Our Lady Of Perpetual Help Church Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 4, 2024



Gospel - Mark 1:34

He Cured Many Who Were Sick With Various Diseases, And He Drove Out Many Demons, Not Permitting Them To Speak Because They Knew Him.

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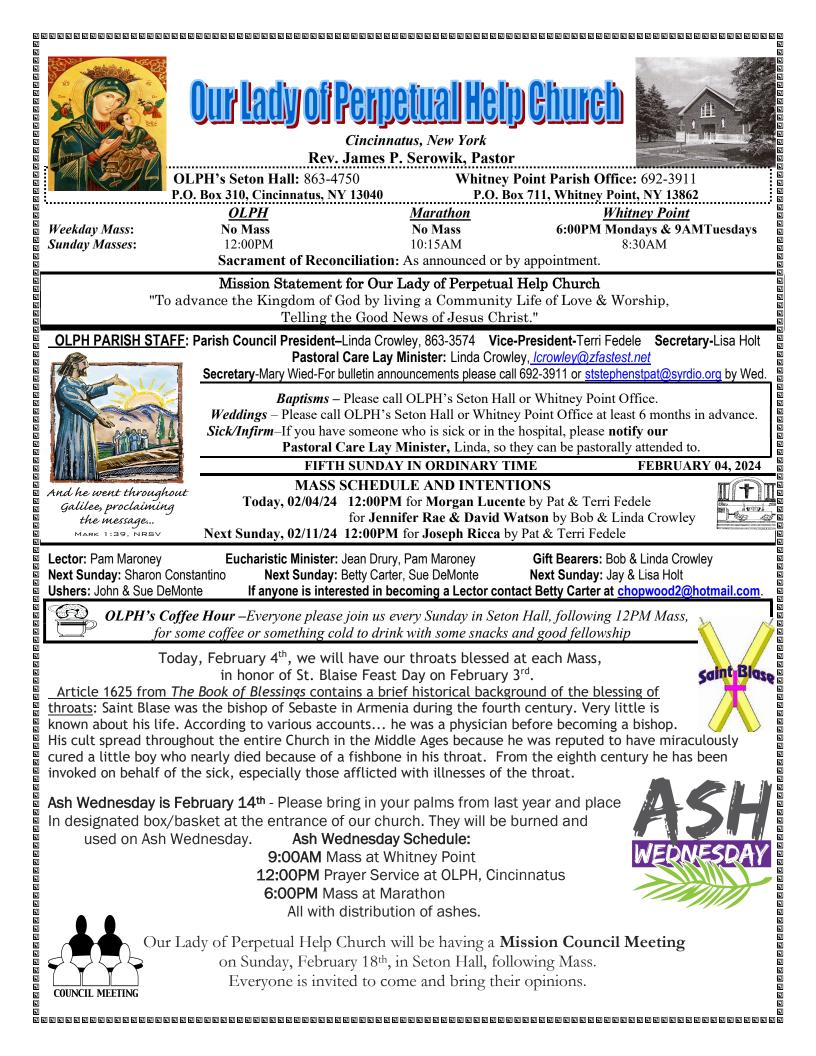
Pastor's Column - February 4, 2024

Our Scripture Readings speak to us today about suffering and infirmity. In our First Reading Job tells us that our life is a drudgery and full of suffering. In the Gospel this weekend Jesus heals Peter's Mother-in-law and the village people who come to Peter's home seeking healing. Jesus shows us that God is not indifferent to our suffering, but that He is there with us. He not only is with us, he takes away the suffering of those who sought Him in the Gospel. Our God is with us in our sufferings and struggles. May we turn to him with our sufferings, trusting in His healing and loving presence!

It is hard to believe that Lent begins next week. Ash Wednesday is Wednesday, February 14th. We will have Mass on that day at 9:00 AM at Whitney Point and at 6:00 PM in Marathon. Ashes will be distributed that day during these masses. We will also be distributing ashes at a prayer service at 12:00 PM in Cincinnatus. Make your plans now to begin the Lenten season by attending Mass on Ash Wednesday. Also, please remember that Ash Wednesday *is a day of fast and abstinence for all Catholics between the ages of 18-60.*

HAVE A GREAT WEEK!

