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 HOLYDAYS: 8:30 A.M. & 7:00 P.M.

PARISH OFFICES at the MERCY CENTER 207 W. Euclid Blvd., West Point, VA 23181 Phone: 843-3125 Fax: 843-9158

Office Hours: TWTh 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Parish e-mail : <u>olbs@olbs-catholic.org</u> Parish Web address: <u>www.olbs-catholic.org</u>

PASTOR Rev. Oscar Paraiso 757-778-5118 Rectory 843-4231 Office 843-3125 ext 102 Email: <u>oparaiso@richmonddiocese.org</u>

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Pam Watkins 843-3125 ext 101 Hours: T-W-Th 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Email: <u>adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org</u>

BUSINESS MANAGER 843-3125 ext 104 Bob Ryalls 757 207-0215 E-mail: <u>businessmgr@olbs-catholic.org</u>

COORDINATOR of CHRISTIAN FORMATION Erin Hayden 843-3125 ext 103 Email: <u>DRE@olbs-catholic.org</u>

MUSIC DIRECTOR Leda Zaginaylo 757 870-2516 Email: <u>music@olbs-catholic.org</u>

PRESCHOOL TEACHER/DIRECTOR Vangy Lawson 843-4177 Email: <u>preschool@olbs-catholic.org</u>

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: <u>hallrentals@olbs-catholic.org</u>

SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION Saturday 5:00 p.m. Also by appointment

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION Monday and Tuesday Mercy Center Chapel

First Friday Adoration in the church 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

RECITATION of the MOST HOLY ROSARY 6:30 p.m. Every Friday in the church

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.

The mission of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, centered in the Eucharist, is to love God and His people and to extend His love to others through service and prayer.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

February 25th & 26th, 2023

Saturday, Febr	uary 25 th	APO
5:00 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Beca
5:30 pm	Mass Offered for Isa Ve Hoang Thi Tin (RIP)	cent
5.50 pm	Requested by Quan & Sandy Dinh	seas
	Requested by Qualit& Salidy Dilli	Duri
Sunday, Februa	ny 26th	while
9:00 am	•	pron
9.00 am	Mass Offered for Pat Hinkle (RIP) Requested by Frank & Mary Ann Fetterolf	our ł
10:15 am	Religious education classes for	ouro
10.15 am	Children & Adult faith formation	Easte
10:15 am	Parish Council Meeting (MC)	
10:15 am	Parish Council Meeting (MC)	Pleas
Monday Fabrus	are o zth	Lent
Monday, Februa	-	have
12000 10000	No Mass	conf
	Adoration in Chapel	the F
7:00 pm	Knights of Columbus Dinner/Social Mtg.	ther
Tuesday, Februa	arv 28 th	
8:30 am	No Mass	
4:30 pm	Adult Faith Formation (Mercy Center)	
	Adoration in Chapel	
6:30 pm	Parish Finance Council (MC)	On e
0.00 p		Holy
Wednesday, Ma	arch 1 st	at 7:
8:30 am	No Mass	Stati
		Osca
Thursday, Marc	h 2 nd	
8:30 am	Mass – No Mass Intention	your
Friday, March 3	rd	Mare
8:30 am	Mass – No Mass Intention	
6:30 pm	Most Holy Rosary	Mare
7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross	
		Mare
Saturday, Marcl	ղ 4 th	
5:00 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Mare
5:30 pm	Mass Offered for David Seckora	
•	Anniversary of Death	Mare
	Requested by Joe & Linda Drexler	wiary
		April
Sunday, March		
9:00 am	Mass Offered for Isa Ve Hoang Thi Tin (RIP)	
	Requested by Quan & Sandy Dinh	
10:15 am	Religious education classes for	
	Children & Adult faith formation	
11:30 am	Spanish Mass	The
6:30 pm	Youth Group at the VDB Hall	of its

Little Black Books for Lent

Please pick up a "Little Black Book" at the back of the church and use it for your daily Lenten reflections.

