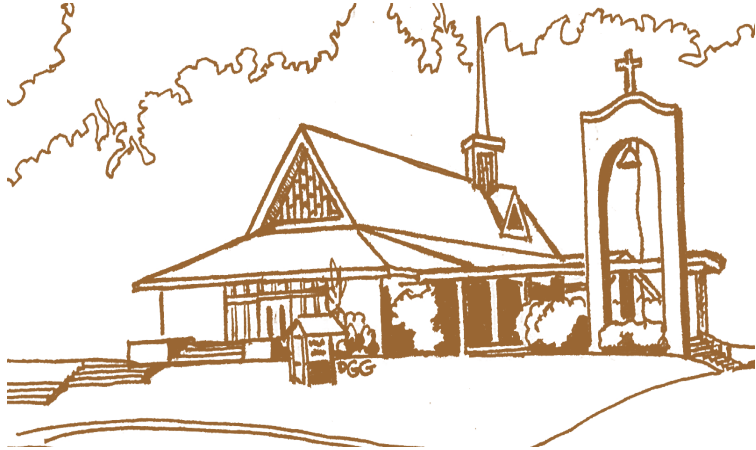


# OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

3570 KING WILLIAM AVENUE, WEST POINT VA 23181



## MASS SCHEDULE

**WEEKENDS: SATURDAY 5:30 P.M.**

**SUNDAY 9:00 A.M.**

**WEEKDAYS: 9:30 A.M. Tuesday - Friday**

**HOLYDAYS: 9:30 A.M. & 7:00 P.M.**

## PARISH OFFICES at the MERCY CENTER

207 W. Euclid Blvd., West Point, VA 23181

Phone: (804) 843-3125 Fax: (804) 843-9158

Office Hours: T W Th 9:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Parish e-mail : [olbs@olbs-catholic.org](mailto:olbs@olbs-catholic.org)

Parish Web address: [www.olbs-catholic.org](http://www.olbs-catholic.org)

### PASTOR

Rev. Oscar Paraiso (757) 778-5118

Rectory (804) 843-4231

Office (804) 843-3125 ext 102

Email: [oparaiso@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:oparaiso@richmonddiocese.org)

### PERMANENT DEACON

Rev. Dr. Kevin McKeever (973) 983-0511

Email: [conorlew56@gmail.com](mailto:conorlew56@gmail.com)

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Pam Watkins (804) 843-3125 ext 101

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

Email: [adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org](mailto:adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org)

**BUSINESS MANAGER** (804) 843-3125 ext 104

Bob Ryalls (757) 207-0215

E-mail: [businessmgr@olbs-catholic.org](mailto:businessmgr@olbs-catholic.org)

### COORDINATOR of CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Erin Hayden (804) 843-3125 ext 103

Email: [DRE@olbs-catholic.org](mailto:DRE@olbs-catholic.org)

### MUSIC DIRECTOR

Lyn LaPaglia (804) 690-9942

Email: [music@olbs-catholic.org](mailto:music@olbs-catholic.org)

### PRESCHOOL TEACHER/DIRECTOR

Vangy Lawson (804) 843-4177

Email: [preschool@olbs-catholic.org](mailto:preschool@olbs-catholic.org)

### van den BOOGAARD HALL RENTALS

Janice McGowan (804) 843-2870

Email: [hallrentals@olbs-catholic.org](mailto:hallrentals@olbs-catholic.org)

**GOOD NEIGHBOR CENTER** (757) 585-8227

By Appointment

### 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.  
followed by the Most Holy Rosary - 6:30 p.m.

### RECITATION of the MOST HOLY ROSARY

6:30 p.m. Every Friday in the church

### 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.

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT\***

**December 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT\***

4:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation  
5:30 pm Mass offered for Ed Kopacki (RIP)  
Requested by Virginia Kopacki & Family

Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT\***

9:00 am Mass offered for Billy McGowan (RIP) & Henry J. Kopacki, Jr. (RIP)  
Requested by Janice McGowan & Family  
5:30 pm Christmas Play & Potluck

Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

12 pm-10 pm Adoration in Chapel

Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>

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

Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>

11:00 am Healing Mass by Father Oscar  
Mass – No Mass Intention  
11:45 am Senior Luncheon at Nicks Restaurant  
Rt. 33, King & Queen

Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> *St. Peter Canisius, Priest, Doctor of the Church\**

9:30 am Mass – No Mass Intention

Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>

9:30 am Mass – No Mass Intention  
6:30 pm Most Holy Rosary

Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT\***

4:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation  
5:30 pm Mass offered for Thomas Trudeau (RIP)  
Anniversary of Death  
Requested by Edna G. Trudeau

Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT\***

9:00 am Mass – No Mass Intention  
5:30 pm Mass **VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD\***  
Offered for Thomas Sturtz, Sr. (RIP) & Thomas Sturtz, Jr. (RIP)  
Requested by Marguerite Sturtz & Family  
9:00 pm Mass **VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD\***  
Offered for Scott Watkins  
Requested by the Watkins Family

Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> **CHRISTMAS DAY\***

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**  
9:00 am Mass offered for Patsy Seckora (RIP)  
Anniversary of Birthday  
Requested by Donna Geron

Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup> **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH\***

5:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation  
5:30 pm Mass – No Mass Intention

Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> **THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH\***

9:00 am Mass – No Mass Intention

Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> **NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
**THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY**

9:30 am Mass – No Mass Intention

*\*Color of letters indicates vestment colors for that Sunday or Saint's feast day. If no color, vestments are white.*

Healing Mass & Senior Luncheon

On December 20<sup>th</sup>, a Healing Mass will take place at 11:00 am offered by Father Oscar. The insert in this bulletin describes the Healing Mass. All are invited to attend.

Following Mass, a Senior Luncheon will be held at Nick's Restaurant on Rt. 33 in King & Queen County.

Please call Jeanie Sturtz at 804-370-5821 before noon on Monday December 18, if you plan to attend.

Christmas Week – Parish Office Closed

The Parish Offices will be closed from Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> through Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> in observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays. The offices will reopen on Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The staff wishes each and every one of our parish family a Joyous Christmas Season filled with the love of family and friends and the worship of Christ, the reason for the season. We also wish all of you a safe and prosperous New Year!

NOTE!

There will be no bulletin for the week after Christmas, as the Parish Offices will be closed. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Monthly Spanish Mass to Begin

On Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, Father Oscar will be offering a Spanish Mass at 4 pm. Spanish Masses will be offered once a month on the first Sunday. This will continue as long as Father remains assigned as Chaplain at the Poor Clares Monastery due to the additional Masses he has there.

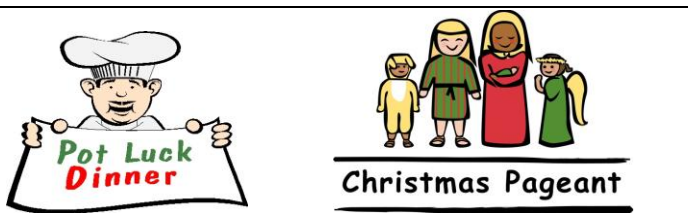
A CHRIST-CENTERED  
**CHRISTMAS** 

## Religious Education & Adult Bible Study

Religious Education classes will resume on January 7<sup>th</sup>! Enjoy your Christmas break with family, focusing on the most important part, Jesus.

**No Adult Bible study after December 10<sup>th</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. It will resume on January 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**Tuesday Adult Bible Study** - @ 4:30 pm. at the Mercy Center conference room.



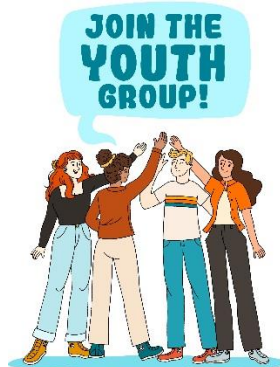
### Christmas Play & Potluck

Save the date!

