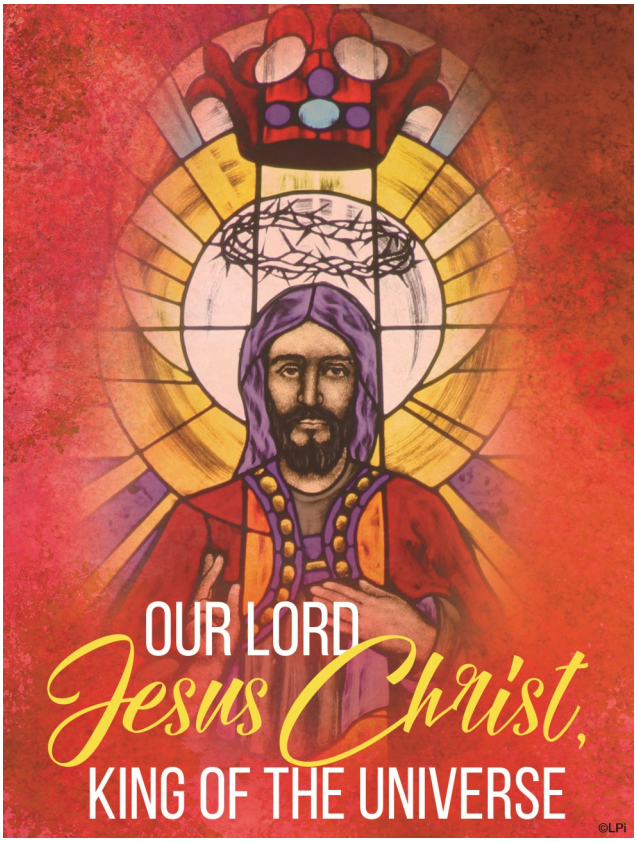
Our Lady Mother of the Church

209 Woodcliff Avenue ~ Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677
Phone Number: 201.391.2826
www.motherofthechurch.org

Our Mission

To be a Parish Community where the Signs of Faith are given so that, seeing them, all can be led to Eternal Life.





Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe ~ November 22, 2026

Parish Directory

Barbara Ciannella
Director of Music
Music@motherofthechurch.org

Raquel Condon
Director of Religious Education
(201) 391-7400
FaithFormation@motherofthechurch.org

Inga Nelson
Volunteer Receptionist
(Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday)
Inga@motherofthechurch.org

Maria Garcia
Volunteer Receptionist
(Thursday)
Office@motherofthechurch.org

Fr. Jason Mantich
Pastor
Ext. 201
Pastor@motherofthechurch.org

Fr. Michael Oasheim
Parochial Vicar
Ext. 201
Vicar@motherofthechurch.org

Parish Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Closed Friday

Parish Pastoral Council:
PastoralCouncil@motherofthechurch.org

Weekdays
Monday-Friday 8:30 am

Weekends
Saturday 5:30 pm,
8:00 pm (Neocatechumenal Way Eucharist)
Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am

Holy Days
See bulletin for schedule of Masses

Reconciliation
Saturday
(Sign up using link on parish website)
12:30 pm to 2:00 pm (Opus Dei Priest)
and
4:30 pm to 5:00 pm (OLMC Parish Priest)
(No sign up required. First come, first served.)

From Fr. Jason



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This week, on Wednesday, November 25, the Church places before us the memorial of St. Catherine of Alexandria. I have visited the Greek Orthodox monastery on Mount Sinai where her holy relics are enshrined! (Just FYI, it is the oldest continuously inhabited Christian monastery, with a history that can be traced back over seventeen centuries. The monastery predates the divisions of the Christian world, has never been destroyed, and has preserved intact the distinctive qualities of its Greek and Roman heritage. Members of other Christian confessions have honored the monastery, coming as pilgrims. From its beginnings, the Christian inhabitants of Sinai belonged to the Greek speaking world, and it has remained so to this day.) St. Catherine's story is ancient and, in many details, legendary - yet the Church has never ceased to hold her up as a living word for us. A young woman of Alexandria, formed in the wisdom of this world, she encountered Christ. That encounter changed everything. She could no longer remain silent. She stood before the powerful of her day, debated the philosophers, and bore witness until sentenced to death on a spiked breaking wheel, which shattered, according to tradition. She was subsequently beheaded on the emperor's orders, sealing her confession with her blood.

