

OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH

March 1, 2026

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday: 11:00 A.M to 12:00A.M.
4:00 P.M. to 4:45 P.M.



HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Saturday: 5:15 P.M.
Sunday: 8:00 A.M.
10:00 A.M. 12:00 P.M.
Weekday Mass
Monday – Saturday
8:00 A.M.
Last Tuesday of the
Month 7:00 P.M.

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Visit us at: www.olpfords.org
Parish Office: 26 Maple Ave.
Edison, NJ 08837
Hours: Monday through Friday
9:00am - 4:00pm
Phone: 732-738-7940

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK.....

Dear OLP Family,

A parishioner told me how touching and meaningful was last Sunday's post-Communion meditation on "A different approach to fasting" and suggested that I put it in our bulletin. It was sent to me by a friend some time back and I am very glad that many felt that it was a very beautiful and spiritually enriching way to meditate in the church as a community. I am reproducing it here:

A Different Approach to Fasting:

Fasts have a tendency to be oriented toward things like giving up food or T.V. But there are many other creative ways we can welcome the healing touch of Jesus into our lives. Here are some suggestions:

1. Fast from anger and hatred. Give your family an extra dose of love each day.
2. Fast from judging others. Before making any judgment, recall how Jesus overlooks our own faults.
3. Fast from discouragement. Hold on to God's promise that He has a perfect plan for you.
4. Fast from complaining. When you find yourself about to complain, close your eyes and recall a little blessing or joy Jesus has given you.
5. Fast from spending too much money. Try to reduce your unnecessary spending by 10 percent and give those savings to the poor.
6. Fast from resentment or bitterness. Work on forgiving those who may have hurt you.

A similar reflection titled "**Can you give up these for Lent?**" was in last Sunday's bulletin, which I am sure you read.

The small groups in our parish have taken off well. I was very happy to attend these Bible sharing groups. They are very excited about coming together, to get a better understanding of the Sunday Scriptures and to be encouraged as they listen to each other's efforts to live the Word of God.

Do you know about a global movement called "National Day of Unplugging"? It is a worldwide 24hour digital pause where people power down devices and power on real-world connection. It is on the first Friday in March. So why not unplug, unwind, relax and do things with family and friends this Friday without using today's technology, electronics, and social media? Tough but doable.

Please read in this bulletin the piece titled "**Transfigured by a Smile**" about how an ordinary police officer's simple smile keeps transforming people whom he tickets! We all can learn a lesson from that and easily try giving a smile to others. See how people light up with your smile!! **Thus we see that there are so many little, very ordinary ways in which we can make Lent meaningful.**

What is your specific personal plan for Lent? If you have not begun yet, it is not too late to start. Together with St. Paul let us hope and pray: "*May the Lord who began the good work in you will bring it to completion...*" (Philippians 1: 6-8).

