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.

4:00 P.M. SPANISH MASS

1st Sunday of the Month

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: 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 (804) 843-4231 Office (804) 843-3125 ext 102

Email: oparaiso@richmonddiocese.org

pastormcneill@gmail.com

PERMANENT DEACON

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

Email: 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: <u>adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org</u>

BUSINESS MANAGER (804) 843-3125 ext 104 Bob Ryalls (757) 207-0215

E-mail: <u>businessmgr@olbs-catholic.org</u>

COORDINATOR of CHRISTIAN FORMATION Erin Hayden (804) 843-3125 ext 103

Email: <u>DRE@olbs-catholic.org</u>

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Email: music@olbs-catholic.org

PRESCHOOL TEACHER/DIRECTOR

Vangy Lawson (804) 843-4177

Email: preschool@olbs-catholic.org

van den BOOGAARD HALL RENTALS

Janice McGowan (804) 843-2870

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

GOOD NEIGHBOR CENTER (757) 585-8227

By Appointment

SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Also by appointment

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday and Tuesday Mercy Center Chapel

FIRST FRIDAY BENEDICTION and 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.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 3rd & 4th, 2024

Saturday, February 3rd FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME* Feast of Saint Blaise

Sacrament of Reconciliation

5:30 pm Mass offered for Tommy E. Sturtz (RIP)

Anniversary of Death

Requested by the Sturtz Family

Sunday, February 4th FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*

Blessing of the Throats

9:00 am Mass offered for Mary Pausic (RIP)

Requested by Mike & Nancy Pausic

10:15 am Adult Bible Study

5:00 pm

10:15 am Religious Education Sunday School 2:30 pm Youth Group – Ice Skating Outing!

4:00 pm Spanish Mass

Monday, February 5th Saint Agatha, Virgin, Martyr*

No Mass

12 pm-10 pm Adoration in Chapel

Tuesday, February 6th Saint Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs*

9:30 am Mass offered for Phil Liberato for Healing

& Recovery

Requested by Jim & Pattie Vadas

12pm-10pm Adoration in Chapel

4:30 pm Adult Bible Study (Mercy Center)

Wednesday, February 7th

9:30 am Mass offered for <u>Joseph Pausic (RIP)</u>

Anniversary of Death

Requested by Mike & Nancy Pausic

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Thursday February 8th Saint Jerome Emiliani

Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin*

9:30 am Mass offered for Joe, Sr. & Elsie Drexler (RIP)

Requested by Theresa Moody

Friday, February 9th

9:30 am Mass offered for Johnny Drexler (RIP)

Requested by Theresa Moody

6:30 pm Most Holy Rosary

Saturday, February 10th SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*

1:00 pm Dinner Committee Meeting 5:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation

5:30 pm Mass offered in Honor of Marguerite Sturtz

95th Birthday!

Requested by the Sturtz Family

Sunday, February 11th SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*

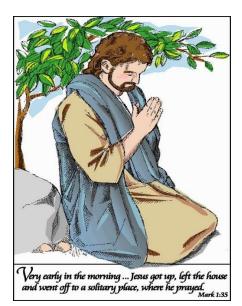
9:00 am Mass offered for LTC Kent Carter (RIP)

Requested by James & Anne Duke

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.



Please bring your candles to be Blessed on the weekend February 3rd & 4th. February 3rd is also the Feast of St. Blaise, so throats will also be Blessed that weekend. Friday, February 2nd is the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple and Candlemas Day.

Monthly Spanish Mass

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

Ash Wednesday is Wednesday, February 14th. Attending Mass on Ash Wednesday is a wonderful way to begin your Lenten journey and will set the tone for your Lenten practices and might lead you to consider new Lenten practices.

Masses will be at 9:30am and 7:00pm on February 14th.

With Father Oscar's added responsibilities serving as Chaplain for the Poor Clares, his availability has been more restricted. If you or you are aware of a parishioner or family member of a parishioner who is in need of or would like a visit from Father Oscar, please call the parish office Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays from 9:00am until 4:30pm to give us the name, phone number, address, and the best time to visit. Father will be able to visit at the earliest opportunity.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Lenten Penance Service is scheduled for Tuesday, February 20, at <u>6:30 pm</u> (<u>this is a time change</u>). There will be three priests available for private confessions.

Religious Education & Adult Bible Study

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

** Thank you for continuing to nurture your children's faith at home and in the class. It's amazing what our children can learn and retain about their faith, using it to build the Kingdom of God. **

Adult Bible study will follow the 9 am. Mass.

<u>Tuesday Adult Bible Study</u> – Has resumed at 4:30 pm at the Mercy Center conference room. We have started a new session on Lectio: Salvation.



