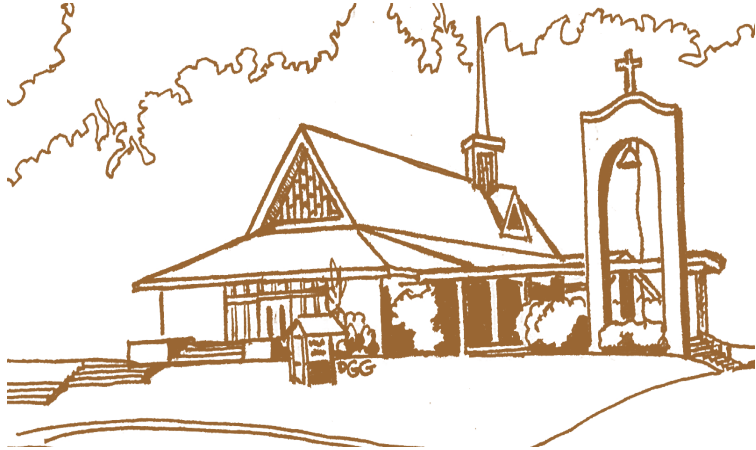


# OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

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.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT\***

**December 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**

**Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT\***

- 5:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
- 5:30 pm Mass offered for Mary Stephen Ochman (RIP)  
Requested by Marguerite Sturtz

**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT\***

- 9:00 am Mass offered for Mary JoAn Klisiewicz (RIP)  
Anniversary of Death  
Requested by the Watkins Family
- Mass offered for Stella Staskiel (RIP)  
Requested by Edmund Staskiel & Patty
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena begins**
- 10:15 am Adult Bible Study
- 10:15 am Religious Education Sunday School
- 6:30 pm **Youth Group (Boogaard Hall)**

**Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> St. John Damascene, Priest, Doctor of the Church\***

- No Mass
- 12 pm-10 pm Adoration in Chapel

**Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**

- 9:30 am Mass – No Mass Intention
- 12pm-10pm Adoration in Chapel
- 4:30 pm Adult Bible Study (Mercy Center)
- 6:00 pm **Liturgy Committee (Mercy Center)**

**Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> Saint Nicholas, Bishop\***

- 9:30 am Mass – No Mass Intention
- 6:30 pm **Choir Practice**

**Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> Saint Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church\***

- 9:30 am Mass – No Mass Intention
- 6:30 pm **Finance Council Meeting (Mercy Center)**

**Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

- 9:30 am Mass – No Mass Intention
- 7:00 pm Mass

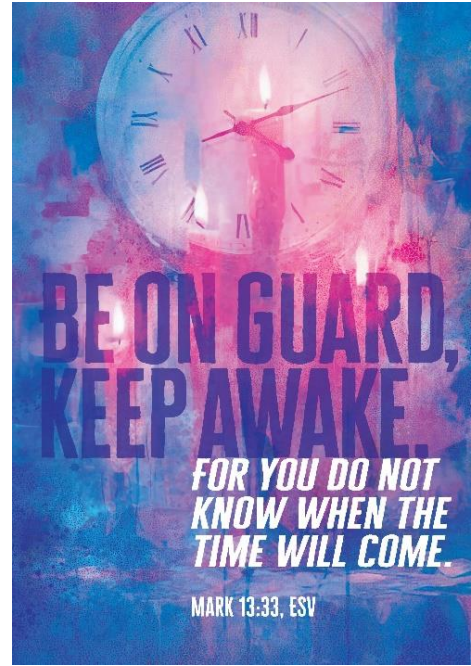
**Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT\***

- 5:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
- 5:30 pm Mass offered for  
Requested by

**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT\***

- 9:00 am Mass offered for  
Requested by
- 10:15 am Adult Bible Study
- 10:15 am Religious Education Sunday School

