

Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church



3570 KING WILLIAM AVE • WEST POINT VA 23181



PASTOR

Rev. Oscar Paraiso (804) 843-3125 ext. 102
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oparaiso@richmonddiocese.org
pastormcneill@gmail.com

RECTORY

(804) 843-4231

PERMANENT DEACON

Rev. Dr. Kevin McKeever (973) 983-0511
conorlew56@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Pam Watkins (804) 843-3125 ext. 101
Hours: Tuesday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
adminassistant@olbs-catholic.org

BUSINESS MANAGER

Bob Ryalls (804) 843-3125 ext. 104
cell (757) 207-0215
businessmgr@olbs-catholic.org

COORDINATOR OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Erin Hayden (804) 843-3125 ext. 103
DRE@olbs-catholic.org

MUSIC DIRECTOR (INTERIM)

Mary Jackson (757) 515-8398
music@olbs-catholic.org

PRESCHOOL TEACHER/DIRECTOR

Vangy Lawson (804) 843-4177
preschool@olbs-catholic.org

VAN DEN BOOGAARD HALL RENTALS

Janice McGowan (804) 843-2870
hallrentals@olbs-catholic.org

GOOD NEIGHBOR CENTER

By Appointment (757) 585-8227

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
(also by appointment)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday and Tuesday in the
Mercy Center Chapel

FIRST FRIDAY BENEDICTION AND ADORATION

In the church at 6:00 p.m.
*(followed by the Most Holy Rosary
at 6:30 p.m.)*

RECITATION OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY

6:30 p.m. *(every Friday in the church)*

INFANT BAPTISM

Parent preparation classes are
required for each couple planning
to have their baby baptized.
To schedule a preparation session,
please call the church office.

MARRIAGE

OLBS sponsors a preparation program
for couples who intend to marry.
The Pastor must be contacted at
least six months prior to the date
of the wedding.

RECEPTION INTO THE CHURCH

Those inquiring into the Catholic
Faith or seeking communion with
the Church are invited to contact
the Parish Office. Rite of Christian
Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is offered.

HOME VISIT WITH FATHER OSCAR

To schedule, please call the church
office at the number below.

Mass Schedule

WEEKENDS

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Spanish Mass 4:00 p.m.
(first Sunday of the month)

WEEKDAYS

Tuesday – Thursday 8:30 a.m.
Friday 5:00 p.m.
*(followed by the Rosary —
first Friday of the month
is followed by a holy hour)*

HOLIDAYS

8:30 a.m.
7:00 p.m.

Parish Offices

CONTACT

207 W. Euclid Blvd.
West Point, VA 23181
p: (804) 843-3125 • f: (804) 843-9158
Parish e-mail: olbs@olbs-catholic.org
Parish website: www.olbs-catholic.org

OFFICE HOURS

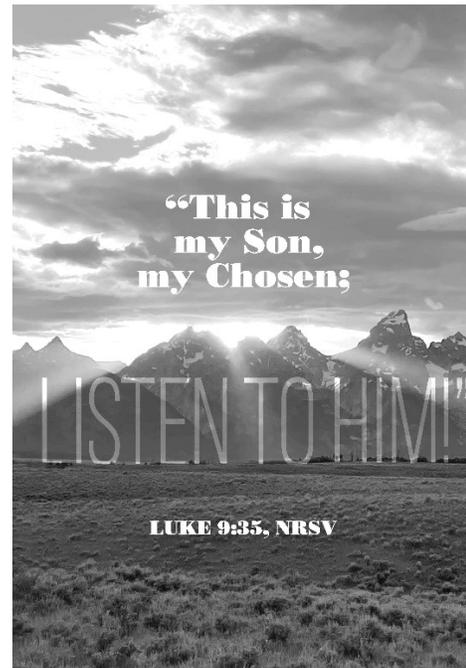
Tuesday – Thursday
9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
March 15th & 16th, 2025

