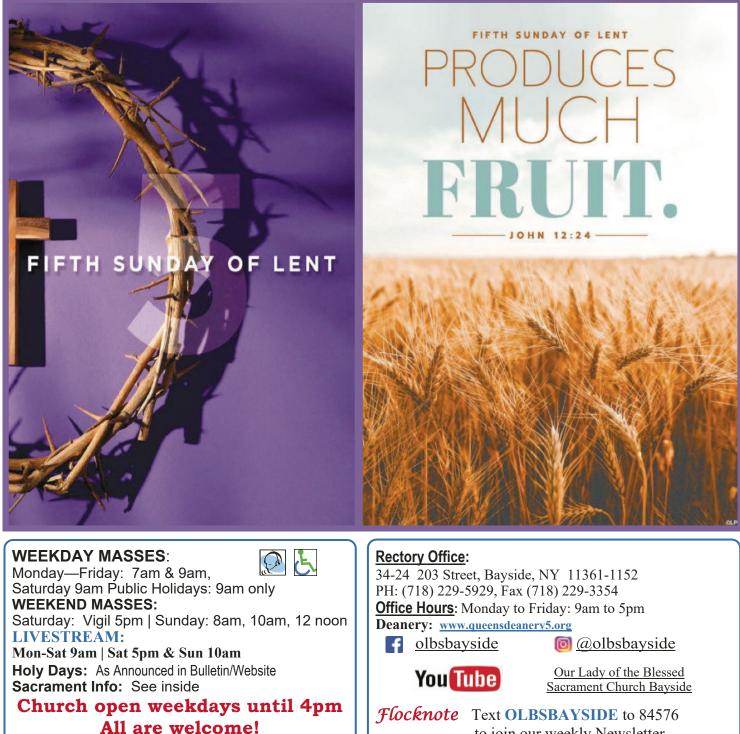


# Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

### **WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!**

We hope you have felt at home in our church this weekend. Please feel free to join us as often as possible, you are most welcome.

March 17, 2024 | 718-229-5929 | www.olbs-queens.org | secretary@olbs-queens.org



to join our weekly Newsletter

## We are a Tithing Parish

## **Sacraments and Prayer**

**Eucharistic Adoration: Fridays**: Begins after 9am Mass and ends at 10:30am.

**Baptism:** During pregnancy, approach any priest or deacon after Mass for a special blessing of the child in the womb. Soon after birth, call the secretary to arrange an interview with a staff member and details on STARTING POINT, our parent enrichment program.

**Confession / Reconciliation**: Confessions will be heard on Saturdays from 4pm to 4:45pm, or by appointment with one of the priests.

**Marriage:** Soon after engagement, approach any priest or deacon after Mass for the special blessing of an engaged couple. Call the secretary at least six months prior to the desired wedding date to begin BETTER TOGETHER, our couple's enrichment program.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Please call the rectory to arrange for a priest to celebrate this sacrament due to serious illness, a planned medical procedure, or advanced age. **Communion of the Sick:** The clergy and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion attend to the homebound sick. Please call Jane at 718-762-2252 or the secretary to arrange temporary or long-term coverage.

#### We are served by:

Rev. Robert J. Whelan, Pastor Ext. 124 frbob@olbs-queens.org Rev. Nathaniel Ajuluchukwu, Parochial Vicar Ext. 118 frnathaniel@olbs-queens.org Mrs. Joan Kane, OLBS Catholic Academy Principal 34-45 202 Street, Bavside, NY 11361-1152 (718) 229-4434 Office www.olbsacademy.org Mrs. Jeannine Iocco, Coordinator of Religious Education (718) 225-6179 religioused@olbs-queens.org Mrs. Jean Marie Kessel, Secretary **Deacon Ernesto Avallone** deaconernesto@olbs-queens.org **Deacon William J. Molloy** deaconbill@olbs-queens.org Mrs. Kathleen Giuliano, Youth Ministry kgiuliano@olbs-queens.org Mr. Michael Martinka, Director of Music Ext. 117 mmartinka@olbs-queens.org Mrs. Marsha Quilang, Administrative Assistant Ext. 110 secretary@olbs-queens.org bookkeeper@olbs-queens.org **Receptionist, Daily Volunteers** During Office Hours, Ext. 111 In Residence, Rev. Bryan J. Carney (Flushing Hospital Chaplain) Ext. 120