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



**Upcoming Events**

- December 3<sup>rd</sup> **Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena begins**
- December 4<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm Knights of Columbus meeting
- December 5<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm Liturgy Meeting
- December 7<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm Finance Committee
- December 8<sup>th</sup> **Immaculate Conception Of Blessed Virgin Mary**  
Holy Day of Obligation  
9:30 am Mass  
7:00 pm Mass
- December 10<sup>th</sup> Christmas decorating begins after Mass
- December 12<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm **Our Lady of Guadalupe procession**  
7:00 pm **Mass – Our Lady of Guadalupe Observance**
- December 14<sup>th</sup> 9:15 am Preschool Christmas Program  
11:00 am Daily Mass
- December 16<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am Food Basket Ministry – Shopping
- December 17<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm **Parish Christmas Play & Potluck dinner**
- December 20<sup>th</sup> 11:00 am Senior Mass: “for Healing”  
11:45 am Senior Luncheon at Nick’s Rest.
- December 24<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am Regular Sunday Mass  
5:30 pm **Christmas Eve Mass**  
9:00 pm **Christmas Eve Mass**
- December 25<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am **Christmas Day Mass**



**Christmas Decorating**  
Christmas decorating will begin on Sunday, December 10th after the 9:00 am Mass. Anyone interested please attend. There will be no decorating on this Sunday, December 3rd.

## Religious Education & Adult Bible Study

Religious Education Sunday School is held every Sunday at 10:15 am in the classrooms at the Boogaard Hall.

**Classes December 3<sup>rd</sup>, followed by Play Practice/ Recording @ 11:15 am.-12:30 pm.**

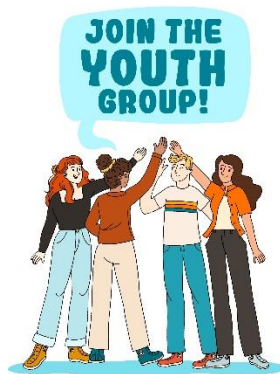
Sunday Adult Bible Study will be during Religious Education time, at the VDB hall on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. The Book of Matthew! We hope you will join us!

**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 night Bible Study meets at 4:30 pm. in the Mercy Center. Studies from the Augustine Institute: Eternal Rest-The Art of Dying Well. You will find answers to questions like: What happens when we die? What does scripture teach? How do we prepare for the life to come? If you are interested in joining or have questions, please call the office, so we can have your materials.

The Youth Group will next meet on **Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm** at the Boogaard Center!

This is for young people from 6<sup>th</sup> Grade to High School.



### OLBS Preschool

Hello OLBS family! The preschool is excited to have our annual Christmas Program on Thursday Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am in the church. The children have prepared something special and it is going to be a wonderful time! Refreshments to follow afterwards. We will be finished up before 11:00 in lieu of the 11:00am Daily Mass – note the time change! All are welcome!

### FORMED – This is FREE!!

FORMED is a Catholic digital platform free to our Parish this year. It has over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, audio dramas, talks, e-books, and even cartoons for our children. FORMED has content from over 60 apostolates, including Augustine institute, Ignatius Press, and the Knights of Columbus, with material that is professionally produced, engaging, and solid in its catechism. Best of all, this material is free to you! It has been gifted to our parish from the Augustine Institute. Thank the Lord! The Augustine Institute also gifted the digital platform for our new curriculum “Word of Life.” We hope everyone takes advantage of these resources while they are available to us. 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)



**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.”



Many, many thanks to everyone who participated in our Giving Tree Ministry! All the gift tags have been taken! Please don't forget gifts need to be back under the tree by the weekend of December 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>! Return gifts in a black trash bag with your tag attached and a list of what is enclosed. You can include wrapping paper and tape if you wish. Call Sandy Lam Dinh or the Parish office with questions.



We will once again be collecting money to grocery shop for needy families. You can include an envelope marked Food Baskets in the offertory basket with your envelope number on it so it can be recorded correctly. Or, you can give it to Sandy Lam Dinh, Deidra Kopacki, Erin Hayden or Pam Watkins after one of the Masses. The tentative date for shopping is Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome to come and help. We just need a good head count by Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. All children not yet in high school will need to be accompanied by a parent.

If you know of a family in need of a food basket please call the Parish Office at 804-843-3125 or Pam Watkins at 919-820-1983 to let us know.

Immaculate Conception Masses on Friday December 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am & 7:00 pm



*"Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you!"*

Luke 1:28, NRSV

**Cemeteries Cleanup before Christmas**

As we approach our Christmas season, it is time to prepare our cemeteries for this joyful time of year where we beautify our cemeteries. 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> as we will be there that week. This includes both St. Theresa Cemetery and St. John Kanti Cemetery. Thank you for your assistance in maintaining our cemeteries.