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm**

Save the date and join us for Christmas fellowship on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm. Bring your favorite dish to share! We will have our Christmas Play showing, "The Perfect Christmas Tree."

The Youth Group will meet at the hall, **6:30 pm. on January 7<sup>th</sup>!** Let's celebrate the New Year Fun!



## FORMED – This is FREE!!

We hope everyone takes advantage of these resources while they are available to our Parish. We would love to have your feedback to share with the Augustine institute. Sign up as a parishioner, under our church @ [www.FORMED.org](http://www.FORMED.org). Email your feedback to: [dre@olbs-Catholic.org](mailto:dre@olbs-Catholic.org)

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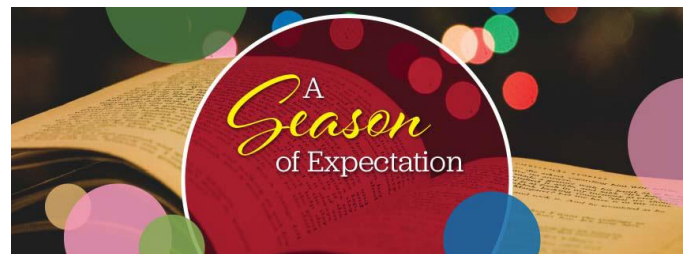
1. Visit [signup.formed.org](http://signup.formed.org)
2. Enter your parish zip code or name

**SIGN UP**

**FOR FREE**

## Baptism

**Congratulations!** - to the Sprouse family on the baptism of their daughter, Anna Carmen Lorenzo – Sprouse this past Saturday. Welcome to the family of Christ! May your light shine bright in the world.



### Cemeteries Cleanup before Christmas

On Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, the Cemetery Committee will be cleaning the cemetery of old flowers and memorials. If you have any decorations which need to be replaced, the Cemetery Committee requests that this be done prior to the week of December 18<sup>th</sup>. This includes both St. Theresa Cemetery and St. John Kanti Cemetery.

Thank you for your assistance in maintaining the appearance of our cemeteries.

### Attendance

December 8 <sup>th</sup>	Immaculate Conception		
	9:30 am Mass	41	
	7:00 pm Mass	49	
December 9 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday 5:30 pm Mass	81	
December 10 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday 9:00 am Mass	143	

Please bring any of your Blessed and dried palms leaves and place in the basket at the back of the Church. These palms will be used for our Ashes on Ash Wednesday.



### Knights of Columbus

#### Coats for Kids

The Father Jakubowski Council 8116 has started its annual campaign for Coats for Kids. Last year, the local council provided coats to children at West Point elementary, King William's Cool Springs & Acquinton elementary, and Lower King and Queen elementary. You can give a donation to any Knight or mail to K of C Council 8116, PO Box 707, West Point, 23181.

#### Christmas Cards: Knights' Keep Christ in Christmas

There are a limited number of boxes of Catholic Christmas cards in the foyer of the church for very reasonable prices. Please feel free to browse the collection.

#### 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 [www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-kofc.html](http://www.kofc.org/secure/en/join/join-kofc.html)



### December Wedding Anniversaries

Glenn & Kay Shaw	December 1, 1972
Craig & Danielle Smith	December 1, 2007
Wayne & Carole Beasley	December 12, 1980
(Francis) & Cathy Fudella	December 13, 1971
Michael & Jan Bellanca	December 29, 1963
Chris & Paula Polcyn	December 30, 1988

### Parish Needs Help in These Ministries

Anyone who would like to help with **Ministry to the Poor**, please call the office. This would involve reviewing requests the Parish gets from people who need help.

If you wish to **assist at Mass** as an Usher, Altar Server, Lector (Reader), Eucharistic Minister, or Collection of Money after Mass, please call Pattie Vadas 804-241-5009 or Joe Drexler at 804-366-7563.

### About Our Faith!

#### Mary Mother of the Church

After her Son's Ascension, Mary "aided the beginnings of the Church by her prayers." In her association with the apostles and several women, "we also see Mary by her prayers imploring the gift of the Spirit, who had already overshadowed her in the Annunciation." (CCC 965)

#### Priests for Life

#### Christmas: A Gift of Life

"The Gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus' message. Lovingly received day after day by the Church, it is to be preached with dauntless fidelity as "good news" to the people of every age and culture.