Wishing you all a happy and holy Lent,

Your brother in Christ,
Fr. Abraham Orapankal



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

March 1 Sunday 8:00 am

+ Saverio (Sonny) Loiacono from The
Loiacono Family

10:00 am

+ Anthony Branciforte & Anthony
Zimmerly from Michelle Branciforte

12:00 Noon

+ Dennis Medvetz from Family

March 2, Monday 8:00 am

+ Frank Gouveia from The Gouveia Family

March 3, Tuesday 8:00 am

+ Josephine Fackina from The Fackina
Family

March 4, Wednesday 8:00am

+ Jozefa Zimon from Stan

March 5, Thursday 8:00 am

+ For our Parishioners from your Pastor

March 6, Friday 8:00 am

+ Jeanette & Leon Seyglinski from Geri &
Rich Kolibas

March 7, Saturday

8:00 am

+ Mary Flanagan from Joan Flanagan

5:15 pm

+ James Kershner from Joann, Ben &
Family

March 8, Sunday 8:00 am

+ Judith Wendt from The Wendt Family

10:00 am

+ Holy Name-Altar Rosary

12:00 Noon

+ Sandra Ann Husko from Allison
Ballentine

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY ~ March 1

8:00 am - 4pm Blood Drive - Parish Center

12:00 Noon - Rel. Ed. Family Mass

MONDAY ~ March 2

8:30 am Novena ~ Church

TUESDAY ~ March 3

7:00 pm Blue Army ~ Church

WEDNESDAY ~ March 4

4:30 - 5:45 Religious Ed Grade 1-4 Parish Center

7:00 - 8:15pm Religious Ed. Grade 5-7, II ~ Parish
Center

8:00 pm KOC Business Mtg - Parish Hall

7:00 pm First Holy Comm. Mtg-Parents ~ Parish Center

THURSDAY ~ March 5

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal - Church

7:00 pm Columbiettes Officers Mtg. ~ Regina Caeli
Room

FRIDAY March 6

7:00pm Stations of the Cross ~ Church

SATURDAY ~ March 7

11:00 am Confession ~ Church

4:00 pm Confession ~ Church

SUNDAY ~ March 8

9:00 am to 12pm Holy Name-Altar Rosary Mtg ~ Parish
Center

9:30am Holy Name-Altar Rosary pray the Rosary ~
Church

Please pray for the Sick

Eunice McLaughlin, Raymond Miller,
Danielle Maglies, Anna Verrico, Rolando Rey, Christine
Mary Brown, Donna Ferrara, Lonie Ebarle, Julia Forsythe,
Joanne M., Maria Lavid, Teddy Sabo, Lisa Sabo, Norma
Nebus, Nancy Gaid, Joan Trainor, Peter Rutkowski, Renata
Wisnik, Raul Ramos, Veronica Roush, Suzanne Pontes
Sarisky, Kelly Lease, Maria Turek, Evelyn Prince, Alex
Deliso, John Herring, Marie Burke, Bill Herring, Mercedes
de Leon, Eve Morawski, Andrew Southern, Danuta, Evelyn
Codd, Shelly Greene, Danuta, Debra Ambrosi, Michael L.,
Wendy Snee, Catherine Miller, Tano Camarillo

Please pray for the Dearly Departed

Anthony Sclafani, Bart Miller, Hans Hadman, Ralph Baez,
Maria Lopes, Sandra Husko, John Gonyo, Kevin Mitro,
Jacqueline Collie, John Warshany, Irene Newman, Fr.
Daniel Sloan, Barbara Felcetto, Arlene Herman, Joyce
Trasky, Viola Davitt, Agnes Smith, Anne Trepono, Debbie
Hernandez, Donald Jantas, Darlene Holowka, Debbie
Mullen, Madeline Strong, Octavio Ruiz, John Harvie,
Anthony Alexander, Thomas J. Felcetto, Jane Komick,
Evelyn Mrozek, Mildred Manresa, Marie Girona, Michael
Sena, Gary Dzama,

Ministry Schedule for
March 7/8, 2026

5:15 p. m.

Eucharistic Ministers: Barbara Sinko,
Julia Dischler, Karen Senatore

Reader: Gloria DeMarzo

Altar Server: EmmaRose Felcetto

8:00 a.m. Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Arlene Verendia
Kenneth Egan, Roseanne Brady

Reader: Bill Herring

10:00 a.m. Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Maria Frey,
Maryann Shingola, Mary Prumos

Reader: Alyssa Dantes

Altar Server: Alex Gironda

12:00 Noon

Eucharistic Ministers: Benjamin Praval,
Angela Chundak, Gary Coghlan

Reader: Thomas Deignan

Altar Server: Sienna Santos

STATIONS OF THE CROSS



**COME AND JOIN US
EVERY FRIDAY FOR A
DIFFERENT STATION EACH
WEEK DURING LENT AT
7:00 P.M.**

**REMEMBER - ALL FRIDAYS DURING
LENT ARE DAYS OF ABSTINENCE (NO
MEAT.)**

Parochial Ministry

Rev. Abraham Orapankal, Ph.D.