- Saturday, March 15th **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT***
 4:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
 5:00 pm Mass offered for Kyle Burch (RIP)
 Requested by the Hayden Family
- Sunday, March 16th **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT***
 9:00 am Mass offered for Bill & Joan Sockey (RIP)
 Requested by the Hayden Family
 10:15 am Altar Server practice
 10:15 am Religious Education Classes
 10:15 am Adult Bible Study
 6:30 pm Youth Group (VDB)
- Monday, March 17th **St. Patrick, Bishop***
 No Mass
 12 pm-10 pm Adoration in Chapel
- Tuesday, March 18th **Saint Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop,
 Doctor of the Church***
 8:30 am Mass offered for the Souls in Purgatory
 Requested by the Hayden Family
 12 pm-10 pm Adoration in Chapel
 4:30 pm Adult Bible Study (MC)
- Wednesday, March 19th **SAINT JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE
 BLESSED VIRGIN MARY***
 11:00 am Mass offered in Thanksgiving to God
 Requested by the Hayden Family
 11:45 am Senior Luncheon – El Rancho Restaurant
 King William Ave., West Point
 6:30 pm Choir Practice
- Thursday, March 20th
 8:30 am Mass offered for Kyle Burch (RIP)
 Requested by the Hayden Family
- Friday, March 21st
 5:00 pm Mass offered for Bill & Joan Sockey (RIP)
 Requested by the Hayden Family
 5:30 pm Stations of the Cross - Hispanic Community
- Saturday, March 22nd **THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT***
 4:30 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation
 5:00 pm Mass offered for Barbara Schaffer (RIP)
 Requested by Cathy Fudella (sister)
- Sunday, March 23rd **THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT***
 9:00 am Mass offered for Joseph Fostek III (RIP)
 Requested MaryAnn & Frank Fetterolf
 10:15 am Altar Server practice
 10:15 am Religious Education Classes
 10:15 am Adult Bible Study

(MC) Mercy Center (VDB) van den Boogard Hall (Parish Hall)

* Color of letters indices vestment colors for that Sunday or Saint's feast day. If no color, vestments are white.



Daily Mass & Senior Lunch
 The Senior Luncheon will be held at El Rancho Mexican Restaurant, King William Ave. in West Point on Wednesday, March 19th following the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Call Jeanie Sturtz at 804-370-5821 by Monday, March 17th to reserve a seat.

Jubilee Year of Hope
 Drawing on their Jewish roots, jubilee years emphasize the sacrament of reconciliation and restoring relationships with God. They also provide an opportunity for a special jubilee indulgence, which can remove the residual effects of sin through the grace of Christ.

St. Theresa Cemetery – Remove Old Flowers
 Dear Parishioners with beloved family members and friends buried at St. Theresa Catholic Cemetery: please remove any old displays and expired flowers before Palm Sunday, April 13th; any old displays will be discarded. Thank you from the Cemetery Committee.



Religious Education



Religious Education Classes are held Sundays at 10:15 am.

Tuesday Adult Bible Study: Join us at Movie Tavern on March 18th, 6:30 pm., to see the movie "The Last Supper." Cost is \$7.

Sunday Adult Bible Study: We begin our study of Exodus. We meet after the 9 a.m. Mass in the front foyer of the hall.



Our next Youth Group will meet **March 16th**. All 6th to 12th graders are welcome to join us at the hall 6:30 pm.



Altar Server Practice - For Both New and Current Altar Servers.

Altar server practice will be held on **Sunday March 16th** and **Sunday March 23rd** immediately after the 9 am Mass. Each session will last approximately one hour.

New altar servers, and those who have not routinely served for more than a year, must attend BOTH sessions. There is a lot of information to cover, and we want to ensure everyone is well-prepared to participate in this important ministry.

Any child who has received their first Holy Communion is eligible to be an altar server. It is important to remember that participating in this important ministry also requires that you are able to show reverence throughout the Mass. That responsibility involves being able to sit still and pay attention to the Mass. It also involves showing respect by dressing appropriately – dress shoes, dress pants (no shorts), hair combed, etc.

If your child is interested in becoming an altar server, please contact Jody Drexler (804-815-7720) or Joe Drexler (804-366-7563).



