. Bingo runs from 6:30 – 9:00 pm. You would not have to volunteer every week, any help you could give would be appreciated. If you think you would like to volunteer, please call Bill Soisson at 203-375-2851 to discuss further.

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

4:00 pm Helen Malino r/b Family

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

8:00 am Our Parishioners

10:00 am Marian & Regina Kostyszyn r/b Family

12:00 pm Rose Silvestro

#### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10

9:00 am Marie Shuluk

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

9:00 am Souls in Purgatory

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

9:00 am Our Parishioners

#### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

9:00 am Rose Silvestro

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

9:00 am Louise Rennie r/b Soisson & Babiyan Family

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

4:00 pm Our Parishioners

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

8:00 am Helen Gaffney

10:00 am Souls in Purgatory

12:00 pm Our Parishioners



### Sanctuary Lamp Intentions



February 9, 2020 - February 15, 2020

Lamp I: Kristen Broedlin r/b Judy Mudre

Lamp II: Souls in Purgatory

#### Mass Celebrants

Saturday, February 15th	4:00 p.m.	Msgr. Ryan
Sunday, February 16th	8:00 a.m.	Msgr. Ryan
	10:00 a.m.	Fr. McDonough
	Noon	Msgr. Ryan

#### Diocesan White Mass

Medical Professionals Please save the date Sunday March 22, 2020 for the Annual White Mass. More Information to follow!

#### Lord' Kitchen

The OLG volunteers will be serving the meal at the Lord's Kitchen on Monday, February 24th. Our volunteers need your help in providing for the needs of the people they serve, as toiletry items cannot be purchased with food stamps / WIC, so we are requesting donations of toothbrushes, toothpaste, toilet paper and bars of soap. We serve between 70-90 people each month, and we haven't been collecting enough of these items to distribute a toiletry bag every month we serve. Your generosity in donating these items each month does not go unnoticed – the people of our community receiving these items are very appreciated! Please leave your donations by the Sacristy on the weekend of February 15/16. We thank you very much on behalf of the people we serve!

# Faith Formation



The 2019-2020 Faith Formation theme this school year is:

## SOS - Sharing Our Saintliness.

This week we will be highlighting, the Saint that Mrs. Josephine Burano's 7<sup>th</sup> grade class chose which is St Anthony of Padua.

This Saint seems to be a popular Saint among the students. They chose St Anthony because he is the Patron Saint of lost things.

He was born Fernando Martins de Bulhoes in Lisbon, Portugal. He became a preacher noted for his love of Scripture and for his uplifting sermons. St. Anthony's feast day is June 13<sup>th</sup>.

This Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> there is a Family Mass at 10:00 am. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade class will be participating in the Mass and there will be a homily geared to the children. Please keep these children and their families in your prayer.

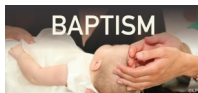


### THE FRIEND OF JESUS PRAYER

**Don't walk behind me because I may not want to lead  
Don't walk ahead of me I may not want to follow  
Walk aside me and be my friend!**

Prayer is a powerful tool and I am sure many of you can witness to that, but if you have not been one to turn to prayer this will be a good place to start. Join our Prayer Walk! You can email [denisebartelson@olgstratford.com](mailto:denisebartelson@olgstratford.com) with your name and email to get on the list to receive emails to help pray for special intentions.

Also, if you have a request for a special prayer intention for you or a family member email the intention to [denisebartelson@olgstratford.com](mailto:denisebartelson@olgstratford.com). A Prayer Walk email went out last week. The next one will be going out at the end of the month so send in any needed prayer intentions.



## Growing up Catholic

Pope St. John Paul II coined a phrase in his teaching "On the Family" when he called the Family the "Domestic Church". Our families come in many shapes and sizes and are looking to belong! If you are Grandparents, Godparents, Aunts, Uncles, or a family member, you have a great opportunity to witness the Faith by sharing the contact information about "Growing up Catholic". We invite families with young children to contact Melissa Lembo: 203-556-0061.

## Marriage Moments

Valentine's Day is approaching. Cards & flowers are nice, but the heart of your love is your promise to each other. Don't be shy. Take a moment to say to each other again:

"I \_\_\_\_\_, again take you, \_\_\_\_\_, to be my wife/husband. I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health. I will love you and honor you all the days of my life." Memorize it.

## Parenting Pointers

February is Black History Month. If you are not Black yourself, commit to learning something about African American heroes. Your children might enjoy the story of Harriet Tubman. Google her or [click here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XmsNGrkbHm4) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XmsNGrkbHm4) for a short video.

