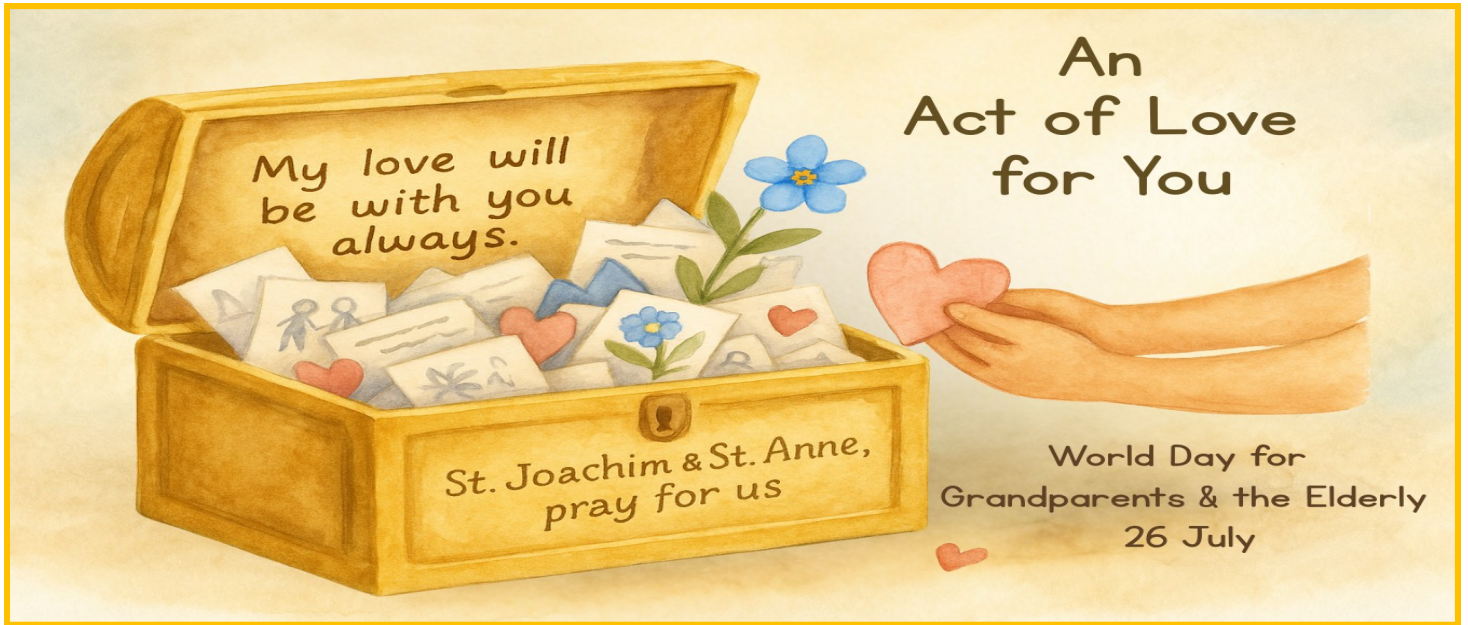


OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH

JULY 26, 2026

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A VERY HAPPY WORLD GRANDPARENTS AND ELDERLY DAY to all of our Parish Grandparents and Elderly

†
**GOD GAVE
SOLOMON
WISDOM
AND
VERY GREAT
INSIGHT.**
- 1 Kings 4:29

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Monday-Friday: 8:00 am
Saturday 5:15 pm
Sunday: 9:00 am & 11:00 am

RECONCILIATION
SATURDAYS 4:00 - 4:45 pm



Parish Staff

Rev. Abraham Orapankal, Ph.D. Pastor
Rev. Sebastian Kaithackal C.M.I., (In Res.)
Deacon John A. Raychel
Rev. John J. Zec, Ph.D., Music Director
Candida Gonzalez, Coordinator of Religious Ed.
Lourdes Hnath, Organist
Walter Springer, Business Administrator
Norma Izzo, Assistant Bookkeeper
Kelly-Ann Dunn, Parish Secretary

Trustees

Joan C. Deyak, Robert Butvilla

GPS

620 Amboy Ave. Edison, NJ 08837

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 69, Fords, NJ 08863

Parish Office

26 Maple **Ave.** Edison, NJ 08837

Office Hours

Monday—Friday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Phone

732-738-7940

Email

mail@olpfords.org
www.olpfords.org

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK ...