I Believe in Jesus Christ, His Only Son Our Lord –
The name "Jesus" signifies that the very name of God is present in the person of his Son, made man for the universal and definitive redemption from sins. It is the divine name that alone brings salvation, and henceforth all can invoke his name, for Jesus united himself to all men through his Incarnation, [Cf. *Jn 3:18; Acts 2:21; 5:41; 3 Jn 7; Rom 10:6-13*] so that "there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." [*Acts 4:12; cf. 9:14; Jas 2:7*] (CCC 432)

Divine Mercy Retreat- Sign up at the entrance of the church and save the date! **Saturday, March 29th, 9 am-12 pm.** Breakfast and a powerful message of Mercy for ALL!

Parish Scholarship Application Time

Please check with the Parish Office about obtaining a form for applying for the Parish Scholarship.

Christ is Alive!! 6th Annual Essay Contest-
Open to children in grades 3-8th grade! You or your child may pick up a detailed information with rules from their religious ed. teacher or Mrs. Hayden. The topic: Describe a moment in the last year when you felt close to God? Deadline for turning the essay in will be by Sunday, March 23rd. Two winners will be selected from each grade level across America! Prizes to be awarded.

Miles for Meals Challenge (Rise Against Hunger)- The Youth group is leading the "Miles for Meals" challenge. Our goal is to raise \$2,400 to feed the 5,000 like Jesus did. We need your help! Take an envelope, take a walk and pray for those less fortunate. Mark your miles on the chart and donate \$1 to your envelope. We will collect miles and envelopes on Palm Sunday. When we reach our goal, we will set up a meal packaging event that everyone can help participate in feeding the 5,000. We also have our 'meter bank' to fill, if you would rather help with that. Thank you!

Please Pray for our Elect as they prepare for the Sacraments of Initiation into the church at Easter Vigil: Bob George, Reece Kirkland, Chris Sutton, and Lajla and David Sloniker. May the Holy Spirit guide and enlighten your hearts with the fullness of faith!



Congratulations!- to our elect, Lajla Sloniker, Bob George, Reece Kirkland and Chris Sutton. The Rite of Elections took place at St. Bede with Bishop Knestout on March 8th. Please continue to keep our elect in your prayers, along with our Candidate, David Sloniker as they journey forward to receiving all the sacraments at the Easter Vigil Mass.



Help with Upcoming International Dinner

An International Dinner parish fundraiser is being planned for April 26, the Saturday after Easter. If you would like to jump in and help cooking or setup, we would love to hear from you. **A sign-up sheet is located in the foyer of the church.** Anyone of any heritage can sign up to help with any one of the ethnic foods or to help with anything needed.

From The Diary of St. Faustina
Meditation:

[Sister Faustina wrote the following when she was being sent to the Sanatorium for her tuberculosis.]

When I was somewhat overcome by the fear that I was to be outside the community for so long a time alone, Jesus said to me, **You will not be alone, because I am with you always and everywhere. Near to My Heart, fear nothing. I Myself am the cause of your departure. Know that My eyes follow every move of your heart with great attention. I am bringing you into seclusion so that I Myself may form your heart according to My future plans (Diary, 797).**

My Prayer Response:

Thank You, Jesus, for being with me when I am alone. Help me to enjoy Your presence in my heart.

Divine Mercy Retreat- Sign up at the entrance of the church and save the date! **Saturday, March 29th, 9 am-12 pm.** Breakfast and a powerful message of Mercy for ALL!



Lenten Dinners

Once again, the Knights of Columbus are planning Lenten Fish Dinners. Tickets are available after all masses for \$15 each or call 804-512-9701.

Save the dates:

March 21	Fried shrimp
April 4	Flounder, shrimp, & crabcake

Help With Boogaard Center Hall Rentals Needed

We are seeking a Parish Hall Rental Manager to replace Janice McGowan who has faithfully filled this role for several years and would like to step down.

This position maintains a schedule of rentals for the van den Boogaard Hall (parish hall) and coordinates all uses of the facility. Some of the duties include:

- Meet with and prepare contracts for renters of the hall
- Coordinate paperwork for hall rentals in conjunction with Diocese rules and requirements
- Ensure that the hall is cleaned after each use by the renters
- Process payments and refunds for the renter in accordance with Parish/Diocese requirements

Additional information can be obtained from Janice at 804-366-4124, if interested. Contact the Parish Offices at 804-843-3125 and let us know of your willingness to serve in this role for the Parish.