#### March 2024



Sa – 16th 9am 5pm Lucy	Scalice & Mallia Families (Gloria Mallia) Nora Mangan (Wall Family) John Steingasser (M/M John Scolaro) Liv/Dec'd Mem of McAleer & Cassidy Fam (Betty McAleer) Miglioccio (Fam of Scott & Antoinette Gallo) Maria Rubinic (Carmela Petulla)
Su– 17th 8am 10am 12pm Lillia	For the People of our Parish Robert & Mary Lynch (Ranieri Family) Mary & Carmine Del Basso (Flora Nicolich) n & William McLoughlin (Mary McLoughlin) James Caffrey (Ray & Eileen Caffrey) Coglielmina Cirelli (M/M Vittorio Paradiso) Johnny McKeon (Betty McLoughlin)
M – 18th 7am	Available
9am	Jim McLoughlin (Betty McLoughlin)
T—19th 7am	Lou & Tina Tirella (Tirella Family)
9am	S. Giuseppe (Lucia Patti)
W - 20th 7am 9am	Lillian & William McLoughlin (Mary McLoughlin) Fr. Vincent Gallo (Eileen Baginski)
Th– 21st 7am	Costante Murljacic (Maria Murljacic)
9am	Maria Schiavitti (Rose Blattburg)
F – 22nd 7am	Fr. Vincent Gallo (Dorothy & Bill Molloy)
9am	Elisa DiLibero (Gina & Achille DiLibero)
Sa – 23rd 9am	John Farrell (Mary McLoughlin)
5pm	John Steingasser (M/M Jack Byrnes)

Sa - 23rd 9amJohn Farrell (Mary McLoughlin)5pmJohn Steingasser (M/M Jack Byrnes)Harold Mahony (Bill & Dorothy Molloy)Bob Baschnagel (Kay Stein)Betty Baschnagel (Kay Stein)James Caffrey (Raymond & Kathleen Caffrey)

 Su- 24th 8am Gina Pappas (Betty McLoughlin) John Steingasser (Bill & Dorothy Molloy) Vladimir & Katarina Ben (Olga Sotula) Michael & Paraskerey Wojcickyj(Olga Sotula) McAleer Family (Betty McAleer)
10am Ethel & Anthony Panettiere (Cronan Family)
12pm For the People of our Parish

#### Please Pray for our Deceased,

#### that they may be raised to eternal life

Linda Farrell, Aldo Magnani, Michael Sessa, Andrea Tautonico and ALL who have died.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION FOR ADULTS For information contact Deacon William Molloy deaconbill@olbs-queens.org

## From the Pastor's Desk...

Dear Parishioners,



I can't type March 17<sup>th</sup> without

saying Happy Saint Patrick's Day. Even though there is no liturgical celebration of the saint this year since Sunday takes precedence, we do have a month filled with parades, dances and observances to honor the Patron Saint of the Irish. We will have Saint Joseph's Day Masses this Tuesday to honor the Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St. Joseph is the patron of our neighboring countries to the north and south, Canada and Mexico, as well as the patron of the Universal Church. He is also a favorite of the Italians, who think he was Napolitan or Sicilian. Ssshhh! For that matter, don't let on to the Irish that Patrick was from Roman Britan.

As we begin Passiontide this Fifth Sunday of Lent, you will certainly notice that the crucifix and the images of the saints are veiled in purple. The Roman Missal allows this ancient tradition to alert us that something is different now. The absence of images heightens our senses. Aware of what is missing, our longing for the joy of Easter grows stronger. In the same way we suppress the Alleluia during Lent so as to welcome it back with exuberance at the Easter Vigil. The crucifix remains veiled until after the Good Friday celebration of the Lord's Passion, and the saints until prior to the Vigil. (Thank you to Melanie Boruch for sharing her sewing talents.)

With Palm Sunday and Holy Week beginning next week, I want to mention that beginning Holy Thursday at the Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Precious Blood will again be available to communicants at every Mass where there are sufficient Extraordinary Ministers. (Thank you to the Ministers for their extra service; feel free to allow the Ordinary Ministers to consume the remaining Precious Blood if you prefer. It is always to be consumed, never poured into the sacrarium). It has been exactly four years since we suspended the practice as a Covid-19 precaution. We now know that transmission of this illness, like cold and flu, is overwhelmingly airborne. Not to say impossible but given the high alcohol content of altar wine to prevent spoilage, and the careful cleansing and turning of the chalice after each reception, highly unlikely.

