

# OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

132 Butcher Street, Bethalto, IL 62010; Phone: (618) 377-6519, Fax: (618) 377-9550

Website: <https://www.olqpbethalto.org/parish/>

**Fr. Tom Liebler, Pastor**

**Rectory:** 618-377-6519; **Cell:** 618-409-7444; **Email:** [tliebler@aol.com](mailto:tliebler@aol.com)

## Christmas Mass

### Schedule:

**Dec. 24...4:30 pm, 9:00 pm**

**Dec. 25.....9:00 am**



*The Nativity of the Lord*

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

### Mass Intentions



<b>Sat., Dec. 23</b> 4:30 pm	<b>Advent Weekday</b> Tom Connoyer, Joan Huck
<b>Sun., Dec. 24</b> 8:30 am 10:30 am	<b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> For the Parishioners Emma Louise Price Parker
<b>Sun., Dec. 24</b> 4:30 pm 9:00 pm	<b>Eve of Nativity of the Lord</b> Mary & Alvin Kaufman For the Parishioners
<b>Mon., Dec. 25</b> 9:00 am	<b>Nativity of the Lord</b> Rosemary Barron
<b>Tues., Dec. 26</b> 8:30 am	<b>St. Stephen</b> Mary Cremmens, Darlene Huebener Victor & Gladys Huebener
<b>Wed., Dec. 27</b> 6:30 pm	<b>St. John</b> Steve & Virginia Ostanik
<b>Thur., Dec. 28</b> 8:30 am	<b>The Holy Innocents</b> Jerry Durbin
<b>Fri., Dec. 29</b> 8:30 am	<b>5th Day-Octave of Nativity of the Lord</b> Gloria Matthews
<b>Sat., Dec. 30</b> 4:30 pm	<b>6th Day-Octave of Nativity of the Lord</b> James Pritchett
<b>Sun., Dec. 31</b> 8:30 am 10:30 am	<b>Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, Joseph</b> Ed Pilgrim For the Parishioners

### Prayer Requests



**The sick:** Conor Vogel, Keita Salantai, Mary Wagner, Charlie Mattingly, Noah Rogers, Becky Gray, Marguerite Hufker, Maxine Calhoun, Vi Perkhiser, Elli Wiemers, Toni Stanford, Peggy Ruhmann, Audrey Wolff, Lisa Curtis, Brooke Randolph Carden, Brittany Witt, Clayton Spicer, Greg Weber, Pat Friedel, Kristin Brunstein, Jim Begnel, Bill Johnson, Janet Gross, Mike Toner, Susan Hilker, Jim Johnson, Clay Brueggeman, Brandon Pritchett, Lucie Hale, Clyde Dickman, Terri Chappell, Liz Stutz, Rita Dana Smith, Lori Pelan, Carla Klaustermeier, Rob Helmkamp, Stella Schultz, Theresa Barton, Don Laird. **For prayer requests in the bulletin, call the parish office, 377-6519. For prayer requests to the email prayer chain, send to Marie at re-joy128@gmail.**

**No SCRIP Sales after Masses until Jan 7-8**

### Mass Schedule For December 30-31, January 1

Masses for Saturday and Sunday, December 30 & 31 will be according to the usual weekend Mass schedule: 4:30 pm on Saturday and 8:30 am & 10:30 am on Sunday. This year, the feast day of the Solemnity of Mary is not a holy day of obligation. Therefore, there will not be any additional Mass times. We will observe this feast day at the usual 8:30 am Mass on Monday, January 1, 2024.

### Dear Parishioners,



A couple of Wednesdays ago I was talking with the kids at the 6:30 evening mass. One of the kids said something that made me stop and wonder what she meant. She said "I don't like Christmas." So naturally I asked her why. Her response was amazing. She said I don't like all of this talk about unimportant things and people not talking about the Birth of Jesus! Out of the mouths of children often come the most beautiful statements. So, let's talk about the Birth of Jesus. It was an event that happened over two thousands years ago in an obscure village in an obscure part of the Roman Empire. Why would this event be important today if not for the fact that the the baby born was actually the Son of God. That event changed the world and I pray that it has also changed all of us here at Our Lady Queen of Peace. We also need to put that event in perspective for ourselves. If we truly believe that the Son of God came to us at Bethlehem...and if we truly believe that He came to open the gates of Heaven for us...and if we truly believe that He lives in our heart and our very soul... then we need to act upon those facts! Let us not relegate that monumental event to just a yearly celebration but let us put that event in the very center of our lives. Let us carry the Christmas spirit in our hearts and in our lives all year long. May the blessings of the Child of Bethlehem be with all of you today and throughout the coming year of grace.

**Fr. Tom**

### Rhine River Cruise

8-day Cruise (Amsterdam to Basel) plus optional Post 4-day stay at The Italian Lakes. Cruise Dates June 17-24, 2025 (fly out June 16, 2025) Post Stay June 24-27 - return home June 27th. Cruise & Airfare - from \$3898 per person based on double occupancy. Cruise + Italian Lakes + Airfare - from \$4922 per person based on double occupancy. Transportation costs, meals included. Questions, **Amy Frisch 618-444-7715** or **Jack Baumann, Guidester, 314-503-7979** Email: [jack@guidester.com](mailto:jack@guidester.com) (Tell him you're with OLQP)

### Google Calendar

The church and school beginning a shared Google Calendar for reserving church & school properties including the pavilion for events/and or meetings. This will allow parishioners and school families to see what is available to reserve before picking a date. You will still need to call the church or school office to officially reserve and get it added to the calendar. More info to come!