Dear OLP Family,

Today is World Day for Grandparents and Elderly. This is a day established by Pope Francis in 2021 *"to draw attention to a category all too often placed on the margins, remembering instead their value and encouraging actions in their favor."* Though the U.S. bishops decided to transfer this to the first weekend after Labor Day to coincide with *National Grandparents and the Elderly Day* in the United States, the rest of the world celebrates it today. Hence, it is good for us to reflect on the theme of this year's celebration.

Pope Leo XIV has chosen *"I will never forget you"* (Is 49:15) as the theme for the Sixth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly which is celebrated every fourth Sunday of July and is presented as an opportunity to bring the closeness of the Church to the elderly and to enhance their contribution within families and communities. This year, the date coincides with the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus (Sunday, July 26), and the Holy Father invites everyone to celebrate the Day with a Eucharistic liturgy.

Taken from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, the chosen theme verse is meant to be a message of consolation and hope for all grandparents and elderly people, especially those who live in loneliness or feel forgotten. At the same time, it is a reminder to families and ecclesial communities not to forget them, recognizing in them a precious presence and a blessing. The Pope's choice highlights how God's love for every person never fails, not even in the fragility of old age

Recent research highlights that mental health for older adults is closely tied to their perceived sense of purpose, autonomy, and connection. When family dynamics change and roles shift, it is natural for grandparents to experience grief, confusion, or even anxiety. Dr. Mary Pipher, in her book *Another Country: Navigating the Emotional Terrain of Our Elders*, notes, *"Older adults often feel invisible in a culture that values youth and innovation. But their role as emotional anchors is more vital than ever."* When grandparents are invited into family life not just for help (as babysitter, driver, etc.), but for meaningful emotional contribution, their wellbeing improves and so does the resilience of the entire family unit.

As we celebrate the grandparents and the elderly of our parish, let us remember that they have a thing or two to teach us about enduring change and handling life's adversity. Respecting them can be the most gratuitous return for their selfless efforts that benefited us in different ways. The Bible is very clear on this: Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. *"Honor your father and mother"* (this is the first commandment with a promise), *"that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land."* (Ephesians 6:1-3). *"Never speak harshly to an older man, but appeal to him respectfully as you would to your own father. Treat older women as you would your mother...."* (Timothy 5:1-3).

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Abraham Orapankal

fatherabraham@olpfords.org



Mass Intentions

July 26, Sunday 9:00am

+Paul Coleman from The Wendt Family
&

+Juliano & Corazon Marquez from The
Lazaro Family

11:00am

+Rick Ponzo from Val

July 27, Monday 8:00am

+Ruben Maldabali from Marietta Mistal

July 28, Tuesday 8:00am

+Marie Gironde from Joan Deyak

July 29, Wednesday 8:00am

+Mary Capasso from The Norton Family

July 30, Thursday 8:00am

+James Petronick from Desiree, Jason &
Colin

July 31, Friday 8:00am

+For Our Parishioners

August 1, Saturday 5:15pm

+Theodore Symanski from Chuck & Janet
Dalessandro
&

+Stanislaw & Stan Turek from his wife

August 2, Sunday 9:00am

+James Flanagan from Joan Flanagan
&

+Philip & Maureen Gouveia from Maureen

11:00am

+George & Margaret Dinkelacker from
Sarah Dinkelacker & Lisa Dzama



WEEKLY ACTIVITIES



Sunday - July 26

10:00am KOC Fellowship - Parish Hall

1:00pm—Baptism - Church

Monday - July 27

8:30am Novena - Church

8:00pm KOC 4th Degree - Parish Hall

Tuesday - July 28

5:30pm Boy Scouts - Parish Center

7:00pm Blue Army Devotions - Church

Wednesday - July 29

7:00pm KOC Officers Meeting - Parish Hall

Saturday - August 1

1:00pm Convalidation Ceremony - Church

4:00pm Confessions - Church

MARRIAGE TUNE-UP

One version of the wedding vows states: "I will love and honor you all the days of my life." But what does honor mean? Consider these guidelines: When talking give your undivided attention (make eye contact, don't interrupt. Listen closely). Back your beloved up in front of other people, Show your support. Be selfless.



PARENTING TUNE-UP

Solomon asked God for an understanding heart. Surely this is the attitude we want to take toward our own children. Yet children test us. They do dumb, crazy, and selfish things. They need to be corrected and disciplined. An understanding heart does not mean ignoring bad behavior but rather loving our child through it all.





