

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Catholic Community

Second Sunday of Advent, December 6, 2009

Served by the Missionary Oblates of Mary
Immaculate

222 West Redoubt Avenue Soldotna, AK

Office Phone: 262-4749

Office Hour 9am-3pm Tuesday-Fridays, beginning November 2 —
Closed on Mondays

Parish Hall Phone: 262-5542

Web Site: - www.olph.cc

E-mail: olph@alaska.net

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

*We, the faith community,
accept the call of God to
participate in the mission of
Jesus Christ by
Proclaiming the Gospel
and living the reign of
God among us as disciples.*

	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Marlys Verba Parish Director	262-5542/262-4749 option 4 Home Phone: 262-8830	marlys.verba@gmail.com
Fr. Roger Bergkamp Pastor	262-4749, Option 3	
Fr. Andrew Pastor	262-4749, Option 3	andyomi@gmail.com
Fr. Joe Pastor	262-4749, Option 3	joejdowling@yahoo.com
Bro. Craig Pastoral Associate	262-4749, Option 3	cbonham0817@gmail.com

SUNDAY LITURGY: Saturday 5pm, Sunday 9am and 11:30am

HOLYDAY MASS SCHEDULE: Noon and 7pm (see bulletin)

WEEKDAY Mass Schedule: Tuesday through Friday, 12:05pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday 12:45pm — Saturday 4:00 – 4:45pm

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament: Thursdays 12:30pm — Fridays Noon

Sacrament of Anointing of Sick: Available during the Sunday masses, or as needed.

Sacrament of Baptism: for children – Parents Prep class required. Call Marlys for reservations.

Best done prior to birth.

for adults – Contact the office about RCIA

Sacrament of Marriage: 6 month process (several classes and FOCUS Test and/or Engaged Encounter, or Couple to Couple...contact a priest.

Funerals: contact parish office immediately after the death

Prayer Chain: pjham@att.net, Pat Hamilton 262-5250

Sexual Abuse Victim Assistance Coordinator: Marlys Verba

Please Note: Submissions/articles for the weekly bulletin via email must be in by Thursdays at noon to Marlys: marlys.verba@gmail.com and you may send a copy to: csponsel@acsalaska.net

Advent Longing: Oh Happy Night

Longing for God creates powerful changes in our lives ... when we give God permission to transform our lives. Saint John of the Cross knows this well, and guides us through a dark night—perhaps illuminated with starlight—to receive God in our lives. Spend an evening with reflections to deepen your understanding of the Advent gift of longing for God, and darkness.

Pegge Bernecker is a local author, spiritual director, retreat leader and former campus minister who will lead us in our Advent mini-retreat.

Advent Longing: Oh Happy Night

Monday, December 14, 2009, 7:00pm

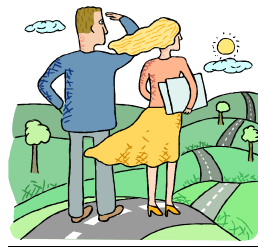
Feast of Saint John of the Cross

Music Ministry. The 11:30 AM Sunday Mass music ministry group is looking for an experienced drummer, guitarist, mandolin player and percussionist to join our group. Also needed are vocalists. Interested people please call **Mark or Maryna Conway at 262-2200** for more information.

To those who generously supported the Alaska Prison Ministry for gifts to the inmates at Wildwood, this Christmas, thank you for your kindness; A check for \$222.00 was sent for this purpose.

Men's ACTS group December meeting is on the 19th in O'Neal Hall at 2 PM. Immediately following will be a potluck for the ACTS men and their families with Chinese gift exchange. Men are asked to bring a Christmas dinner side dish or dessert. Please call Mark Conway at 262-2200 for more information.

Retirement Fund for Religious—December 12/13. Retirement Fund helps senior religious. "As expenses continue to increase and economic difficulties tighten our income, we appreciate more and more the help of the Retirement Fund," notes a woman religious. Your tax-deductible donation supports the care of elderly and frail religious and helps to provide such basic necessities as prescription drugs and medical services. Please give generously to next week's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. www.retiredreligious.org



A LOOK AHEAD:

Generations of Faith

will have an event next Sunday on the topic of Anointing of the Sick; please join us after second Mass in the Hall for lunch and the afternoon sessions. Please RSVP if you have not already, particularly in the area childcare.

As a follow-up to this topic on Wednesday December 16, we will have an anointing of the sick both at the noon Mass that day and at 7pm that evening. Please consider coming to the session on Sunday on the sacrament itself to learn more about it and plan to participate in the Mass on Wednesday evening.

December 7: Advent Reconciliation service, 7pm

December 8: Feast Day of Immaculate Conception, Masses at noon and 7pm.

December 14: Presentation by Pegge Bernecker at 7pm.

Supplemental CCD classes will meet this week at 10:15-11:15 in the hall; preschool to 6th grade. They will NOT meet next week, December 13.

The signup sheet for the Christmas Eve/ Christmas liturgies is posted on the bulletin board. Please fill in at ONE liturgy that you will be to able to help at by December 20th.

"Calling all Bakers" On Dec 19th and 20th we will have another bake sale to help support the mission in Mukuru, Kenya, Africa. Please help us by "whipping up" some of your favorite "Holiday Treats" to share with your fellow parishioners.

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Christmas Schedule

Sunday December 20: The parish is invited to join the teens both at the 4pm Mass and the Los Posados afterwards. The Los Posados is a Mexican Christmas celebration which involves a procession reliving Mary and Joseph's search for housing; we will have a feast after the celebrations at the Hall complete with a piñata.

December 23: Cleaning/decorating of the church for Christmas at 1pm.

December 24: Children's Mass at 5pm, no adoration/reconciliation today.

December 25: Midnight Mass

December 25: Christmas Day Mass at 10am

December 31: No noon Mass; Vigil Mass at 5pm.
No adoration or reconciliation.

January 1: Mass at 10am

Calendar for December 7, 2009 – December 13, 2009, with Daily Readings

December 7, Monday: No Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am Reconciliation, 7pm, Soldotna	December 8, Tuesday: Holy Day Noon & 7pm Masses, Feast of the Immaculate Conception Morning prayer, 7:30am	December 9, Wednesday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am Reconciliation, 7pm, Kenai	December 10, Thursday: Noon Eucharistic Service Morning prayer, 7:30am Men's Group Breakfast 6:30am	December 11, Friday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am	December 12, Saturday: 5pm Mass Reconciliation 4:00pm Music Practice, 1-3pm	December 13, Sunday: 9:00am, 11:30am Masses Generations Of Faith, 12:30—3pm
Isaiah 35:1-10 Psalm 85:9ab &10, 11-12 13-14 Luke 5:17-26	Genesis 3:9-15, 10 (689) Psalm 98:1, 2- 3ab, 3cd-4 Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-22 Luke 1:28	Isaiah 40:25-31 Psalm 103:1-2, 3- 4, 8 & 10 Matthew 11:28-30	Isaiah 41:13-20 Psalm 145:1 & 9, 10-11, 12-13ab Matthew 11:11-15	Isaiah 48:17-19 Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6 Matthew 11:16-19	Rev 11:19a, 12:1- 6a, 10ab (690A) Judith 13:18bcde, 19 Luke 1:39-47	Zephaniah 3:14- 18a (9C) Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:10-18

Saturday December 12, 2009, 5:00pm

Eucharistic Ministers: Sue Dukowitz, Rick Dukowitz

Lectors: 1st Reading; Dave Nelson; 2nd Reading: Charles Miller

Altar Server:

Sunday, December 13, 2009, 9:00am

Eucharistic Ministers: Bob Evenson, Sonja Foulty, Ron O'Lena, Alyson Stogsdill, Jim Stogsdill

Lectors: 1st. Reading: Kathleen Evenson; 2nd reading: Lauri Kapp

Altar Server:

Sunday, December 13, 2009, 11:30am

Eucharistic Ministers: Lucy Katzenberger, Mike Walker, Shirley Aleckson, Karen Evans, Marguerite McIntosh

Lectors: 1st. Reading: Kathy Walker; 2nd reading: Scott Earsley

Altar Server:

Mop & Bucket 12/7 — 12/12: Edwina Theard Family **Collection Counters: 12/13:** Pat & Myrna Cowan

A DVENT SOCK DRIVE — I was naked, and you clothed me.-Matthew 25:36



This Advent, consider adding to your shopping cart a few pair of warm socks for the Brother Francis Shelter. A pair per week, or per day if you can, will help clothe our brothers and sisters who are homeless this winter. A Sock Drive Box will be set up in the foyer throughout the Advent season, please drop off as

many new, warm socks as you can — Let's fill the box! The socks will be taken to the BFS in January during a Foot Care Clinic. For more information, contact **Jen Ransom at 260-1678** or **Ruthann Truesdell at 262-4570**.