What does the Spirit want to say to us through her? Catherine did not begin with a program or a theory. She began with a personal meeting with the Lord. In the language of the early Church, this is the kerygma: the living proclamation that Jesus Christ is risen, that He loves us, that He has taken upon Himself our death and given us His life. Once that Word enters a heart, nothing remains the same. The old securities, the prestige of learning, the favor of the emperor, even the fear of suffering - all are relativized. Catherine's wisdom was no longer her own; it became the wisdom of the Cross.

Notice how the Lord used her. She did not withdraw into private devotion. She spoke. She confronted. She converted others - first the philosophers sent to refute her, then those who visited her in prison. The Word that had seized her became a word that seized others. This is the dynamic of every authentic Christian community: the Gospel is announced, a person is converted, and that person becomes a bearer of the same announcement. Faith is never a solitary possession. It is always lived and transmitted in a people.

We, too, are invited to the same journey. Many of us were baptized long ago, yet the full power of that baptism still needs to be rediscovered. The memorial of St. Catherine reminds us that the Christian life is not a set of ideas to be mastered, but a living relationship with the crucified and risen Lord that gradually reshapes our entire existence. It questions our concrete life and, little by little, we are led out of isolation into fraternity, out of fear into trust, out of self-reliance into dependence on the love of God revealed in Christ.

Catherine's martyrdom also teaches us something essential about the Cross. The instrument meant to destroy her became the place of her victory. The wheel broke. In the same way, the trials that come into our families, our work, and our community are not obstacles to faith, they are the very places where the Lord wishes to manifest His power. When we accept to walk together, supporting one another, the Cross ceases to be a burden we carry alone and becomes the place of communion.

As we approach the end of the liturgical year, let us ask St. Catherine to intercede for us. May the wisdom that comes from above - not the wisdom of this world - guide our steps as we continue the journey. St. Catherine of Alexandria, virgin and martyr, pray for us.

Peace,



NOVEMBER IS THE MONTH OF THE ALL SOULS

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	**November 21**
	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
5:30 pm	Ken Kubicki
Sunday	**November 22**
	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
8:30 am	People of the Parish
10:30 am	Anthony D'Jamoos
Monday	**November 23**
	St. Clement I, Pope & Martyr; St. Columban, Abbot; Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest & Martyr
8:30 am	Mary Rizzo & Lucille Lotito
Tuesday	**November 24**
	St. Andrew Dũng-Lac, Priest, & Companions, Martyrs
8:30 am	Jeremiah Mullins
Wednesday	**November 25**
	St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr
8:30 am	George & Peter Lutz
Thursday	**November 26**
	Thanksgiving Day
8:30 am	Patrick Randazzo
Friday	**November 27**
8:30 am	Madelyn Sella
Saturday	**November 28**
5:30 pm	Mary Tarabocchia
Sunday	**November 29**
	First Sunday of Advent
8:30 am	Jenny Linda Martelle
10:30 am	People of the Parish

Stewardship of Treasure
My Parish, My Family, My Responsibility

"…whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers, you did for me."

-Matthew 25:40

Most of us are generous when it's convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money. But, real generosity is the opposite of that. It means giving of one's time, money, compassion, forgiveness, or mercy when it's not convenient to us, when it's not on our schedule, but on the other person's timeline.

Receipts from Last Week……..$5,458.00
Parish Assessment…..……..…$1,474.00

For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven."

-Qoh 3:11

"A time to be healed."

Parish sick list: *Marie Barrett, Dino Caparoso, Rev. Bob Connor, Mary Cummings, JoAnn Dell'Aquila, Arlene Desposito, Ethel Dubrowski, Ed Evans, Trevor Giesberg, Ann Goodwin, Kathy Hedley, Pablo Ibarrola, Joachim Jung, Vivienne Knopp, Ivy LaRegina, Genna Lepore, Julia Geraghty, Robert Libonati, Jessica Livingstone, John Mandile, Joyce Merlino, John Mullins, Carol Myack, James Ranazzo, Danielle Rendon, Gail Roberts, Carol Schmidt, Jean Sember, Bro. Kevin Smith, John Vallely, Eric Vanderleif, Bryce Werner*

"A time to mourn."

"A time for war and a time for peace."

Tyler Aiello, Ryan Brady, Lcpl. Joseph Ryan, Seamus Ryan

Amen.

Electronic donations? Please scan the QR code to use our 'Parish Giving' service.



