

Our Lady of Perpetual Help-St. Catharine

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Our Lady of Perpetual Help School - Mr. Paul Henshaw, Principal
575 Fowler Ave, Pelham Manor, NY 914-738-5158-olphpelham.com PreK-8th Grade

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Parish Church

559 Pelham Manor Rd.
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Office 914-738-1449
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Olph10803@msn.com
www.olph-stcatharine.org
Mrs. Fabiola Briseno, Admin Asst
Mr. Gabriel Gomez, Building & Grounds
Dr. Joseph Schippa, Music Director
Mr. Felipe Giraldo, Organist
Mrs. Joan Brisson, Religious Ed Director
914-738-0670 olphccd0670@optonline.net

Mass: 8AM (Church) Mon - Sat

Weekend Mass: Sat. 5:00PM

Sun: 8:00AM, 10:00AM & 12PM

Confessions: Saturday 4:00PM-4:45PM and
by appointment

Baptisms: 2nd & 4th Sundays at 1:30PM

Please call the office to schedule

Marriages: 6 months planning period

Please call the office to schedule an appointment



Saint Catharine

Worship Site

25 Second Ave.
Pelham, NY 10803
Office 914-738-1491
Fax 914-738-0398
Saintcatharine@gmail.com
www.olph-stcatharine.org
Mrs. Patti Gilhooley, Admin Asst
Mr. John Dominick III,
Music Director & Organist
Mrs. Joan Brisson, Religious Ed Director
914-738-1332 olphccd0670@optonline.net

Mass: 9:00AM Mon-Sat

Weekend Mass: Sat. 4:00PM

Sunday Mass 10:00AM

Confessions: Saturday 3:00PM-3:45PM and
by appointment

Baptisms: 1st Saturday at 12:00PM

Please call the office to schedule

Marriages: 6 months planning period

Please call the office to schedule an appointment



Comment

The first reading and the Gospel for today both speak of the role of one who holds the keys. In the first reading, it goes poorly for Shebna, the holder of the palace keys at the capital. Isaiah has to deliver the bad news that Shebna is not a trustworthy holder of the keys. Isaiah informs him that he will be trust down and a new one will replace him. Shebna's error was that he went along with the king's decision to form military alliances with other nations. This military policy was expressly counter to the will of the Lord. The merging of nations meant the dilution of the religion of Israel, the introduction of other gods, the betrayal of the covenant established on Mount Sinai and renewed with David.

The key of the House of David recalls the Davidic covenant, which would last forever. The words of this oracle, "when he opens, no one shall shut, when he shuts, no one shall open" (Isaiah 22:22), remind us the "O" Antiphon on December 20: "O Key of David, O royal Power of Israel controlling at your will the gate of heaven: come break down the walls of death." This antiphon looks forward to the Messiah, the fulfillment of God's promise.

In today's Gospel, we see a small gathering in a kind of quiet, reflective times. Jesus and his disciples are on the road again, but they are not among the crowds, for a change. They seem at ease. There is interior work to be done.

With no introduction, Jesus turns to these men and asks what others say of him. The disciples report that Jesus seems to be a continuation of the Jewish tradition and Scriptures, he is a prophet, perhaps. It's hard telling. When Jesus pointedly asks what they think, it is Peter who speaks for himself and for the rest. He seems to have the undisputed role as leader, as Jesus' right-hand man. Peter does not merely say what they had said only recently, in the becalmed boat after the storm at sea had subsided: "Truly you are the Son of God" (Matthew 14:33). Peter's confession is broader in tis reach, deeper in tis expression: "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God"

(Matthew 16:16). The other evangelists also wrote of this incident, but Matthew alone gives us the story of Peter's commissioning. His given name, Simon, is formally changed. This renaming is charged with meaning. Simon is called Peter, a word that means "rock" in Greek and in Latin. Then he is given the keys; he is given he authority to loose and to bind.

Mass Intentions

Monday, August 24

8:00AM - Anthony Dedona

Tuesday, August 25

8:00AM - Anthony Dedona

Wednesday, August 26

8:00AM - Kevin Glynn

Thursday, August 27

8:00AM - Jose & Isabel Brito

Friday, August 28

8:00AM - Millie & Michael Loscuito

Saturday, August 29

8:00AM - Hugh J. Alexander & Eunice Gabriel

Wearing a mask in church is not a SUGGESTION it is REQUIRED.