At the dawn of salvation, it is the Birth of a Child which is proclaimed as joyful news: "I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Lk 2:10-11).

The source of this "great joy" is the Birth of the Savior; but Christmas also reveals the full meaning of every human birth, and the joy which accompanies the Birth of the Messiah is thus seen to be the foundation and fulfillment of joy at every child born into the world (cf. Jn 16:21)" (St. John Paul II, "The Gospel of Life," n.1).



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

**Meditation:**

Jesus: True, My child, all that is painful. But there is no way to heaven except the way of the cross. I followed it first. You must learn that is the shortest and surest way.

Jesus: It is because you are not of this world that the world hates you. First it persecuted Me. Persecution is a sign that you are following in My footsteps faithfully (Diary, 1487)

**My Prayer Response:**

Lord Jesus, help me to learn with my heart what I know with my head, that the cross is the only, shortest, and surest way to heaven. You led the way first. Give me the strength to follow.



**Eucharistic Revival**

This year is a National Eucharistic Revival movement for all parishes. This is a movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, the Most Blessed Sacrament.

“The Eucharistic sacrifice is also offered for the faithful departed who have died in Christ but are not yet wholly purified,” so that they may be able to enter in the light and peace of Christ Put this body anywhere!

Don't trouble yourselves about it! I simply ask you to remember me at the Lord's altar wherever you are. Then, we pray [in the anaphora] for the holy fathers and bishops who have fallen asleep, and in general for all who have fallen asleep before us, in the belief that it is a great benefit to the souls on whose behalf the supplication is offered, while the holy and tremendous Victim is present by offering to God our supplication for those who have fallen asleep, if they have sinned, we...offer Christ sacrificed for the sins of all, and so render favorable, for them and for us, the God who loves man. (CCC 1371)

**Adoration in Mercy Center Chapel**

Stop by the Mercy Center Chapel for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and enjoy the comfort of the new kneelers. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament usually takes place on Mondays and Tuesdays. The Chapel can also be opened for you during Parish Office hours on Tuesday through Thursday.



The rosary is said each Friday evening at 6:30 pm in the church. Please consider coming and praying together with your parish family.

**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.

**Collection for December 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Week's Amount**

Total Offertory	\$ 3,197
Supplemental Collection	\$ 5,035
Christmas Flowers	\$ 195
Votive Candles	\$ 12
Immaculate Conception Mass	\$ 959
Christmas Day	\$ 60
The Solemnity of Mary	\$ 25

Total	\$ 9,483
Budgeted weekly average parish need	\$ 4,596

**Restricted, Special Use, or Sent Out of Parish:**

Capital Campaign	\$ 736
Facilities Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 100
Haiti Ministry	\$ 300
Catholic Charities	\$ 30

\*\*\*Thank You for Supporting our Parish\*\*\*

November 2023

**Annual Coats for Kids Campaign**

For the fourth year in a row, the Knights of Columbus Council 8116 in West Point, is raising funds for Coats for Kids, a national program helping children in need.

We are asking your help with any donation to help make this program a success for children in local schools.

Last year, the Knights supplied new coats to each of **West Point Elementary, Lower King & Queen Elementary, and Cool Springs/Acquinton Elementary (King William)**. These new coats are purchased in quantity from the Knights of Columbus' national organization who sponsors this worldwide program.

This year we wish to supply as many coats, if not more as last year – depending on funds, to all three schools. Administrators at these schools have been very appreciative of having coats available for many students.

Many children in our area don't have the basic necessity of a warm coat for braving the cold weather that is right around the corner. It is even more difficult this year for many families dealing with inflation and the high costs of everything.

**Please help by sending a check payable to the Knights of Columbus Council 8116, c/o Financial Secretary, P.O. Box 707, West Point VA 23181.**

Donors will receive a letter from the Knights recognizing your contribution and thanking you.

