



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

✠ 222 west redoubt avenue ✠ soldotna, ak 99669 ✠

Catholic Community Served by the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

TIME CHANGE

for SUNDAY MASS:

begins on **NOVEMBER 27th**:

SUNDAY Mass 10am

Saturday Mass stays the same

MASS SCHEDULE:

SUNDAY LITURGY

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 10:00 am

WEEKDAY MASS:

Tues - Fri 12:05 pm

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

12:30 pm Thursday to 12 noon on Friday

CONTACT US:

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours:

Closed on Monday
Tuesday/Thursday 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Wednesday 8:30am to 7:30pm

Parish Office Phone: 262-5542

Website - www.olph.cc

Access to We Share

Email - olph@alaska.net

PASTORS:

Fr. Roger Bergkamp, OMI

(Lead pastor)

262-4749, Option 3

rgrbergkamp@gmail.com

Fr. Tom Rush, OMI

262-4749, Option 3

PARISH LIFE COORDINATOR:

Marlys Verba

262-5542 / 262-4749 option 4

Cell Phone: 252-5954

marlys.verba@gmail.com

SEXUAL ABUSE VICTIM

ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR:

Marlys Verba: contact info above

PRAYER CHAIN:

tairtrvl@gmail.com

For verbal prayer requests, please call the parish office.

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.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 11th, 2016

SACRAMENTS

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

- Thursday: 12:45 pm and Saturday 4:15 – 4:45 pm

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

- Infants / children – Parents Preparation class is required. Contact the parish office to register.
- Children 8 and older - Contact the office to register for RCIA
- Adults – Contact the office to register for RCIA

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

- Please contact the parish office for preparation of marriage, allowing at least 6 months.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK OR COMMUNION:

- Anointing of the sick will be **December 31st 2016/ January 1st, 2017** during mass
- *NOTE: Because of privacy 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*
- *Homebound individuals wishing to receive the Eucharist need to contact the parish office.*

FUNERALS: Contact parish office immediately after the death.



Please Note: Submissions/articles for the weekly bulletin must be submitted via email by Wednesday at noon to Marlys marlys.verba@gmail.com.

Calendar for December 12th - 18th 2016

| Monday, 12/12/2016 | |
|---|--|
| Readings: ZEC 2:14-17 JDT 13:18BCDE,19 LK 1:26-38 | Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centering Prayer: 8:15am at Church |
| Tuesday, 12/13/2016 | |
| Readings: ZEP 3:1-2,9-13 PS 34:3-2,6-7,17-18,19 and23 MT 21:28-32 | Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morning Prayer 7:30am Daily Mass: 12:05pm Centering Prayer at 7pm community room in church |
| Wednesday, 12/14/2016 | |
| Readings: IS 45:6C-8,18,21C-25 PS 85:9ABand10,11-12,13-14 LK 7:18B-23 | Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morning Prayer 7:30am Daily Mass: 12:05pm Faith Formation Classes: 5:30pm to eat. Classes at 6:30pm RCIA Class 6:30pm in Community Room Covenant Players Presentation at 6:30pm in Fireweed |
| Thursday, 12/15/2016 | |
| Readings: IS 54:1-10 PS 30:2and4,5-6,11-12Aand13B LK 7:24-30 | Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Morning Prayer 7:30am Daily Mass: 12:05pm followed by reconciliation and Adoration |
| Friday, 12/16/2016 | |
| Readings: IS 56:1-3A,6-8 PS 67:2-3,5,7-8 JN 5:33-36 | Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Men's Group 6:30am-8am Morning Prayer 7:30am Adoration until noon Daily Mass: 12:05pm Christmas Basket Stuffin' at Salvation Army in Kenai at 1 pm |
| Saturday, 12/17/2016 | |
| Readings: GN 49:2,8-10 PS 72:1-2,3-4AB,7-8,17 MT 7:1-17 | Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reconciliation 4:15-4:45pm Mass at 5pm |
| Sunday, 12/18/2016 | |
| Readings: IS 7:10-14 PS 24:1-2,3-4,5-6 ROM 1:1-7 MT 1:18-24 | Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mass at 10am Christmas Pageant Parish breakfast |

| December 12 th - December 18 th 2016 | |
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| Mops and Bucket Crew | Parish Family |
| Collection Counters | Karl Kircher Cindy Kircher December 18 th |
| Children's Liturgy of the Word | Anne M. |