Youth Group – Ice skating outing on Feb. 4th!

If you are in 6th-HS grades and would like to join, contact the office.



Confirmation Youth Attend Retreat in D.C.

Pictured above are Allison Smith, Yenvy Nguyen, Amir Alcocer, and Misael Hernandez as they prepare to travel to Washington, D.C. for their Confirmation Retreat. They visited the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land and the National Shrine Basilica of the Immaculate Conception. Please keep our Confirmation Candidates in your prayers!

Divine Mercy Retreat
Save the Date!
March 16th
9:00 -12:00 pm.
at the Boogaard Hall

Dinner and Movie Night

February 15th, 6:00 pm. Be our guest for Valentine dinner and Movie Night- Spaghetti dinner, sides, dessert and popcorn.

Cost: by donation. Proceeds will be used to fund the Youth Group - Diocesan Youth Conference and other activities throughout the year. Thank you for your support!

Our Movie: "Harriet" - The extraordinary tale of Harriet Tubman's escape from slavery and transformation into one of America's greatest heroes, whose courage, ingenuity, and tenacity freed hundreds of slaves and changed the course of history.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS SCHEDULE

On each Friday during Lent in the Church, we will recite the rosary at 6:30 pm followed by the Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm. The following ministries/groups are asked to lead the Stations of the Cross on their given date. Please let Father Oscar and Joe Drexler know if you can help on the date your ministry/group is scheduled.

February 16	The Liturgy Committee
February 23	Parish Council
March 1	Knights of Columbus
March 8	Hispanic Community
March 15	Finance Council
March 22	Cemetery Committee

March 29



3:00 pm Stations – Father Oscar

International Dinner Feb. 17th

Vietnamese, Polish, Filippino, Hispanic, and Italian! The International Dinner will be held on Saturday, February 17th from 6 to 8 pm as a fundraiser for the Parish, mainly to raise money for the Cultural Prayer Gardens and additional funds Mason Kopacki may need for his Eagle Scout Project, the "Stations of the Cross" path.

Tickets are no cost but a donation is asked now or at the dinner. Tickets are available after all Masses or call 804-370-5341 to reserve your ticket. Tickets are limited. The dinner is for parishioners and their family and guests. Parishioners from each nationality are preparing the dishes. You will get a taste of food specialties of each nationality. Eat in only, we wish this to be a community gathering. In addition, 50/50 raffles and a "silent auction" for gift baskets and several new large items will be held.

If you wish to sponsor and put together a gift basket, please let Kay Shaw know at 804-366-7518.



Cultural Prayer Gardens

Preliminary plans for outdoor prayer gardens in an effort to recognize our Vietnamese, Hispanic, Philippine, and Polish and European communities. The garden areas are to include signage, statues, benches, and shrub and tree plantings.

New Procedure for Announcements

If you have an announcement that needs to be made at the end of Mass, you can type your announcement and place in the Orange Folder on the Cantor's Stand. The second lector will make announcements at the end of Mass. (If you need help typing your announcement, please send an email to adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org with your announcement by Wednesdays by 4:00pm.) For those who wish to make their own announcements, please be on the side waiting after Holy Eucharist so Father knows you need to make an announcement.

<u>Attendance</u>

January 27th Saturday 5:30 pm Mass 85

January 28th Sunday 9:00 am Mass 121

Collection for January 27th & 28th, 2024				
Week's Amount				
Total Offertory	\$ 5,138			
Supplemental Collection	\$ 45			
Votive Candles	<u>\$ 10</u>			
Total	\$ 5,193			
Budgeted weekly average parish need	\$ 4,596			
Restricted, Special Use, or Sent Out of Parish:				
Capital Campaign – note info. below	\$ 457			
Poor Box	\$ 90			
Facilities Repairs & Maintenance Fund	\$ 100			
Cemetery Fund	\$ 40			
Respect Life	\$ 50			
Thank You for Supporting our Parish				

Collecting Old Palms

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.



February Wedding Anniversaries

(James) & Donna Geron	February 7, 1970
(Robert) & Cheryl Servonsky	February 10, 1973
Sol & Annabelle Vidal	February 10, 2001
(Henry) & Marian Kopacki	February 13, 1949
(Charles) & Margaret Varboncoeur	February 23, 1957
(Ed) & Virginia Kopacki	February 24, 1952



Knights of Columbus

Upcoming Lenten Fish Dinners

Here are the dates of upcoming Friday Lenten Fish Dinners by the Knights of Columbus:

Friday, February 23rd Fish Dinner

Friday, March 8th Shrimp Dinner

Friday, March 22nd Fish/ Seafood Combo

Tickets will be available as we get closer to the dinners. Brother Knights are asked to come out and lend a hand for these fundraiser.



