

Our Lady of Light Parish



By Mikeda Murphy

OFFICE AND MAILING ADDRESS

St. Catherine of Sienna

118-22 Riverton Street

St. Albans, NY 11412

Tel number: 718-528-1220/Fax number: 718-528-7907

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday

10AM-3PM (or call for an appointment)

St. Pascal Baylon

112-43 198th Street

St. Albans, NY 11412

718-468-3511

Office Hours: Monday-Friday

9:30AM-4PM (or call for an appointment)

e-mail address: ourladyoflightsa@gmail.com

website: www.ourladyoflightqueens.org

Eleventh Sunday In Ordinary Time, June 14, 2026

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Erick Balderas Vega M.Afr, Parochial Vicar /Administrator

Rev. Henry Byamukama M.Afr, Parochial Vicar

Permanent Deacons: Albert Saldana, Luis Taylor

Director of Faith Formation: Deacon Marcial Cordon

Administrative Assistant: Veronica Cabrales

Buildings & Facilities Manager: William Loyd

Music Ministry: Francine Ross /Bridget Torres

Youth & Young Adult Ministry Coordinators:

Maxine Dinnall : ololpyoungadultministry@gmail.com

Jeffrey Hicks: ololpyouthministry@gmail.com

Maxine Dinnall: Health Ministry ololphealthministry@gmail.com



St. Pascal Baylon

113th Ave and 199th St.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 10am &

Spanish Mass 12:30 pm

Monday to Saturday: 9am

Adoration Thursday 11:30am &

7-8pm

Confession Thursday 6:30-7pm

After Every Mass or by appointment

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady of Light Parish is a
spirit filled Faith
community nourished by the
Eucharist.

Committed to be disciples of
Christ, we reach out in good
stewardship to the entire Parish
and the community at large. We
serve God and one another by the
values we proclaim.



St. Catherine of Sienna

Riverton St. and Baisley Blvd.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 8am

Monday to Saturday: 8am

Adoration Thursday 3:30pm &

7-8pm

Confession Thursday 6:30-7pm

After Every Mass or by

Appointment

Eleventh Sunday In Ordinary Time Sunday, June 14, 2026

Sunday: Exodus 19:2-6a, Psalm 100:1-2, 3, 5, Romans 5:6-11, Matthew 9:36—10:8

Monday: 1 Kings 21:1-16, Psalm 5:2-3ab, 4b-6a, 6b-7, Matthew 5:38-42

Tuesday: 1 Kings 21:17-29, Psalm 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 11 and 16, Matthew 5:43-48

Wednesday: 2 Kings 2:1, 6-14, Psalm 31:20, 21, 24, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Sirach 48:1-14, Psalm 97:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7, Matthew 6:7-15

Friday: 2 Kings 11:1-4, 9-18, 20, Psalm 132:11, 12, 13-14, 17-18, Matthew 6:19-23

Saturday: 2 Chronicles 24:17-25, Psalm 89:4-5, 29-30, 31-32, 33-34, Matthew 6:24-34

Parish Pastoral Council Members

Casimir Agbi

Steven Callender

Debye Cleveland

Kisha Clinton

Maxine Dinnall

John Paul Ezeani

Mari Jean Ferinande

Junie Hopkinson

Donna Nicholson

Sunday Odua

Bridget Torres

Marjorie White

Parish Finance Committee Members

Sylvester Atuegbu

Asemota Benson

Tiffany Broadwater

Dawn Hewitt

Marcia Mahon

Donna Nicholson

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, June 14th

8:00 AM

10:00 AM

Monday, June 15th

8:00 AM

9:00 AM

Tuesday, June 16th

8:00 AM

9:00 AM

Wednesday, June 17th

8:00 AM

9:00 AM

Thursday, June 18th

8:00 AM

9:00 AM

Friday, June 19th

8:00 AM

9:00 AM

Saturday, June 20th

8:00 AM

9:00 AM

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Barbara Ricketts, Beverly Stanton

Charmayne Roberts, Julia Hodge, Gemma LaRode

Gloria Wynter, Marion Henry, Leonora Best

Lawrence Pitler, Madeline Finney, Ruth Wade

Jacqueline Pestano, Dawn Hewitt, Connie Miller

Fran Hicks, Helen R. Coleman, Dee Johnson

Marva Corbett, Eartha Hendrick

(Please let us know if a name should be removed from the Sick List)

Weekly Collections

Masses 06/08//26	#of Adults	#of Children	Collections	
8:00 AM	105	7	\$1,949.00	
10:00 AM	114	16	\$2,932.00	
12:30 PM	21	4	\$136.00	
Online	N/A	N/A	\$1,549.00	
Totals	240	27	\$6,573.00	

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)

READINGS: EXODUS 19:2-6; ROMANS 5:6-11; MATTHEW 9:36—10:8

“HERE AM I; SEND ME”

Dear family of Our Lady of Light, Welcome to the 11th Sunday of Ordinary Time. As Jesus looked upon the crowds, He was moved with compassion because they were “*harassed and helpless*, like sheep without a shepherd” [Matthew 9:36]. His heart was not indifferent to their struggles, confusion, wounds, and longings. Instead, He saw their dignity, their needs, and their potential. This is how Jesus looks at us in our own struggles.