August 1st & 2nd 2026

Saturday, 5:15pm Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Karen Senatore,
Barbara Balog, Joan Deyak

Reader: Gloria Demarzo

Altar Server: Delgado Family

Sunday, 9:00am Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Martin Verendia,
Alan Nygard, Roseanne Brady

Reader: James Carroll

Sunday, 11:00am Mass

Eucharistic Ministers: Kevin Broesler,
Lorraine O'Prandy, Frank Heelan

Reader: Thomas Deignan

Altar Server: Sienna Santos



July 19, 2026

Weekly Offering	\$5,123.00
Mail-in	\$862.00
Online giving	\$2,376.50
Air Conditioning	\$985.00
Venezuela Special	\$1,195.00
Total	\$10,541.50

Stewardship of Treasure

Thank you for remembering your parish with your continued financial support; it is essential and much appreciated by our parish community. Another easy way to manage your church giving is with Online Giving. Please 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.

WE PRAY FOR:

For those who are sick, or in nursing homes and hospitals

Eunice McLaughlin, Raymond Miller,
Danielle Maglies, Rolando Rey, Christine Mary Brown, Donna Ferrara, Lonie Ebarle,
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, Alex Deliso, John Herring, Marie Burke,
Mercedes de Leon, Eve Morawski, Andrew Southern, Shelly Greene, Danuta, Debra
Ambrosi, Michael L., Wendy Snee, Catherine Miller, Tano Camarillo, Elizabeth
Savner, Joan Quinn, Marien Zondlo, Wilson Aguirre, William Riggio

For those who have passed to Eternity

Madeline Strong, Octavio Ruiz, John Harvie, Anthony Alexander, Thomas J.
Felcetto, Evelyn Mrozek, Mildred Manresa, Marie Girona, Evelyn Codd, Gary
Dzama, Michael Sena, Marie Pugliese, Stefan Wysocki, Julia Dischler, Angelo
VanNostrand, Eleanor Kavejon, Ronald G. Cunningham, Margaret Hagan, Marie
O'Mullan, Arlene Stec, Angela Canales, Jennifer DeSantis, Angela Sossa, Louise
Sutch, Thomas Katchisin, Patrick Kennedy, Anna Verrico, Jonathan Lopez,
Rosario Arvisu

For all those who are serving in the Military

HIDDEN TREASURE OF A BANKRUPT RANCHER

In west Texas, there is a famous oil field known as the Yates Pool. During the depression, this field was a sheep ranch owned by a man named Yates. Yates was not able to make enough money on his ranching operation to pay the principal and interest on his mortgage, so he was in danger of losing his ranch. With little money for clothes or food, his family, like many others, had to live on a government subsidy. Day after day, as he grazed his sheep over those rolling west Texas hills, he was no doubt greatly troubled about how he would be able to pay his bills. Then a crew from an oil company came into the area and told Mr. Yates that there might be oil on this land. They asked *permission* to drill a wildcat well, and he signed a lease. At a little more than a thousand feet, they struck a huge oil reserve, giving eighty thousand barrels a day. In fact, thirty years after the discovery, a government test of one of Mr. Yates' wells showed that it still could produce more than a hundred thousand barrels of oil a day. And Mr. Yates owned it all. The day he had purchased the land, he received the oil and mineral rights. And yet, he had been living on relief - a multimillionaire living in poverty. What had been the problem? He did not know the oil was there. He owned it, but he did not possess it.

In today's Gospel Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a treasure hidden in a field. We need to take all precautions to keep our greatest treasure safe: We will be able to keep our treasure of personal relationship to Jesus by accepting him every day as our God and Savior, by allowing him to have total control over our lives by doing his will, by asking for the daily strengthening and guidance of his Holy Spirit, by talking to him daily in prayer, by listening to him by meditative reading of the Bible, by getting reconciled to him and others every day asking pardon and forgiveness for our sins, by offering our lives on the altar during the Holy Mass and by nourishing our souls receiving Jesus in Holy Communion.

Do you have an understanding heart?

In today's First Reading, King Solomon prayed, "Give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. (1 Kings 3:9). Solomon wanted a heart that could hear not only God, but what others were saying too. He didn't want to just rely on what his ears heard, he wanted to really hear what people meant. Wisdom comes in not just hearing what is spoken. It comes when we can listen and discern the true intent of the words spoken.

