

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church



3570 KING WILLIAM AVE • WEST POINT VA 23181



PASTOR

Rev. Oscar Paraiso (804) 843-3125 ext. 102
cell (757) 778-5118
oparaiso@richmonddiocese.org
pastormcneill@gmail.com

RECTORY

(804) 843-4231

PERMANENT DEACON

Rev. Dr. Kevin McKeever (973) 983-0511
conorlew56@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Pam Watkins (804) 843-3125 ext. 101
Hours: Tuesday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org

BUSINESS MANAGER

Bob Ryalls (804) 843-3125 ext. 104
cell (757) 207-0215
businessmgr@olbs-catholic.org

COORDINATOR OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION

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

MUSIC DIRECTOR (INTERIM)

Mary Jackson (757) 515-8398
music@olbs-catholic.org

PRESCHOOL TEACHER/DIRECTOR

Vangy Lawson (804) 843-4177
preschool@olbs-catholic.org

VAN DEN BOOGAARD HALL RENTALS

Janice McGowan (804) 843-2870
hallrentals@olbs-catholic.org

GOOD NEIGHBOR CENTER

By Appointment (757) 585-8227

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
(also by appointment)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday and Tuesday in the
Mercy Center Chapel

FIRST FRIDAY BENEDICTION AND ADORATION

In the church at 6:00 p.m.
(followed by the Most Holy Rosary
at 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.

HOME VISIT WITH FATHER OSCAR

To schedule, please call the church
office at the number below.

Mass Schedule

WEEKENDS

Saturday 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Spanish Mass 4:00 p.m.
(first Sunday of the month)

WEEKDAYS

Tuesday – Thursday 9:30 a.m.
Friday 5:30 p.m.
(followed by the Rosary —
first Friday of the month
is followed by a holy hour)

HOLIDAYS

9:30 a.m.
7:00 p.m.

Parish Offices

CONTACT

207 W. Euclid Blvd.
West Point, VA 23181
p: (804) 843-3125 • f: (804) 843-9158
Parish e-mail: olbs@olbs-catholic.org
Parish website: www.olbs-catholic.org

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday – Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

March 23rd & 24th, 2024

Saturday, March 23rd PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD*

- 5:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
- 5:30 pm Mass offered for Elsie Clara Blacher
Requested by Cathy Fudella

Sunday, March 24th PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD*

- 9:00 am Mass offered for Catherine Prince (RIP)
Requested by Catherine J. Smith
- 10:15 am No Adult Bible Study
- 10:15 am Easter Egg Hunt & Activities

Monday, March 25th

- No Mass
- 12 pm-10 pm Adoration in Chapel
- 6:30 pm Chrism Mass- Cathedral of Sacred Heart

Tuesday, March 26th

- 9:30 am Mass offered for Grace Bernoski (RIP)
Requested by Joe & Linda Drexler
- 12pm-10pm Adoration in Chapel
- 4:30 pm No Adult Bible Study

Wednesday, March 27th

- 9:30 am Mass offered for Rev. Russell E. Smith (RIP)
Requested by Joe & Linda Drexler
- 7:00 pm Tenebrae Service

Thursday March 28th HOLY THURSDAY*

- 7:00 pm Mass offered for Roger Staskiel (RIP)
Requested by Joe & Linda Drexler

Friday, March 29th GOOD FRIDAY*

- 3:00 pm Stations of the Cross- Father Oscar
- 7:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Saturday, March 30th EASTER VIGIL *

- 11:30 am Blessing of Food/Easter Baskets
- 7:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
- 8:00 pm Mass offered for Catherine Prince (RIP)
Requested by Catherine J. Smith

Sunday, March 31st EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD*

- 6:30 am Sunrise Service at Beach Park, Ministerial Association
- 9:00 am Mass offered for Frank & Stella Staskiel, Joyce Richardson, Lucy Peterson, Paul McDonald, & Spencer Adsit (All RIP)
Requested by Edmund & Patti Staskiel

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



If You Need a Visit from Father Oscar

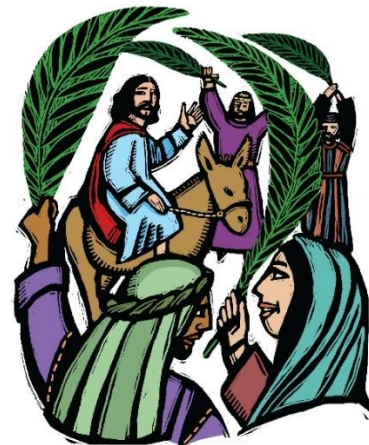
If you or you are aware of a parishioner or family of a parishioner who is in need of or would like a visit from Father Oscar, please call the parish office Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays from 9:00am until 4:30pm to give us the name, phone number, address, and the best time to visit. With Father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

From the Cemetery Committee

Please remove all flowers and items from both cemeteries by Palm Sunday. The Cemetery Committee will be doing a cleanup of the cemeteries the week prior to Easter.