Our world today is not so different; many people are searching for meaning and grappling with feelings of loneliness, anxiety, family difficulties, economic pressures, addictions, and spiritual emptiness. Young people, in particular, are asking profound questions: Who am I? What is my purpose? Where is God in my life? Into this reality, Jesus speaks the same words to us: “*The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest*” [Matthew 9:37-38]. These words are not just a request for priests and religious; **they are a call to every baptized Christian. Every disciple is invited to become a labourer in God’s harvest.**

A Chosen People for Mission

In the First Reading, God tells Israel, “You shall be my treasured possession among all peoples... A priestly kingdom and a holy nation” [Ex 19:5-6]. **God did not choose Israel for privilege alone but for a mission. Likewise, through Baptism, we have become God’s people, entrusted with the mission of making His love known in the world.**

The Church is not just a place we attend; it is a community sent forth to fulfil a purpose. Every family, every ministry, every young person, every elder, and every parishioner has a role in God’s plan. As St. Augustine reminds us, “For you, I am a bishop, but with you, I am a Christian”. Before any role or title, we are all disciples called to holiness and service.

Loved and Reconciled Through Christ

Saint Paul tells us in the Letter to the Romans, “*God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners, Christ died for us*” [Rom 5:8]. **Our mission begins not with our own strength but with God’s grace. We do not serve because we are perfect; we serve because we have first been loved.**

The Apostles whom Jesus chose were an ordinary and imperfect group: fishermen, a tax collector, a zealot, and even one who would betray Him. Yet, Jesus entrusted them with His mission. This should encourage all of us. **Sometimes we think, “I am not holy enough,” or “I don’t know enough,” or “Someone else can do it better” However, Jesus does not call only the qualified; He qualifies those He calls.** As St. Teresa of Calcutta often said, “God does not require that we be successful, only that we be faithful.”

THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Jesus sent the Apostles to proclaim the Kingdom and to bring healing: “*Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons*” [Mt 10:8]. These words continue to guide the Church’s mission today.

Cure the Sick-We are called to bring healing to those who suffer physically, emotionally, and spiritually. A listening ear, a visit to the sick, encouragement to someone struggling, or prayer with a neighbour can become instruments of God’s healing.

Raise the Dead-Many people are alive physically but have lost hope. We raise the dead whenever we help others rediscover joy, purpose, faith, and hope.

Cleanse the Outcast-Jesus welcomed those whom society rejected. We are called to create a parish where everyone experiences dignity, belonging, and the love of Christ.

Cast Out Demons-The” demons” of our age include despair, addiction, violence, selfishness, materialism, division, and indifference to God. Through prayer, witness, and Christian living, we help free ourselves and others from these destructive forces.

What Does This Mean for Our Lady of Light Today?

The harvest around us is plentiful. There are children and young people seeking purpose. Families are carrying heavy burdens. Some elderly parishioners need companionship. Some neighbours have drifted away from the Church. People are longing for God’s mercy and truth. How can we respond?

1. Become Missionary Disciples: Every parishioner can intentionally share faith through daily witness, prayer, kindness, and invitation. A simple invitation to Mass or a parish event can change a life.

2. Invest in Young People: Our young people are not merely the future of the Church; they are the Church today. We need to accompany them, mentor them, involve them in ministry, leadership, service projects, music, outreach, and prayer. Young people, Jesus is calling you personally. Do not be afraid to offer your gifts, talents, and energy for His Kingdom.

3. Strengthen Families: Families are the first schools of discipleship. Let us encourage family prayer, Scripture sharing, and participation in parish life.

4. Reach Out to the Isolated: A phone call, visit, meal, or practical assistance can become a powerful sign of Christ’s compassion.

5. Pray for Vocations: Let us continue to pray for priestly and religious vocations, but also for vocations to Christian marriage, lay leadership, catechesis, youth ministry, service, and missionary discipleship.

6. Serve Freely: Jesus reminds us: “*You received without payment; give without payment*” [Mt 10:8]. Everything we have is God’s gift. Our time, talents, resources, and faith are meant to be shared generously.