Pastors are allowed to make this decision according to the local situation. Other parishes may choose not to do so. We will begin with one chalice up front and one in the back while we judge the demand; you may cross over to the other line when necessary. While there is always some risk in communal exercises, so too of being a Christian and a member of Christ's Body. I believe the sign value of receiving both the Body and Blood of Christ is worth the risk, unless you are ill or your health is compromised. Jesus said, "take this, all of you, and drink from it." The Church teaches that in receiving either the Body or the Blood of Christ, we receive the whole Christ, so your personal preference will not be questioned. When not receiving the Precious Blood, simply bow you head to acknowledge the Eucharistic Presence as you pass by-as we do the Sacred Host—rather than ignore it.

In Christ, Father Bob

#### 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal Number of Pledges: 39 Amount Pledged: \$30,117 Amount Paid To Date: \$18,501 Goal: \$98,266

Thank you for your support! Thank you to all who have made a pledge to this year's ACA. We encourage all to watch the brief 2024 ACA Video online at: <u>www.CFBO.org/ACAVideo</u> Text ACA to (917) 336-1255 *Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church (5165)* 

#### STEWARDSHIP — A way of life TITHING: God's plan for giving... 4th Sunday of Lord

2023	4th Sunday of Lent	2024	
\$5,339	Weekend Collection	\$ 4,609	
\$5,319	Faith Direct	\$ 4,672	
507	Attendance	493	

## **EASTER GIFT TO MY CHURCH**

The Easter Gift to my Church will be collected on Palm Sunday March 24th not of Easter Sunday March 31st. There was an mistake in the printing on the envelopes. The envelopes are also available at the church entrance. Your generosity is most appreciated.

#### **BLOOD DRIVE**

We received 37 donations at the blood drive. Thanks to everyone who came out in the wind to save lives!

#### Sunday Mass Presiders: March 23rd/24th

schedule is subject to change - (in parentheses will preach) Sat, 3/23rd 5pm Fr. Ajuluchukwu Sun, 3/24th 8am Fr. Whelan

3/24th	ðam	rr.	wneian
	10am	Fr.	Ajuluchukwu
	12pm	Fr.	Whelan

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## PRAY FOR THE SICK

- Sandra Ceslowitz, Nora Leddy, Edward McAleer, Joan Morgan, Mary Piccone, Liam Sheehan, Rae Dellino Pitto, Kate Robilotta
- Robert Donohue, Patrick Kelly, Patty O'Sullivan, Betty McAleer, Nicoletta Nagle, Connie Sarno, Mary Vinson
- Joan Callahan, Denis Carroll, Kathy Dolan, Marie Felix, Mary McLoughlin, Genevieve Statelman, Maria Troina

## **PRAY FOR THE SICK**

If you have a family member you wish to be prayed for, please let us know immediately and we will be happy to pray for them. The names will remain on the sick list for three weeks and thereafter repeated as 'requested. Please call the rectory at 718-229-5929 if someone is in the hospital, nursing home or at home and wishes a visit from a priest or parish minister.

#### **EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

All are invited to a Eucharistic Adoration Holy Hour every Friday Morning 9:30am closing with Benediction

#### LOW GLUTEN HOSTS AVAILABLE

Please see the priest before Mass in the sacristy

### EASTER FLOWER ENVELOPES

Easter Flower envelopes may be returned at any time. Your memorial donations will help defray the cost of our church flowers and decorations for Holy Week and the Easter Season and will be published in our bulletin.

#### **MOMMY & ME**

Thursday, March 21st, '24,9:30am, OLBS Auditorium

## HOSPITALITY

Please join the team for Hospitality after the 10 AM. Mass on Sunday, March 17th for bagels and coffee. Bring a friend or a favorite baked good to share. All are welcome.

## Woman's Welcome Retreat III

A FRIEND LOVES at All times. Proverbs 17:17 On April 13-14, 2024 at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish Center; it would be a blessing if you join us on the Welcome Retreat. Take time for yourself to welcome God's Grace in your life. The Welcome Weekend is an incredible experience that will help you discover what's been missing from your life or what you can add to enrich your life. There is no overnight. Past Participants of the retreat are also welcome to attend again. Please sign up by 3/15/24. Questions please call: Sister Margaret Tuley 716 200 2488; Dorothy Molloy 718 224 5136; Kathy McNally 718 229 5562.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS**



(Mrs. Lauren Whalen's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade)

On March 5<sup>th</sup>, our students in Grades one through eight participated in the Stations of the Cross in Church. The best lessons are the ones that the students experience hands-on. Journeying through the Stations of the Cross is a great way for them to understand the true meaning of what Jesus experienced on Good Friday. The week before they attend the Stations, they read and study them in the classroom. For most students in the older grades, the material is a review, however, it is not until they are in Church, using the children's booklets to pray and reflect, that these lessons are fully understood. We look forward to our Lenten Penance services at the end of the month to continue our preparation for a blessed Easter.