Hearing Assistance

If you are having difficulty hearing the Mass in Church, please speak with one of the ushers, as the parish has hearing assistance devices for our parishioners.



"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Luke 19:38, NIV

Religious Education & Adult Bible Study

Religious Education No Classes on Easter, March 31st or April 7th. Enjoy your family time.

Religious Education Special Event: Our classes will be having an Easter egg hunt and activities on Palm Sunday, March 24th, during Sunday School and activities to follow in the main hall area. Younger siblings are welcome to join us. Meet in the hall at 10:15 am.

Adult Bible study No Adult Bible study on March 24th, 31st or April 7th.

Tuesday Adult Bible Study – No Adult Bible Study on March 26th or April 2nd. We will resume with our Session, Lectio Salvation on April 9th.



Open to all 6th -12th Grade. No Youth Group on March 31st or April 7th. We will meet again on April 14th @ 6:30 pm.

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

Meditation:

September 25, 1937. When I learned how great are the difficulties in this whole work, I went to the Lord and said, "Jesus, don't You see how they are hindering Your work?" And I heard a voice in my soul: **Do as much as is in your power, and don't worry about the rest. These difficulties prove that this work is Mine. Be at peace so long as you do all that is in your power** (Diary, 1295) The Lord said to me: **It should be of no concern to you how anyone else acts: you are to be My living reflection through love and mercy.** I answered, "Lord, but they often take advantage of my goodness." **That makes no difference, My daughter. That is no concern of yours. As for you, be always merciful toward other people, and especially toward sinners** (Dairy, 1446).

My Prayer Response:

Lord Jesus, in difficulties in my work and relationships, may I rejoice and do what is in my power with peace. May I always be merciful.

Divine Mercy Retreat

Thank you to all who attended the Divine Mercy Retreat. We hope you were able to take a great message from retreat and become messengers of Mercy!

Thank you to all who helped prepare for the Divine Mercy Retreat and donate food! Sandy Dinh, Tiffany Smith, Deidra and Kody Kopacki, you made the day extra special! We had a wonderful group of people, good food and a powerful message of mercy for us all to take home and share.



The Mysteries of Jesus' Public Life

Jesus' temptations- The evangelists indicate the salvific meaning of this mysterious event: Jesus is the new Adam who remained faithful just where the first Adam had given in to temptation. Jesus fulfills Israel's vocation perfectly: in contrast to those who had once provoked God during forty years in the desert, Christ reveals himself as God's Servant, totally obedient to the divine will. In this, Jesus is the devil's conqueror: he "binds the strong man" to take back his plunder. Jesus' victory over the tempter in the desert anticipates victory at the Passion, the supreme act of obedience of his filial love for the Father. (CCC 539)

Holy Week Schedule

- Wednesday, March 27th
 – **Tenebrae Service** at 7:00pm
- Thursday, March 28th – **Holy Thursday**
 – Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 7:00pm followed by Adoration until 10:00 pm
- Friday, March 29th – **Good Friday**
 – Stations of the Cross at 3:00pm
 – Celebration of the Lord’s Passion at 7:00pm
- Saturday, March 30th
 - The Blessing of Easter food/baskets at 11:30 am
 – **Easter Vigil Mass** at 8:00pm
- Sunday, March 31st
 - 6:30 am Sunrise Service at Beach Park (WP Ministerial Association)
 – **Easter Sunday Mass** at 9:00am
- Saturday, April 6th
 – Divine Mercy Sunday Vigil Mass at 5:30pm
- Sunday, April 7th – Divine Mercy Sunday Mass at 9:00am
 Sunday, April 7th – Spanish Mass at 4:00pm

preschool registration



From the Preschool

The Preschool has experienced a wonderful and successful school year. All of our spots have been full and we are looking forward to another wonderful year this coming Fall. Registration is now open to the Parish. If there are any families looking for a program for 3-year olds, we have open spots. Thank you again for all your support over the years and your prayers. We appreciate them.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday, March 29 3:00 pm Stations – Father Oscar

Diocesan Chrism Mass

The Diocesan Chrism Mass is on Monday, March 25th at 6:30pm at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Richmond. Faithful are encouraged to attend.

