



## *Our Lady of the Snow*

*175 Blue Point Avenue  
Blue Point, New York 11715  
Telephone: 631-363-6385*

*February 21, 2021 First Sunday of Lent*



# LENT

*— 40 Days Of Renewal —*

### **DAILY MASSES:**

Monday - Friday 8:30 AM  
in Mother Church

### **WEEKEND MASSES:**

Saturday 5:00 PM in Large Church  
Sunday 7:30 AM in Large Church  
9:00 AM and 11:00 AM in Large Church

### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

Saturday 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM  
in Large Church

### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:**

Monday 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
in Mother Church

### **ROSARY:**

Feb 25, 4:45 pm  
Mother Church

**Rev. Kevin M. Smith, Pastor**

*ksmith@olsbp.com*

**Rev. Joseph Gaspar**

*jgaspar@olsbp.com*

**Deacon Edward Karan**

*ekaran@olsbp.com*

**Deacon Bob Gronenthal**

*rgronenthal@olsbp.com*

*Meet our Staff*

**Office of Faith Formation:**

**Mrs. Loren Christie, ARE**

*lchristie@olsbp.com*

Monday - Thursday

9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**(631) 363-6394**

**Director of Music:**

Mrs. Theresa Martin

**Parish Outreach:**

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

*outreach@olsbp.com*

Monday - Thursday in the cottage

**Mrs. Diana Mongan, Director**

*dmongan@olsbp.com*

**Mrs. Patricia Fulco, Assistant**

*pfulco@olsbp.com*

**(631) 363-2417**

**Ms. Loraine Drake,**

Office Manager., ext. 111

*ldrake@olsbp.com*

**Parish Office: (631) 363-6385**

**Fax: (631) 363-7394**

*rectory@olsbp.com*

Hours: Mon. - Thur. 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Catholic Marriage for couples  
married outside the Church:**

*If you have a civil marriage but now desire a Catholic sacramental marriage, call the Rectory for more information about a Convalidation. Convalidation is having a couple's marriage recognized and blessed by the Church through the Catholic Rite of Marriage.*

**Marriage:**

*Arrangements must be made at least six to twelve months in advance. It is advisable to call the church prior to arranging the reception.*

**Rite of Christian Initiation (R.C.I.A.):**

*Persons interested in becoming Catholic and adults who have not received Confirmation or First Eucharist, please contact the rectory office.*

**Communion for the Homebound:**

*To make arrangements to have Communion brought to the home, please call the parish office at 363-6385, ext. 110. For emergency sick calls, please call the parish at any time.*

**Baptisms:**

*Call the rectory office to schedule a Baptism*



**Remember  
in  
Prayer**

*Major Meghan Ederle*

*Major Kyle Brown*

*Major Robert Gervasio*

*Capt. Evan Bernstein*

*Lt. Sean Brown*

*LTJG Shannon Wojciechowski*

*LTJG Douglas Wojciechowski*

*LTJG Thomas Adair*

*DO, CPT, MC Kate Desmond-Baker*

*TSgt. Mark C. Erickson*

*SMSGT Harold L. Erickson*

*E3/ACAN Connor Rooney USN*

*Sgt. Samuel Campanella*

*Lt. Robert Fleming*

*Lt. Ross Oley*

**Pray for Our Sick**

*We pray for all who are sick, for their healing in both body and spirit....*

**In Sympathy**

*For all who have died this past week, that they rejoice in the heavenly banquet...*

**Carol Chance, Vincent Troiano  
Filippo Gallupi & Michael Humenik**



*Altar Bread and Wine  
In Memory of  
John Delaney*

*Sanctuary Candle in Mother Church  
In Memory of John Delaney*

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT:  
\$ 8142**

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**

During the Covid 19 crisis our food pantry has remained open to assist those in need in our community.

**We are in most need of:**

- Tea
- Mayonnaise
- Laundry detergent
- Cleaning supplies
- Dog food



All donations may be left outside the pantry doors in the large church before mass at the weekends, or during the week outside the doors of the

***Large Church  
Monday – Thursday  
10am-1pm.***

If you are shopping in the Blue Point King Kullen there is also a box to the left of the exit doors for donations.

We are most grateful to the volunteers, the parishioners and the local community who have assisted our efforts to serve those in need during these difficult times.

