

December 20, 2009

Church of

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

559 PELHAM MANOR RD, PELHAM MANOR, NY 10803

Parish Office (914) 738-1449 ▪ *Fax* (914) 738-9454

Email . olph10803@msn.com - www.olph-pelhammanor.org

Rev. Robert J. DeJulio, *Pastor*

Rev. Abraham Vettiyolil, *mcbs Parochial Vicars* Rev. Oliver Offor
Weekend Associates

Rev. Edward T. Dowling, S.J., Rev. Gabriel Gonzalez, S.J., Rev. Michael Greco, OFM, Cap.

Mr. Joseph McQuade *Deacons* Mr. Daniel Murphy

Mrs. Jeanette Jackino *Parish Trustees* Mr. John Hanson

Mrs. Fabiola Brito Briseno, *Administrative Assistant*

Dr. Joseph Schippa, *Music Director*- Mrs. Elaine Ruggiero, *Organist*

Mr. Gabriel Gomez, *Buildings and Grounds*

Parish School

Pre-K – 8th grade

www.olphpelham.com ▪ (914) 738-5158

Mrs. Susan Cotronei, *Principal*

Religious Education Office

(914) 738-0670

Mr. Michael Hall, *Director*

Confessions

Saturday . 4:00 - 4:45pm & by appointment

Baptisms

2nd & 4th Sunday of the Month at 1:30pm. *Please call Parish Office to make arrangements.*

Marriages

There is a six month planning period required.

Please make an appointment with one of the priests for further information.

Devotions to Our Lady

Rosary . Monday - Saturday . 8:40am

Miraculous Medal Novena - Monday . 9:30am

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday evening 5:00pm ▪ *Sunday* 8:00, 9:30, 11:00am & 12:30pm

Weekdays (Mon-Sat) 8:00 & 9:00am ▪ *Holydays as announced*





From the astor

Dear Parishioners:

No matter how early we begin our Christmas preparations there is always a sense that the time is running out and we still have so much more to accomplish. Sometimes just the thought of what remains to be done is enough to give us a headache. Ultimately in most instances everything does get done and if it doesn't, usually no one notices. We seem to set up in our mind a demanding 'to do' list and we have to work diligently to get it completed on time.

The season of Advent is all about time, but in a different sense. Yes we are called to make the necessary preparations and arrangements for celebrating the season; but Advent calls us to not so much prepare externally, but spiritually. It calls us to get our spiritual life in order so that the Christmas event may deepen our relationship with God

If you asked most people they would say that they don't mind all the extra work that goes on preparing for the holiday because in the end it is all so worthwhile. They are prepared to make sacrifices to achieve a goal because they have determined that the goal makes all the inconvenience, work and expense worthwhile. The feeling that they have on Christmas when they share themselves with family and friends is so very important to them that they work hard to make it come about.

As Christians we are called to take that same level of enthusiasm and dedication and use it in a spiritual way. The ongoing message we have heard during Advents tells us to 'prepare the way of the Lord'. Have we done what we need to do to make a place in our life for the Lord to come? No, not just on Christmas day but everyday of our life? Have we given Him the opportunity through prayer to speak to us? Have we received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and made a determined effort to take our life in another direction? If we have not there is still time to make this Advent a truly life changing experience. It will take a decision to do so and then a disciplined plan, but it CAN be done and each one of us CAN do it.

Sincerely,

Rev. Robert DeJulio
Pastor

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Dec. 24th 5:00PM - Family Mass
10:00PM - Choir & Brass Ensemble

Dec. 25th 8:00AM, 9:30AM, 11:00 & 12:30PM

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS:

Saturdays 4:00 to 4:45 pm and Tuesday,
December 22nd at 9:30 am.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 21

8:00 AM - Agnes Sullivan

9:00 AM - Joyce DiMauro

Tuesday, December 22

8:00 AM - Louis Nardone

9:00 AM - Joseph & Maria Solimene

Wednesday, December 23

8:00 AM - Antonietta Ciccone

9:00 AM - Lucille Capalbo

Thursday, December 24

8:00 AM - John A. Hynes, Kathleen Hynes &
John C. Cioppa

9:00 AM - Giovanni Ruggiero & Lucille Haddad

Saturday, December 26

8:00 AM - Joseph Bona

9:00 AM - Denise Hickey & Jack Quigley

is to be able to keep you current on parish events and activities. Please take a moment and check it out at www.olph-pelhammanor.org.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS TREE

Our Parish Family Christmas Tree is on the right hand side of the sanctuary. Please bring your family ornament and place it on the tree at any time. The tree will be in place until the Feast of the Epiphany in January.

Weekly Collection

Because of the early printing deadline for the bulletin this week, the collection figures will be in the bulletin next week.

Thank you for your support!!

FOOD PANTRY

This time of year there is a greater demand for assistance from those in need. Your donations of non perishable food items help HOPE Food Pantry to respond in a positive way. Please leave your donations in the rear of the Church by the food pantry collection box.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

If you are available for any of the Christmas Masses, please call the office @ 738-1449 and let us know so we can put you on the schedule.

LOOKING AHEAD

Our parish baby bottle campaign will begin on Jan 17th. This campaign helps the work of Expectant Mother Care which assists new mothers and their babies. You have always been very generous and we look forward to another great campaign. We always need help. If you would like to help please call Joy Dechiario at 914-803-0057.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

The Christmas collection is our largest source of income for the year. Your generosity in helping us to meet our expenses is very much appreciated.

WE'VE BEEN LAUNCHED

Recently we have completed our new parish web page that is now launched and running. The goal

PRAYERS OF THE SEASON

IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS

Loving God,

With great joy we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Help us to share the song of the angels, as we pray and work toward universal peace.

As the shepherds found you with joy that first Christmas, help us to discover anew the joys of divine love, and may we allow kindness to others rule in our hearts.

Help us to worship you in freedom with the Magi, as we pray for all people with understanding hearts.

May we find happiness this Christmas in being called your children, forgiving and forgiven.



BEFORE GIFT-OPENING

Heavenly Father,

So simply wrapped, your richest Gift was once bestowed to humankind.

In these gifts, some simply wrapped, some sumptuous to behold, let us see reflected the strong and saving love once given to us in Bethlehem.

In Christ our Savior's name. Amen

AFTER GIFT-OPENING

Lord Jesus Christ,

In your birth we see God's richest gift come down-it is the riches of heaven it-self. As our celebration draws to a close, come with us, Lord Jesus. Keep us mindful that the richness of your presence is ever with us. Bless us to be a blessing. *We offer you our thanks and praise. Amen.*

THIS RICHEST GIFT

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor in Syria.) And all went to be taxed every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the City of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.