



Our Lady of the Snow

*175 Blue Point Avenue
Blue Point, New York 11715*

Telephone: 631-363-6385

Rev. Kevin M. Smith, Pastor

*January 23, 2023 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs*



*"Blessed are the
poor in spirit,
for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven."*

Matthew 5:3

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

**First Friday Adoration 4-7
Feb 3rd**

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:

Jan 30, 4:45 pm
Mother Church

Rev. Kevin M. Smith, Pastor

ksmith@olsbp.com

Rev. Joseph Gaspar

jgaspar@olsbp.com

Deacon Edward Karan

Pastoral Associate

ekaran@olsbp.com

Office of Faith Formation:

Mrs. Loren Christie, DRE

lchristie@olsbp.com

Monday - Thursday

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

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

Ms. Loraine Drake,

Office Manager., ext. 111

ldrake@olsbp.com

Parish Office: (631) 363-6385

Fax: (631) 363-2416

rectory@olsbp.com

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

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

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...

Thomas Murphy

Catholic Marriage for couples married outside the Church:

If you have a civil marriage but now desire a Catholic sacramental marriage, call the Parish Office for more information about a Convalidation.

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 Parish 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 or check our website.

God Bless our Troops Please keep them in your prayers

Lt. Col. Meghan Ederle

Major Kyle Brown

Major Robert Gervasio

Capt. Evan Bernstein

Capt. Robert Fleming

Lt. Sean Brown

Lt. Ross Oley

LT Shannon Wojciechowski

LT Douglas Wojciechowski

LT Thomas Adair

DO, CPT, MC Kate Desmond-Baker

TSgt. Mark C. Erickson

SMSgt Harold L. Erickson

E3/ACAN Connor Rooney USN

Sgt. Samuel Campanella

Ens. Scott Brown

Pvt. 1st Class Zachary Giglio

If you are an envelope user and want a report of your church donations. Please call the office during business hours. We will get that right out to you.



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

1 in 10 people on Long Island are suffering from food insecurity. Thank you for helping your neighbors in need in our Community.

Our current food pantry needs are:

Ketchup
 Mayonnaise
 Salmon
 Shampoo/Conditioner
 Deodorant
 Cleaning supplies
 Paper towels
 Toilet paper
 Laundry detergent
 Cat food
 Size 5&6 diapers



FEED THE HUNGRY

Please check expiration dates before donating

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 during our hours, Monday—Thursday 10am—1pm

There is also a collection box at the Blue Point King Kullen to the left of the exit doors. Thank you!!!

**FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT:
 \$ 7849**



*Altar Bread and Wine
 In Memory of Teresa Calderone*

*Sanctuary Candle in Mother Church
 In Memory of Joseph Boetter*



Mass Intentions

Saturday	Jan 28,
5:00 PM	Joseph Voetter † Teresa Calderone † Virginia F. Dunn † Raymond Woolley †
Sunday	Jan 29,
7:30 AM	Thomas Kenney †
9:00 AM	Parishioners of OLS
11:00 AM	Lou Consiglio †
Monday	Jan 30
8:30 AM	Gaspar Rogers †
Tuesday	Jan 31,
8:30 AM	Joseph Voetter †
Wednesday	Feb 1,
8:30 AM	Lou Consiglio †
Thursday	Feb 2,
8:30 AM	Luigi Nasato †
Friday	Feb 3,
8:30 AM	Mike Mueller †
Saturday	Feb 4,
5:00 PM	Joseph Voetter † Lou Consiglio † Teresa Calderone †
Sunday	Feb 5,
7:30 AM	Parishioners of OLS
9:00 AM	Capt. Paul X Rinn †
11:00 AM	Kathy Santiago †

Blessed

are the

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kingdom of heaven.

*poor in spirit poor in spirit poor in spirit
 poor in spirit poor in spirit poor in spirit*

Winter Walking With Moms in Need Project

Winter Baby Clothing Drive- We are continuing our efforts to support Moms in Need by collecting new and like-new winter baby clothing sizes newborn to 4T during the month of January. Please leave your donations in the bin underneath the Respect Life bulletin board, in the vestibule of the large church.

Thank you to all who donated money to the Baby Bottle Campaign for The Life Center of Long Island during the month of November.

News from the Office of Faith Formation

Onsite Classes- Classes will be held in the month of January during the week of January 9th and the week of January 23rd. See the schedule linked on our parish website for level- specific times/dates.

Level 9 Google Classroom- All Level 9 students must be signed into Level 9 Google Classroom to complete forms and projects, while also attending onsite class. Dates for First Communions and Confirmation are still not finalized. Parents of students receiving these Sacraments will be notified when dates are available.

Faith Formation Contact: The Faith Formation Office is located in the Large Church and can be accessed by pressing the Ring to the left of the front doors of the Large Church. The Office is open Monday through Thursday. The office is closed on Fridays. Please call ahead to make an appointment with FF Director, Loren Christie, before stopping by. Loren can be reached at 631-363-6385 x 130.

WHAT'S YOUR CATHOLIC IQ? A Self-Assessment for Your Fun and Enlightenment! (Permission granted by Page McKeon Zyrmoski and Catechist Magazine) This educational self-assessment is a fun way to help you see how much you know about your Catholic faith. Answers can be found on the bottom of this page.