☺ SMILE WITH YOUR FAMILY ☺

A young grandson called the house phone and heard this message: "Good morning. At present, we are not at home, but please leave your message after you hear the beep. If you need us to stay with the children, press 2. If you want to borrow the car, press 3. If you want us to wash your clothes, press 4. If you need money, dial 9. If you are going to invite us to dinner, start talking—we are listening!" ☺

A tourist was admiring the necklace worn by a local Native American. "What is it made of?" she asked. "Alligator's teeth," the man said. She replied patronizingly, "I suppose, that they mean as much to you as pearls do to us." "Oh no," he objected. "Anybody can open an oyster." ☺

What did the treasure hunter say when he finally found the map of the Golden City? Atlas! ☺

I just bought an antique clock with missing hands. I think it's a timeless treasure. ☺

Why won't the shrimp share its treasure? Because it's shellfish. ☺

My family is like a treasure to me... You need a shovel and a map to find them ☺

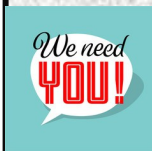
THE PARABLE OF THE FISHING NET

In Palestine, there were two main ways of fishing. The first was with the casting-net, which required a keen eye and great skill in throwing the net at the correct moment. The second was with a dragnet or seine, as it is sometimes called. Galilean seine-nets were tied to two boats and drawn through the water. The catch was sorted only afterwards, with edible or kosher fish going to market and the unacceptable fish being thrown away. Just as a dragnet collects good and bad fish indiscriminately, so the Church is a mixture of all kinds of people, good and bad, useful and useless, saints and sinners. Like the wheat and weeds parable, this parable is a warning against premature judgment, but also a warning which tells us judgment will take place. This parable encourages the Church to adopt an open approach to evangelism, by accepting "the poor, the crippled, the blind, the lame" (Luke 14:21) and by leading them to the treasure and the pearl of great price. It instructs us to be tolerant, compassionate and understanding of those who seem to fall far below the requirements of the Gospel and the Kingdom. Through this parable of the dragnet, Jesus calls us to embrace the vision of God that seeks out the good and nurturing, the right and just in all things, amid the "junk" of life. The parable also teaches that a time of separation will come when the good and the bad will be sent to their respective destinies. This parable pictures that separation as happening in the final judgment. This parable is thus a counterpart to the parable of the weeds and the wheat.

OFFERTORY GIFTS



Anyone who wishes to present the gifts at the Offertory of the Mass (especially if the Mass is being offered for a member of your family or at your request) should speak with one of the ushers at the main entrance to the Church before Mass.



The Parish is in need of Readers and Altar Servers. For more information to volunteer please contact the Parish Office at 732-738-7940



*Did you know...OLP Bulletins are available online? **Visit** our website www.olpfords.org and click on Weekly Bulletin.*

EXEGESIS OF THE PARABLE OF THE TREASURE HUNTER

Frequent battles and foreign invasions encouraged the people of Palestine to bury their treasures like money and jewelry in their fields. For example, the great religious treasure – the "Dead Sea Scrolls," discovered in the caves at Qumran in 1947 – was hidden there over 2,000 years ago. Sometimes unclaimed and forgotten, the hidden treasures awaited some lucky finder. Jesus tells the story of one such lucky treasure-finder who sold everything he had in order to get ownership of the field. According to the Palestinian laws of that time, the mere finding of buried treasure did not entitle the finder to possession unless he also owned the property in which it was found. In the parable of the treasure in the field and in the parable of the merchant who sought fine pearls, we see the image of one who recognizes the value of the kingdom of God and gives everything to possess it. Matthew, a tax-collector, might have experienced something like this when he discovered the eternal value of the kingdom preached by Jesus of Nazareth. When he discovered Jesus and his vision of life everything else became secondary. Having a personal relationship with Christ and to have made his view of life one's own, is the most beautiful, the most precious thing in the world. But most of the time, we are chasing false treasures like money, social status and pleasure. Jesus our true treasure may come to our lives unexpectedly through some daily experience as he did with Matthew.

Vincz's Food & Liquors

1066 Amboy Ave., Edison
(732) 225-5570

*God, in His Goodness,
Sent Us Grapes
To Cheer Both Great & Small.
Little Fools Will Drink Too Much,
Great Fools Not At All!*

DELI
LOCAL DELIVERY
SPECIAL ORDERS

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR

POLICE OFFICERS

**WHO KEEP OUR
COMMUNITIES SAFE!**

Compliments of the Rak Family



**THE DIOCESE OF
METUCHEN**
Catholic Cemeteries



Holy Cross Cemetery

840 Cranbury-South River Rd., Jamesburg
Featuring Mary Sorrowful Mother Mausoleum • Crematorium On Site

Resurrection Cemetery

Hoes Lane & Park Ave., Piscataway
Grand Opening of the Mausoleum of the Holy Spirit

DIOMETUCHEN.ORG/CEMETERIES

For Your Peace of Mind & Information: 800-943-8400

Advertise Here!

Engage with consumers in
your neighborhood.



Support Our Advertisers!

Never miss our bulletin!

Get this bulletin
delivered straight to
your inbox every week.