A Final Challenge

The solution to the shortage of labourers begins with each one of us. Instead of asking only, “*Who will do this?*” let us ask, “Lord, what are You asking of me?” The harvest is still plentiful. Christ is still filled with compassion. The call is still being heard. May every member of Our Lady of Light Parish: children, youth, adults, families, and seniors, respond with generous hearts: “*Here am I; send me!*” [Is 6:8]

May Mary, Our Lady of Light, lead us to Christ and help us become joyful labourers in His abundant harvest.

Fr. Erick Balderas Vega M.Afr and Fr Henry Byamukama M.Afr

ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEWS

The Holy Name Society and Men's Club

The Holy Name Society and Men's Club invite you to a Father's Day Barbecue on **Saturday, June 20th, from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM** in the St. Catherine of Siena parking lot. **Admission is FREE.** Come and enjoy food, fellowship, and a wonderful day with family and friends.

Confirmation

Please keep the following Confirmand's in your prayer as they prepare for confirmation:

**Joseph Mckenzie
Lucas Oyero
Nnenna Akamnonu**

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated by Bishop Paul R. Sanchez.

We will join with two other parishes: St. Bonaventure-St. Benedict the Moor Parish and St. Pious V Parish.

Date: Saturday, June 27th, 2026

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: St. Bonaventure Catholic Church

2026 Graduates

We would like to honor our graduates who are graduating in 2026. We will publish the names of all who graduated from Elementary school to College in 2026. **The last day to submit graduate's name is Tuesday, June 23rd.**

Please email the rectory at ourladyoflights@gmail.com.

The following information

Name, School Name, Grade, Degree

We will celebrate our graduates at all our Sunday Masses on Sunday, June 28th.

SAVE THE DATE!

St. Vincent de Paul Society, St. Pascal Baylon Church will be hosting a Bake Sale on Sunday, June 28, 2026, at SPB Church after the 10:00 a.m. mass.

Assorted homemade "goodies" will be on sale: **Rum cake, Pound Cake, Carrot Cake, Fruit Cake, Breads, Puddings, Pastries and more. Tea and coffee are free with any purchase.**

All proceeds will go towards providing help to those who come to us for assistance. Please come out and support us.

SVDP Members

2026 Annual Catholic Appeal

We thank all who have participated with a gift to the 2025 Appeal and ask that everyone prayerfully consider making a gift to the 2026 Appeal. Our Lady of Light parish goal is **\$44,922.00**. As of 06/08/26 we have received \$81,228.00 pledged \$32,384 paid and balance due is \$48,844.00.

If you have already pledged, thank you for your support.

We thank all who have participated with a gift to the 2025 Appeal.

St. Catherine of Sienna Men's Club

St. Catherine of Sienna Men's Club

Invites you to

ATLANTIC CITY BUS TRIP

Bus leaves from

St. Catherine of Sienna Church

118-22 Riverton Street St. Albans, NY 11412

To: Caesars, Atlantic City

Cost:\$60.00 Rebate:\$20

Bus will load at church location at 7:30 am

And will depart at 8:00 am SHARP

For tickets please contact:

Deacon Luis Taylor (718) 723-9722

Mr. Casimir Agbi (917) 545-5951

Mr. Dwayne Taylor (917) 903-9423

Mr. Joseph Rajaram (917) 418-5771

LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE

Fr. Henry's 25th Ordination Anniversary

You are invited to celebrate Father Henry's 25 years of Faithful Priestly Leadership. On **August 14th, 8:00 PM to 1:00 AM, Antun's.** All you can eat and drink. You don't want to miss this event!

Parishioners have the option of paying for their tickets in installments.

**2nd payment on June 21st, and
final payment on July 19th.**

Please make your checks payable to Our Lady of Light .Adults \$150, Children 12 and under \$75.

For more information kindly contact Maxine Dinnall, Mary Lee, Millicent Platts, or Junie Hopkinson.

NEWS NOTES COMING SOON

SAVE THE DATE

St. Pascal Baylon Rosary Society

OLDIES BUT GOODIES DANCE PARTY

Friday, November 20th 7:00 PM – 12:00 AM

Come dressed in your best 70s or 80s attire and get ready to dance the night away!

More details to follow.

PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE 2027

Joins us as we travel around Greece and Turkey following in the footsteps of St. Paul. Land and sea trip with an optional extension to Istanbul.