The Parish celebrated Father Oscar's Birthday with a Pot Luck Dinner on Saturday evening, January 20th

Help our Parish!

We Need someone to head up the Committee for the Poor within our Parish. There are funds available, but we need someone willing to meet and assess the needs of those seeking help. Please pray on this and if you are interested in helping those in need, please contact the Parish Office.

Change of Date: Senior Mass & Luncheon

The Senior Mass and Luncheon that was scheduled for Wednesday, February 21st will be moved to Thursday, February 22nd at the same time and same place. Please don't forget to call Jeanie Sturtz by that Monday if you plan to attend. Her number is on the Calendar and in the Bulletin. Father Oscar will be attending a Deanery Meeting on Wednesday, February 21st.

About Our Faith!

Mary- Eschatological Icon of the Church

After speaking of the Church, her origin, mission, and destiny, we can find no better way to conclude that by looking to Mary. In her we contemplate what the Church already is in her mystery on her own "pilgrimage of faith," and what she will be in the homeland at the end of her journey. There, "in the glory of the Most Holy and Undivided Trinity," "in the communion of all the saints," the Church is awaited by the one she venerates as Mother of her Lord and as her own mother. In the meantime, the Mother of Jesus, in the glory which she possesses in body and soul in heaven, is the image and beginning of the Church as it is to be perfected the world to come. Likewise, she shines forth on earth, until the day of the Lord shall come, a sign of certain hope and comfort to the pilgrim People of God. (CCC 972)

ALERT

Make Your Voice Heard

Assisted suicide legislation has been introduced in the Virginia General Assembly. The Senate version of the bill is through committee and has been sent to the Senate floor. The House version is scheduled for a hearing soon. Contact your state legislators and tell them that assisted suicide can lead to dangerous decision-making for vulnerable and disadvantaged people, like the elderly, the disabled, and those with mental illness. For more information and to call or send an email message to your representatives, go to the Virginia Catholic Conference.

Priests for Life

Abortion Survivors

Child psychiatrist Philip Ney relates, "A woman reported telling her nine-year old son about her abortion, which had taken place years before he was born. He said, 'I knew, Mom, that there was something wrong. I always have nightmares about knives and my mother killing me. I have an imaginary brother who wants to kill me. If you had not aborted the other, would you have aborted me?'" (Abortion Survivors, p.36).

This is a story repeated more times than most people realize, and representing a societal and pastoral problem whose proportions are greater today than at any previous time in history: the phenomenon of tens of millions of abortion survivors.

It is clear that abortion's primary victim is the child who is killed. It has also become increasingly clear that to kill the child is to harm the mother and father as well. What is not always so well known, however, is that abortion makes its impact felt on those who have had a sibling aborted, and that this impact is felt in surprising and astonishing ways, which also have wider implications for the whole of society.

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

Meditation:

I understand Your words, Lord, and the magnitude of the mercy that ought to shine in my soul. Jesus: I know, My daughter that you understand it and that you do everything within your power. But write this for the many souls who are often worried because they do not I have the material means with which to carry out an act of mercy. Yet spiritually mercy, which requires neither permissions nor storehouses, is much more meritorious and is within the grasp of every soul. If a soul does not exercise mercy somehow or other, it will not obtain My mercy on the day of Judgment (Diary, 1317).

My Prayer Response:

My Jesus, thank You for teaching us through St. Faustina about "spiritual mercies" when we do not have material goods to give. We can always encourage other by our word, by our prayer, and by our kindness- and especially by sacrifice lovingly accomplished, which You, Jesus, called **exercising mercy in spirit.** (Diary, 1316)



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 presence of Christ begins at the moment of the consecration and endures as long as the Eucharistic species subsist. Christ is present whole and entire in each of the species and whole and entire in each of their parts, in such a way that the breaking of the bread does not divide Christ. (CCC 1377)

Lenten Soup & Sermon

The Soup & Sermon series sponsored by the West Point Ministerial Association will resume this year. The dates are all on Wednesdays: February 21st & 28th, and March 6th, 13th, & 20th. The Sermon will begin in St. John's Episcopal Church at Noon and a simple Soup luncheon will take place in their fellowship hall immediately following the Sermon. All are welcome. Our Church will work with St. John's Episcopal Church to provide soups and desserts for the Soup & Sermon on Wednesday, February 28th. Please call the Parish Office at 804-843-3125 if you are willing to volunteer to lead some of our ladies in providing whatever is needed for the Soup & Sermon or just want to volunteer.



