

January 1, 2012

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](mailto:olph10803@msn.com) - [www.olph-pelhammanor.org](http://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. Stanley O'Konsky, S.J., Rev. Michael Greco, OFM, Cap.

Mr. Joseph McQuade *Deacons* Mr. Daniel Murphy

Mrs. Marianne Parker *Parish Trustees* Mr. Frank Barbieri

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 – 8<sup>th</sup> grade

[www.olphpelham.com](http://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**

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 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*





Dear Parishioners:

This weekend we begin a new year. People all over the world have different ways and customs of this observance. In our own country the new year is welcomed in with great celebrations and parties, followed by parades and football. I am sure that says something really meaningful about our culture, but I am not quite sure what it is.

There was a tradition in many religious communities that the day before the New Year was a day of quiet prayer, meditation and fasting. The purpose of this was that the New Year was seen as a new beginning and to best be prepared for it, we should have some sense of spirituality involved. In some countries today it is traditional that people attend a midnight Mass to welcome in the New Year rather than watch a ball drop in Times Square.

The New Year is a time that is filled with a renewed sense that comes with new beginnings. It is a time to move beyond what has taken place in the previous year and to begin anew. It offers a sense of hope.

For many people, 2011 has not been a very positive experience. Perhaps they had to deal with unemployment, financial insecurity, serious illness or even the death of a loved one. For them the New Year offers unknown possibilities, and that can be a very unsettling experience.

As a Church, we begin the New Year celebrating the Blessed Mother in her role as Mother of Jesus. She epitomizes someone who moved with a sense of uncertainty from one year to the next. She exemplifies someone who experienced more than her fair share of hardship and challenge. We honor her as an example of someone who, because of her faith in her son, was able to navigate daily struggles.

Let us begin this year under her patronage and protection.  
Sincerely,

Rev. Robert DeJulio  
Pastor

#### **COME. LET US WORSHIP**

The presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament is central to our faith as Catholics. Time spent with the Lord in prayer and adoration is a unique moment to open our hearts to His grace in our life.

On Friday, January 6th at 5:00 PM in the Chapel we will have a Holy Hour with Eucharistic adoration and Benediction. Please plan to join with us in prayer and experience the power of His presence.

#### **CATHOLIC TEACHERS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

The Archdiocesan Catechetical Office is sponsoring The Sixth Annual Communion Breakfast for Catholic Teachers in Public Schools on Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 to 1:00PM at the Riverview Caterers in Hasting-on-Hudson. Suggested donation of \$20.00 is requested. For information contact Helen Doon at 646-794-2822.

# Mass Intentions

## **Monday, January 2**

8:00 AM - Helen Smith Cannon

9:00 AM - Michael Provino

## **Tuesday, January 3**

8:00 AM - Michael Adrian Walsh

9:00 AM - Michael Grimaldi

## **Wednesday, January 4**

8:00 AM - Souls in Purgatory

9:00 AM - Louisa & Alcide Spreecace

## **Thursday, January 5**

8:00 AM - Joseph Focazio

9:00 AM - Anne Martin Geraghty

## **Friday, January 6**

8:00 AM - Sam DeLuca

9:00 AM - Michael Provino

## **Saturday, January 7**

8:00 AM - Pasquale Marciano

9:00 AM - Richard Brown

### **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

"The Lord looks upon you kindly and gives you peace!" Experience His peace in your sacrament on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend, February 11-12. Please call toll free 877-697-9963 for more information or visit the website at [www.mearchny.org](http://www.mearchny.org).

### **H.O.P.E. SOUP KITCHEN**

The next scheduled cooking day for our Parish Chefs is Friday, January 28th. The menu consists of meat loaf, bag of frozen green beans, and two loaves rye bread. Food should be brought to the Church office where it will be picked up and delivered to St. Gabriel's Church. Please remember that all meals are for a minimum of 20 people. For information, call Geri Engstrom @ 738-1141.

### **SECOND COLLECTION**

The annual collection for Catholic University and Catholic communications will be taken at all Masses next weekend.

### **FOR YOUR RECORDS**

Contribution statements for those who regularly use the parish envelope system will be mailed out in January so that you may have this information for tax purposes. Parish Pay users may get their information at [parishpay.com](http://parishpay.com)

### **SAVE THE CHANGE**

On the weekend of January 15<sup>th</sup> we will begin our annual Bottle drive to collect your spare change to benefit Expectant Mothers Services that offers assistance to women in difficult circumstances who are preparing to have a child. The bottle will be collected the weekend of January 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **PERFORM AN ACT OF KINDNESS**

The upper parking area is specifically designated as a means of assistance for those who have difficulty walking. During the winter months it is especially important that these spaces be reserved for those who truly need to use them, particularly at the 5:00 PM Mass when it is dark. Please think of others when you are looking for a space as it will help them a great deal.

### **IN THE INTEREST OF ACCURACY:**

The weekly contribution envelopes are sent to back to the company for recording purposes so that eventually a tax statement may be sent to the donors. It is helpful in maintaining accuracy if you would indicate the amount of your donation on the envelope before placing it in the basket.

### **WE'RE EXPANDING**

Just before Christmas we added some new figures to outside Nativity set; 2 shepherds, a donkey and a cow. It is getting pretty crowded in the stable now.



# The Twelve Days of Christmas

*The Twelve Days of Christmas are from Christmas Day until the Epiphany (formerly January 6<sup>th</sup>). The tradition of giving a gift on each of the twelve days is pretty much gone but in some cultures it remains as a sign of the season.*

*There is a legend that says that the song 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' was written in England as a 'catechism song' that enabled catholic children to learn and sing about their faith in a country where it was not permitted to be Catholic. The words of the song had hidden Catholic meanings and the words 'true love' refer to God himself. The partridge in a pear tree refers to Jesus and the sadness He experiences over the people of Jerusalem.*

- 1.- Partridge in a pear tree- The one true God revealed in Jesus
- 2.- Turtle Doves – The Old and New Testaments
- 3.- French Hens – The virtues of faith, hope and charity
- 4.- Calling Birds – The Four Gospels and/or The Four Evangelists
- 5.- Golden Rings- The 'Pentateuch' – the first five books of the Bible
- 6.- Geese A –laying – The six days of creation
- 7.- Swans a – swimming – The seven sacraments & gifts of the Holy Spirit
- 8.- Maids A – milking- The eight Beatitudes
- 9.- Ladies Dancing – The nine fruits of the Holy Spirit
- 10.- Lords A – Leaping – The Ten Commandments
- 11.- Pipers Piping – The eleven faithful Apostles
- 12- Drummers Drumming – The twelve points of doctrine in the Apostle's Creed

*As tempting as it seems, there is no substantive evidence to demonstrate that the song was created as a secret means of transmitting the faith or that this 'legend' is anything but modern day speculation. It does however make one think...*