Fiscal Year

The past six months have been filled with uncertainty and the finances of the parish are no exception. As our fiscal year comes to an end August 31st. we have been hit with unplanned expenses for the 6 large trees that have fallen this summer in addition to ordinary expenses. Thank you to everyone who has done their best to support the parish. If you have not as yet done so but can do it now, it would be appreciated. Electronic giving through parishgiving.org has proven to be a great and reliable resource for us and I ask you to consider it.

Golf Outing Cancelled

Our annual Golf Outing is the latest victim of the covid19 virus. Due to the restrictions that are currently in place for such events by the state we are not able to hold the event this year. Thanks to Pelham Country Club for working with us to resolve this issue as well as those who had been signed up to sponsor and/or play and to our great Committee for their preparatory work.

Becoming a Catholic

Classes will begin in the fall for non-Catholics who wish to become members of the Catholic Church and for adult Catholics who have not received the Sacraments of Communion or Confirmation. For further information or to register please call the Church office 738-1449.

Registration for OLPH-St. Catharine Religious Education Program

This year the Religious Ed Program has partnered with Parish Giving to bring our registration process online. If you are a current OLPH-STC Religious Ed Program Family, you should have received an email with a registration link directly from Parish Giving with instructions on how to register your child online. Current families who did not receive their registration email, or new families should call Mrs. Joan Brisson, DRE at 914-738-0670 or email at olphccd0670@optonline.net.

Catechists Needed:

Being a teacher for Relig. Ed is fulfilling, worthwhile and fun. You need not be trained as a professional teacher. Curriculum, supplies, and teacher guides will be provided. At this moment we are in need for the following days: Sunday Grades: K, 1 & 5, Monday grades: 3, 7, & 8, Tuesday Grades: 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8, Wednesday Grades 2, 4, & 8 (St. Catharine), and Thursday Grades: 3, 4, & 5.

HOPE Soup Kitchen

Our next HOPE dinner is Friday, August 28th and the meal is Cous Cous salad, grilled chicken, broccoli slaw, mini rolls, and brownie Bites for dessert. If you would like to help, but are unable to get to the store, DeCicco's in Pelham is helping us by preparing and delivering the food. Simply contact Brittany Arocho at brittanya@deciccos.com or 914-775-8880. Thank you for your support! Several people may go in on this.



St. Catharine's Mass Intentions

Monday, August 24

9:00AM - Catherine & Frank Lifrieri

Tuesday, August 25

9:00AM - Patrick Federice

Wednesday, August 26

9:00AM - Connie DiPietro

Thursday, August 27

9:00AM - Ralph Silvestro

Friday, August 28

9:00AM - Antonia M. DeMasi

Saturday, August 29

9:00AM - Douglas Hearle

Electronic Donations

Your donations can be made via credit card or through your bank, you can pre-plan for the entire year. Please go to our website olph-stcatharine.org and click the ParishGiving logo to register.

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Religious Education

We are in the process of registration for new students grades K-8th. Please call the office at 738-0670 for more information.

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While you are traveling this summer, be sure to check the weekly bulletin on the parish website at: www.olph-stcatharine.org. Wherever you are traveling, you can find Mass schedules at: www.masstimes.org. We rely on your financial support throughout the year. Please make an effort to maintain your usual donation either through the weekly envelopes or by scheduling your donations at: parishgiving.org. Travel safely!



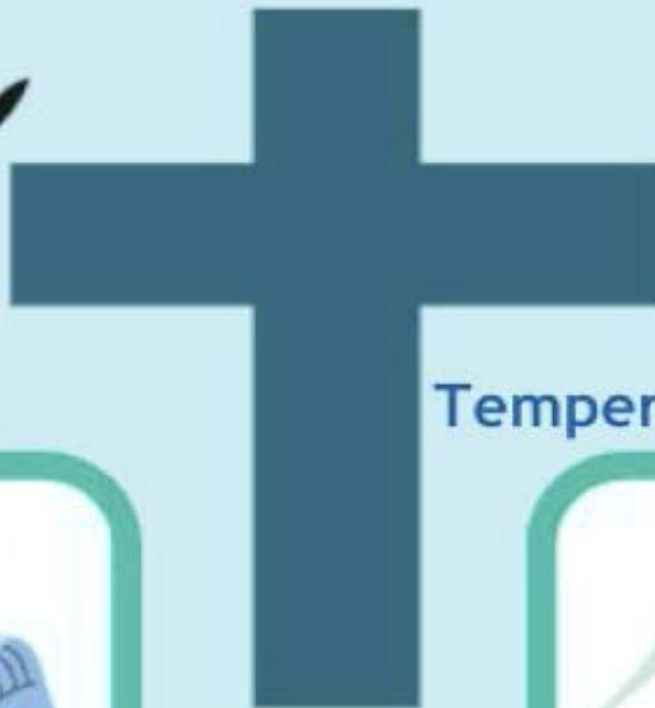
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2020-2021



