OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

3570 KING WILLIAM AVENUE, WEST POINT VA 23181



MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKENDS: SATURDAY 5:30 P.M.

SUNDAY 9:00 A.M.

11:30 A.M. (SPANISH MASS)

WEEKDAYS: 8:30 A.M. Tuesday - Friday

PARISH OFFICES at the MERCY CENTER

207 W. Euclid Blvd., West Point, VA 23181 Phone: 843-3125 Fax: 843-9158

Office Hours: M - Th 10-12 and 1-3

Parish e-mail: olbs@olbs.hrcoxmail.com Parish Web address: www.olbs-catholic.org

PASTOR

Rev. Oscar Paraiso 757-778-5118 Rectory 843-4231

E-mail: pastormcneill@gmail.com

COORDINATOR of CHRISTIAN FORMATION **Lorraine Ryalls** 843-3125

E-mail: Irkryalls@cox.net

MUSIC DIRECTOR

757 870-2516 Leda Zaginaylo

LITURGICAL DIRECTOR

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

843-3125 **Pam Watkins**

Hours: T-W-Th 10 - 4:30

Email: pam.watkins@olbs.hrcoxmail.com

OFFICE/BUSINESS MANAGER

OFFICE VOLUNTEER

Gerrie Thomas (bulletin)

PRESCHOOL TEACHER/DIRECTOR

Vangy Lawson

843-4177

GOOD NEIGHBOR CENTER

Frances Thornton 843-4339

Hours: M 10 am - 2 pm W 12:30 pm - 2:30 p.m.

van den BOOGAARD HALL RENTALS

Janice McGowan 843-2870

Email: 5mcgs@cox.net

SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Also by appointment

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday and Tuesday Mercy Center Chapel

First Friday at the Mercy Center Chapel 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

OUTREACH

A food basket and donation box are in the church entry. Your donations provide the means to give direct help to the needy. We collect food on the first weekend of the month.

INFANT BAPTISM

Parent preparation classes are required for each couple planning to have their baby baptized. To schedule a preparation session, please call the church office.

MARRIAGE

OLBS sponsors a preparation program for couples who intend to marry. The Pastor must be contacted at least six months prior to the date of the wedding.

RECEPTION into the CHURCH

Those inquiring into the Catholic Faith or seeking Communion with the Church are invited to contact the Parish Office. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is offered.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 30th & December 1st, 2019



Sat 11/30 – Mary & Joe Pausic (RIP) Fr. Oscar Requested by Mike & Nancy Pausic

Sun 12/1 – Richard & Anna Kozlowski (RIP) Fr. Oscar Requested by Linda & Joe Drexler

Mon 12/2 – No Mass

Tue 12/3 – Joe, Sr., Elsie & Johnny Drexler (RIP) Fr. Oscar Requested by Joe & Linda Drexler

Wed 12/4 – Irene & Ralph Kasmarik (RIP) Fr. Oscar Requested by Mike & Nancy Pausic

Thurs 12/5 – Henry Kopacki (RIP) Fr. Oscar
Anniversary of Death

Requested by Janice McGowan & Family

Fri 12/6 – Gladys Mierle (RIP) Fr. Oscar Requested by Bob & Lorraine Ryalls

Sat 12/7 – Thomas Sturtz, Sr. (RIP) Fr. Oscar Anniversary of Death

Requested by Marguerite Sturtz & Family

Sun 12/8 – Henry Kopacki, Jr. (RIP) Fr. Oscar Anniversary of Death (12/5)

Requested by Marian Kopacki & Family

You are invited to the weekday Masses at 8:30am Tuesday-Friday every week

Collections for November 23rd & 24th, 2019

Parish Operations	\$4,316.00
Supplemental Collection	53.00
Votive Stand	28.90
Religious Education	494.00
Christmas Flowers	505.00
Thanksgiving	130.00
All Souls Day	25.00
Total	\$5,551.90
Amount needed weekly for Parish Operations is	\$3,940
Restricted, Special Use or Sent out of Parish	
Facilities Repairs & Maintenance Fund	\$250.00
Haitian Ministry	\$50.00
Cemetery Fund	\$150.00
Diocesan Collections – Military Archdiocese	\$10.00



Thank you for your support of your Parish!