**MASST  
INTENTIONS**

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Feb 21,</b>
7:30 AM	Vicky Matos †
9:00 AM	Parishioners
11:00 AM	Sheila Fitzgerald †
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Feb 22,</b>
8:30 AM	Carol Campanella †
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Feb 23,</b>
8:30 AM	Barbara Lofaro †
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Feb 24,</b>
8:30 AM	Mark Charvat †
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Feb 25,</b>
8:30 AM	John Delaney †
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Feb 26,</b>
8:30 AM	Robert O'Brian †
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Feb 27,</b>
5:00 PM	Mark Charvat † John Delaney 2nd Anniversary
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Feb 28,</b>
7:30 AM	Parishioners
9:00 AM	Meghan Palace †
11:00 AM	Sheila Fitzgerald †

**Long Island Retrouvaille Marriage Help**

This program is for couples with marital problems that want marriage help. Those who are considering marriage separation and those who are already separated or divorced are encouraged to consider the Retrouvaille Program. There is always hope of reviving your relationship. The Retrouvaille program is for husbands and wives and is not designed nor intended for couples in a co-habituating relationship. For more information about local upcoming weekend retreats, email [3028@retrouvaille.org](mailto:3028@retrouvaille.org)

## **Bulletin Reflection by Michael Dawidziak**

So, what are you giving up for Lent? Chocolate, alcohol, television? While the question might have been much more common years ago, you can still hear it asked by and of observant Christians today. Last year I gave up alcohol for Lent; a decision I might have rethought if I knew beforehand that sheltering in place due to Covid19 was going to become a real thing. What exactly is Lent and why do we give things up during it? The United States Conference of *Catholic Bishops* defines Lent as “a 40 day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving”. That tells us what we should do during Lent but it doesn’t tell us why.

Lent is often described as a journey into the wilderness with Jesus as recounted in today’s gospel reading from Mark. But those whose Lenten focus is only on making personal sacrifices are missing the larger point. Lent isn’t about what we give up. It’s about who we become. Lent is a time for preparation and transformation for us, just as the forty days in the wilderness were for Jesus. Prayer and fasting are exercises that strengthen us spiritually. If we were to decide to accomplish something extremely challenging, like run a marathon or climb a mountain, we wouldn’t think of attempting it without first strengthening our bodies through physical exercise. The most challenging thing we will ever attempt to do in this life is to follow Jesus Christ and we shouldn’t think of attempting that without strengthening ourselves spiritually.

We picture Jesus being alone in the wilderness but that’s not true. Immediately before today’s gospel, we read of Jesus’ baptism in the River Jordan by John where the Holy Spirit descended upon Him and God the Father’s voice from Heaven said, “You are my son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you”. Now, we read that “Immediately afterwards, the Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert”. Jesus is not alone in this time of preparation before beginning His earthly mission. The Father and the Holy Spirit are with Him. Jesus is completely reliant on God in this experience. Moreover, pleasing His Father and doing His will becomes His sole sustenance. In Matthew’s version of these forty days, Jesus will tell Satan that, “Man does not live by bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). In John’s gospel, when His disciples urge Him to eat something, Jesus tells them, “I have food to eat that you do not know about”. When, typically, they don’t understand His meaning, He says, “My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work” (John 4:31-34)

At the heart of all of today’s readings is the word covenant. Legally, a covenant is an agreement between two parties, usually one where each provides the other with some goods, services or compensation of equitable value. When God establishes a covenant with people, it’s never going to be equal. God is always going to bring so much more to the table. In our first reading from Genesis, God establishes a covenant with Noah and through him all his descendants and all living creatures. Notice that God makes a promise here but asks for nothing in return. Jesus came to establish the new and eternal covenant in His blood. Saint Peter tells us in our second reading that “Christ suffered for sins once, the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous, that he might lead you to God.” The covenant with Noah was a second chance for God’s old creation. The new eternal covenant established by Jesus’ death and resurrection makes us a new creation. This is God’s kind of covenant and it’s amazing because it’s grace. It’s not really an agreement, it’s a promise...the promise of the unmerited gift of salvation for sinners.

Lent is the time we prepare to commemorate the key events upon which the new covenant was established: Jesus’ death and resurrection. Our motivation for fasting and praying should be to attain a closer personal relationship with God. To be a follower of Jesus means that we should strive to be like Him. Lent is also a time when we strengthen ourselves spiritually to take up our cross and follow Him. We need to remember that like Jesus, we are not alone on our journey. Jesus gives us a model in today’s Gospel on how we can have that closer walk with God. Quiet alone time with Him is required. Being willing to give up the pleasures of this world so we can focus solely on God is required. Fasting, abstinence and self-denial is a way of saying to God, “I trust you and will rely on you completely. You are all I need in life”. Lent isn’t about having less. It’s about having more...so much more!