The date for **Greece is October 10-30, 2027**

Optional extension to Istanbul October 30-

November 1, 2027. An informational meeting will be held via **ZOOM**

St. Johns University Speech and Hearing Center

The St. John's University Speech and Hearing Center will be offering "**Hearing Aid Help**" from **June 8, 2026 through July 30, 2026**. This is a free service and is available for anyone who has a hearing aid and may be experiencing some difficulty caring for it or using it.

The St. John's University Speech and Hearing Center will be offering **FREE** speech and hearing evaluations from **June 8, 2026 through July 30, 2026**.

Please call the center at 718.990.6480 to schedule an appointment. The Speech and Hearing Center is located at 152-11 Union Turnpike, Flushing, NY.

Heart to Hands Ministry Donation

Our Lady of Light's crochet and knitting group, Heart to Hands, is bringing joy and comfort to women and children of Hour Children this holiday season. With over two large bags filled with handmade crochet, knit, and loom hats, gloves and scarves, their gifts will keep the children and adults warm.

Heart to Hands now meets at the Best Life Senior Center on Farmers Blvd., after relocating from St. Pascal's parish hall to ensure accessibility for all members.

A special thank you goes to the Loomers of Rochdale Village Library, whose generous donation of loom-crafted items added even more love to this collection.

Together, these groups embody the true meaning of community—hands and hearts working in harmony to uplift others. If you would like to donate yarn to Heart to Hands, please contact the rectory.

Catholic Charities Call Center

Catholic Charities Call Center will help you get assistance with

- Behavioral Health Services
- Care Coordination
- Early Childhood & Head Start Programs
- Emergency Food Pantry
- Family Stabilization Programs
- Housing Information
- Immigration Services
- Limited Financial Assistance
- Senior Services
- Information & Referrals to Other Services
- Access to the Community Outreach Services

Call the Call Center at 718.722.6001, Monday-Friday, 8am-6:30am or visit www.ccbq.org and ask our Chatbot Sonya for help. For more info on events and activities, visit www.ccbq.org/liveitup.

St. Clare Catholic Academy

St. Clare Catholic Academy 137-25 Brookville Blvd. Rosedale, NY 11422. Registration is now open for the 2026/27 Academic School Year Seats available from FREE 3k and 4K programs. Grades Kindergarten through Eight Grade. Call us now 718-528-7174. Visit us at www.stclarecatholicacademy.org.

“What Do You Have in Your Hands?”

CHRISTIAN GIVING IS EUCHARISTIC

When the Lord asked Moses, “*What is that in your hand?*” [Exodus 4:2], **He invited Moses to recognise the power of what he already possessed.** The staff he carried, ordinary and shaped by daily life, became extraordinary when he returned it to God in trust. This poignant question resonates throughout Scripture and finds its deepest meaning in the Eucharist, whose very essence is thanksgiving.

Time and again, **God begins not with abundance, but with what is already held in grateful hands.** A widow may possess only a small jar of oil, yet when she offers it in faith, it never runs dry. A young boy provides five loaves and two fish, and in Jesus' hands, they transform into nourishment for thousands. Another widow places two small coins into the temple treasury, and the Lord sees in her gift the fullness of a grateful heart. **In every instance, the gift may be small, yet the offering remains total. And in each case, thanksgiving unlocks God's transformative power. This is the mystery we enter every time we approach the altar.**

The bread and wine we offer are described as the “**fruit of the earth and work of human hands.**” They gather the ordinary substance of our lives; our labour, time, resources, joys, and struggles- and present them before God in gratitude. As St. Irenaeus taught, in offering these gifts, the Church returns creation itself to the Creator with thanksgiving, and God responds by filling them with His divine life.

At the heart of the Eucharist stands Christ Himself, who takes, gives thanks, breaks, and distributes. Thanksgiving is not merely spoken; it is enacted. What is offered is not lost but transformed. What is broken is not destroyed but shared. St. Augustine reminds us that at the altar, we offer not just bread and wine, but ourselves. Our lives, like the staff of Moses, the oil of the widow, the loaves of the child, and the coins of the poor, are taken up into Christ's perfect thanksgiving to the Father. This is why **Christian giving transcends mere practicality; it is Eucharistic. It flows from gratitude.** St. John Chrysostom teaches that true generosity is born when the heart recognises that all it possesses is a gift, and that nothing placed in God's hands is ever wasted.

Each Eucharist gently asks us again: *What do you have in your hands today?* What we bring may appear small, but when offered in thanksgiving, it becomes united to Christ's self-gift. In His hands, our humble offerings become blessings for many. May the Eucharist continually transform us into a people of thanksgiving; grateful in prayer, generous in providing, and confident that God can achieve more with our gifts than we can ever imagine.

