

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

HOLIDAYS: 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: T W Th 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Parish e-mail : olbs@olbs-catholic.org

Parish Web address: www.olbs-catholic.org

PASTOR

Rev. Oscar Paraiso

757-778-5118

Rectory

843-4231

Office

843-3125 ext 102

Email: oparaiso@richmonddiocese.org

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Pam Watkins

843-3125 ext 101

Hours: T-W-Th 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Email: adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org

BUSINESS MANAGER

843-3125 ext 104

Bob Ryalls

757 207-0215

E-mail: businessmgr@olbs-catholic.org

COORDINATOR of CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Erin Hayden

843-3125 ext 103

Email: DRE@olbs-catholic.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Leda Zaginaylo

757 870-2516

Email: music@olbs-catholic.org

PRESCHOOL TEACHER/DIRECTOR

Vangy Lawson

843-4177

Email: preschool@olbs-catholic.org

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: hallrentals@olbs-catholic.org

SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Also by appointment

EUCCHARISTIC 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.

PENTECOST SUNDAY

May 20th & 21st, 2023

Saturday, May 27th **PENTECOST SUNDAY**
5:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 pm Mass Offered for Gladys Laura Watkins
(RIP)
Requested by The Watkins Family

Sunday, May 28th **PENTECOST SUNDAY**
9:00 am Mass Offered In Memory of WW II Vets

Monday, May 29th *The Blessed Virgin Mary,
Mother of the Church*
No Mass
12pm-10pm Adoration in Chapel

Tuesday, May 30th
9:30 am Mass – No Mass Intention
12pm-10pm Adoration in Chapel
4:30 pm Adult Bible Study (Mercy Center)

Wednesday, May 31st *The Visitation of the Blessed
Virgin Mary*
9:30 am Mass – No Mass Intention
6:30 pm Choir Practice

Thursday, June 1st *Saint Justin, Martyr*
9:30 am Mass – No Mass Intention

Friday, June 2nd *Saints Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs*
9:30 am Mass – No Mass Intention
6:30 pm Holy Rosary (Fr. Oscar)

Saturday, June 3rd **MOST HOLY TRINITY**
5:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:30 pm Mass Offered for Iva Lee (RIP)
Requested by The Watkins Family

Sunday, June 4th **MOST HOLY TRINITY**
9:00 am Mass Offered for Judy Rogers (RIP)
Requested by Edna Trudeau
10:15 am Bible Study (Mercy Center)



Return to Holy Eucharist Under Both Species

Bishop Knestout sent a letter to pastors of the Diocese saying that parishes may again offer Eucharist “species,” bread and wine. This will begin with this Saturday and Sunday Masses for Pentecost.

We are in need of additional Eucharistic Ministers. A training session will be planned to show new volunteers the procedures and refresh previous Ministers. Please let Fr. Oscar, Pam, Pattie Vadas, or Joe Drexler know of your interest in serving and for a training session.



Parish Scholarship Deadline Extended

The new deadline is May 31st for submission of applications for the Parish Scholarship. The Scholarship is based on activity in the Parish as well as school academics and participation. Contact Tiffany Smith for an application at 804-840-7984.

Hearing Assistance

If you are having difficulty hearing the Mass in Church, please arrive a few minutes early and speak with one of the ushers, as the parish has purchased hearing assistance devices for our parishioners. Just ask one of our ushers how it works. You can even use your own earphones to plug into the device.

Notice: Good Neighbor Center

The Good Neighbor Center no longer will be using the facility at Our Lady of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. For assistance, contact Mrs. Thornton at 757-585-8227 and she will give instructions on getting the help you need.

The FeedMore Food Pantry will continue to serve the community on the third Thursday of every month at 9:30 AM
West Point Christian Church
Euclid Ave., West Point

FAITH FORMATION

Religious Education & Adult Bible Study

Bible Study will move to the Mercy Center "foyer" after the Sunday, 9 am Mass and starting on May 21. The Study will be on the **Book of Revelation**. We hope you can join us in learning the faith!

Our Tuesday Afternoon Bible study is at 4:30 pm. @ the Mercy Center Conference room. We are in the Book of Revelation. All are welcome!

Thank you so much to all our catechists for a great year in religious education! Your gift of time and sharing the faith is one of the most important things we can do for our parish kids and the future of our church. May God Bless You!



No Youth Group on Sunday, June 4th.

June 17th: Reconciliation
June 18th : First Holy Communion



Looking for help!

Vacation Bible School is set for the week of **July 23rd to the 28th**. We need many volunteers for: Decorating, setting up, teaching, art, crafts, bible stories, music, games and snacks. Please consider sharing your time and talents. If everyone could commit to 1 day, we will be covered. There is still time, but it comes up so quickly, the date needs to be saved.

We are looking for donated items: (Any Color) Yarn, old towels (No holes please) Sheets (No holes please) Beads of any color and boxes as we get closer.

Items we would like to borrow: 3 -Outdoor pop-up canopies



Summer Food Baskets for Young Students

School is out at the end of May! This means children will be out for the summer.