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Saturday, November 23rd - 91 Sunday, November 24th - 116 Spanish Mass, Sunday, November 24th - 61

***The Little Blue Books for the Advent/Christmas Season are in the back of the Church. Please take one.

Calendar for Week of December 2nd, 2019

Monday – 12/2 – No Mass - Adoration in MC Chapel
Knights of Columbus Meeting – 7:30pm

Tuesday – 12/3 – Mass 8:30am – Adoration in MC Chapel
Liturgy Committee Meeting – 6:00pm - MC

Wednesday – 12/4 – Mass 8:30am Thursday – 12/5 – Mass 8:30am Friday – 12/6 – Mass 8:30am

Emily Adams

First Friday Adoration 6-9pm Mercy Center Chapel
Saturday – 12/7 – First Saturday Adoration 5:00pm in Church
Mass 5:30 pm Giving Tree Gifts Due Back to Church
Sunday – 12/8 – Mass 9:00 am Faith Formation 10:15am
Spanish Mass 11:30am



PRAYERS FOR HEALING AND GOOD HEALTH

Helen Kaczmarski

Elizabeth Alley John Kellam **Candace Barefoot** Gloria Kojcisch Virginia Becker **Bonnie Kopacki Paulette Berberich Gordon Langston Ron Blevins** Patricia Lanuza Jon Boyette Bill Madigan **Robin Bristow Baby Vivian Mallis** Joan Buehler **Ron Martz** Linda Burch **Gladys Mierle Lurene Burke** Clara Morrow **Kevin Carson** Randy Morrow **Lucy Carson Specialist Mullins Meredith Crowe Marilyn Naggy Eric Crump Larry Newtzie** Vincent D'elia **Desiree Page Denise DePompeo** Pam Rigsby Dale Dippre Mark A. Roane **Dexter Dix** Virginia Ryczak **Donna Donahue Bill Scaife** Michelle Eshelman **Barbara Schafer** Amanda Leigh Fincher **Allen Smith Levi Sturtz** Henry Franzyshen **Sydney Gay Gerrie Thomas Margaret Geron** Jim Tokarz Jim Gregory Mae Touray Gloria Wajciechowski Pat Hinkle

Kelly Hipple Linda Webster
Mary Ann Hooper Lois Wilson

Gail Justin Robert 'Bobby' Wilson

Jody Zogran

PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY

Major Jonathan Culberson (Afghanistan)

***Our beautiful large star that sits in front of the Church during the Christmas Season is missing from in back of the Church! It seems to have been missing since before October. If anyone has any information or might know where the star is, please call the parish office at 804-843-3125.



11/30 - Oliver Owens & Peter Nguyen 12/1 – Daniel Duke & Tazewell Rae



11/30 - Tom Fauber, Gary Silvia, & Cathy Fudella 12/1 - Chris Polcyn, B.J. Bui, Wini Barron, Sarah Rae, & **Kathy Wills**



11/30 - Dan Gibbs & Alfred Jones 12/1 - Jim Milby & Tuan Nguyen

Church Cleaning Schedule

11/25 thru 12/1 - Gary & Jackie Silvia 12/2 thru 12/8 - Jorge Duran Family/Hugo Rojas/& Jose Velasquez

12/9 thru 12/15 - Dan Gibbs Family



PARISHIONERS: As our faith community grows, we ask that we all take a moment before Mass and after Mass to say hello and welcome any new faces we see. As an extension of the Lord's grace, we should always seize the opportunity to say "hello" to a new person or family.



ARE YOU IN NEED OF PRAYER? DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE IN NEED OF PRAYER? Please contact the prayer chain to request any prayers needed. Anonymous Prayer Requests accepted. Contact: On Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, please contact Pam Watkins at the Church office at 804-843-3125 from 10:15 am through 4:30 pm. Any other times, please contact Pam Watkins at 919-820-1986 (cell phone).