Easter Sunrise Service

Easter Sunrise Service, sponsored by the WP Ministerial Association, is scheduled for March 31 at Beach Park (end of Main Street). The service will begin at 6:30 a.m. All are invited to join our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ to celebrate the Resurrection as the sun comes up across the York River.

We will not be creating Easter Food Baskets for the needy this year. We will again be providing baskets as school lets out for the summer and feel like the children benefitted the most from this. If you have already placed a donation in the offertory for the Easter Food Baskets, we can use it for the June Baskets or have your donation returned to you. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Join the **Lawn Mowing Crew!**

As you may know, those mowing the Parish grass each week are volunteers. We are now down to two teams and need one or two more. Volunteers can use their own mower or one of the church’s mowers. Four crews would mean each team would mow once a month! **Call Chris Polcyn to learn more at 804-366-5316.**

Please join the Committee for the Poor. 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 @ 804-843-3125



March Wedding Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Shawn & Erin Lazar | March 6, 2004 |
| David & Donna Haviland | March 7, 1998 |

April Wedding Anniversaries

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Paul & Valeria Seckora | April 5, 1997 |
| Thomas & Paulette Berberich | April 11, 1964 |
| (Thomas, Sr.) & Marguerite Sturtz | April 15, 1945 |
| Billy & Katie Fudella | April 25, 2015 |

Attendance

| | | | |
|------------------------|----------|--------------|-----|
| March 16 th | Saturday | 5:30 pm Mass | 88 |
| March 17 th | Sunday | 9:00 am Mass | 140 |

Forty Days OF LENT



Knights of Columbus

The Knights thank everyone who bought tickets and came out for the Seafood Combo Dinner, the third Lenten meal.

Thanks also for the excellent turnout of Brother Knights and members of their families who cooked and packaged the food for take outs and served dinners to those eating at the Hall.

Collection for March 16th & 17th, 2024

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Total Offertory | \$ 5,762 |
| Supplemental Collection | \$ 475 |
| Parish Heating | \$ 10 |
| Easter Flowers | \$ 65 |
| Total | \$ 6,312 |
| Budgeted weekly average parish need | \$ 4,596 |
| Restricted, Special Use, or Sent Out of Parish: | |
| Capital Campaign (Total of 4 weeks) | \$ 4,047 |
| Facilities Repairs & Maintenance Fund | \$ 100 |
| Cemetery Fund | \$ 70 |

Thank You for Supporting our Parish

*Note that Capital Campaign status summary will be reported in next week's bulletin.

Announcement about Announcements!

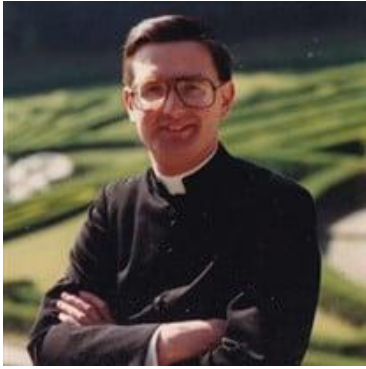
If you have any announcement that needs to be made at the end of Mass, you can type your announcement and place in the Orange Folder on the Cantor's Stand. The Second Lector will make announcements at the end of Mass. (If you need help typing your announcement, please send an email to adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org with your announcement no later than Wednesdays at 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.



Becoming a Knight!!

Charitable causes are our reason for fundraising. The 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.

Remembering Father Smith: Many of you may remember Fr. Smith, who served as administrator of the OLBS Parish some years ago. He was very personal and outgoing.



Obituary for Russell Edward Smith

On March 5th, 2024, the Reverend Russell Edward Smith entered into his final rest. Rusty, as he was called by everyone, was born to Frank Ernest Smith and Mildred Blanche Sweeny Smith on March 22, 1954, in the old Bell Hospital, Williamsburg, Virginia.

In his earliest days he attended Matthew Whaley Elementary School and then continued his upper-level grade schooling at Walsingham Academy, (Sisters of Mercy of Merion,) for the period of grades 7 through 12. In preparation for the Priesthood, he attended Duns Scotus College, Southfield Michigan. Upon completion of his studies at Duns Scotus, he continued his education with Catholic University, Washington D.C. to be awarded a Master of Divinity, (STM.)

Having finished his studies at Catholic University, he took his interests further to Rome with the completion of a Doctorate in Sacred Theology (S.T.D.) with Pontificia Universitas Lateranensis. Academia Alfonsiana, Rome. Returning from Rome Rusty did some time with the Catholic Diocese of Richmond then took a post with the Archdiocese of Boston as Moral Theologian. He then went back to Richmond, and then to Saint Louis functioning each time in the same capacity until he finally returned to The Diocese of Richmond as both Moral Theologian and Parish Priest. He functioned as Moral Theologian to the Virginia Commonwealth University's Health Care System.