The current state of our economy will leave even more children without enough food and nourishment for the summer. We would like to offset that as much as possible for struggling families.

We will be shopping for and putting together Food Baskets on **Saturday, June 3rd**. We are accepting donations for Food Baskets. You can place your donation in an envelope with "Food Baskets" written on it and your envelope number so you can get credit for your donation.

You can place it in the offertory or give it to Sandy Lam, Deidra Kopacki, Erin Hayden, or Pam Watkins.

We always shop at Aldi so that we can get the most for the money we collect and stretch those dollars as far as possible. Anyone is welcome to come along and help! Please just let us know by May 30th so that we can plan accordingly for lunch. Thank you so much for your support over the years. As a parish we have fed many struggling families over the years and have spread God's love to some of those who need it most!

Openings on Parish Council



Several parishioners will be going off Parish Council in June after serving several years. Elections will be held in a few months. If you have an interest in guiding and advising on the direction of the Parish and its activities, please consider a seat on the Council. Let Father Oscar or any Parish Council member know of your interest.



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), which involves meeting potential renters, showing the hall, and help renters fill out the rental paper work. Contact the parish office if interested in this ministry. Rentals are an important financial benefit to the Parish.

Healing Service

On Thursday, June 1st, 7:00 pm. to 9:00 pm. at Saint Bede's Catholic Church on Ironbound Road in Williamsburg there will be a Healing Service.

Anyone can come.

We are boldly believing in miracles, signs and wonders! Expect the Holy Spirit to show up in power!

Annual Diocesan Appeal

- >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

Collections for May 20th & 21st, 2023
Week's Amount

Total Offertory	\$ 3,102
Supplemental Collection	\$ 228
Votive Stand	\$ 11
Total	\$ 3,341
Budgeted weekly average parish need	\$ 4,596
Restricted, Special Use, or Sent Out of Parish:	
Capital Campaign	\$ 420
Facilities Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 100
OLBS Scholarship Fund	\$ 60
Diocesan Home Missions	\$ 195
Maintenance Fund	\$ 20
Haiti Ministry	\$ 500

Thank You for Supporting our Parish



Greg & Denise DePompeo	May 2, 1981
Pat & Wini Barron	May 14, 1966
Chris & Barbara Hite	May 15, 1982
Joe & Mary Pincus	May 15, 1993
Brian (BJ) & Hope Kopacki	May 17, 2008
Dexter & Pam Dix	May 24, 1992
Jim & Pattie Vadas	May 27, 1972



May Crowns for Mother Mary Statues

- **May Crowns and Flower Donations for this Weekend of May 27th & May 28th**
 - 3" Crown was Donated by Lorraine & Bob Ryalls in Loving Memory of Esther Seckora
 - 6 ¼" Crown on The Blessed Virgin Mary located at the Votive Stand was Donated by Her Children, Grandchildren and Families in Loving Honor of Mrs. Marian Kopacki (Janice said this statue was in her mother's possession at one time and she donated back to Church, thus the request.)
 - 6 ¼" Crown was Donated by Richard & Margaret Mountcastle in Loving Memory of Katherine and Eric Crump
 - Flowers beside the Tabernacle and Flowers In Front of the Altar were donated by the Parish in Honor of the Holy Spirit on the Solemnity of Pentecost and Our Blessed Virgin Mother Mary.

You can still sponsor flowers for beside the Tabernacle and in front of the Altar. Please call the parish office at 804-843-3125, Tuesdays-Thursdays from 9:00am until 4:30pm. Or email Pam at adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org.

Year of Grace and Divine Mercy
(From The Diary of St. Faustina)

Meditation:

My daughter, do not omit Holy Communion unless you know well that your fall was serious; apart from this no doubt must stop you from uniting yourself with Me in the mystery of My love. Your minor faults will disappear in My love like a piece of straw thrown into a great furnace. Know that you grieve Me much when you fail to receive Me in Holy Communion. (Diary,156).

My Prayer Response:

Lord Jesus, may my minor faults disappear in the fire of Your love when I receive You in Holy Communion. In no way do I want to grieve You.



Saint of the Day

Pope St. Gregory VII
Feast day- May 25th

The 10th century and the first half of the 11th were dark days for the Church, partly because the papacy was the pawn of various Roman families.

In 1049, things began to change when Pope Leo IX, a reformer, was elected. He brought a young monk named Hildebrand to Rome as his counselor and special representative on important missions. Hildebrand was to become Gregory VII.

Three evils plagued the Church then: simony—the buying and selling of sacred offices and things; the unlawful marriage of the clergy; and lay investiture—kings and nobles controlling the appointment of Church officials. To all of these Hildebrand directed his reformer’s attention, first as counselor to the popes and later as pope himself.

Gregory’s papal letters stress the role of the bishop of Rome as the vicar of Christ and the visible center of unity in the Church. He is well known for his long dispute with Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV over who should control the selection of bishops and abbots.

Gregory fiercely resisted any attack on the liberty of the Church. For this he suffered and finally died in exile. He said, “I have loved justice and hated iniquity; therefore, I die in exile.” Thirty years later the Church finally won its struggle against lay investiture.