Apostles Creed In Use During Lenten Services

The Catholic Church particularly recommends the use of the APOSTLES' CREED use during Lent and Easter Time. Why? Because the words of this ancient Creed have been used for centuries as the basis of our baptismal promises, and the seasons of Lent and Easter put a strong focus on baptism. During Lent we prepare those who will be baptized at Easter while readying ourselves to renew our own baptismal promises. As we recite the Apostles' Creed, it will stir up in our hearts our commitment to Christ which was first made at our own baptisms and prepare us to renew our promises this Easter.

Lenten Reconciliation Service

Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, March 7th for our Lenten Reconciliation Service at 7:00pm. Father Oscar will have two other priests to help him hear our confessions. Please plan to attend and prepare yourself for the Resurrection of our Lord.

OLBS Friday Lenten Services

On each Friday during Lent in the Church, we will have the Holy Rosary at 6:30pm followed by the Stations of the Cross at 7:00pm. The following Groups are asked to host/lead the Stations of the Cross on their given date. Please let Father Oscar & Joe Drexler know if you are able to help on the date your group is scheduled.

March 3rd – The Knights of Columbus

March 10th – Parish Council

March 17th – Hispanic Community

March 24th – Finance Council

March 31st – Cemetery Committee

April 7th – 3:00 pm Stations – Father Oscar

Ministerial Association Lenton Soup & Sermon

The West Point Ministerial Assoc. has announced the return of its annual Lenten Soup & Sermon Schedule which will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church, on Main Street, each Wednesday of Lent at 11:00am with meal & fellowship to follow. OLBS will share the responsibility of providing soup/desserts on March 22nd. A volunteer to help coordinate our support for this session is needed. If you can assist in this effort, please contact the office as soon as possible. Thank you.

Religious Education & Adult Bible Study

Start your year with a new good habit! Join us for Bible Study at 10:15 am at the hall on Sundays or Tuesday afternoon at 4:30 pm. in the Mercy Center conference room. Bible study group is a great way to learn and grow in your faith. It also builds a great bond with parish family.

Youth Group

Any middle school and high school student from 6th- 12th grade are invited to attend! Our next Youth Group meeting will be Sunday March 5th at the Boogaard Hall at 6:30 pm.



Divine Mercy Retreat

What's the big deal about Divine Mercy Sunday? What does this mean for us? St. Faustina's mission was to share His message of Mercy and it is one to listen to.

Mark your calendar off for Saturday, March 11th, 9 am. to 12:00 noon. Please sign up on the table in the back or by calling the office. Our day of retreat will be a wonderful and spiritual learning experience for us all! Brunch will be served. This day will have you well prepared for receiving the gift of Divine Mercy and the power of praying the Divine Mercy for others.

"Before I come as the Just Judge, I am coming first as the King of Mercy." St. Faustina's (Diary, 83)

Lenten Bible Study Retreat

Join us every Wednesday, beginning March 1st to March 29^{th,} 6:00 pm.- 8:00 pm. for a Lenten Bible study and reflection on the most Blessed Sacrament. The study is "Lectio: Eucharist," with Dr. Brant Pitre. We will learn, discuss and break bread together! (A small fasting meal).

Please Sign up, we want to make sure we have your spot prepared. Sign up is on the \$5 book table or you may call the office: 804-843-3125.



Save the Dates-

Every Wednesday of March:

March 1st to March 29th @ 6:00 pm.

	A Lenten Bible Retreat on the Eucharist. We will share a Lenten meal of bread and broth.
March 11 th :	Saturday Retreat on Divine Mercy (Know the gift and be ready to receive it on Divine Mercy Sunday).
May 27 th :	Tea with the Blessed Mother (Interested in
	Hosting? Call Erin @ the office)

FORMED Is Still Free to Parishioners

Focus your camera on the QR Code on one of the cards from the table from the back of the church and scan the Code to get to the sign-up page for FORMED, enter our parish zip code or name. You'll find a wealth of Catholic movies, and programs.

Little Black Books for Lent

Don't forget to grab your Free Lenten reflection books on the back table. In it you will find Six-minute meditation on the Passion according to Matthew.