### Upcoming Parish Office Hours

**Week of 12/25-12/29:** Closed Mon., Tues., Thurs. Fri.  
Open Wed., 8:30-4:00  
**Week of 1/1-1/5:** Closed Mon., Open Tues-Thurs.

### Mom's Club

This is the last week to visit Christmas Wonderland at Rock Springs Park in Alton and vote for OLQP's Christmas tree. It is free to enter and see the lights. They do however, ask for a donation to keep the lights going which is collected at the exit. OLQP's tree is tree # 4. You will be given a ballot to vote at the entry and then it is collected at the exit.



December 24, 2023

## Liturgical Roles

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### 4:30 pm

Lector  
E. Ministers  
Ushers

### December 24

OLQP Students  
Judy Osborne, Bea Albarado  
Stacy Dooling, Dee Oller  
Fran & Bob Eagan  
Levi Woodiel, Ellie Waldo  
Praise Team

Servers  
Music

### 9:00 pm

Lector  
E. Ministers  
Ushers  
Servers  
Music

### December 24

Tom Huebener  
Dee Oller, Lee Gonterman  
**Need 4 Volunteers**  
**Need Adult Volunteers**  
Craig/Cantors

### 9:00 am

Lector  
E. Ministers  
Ushers

### December 25

Paula Mattix-Wand  
Dorothy Visser, Brenda Zacha  
John & Danny Stutz  
Paul & Cindy Stutz  
**Need Adult Volunteers**  
Folk Group

Servers  
Music

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### 4:30 pm

Rosary  
Lector  
E. Ministers  
Ushers

### December 30

Tim Zacha  
Tim Zacha  
Joe Gulash, Mary Gulash  
Rich & Sue Hayes  
Dee Zakrzewski, Sandy Wilson  
**Need Adult Volunteers**  
Barb/Kathy/Tami

Servers  
Music

### 8:30 am

Rosary  
Lector  
E. Ministers  
Ushers

### December 31

Marie DeClue  
Carol Beste  
Mike Early, Marcella Stein  
Bob & Fran Eagan  
Jim & Judy Griffith  
Abram Diericx, Ryder Williams  
Barb/Kris/Becky

Servers  
Music

### 10:30 am

Lector  
E. Ministers  
Ushers

### December 31

Teri Fulk  
Sonya Hagaman, Kateri Dance  
Ron & Renee Harshbarger  
Brad & Brenda Goodman  
Manny Calixto, Ellie Waldo  
Praise Team

Servers  
Music

## Charismatic Prayer Group

Next meeting: **January 9, 2024, 6:30 pm, Church.**  
Everyone welcome!

## Are you or is someone you know facing an unplanned pregnancy?

Thrive Metro East can help! They have a team of medical staff and advocates that can walk with you step by step. Their services are no cost and kept confidential. No insurance needed. Call 618-466-1690 or text: **FREETEST4U** to (618) 280-2040.

## Soul Core

Spiritual and physical exercise, **Wednesdays, at 7 pm**, Enrichment Room. (Visit [soulcore.com](http://soulcore.com) for information or Kim Brunstein 618-980-0492.) Bring a workout mat. (Note: We will not have class on December 27th.)

## Gospel Meditation

### 4th Sunday of Advent

Life is troubling. Who among us has not struggled with anxiety and difficulties, sometimes massive ones? I certainly have, as have many of my loved ones. If we do, does this mean that we don't trust the Lord or just need to toughen up?



I don't think so. How encouraging for us anxious and troubled souls to hear Luke describe the Blessed Mother Mary in these words, **"But she was greatly troubled at what was said."** An archangel has visited her. An inconceivable promise has been made to her. Her life has become wildly unpredictable, perhaps more so than any person before or since. The first point for us: the Lord is with her *precisely when she is troubled*. Her anxiousness and God's presence are not mutually exclusive. Christianity is not about a trance-like robotic indifference. It's about the presence of divine love. Even in — especially in — troubled circumstances.

Our troubled soul can become our greatest treasure. What seems so troubling at first to Mary becomes the best possible thing, Jesus, the Savior and Lord, is now her son. All the difficulties and troubles remain, and yet her movement into the fullness of God is accelerated. What is troubling you right now? This scripture invites us now, this week, to hear the Lord's messenger say to us what he said to Mary, **"Do not be afraid! You have found favor with God."**

— Father John Muir ©LPI

## A Prayer to Be Open to God's Will

Good and gracious God,  
I know that life can be unpredictable.  
Sometimes I know what is good and right,  
but I don't have the courage to do it.  
Sometimes I am so busy with my own affairs,  
I forget to see the needs of people in front of me.  
Sometimes I am set in my own ways,  
and I resist growing and learning.  
Help me, Lord, to be open to Your will.  
When You prompt me to do the right thing,  
give me the courage to do it.  
When those around me need my help,  
give me Your heart to love them.  
When I'm stuck in my own ways,  
give me the grace to grow closer to You every day.  
Give me the trust and confidence of Mary.  
Let it be done unto me according to Your word!  
Amen.

## CHRISTMAS