Stations of the Cross assigned leaders for the following Fridays of Lent:

March 14	Knights of Columbus
March 21	Hispanic Community
March 28	Facilities Committee
April 4	Parish Council
April 11	Cemetery Committee
April 18	Finance Committee

Collection for March 8 & 9, 2025

Total Offertory	\$ 3,600
Debt Supplemental Collection	\$ 2,553
Ash Wednesday	\$ 1,353
Parish Heating	\$ 50
Easter Flowers	\$ 165
Office Mail (Rel. Ed., Mass Inten., Religious Goods Sales)	\$ 225
Total Received This Week	\$ 7,946

Budgeted weekly average parish need \$ 4,596

Restricted, Special Use, or Sent Out of Parish:

Capital Campaign	\$ 735
Religious Education Registration	\$ 120
Cemetery Fund	\$ 135
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 10
Maintenance Fund	\$ 105

Thank You for Supporting our Parish

Attendance

March 8 Saturday	5:00 pm Mass	98
March 9 Sunday	9:00 am Mass	144

Priests for Life

"I am 'the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord!'" (Jn.1:23).

Lent brings us an urgent cry to repent. The Kingdom has arrived. It is a Kingdom of life and calls for a people of life.

Yet the wilderness is with us as well. The light shines, but it shines in darkness. The voice cries out, but it cries in wilderness, which is why it must cry in the first place. The call to repentance is a cry also because of its urgency. We don't have all day. The business of the Kingdom, the business of salvation, is urgent business. It deserves a cry.

Salvation history is a drama. It is the very drama of the conquering of death. If there is a lot to be gained by Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection, then there is likewise a lot to be lost if we miss it. Jesus, therefore, in dying on the cross, cries out in a loud voice (see Lk.23:46). Death does not simply overtake Him. He goes out in strength, in victory, to meet it and to rob it of its power. The cry continues. The People of Christ are a People of Life.

The wilderness of death continues to surround us in so many forms. The form in which death claims the most lives is abortion. The People of God cry out against it.

– Lent: *Crying Out*, ProLife Leader Frank Pavone, National Director, Priests for Life, EndAbortion.us



It is that time of year again, the **West Point Ministers Association Lenten Soup & Sermon Series**. The series will run from Wednesday, March 12th through April 9th. The Soup & Sermon is every Wednesday. Father Oscar has agreed to work with the pastor at St. John's Episcopal Church on April 9th this year. We need one or two parishioners to take the lead for working with their contact to plan, set up, serve, and clean up the luncheon. We will also need to have some parishioners to cook and supply some soups and desserts. Please call the parish office if you can help in any way. We would also like as many parishioners as possible to come out join us in representing our Parish. Maybe those who are able might invite one of our parishioners who struggle to make it to Mass for a great sermon and luncheon.

Here is the schedule:

- **March 12:** Jim Goebel (First Baptist Church) and Brad Bullit (West Point Community Church of the Nazarene)
- **March 19:** Karen Stanley/lay leader (Brett Reed Presbyterian Church) and Kwangmin Shin (West Point United Methodist Church)
- **March 26:** Tom Wilburn (West Point Christian Church) and Cliff Collins (The Edge)
- **April 2:** Wayne Groome (West Point Church of God) and Arthur Anderson (Mt. Nebo Baptist Church)
- **April 9:** Oscar Paraiso (Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Church), Charlie and Miriam Maloney (Mattaponi Society of Friends), and Theresa Brion (St. John's Episcopal Church)

Gifts of Stock to Your Parish

Gifts of stock avoid capital gains tax! If you own appreciated stock, you may wish to consider giving the stock to the parish rather than cash. You are able to deduct the full value, avoid the capital gain tax and make a substantial gift to the parish. A good steward uses his or her assets in a way that does the most good. To donate a gift of stock, please contact the parish office.