Lent in a Bag-

Please get your "Lent in a Bag," provided by the Youth Group. The instructions are included and it provides one symbol a week and a reflection for all family members to discuss.



From OLBS Preschool:

Hello Church family! The preschool is experiencing a wonderful year so far. Fall enrollment for next school year will be opening to the Church on February 14th. Please reach out to the preschool for a registration form. Our 3-year-old and 4-year-old programs are wonderful. The preschool number is 804-843-4177 or you can call the Church office for more information.



Hall Rental Coordinator

We are seeking someone who is willing to take on the responsibility of handling rentals for our parish hall (van den Boogaard Center).

This individual would meet with potential renters to schedule hall rentals and prepare the appropriate lease agreements and collect fees for these rentals. If interested in taking on this ministry role please contact Bob Ryalls, Business Manager at <u>businessmgr@olbs-catholic.org</u> or by calling the office at 804-843-3125 x 104. Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Notice: Good Neighbor Center

The Good Neighbor Center is unable to accept donations of Food at this time. Please hold all donations for now. They will resume accepting donations again as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation and generosity.

A Message to All the Fine Parishioners of OLBS:

As we approach the season of Lent followed by a joyous Easter celebration, I welcome singers and/or cantors, instrumentalists, and bell ringers of all ages; experience is not a requirement. Families and individuals are invited to "make a joyful noise to the Lord"! Many thanks, Lyn LaPaglia, Director of Music <u>music@olbs-catholic.org</u> (804) 690-9942



(James) & Donna GeronFebruay 7, 1970(Robert) & Cheryl ServonskyFebruary 10, 1973Sol & Annabelle VidalFebruary 10, 2001(Henry J, Jr.) & Marian KopackiFebruary 13, 1949(Charles) & Margaret Varboncoeur February 23, 1957(Ed) & Virginia Kopacki

Annual Diocesan Appeal Begins

The official start of this year's Diocesan Annual Appeal will be at the "Announcement Weekend" on February 18-19.

Your gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal Strengthens Catholic Communities

Your gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal Empowers the Next Generation

Your gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal Provides for those in Need

The parish sharing formula for the 2023 Appeal is as follows: Non-mission parishes, such as OLBS, receive 20% for anything collected up to each parish's target and 50% for anything collected over target.

URGENT ACTION ALERT:

The Right-to-Abortion Amendment Must be Defeated by the House of Delegates!

The Extreme Right-to-Abortion Amendment passed the State Senate by a vote of 21-18. Now we must defeat it in the House of Delegates.

Stop the Right-to-Abortion Amendment

Please use the <u>VSHL Legislative Action Center</u> to contact your Delegate to Oppose the Right-to-Abortion Amendment to the Virginia Constitution and let your Senator know you are upset it passed the State Senate.



Knights' Friday Lenten Dinners

The Knights' have scheduled two remaining Friday Lenten dinners:

Friday, March 17thShrimp or Fish DinnerFriday, March 31stCrab Cake DinnerPlease mark your calendars!Call 804-512-9701 for tickets.

Becoming a Knight

Father Jakubowski Council 8116 always welcomes practicing Catholic men (18 and older) to join. You can either talk to one of the Knights or simply complete an online application. Go to <u>www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-kofc.html</u>.

Knights of Columbus Insurance

Do you have life insurance, long-term care insurance, an annuity, or other retirement needs? Knights of Columbus had their origins in 1882 to help those in need, especially to for working class families if something happened to the family provider. Knights' members can get a free consultation with our local insurance agent, Todd Curtis, by contacting him at 866-868-1492.