He is survived by a number of cousins in the greater Williamsburg area. He retired early because of medical reasons and maintained his residence in Toano, Virginia.



Eucharistic Revival

"Take this and eat it, all of you": Communion

The Lord addresses an invitation to us, urging us to receive him in the sacrament of the Eucharist: "Truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. To respond to this invitation we must prepare ourselves for so great and so holy a moment. St. Paul urges us to examine our conscience: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a man examine himself and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For any one who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself." Anyone conscious of a grave sin must receive the sacrament of Reconciliation before coming to communion. (CCC 1384-1385)



Retirement Planning Webinar

Tuesday, April 2, 8:00 pm

<http://tinyurl.com/KofCApril2>

Knights of Columbus, your premier Catholic partner for financial services, is pleased to invite you to an informational webinar. This special live webinar, "**Retirement Savings and Distribution Planning**," features nationally recognized speaker, television personality and best-selling author, Ed Slott.

Ed combines current research, in-depth expertise, and humor to teach viewers about the ins and outs of their retirements and provides insight into the latest tax and planning information.

Since our founding, Knights of Columbus has been committed to helping provide financial security and stability to our members and their families. Bringing Ed's expertise to you and your family through this financial event is just one way we stay true to this dedication. We're excited to bring Ed's expertise to you, and we can't wait to see you there!

Don't miss out on this education opportunity – [register](mailto:register@kofc.org) [knights@kofc.org](mailto:register@kofc.org). to save your spot today!



IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

March 2024 Prayers for Healing & Good Health

Elizabeth Alley
Cheryl Antal
Paulette Berberich
Jean Berkey
Beatrice Blacher
Linda Blevins
Todd Brown
Beth Burch – an addition
Linda Burch
Robert Burch
Caroline Byrd
Chris Byrd
Katherine Carson
Kevin Carson
Lucy Carson
Jessica Cassidy
Jose Castaneda
Logan Chestnutt
Marianna Chestnutt
Marvin Croswell

Meredith Crowe
Angela Dart
Lydia Dehn
Vincent D’elia
Denise DePompeo
Dexter Dix
Joyce Drexler
Paul Garman
Karen Haney
Tom Hollowack
Jim Houser
Gigi Jordan
Gloria Kojcsich
Bonnie Kopacki
Racheal Lafferty
Arlene Lasch
Melissa Leger

Prayers for those in the Military

Karen Liberato
Philip Liberato
Phil Marshall
Holly McGowan
Patrick McGowan
Rich Perry
Lenny Ramlano
Joe Ripchick
John Ross
Barbara Schaffer
Margaret Silvia
Jackie Via
Gloria Wajciechowski
Bill Webster
Steve Weems
James Wills
Andrea Berberich Wilson
Mary Yassem
Leda Zaginaylo
Abby Zwerner

Tracie Gates

If you wish to add someone on the list or remove a name from the list, please call the parish office (804) 843-3125 or email Pam Watkins at adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org

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
ceemeterychair@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

Please support our sponsors. They support our bulletin!

SOMETHING BUGGING YOU?

Call the Company that Offers:

- Real People answering your calls
- Over Thirty Years' experience
- Safe, Dependable Service IN Williamsburg
- Licensed Technicians

CALL THE COMPANY YOU CAN TRUST

JAMES PEST CONTROL
229-3370 or 229-3372

TERMITES • COCKROACHES • FLEAS • TICKS • RODENTS



8th & MAIN STREET
WEST POINT, VA 23181
(804)843-3500

3531 N. COURTHOUSE RD
PROVIDENCE FORGE, VA 23140
(804)966-1600

*Vincent Funeral Home
and Cremation Services*

CHRIS P. VINCENT
vincentfuneralh@aol.com

417 11th Street
West Point VA 23181
(804) 843-2550

9923 Pocahontas Trail
Providence Forge VA 23140
(804) 966-7075

**Rent the
Father van den Boogaard
Hall**

Facilities for
Wedding Receptions,
Anniversary Parties,
Birthdays, Family Reunions

Main Hall accommodates up to 300 guests

Foyer & Kitchen available for smaller events

(804) 843-3125 ext 111

Email: hallrentals@olbs-catholic.org

Father Jakubowski Council #8116



***New Members
Welcomed**

***Hall Rental Available**

Contact
Jim Vadas
804.370.5341