Paul & Mary Leigh McDonald would like to thank the members of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament for the cards, visits, food, and phone calls during Paul's recovery from surgery. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and kindness. May God Bless!

A Special Thanks to our choir members! I appreciated your attendance at Saturday Mass. Thank you, also, for your prayers and beautiful gifts as I begin my new journey as a member of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. Sincerely, Leda Zaginaylo.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

St. Nicholas was born in Lycia, now Turkey. As Bishop of Myra, he is believed to have attended the Council of Nicaea in 325 at which the date of Christmas as December 25th was fixed. Legend tells us he help three poor girls by throwing purses of money through their window. The idea of Santa Claus coming down chimneys to deliver presents has its origin in that story. The Dutch referred to Saint Nicholas as "Sinterklaas", from which "Santa Claus" arose. In several European countries, children are given gifts on December 6th rather than Christmas Day in honor of St. Nicholas. He is patron saint of the sailors, merchants, archers, thieves, children, and pawnbrokers and we celebrate his feast day on December 6th.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

The passage from Matthew we read today is rather straightforward. No one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are required. The passage speaks to the uselessness of looking for signs; there will be none. As a thief sneaks in during the night, so will the Lord's coming in glory be. The question for us as members of the Christian community, then, is how do we prepare for this? Today's passage speaks more about the manner of waiting, rather than the details of the preparation. Jesus compares the vigilance required of Christians to vigilance of a homeowner who knows the plans of the thief. If one knows that the thief's action is imminent, one remains watchful. As Christians, we know that our Lord is coming even if we cannot know the precise timing. Jesus calls us to be watchful and vigilant, like the homeowner. If we become lax in our Christian living, we may be caught unprepared. Adults: What are you doing to stay vigilant for Christ's second coming?

Children: What can you do to be ready when

Jesus comes?

DO YOU KNOW?

Advent is the beginning of our new liturgical year, Year A with readings from Matthew. It officially becomes our time of waiting and preparing. Most of us get caught up in the waiting and preparing for celebrating the birth of Jesus but we also need Advent to remind us that we are waiting and preparing for the return of Jesus at the end of historical time. While it is exciting to celebrate Jesus becoming a man and being born on Christmas Day, it should be equally exciting to us that Jesus is coming again and, if we are prepared, it will be a glorious day of the beginning of our everlasting life.



WE NEED ADDITIONAL CHILDREN'S LITURGY LEADERS AT BOTH MASSES. Lesson plans and materials are provided. This is a way that our little ones can learn more about God's Word on their level. If interested, please contact Lorraine Ryalls at 804-843-3125, Extension 103 or

Dre@olbs.hrcoxmail.com.

Volunteers are needed for the Saturday Night and Sunday Morning (Both English & Spanish) Choirs. Please see Leda after any of the Masses or call the Parish Office at 804-843-3125 for more details.



" The Second Vatican Council reflects upon the relationship between the coming of Christ and our activity to prepare for it. In the Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, we read, "Far from diminishing our concern to develop this earth, the expectancy of a new earth should spur us on, for it is here that the body of a new human family grows, foreshadowing in some way the age which is to come....When we have spread on earth the fruits of our nature and our enterprise -- human dignity, brotherly communion and freedom -- according to the command of the Lord and in his Spirit, we will find them once again, cleansed this time from the stain of sin, illuminated and transfigured, when Christ presents to his Father an eternal and universal kingdom...." (#39). In other words, the spirit of Advent should naturally bolster our pro-life efforts, and the progress we make in promoting human dignity becomes the "building blocks" for the eternal kingdom. (Priests for Life)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! – The Virginia March for Life will be held in Richmond on Thursday, February 13, 2020. It will start with a 9:15am Mass, then an 11:45am Rally at the State Capital and ends with a 12:45pm March for Life.

The Diocese of Richmond urges individuals who have been sexually abused by a priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese to report abuse directly to law enforcement, including Child Protective Services (CPS) at 1-800-552-7096, and by calling the Attorney General's Clergy Abuse Hotline at 1-833-454-9064. Individuals are encouraged to contact the 24-hour confidential Victim's Assistance Reporting number at 1-877-887-9603 or email vac@richmonddiocese.org to report sexual abuse.

