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Madonna della Difesa

ONE OF ONLY THREE
SANCTUARIES IN THE WORLD

“Create in
me a
pure heart,
O God,
and
renew a
steadfast
spirit
within me”

PSALM 51:10

LENT

Lenten Weekday Masses

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday at 8:00 AM
Friday Masses / Stations during Lent 6:00 PM

Lenten Weekend Masses

4:00 PM, 8:30 & 10:30 AM
Confessions- Saturday during Lent
3:00- 3:30 PM

February 23: Day of Abstinence
Mass/Stations of the Cross @ 6:00PM Followed by
Simple Supper
sponsored by St. Anne Sodality

**Saturday & Sunday, February 24th/25th First in-
pew solicitation for Catholic Charity Fund Weekend**

Friday, March 2: Day of Abstinence
Mass/Stations of the Cross @ 6:00PM
Followed by Simple Supper
sponsored by Religious Education

**Sunday, March 4: Sacrament of
Confirmation @ 10:30AM with Bishop Tobin**

**Saturday & Sunday March 3rd/4th Second in-pew
Solicitation for Catholic Charity Fund Weekend**

Friday, March 9: Day of Abstinence
Mass/Stations of the Cross @ 6:00PM
Followed by Simple Supper
sponsored by Parish Council

Sunday, March 11: Easter Flowers
Envelopes In Memory/Honor of Our Loved Ones

Friday, March 16: Day of Abstinence
Mass/ Stations of the Cross @ 6:00PM
Followed by Simple Supper
sponsored by Prayer Shawl Ministry

Saturday, March 17:
**St. Joseph's Table Celebration- Mass @ 4:00 PM &
Dinner @ 5:00 PM**

March 19th - 22nd Palm Weaving classes
in Fioretti Hall
Monday 2-6pm Wednesday 3-6pm
Tuesday 2-6 pm Thursday 5-6pmFriday,

Friday, March 23: Day of Abstinence
Mass/Stations of the Cross @ 6:00PM
Followed by Simple Supper
sponsored by Holy Name Society

Sat. & Sun., March 24/25: Palm Sunday

**Chrism Mass at Cathedral- The annual Chrism
Mass will be held on the Monday, of Holy Week at 5
p.m., with Bishop Tobin joined by priests of the
Diocese**

Thursday, March 29 Holy Thursday -
Mass of the Lord's Supper
7:00 PM

Friday, March 30 Good Friday -
**Day of Fast &
Abstinence**

Living Stations of the Cross Religious Education Class
@ Noon in the church,
Liturgy of the Lord's Passion @ 7:00PM

Saturday, March 31 Holy Saturday
Easter Egg Hunt @ 10:00AM in Festival Field
Easter Vigil Mass @ 7:00PM

Sunday, April 1 Easter Sunday
Masses @ 8:30 and 10:30AM

Sunday, April 8 Divine Mercy Sunday
Sacrament of First Holy Communion during the 10:30
Mass.



From the Pastor's Desk

I am writing you this personal note to ask your help with our parish efforts for a successful 2018 Catholic Charity Appeal. Your gift to the annual Appeal supports programs and services which benefit you, your neighbors and your parish.

Each year, one of our goals is to offer all members of our parish the opportunity to participate. We hope that every family will make a gift to this worthwhile cause. It is only when we combine our gifts of talent and treasure that we can accomplish more to help each other.

I ask that you consider a pledge to the 2018 Catholic Charity Appeal. We have no way of knowing how much you can afford to give. Only you can answer that question. All we ask is that you reflect for a moment and prayerfully consider what your response will be.

On behalf of all those Rhode Islanders whose lives are made better because of your generosity, I thank you. May God bless you and your loved ones for your generosity.

Rev. Peter J. Gower

Grand Annual Collection

Dear Parishioners and Benefactors,

As you know, the Grand Annual Collection is used to supplement the income that comes mostly from the weekly collection that is taken up at every Sunday Mass. Thanks to your generosity, over the past five years, we have been able to pay our bills and to accomplish expensive repairs and renovation of our buildings without incurring any debt.