Thank you for your support.

Coats for Kids Committee

Jim Vadas, chair

Sal Inga

Jonathan Kopacki

## **HEALING MASS**

**December 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am**

**As baptized Catholics, every one of us is rich in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, given to us in baptism and deepened in Confirmation. Among them is the gift of healing, which makes us signs of God's power and presence and allows us to make others whole for the good of the Church.**

**A healing Mass is a normal Mass, but it has a special focus on God's healing power; this will be reflected in the (songs,) prayers, and scripture readings.**

**During the Mass, the celebrant prays for those attending and anoints them with blessed oil. The priest also prays for someone else's needs as requested.**

**During the healing service you may experience someone falling backward and then resting on the ground. This is called being *slain in the Spirit*; it is simply an indication that the person is overcome by an awareness of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and is resting peacefully.**

**Remember that the healing you seek may occur over a period of time and in a way which is different from what you expected. Be consistent by praying continuously for your healing.**

**A healing may be physical, spiritual, or emotional; it may be sudden, or it may happen gradually, in God's time. A healing may also manifest itself in a manner that is different from what was expected. Regardless of the nature of the healing, perseverance in prayer is necessary for the healing to continue.**

**Of course, God alone can restore someone to health: the priest is only a vehicle for God's healing power.**

**The late Pope Benedict XVI wrote, "Healing is an essential dimension of the apostolic mission.... It can even be said that Christianity is a 'therapeutic religion, a religion of healing.'"**

**Fr Oscar Paraiso**

# 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 (804) 241-4073  
vintagenotes@verizon.net

**ALTAR SERVERS**  
Joe Drexler (804) 366-7563  
liturgychair@olbs-catholic.org

**ARTS & ENVIRONMENT**  
artsenvironment@olbs-catholic.org

**BELL CHOIR**

**CANTORS/CHOIR**  
Lyn LaPaglia (804) 690-9942  
music@olbs-catholic.org

**CEMETERY COMMITTEE**  
cemeterychair@olbs-catholic.org

**CHURCH HISTORIAN**  
Linda Drexler (804) 241-4073  
historian@olbs-catholic.org

**CLEANING COORDINATOR**

**COMMUNITY LIFE**

**FACILITIES COMMITTEE**  
Jim Pyne  
facilitieschair@olbs-catholic.org

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
Richard Duke (804) 843-3125  
financechair@olbs-catholic.org

**HISPANIC MINISTRY**  
Nanci Hernandez  
Jose Velasquez  
hispanicministry@olbs-catholic.org

**HOSPITALITY**  
Glenn & Kay Shaw (804) 843-3476

**JUSTICE & PEACE**

**KNIT, PURL & PRAY**

**LAWN MOWING COMMITTEE**  
Eric Ellingson (804) 843-2184  
ericellingson@verizon.net

**LIBRARY**  
Linda Drexler (804) 241-4073  
vintagenotes@verizon.net

**LITURGY COMMITTEE**  
Joe Drexler (804) 366-7563  
liturgychair@olbs-catholic.org

**MINISTRY SCHEDULING**  
Pattie Vadas (804) 241-5009  
pbv0806@yahoo.com

**OFFICE VOLUNTEERS**  
Margaret Varboncoeur (804) 843-2867

**PARISH COUNCIL**  
Tiffany Smith (804) 840-7984  
parishchair@olbs-catholic.org

**SACRISTAN**  
Joe Drexler (804) 366-7563  
Marguerite Sturtz, Sacristan Emerita

**YOUTH MINISTRY**  
Erin Hayden (804) 843-3125 ext 103  
DRE@olbs-catholic.org

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(804) 966-1600

INSURANCE

**Vincent Funeral Home and Cremation Services**  
CHRIS P. VINCENT  
vincenfuneral@aol.com

417 11<sup>th</sup> Street  
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**Father Jakubowski Council #8116**



\*New Members  
Welcomed  
\*Hall Rental Available

Contact  
Jim Vadas  
804.370.5341