Scan to subscribe on
parishesonline.com



We're Hiring Ad Sales Executives

- Paid Training
- Full-time with Benefits

Visit www.lpcommunities.com/careers

Does your organization need a newsletter?

We'll cover the
printing costs!

Learn more at
lpcommunities.com



Made you look.

Advertise here to
reach your local
audience.

Visit 4lpi.com/advertising-solutions

Scan to get
started!



IF YOU LIVE ALONE You Need

MDMedAlert!™

As Low As

\$19⁹⁵
/mo.

- ✓ Ambulance ✓ Police ✓ Family
- ✓ GPS & Fall Alert



**CALL
NOW!**

800.808.9294

md-medalert.com



Dunigan



is my
Plumber!

**OWEN S. DUNIGAN
AND CO., INC.**
Plumbing & Heating

732-634-0630
WOODBIDGE

James Juarez • St. Lic. #7121 & 283
Cert. Backflow Insp Lic #8714

Plumb-Rite
PLUMBING 🔥 HEATING ❄️ COOLING

732-417-4444

Free Estimate

Since 1983 NJ Plmbg Lic. 8411

\$35 OFF ANY SERVICE



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

Our Lady of Peace Church, Edison, NJ

04-0366



Flynn and son Funeral Homes, Inc.

A Family Tradition of Caring Since 1900

732-826-0358 | Flynnfuneral.com

Flynn and son/Mitruska Funeral Home
23 Ford Ave. • Edison-Fords, NJ 08863
Brendan J. Flynn Jr., Mgr., NJ Lic. No. 4105

Flynn and son Funeral Home
424 East Ave. • Perth-Amboy, NJ 08861
James J. Flynn IV, Mgr., NJ Lic. No. 4152

Flynn and son/Koyen Funeral Home
319 Amboy Ave. • Metuchen, NJ 08840
Brendan J. Flynn, Jr., Mgr., NJ Lic. No. 4105

Ann Silvestri
MSW, LCSW
Quality Counseling Services
for Depression & Anxiety
MEDICARE AND OTHER
INSURANCES ACCEPTED
973-462-2840

KENNETH VERCAMMEN
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Wills & Probate
2053 Woodbridge Ave.
Edison, NJ 08817
 **732-572-0500**
www.njlaws.com

catholicmatch®
New Jersey

CatholicMatch.com/NJ

SHEVCHENKO
MONUMENTS
4th Generation Craftsmen
Factory Showroom
329 Florida Grove Road
Hopelawn
(732) 442-1286
shevcomonuments.com

Advertise Here!

Engage with consumers in
your neighborhood.



Gloria DeMarzo
Realtor-Associate

Office: 732.499.0030 ext. 217

Direct: 908.419.0340

Gloria@HallmarkRealtors.com

112 Westfield Ave, Clark NJ 07066

www.HallmarkRealtors.com



ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide



 Authorized
Provider

SafeStreets

833-287-3502



SEEMAN
FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC

Dr. Joseph Seeman, Sr.

SEEMAN FAMILY CHIROPRACTIC
515 New Brunswick Ave., Fords, NJ 08863
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.

**MEET
THE
RIZZOS**

RE/MAX
WELCOME HOME

 **MOTTO**
HARD WORK
SUCCEEDS



MARC RIZZO
BROKER/OWNER
CELL: 732-259-1729
marcrizzo@remax.net



MICHELLE RIZZO
BROKER
ASSOCIATE/OWNER
CELL: 908-501-2651
michellerizzo@remax.net



ALLISON RIZZO
BROKER/OWNER
LIC #486033
CELL: 732-266-5184
allison.rizzo@mottomortgage.com

1199 AMBOY AVENUE, EDISON

OFFICE: 732-549-9500

Advertise Here!

Contact Jay Schwartz

jschwartz@4LPi.com

(800) 950-9952 x6801

**FREE AD
DESIGN WITH
PURCHASE OF
THIS SPACE**

Call 800.950.9952

**ROOFING • CHIMNEYS • GUTTERS • MASONRY
SIDEWALKS & STEPS • DECK REPAIR & REPLACEMENT**
We Find & Fix Leaks!



EXPERT CHIMNEY & ROOFING

\$1,250 OFF
Any New Roof Replacement

20% OFF
Any Roof, Chimney, Gutter,
Masonry Repair & SENIORS

Family Owned/Operated - Lic.#13VH11097900 • Bonded & Insured - 20 Years
Serving All of New Jersey

732-520-9554 | www.expertchimneyroofing.com



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

Our Lady of Peace Church, Edison, NJ

04-0366