Rev. Sebastian Kaithackal C.M.I., (In Res.)

Deacon John A. Raychel

Parish Services

Rev. John J. Zec, Ph.D., Music Director

Candida Gonzalez, Coordinator of Religious Ed

Lourdes Hnath, Organist

Parish Staff

Walter Springer, Business Administrator

Norma Izzo, Bookkeeping Assistant

Dawn Aube, Parish/Religious Education Secretary

Trustees

Joan C. Deyak, Robert Butvilla



SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY



A priest spied a parishioner enjoying some tasty smoked sausage on Friday during Lent a strict no-no in the church. The priest, being a pragmatic soul, told the man for his penance he was to bring a load of lumber to the church to help repair the roof. The man was not happy and he grumbled, but went off to do his penance. He arrived at the church on the next Friday and proceeded to dump a load of sawdust into the parking lot. "What's this?" the priest wanted to know. "I told you your penance was a load of lumber, not sawdust." The man replied coolly, "Well, if that sausage I ate was meat, then this sawdust is lumber."

Q. What do you call someone who can't stick with a diet? A. A deserter.
The most fattening thing that you can put in an ice cream sundae is the spoon.



My fitness coach told me to bend down and touch my toes. I said, "I don't have that kind of relationship with my feet. Can I just wave?"



If we're not meant to have midnight snacks, why is there a light in the fridge?



I know it's three meals a day, but how many should I eat at night?



OFFERTORY GIFTS

Anyone who wishes to present the gifts at the Offertory of the Mass should speak with one of the ushers at the main entrance to the Church before Mass.

The usher will give you instructions on when to bring the gifts forward.

WHY WAS JESUS TRANSFIGURED?

The primary purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was to allow him to consult his Heavenly Father in order to ascertain His plan for His Son's suffering, death and Resurrection. The secondary aim was to make his chosen disciples aware of his Divine glory so that they might discard their worldly ambitions and dreams of a conquering political Messiah and might be strengthened in their time of trial. Further, the Transfiguration enabled Jesus to present himself to the apostles as Israel's redeemer as had already been foretold by the prophets (St. Ephrem). The Transfiguration established Jesus' glorious identity as the beloved Son of God and placed his divine Sonship in the context of Jewish expectations about the Kingdom and the Resurrection. The event took place in late summer, just prior to the Feast of Tabernacles. Hence, the Orthodox Church celebrates the Transfiguration at about the time of the year when it actually occurred in order to connect it with the Old Testament Feast of the Tabernacles. The Western tradition recalls the Transfiguration at the beginning of Lent, and then celebrates the formal feast on August 6.

A LENTEN "RECALL NOTICE!"

The maker of all human beings is recalling all units manufactured, regardless of make or year, due to the serious defect in the primary and central component or heart. This is due to a malfunction in the original prototype units, resulting in the reproduction of the same defect in all subsequent units. This defect has been technically termed, 'Subsequential Internal Non-Morality,' or more commonly known as S-I-N, as it is primarily symptomized by loss of moral judgment. Some other symptoms are: (a) Loss of direction (b) Foul vocal emissions (c) Amnesia of origin (d) Lack of peace and joy (e) Selfish, or violent, behavior (f) Depression or confusion in the mental component

The manufacturer, who is neither liable or at fault for this defect, is providing factory authorized repair and service, free of charge to correct this SIN defect, at numerous locations throughout the world. The number to call for the recall station in your area is: P-R-A-Y-E-R. WARNING: Continuing to operate the human unit without correction, voids the manufacturer's warranty, exposing owner to dangers and problems too numerous to list. For free emergency service, call on J-E-S-U-S for prompt assistance at any location worldwide.