If you are Black, share your knowledge with others.

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WEBSITE: [www.SusanVogt.net](http://www.SusanVogt.net)



## FAMILIES

### Hey Daddy....Hey Mommy Did you know??

The month of February is dedicated to The Holy Family, let's celebrate by.....

**\*spending the day together doing family activities, playing games, watching a movie etc....**

Valentine's Day is February 14.... Saint Valentine is the patron Saint of Love, Young People and Happy Marriages. Saint Valentine was a kindhearted Roman priest, he aided young Christians from persecution. While in prison Saint Valentine converted many guards to Christianity. In honor of Saint Valentine.

**\*Send a Valentine to a neighbor or family member who might otherwise not receive one.**

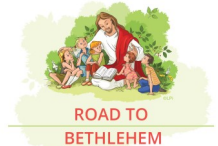
All our young families with children birth to 5 years old come join us this Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am for our next "On the Road to Bethlehem." We will have a short prayer service in church with a sing along and then head over to the parish center for light refreshments, story time and craft....

Hope to see you there..... Call 203-375-6133 (Faith Formation Office) if you have any questions.



## Welcome New Altar-servers

Emily Bohn, Allison Bohn and Brendan Morgan



## PARISH CALENDAR, COLLECTIONS

<b>PARISH FINANCES*</b>			
<b>Sunday Offertory</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Over (Under)</b>
<b>Income for the week of 1/21/2020 - 1/27/20</b>	\$7230.	\$7,800.	(\$570.)
<b>Budget Year-to-date</b>	\$215,483.	\$232,239.	(\$16,756.)
Second Collection: Church in Latin America \$1089. <b>February 9, 2020: No Second Collection</b> <b>February 16, 2020: No Second Collection</b>			
<b>*Please note:</b> Due to the printing deadline, the Parish Finance Report will be <u>delayed by one week</u> .			

**Meetings & Events**

- ◆ The Road from Bethlehem, Sun., Feb. 9, 9:00am.
  - ◆ Choir Practice, Sun., Feb. 9, 11:00am - 12:00pm.
  - ◆ KofC Meeting, Mon., Feb 10, 7:30pm - 8:30pm. (MH)
  - ◆ Faith Formation Fundraising Meeting, Mon., Feb 10, 7:00pm (FFO)
  - ◆ Bingo, Tues., Feb. 11, Doors open at 4:30 pm/first game 6:30 pm. Food and beverages available for purchase. (PC)
  - ◆ Faith Formation and RCIA, No Class, Wed, Feb 12th
  - ◆ Cub Scout Pack 272 Meeting, Thurs., Feb. 13, 6:30pm - 8:30pm.
  - ◆ Faith Formation, No Class, Sat. Feb. 15th
  - ◆ KofC Valentine's Day Pasta Dinner, Sat., Feb. 15, 5:00pm. (PC)
  - ◆ Choir Practice, Sun., Feb. 16, 11:00am - 12:00pm.
- FFO = Faith Formation Office MH = Madonna Hall  
PO = Parish Office PC = Parish Center

**New Liturgical Ministers Readers and Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion**

We are asking God to call forth new Liturgical Ministers for our parish, If you are interested in joining our parish ministries, Please Contact Msgr. Ryan at 203-377-0928 X12 or [msgryan@olgstratford.com](mailto:msgryan@olgstratford.com)

The training process will be through the Diocesan Leadership Institute. Each candidate will need to complete an application, a recommendation from the Pastor, attendance at a Diocesan workshop and an on-line course.

**Parish Website**

**[www.olgstratford.com](http://www.olgstratford.com)**

Have you visited the website! Look at the pictures of Parish events!

We are always looking for good information and parish pictures. If you have a picture to share, contact Sue Zello at [suzannazello@olgstratford.com](mailto:suzannazello@olgstratford.com)

## OTHER NEWS

**A Stewardship Moment  
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

In this weekend's readings and psalm, the prevailing theme is that of light: We are the light of the world; our light breaks forth like the dawn; our light shines in the darkness; our light reflects generosity and justice. Good stewards know they are the lamp, and Christ is the flame that, through them, illuminates the earth. They know that they carry Christ's light in their hearts, and let it shine through their words and deeds. What are we doing to shine Christ's light on the hungry, the homeless and others most in need of God's mercy? How do we exercise good stewardship over the light of Christ that burns within each of us?