FROM THE OFFICE OF BISHOP KNESTOUT: "Christian Stewardship calls us to utilize the resources of the diocese with integrity." Bishop Barry C. Knestout announces the implementation of a hotline that will be used to report concerns of suspected financial, administrative or human resource misconduct within the Diocese of Richmond. The hotline will be handled by an independent, third-party reporting system, EthicsPoint, to ensure accountability and transparency with reporting procedures. The use of such a hotline is another safeguard to protect the resources entrusted to us by the people of our diocese. Reports can be made online or by phone. Employees, volunteers, clergy, parishioners and any other individual wishing to report can do so anonymously, if they wish. The toll-free number is 844-739-3210 and is offered in multiple languages. To submit a report online, please visit the diocesan website, www.richmonddiocese.org and select "EthicsPoint." The hotline number is not a 911 or emergency service number. Individuals should not use this number to report information that is of an immediate threat to life or property. Additionally, EthicsPoint is NOT intended to receive information about sexual abuse allegations. Abuse allegations should be reported immediately to local law enforcement and th4 Attorney General's Clergy Abuse Hotline at 1-833-454-9064. Additional information including a video message and letter from Bishop Knestout, a list of frequently asked questions and other resources regarding EthicsPoint can be found by visiting the diocesan website.



Congratulations to those couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in December: Glenn & Kay Shaw – 12/1/1972; Craig & Danielle Smith – 12/1/2007; Michael & Jan Bellanca – 12/29/1963; Chris & Paula Polcyn – 12/301988.

"So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." Enrich and renew your marriage on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on Mar 20-22, 2020 in FAIRFAX,, VA. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: https://renewmarriage-vasouth.org/.



"...you must be prepared..." Are you prepared for God's calling in your life? Might He be calling you as a priest? Call Father Brian Capuano at 804-359-5661 email: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

***Diocesan Bicentennial Calendars and Parish Calendars are Available at the Back of the Church. Please take one per family.



The Books commemorating the Bicentennial Celebration of the Diocese of Richmond are on their way to us and we should have them by Christmas. The Book, worth more than \$100, is being offered by the Diocese for a mere \$35 and will include information on all the parishes, bishops, priests and the Diocese from its inception until present. Please call the parish office to place your order now!

From Bill Palmer, Chaplain of the Town of West Point Police Department: If you are a senior citizen or a disabled citizen or know someone who may benefit from wellness checks, please consider enrolling yourself or them in our S.A.F.E. (Secure and Friendly Environment) Program. Please call the West Point Police Department at their non-emergency number, 804-843-2800 to find out more information. This is a FREE service to anyone who lives in the Town of West Point. (The Town of West Point offers no expressed liability for the failure of the program through emergency demands, personnel availability, or human error.)

For many years people have been asking for a follow up retreat from Cursillo. This retreat is for both men and women (couples are also welcome!) and starts on a Friday night and ends with Mass on early Sunday afternoon. The dates for the retreat are January 24-26, 2020. The location will be the cabins at the Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center. The cost for the weekend is \$150/person. This includes all food, lodging, and supplies for the weekend. This intent of this weekend is to dive deep into the Mass and the prayers of the Church. For more information or to sign up for the retreat, please reach out to Lisa Ranellone (lhran75@aol.com) or David Reaves (dreaves@prismce.com).

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!! - Gifts for the "Giving Tree" will need to be returned to us by the end of the last Mass next weekend - December 7th & 8th. You can return the gifts in a gift bag with tissue on top and the tag attached or you can wrap, but we need to have a list of what is wrapped attached with the tag. Thank you so much for your continued generosity!

FOOD BASKETS – We will be collecting money for Christmas Food Baskets for Families in Need in our Community through the weekend of December 14th & 15th. Please place in an envelope clearly marked – Food Baskets – and drop in collection or see Erin Hayden, Deidra Kopacki or Pam Watkins at one of the Masses. If you know someone in need of a Food Basket this year, please let Erin Hayden, Deidra Kopacki or Pam Watkins know as soon as possible.