Into the Heights / Young Adult Retreat

Looking at the mountains and reflecting on creation, you can find peace and perspective that comes from the Lord. As young adults, we have the opportunity journey *into the heights* of God's love by taking a step *out* of our normal lives and *into* the Blue Ridge mountains & Our Lady of the Angels Monastery. This one-day event will include 2 talks, an easy-to-moderate level hike, prayer with the Trappist-Cistercian nuns, and lunch.

Into the Heights: A Young Adult Lenten Reflection & Hike is Saturday, March 16 from 10am-6:30pm at Our Lady of the Angels Monastery in Crozet, VA. \$40/person includes lunch and other retreat supplies.

Who should attend this retreat?

Into the Heights is intended for young adults ages 18-39. All attendees must be out of high school. Single people and married couples are all welcome. Though this day is designed for Catholics, interested young adults of any faith backgrounds are welcome to attend.

Limited space available - don't wait to sign up!







All are Welcome!

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Van Den Boogaard Hall

3510 King William Ave | West Point, VA 23181

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17TH

TICKETS ARE REQUIRED TO RESERVE A SEAT

FOR TICKETS, PLEASE CONTACT JIM: 804-370-5341

50/50 RAFFLE

SILENT AUCTION

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS THE PRAYER GARDEN & MASON KOPACKI'S STATION OF THE CROSS SNOW DATE: MARCH 2ND

Parish Council Minutes

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

November 19, 2023

Members Present: Father Oscar, Deacon Kevin, Tiffany Smith, Terry Frederick, Bob Ryalls, Greg

Walthour, Kay Shaw, Sal Inga, Jose Velazquez, Jim Vadas

Additional Visitors Present: Jonathan Kopacki, Glenn Shaw

Meeting Called to Order: Tiffany called meeting to order.

Prayer: Tiffany led with the prayer, Come Holy Spirit.

Elections: Chair: Tiffany agreed to remain the Chair for an additional yearl

Vice-Chair: Sal placed his name in nomination.

Secretary: Jim agreed to take the position for another year.

Nominations were closed, a motion was made and seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

Roof Issue: Tiffany had sent out all previous minutes of the Facilities Committee as well as the TAM (roof engineers) letter/report. Bob said the letter/report was sent to Shawn Lazar (Diocese) and the Diocesan attorney to get a response after Thanksgiving. The letter/report would then be sent to Sharon, Hardesty's primary contact, who is Hardesty's Office Project Manager. We feel we are on a good path going forward.

International Dinner: Jim said he and Jonathan talked about how to proceed with the International Dinner planned for Saturday, January 27th with February 3rd as a "snow date." Janice has reserved the hall for those dates. The difficulty is that if tickets are sold, all the food preparation must be done in a Health Dept.-approved kitchen, which ours is; but to get several nationality foods made in a short time is impossible. We talked about getting restaurants of various nationalities to bring food for the dinner. Finally, the suggestion was made do an International Pot-Luck where we would ask for donations. This way, our various nationalities could make and bring in their favorite dishes. Jim will reach out to representatives of the different cultures within our Parish. This will be a good first step in once again holding an International Dinner.

<u>Cultural Prayer Gardens:</u> Jim asked for direction on planning the Cultural Prayer Gardens in the wooded area behind the Boogaard Hall. Mason Kopacki's Eagle Scout project will be in the wooded area adjacent but is behind the Church and parking lot. Plans for the gardens would be three at this time: a Vietnamese prayer garden, a Hispanic prayer garden, and a Polish/European prayer garden. Signs would be erected in each area to present each culture's contributions to the Parish. Suggestions could include paths made to benches, altars – perhaps with statues to Mary that are known to the different cultures, and plantings of shrubs, flowers and trees. Those with gardening and landscaping interests could form a group as well as those that could help in the construction. Susan Thompson's and Melissa Inga's names were suggested as gardening information assistance. Jim mentioned Alfred Jones, Joanna Ellingson, and Erin Hayden as additional parishioners with gardening interests. Jim mentioned that Jose and Eston and others have been working on clearing the area. Jim said that the Knights of Columbus had already

donated \$1,000 to the Parish towards expenses of the project. It was suggested that an initial meeting of those who could help in planning to meet on some upcoming Saturday at 10:00 or 11:00 am to end with a lunch provided by the Knights (Sal and Jonathan thought this would be agreeable).

Father led us in a closing prayer.

Next meeting date will be December 31st at 10:15

Closing Prayer: Father led the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Vadas, Secretary

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

Father Jakubowski Council #8116

*New Members Welcomed *Hall Rental Available

> Contact Jim Vadas 804.370.5341