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn before the Blessed Sacrament for the month of November in memory of

Robert Hartmann & Joseph Fitzpatrick

Requested by Rita Hartmann



Christmas at 'The Park'

The Town of Woodcliff Lake has asked Our Lady Mother of the Church and Christ Lutheran Church to jointly sponsor and host their annual Christmas Tree Lighting event at Woodcliff Park. **It will be Thursday, December 3rd at 5 PM.** Save the date and tell all your acquaintances! **Let's have the whole parish, even those that don't participate in anything, come together and fill the park with Christmas Joy.**

Bethlehem Handicrafts

From the birthplace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Christian community is seeking your love and support through obtaining their handmade olivewood religious articles. **These items will be displayed at the church after all masses this weekend**. Your help can and will make a difference in the lives of your brothers and sisters in Bethlehem.

CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE

(Parish run event)

All profits benefit OLMC

All wreaths sold after 11/28 and 11/29 masses

$35 Speciality Wreaths
$30 Nursery Decorated Wreaths



Set up for Christmas

Your help is needed to decorate the church!

On **Sunday, December 6th, at 1 PM**, it will be all hands on deck! We will meet to set up the outside and inside decorations for Christmas! This will involve some lifting to put the 'wise men' into position and arranging the outdoor nativity scene. If indoor decorations are more your speed, no problem! Come enjoy working with your brothers and sisters setting the Christmas trees, wreaths, and indoor crèche. All are welcome to help. Come and see where you can get involved!

Our Lady Mother of the Church
invites you to
Bambinelli Sunday 2026

Saturday, December 12, 2026
5:30 PM
Sunday, December 13, 2026
8:30 AM + 10:30 AM



In the tradition established by Pope John Paul II, we invite you to bring your Baby Jesus from your manger to one of the Masses shown above for a special Bambinelli Sunday blessing.

What to do:
Simply bring your Baby Jesus to Mass.



Our Lady Mother of the Church
209 Woodcliff Avenue
Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677



Meditation:

But there is time, so that I the Lord will fulfill all your wishes. I delight in you as in a living host; let nothing terrify you; I am with you (Diary, 923).

My daughter, too great are your demands. "Jesus, You know that for You it is easier to grant much rather than a little." **That is so, it is less difficult for Me to grant a soul much rather than a little, but every conversion of a sinful soul demands sacrifice. … My dear daughter, I comply with your request** (Diary, 961).

My Prayer Response:

Lord Jesus, may I learn to pray like St. Faustina who made demands of You that are **too great** (Diary, 961). St. Faustina asked that You grant the grace of conversion to as many souls as the number of stitches that she made on a particular day with the crochet hook. She said that it is all she could do under holy obedience in her sickness: simple stitching. And the Lord complied with her request!

**The words of Jesus appear in boldface type*

Share Divine Mercy Daily with your friends and family:
TheDivineMercy.org/dmdsignup

Kid's Corner



1. When is the Solemnity of Christ the King celebrated?

2. Is Christ the King Sunday a Feast Day or Solemnity?

3. Who initiated the feast of Christ the King?

4. Who moved the feast of Christ the King and raised its rank?

5. Which Sunday follows the Solemnity of Christ the King?

Answers:
1. The Last Sunday of the Liturgical Year. 2. Solemnity. 3. Pope Pius XI. 4. Pope Paul VI. 5. The 1st Sunday of Advent.

November is the Month of All Souls

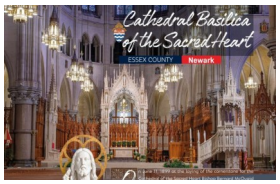


Christmas Giving Tree and 'Waterfront' Collection

We are sponsoring a Giving Tree for Mercy House this season, serving the needs of the community in the Archdiocese of Newark. We will also do a gift card collection next month for the residents of the 'Waterfront,' next door to us on Broadway. **We need helpers!** If you would like to help with the delivery or support after Masses, we need you! Please contact Pat Keenaghan, patkeenaghan@yahoo.com or call 201.403.4897.

The Giving Tree will be ready with tags to make wishes come true after Masses this weekend. Tags will have gift suggestions. Gifts will be due back by Nov. 30. Please put the **unwrapped** gifts in the bin in the lobby.

The Waterfront Collection: The residents are always so grateful for your kind and generous gift cards. Tags will be available after Masses on Dec. 5-6 and Dec. 12-13. Gift cards will be due back by Dec. 20. Please put the gift cards in the basket in the lobby. Thank you for your generosity!