Attendance

May 20 th	Saturday	5:30 pm Mass	70
May 21 st	Sunday	9:00 am Mass	136

Priests for Life

Pentecost Voice

The Holy Spirit, who came on Pentecost, gave voice to the apostles to proclaim the truth of the Gospel. The Spirit, the Soul of the Church, continues to enable the Church to speak, and enables us to speak in our individual capacity. According to the late Cardinal Elio Sgreccia, who served as President of the Vatican’s Pontifical Academy for Life, “The Church must speak out in today’s context on fundamental rights, the right to justice, the right to peace, but above all and in the first place, the right to life. If the Church did not speak, did not proclaim the truth, it would be abandoning its duty; it would be unfaithful to society, to the good of society. Therefore, its precise duty is the very liberty to intervene with word, and also with example -- the example of promoting human life, of intervening for the salvation of mankind.”



“I have set before you
LIFE and DEATH
CHOOSE LIFE so that
you and your descendants may live.”

Deuteronomy 30:19, NRSV

To Parishioners of Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament:

I am the pastor/priest at St. John's Episcopal Church in West Point and the secretary of the West Point Ministers Association. First, a hearty thanks to your parish for hosting last night's baccalaureate service. It was delightful to meet 19 of the graduates and the hospitality by Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church was so kind and gracious. From the service through the reception, much work was involved by the parish in setting up, cleaning up, offering and serving the food and drinks, etc. Thank you for your gracious hospitality.

Second, many, many thanks for your hosting the Good Neighbor Center for many decades, offering space for the ministry, paying for the utilities involved, and allowing for the foot traffic of all peoples into your wonderful campus facility. Thank you. I hope you know how much this was appreciated over the years. I hope we are able to find an alternative location and continue the ministry in physical form going forward.

As you know, we now will be offering the Good Neighbor Center ministry in virtual form. Mrs. Frances Thornton will be taking calls for financial and food support via a new phone with a new phone number. She then will contact the three churches that will house the food for them to respond as needed for any food requests. She will remain at the helm in receiving all requests but will no longer have a physical presence or interaction with the people. I am hoping this will put an end to the rather unpleasant in person exchanges that were a concern for all of us and particularly around the preschool families.

So, please change any announcements about the Good Neighbor Center to say that people may contact the West Point Ministers Association/Good Neighbor Center for financial and food assistance at **757-585-8227**. People should leave a message for a return call about available assistance. As of now, there will be no set hours or physical location. All calls should continue to flow through Mrs. Thornton rather than contacting any of the churches directly.

Attached are flyers for posting and distributing to individuals who might inquire about assistance. We have posted these at the other churches and distributed the small flyers at last week's FeedMore food distribution.

Thank you again!

Let me know if you have any questions.

Theresa

Theresa M. Brion
Priest-in-Charge
St. John's Episcopal Church
PO Box 629; 916 Main Street
West Point, VA 23181
theresabrion.stjohnswp@gmail.com
(o) 804-843-4594; (m) 443-642-7116

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 vintagenotes@verizon.net	843-2541
ALTAR SERVERS Joe Drexler liturgychair@olbs-catholic.org	843-2541
ARTS & ENVIRONMENT Rowena & Tom Fauber artsenvironment@olbs-catholic.org	725-6110
BELL CHOIR	
CANTORS/CHOIR Leda Zaginaylo music@olbs-catholic.org	757 870-2516
CEMETERY COMMITTEE Gary Silvia cemeterychair@olbs-catholic.org	757-303-8576
CHURCH HISTORIAN Linda Drexler historian@olbs-catholic.org	843-2541

CLEANING COORDINATOR	
FACILITIES COMMITTEE Jim Pyne facilitieschair@olbs-catholic.org	
FINANCE COMMITTEE Richard Duke financechair@olbs-catholic.org	843-3125
HISPANIC MINISTRY Nanci Hernandez Jose Velasquez hispanicministry@olbs-catholic.org	
HOSPITALITY Glenn & Kay Shaw	843-3476
JUSTICE & PEACE	
KNIT, PURL & PRAY	
LAWN MOWING COMMITTEE Eric Ellingson ericellingson@verizon.net	843-2184

LIBRARY Linda Drexler vintagenotes@verizon.net	843-2541
LITURGY COMMITTEE Joe Drexler liturgychair@olbs-catholic.org	843-2541
MINISTRY SCHEDULING Pattie Vadas pbv0806@yahoo.com	843-4082
OFFICE VOLUNTEERS Margaret Varboncoeur	843-2867
PARISH COUNCIL Tiffany Smith parishchair@olbs-catholic.org	840-7984
SACRISTAN Joe Drexler David Seckora, <i>Sacristan Emeritus</i> Marguerite Sturtz, <i>Sacristan Emerita</i>	843-2541
YOUTH MINISTRY Erin Hayden DRE@olbs-catholic.org	

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Father Jakubowski Council #8116



*New Members Welcomed

*Hall Rental Available

Contact
Janice McGowan
(804) 366-4124