**Assistance in Receiving Holy Communion**

Recently, we have had a number of parishioners ask to receive Holy Communion at their seats in the side alcoves. Our Parish Ushers have been alerted to assist people requesting Holy Communion. Please ask the usher to have the Eucharist brought to you.

**2020 Wedding Jubilee Mass and Concert**

On Sunday, April 26, 2020 at 3:00 pm at St Theresa Parish in Trumbull, Bishop Caggiano will be celebrating the 2020 Wedding Jubilee Mass. This Mass is for couples celebrating their 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50+ year wedding anniversaries. The Mass will be immediately followed by a concert by the Diocesan Choir 4 Youth. To register, please contact the parish office or go to [www.bridgeportdiocese.org/jubileemass](http://www.bridgeportdiocese.org/jubileemass) to register directly. There is no cost to attend. Space is limited, so please RSVP by April 16, 2020.

**Parish Memorial Books**

When you wish to remember a special someone, remember that Our Lady of Grace Parish has a Memorial Program. The purpose of the Memorial Program is to provide the funding of small projects within the parish. For example, vestments, ritual books, and other liturgical needs. This is a wonderful way to acknowledge someone living or deceased or in thanksgiving for a prayer answered. The Memorial Books are displayed in the Chapel area by the Tabernacle. For information on the OLG Memorial Program or to make a donation please call Stacey at the Parish Office (203) 377-0928 x13.



**Knights Corner**  
**Msgr. Mooney Council #13228**  
**at Our Lady of Grace Parish**

**What's not to love about pasta?**  
Just a reminder that our **Valentine Day Knight Dinner** is next  
**Saturday, February 15**

**from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.** With a menu which includes pasta, chicken, salad and garlic bread. Coffee, tea and dessert you're sure to have a great meal. Come dine to a wonderful meal with music playing softly in the background!



Cost is \$9.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children 4 - 12, children 3 and under are FREE. All proceeds from the **Valentine's Day Knight Dinner** will go to our pro-life and other charitable giving.

**We also congratulate Mark Schickler** who advanced to full knighthood in an exemplification of Chairty, Unity and Fraternity Sunday January 26, 2020. All practicing Catholic males 18 years or older are invited to see what membership in the Knights of Columbus has to offer. Contact Terry Morgan at [paxterry@gmail.com](mailto:paxterry@gmail.com), Pat O'Keefe at [virtualpat@yahoo.com](mailto:virtualpat@yahoo.com), Chaplain Msgr. Ryan, drop a note in the collection basket with your name and contact information, or go to <http://bit.ly/Council13228>. **Make 2020 the year you decide to join the Knights of Columbus.**

**Handicapped Parking**

The four spaces directly in front of the Church on Second Hill Lane are handicapped parking spaces. These spaces are for our parishioners who have a handicap parking sticker.



**MAKE-UP ENVELOPES**

With the recent winter weather, may we ask you to make up your offering envelope. Your weekly donation is important to us, so that we can continue to serve our parishioners.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY**

**Publicity Person**

Msgr. Ryan is seeking a volunteer to assist the Parish Team in creating articles, news announcements, and public announcements of our parish programs. If God has gifted you please give us a call! Contact Msgr. Ryan at [msgrryan@olgstratford.com](mailto:msgrryan@olgstratford.com) or 203-377-0928 x12.

**Parish Ministry to the Sick**  
**Sick and Shut Ins**

George Zamary and our ministers to the sick and homebound are currently visiting more than 60 parishioners. Our parishioners are visited and receive Holy Communion on a regular schedule.

If you have a loved one who is homebound or in a nursing facility, **please contact George Zamary at 203-377-0928 x9.** George will arrange for a friendly visit or a Communion call!

**Winter Weather Policy**

We have developed a policy that safe-guards our parishioners and will allow time for our parish contractors to clear the property during storms.

**Weekdays:** When the schools are closed or delayed or the Town or State has advised against travel, Daily Mass will be cancelled for that day. The parish will notify channel 8, channel 3 and the radio stations of the cancellation.

**Weekends:** When severe weather occurs during weekend Mass times, please check the local TV and Radio stations and our parish website for cancellations. It becomes very difficult to keep the sidewalks, driveways, and parking area clear if it snows during Mass time. Your safety is important to us!

Any Mass intention effected by the cancellation will be said during the next week.

**“How Do I Register?”**

**How do I register?** Please stop by the Parish Office! Office hours are Monday - Friday from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm.



**Interested in becoming a parishioner of Our Lady of Grace?**

Please complete the following and place it in the offertory basket.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**We look forward to hearing from you!**