175th Anniversary Book

In 2028, the Archdiocese of Newark will celebrate its 175th anniversary. To document this rich history, the diocese has prepared a 620 page, full color, high quality, glossy paper, history book featuring the parishes, universities, schools, and other institutions that make up the extraordinary fabric of the Archdiocese of Newark. *Treasures of the Archdiocese of Newark*, the title of the book, was created in collaboration with professional writers who have produced a narrative history of the archdiocese. They also worked with an architectural photographer, Serge Detalle, who has spent many months photographing parishes and institutions. This creation is truly a gem! For children and youth, they also created *The Illustrated History of the Archdiocese of Newark*, a full color, high quality, illustrated book of 35 pages. Both books will be available for delivery during Easter 2027.

We need to know how many copies you want by November 30, 2026! They are $39.00 and $16.00, respectively. Scan the QR code to reserve your copies and for links to preview the books!

Deceitful are the ephemeral pleasures and joys of this world. Our supreme comfort in this life, is to die to the world that we may live with Jesus crucified.

-Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro



A Little Humor…

A priest is walking downtown in a big city and after a few blocks, he gets lost. He decides to ask a few people passing by, "Excuse me, how do I get to the town hall?" The people show him the way. They then ask him why he was going there. "To give a lecture," he answers. "On what," they ask. "On how to get to heaven," he answers. "Do you want to come?" "Father," they say. "In all due respect, you can't even find the town hall!"

St. John's Soup Kitchen Needs Your Help!

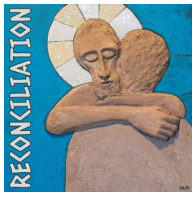
OLMC will serve at St. John's Soup Kitchen **Saturday, December 5**. We will need casserole makers and bakers to prepare the food at home and drop off at the OLMC kitchen by **9 am, Thursday, December 3**. If interested in serving, we will carpool from the church leaving at 8:30 am and returning around 1:30 pm. Please contact Pat Keenaghan if you can help. Pans for the lasagnas will be provided in the OLMC kitchen this weekend with the recipe. Recipes for Spinach-Beef Lasagna and Tollhouse Chocolate Chip Cookies will also be emailed to you. Please e-mail patkeenaghan@yahoo.com if you can help bake, make casseroles, serve, or have any questions. Thank you for your help and generosity!

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13: 34-35.

Let others seek gold and other earthly treasures. I already possess the immortal treasure of holy poverty on the Cross of Jesus crucified.

-Bl. Miguel Agustin Pro





Advent Penance Service

We will join with parishes in our deanery for an Advent Penance Celebration. It will take place at:

St. Andrew Roman Catholic Church
120 Washington Ave.
Westwood, NJ 07675
Monday, Dec 14th starting at 7 PM.

Take the opportunity to make a good confession this Advent season! Never give up!



Safe Environment Corner

The Department for the Protection of the Faithful has designated masses celebrated on **Nov. 14-15, 2026,** as ***Protect & Prevent Sunday*** to recognize those who have completed sexual abuse prevention training in solidarity with the United Nations World Day for the Prevention of and Healing from Child Exploitation, Abuse and Violence.

If you would like more information about this training, please contact your pastor or local safe environment coordinator.

Anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct is asked to inform us so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and to provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Call the Coordinator for the Office of Accompaniment in the Archdiocesan Department for the Protection of the Faithful at 201-407-3256.

Heritage Fund

The Our Lady Mother of the Church Heritage Fund is a ***restricted fund*** created to complete projects and improvements in the parish. It is ***restricted***, meaning that all donations will remain in the parish and cannot be used for any other purpose except for the named project donated to. Proposed projects are named below and as they are completed, it will be communicated here.

Proposed Project	Estimated Cost
Church Shingled Roof	$150,000.00

Current Funding: $78,957.19.
If you would like to donate to this project, please make checks payable to 'Our Lady Mother of the Church' with 'Heritage Fund - New Church Roof' in the memo line. Thank you for your support! May God give you 100-fold! Remember, He is never outdone in generosity!

Update 7/12/26: You might have noticed that the shingled roof replacement has been finished! See above to learn how to support this project!



Respect Life Corner

"Having received the gift of the Gospel of Life, we are the people of life and a people for life. It is our duty to proclaim the Gospel of Life to the world. To proclaim Jesus is to proclaim life itself. Gratitude and joy at the incomparable dignity of the human person impel us to bring the Gospel of life to the hearts of all people and make it penetrate every part of society."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
"The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary"