

# Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Catholic Community

Fourth Sunday of Lent

April 3, 2011

Served by the Missionary Oblates of  
Mary Immaculate

222 West Redoubt Avenue Soldotna, AK

Office Phone: 262-4749

Office Hour 9am-3pm Tuesday-Fridays

Closed on Mondays

Parish Hall Phone: 262-5542

Web Site: - [www.olph.cc](http://www.olph.cc)

E-mail: [olph@alaska.net](mailto: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.*

## E-mail

		<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Marlys Verba	Parish Life Coordinator	262-5542/262-4749 option 4 Home Phone: 262-8830	<a href="mailto:marlys.verba@gmail.com">marlys.verba@gmail.com</a>
Fr. Roger	Pastor	262-4749, Option 3	<a href="mailto:rgrbergkamp@gmail.com">rgrbergkamp@gmail.com</a>
Fr. Andrew	Pastor	262-4749, Option 3	<a href="mailto:andyomi@gmail.com">andyomi@gmail.com</a>
Fr. Joe	Pastor	262-4749, Option 3	<a href="mailto:joejdowling@yahoo.com">joejdowling@yahoo.com</a>

**SUNDAY LITURGY:** Saturday 5:00pm & Sunday 10:00am

**YOUTH MASS/ACTIVITY:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday each month at 4:00pm

**WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:** Tuesday through Friday, 12:05pm

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

**Adoration of Blessed Sacrament:** Thursdays 12:30pm — Fridays 12:00 noon

The Bishop's Attic is  
now accepting  
donations!



**Sacrament of Anointing of Sick or Communion: Available during the Sunday Masses, or as needed. Because of HIPAA laws, parishioners need to notify us if going to the hospital. Remember to request Anointing of the Sick before surgery — please call the parish @ 262-4749.**

**Sacrament of Baptism:** for children – Parents Prep. class required. Call Marlys for reservations.  
Best done prior to birth. Baptism class: May 3 at 7:00pm in O'Neill Hall  
for adults – Contact the office about RCIA  
for children 8 and older; RCIC classes — please call our Office

**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@alaska.net](mailto:pjham@alaska.net), Pat Hamilton 262-5250

**Sexual Abuse Victim Assistance Coordinator:** Marlys Verba

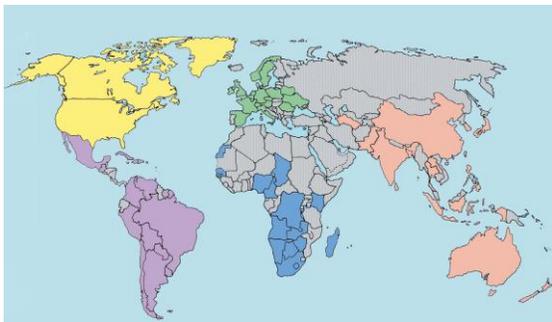
Please Note: Submissions/articles for the weekly bulletin via email must be in by Thursdays at noon to Marlys: [marlys.verba@gmail.com](mailto:marlys.verba@gmail.com) and, you may send a copy to: [knowledgeisstrength@hotmail.com](mailto:knowledgeisstrength@hotmail.com). Thanks!

## Calendar for April 4, 2011 - April 10, 2011, with Daily Readings

<b>April 4, Monday:</b> Morning Prayer 7:30am  Centering Prayer 8:15am	<b>April 5, Tuesday:</b> Morning Prayer 7:30am  Mass 12noon Legion of Mary 12:45pm Just Faith 1-3pm Reconciliation 7:00pm	<b>April 6, Wednesday:</b> Morning Prayer 7:30am  Mass 12noon RCIA meeting 6:30pm Reconciliation at Kenai OLA 7:00pm	<b>April 7, Thursday:</b> Morning Prayer 7:30am  Mass 12noon	<b>April 8, Friday:</b> Morning Prayer 7:30am  Mass 12noon Vigil 5:00pm Soup Supper 5:45-6:45pm Stations of the Cross 7:00pm	<b>April 9, Saturday:</b> RCIC Meeting 1:00pm  Music practice 2:00pm Reconciliation 4:00pm Mass 5:00pm ACTS 6:00pm	<b>April 10, Sunday:</b> Mass 10am
Is 65: 17-21 Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a & 13b Jn 4: 43-54	Ez 47: 1-9, 12 Ps 46: 2-3, 5-6, 8-9 Jn 5: 1-16	Is 49: 8-15 Ps 145: 8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18 Jn 5: 17-30	Ex 32: 7-14 Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23 Jn 5: 31-47	Wis 2: 1a, 12-22 Ps 34: 17-18, 19-20 21 and 23 Jn 7: 1-2, 10, 25-30	Jer 11: 18-20 Ps 7: 2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12 Jn 7: 40-53	Ez 37: 12-14 Ps 130: 1-2, 3-4 5-6, 7-8 Rom 8: 8-11 Jn 11: 1-45, or 11: 3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

### OBLATE MISSIONARY FACTS

Here is a link to a world map where all the Oblates serve. It might be of interest to you. It shows not only where we are, but it lists the dates when we started a mission there. The Religious Education Kids might like it. [www.oblatesusa.org](http://www.oblatesusa.org)



### GREETINGS FROM FATHER ANDY

Hello, after my retreat/workshop on the prayer practice of “sustained lectio” by Meg Funk, O.S.B. last February and March, I feel drawn to help this community pray the Sunday Scriptures. Also, it helps us to look at the themes of each coming Sunday. So I am asking you to pray about this, before coming to a group that will learn about each upcoming Sunday. I am asking you to pray and reflect on a document by the USCCB which is entitled “Fulfilled in Your Hearing, the Homily in the Sunday Assembly.” Here is a link if you want to preview this document. <http://www.USCCB.org/plm/fiyh.pdf> We will have copies available for those who come. It is my hope that we can discuss the readings and their themes and share with each other our insights. It will be a blessing for myself, because it will help yours truly to discover a theme that might need to be addressed to our community here at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in which I might not be aware of. Our first meeting will be Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Please pray about it and if this prayer meeting attracts you, please consider attending. Thank you!

**Saturday, April 9, 2011, 5:00pm**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Sue Dukowitz, Rick Dukowitz, Bob Ermold, John Pothast, Ruthann Truesdell

**Lectors:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Monty Murray 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Dave Nelson

**Altar Server:** Nathan O'Lena

**April 10, 2011, 10:00am**

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Helen Bowers, Dave Carey, Myrna Cowan, Karen Evans, Bob Evenson, Jane & Jim Fellman

**Lectors:** 1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Karl Kircher 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Pat Cowan

**Altar Server:** Joan Johnson

**Mop & Bucket 4/4-4/9:** Connie Gatling

**Collection Counters: 4/10:** Connie Gatling & Grace Barba

## STEWARDSHIP

“I am the light of the world,” Jesus said. “Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life” (Jn 8:12). What His statement means for actual living is illustrated in today’s Gospel reading from John 9 and applied in the second reading from Ephesians 5.

The Gospel narrative of the man born blind is familiar – Jesus and his disciples pass a beggar, a man born blind. The disciples ask whether the blindness is the result of either the man’s sin or that of his parents. Jesus replies that it’s not the result of sin, but so that God’s works may be made visible. And then, making clay of the roadside dust and putting it on the man’s blind eyes, He sends him to wash his eyes in a nearby pool. When the born blind man returns, he is able to see.

This entire narrative simultaneously proceeds at two different levels. On one level, it is a straightforward report about a healing done by Jesus for a man blind from birth. The ensuing events and discussions then proceed with both rejection of Jesus and ironic humor. After the healing, the man undergoes repeated hostile interrogation because the healing took place on the Sabbath (and healing was considered work which should be done on another day). He is attacked because he will not declare that Jesus was a sinner. Even his neighbors and his parents are interrogated. Finally, the man formerly blind asks the Pharisees if they’re questioning him so much because they too want to become disciples of Jesus. With that, they expel him from the Synagogue.

But, as is often the case in the Gospel of John, this account moves on to a second level, as well. Just as the blind man received a physical healing, so he could see the world around him, he also received a spiritual healing, so he could see spiritual realities. He recognized his healing came from God and came to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah with his words recorded in the narrative. “He said, I do believe, Lord, and he worshipped him”(Jn 9:38).

The contrast between the blind man who gained his sight and the Pharisees was dramatic. They persisted on insisting that Jesus must be a sinner, since he healed on the Sabbath, even while admitting they wondered how he could heal, as they knew God doesn’t listen to sinners. Their spiritual blindness prevented them from being able to recognize the action of God in the healing of the man born blind.

Writing to the Ephesians, St. Paul urged the Christians, those who recognized that Jesus is the light of the world, to "live as children of light, for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth" (Eph 5:8-9). He knew that Christ Himself is the light, but the light of Christ radiates out through those who have turned to Him. The person who responds to Jesus' invitation is like David, whom Samuel anointed in God's name. Just as "the spirit of the Lord rushed upon David" (1 Sam 16: 13), the Holy Spirit dwells in the Christian to shine forth with goodness and truth.

We man not all be learned theologians, or be able to explain all the fine points of Catholic doctrine. However, we should be able to do as the man born blind did, and that is to witness to what Christ has done in our lives. When he was being questioned in a second interrogation, when the Pharisees were trying to get him to condemn Jesus as a sinner, the man proclaimed, "One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see" (Jn 9:25). It is hard to argue with people's personal experience with God. The born blind man experienced physical healing. We who have been given healing from spiritual blindness by Christ should also worship Jesus and use the time, the talents, and the treasure entrusted to us in ways that give evidence that we, too, believe that he is Lord.

### HOLY THURSDAY

We are going to have a wonderful Holy Thursday because we are going to use the old church which is now called the Redemptorist Center for the Altar of Reposition. This is since we do have a chapel separated from the central church as it is described in the Paragraph 82 in “Build of Stones: Art, Architecture, and Worship by the USCCB.

The Annual Outreach Collection will take place in our parishes and missions next weekend. Contributions to this collection support the Catholic Communication Campaign, help provide scholarships for students at the Catholic University of America, and help keep affordable the electronic and print communications of your Archdiocese. Please consider sharing your gift of treasure with these vital efforts. Thank you!

## APRIL & MAY EVENTS

- April 3** Safe Environment for Teens  
11:15am in the hall
- April 5** Reconciliation OLPH 7:00pm
- April 6** Reconciliation OLA 7:00pm
- April 8** Soup Supper & Stations 5:45pm
- April 10** Last GOF Event "Care for God's Creation" with Father Joe and Jen Ransom
- April 12** "Fulfilled in your Hearing" 7:00pm
- April 15** Soup Supper & Stations 5:45pm with Deacon Dez and Cindy Martinez. Reconciliation.
- April 17** Palm Sunday
- April 21** Holy Thursday mass 7:00pm  
Adoration of the blessed sacrament 8:00pm-5:00am.  
With Labyrinth walk in old church 9:00pm-midnight
- April 22** Good Friday; Stations walk town from hall 12noon & Stations at church 3:00pm.  
Liturgy at 7:00pm
- April 23** Easter Vigil 9:00pm. Dessert Buffet after mass
- April 24** Easter Sunday Mass 10:00am and breakfast after mass.
- May 1** First Eucharist at 10:00am mass followed by reception in O'Neill Hall  
Mark your calendar: ACYC: June 6 - 9, 2011 and more information to follow.

### GOF

Generations of Faith will have the last event of this session on Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. The topic is "Care of God's Creation". It is facilitated by Father Joe and Jen Ransom. Please join us for lunch at 11:15am with the program beginning at noon. At the last session you were asked to come prepared to share one outreach activity from any of the seven events this session. That we, as a faith community, might embrace and more fully incorporated the justice/morality topics into our daily lives.

### SOUP, SUPPER, & STATIONS

Please consider taking time during Lent to share a soup supper and the Stations of the Cross on Fridays. On the bulletin board is a sign-up sheet for the soup suppers. Please sign-up to bring items to our Lenten soup suppers. The Soups are to be meatless. Bring the items to the hall by 5:30pm. Help is needed with each gathering. If you have any questions call Thelma 262-9443 The meal begins at 5:45pm and the stations begin at 7:00pm.

## JUSTICE CHALLENGE

Sunday's Gospel addresses the story of the man born blind. The Jews blamed his parents and their sins for his condition, but Jesus taught a different message – that God doesn't punish people for things which aren't their fault. Your challenge this week is to look at how you judge others and yourself. Do you look at people's actions through the lens of a loving God? Do you give others the benefit of the doubt? And, are you gentle with yourself? Do you forgive yourself when you mess up, trusting in a God who forgives infinitely? God is the arbiter of justice, and we are called to trust in God's judgment, which ultimately is so much more merciful than human judgment. Place the world in God's hands this week, and stop yourself from judging.

### THANK YOU!

Thanks to all who supported the New Orleans Mission Trip in any way at all. The trip was a huge success. A Powerpoint presentation can be view by requesting to be a friend of **OLPH Teens** online on a Facebook account.

### ACTS SIGN-UP

The Women's ACTS Retreat registration is available in our Church Foyer after Sunday masses  
Space is filling up fast, so please register now.

### FLOWER POWER

As we approach Easter, the opportunity to have your loved ones remembered by an Easter Lilly in the sanctuary during the Easter Triduum is available. In the foyer is the container to drop the \$12 flower money and the names of your loved ones to be remembered. We appreciate all those who allow us to pray for their loved ones during this special season. PLEASE HAVE THE NAMES/MONEY IN BY PALM SUNDAY!

### MANNA

On Holy Thursday we will again have fresh Eucharistic bread for the liturgy. We have four different recipes and have asked four different people to bring a sample of the recipes on Palm Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> for a taste test. Please weigh in with your opinion of the bread samples.

We are missing three microphone stands. If anyone knows where they are, please let Marlys know.

Thank you!