Collections for February 18 th & 19 th , 2023 Week's Amount				
Parish Operations Supplemental Collection Votive Candles Parish Heating Ash Wednesday	\$ 2,927 \$ 163 \$ 31 \$ 10 <u>\$ 5</u>			
Total	<u>\$ 3,136</u>			
Budgeted weekly average parish need	\$ 4,596			
Restricted, Special Use, or Sent Out of Parish:				
Capital Campaign Preschool Assistance Facilities Repairs & Maintenance Fund Maintenance Fund Poor Box	\$ 1,025 \$ 10 \$ 110 \$ 219 \$ 37			

Thank You for Supporting our Parish

Attendance				
February 18 th	Saturday	5:30 pm Mass	73	
February 19 th	Sunday	9:00 am Mass	109	
	Spanish Mas	s 11:30 am	47	

Priests for Life

"You Shall Be Like Gods"

This original temptation, outlined in the first reading, was a promise that what was right and what was wrong would be up to us; that we could write our own moral law. That's what the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil" meant, and why Adam and Eve couldn't eat from it. We are all called to know good from evil, but not to decide it. To think we decide it is the error of the "pro-choice" mindset. "It's all up to me and my choice, even if it means killing a baby." In the culture of life, on the other hand, we live in the freedom of the children of God, and pattern our lives on the obedience of Jesus that leads to life eternal.

Saint of the Week

St. Casimir Feast Day- March 4th

Casimir, born of kings and in line to be a king himself, was filled with exceptional values and learning by a great teacher, John Dlugosz. Even his critics could not say that his conscientious objection indicated softness. As a teenager, Casimir lived a highly disciplined, even severe life, sleeping on the ground, spending a great part of the night in prayer and dedicating himself to lifelong celibacy.

When nobles in Hungary became dissatisfied with their king, they prevailed upon Casimir's father, the king of Poland, to send his son to take over the country. Casimir obeyed his father, as many young men over the centuries have obeyed their governments. The army he was supposed to lead was clearly outnumbered by the "enemy"; some of his troops were deserting because they were not paid. At the advice of his officers, Casimir decided to return home.

His father was irked at the failure of his plans, and confined his 15-year-old son for three months. The lad made up his mind never again to become involved in the wars of his day, and no amount of persuasion could change his mind. He returned to prayer and study, maintaining his decision to remain celibate even under pressure to marry the emperor's daughter. He reigned briefly as king of Poland during his father's absence. He died of lung trouble at 25 while visiting Lithuania, of which he was also Grand Duke. He was buried in Vilnius, Lithuania.



The Year of Grace, with Divine Mercy From the Diary of St. Faustina

Meditation:

Know that if you neglect the matter of the painting of my image and the whole work of mercy, you will have to answer for a multitude of souls on the day of judgment. (Diary, 154)

Not in the beauty of the color, nor of the brush lies the greatness of this image but in My grace (Diary, 313).

My Prayer Response: Jesus, by the grace that flows from Your image, strengthen and inspire me to proclaim Your mercy to many. Remind me always that the greatness of this image lies in Your grace.

(Want to learn more about the Feast of Divine Mercy? Join the Retreat on March 11th from 9 am.- 12 pm. @ our VDB hall. More information to come)

Gender Identity Training

Over the past several years, the amount of question relating Gender identity has steadily increased. People often don't know where to turn for answers and don't know how to respond when faced with sensitive situation in their families or faith communities. Mary Rice Hasson is a leading Catholic speaker on the topic of Gender identity. She has served as a keynote speaker around the country and at the Vatican. Mary is also a co-founder of the Person and Identity Project, which aims to promote an authentic vision of the human person to counter gender ideology. The Office of Evangelization is excited to provide several opportunities for people to hear from Mary in March of 2023. Staff and parent sessions are offered separately.

Parent sessions-

Our parent session will be specifically for parents and guardians of teens and children. We ask that people refrain from bringing their teens and children to the session. We strongly recommend that you register for the parent session, however we will accept walk-ins. By registering in advance, you allow us to ensure we have the proper amount of

handouts, chairs, and refreshments.

Parent Sessions will be at the following locations:

Sunday, March 5th (6:30-8:00 pm.) at Saint Michael Catholic Church, Glen Allen

Tuesday, March 7th (7:00-8:30 pm.) at the Church of the Incarnation, Charlottesville

Wednesday, March 8th (7:00-8:30 pm.) at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Newport News

Register at: Office of Evangelization Catholic Diocese of Richmond



MARK 5:36



"Thanks for calling the Believer's Support Line. For a word of encouragement, press one. For a verbal pat on the back, press two. For immediate praise and adulation, press three. For a faith that worketh patience, press on!"