Military Care Packages Thank You

Many thanks to all of our very giving parishioners for the Christmas Military Care Packages 2009 and to all the volunteers for assisting with assembling and mailing the boxes. Many hands made light work. With your generous support we were able to send out 31 Christmas care packages to our military serving overseas. Those boxes will bring many smiling faces to our brave men and women. God bless you and Merry Christmas!

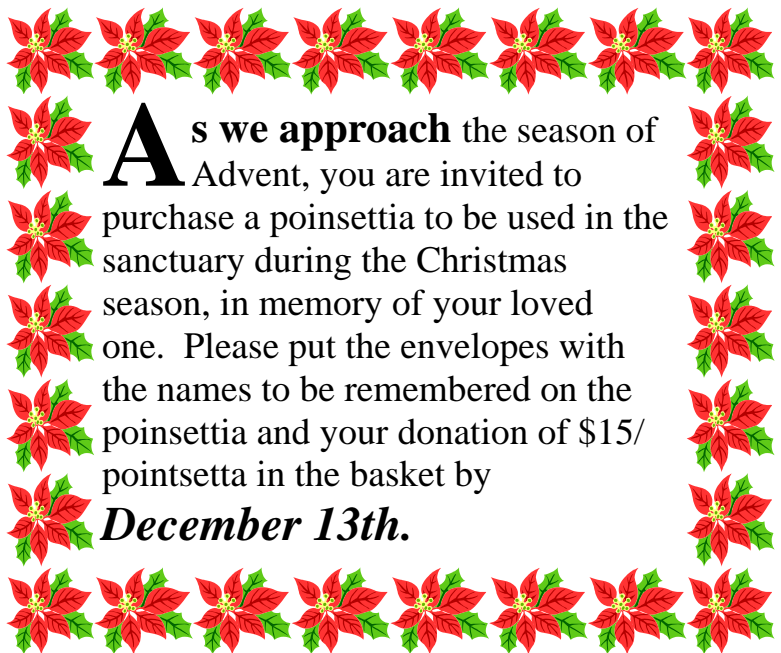
The Elves

A big thanks to all who generously participated in OLPH/OLA Teen Ministry's 2nd Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. From donations collected at the parishes and around town, the Kenai Peninsula Food Bank received 1100 pounds of non-Thanksgiving food, plus 25 Thanksgiving Food Baskets weighing in at approximately 31 pounds each (775 pounds), before turkeys! Thanks to OLA Knights of Columbus for providing the turkeys for the baskets. A very special thank you is due to all the teens who braved the cold and participated during the drive: What a wonderful gift it is to have you as part of our community!

It's that time of the year again for the Salvation Bell Ringing. We as a parish for the last several years have volunteered to ring the bells at Fred Meyers at two entrances for two days. This year the opportunity is available on Saturday, December 19 and Tuesday December 22 — please consider participating as a family, with your Confirmation sponsor, with your grandchildren or by yourself as a way to help others in our community. The sign up sheet is available on the bulletin board in the foyer. More info, see Scott Earsley.

The **Gingerbread House Festival** will happen on Friday, December 11 from 6-8pm in the hall; The patterns/receipe are in the foyer of the church; The items needed are the Gingerbread House pieces, a base for the house, and the candy to decorate; the frosting will be provided.

Any questions regarding this, please call **Kate, 262-6749** This is a wonderful family tradition to do with your children or as gifts; both for the creativity and the time spent with one another doing this.



As we approach the season of Advent, you are invited to purchase a poinsettia to be used in the sanctuary during the Christmas season, in memory of your loved one. Please put the envelopes with the names to be remembered on the poinsettia and your donation of \$15/pointsetta in the basket by

December 13th.

Christmas is right around the corner and if you are one of the shoppers who would like some fresh ideas on gift giving then let the SCRIP program help you. We carry many different retailers gift cards and in denominations that are great for stocking stuffers or people on your list that you would just like to thank this holiday season. Let your money work for you both by helping out our church and also by getting your shopping done quicker. The SCRIP table is in the foyer after every Mass for your convenience.