We are grateful to all of you for what you do for your parish. We need everyone's help, and we appeal in a special way to those who ordinarily do not contribute to the finances of the Parish. I pray that at least once a year, you welcome my plea to extend a donation, as generous as your means permit, to our parish.

Goal:	\$33,000.00
Raised:	<u>\$31,800.00</u>
Needed to Goal:	\$ 1,190.00

If you have not given and are able to help us reach goal, put your gift in an envelope titled "Annual". To all who have given, thank you!

Let us entrust ourselves to the Divine Providence by which God generously provides for our material and spiritual needs. May He inspire all of us to imitate His generosity in sharing whatever He entrusts to us, His stewards, and to do all that we can to share in the saving mission of Christ and His Church.

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Peter J. Gower



Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion & Altar Servers

Schedule:

This Weekend: February 17th/ 18th

Lectors:

- 4:00 K. Colavita
- 8:30 D. Buffi
- 10:30 D. Spunzo

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

- 4:00 C. Dardeen, J. Dardeen, R. Ventetuolo
- 8:30 Ce. Richard, B. Rivelli, S. DiIorio
- 10:30 J. LaSalandra, R. Poli, G Marciano

Altar Servers:

- 4:00 Ni. Broccoli, A. Broccoli
- 8:30 C. DiSanto, A. DiSanto
- 10:30 G. Halliwell, C. Ferranti

Next Weekend: February 24th/25th

Lectors:

- 4:00 J. Burley
- 8:30 R. Parascandolo
- 10:30 S. Lemoi

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

- 4:00 P. Leoncavallo, A. Colannino
C. Colannino,
- 8:30 M. S. Andreozzi, R. Parisi, J. Parisi
- 10:30 S. Mansolillo, L. Mansolillo,
P. Gondreau

Altar Servers:

- 4:00 M. Colardo, M. Colardo,
- 8:30 B. Winsor, V. Winsor
- 10:30 A. Soprano, C. Ferranti



Weekend of February 11th, 2018

Weekly Collection:	\$ 2,754.00
Ash Wednesday:	\$ 75.00
On-line giving:	\$ 190.00
Total:	\$ 3,019.00



Readings & Music for February 18th First Sunday of Lent (Year B)

- Readings:** #1028 or pg. 61
- Entrance:** Again We Keep This Solemn Fast #474
- Offertory:** The Kingdom Of God #720
- Communion:** My Song is Love Unknown
- Recessional** Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days #461

Religious Education News

Classes will resume on February 18th at 9:00 A.M.

- **First Communion Parent Meeting, Sunday, February 25th 2t 9:00 A.M. in Fioreti Hall**
- **Confirmation students, sponsors, and parents are to attend 10:30 A.M. Mass on Sunday, Feb. 23rd Confirmation rehearsal will follow the Mass**
SHIPWRECKED
Vacation Bible Camp June 25th to 29th Volunteers Needed!
Call Joanne at 231-2220

**Celebration of St. Joseph's Day
at Our Lady of Grace**

March 17th, 4 PM Mass in Honor
of St. Joseph, followed by dinner
at 5 PM in Fioretti Hall.

Serving: Pasta and meatballs,
sausage, salad and Italian bread,
and Zeppoli !!

We will have a St. Joseph's table
Cost per person \$10, children 12
and under free.

**Tickets on Sale the weekend of
February 17th & 18th
The First 100 tickets
purchased will receive a
framed picture of St. Joseph**

Congratulations

"St. Timothy Award"

**At the Catholic Youth Ministry and
Scout Awards Celebration held at the
Cathedral of Saints Peter & Paul in
Providence on Sunday, March 11, at
1:00 P.M., our Parishioner, Eric
Martineau will be honored and
presented the St. Timothy Award. This
award is the highest national youth
ministry award a Catholic youth can
receive for integrity, leadership and
service. We are proud that Eric is part
of our parish community and lives his
Catholic faith with conviction.**

**Our Lady of Grace
Calendar**

Monday, February 19: R.C.I. A. 7-8 P.M.