Fr. Jim





Praying the Stations of the Cross - Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church will pray the Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent, beginning February 16th at 3:00 PM. Join us as we commemorate the journey of Jesus Christ to his death and resurrection.

Now that our potluck is over (and it went well but we had lots of leftover food) it's time to make our Lenten plans. This year, as in the past, we will be one of the host churches for the Otselic Valley Church Alliance Lenten program. the schedule is as follows: Sundays

February 18, - Cincinnatus Christian Union Church 4:00 PM February 25, - Taylor Wesleyan church 4 PM (Followed by a Special Addition), -Hymn Sing/Singspiration at Cincinnatus Baptist Church 5 PM March 3, - South Otselic United Methodist Church 4:00 PM March 10, -Cincinnatus United Presbyterian Church 4:00 PM March 17, - Cincinnatus OLPH (Catholic) Church 4:00 PM



March 24 (Palm Sunday), 6th Sunday of Lent- Cincy Baptist Church Easter Cantata 6:00 PM

Last week Jesus healed a man by commanding the unclean spirit to come out. This week we hear more about Jesus responding to his longing for wholeness and healing. After healing Simon's mother-in-law many came to him in the evening after the Sabbath sunset to be healed and cured of demons. In the morning, Jesus went alone to pray. This time of prayer is important to pay attention to. Jesus heard in his own prayer his call to proclaim the reigning presence of God by moving on to other towns, to move on from yesterday's enthusiasm to tomorrow's unknown. Pope Francis might refer to this as going out to the peripheries. Jesus' compassion and healing of the sick is a sign of the Kingdom of God. The Church continues to extend Christ's healing presence to others in its ministry to the sick. In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the Church prays for spiritual and physical healing, forgiveness of sins, and comfort for those who are suffering from illness. Missionary Discipleship: As a family make a list of people who need Jesus' help. As a family, pray for these people who are in need through the power of Jesus' name and word. List ways your family can take action and bring the healing power of Jesus to others. BuildingFaith@HOME.

Mass Intentions-If you would like to have a Mass said in memory of a loved one, please call our office at 607-692-3911 or see Mary Wied at Mass. The offering for all Mass intentions (both living and deceased) is \$15 per Mass. If paying by check, please make payable to OLPH Church.

Newcomers & Current Parishioners: WELCOME! If you would like to register, receive contribution envelopes, Catholic SUN, have a change in address, marital status, etc., please fill out small blue form by the bulletins & drop it in collection basket.





Last Sunday, January 28, 2024: Envs: \$545.46 Loose: \$214.Total Regular Collection: \$759.46 Other Income: Fuel-\$80. Donations IMO Becky Custer-\$250. CathSun-\$10. Bills Paid This Week: \$481.72 Thank you for your continued generosity that keeps our church running smoothly!

2023 Contribution Statements – If you are an envelope user for our parish's donations and would like a statement of your 2023 contributions please call our parish office, 607-692-3911, or email: ststephenstpat@syrdio.org and they will be ready by the end of this month.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help's Prayer Chain - If you know of someone in need of special prayers and would like them listed on OLPH's Prayer Chain or if you're not on our prayer chain list of calls and would like to be, please contact Betty Carter at 607-863-3163 or email: chopwood2@hotmail.com



Broom Sticks-You probably thought it odd that someone was asking for broom handles, etc. It was my intent to turn them into walking sticks to aid those in the community who were having trouble walking. They are easy to make. Just get a rubber care tip (pharmacy) to put on the bottom and a hole can be drilled in the top to attach a cord for hanging. Gift one to a person in need. It should be used on the side of the stronger leg. The stick and the weak leg step forward together. I will still take any spare sticks. If you need any help I can be reached at 607-863-4289. With God's love, Ellie Auberger