**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.

**Send Greetings to Vince D'Elia**

Parishioner Vince is at Warwick Forest in Newport News and is doing well. You can send him a note or card at:

Warwick Forest  
Room 528  
850 Denbigh Blvd.  
Newport News, VA 23608

**Attendance**

November 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Thanksgiving	78
November 25 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday 5:30 pm Mass	100
November 26 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday 9:00 am Mass	166



**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

### About Our Faith!

#### Mary Mother of the Church

Since the Virgin Mary's role in the mystery of Christ and the Spirit has been treated, it is fitting now to consider her place in the mystery of the Church. "The Virgin Mary. . . is acknowledged and honored as being truly the Mother of God and of the Redeemer... She is 'clearly the mother of the members of Christ' . . . since she has by her charity joined in bringing about the birth of believers in the Church, who are members of its head." "Mary, Mother of Christ, Mother of the Church." (CCC 963)

### Priests for Life

#### The King of Life

The liturgy for today's Feast of Christ the King tells us that his is "a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love, and peace."

Indeed, all these realities fit together perfectly. Truth and life go together, because when we know the truth about God's love and care for creation, we will respect all life. When we know the truth about ourselves, that we belong only to God, then we realize we cannot destroy any other person. A respect for life, personally as well as in our laws and policies as a nation, is the first requirement of justice and an absolute condition of peace. And the holier we are, the more we allow God's grace into our every thought and desire, the more we will adhere to truth, defend life, and promote justice and peace.

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

#### Meditation:

Today I heard the words: **In the Old Covenant I sent prophets wielding thunderbolts to My people. Today I am sending you with My mercy to the people of the whole world. I do not want to punish aching mankind, but I desire to heal it, pressing it to My Merciful Heart. I use punishment when they themselves force Me to do so; My hand is reluctant to take hold of the sword of justice. Before the Day of Justice I am sending the Day of Mercy.** I replied, "O my Jesus, speak to souls Yourself, because my words are insignificant" (Diary, 1588).

#### My Prayer Response:

Thank You, Jesus, for the "Day of Mercy" You announced to St. Faustina. As apostles of Divine Mercy, may we announce to the fearful people of the world Your mercy and You desire to heal them and press them to Your Merciful Heart.



#### 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 Eucharist is also the sacrifice of the Church. The Church which is the Body of Christ participates in the offering of her Head. With him, she herself is offered whole and entire. She unites herself to his intercession with the Father for all men.

In the Eucharist the sacrifice of Christ becomes also the sacrifice of the members of his Body. The lives of the faithful, their praise, sufferings, prayer, and work, are united with those of Christ and with his total offering, and so acquire a new value. Christ's sacrifice present on the altar makes it possible for all generations of Christians to be united with his offering. In the catacombs the Church is often represented as a woman in prayer, arms outstretched in the praying position. Like Christ who stretched out his arms on the cross, through him, with him, and in him, she offers herself and intercedes for all men." (CCC 1368)

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

# 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](mailto:vintagenotes@verizon.net)

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

**ARTS & ENVIRONMENT**  
[artsenvironment@olbs-catholic.org](mailto:artsenvironment@olbs-catholic.org)

**BELL CHOIR**

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

**CEMETERY COMMITTEE**  
[cemetarychair@olbs-catholic.org](mailto:cemetarychair@olbs-catholic.org)

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

**CLEANING COORDINATOR**

**COMMUNITY LIFE**

**FACILITIES COMMITTEE**  
Jim Pyne  
[facilitieschair@olbs-catholic.org](mailto:facilitieschair@olbs-catholic.org)

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

**HISPANIC MINISTRY**  
Nanci Hernandez  
Jose Velasquez  
[hispanicministry@olbs-catholic.org](mailto: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](mailto:ericellingson@verizon.net)

**LIBRARY**

Linda Drexler (804) 241-4073  
[vintagenotes@verizon.net](mailto:vintagenotes@verizon.net)

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

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

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

**PARISH COUNCIL**  
Tiffany Smith (804) 840-7984  
[parishchair@olbs-catholic.org](mailto: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](mailto:DRE@olbs-catholic.org)

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and Cremation Services*

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[vincentfuneralh@aol.com](mailto:vincentfuneralh@aol.com)

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**Father Jakubowski Council #8116**



\*New Members  
Welcomed  
\*Hall Rental Available

Contact  
Jim Vadas  
804.370.5341