**Sunday, February 25: Religious Education
Classes 9:00 A.M.**

**Sunday, February 25: First Communion
Parent Meeting 9:00 A.M.**

**Sunday, February 25: Confirmation rehearsal
after 10:30 A.M. Mass**

**Sunday, March 4: Confirmation- 10:30 A.M.
Bishop Tobin**

**Tuesday, March 6: St. Anne Sodality
Meeting, 6:30 P.m.**

**Saturday, March 17: St. Joseph's Dinner
Fioretti Hall 5:30 P.M.**

**Wednesday, March 21: Holy Name Society
Meeting: 7:00 P.M.**

**Monday, March 26: Life Line Screening,
8:00- 5:30 Fioretti Hall**

HOLY NAME SOCIETY NEWS

Club 100 Winners!

Week #1: #11 Jeff Mancini

Week #2: #79 Joe Fortin

Week #3 #107 Leonard Pezza

Attendance at Mass for Students

If you are from another church and your
church requires that you must bring a bulletin
signed by a priest or deacon back to your
parish as proof of attendance please get
PROOF OF ATTENDANCE form in sacristy
before or after mass.

**OLG SUPER BOWL PARTY
FEBRUARY 8—SUN RISE**

By PETE FONTAINE

The 3rd Annual Our Lady of Grace Super Bowl Party, which featured fun, fantastic food and fellowship, will long be remembered for two special salutes that echoed throughout Fioretti Hall Sunday night.

Oh, on a downer note – as the old adage goes – the 150 people who turned out to watch what they hoped would be a sixth Super Bowl Championship for the New England Patriots were totally disappointed and devastated with the 41-33 loss to the Philadelphia Eagles.

Perhaps OLG’s head coach – a.k.a. Rev. Peter J. Gower – best described the entire event and what it’s intended to do for young and old alike.

Take during the pre-game festivities, when people purchased a number of raffle tickets for a Rodney Harrison personally autographed football and chance to win 60 scratch tickets in the Rhode Island Lottery’s new Patriots game and began sampling the 14-item buffet for only \$5.

In fact, one of the games highlights came when the sounds of “Happy Birthday” filled Fioretti Hall in honor of Caius Geribo’s first birthday.

“It seemed like everyone here got all choked up when we started singing Happy Birthday,” Father Gower related. “And that couldn’t help but put a smile on your face when you looked at this little guy with Tom Brady’s number 12 on his shirt.”

Moreover, as the popular OLG pastor wanted it known: “What is so beautiful about this is that the family came together to celebrate his birthday with our parish family, as we gathered in great numbers to share this sporting event.”

Likewise, there as another celebration of sorts during the closing minutes of Sunday’s Super Bowl – that people watched on a wide movie-like screen – and it wasn’t just during the closing minutes when Tom Brady put the Patriots ahead by what New England football fanatics hoped would be the final result. “Let’s hear it for Mecca!” Father Gower exclaimed while speaking into an intercom system. “Welcome home Mecca!”

The OLG priest was speaking about Amadeo “Mecca” Domenico, who usually assumes the position of head

mixologist but Sunday was benched – not by choice – as he’s recovering from recent open heart surgery.

Mecca’s smile, as several people suggested was as wide as the television screen, was yet another classic case – an example as OLG Secretary Paul Goulet offered – that Father Gower hopes social events like Sunday’s Super Bowl bash will bring the parishioners closer together.

“Our people love to get together as a parish family to celebrate all events,” Father Gower emphasized.

“We have so many volunteers to put these events together ... all the food that we share and enjoyed at no cost to the parish.”

Enter OLG’s “offensive coordinator”, a.k.a. Joe Quartino, who heads the cooking crew inside the parish kitchen and Sunday prepared a smorgasbord that ranged from pizza squares pizzas to chicken wings to meatballs to salad and in all a total of 14 mouth-watching eats.