***If you would like to help with the shopping and packing of Food Baskets, please call the parish office at 804-843-3125. Anyone can help, but we are asking that if children under the middle school age would like to help that a parent come with them. Please call the parish office to let us know you will be helping.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

<u>December 7th & 8th</u> – Giving Tree Gifts Due back at Church <u>Monday, December 9th</u> – 8:30am Mass for the Immaculate Conception

<u>Tuesday, December 10th</u> – 7pm – Advent Penance Service <u>Wednesday, December 11th</u> – 8:30am Daily Mass & 7pm Mass – Our Lady of Guadalupe Vigil Mass in Spanish

Sunday, December 15th - Parish Christmas Caroling begins at 6:00pm in the Hall.

<u>Saturday, December 21st –</u> Shopping For & Packing Food Baskets – Meet at Parish Hall at 9:00am

Sunday, January 5th – Annual Covered Dish & Christmas
Pageant on the Feast of the Epiphany – Dinner
At 5:30pm followed by the pageant at 6:30pm.

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST: The OLBS Women's Group will gather for fellowship in December, in place of their monthly meeting. You do not need to participate in meetings (Although, we would love to have you!) to attend this social gathering. Please consider joining us for breakfast at Honeybutter's in Norge on Saturday, December 7th at 9:00am. We will be carpooling from the church parking lot by 8:30am for those who would like to ride along. PLEASE CONTACT KAREN LIBERATO at 804-843-4420 to be added to our reservation list. Thank you!

Parish Christmas Caroling is scheduled for Sunday, December 15th. Please meet at the Boogaard Hall at 6:00pm and bring cookies to share with hot chocolate (provided) when we return. If you know someone who would. If you know of someone who might appreciate a caroling visit, please contact Lorraine at 804-843-3125 or

DRE@olbs.hrcoxmail.com to add them to the list. YOUTH GROUP please note this takes the place of our regularly scheduled meeting. Please join us as we spread Christmas joy around town!

Our Annual Covered Dish and Christmas Pageant will be held on Feast of the Epiphany, Sunday, January 5th. Dinner at 5:30pm followed by the Pageant at 6:30pm. Please bring a dish to share and enjoy a time of parish fellowship as the children tell the story of Jesus' birth.

***PLEASE NOTE: There are no Sunday classes on December 22nd or 29th due to the holiday weekends.

PRESCHOOL NEWS: Happy Holidays OLBS family. We are so excited for this season at preschool. We would like to welcome you to join us for our annual Christmas Program on Wednesday, Dec. 18th at 9:30am in the church. We will have fellowship and cookies following. Thank you for your continued support!

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

New members are asked to register at the Parish Office in the Mercy Center.

We invite all parishioners to join a ministry. Contact the Chairperson of the ministry or call the Parish Office at 804.843.3125

ALTAR SERVERS Joe Drexler	843-2541
ART & ENVIRONMENT Rowena & Tom Faube Valeria Seckora	r 725-6110 337-5477
BELL CHOIR Mary Horton	843-3490
CANTORS/CHOIR Leda Zaginaylo	757 870-2516
CEMETERY COMMITTEE Gary Silvia	843-3125
CHURCH HISTORIAN Linda Drexler vintagenotes@verizo	843-245 I n.net
CLEANING COORDINATO	R

COMMUNITY LIFE	
FINANCE COMMITTEE Richard Duke	843-3125
HOSPITALITY Glenn & Kay Shaw	843-3476
JUSTICE & PEACE Chris & Paula Polcyn	843-3589
KNIT, PURL & PRAY Linda Drexler Donna Geron	843-2541 843-2781
LAWN MOWING COMMITTEE Eric Ellingson ericellingson@verizon.net	843-2184

MINISTRY SCHEDULING Mary Horton mchorton@aol.com	843-3490
OFFICE VOLUNTEERS Margaret Varboncoe	eur 843-2867
PARISH COUNCIL Bob Ryalls bryalls@cox.net	757 207-0215
SACRISTAN Marguerite Sturtz	843-2175
YOUTH MINISTRY Erin Hayden	366-4435

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