OLBS at Deanery 5 Plenary Meeting Thursday, February 16, 2023



Members of the various councils, committees, and staff of our parish attended the Deanery 5 Plenary Meeting at the Catholic Church of the Visitation in Middlesex County on Thursday. The bishop assigns parishes into smaller geographical groups called "deaneries" that gather to discuss important issues ongoing in the Diocese. The dean of our region is Father Gerry Kaggwa, pastor of Visitation and Francis de Sales in Mathews County. "Plenary" means that all members, parishes, are expected to attend the conference.

Theme: "Eucharistic Revival"

As Catholics, we believe Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist when the priest consecrates the host (body) and wine (blood) as Jesus did in the Last Supper. The Eucharist is central to the life of the Church and Parishioners but a recent Pew Research study showed about only 30% of Catholics believe in the "real presence" in the Eucharist.

The year 2023 is to be the "Parish year" to promote the understanding of the Eucharist to Catholics, non-Catholics and non-practicing Catholics alike.

Books, videos, study guides, more Eucharistic Adoration, a "teaching Mass" for children as well as adults, service work, the Lectio Retreat (such as our DRE Erin is doing), Scriptural references and witness of the Apostles, were all discussed as ways to accomplish this.



St. Francis Home in Richmond

A presentation about Saint Francis in the Manchester section of Richmond was given by Bruce Slough, Executive Director. Saint Francis is a home for elderly of limited means that provides a safe, loving home for their later years. When Little Sisters of the Poor left Richmond because too few nuns remained to carry on (lack of vocations), Saint Francis was the only Catholic institution with this mission.

And Saint Francis is considered a mission of the Richmond Diocese, and as such, is <u>supported by the Diocesan Annual Appeal</u>, which has begun.

The home currently has 90 residents with a capacity of 115.



Music, liturgy, and lunch were provided by the Visitation Parish.

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 LINENS Linda Drexler 843-2541 <u>vintagenotes@verizon.net</u>	CLEANING COORDINATOR FACILITIES COMMITTEE	LIBRARY Linda Drexler 843-2541 <u>vintagenotes@verizon.net</u>
ALTAR SERVERS Joe Drexler 843-2541 <u>liturgychair@olbs-catholic.org</u> ARTS & ENVIRONMENT Rowena & Tom Fauber 725-6110 <u>artsenvironment@olbs-catholic.org</u> BELL CHOIR	Jim Pyne <u>facilitieschair@olbs-catholic.org</u> FINANCE COMMITTEE Richard Duke 843-3125 <u>financechair@olbs-catholic.org</u> HISPANIC MINISTRY Nanci Hernandez Jose Velasquez	LITURGY COMMITTEE Joe Drexler 843-2541 <u>liturgychair@olbs-catholic.org</u> MINISTRY SCHEDULING Pattie Vadas 843-4082 <u>pbv0806@yahoo.com</u> OFFICE VOLUNTEERS Margaret Varboncoeur 843-2867
CANTORS/CHOIR Leda Zaginaylo 757 870-2516 <u>music@olbs-catholic.org</u>	<u>hispanicministry@olbs-catholic.org</u> HOSPITALITY Glenn & Kay Shaw 843-3476	PARISH COUNCIL Tiffany Smith 840-7984 parishchair@olbs-catholic.org
CEMETERY COMMITTEE Gary Silvia 757-303-8576 <u>cemeterychair@olbs-catholic.org</u> CHURCH HISTORIAN Linda Drexler 843-2541 <u>historian@olbs-catholic.org</u>	JUSTICE & PEACE KNIT, PURL & PRAY LAWN MOWING COMMITTEE Eric Ellingson 843-2184 <u>ericellingson@verizon.net</u>	SACRISTAN Joe Drexler 843-2541 David Seckora, Sacristan Emeritus Marguerite Sturtz, Sacristan Emerita YOUTH MINISTRY Erin Hayden DRE@olbs-catholic.org

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