“All the food is donated and many people pitching in to help cook it right here,” Father Gower explained.

“That’s what makes this day so special because at OLG we love to get together for prayer and fun times; it’s where everyone gets to meet and share in the spirit of fellowship. Even though we lost the Super Bowl, there was a spirit of excitement in this parish hall and some people were asking when will we do it again?”

Father Gower replied: “There will be a 4th Annual Super Bowl Party in 2019 and we’re going to win. Until then, our St. Joseph’s Party will be on March 17 and we’ve already sold 48 tickets; please remember we sold out last year!”

Thank you to our benefactors: Bridge AT Cherry Hill, Cherry Hill Manor, J&T’s Restaurant, Original Italian Bakery, Distefano Boston Bakery.



Mass Intentions

SAT: February 17: Vigil of Second Sunday of Lent
 4:00 Michael (21st Anniv.) & Lillian Cerullo (48th Anniv.)
Req. by: Family

SUN: February 18: Second Sunday of Lent
 8:30 Andrew Baynes (3rd Aniv.)
Req. by: Wife, Anne

10:30 Giacomo Cambio (1st Anniv.)
Req. by: Family

MON: February 19:
 8:00 Livia DelPonte (1st Anniv.)
Req. by: Family

TUE February 20:
 8:00 Nancy D'Agostino (8th Anniv.)
Req. by: Family

WED February 21:
 8:00 Special Intention for the Madonna
Req. by: Vilma

THU February 22:
 8:00 No Mass

FRI: Friday, February 23:
 6:00 PM Mass
 Stations of the Cross
 Simple Supper, Sponsored by: Sodality

SAT: February 24: Vigil of Third Sunday of Lent
 4:00 Johanne Polisenia (Birth. Rem.& Ann.)
 And Carol Castaldi
Req. by: Linda Vincent

SUN: February 25: Third Sunday of Lent
 8:30 Joseph & Rafaela Zanni
Req. by: Ben & Vilma Zanni

10:30 Joseph Gesualdi
Req. by: Family

PARISH DIRECTORY

Holy Services

MASSES: Saturday Vigil: 4:00PM
 Sunday 8:30AM and 10:30AM
 Monday through Friday 8:00AM

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: Saturday at 3:00PM
Holy Rosary: Saturday at 3:30PM

Pastor

Rev. Peter J. Gower

PERSONNEL

Facilitator of Rel. Ed	Mrs. Joanne Burley
Secretarial/Office	Mr. Paul Goulet
Building Superintendent	Mr. Joseph Quartino
Music Minister	Mr. Jeff Del Gigante
St. Anne Sodality President	Ms. Fran DiBiasio
Holy Name Society President	Mr. Louis Mansolillo

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: Saturday 3-3:30PM or by appointment.

Baptism: Second Sunday of each month, during the 10:30AM Mass. Please contact rectory to schedule baptismal instructions.

Matrimony: Notify parish priest at least one year before anticipated date of wedding for necessary pre-marriage arrangements and preparation.

Holy Orders: If you have a heartfelt desire to serve the Lord, by preaching His Eternal Word, by celebrating the Sacraments, and by assisting His people in need, you may be among God's chosen for a vocation to the priesthood. Speak to a priest today, or contact the Office of Vocations at 831-8011.

Ministry To The Ill

Please notify the rectory when a parishioner or family member is hospitalized, or confined at home or in a nursing facility.

Church Address: 15 George Waterman Rd., Johnston, RI

Mailing Address: 4 Lafayette St., Johnston, RI 02919

Telephone: Rectory – (401) 231-2220

Religious Ed. (401) 231-8959

FAX: (401) 231-3905

Parish email: ourladyofgraceri@aol.com

Pastoral Council: olgparishcouncil@gmail.com

**Rectory Office Hours: Monday through Thursday
9AM – 1PM**

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