Transfigured by a Smile

Who doesn't dread seeing flashing lights in the rearview mirror and hearing a siren signaling you are the one being pulled over? And who does not harbor at least a bit of resentment at the traffic cop who caught you? It's enough to make you call in a complaint. No such complaints have been filed, however, for Deputy Elton Simmons of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. A motorcycle patrolman for the last twenty years, Simmons has made approximately twenty-five thousand traffic stops and not once has a citizen complaint been issued against him.

Steven Hartman of CBS News followed Simmons for a day to find out why. It starts with Simmons style, which is civil but never soft, possessing the "pitch-perfect mix of authority and diplomacy." Hartman told viewers he saw Simmons melt away "a polar ice cap of preconceptions" in a matter of moments with his easygoing manner.

His overall attitude is transformative. *Los Angeles Times* reporter Robert Faturechi wrote that Simmons learned his casual manner from a pastor uncle in Louisiana who told him, "do good, be good, treat people good." "One thing I hate," Simmons said, "is to be looked down on. I can't stand it so I'm not going to look down at you." He actually seems to commiserate with the people he stops. They both know a law has been broken so he tries to make the inevitable as painless as possible.

"Just treat people right," Simmons says, "Give a smile." One driver interviewed said he didn't mind the ticket. "You know what it is, it's his smile. He's got a great smile. He's a nice guy. How could you be mad at that guy?" Transformative smiles may be a way of carrying out the Gospel message. No need to erect tents to memorialize the moments—just keep smiling while making stops along the way.

(Dr. Constance M. Popp)

STEWARDSHIP

February 15, 2026

Weekly Offering	\$ 5,441.00
Online Giving	\$ 2,779.50
Mail In	\$ 537.00
Catholic Press	\$ 946.00

Total \$ 9,703.50

Stewardship of Treasure

Thank you for remembering your parish with your Stewardship of Treasure when you are away on vacation or when weather prohibits your attendance at Mass. Your continued financial support is essential and much appreciated by our parish community.

Another easy way to manage your church giving is with Online Giving. You can manage your giving or give a one-time gift. Visit our church website, www.olpfords.org and click the Online Giving link and register with our church. Your support during the year helps sustain our Church.

DON'T FORGET TO CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS NEXT WEEKEND, MARCH 8, 2026



“Lord, give me the grace for transformation.”

The word transfiguration means a change in form or appearance. Biologists call it metamorphosis (derived from the Greek word *metamorphoomai* used in Matthew’s Gospel) to describe the change that occurs when a caterpillar becomes a butterfly. As children we might have curiously watched the process of the caterpillar turning into a chrysalis and then bursting into a beautiful Monarch butterfly. Fr. Anthony de Mello tells the story of such a metamorphosis in the prayer life of an old man. “I was a revolutionary when I was young and all my prayer to God was: ‘Lord, give me the grace to change the world.’ As I approached middle age and realized that half of my life was gone without changing a single soul, I changed my prayer to: ‘Lord, give me the grace to change all those who come in contact with me; just my family and friends and I shall be satisfied.’ Now that I am old and my days are numbered, I have begun to see how foolish I have been. My one prayer now is: ‘Lord, give me the grace to change myself.’ If I had prayed for this right from the start, I should not have wasted my life.”

OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH
SOCIAL CONCERNS BLOOD DRIVE
SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026



26 FRANKLIN AVENUE
EDISON, NJ

8:30am to 1:30pm in the
Parish Center Gym

Appointments are strongly recommended. Please bring picture ID with you to donate blood. Please eat a meal before donating blood and drink plenty of water before and after donation. You can make an appointment at vitalant.org or call 877-25-VITAL. Use blood drive code: XOLPCE

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732-738-0030 / Fax 732-738-4040
Dr. Seeman, Sr. has been a devoted parishioner of Our Lady of Peace for 60 years, has been part of OLP from Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation, Reconciliation and Marriage, and has served the community for 35 years.

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