GiveCentral

We understand that most transactions today are done electronically. We want to provide you with that same convenient option at church. We believe that it benefits everyone to offer this flexible online tool. Please visit www.givecentral.org and take a few minutes to set up your donations! **We're pleased to offer mobile donations! Our text to give number is 712-217-3511. Text "SUNDAY" to easily make a donation.**

Give Central QR Code

To donate just scan.



IMPORTANT PARISH REMINDERS

The Sacrament of Baptism for Infants

Parents may contact the parish office to arrange for the baptism of their child at least one month in advance. Infant Baptisms are held on the third Sunday of the month at one of our weekend masses. Parents must be registered in Our Lady of Light or the parish they attend and participate in a Baptismal Preparation class.

Religious Education for Children and Youth:

Location and Times: Our Parish Faith Formation program takes place on Sunday mornings, in person this year. For more information, please contact , Deacon Marcial Cordon Director of Faith Formation, at 718 528-1220 or email at dre101269@diobrook.org

Ages and Requirements: Our program welcomes children and youth who are three years old through High School. We accept and prepare children and youth who have not received the Sacraments.

Parental Responsibilities: Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, reminds us in his new General Directory for Catechesis that those being catechized can live their life in a simple and spontaneous way. We are called to accompany each other on a journey toward Christ, with parents/guardians taking the lead for their children. In addition to having an active participation in the faith formation of their children, Parents or Guardians are also expected to attend Mass with their children and to attend parental preparations for Sacraments.

Reception of Sacraments for School Aged Children: Parents who would like for their child to receive the Sacraments must register them in our parish Sacramental Preparation Program. Our Program requires that children attend and prepare for two complete and consecutive academic years prior to the reception of each Sacrament. The Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion is received beginning in grade 2 and up. The Sacrament of Confirmation requires attendance and preparation in our 2 year Confirmation Sacramental Preparation program. Confirmation preparation begins in grades 7 & 8. For each of the Sacraments, there is an extra fee, to cover the costs of the ceremonies. For more information, please contact, Deacon Marcial Cordon Director of Religious Education.

Reception of Sacraments for Adults (RCIA): Our Parish offers the RCIA program for those, ages 16 years and older, who are interested in becoming Catholic. It is also for those who have been baptized and in need of receiving the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation. The Rite of Christian Initiation program is offered year- round and is also available for children ages 8 and older through the Rite of Christian Initiation Adapted for Children program. Please contact Deacon Marcial Cordon , Director of Faith Formation to register or for more information.

Continuing Faith Formation for Adults: Our parish provides opportunities for lifelong faith formation through small faith sharing groups and bible studies. Please check our website, bulletin or contact the Faith Formation Office for more information.

The Sacrament of Marriage

Since Catholic marriage requires a time of preparation, arrangements should begin at least six months before the proposed date of the wedding to allow for the Marriage Preparation Program. Registered, participating and contributing parishioners, not a third party, may contact the parish office to begin the process.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

If you are entering a hospital for surgery, experiencing a prolonged or serious illness, or are very weak due to advancement of age, call the parish office to arrange for the Sacraments of reconciliation, communion and anointing at home. We can also arrange for a Eucharistic Minister to continue to visit you with the Blessed Sacrament. We are here to serve you, please call.

Funerals

The family member or friend handling the funeral arrangements are asked to contact the pastor to arrange a consolation visit from one of the Priests. He will help you with any questions you may have with planning the Wake and Funeral Mass. The Parish wishes to be with you at this moment of need, all other arrangements involving the church must be initiated by the funeral director. Strict adherence to the Roman Catholic Ritual for Funerals will be followed in all parish involved activities..

Proof of Parish Participation

References and proof of parish residency for both civil and religious purposes can only be provided for registered parishioners. Catholic Schools offering a discount for children of parents who are active members of their parish usually require that the family be registered at least six months previously in their home parish. It is also assumed that the children are registered in the religious education program of the home parish.

**Welcome
New
Members**



To all our Visitors: We hope you felt at home at the Feast of our Lord with your brothers & sister in Christ. We pray you will join us again! Letters proving membership for reference, referrals, recommendations or for any other reason, will only be provided to registered parishioners. **If we don't know you , we can't vouch for you!**

REGISTRATION

Registration is important in the event you may need testimonial letters, for baptism/confirmation sponsorships, wedding plans etc.! If we don't know you, we can't vouch for you! **Please register TODAY! Thank you!**

Name _____ Envelopes: Yes _____ No _____

Address _____ Apt.# _____

City _____ Zip code _____

Telephone # _____

REGISTRATION UPDATE REQUEST: Envelope number _____

Change name to: _____ Change address to: _____

**SCAN
TO REGISTER**