- Jeannine Iocco

#### THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMORIAL GIFTS Rosary Garden Candle

Sylvester Family (The Acros Family) Sanctuary Candle John Primo (Lillian Campo)

## Annual Day of Service Save the Date - May 11, 2024

Please mark your calendars now. In the next few weeks you will be asked to sign up to choose one of several work sites for the day. There will be a variety of choices to match your age levels and ability. The past days of service were a wonderful experience for all who participated. Please help us continue this great tradition of service to our parish and community.

#### OUR LADY OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CHOIR (HOLY WEEK AND EASTER)

Have you ever thought of joining our choir? If yes, this may be the time for you to give it a try! By joining, you will experience the Holy Week and Easter liturgies in a whole other way. Join our choir and sing music that is sure to enhance your spiritual life! Rehearsals are on Tuesdays at 7pm in the church. For more information, please contact: Michael Martinka at <u>mmartinka@olbs-queens.org</u>

## **ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY NEWS** Save the Dates:

RAS Baby Shower for Bridge to Life 4/22/24. Radio Bingo 5/17/24.

The **SPRING SUPER RAFFLE** has begun. 400 tickets at \$100. a ticket will be sold. The winner gets \$20,000. (Share tickets are available) The raffle takes place on 5/17/24. All tickets paid in full by 4/22/24 will be eligible for a special drawing of \$100. To reserve your lucky number Linda 718 225-8452 or Dorothy 718 224-5136

#### Do you have Prayer Petitions? Join us Wednesday's for the Rosary!

Recitation by Zoom app or call in every Wednesday at 7:30pm. Phone number is 646-558-8656 Prompt is ID 832 6419 5478; Next prompt is pass code 90. For Zoom ID and passcode the same Any difficulties call Kathy 917 561 8805 as I will be ready to assist. Please join us in prayer for your special intentions. We are blessed to pray The Rosary weekly as you will be blessed to join us. Praying the Rosary is a special Grace!

## **Catholic Teen Community**

All 7-12th graders are welcome to join our teen group. Come to hang out with friends and make new on es! We meet Wednesdays at 7:30pm. Please call or text Kathleen at 917-816-6391 or email <u>kgiuliano@olbs-queens.org</u> for further info.

## PARISH BOOK CLUB

Parish Book Club Please join us on Tuesday, March 26th at 7pm in the Parish Center below the church. Come prepared to discuss The Midnight Library, by Matt Haig. In the Midnight Library, Nora Seed finds books that show how her life would be different by undoing some of her life choices. Would you have done anything different? Get your copy at the Auburn-dale Library by saying you are with the OLBS Book Club. Join us for great discussion, fellowship and friendship. Questions? Call Pat at 917 863-7857.

## 2024 Announced Mass Book

Please send in your request to the rectory - Attention: Mary. Please be sure to include your phone, and address. Please also include your check payable to *Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church* with your request – the donation requested per Mass is still \$15. Any questions please call 718-229-5929. ext. 111



**Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Academy** shared by Sister Donna Smith, D.C.

"Are you living a life of focus or distraction? What distractions have taken your life off course? What distractions are trying to bring you down? Do you believe a life of focus would be more fulfilling than a life of distraction?" THIS WEEK'S HOLY MOMENT PROMPT IS

"Listen to music that feeds your soul."

Music is a powerful influence in life. It impacts how you think, how you see the world, and your emotions. So choose the music you listen to wisely and this week, make sure it's music that feeds your soul.

Let's keep the Holy Momentum going!!

Enjoy your week and may you be blessed with many holy moments!!

## **DECORATE THE CHURCH**

If you can help **decorate the church** for Easter, please join me on Holy Saturday, March 30, starting at 10am. Thank you, Fr. Bob.

## **CENTERING PRAYER**

#### Be still & know that I am God!" Ps. 46:10.

"There is a time for everything.....a time to be silent and a time to speak..." Ecc. 3:8 Let's step back awhile from a noisy, chaotic world. Let's

make silence a part of our lives. Embrace & cherish being silent & still because "silence is the guardian of prayer, study, and spiritual life."

Embrace silence & stillness with us as we do Centering Prayer for a few minutes in church, in front of the tabernacle on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month. Meetings in March 2024: March 6 & 20 (3:20 -4:00pm)

## Knights of Columbus Lenten Angelus and Rosary Recitation

The Knights will be praying the Angelus followed by the Rosary at 12 Noon every Tuesday and Thursday during the season of Lent. Please join us in the Rosary Garden, weather permitting, or in the Church in front of the statue of our Blessed Mother. All welcome.



#### PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY, March 24th

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00pm Sunday Masses: 8:00am, 10:00am and 12:00pm

#### **CONFESSIONS**

#### EVERY SATURDAY AT 4:00pm RECONCILIATION MONDAY, March 25th

After the 7am and 9am Masses, 4:00pm through 8pm Last scheduled confessions before Easter Confessions will be heard upon request

#### THE EASTER TRIDUUM HOLY THURSDAY: March 28th

9am - Morning Prayer 7:30pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper Eucharistic Adoration until 11pm - Auditorium

#### GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION: March 29th

9:00am - Morning Prayer 12 noon - Stations of the Cross (Outdoor Procession) 3:00pm - Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

#### **HOLY SATURDAY: March 30th**

9:00am - Morning Prayer 10:00am - Church Decorating 7:30pm - The Great Vigil of Easter

#### EASTER SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION: March 31st

Masses at 8:00am, 10:00am and 12:00pm

# Welcome!

We welcome visitors who have joined us today! If you wish to join our faith community, please fill out this form and place in the collection basket during mass or drop it off at the Rectory. You can also click this link to fill out this form online or scan the QR code <u>https://olbs-queens.org/register-at-our-</u> parish



Being officially registered in the parish allows us to testify on your behalf in letters of recommendation, reference, and testimony. It also allows us to contact you with news of our parish life. Please let us know if you decide to use offertory envelopes or Faith Direct Online giving), we issue a tax report of the contributions that you have offered during the year.

Name:	
Address:	
Phone:	
Phone: Email:	

## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK REFLECT & RESPOND TO SCRIPTURES

## **First Reading:**

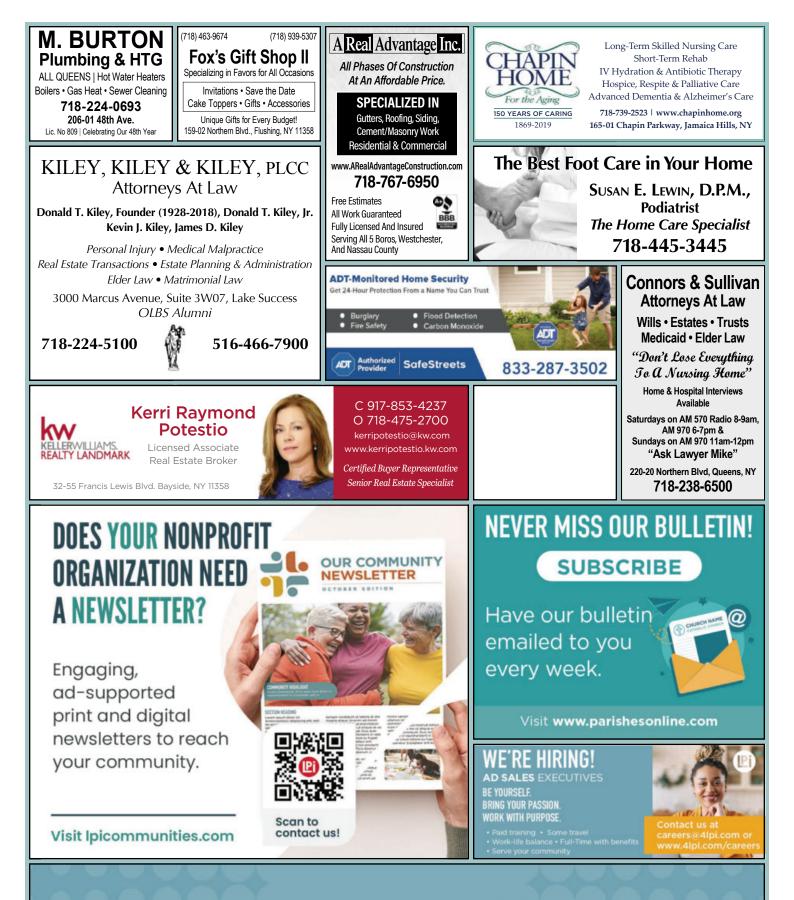
Through the prophet Jeremiah, God promised Israel "a new covenant": the Lord's law will be written in our hearts and known by all who believe. Do you know people who seem to have a heart-felt faith?

#### **Second Reading:**

Hebrews teaches us that Jesus struggled with his own impending suffering and death. During this Lenten season, what has been a struggle for you?

## **Gospel:**

Jesus taught that through his own suffering and death, he would drive out the "ruler of this world" (Satan) and draw everyone to himself. In what ways are you drawn to Christ?



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