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OLPHCCD0670@optonline.net (914) 738-0670

Dear Friends,

In the Jewish community, we are quickly moving into the High Holiday season, the time of year when we celebrate *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*, the Jewish New Year and the Day of Atonement. This year *Rosh Hashanah* will fall on September 19th and 20th and *Yom Kippur* will fall on September 28th. Like so much in our lives right now, the observance of these central holidays will be very different. We are innovating to create for our community a holiday experience that will be meaningful and transformative, observing the restrictions that medical experts advise us are necessary. Among other changes, we will not be able to hear the blasts of the *shofar*, the ram's horn, which is traditionally blown 100 times during the service on *Rosh Hashanah*.

The sounding of the *shofar* is one of the most evocative and meaningful moments in the High Holidays.

This sounding serves many purposes. It is a reminder of the ram that Abraham sacrificed in place of his son, Isaac. It is the fulfillment of commandments in the books of Leviticus and Numbers. It serves as an echo of the Revelation at Mount Sinai when the blasts from a ram's horn could be heard. It calls our attention to the fact that *Rosh Hashanah* is also known as the Day of Judgment, a time to reflect on our past actions and consider how we can make our lives more meaningful.

This year, the interpretation of the *shofar* that resonates most with me is that of a spiritual alarm clock, designed to awaken us from the torpor of our everyday lives. It is a call to action, demanding that we consciously choose how to live lives of meaning in the year to come. This year, as each day of quarantine can so easily blend into the next, such an alarm is doubly necessary.

As we move into the new Jewish Year (5781), many of us move into the new school year and we all move into the sixth month of this pandemic. We can take this opportunity to reflect on what is important in our lives. We have the opportunity to evaluate our priorities and whether or not our actions line up with our values.

At the Pelham Jewish Center, we are learning to embrace the differences brought about by the pandemic and use them to our advantage. We know that our Holiday experience will not be the one that we treasure from years past, the one that we look forward to resuming in years to come. It will be different, and we must make the most of those differences.

We are inspired by the verse in Psalms: "Blow the *shofar* on the new moon, on the full moon for our feast day" (Psalm 81:4). Instead of sounding the *shofar* only on *Rosh Hashanah*, we will sound it throughout the month of *Elul* – the month leading up to *Rosh Hashanah* - which begins with the new moon.

We will be enhancing our sense of community and connection to one another by bringing the *shofar* to individual homes, so that we can all have this vital experience while observing the necessary restrictions of this moment.

This means that you may hear the sounding of the *shofar* in your neighborhood any day between August 21st and September 18th. Additionally, we plan to sound the *shofar* from specific central locations.

On Sunday, August 23rd at 1PM, we will blow it from the roof of the Pelham Jewish Center. On Sunday, August 30th at 1PM, we will blow it from the bell tower of Huguenot Church. On Sunday, September 6th at 1PM, we will blow it from Julianne's Playground. On Monday, September 14th at 1PM, we will blow it from the roof of Saint Catharine's Church.

I am grateful to Father Robert DeJulio of OLPH/St. Catharine's Church and Reverend Paul Seelman of Huguenot Memorial Church for allowing us the use of their space to make this possible. Not only will this enhance the experience, it is a real demonstration of the communal commitment that is a hallmark of our town.

If you do hear the call of the *shofar*, I invite you to pause what you are doing and listen to its blasts. Take a moment to reflect on the year that has passed and look ahead to the year to come. I hope that this will be meaningful for you, whether or not you are Jewish.

May we all look forward to a year of life and health,

Rabbi Alex Salzberg
Pelham Jewish Center

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