- The traditional gesture that symbolizes the conferring of ministry is...**
 - genuflection before the altar;
 - kissing the bishop's ring;
 - the laying on of hands;
 - crossing oneself with holy water
- On or about his 75th birthday, a bishop is expected to...**
 - receive a bonus;
 - offer his resignation to the pope;
 - become a cardinal;
 - move to a new diocese
- Jesus said, "Do this in remembrance of me"...**
 - at the Last Supper;
 - on Mt. Calvary;
 - in the Beatitudes;
 - just before he ascended into heaven
- The saint who is called the patron of the universal Church is...**
 - Dominic Savio;
 - Joseph;
 - Christina the Astonishing;
 - Teresa of Avila
- The shout that greeted Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem before the Passover was..**
 - Hosanna!;
 - Crucify him!;
 - Alleluia!;
 - Glory Catholic



IQ Answers: 1. c; 2. b; 3. a; 4. b; 5. a

Gospel Reflection by Michael Dawidziak

Be blessed. Be happy. This is every wise parent's fondest wish for their child. We wish blessings and happiness on those we love. Many however foolishly desire wealth, fame and power, believing these to be great blessings. But they can never be the source of true happiness. In today's gospel, Jesus teaches how we are to be truly blessed and happy. As Matthew's narrative unfolds, we are at the very beginning of Jesus' public ministry. What is the good news (gospel)? It's that Jesus' birth, life, death and Resurrection will purchase for us the rewards of eternal life. So many people live their lives as if Jesus never lived His. It makes you wonder if such news isn't good enough for them. And it gets better. Jesus reconciled us to God the Father and enabled us to be children of God. Part of God's family! Good enough news yet? If we are indeed God's children, do we bear a family resemblance? Would people know we are children of God by observing us? In our gospel, Jesus tells us what marks we should bear if we are His brethren.

The beatitudes describe the characteristics of the family members of God. The English word beatitude comes from the Latin (*beatitudinem*) meaning a state of blessedness. The original Greek word from Matthew's text (*makarios*) means happy or blessed. That's why different translations of the Bible start a beatitude with "Happy are" and some with "Blessed are". They are a list of how we can be holy and happy. The list sounds strange to our modern day ears. Most of these blessings don't seem like things we would pray for. But Jesus' teaching was often radical and turned the accepted norms of His day upside down. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." What does it mean to be "poor in spirit"? Spiritual poverty is acknowledging our complete lack of resources to enter God's kingdom by our own merit. There could never be enough to buy our way in. We need to recognize our complete dependence on God's benevolence and Jesus' sacrifice.

"Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted." Happy are they who mourn? It seems like a contradiction in terms. This would have been the reverse of logic in Jesus' time. Everybody knew God blessed good people and afflicted sinners. But only those who have loved greatly can greatly mourn and to love deeply is a blessing. They shall be comforted but by whom? By God. "He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain". (Revelation 21:4) "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land." The Greek word for meek (*praeis*) is also translated as gentle, humble or lowly. In Jesus' time, meekness wasn't praiseworthy. Yet, Mary described herself as "lowly" and Elizabeth called her "most blessed". (Luke 1:42-48) What land will the meek inherit? Surely not this earthly world. They will inherit the "new heaven and the new earth" where "God lives among men". (Revelation 21:1-3).

"Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied." The word for righteousness is often translated as justice which seems to imply a desire for "what is right". The one source of what is just is the only "righteous dude" and that's God. So, thirsting for righteousness is really about desiring the one "who is right". Satisfied means "filled". Their satisfaction is being filled with the Holy Spirit. "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall be shown mercy." The first attributes God uses to describe Himself in the Bible are "a God merciful and gracious". (Exodus 34:6) Mercy by definition is undeserved and unearned. As an imitation of God, we are to extend unearned forgiveness just as God grants us unmerited mercy. "Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God." The idea of being ritualistically purified was essential to the Jews. But animal blood sacrifices could never wash away the stain of sin. Only the blood of Jesus could do that. The clean of heart are those who accept Jesus' purification and their reward is to be with God for all eternity.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Jesus' peace doesn't mean the absence of war. It's a peace that the world cannot give. (John 14:27) It is a complete trust in God that banishes all fear and worry. Spreading that peace makes us God's children. Jesus' last two beatitudes talk about our willingness to suffer persecution for the sake of righteousness (the One who is right) and because of His name. Jesus is telling us where our desires and priorities need to be. In our Old Testament reading from Zephaniah, God says that He "will leave a remnant in your midst, a people humble and lowly, who shall take refuge in the name of the Lord". That might be us today. In our epistle, Saint Paul tells the Corinthians, "Consider your own calling." "Not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful". The beatitudes probably sound alien to earthly ears precisely because they are. They speak of the promises of a heavenly kingdom, not an earthly one. The world may not desire what they offer but we know better. God is the wisest of parents. He wishes the greatest of blessings for His children. Be blessed. Don't worry. Be happy.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"You are the Salt of the earth. You are the light of the world." "A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden." "Your light must shine before others." Why not let your light shine by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. It can be the salt and light you need for your relationship. Experiences available are:

Mar 10-12, 2023 in Upton, MA
Jun 23-25, 2023 in Huntington, NY

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church. Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call Chuck & Maria Reiss at 631-486-8607 or <https://wwmenyli.org/>.

Are you looking to Memorialize a loved one and not sure how you want to do it?

-We still have Bricks available in front of the Mother Church for \$100 per brick.

-We still have several Stations of the Cross available for \$1000 per station.

-Please stop by the office or speak to Father Kevin about your thoughts.



Save the Date

Fat Tuesday!

February 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM
Mother Church Basement
Let us start our Lenten Journey Right!!!!
Food , Drink, Music and friends!!!

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

Saturday, February 4, 2023 @ 9:00 A.M. The Saint Lawrence Knights of Columbus will be hosting a defensive driving course at the **American Legion on Foster Ave, Sayville**. Save money on your insurance, remove points from your license. Good for three years. Class is \$45.00 in advance or \$50.00 at the door. Class limit is 40, registration is required. Please call 631-589-4839 or email drivingclass2458@gmail.com. Please make checks payable to: "St. Lawrence Council # 2458".