Saturday 5:00pm
December 17th 2016

Lectors:
Rob Quelland
Cody Quelland

Eucharistic Ministers:
Wayne Burgess
Aida Burgess
John Bonk
Barb Bonk
Kathy Cullings

Servers:
Isabella Valenzuela
Caleigh Glassmaker

Sunday 10:00 am
December 18th 2016

Lectors:
Karl Kircher
Becky Applebee

Eucharistic Ministers:
Cindy Kircher
Michaleen Gross
Joe Baxan
Myrna Cowan
Pat Murray
Sharon Shassetz
Thelma Antila

Servers:
Danny McIntosh
Christian Thompson

THE MONTH AHEAD

December 16th - Christmas basket stuffin' at Salvation Army in Kenai at 1pm
December 18th - Parish Breakfast with Christmas Pageant presented after Mass
December 21st - Christmas Caroling
December 22nd - 23rd - Silver Bell ringing at Fred Meyers 11am-7pm
December 23rd - Cleaning and decorating for Christmas at 1pm
December 25th - Place at the table 4-6pm

UPCOMING LITURGICAL SERVICES

December 7th - Advent Reconciliation opportunity prior to Mass 5:30 - 6:30pm.
December 22nd - Advent Taize prayer at 7pm in church
February - Archbishop Etienne is planning on being with us for a meet/greet and Mass. Stay tuned for the specifics of the date and time

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

December 22nd - Taize prayer experience at 7pm in Church
December 24th - Children's Christmas Eve Mass at 5pm
December 24th - Christmas Mass of the night at 9pm
December 25th - Christmas Day Mass at 10am



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT/PARISH BREAKFAST

The faith formation students have been preparing the Nativity story to present to you at the free parish breakfast on Sunday, **December 18th** after Mass in Fireweed. Please join us for this fun undertaking along with some singing. We may have a visitor too, if we can track him down.

CALENDARS AND ENVELOPES

Please note that the Calendars and envelopes for the upcoming 2017 are available for pick up in the foyer.

CHRISTMAS LITURGICAL NEEDS

Signup sheets for the various liturgical needs may be found on the bulletin board for the three Christmas Masses. Please consider which Mass you and your family will attend and sign up where you can.

RETROUVAILLE

Are you struggling to find peace and joy in your marriage? Do you find you are often angry or frustrated with your spouse? Do you sometimes question if maybe you married the wrong person? Have you become board or lonely in your marriage, or do you share the same address but live separate lives? If any of the situations touch you, even occasionally, Retrouvaille can help you change your relationship with your spouse. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples, worldwide overcome marital difficulties, the program can help your marriage too. For more information or to register for the next program which begins with the weekend on **February 10th, 11th** and **12th**, 2017 In Anchorage. Log on to www.HelpOurMarriage.com, or call 1-907-863-8000.

SALVATION ARMY ACTIVITIES

Silver Bell Ringing and Christmas Basket Stuffin, both Salvation Army activities we participate in, have signup sheets available on the bulletin board. The Christmas Basket activity will happen on Friday, **December 16th** at 1pm at the Salvation Army Thrift store in Kenai. This activity takes about 1 1/2 hours, but depends on the number of helping hands. The Bell Ringing will have two days time, from 11am-7pm, at both doors of Fred Meyers on **December 22nd** and **23rd**. This activity is appropriate for families/small children to participate in. An adult must be present with children under 16years. This is a fun hour activity and helpful to the community. Please stop and sign up for an hour during the Advent time to prepare our hearts to love and care for others.