# BLOOD DRIVE

**Our Lady of the Snow RC Church**

**Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

**10:30am-7:30pm**

**Basement, Mother Church**

**175 Blue Point Ave. Blue Point, NY 11715**

**Appointment Preferred**

**Walk-ins allowed if capacity permits**

**For more information or to schedule an appointment contact Parish Outreach  
- 631-363-2417**

**Or Call 1.800.933.2566 or go to:**

[https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/288524](https://donate.nybc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/288524)

**Or scan QR code below with your phone and enter zip code-11715**



**DONORS PRESENTING:**

- Must wear a mask or face covering
- Will have their temperature taken
- Must be 14 days symptom free if recovered from COVID-19
- May **NOT** donate if they have a positive diagnostic test or experienced symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 14 days
- May **NOT** donate if they are currently on self-quarantine restrictions

*Please be aware that we do NOT test for COVID-19. You should contact your health care provider if you want to be tested.*



#nybloodcenter

nybc.org

1.800.933.BLOOD

**New York Blood Center**

**OUR LADY OF THE SNOW FAITH FORMATION OFFICE**  
175 Blue Point Avenue  
Blue Point, NY 11715  
631-363-6394/[lchristie@olsbp.com](mailto:lchristie@olsbp.com)

**Level 2 and Level 9 Parents:**

We are eager to offer the Sacraments of First Eucharist, First Reconciliation and Confirmation to your children, and we are in the process of planning and scheduling them. You will be notified by letter in March. Thank you for your response to our surveys.

**Also regarding Level 9:** Please fill out and submit the Confirmation Information Form located in the Classwork Page of your Level 9 Google Classroom. Please download and print the Testimony of Sponsor form, and ask your child's sponsor to sign and return it either by email or mail. The need to bring it to a parish for a witness to the signature has been waived. Addresses are listed above.

**What's Featured in February in the Google Classrooms?**

In Google Classrooms this month students are learning about the Rosary, the Mass, The Holy Trinity, Sacraments, Marks of the Church, the character trait of humility, and the Feast of the

Lord in the Temple. They are studying February saints such as St. Paul Miki. Middle school level students are examining the Catholic Social Teachings of Solidarity and caring for the poor & vulnerable. Confirmation students are focusing on the Fruits of the Holy Spirit.

**Bible Pick-Up for Levels 1-6**

In October parents in Levels 1-6 picked up their children's Bibles that will be used during class, and for virtual assignments, during all nine years of Faith Formation. Students in Levels 7-9 are using their Breakthrough Bibles that were distributed in Level 6. If you haven't picked up a Bible yet, please call the Faith Formation Office to make an appointment.

**Google Classroom Progress**

Students are completing assignments through the end of our religious education cycle in March. All classwork is asynchronous, meaning none of it is "live" and the assignments can be accessed by registered families at any time. Catechists have rosters and are on standby in the event that we can return to on-site classes. Meanwhile, in level-specific Google Classrooms, students can work at a pace that is comfortable for them. If you registered your child for 2020-2021 Faith Formation classes, you received information in the mail about signing up for Google Classroom and the Remind App. Please email or call Loren in the Faith Formation Office with any questions.

**When is Virtual Work Due?**

We are beginning our fifth month of virtual learning. February assignments in the Google Classrooms for all nine levels are due the last day of January. Assignments for this year's program will be posted through March of 2021 in all nine levels. Students turn in work through their level-specific Google Classrooms. For those making up work, all the Google Classrooms will be archived on June 30th, and the Google Classroom will be closed until next fall at that point as it is being updated.

**Can Parishioners Without Children in the Program See What Students Are Learning?**

Yes! While access to level-specific Google Classrooms is for registrants only, parishioners can see some of what students are learning by visiting [olsvc.blogspot.com](http://olsvc.blogspot.com).



## Great News - Worldwide Marriage Encounter has gone "Virtual"!

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring virtual marriage experiences. Some are on weekends and some span multiple weeks on a given weekday. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call John & Toni Torio at 718-344-3700 or visit them at <https://wwmenyli.org/>.

As we journey during this Lenten Season, let us take time to reflect on our marriage. What can we do to make our marriage even better? Learn how on an upcoming virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on May 3-24, 2021 in VIRTUAL 3RE, NY and Feb 22-Mar 15, 2021 in VIRTUAL 3RE, NY