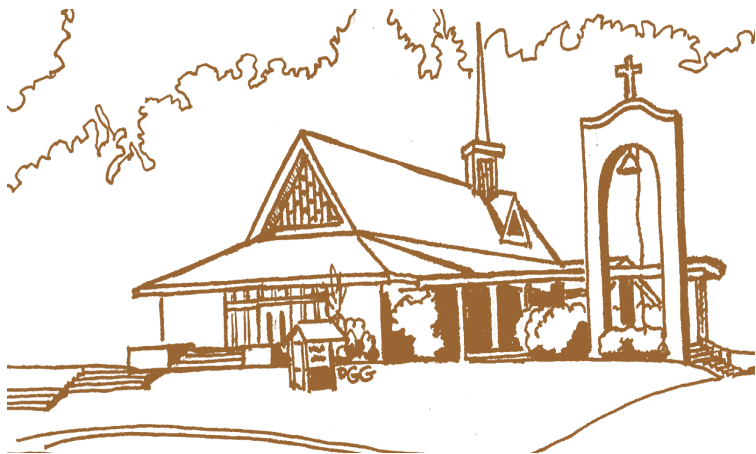


OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH

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: 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 (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: adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org

BUSINESS MANAGER (804) 843-3125 ext 104

Bob Ryalls (757) 207-0215

E-mail: businessmgr@olbs-catholic.org

COORDINATOR of CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Erin Hayden (804) 843-3125 ext 103

Email: DRE@olbs-catholic.org

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: 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 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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
March 2nd & 3rd, 2024

- Saturday, March 2nd *THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT****
 5:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
 5:30 pm Mass offered for David Seckora (RIP)
 Requested by Marguerite Sturtz
- Sunday, March 3rd *THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT****
 9:00 am Mass offered for Phil & Karen Liberato
 for Healing & Good Health
 Requested by the Liberato Family
 10:15 am Adult Bible Study
 10:15 am Religious Education Sunday School
 4:00 pm **Spanish Mass**
 6:30 pm **Youth Group at the Hall**
- Monday, March 4th *Saint Casimi****
 No Mass
 12 pm-10 pm Adoration in Chapel
- Tuesday, March 5th**
 9:30 am Mass – No Intention
 12pm-10pm Adoration in Chapel
 4:30 pm Adult Bible Study (Mercy Center)
- Wednesday, March 6th**
 9:30 am Mass – No Intention
 6:30 pm **Choir Practice**
- Thursday March 7th *Saints Perpetua and Felicity****
 9:30 am Mass – No Intention
- Friday, March 8th *Saint John of God, Religious****
5:30 pm **Mass** – No Intention
 6:30 pm **Most Holy Rosary**
 7:00 pm **Stations of the Cross- Hispanic Community**
- Saturday, March 9th *FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT****
 5:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
 5:30 pm Mass – No Intention
- Sunday, March 10th *FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT****
 9:00 am Mass – No Intention
 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.*



Spanish Mass

As it is the first Sunday in March, the Spanish Mass will be held at 4:00 pm Sunday, March 3rd.

If You Need a Visit from Father Oscar

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 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.

Change in Friday's Daily Mass Schedule

Each Friday Daily Mass will be at 5:30pm followed by the **Rosary**.
 Each **FIRST Friday Mass** will be at 5:30pm followed by the Holy Hour.
 Each **Friday during Lent** Mass will be at 5:30pm followed by the Rosary and then the Stations of the Cross.



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.

Religious Education & Adult Bible Study

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

Adult Bible study will follow the 9 am. Mass.

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



Confirmation- Please pray for our Confirmation candidates who will be receiving their Sacrament at St. Bede in Williamsburg on Tuesday, March 5th @ 7:00 pm. All are welcome to join. May they be filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and be guided to serving our Lord always.



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

Join us on Sunday, March 3rd @ 6:30 pm at the Hall.

Divine Mercy Retreat

Save the Date! March 16th from 9:00 -12:00 pm at the Boogaard Hall. It is a time of Mercy that our Savior has given us. This retreat will help you to be prepared to receive the gifts given on Divine Mercy Sunday. Breakfast items will be served and admission cost is FREE. **Sign up and tickets are on the back table.** Questions? Call: Erin Hayden (804)-366-4435.



Eucharistic Revival

Worship of the Eucharist.

“That in this sacrament are the true Body of Christ and his true Blood is something that ‘cannot be apprehended by the senses,’ says St. Thomas,’ but *only by faith*, which relies on divine authority.’ For this reason, in a commentary on *Luke 22:19* (“This is my body which is given for you.’), St. Cyril says: ‘Do not doubt whether this is true, but rather receive the words of the Savior in faith, for since he is the truth, he cannot lie.”

Godhead here in hiding, whom I do adore Masked by these bare shadows, shape and nothing more, See, Lord, at thy service low lies here a heart Lost, all lost in wonder at the God thou art. Seeing, touching, tasting are in thee deceived; How says trusty hearing? that shall be believed; What God’s Son has told me, take for truth I do; Truth himself speaks truly or there’s nothing true. (CCC 1381)

Must See Movies in Theaters! – Check your local listing:

“Cabrini,” produced by Angel Studios. The movie **Cabrini** is based on the rich, inspiring true story of Francesca Xavier Cabrini, the first American saint. The film represents the very real events of Cabrini’s life, her mission, and her service among the Italian immigrants of New York City.

“The Ark and the Darkness” will be the most Biblically accurate, photo-realistic representation of Noah’s Flood ever released in theaters. Co-produced by award-winning Sevenfold Films, Director of *Genesis: Paradise Lost*, this film takes photo-realism to the next level. In cooperation with experts from Answers in Genesis, Liberty University, and Genesis Apologetics, this film reveals just how Noah’s Flood unfolded, how the dinosaurs were involved, what happened after, and also reviews how the judgement of Noah’s Flood parallels end times. Added value includes an interview panel with experts on Noah’s Flood. **(Playing only 2 days- March 20th and 21st).**

About Our Faith:

The Mysteries of Jesus’ Public Life

The baptism of Jesus- The baptism of Jesus is the acceptance and inauguration of his mission as God’s suffering Servant. He allows himself to be numbered among sinners; he is already “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.” Already he is anticipating the “baptism” of his bloody death. Already he is coming to “fulfill all righteousness,” that is, he is submitting himself entirely to his Father’s will: out of love he consents to this baptism of death for the remission of our sins. The Father’s voice responds to the Son’s acceptance, proclaiming his entire delight in his Son. The Spirit whom Jesus possessed in fullness from his conception comes to “rest on him.” Jesus will be the source of the Spirit for all mankind. At his baptism “the heavens were opened” – the heavens that Adam’s sin had closed – and the waters were sanctified by the descent of Jesus and the Spirit. A prelude to the new creation. (CCC 536)



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 3-year old program, we have open spots. Thank you again for all your support over the years and your prayers. We appreciate them.



Cultural Prayer Gardens

Preliminary plans for outdoor prayer gardens are on display in the foyer of the Church in an effort to recognize our Vietnamese, Hispanic, Philippine, and Polish and European communities. The garden areas are to include signage about the different cultures and their importance in our Parish, statues, benches, and shrub and tree plantings. We will be developing a list of things you can donate to or in honor of someone or in memory of someone.

Forty Days OF LENT

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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.

- March 8 Hispanic Community
- March 15 Finance Council
- March 22 Cemetery Committee
- March 29 3:00 pm Stations – Father Oscar

Lenten Soup & Sermon

The Lenten Soup and Sermon series sponsored by the West Point Ministerial Association will be held on all Wednesdays, February 21-March 20. Sermons begin at 12 noon followed by a soup luncheon. Please consider joining our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ on Wednesdays for this time of Lenten reflection.

New Procedure for Announcements

Put your announcements in the orange folder at the cantor’s podium. Announcements will be read by the 2nd lector after the Eucharist celebration. You may still make an announcement in person, also!



March Wedding Anniversaries

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



Thank you to everyone that attended the International Dinner and made it such a success. Wonderful things happen when we all come together and work for the church.

This is an announcement about “phishing” and other types of scams, using Father Oscar’s name. This fraudulent practice in email messages is used to ask individuals to reveal personal information, such as passwords or credit card numbers. Education and awareness are the best protection against them. The Diocese has seen a huge increase lately and we are hearing of this in our Parish.

Here is an example of phishing:

“Hello.
Do you have an open schedule? I have a request for you to kindly handle for me. I'll await your response!
God Bless
Rev. Oscar Paraiso”

Attendance

| | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|--------------|-----|
| February 24 th | Saturday | 5:30 pm Mass | 77 |
| February 25 th | Sunday | 9:00 am Mass | 115 |



Knights of Columbus

Upcoming Lenten Fish Dinners

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

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Friday, March 8 th | Shrimp Dinner |
| Friday, March 22 nd | Fish/ Seafood Combo |

Tickets now available after Masses or
Call 804-512-9701 to reserve your tickets

Brother Knights and members of their families are asked to come out and lend a hand at these fundraisers.

The Knights thank everyone who bought tickets and came out for the Fish Dinner, the first Lenten meal. Two hundred people attended the dinner!

Thanks also to 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.

Priests for Life

A Woman's Decision?

We often hear that the government nor anyone else should tell a woman what to do with her body. However, our government routinely enacts laws which prevent people from doing certain actions both to their own bodies and other peoples' bodies. Abortion is not about a woman making a decision about her own body. The child in the mother's womb is a separate, human being with its own heartbeat, DNA, blood type and fingerprints. Sadly, the vast majority of abortions are done as a form of birth control because the precious tiny child is "inconvenient, too expensive or a burden"

Pastoral Statement of Bishop Michael Pfeifer, OMI, May 2021

Help our Parish!

Committee for the Poor. We do have funds set aside for those in need. Requests are rare so it will demand little of committee members' time. But when there is a need and someone is hurting, nothing could be more important. Please pray on this and if you are interested in helping those in need, please contact Father Oscar or the Parish Office.

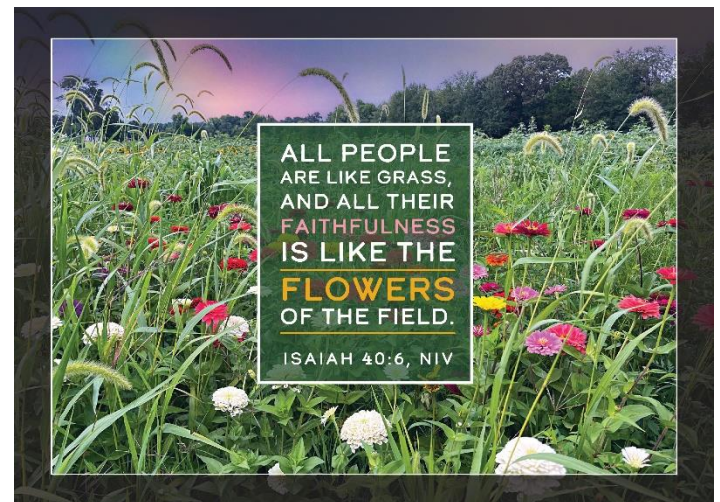
Year of Grace and Divine Mercy (From The Diary of St. Faustina)

Meditation:

After Holy Communion, I heard these words- **You see what you are of yourself, but do not be frightened at this.** If I were to reveal to you the whole misery that you are, you would die of terror. However, be aware of what you are. Because you are such great misery, I have revealed to you the whole ocean of My mercy. I seek and desire souls like yours, but they are few. Your great trust in Me forces Me to continuously grant you graces. You have great and incomprehensible rights over My Heart, for you are a daughter of complete trust. You would not have been able to bear the magnitude of the love which I have for you if I had revealed it to you fully here on earth (Diary, 718).

My Prayer Response:

Lord Jesus, consume our miseries in the flame of Your merciful love. May our humble submission to You draw upon us and upon other souls and entire sear of Your mercy.



OLBS Twinning parish of Saints Peter and Paul in Haiti



For those of you who have just joined OLBS, we are twinning with the Parish of Saints Peter and Paul in Haiti. The Parish is part of the Diocese of Hinche in the mountains of Haiti. As you know, Haiti is a very poor country and has been beset by many disasters over the years. The Parish is very rural, and the parishioners are very poor. Over the last several years our Parish has sent funds to Haiti to help defray some of the costs of operating the Parish office, school, and vehicles. The church and school receive their electrical power from a local provider, and they have a back-up generator. In addition to providing spiritual and education, the Parish also provides charitable assistance to its parishioners.

Recently Haiti has been plagued by roving gangs, mostly in the cities, but also in the more rural areas. This has made it difficult for the parishioners to go to the markets in the local villages for needed provisions. As a result, Father Bernard, the pastor, has initiated a gardening program for the benefit of the Parish. Last year we (OLBS) sent \$3,000 to help get the program going. I am happy to say that the program has been successful.

Here are some pictures of the results of their program:



The goats will provide milk and other milk products, as well as meat.



The garden is doing very, these are Black Beans.



Aubergine or Eggplants



Green Peppers.



Cabbage

Contributions from you, the OLBS Community has gone a long way to help the Parish of Sts Peter and Paul to survive the many hardships they endure. Thank you for your continuing support.
Tripp Racioppi



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
Linda Burch
Robert Burch
Caroline Byrd
Chris Byrd
Katherine Carson
Kevin Carson
Lucy Carson
Jessica Cassidy
Jose Castaneda
Marianna Chestnutt-an addition
Marvin Croswell

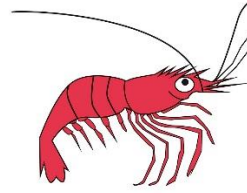
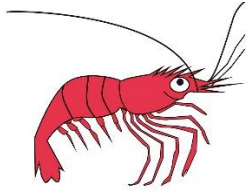
Meredith Crowe
Angela Dart
Lydia Dehn
Vincent D'elia
Denise DePompeo
Dexter Dix
Joyce Drexler
Paul Garman
Karen Haney
Tom Hollowack
Jim Houser
Gigi Jordan
Gloria Kojcsich
Bonnie Kopacki
Racheal Lafferty
Arlene Lasch
Melissa Leger

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

Prayers for those in the Military

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



West Point Knights of Columbus

Shrimp Dinner

**Fried Shrimp, hush puppies, string beans, mac & cheese,
dessert & drink**

OLBS Catholic Church Boogaard Hall

3510 King William Ave.

Friday, March 8, 2024

4:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Tickets: Adults \$15.00

Children under 12 Years \$7.00

Eat in or Take Out

For Tickets Call: (804) 512-9701

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

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*Vincent Funeral Home
and Cremation Services*

CHRIS P. VINCENT
vincentfuneralh@aol.com

417 11th Street
West Point VA 23181
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9923 Pocahontas Trail
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Email: hallrentals@olbs-catholic.org

Father Jakubowski Council #8116



***New Members
Welcomed**

***Hall Rental Available**

Contact
Jim Vadas
804.370.5341