ST VINCENT ROSARY EVENT

Our thanks to Norma Daniels for arranging the St. Vincent Rosary Event. A total of \$173.27 will be given to the St. Vincent dePaul Society for outreach.

ADDRESS FOR SISTER JOAN

Prayers have been requested for Sister Joan Barina, who served with Sister Joyce for a number of years at the Kenai Parish. Her address to send cards is:
Sr. Joan Barina
62 Pine Hurst Avenue, Albany, New York, 12203.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 11TH

Today, the Third Sunday of Advent, we celebrate *Gaudete* Sunday. *Gaudete* means "rejoice." Although Advent is a season of penitence and preparation, today is always set aside by the Church to relax and rejoice in the Lord. All of our readings today deal with Christian joy. This may seem not in keeping with the overall mood encouraged for Advent, but it is most definitely in keeping with what we need to feel, and it is definitely appropriate for those who embrace stewardship as a way of life.

Stewardship is, of course, based upon an "attitude of gratitude" and today is a day to focus on the joy that results from that gratitude. Father Henri Nouwen was a well known Catholic priest, professor, writer, and theologian. In describing the significance of this particular day, Father Nouwen clarified the difference between joy and happiness. He said, "While happiness is dependent upon external conditions, joy is the experience of knowing that we are unconditionally loved by God and nothing — not sickness, failure, emotional distress, oppression, war, or even death — can take that love away. Joy can be present in the midst of sadness."

This "joy" that is reflected in lives of stewardship was also emphasized by Pope Francis, who said in his homily for *Gaudete* Sunday in 2014, "Today is a day of joy. Rather than fretting about all we have not done or accomplished to prepare for Christmas during Advent, we need to think of all the good things God, and life, has given us."



POINSETTIA REMEMBRANCE

We are given the opportunity to remember our loved ones during this holy season by purchasing a poinsettia to be placed in the sanctuary during the Christmas season. Please do this by **December 18th**. Please put loved ones name, \$12/plant into container found in the foyer. They may be picked up after the liturgy on **January 8th**.

CENTERING PRAYER

There will be a Centering Prayer evening group starting on **December 6th** 7pm at the church community room.

For info call Meg Zerbinos 398-4831

ADVENT APP

Unlike much of the world, Catholics don't plunge headlong into Christmas after the Halloween candy has been passed out. Nope, we take it slow. We like to really prepare for Christmas. That means a four week period of getting ourselves ready, spiritually, for the celebration of the Incarnation: God-made-man.

Re-load the app for Advent features by tapping the three horizontal lines top left, tap "change parish" and select our parish again.

COVENANT PLAYERS RETURN TO ALASKA

The Covenant Players will be with us this Sunday after Mass, giving a presentation in Fireweed, based on the readings of the day.

On Wednesday **December 14th**, they will be giving another presentation to the faith formation classes at 6:30pm in Fireweed. You are invited to attend both of these presentations. For those who have seen the Covenant Players perform, they are sure we will enjoy them. An offering will be taken up after the presentations.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Please give to this weekend's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. This collection supports the day-to-day care of thousands of senior religious, the cost of which has increased. Help care for those who have dedicated their lives to serving the people of our Church. Thank you!

FAITH-FILLED CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Prints of "St. Therese of Lisieux" by Byron Birdsall are available for purchase from the Archdiocese of Anchorage. The original painting was commissioned as a gift for Archbishop Etienne at his Installation. Standard prints (an edition of 100) are available for \$100. Giclée prints (an edition of 25) that better recreate the look and texture of the original are available for \$1,000. All prints are hand signed and numbered by the artist, Byron Birdsall. Call (907) 297-7790 to order or email kgerling@caa-ak.org for more information. All proceeds go towards offsetting Installation celebration and transition expenses. Additionally, copies are still available of *Alaska's Archdiocese: Faith in the Far North*, a history of the Archdiocese of Anchorage. Paperback copies are \$14.95. You can order online at archdioceseofanchorage.org/50th-anniversary-book or by calling (907) 297-7790.