March Wedding Anniversaries

Shawn & Erin Lazar

March 6, 2004

David & Donna Haviland

March 7, 1998



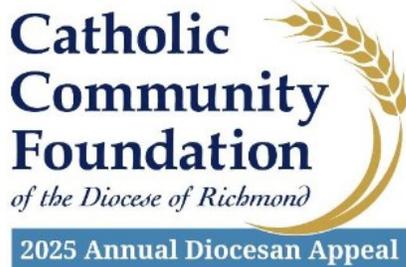
Eucharistic Revival

Through the sacraments of Christian initiation, man receives the new life of Christ. Now we carry this life "in earthen vessels," and it remains "hidden with Christ in God."¹ We are still in our "earthly tent," subject to suffering, illness, and death.² This new life as a child of God can be weakened and even lost by sin. (CCC 1420)



Help Needed

Retired gentleman (Catholic parishioner) in Colonial Heritage Club subdivision between Norge and Williamsburg is looking for a reliable housekeeper to clean small home (not entire home – just 1 bedroom, 1 bath, kitchen, LR – of the home approx. once per month. Call Carl 910-967-3199.



The 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal will be held during the weekends of March 8th/9th and March 15th/16th with an in-pew process for the Appeal.

Each parishioner who attends Mass on one of these weekends understands they are being invited by their pastor to consider a meaningful gift.



Knights of Columbus

Council 8116 (the "Father Jakubowski Council") Knights of Columbus meets the first Monday of every month at the Columbian Club Hall at 312 7th Street in downtown West Point. If you have an interest in the Knights, just ask one of the members for information.

The Knights are also renting the Columbian Club Hall once again for events such as family gatherings, birthday parties, etc. Contact Craig or Danielle Smith at 804-398-8374.

The Bishop Keane Institute presents: Dr. Brian Doyle "The Church/The People of God as Sacrament in the World Today"



Dr. Brian Doyle is a Theologian and Professor at Marymount University in Arlington, VA.



Friday, March 21, 2025 • 7:00pm

Tickets are \$10.00
(cash, check, credit card)

Tickets are on sale online at icchampton.org.
Tickets will be on sale in the commons March 8/9 and March 15/16

2150 Cunningham Drive, Hampton, VA
757-826-0393



WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

New members are asked to register at the Parish Office in the Mercy Center.

We invite all parishioners to join a ministry.
Contact the Chairperson of the ministry or call the Parish Office at 804.843.3125

ALTAR LINENS

Ginger (757) 912-3025

ALTAR SERVERS

Joe Drexler (804) 366-7563
liturgychair@olbs-catholic.org

ARTS & ENVIRONMENT

artsenvironment@olbs-catholic.org

BELL CHOIR

CANTORS/CHOIR

Mary Jackson (757) 515-8398
music@olbs-catholic.org

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Terry Frederick (804) 843-3125
cemeterychair@olbs-catholic.org

CHURCH HISTORIAN

Linda Drexler (804) 241-4073
historian@olbs-catholic.org

CLEANING COORDINATOR

COMMUNITY LIFE

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Eric Ellingson (804) 843-3125
facilitieschair@olbs-catholic.org

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Richard Duke (804) 843-3125
financechair@olbs-catholic.org

HISPANIC MINISTRY

Nanci Hernandez
Jose Velasquez
hispanicministry@olbs-catholic.org

HOSPITALITY

Glenn & Kay Shaw (804) 366-7518

JUSTICE & PEACE

KNIT, PURL & PRAY

LAWN MOWING COMMITTEE

Eric Ellingson (804) 843-3125
ericellingson@verizon.net

LIBRARY

Linda Drexler (804) 241-4073
vintagenotes@verizon.net

LITURGY COMMITTEE

Deacon Kevin McKeever
(973) 983-0511
liturgychair@olbs-catholic.org

MINISTRY SCHEDULING

Pattie Vadas (804) 241-5009
pbv0806@yahoo.com

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Margaret Varboncoeur (804) 843-2867

PARISH COUNCIL

Tiffany Smith (804) 840-7984
parishchair@olbs-catholic.org

SACRISTAN

Joe Drexler (804) 366-7563

YOUTH MINISTRY

Erin Hayden (804) 843-3125 ext 103
DRE@olbs-catholic.org

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