

Our Lady of Light Parish



By Mikedra 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

Twelfth Sunday In Ordinary Time, June 21, 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

**Twelfth Sunday In Ordinary Time
Sunday, June 21, 2026**

Sunday: Jeremiah 20:10-13, Psalm 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35, Romans 5:12-15, Matthew 10:26-33
Monday: 2 Kings 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18, Psalm 60:3, 4-5, 12-13, Matthew 7:1-5
Tuesday: 2 Kings 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36m, Psalm 48:2-3Ab, 3cd-4, 10-11, Matthew 7:6, 12-14
Wednesday: Jeremiah 1:4-10, Psalm 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab and 17, 1 Peter 1:8-12, Luke 1:5-17
Thursday: 2 Kings 24:8-17, Psalm 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9, Matthew 7:21-29
Friday: 2 Kings 25:1-12, Psalm 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6, Matthew 8:1-4
Saturday: Lamentations 2:2, 10-14, 18-19, Psalm 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-21, Matthew 8:5-17

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 21st

8:00 AM
10:00 AM

Monday, June 22nd

8:00 AM
9:00 AM

Tuesday, June 23rd

8:00 AM
9:00 AM

Wednesday, June 24th

8:00 AM
9:00 AM

Thursday, June 25th

8:00 AM
9:00 AM

Friday, June 26th

8:00 AM
9:00 AM

Saturday, June 27th

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 Pitiler, 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 06/15//26	#of Adults	#of Children	Collections	
8:00 AM	88	5	\$1,121.00	
10:00 AM	112	15	\$1,310.00	
12:30 PM	35	6	\$116.00	
Online	N/A	N/A	\$856.00	
Totals	235	26	\$3,403.00	

TWELVETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A
READINGS: JEREMIAH 20:10-13; ROMANS 5:12-15; MATTHEW 10:26-33

“Do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”

[Matthew 10:31]

Dear Our Lady of Light family, We welcome you to the 12th Sunday of the year with the beautiful words from the Lord: **“Do not be afraid”** Fear is one of the most universal human experiences. **We fear rejection, failure, illness, uncertainty, violence, loneliness, and even the act of speaking the truth when it may come at a cost.** Jesus understood that His disciples would encounter opposition and misunderstanding, which is why He repeatedly assures us in this Sunday’s Gospel: **“Do not be afraid.” These words are not only a source of comfort; they serve as a call to courageous faith.**

Fear entered the human narrative early on. After Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, Adam’s first response to God was, *“I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid”* [Genesis 3:10]. **Fear is often intertwined with sin, mistrust, and separation from God. The evil one exploits fear as a powerful tool to discourage, divide, and silence God’s people. It can hinder us from doing what is right, from speaking the truth, or from responding generously to God’s call.**

Yet, throughout salvation history, **God speaks words of reassurance to those He calls.** To Moses before he confronted Pharaoh, to Jeremiah amid persecution, to the prophets facing opposition, to Joseph in a dream, and to Mary at the Annunciation, the message remains the same **“Do not be afraid.”** This encouragement is one of the most frequently repeated commands in Sacred Scripture. Christian writers often highlight its prevalence in the Bible, reminding us that **God desires His children to live not in fear, but in trust. Let us embrace this message and cultivate a faith that conquers fear.**

Trusting God Amid Opposition

The prophet Jeremiah knew what it meant to be afraid. He was mocked, opposed, and threatened because he faithfully proclaimed God’s message. He heard people whispering against him: *“Terror on every side!”* [Jeremiah 20:10]. Yet in the midst of fear and persecution, Jeremiah made a profound act of trust: *“But the Lord is with me, like a mighty champion.”* [Jeremiah 20:11] **Jeremiah teaches us that faith is not the absence of fear. Rather, faith is choosing to trust God even when fear surrounds us.**

Grace Is Greater Than Sin

In the Letter to the Romans, St. Paul reminds us that while sin entered the world through one man, Adam, God’s grace entered through Jesus Christ and is far more powerful [Romans 5:12-15]. If fear entered the world through humanity’s fall, hope and freedom enter through Christ’s redemption. **Fear often comes from our awareness of weakness, failure, and vulnerability. Yet Christ’s saving grace is greater than every human weakness.** As St. John Paul II famously proclaimed at the beginning of his pontificate: *“Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors for Christ.”* When Christ enters our hearts, fear no longer has the final word.

Courage in Witness

Jesus tells His disciples: *“What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light.”* [Matthew 10:27] The Gospel is not a private possession but a gift meant to be shared. The disciples were called to proclaim

the Good News openly, and so are we. Jesus then teaches an important lesson about fear: “*Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.*” [Matthew 10:28] **Human beings can threaten, criticise, exclude, or misunderstand us, but they cannot separate us from God’s love. Only God holds our lives in His hands.**

The God Who Knows Every Sparrow

One of the most beautiful images in this Gospel is that of the sparrows: “*Not one of them falls to the ground without your Father’s knowledge.*” [Matthew 10:29] If God notices even the smallest bird, how much more does He care for each of us? Jesus goes even further: “*Even all the hairs of your head are counted.*” [Matthew 10:30] **God’s love is not general or distant. It is personal. He knows our struggles, our anxieties, our family concerns, our health challenges, and the burdens we carry in silence.** St. Augustine beautifully wrote: “*God loves each one of us as if there were only one of us.*”

Living This Message in Queens

Here in Queens, one of the most diverse communities in the world, many families carry real fears. Some worry about economic pressures, rising living costs, job security, immigration concerns, public safety, the future of their children, or caring for ageing parents. Young people often face pressure to conform to values that do not reflect the Gospel. In such circumstances, Jesus’s words are especially relevant: “**Do not be afraid.**” **He does not promise a life without difficulties. Instead, He promises His presence in every difficulty.** As Christians, we are called to witness to our faith in ordinary ways:

- By praying openly and faithfully.
- By defending the dignity of every human person.
- By welcoming newcomers and supporting those who feel isolated.
- By living with honesty and integrity in our workplaces and schools.
- By speaking about Christ without embarrassment or shame.

The world does not need louder Christians as much as it needs faithful Christians.

A Challenge for This Week

This week, identify one fear that has been holding you back from living your faith more fully. Bring that fear to prayer and entrust it to Jesus. **Ask yourself:** *Am I afraid of what others think of my faith? Am I afraid to forgive? Am I afraid to trust God with an uncertain future? Am I afraid to speak the truth with charity?* Then listen again to the Lord’s words: “*Do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.*” [Matthew 10:31]

Fear asks, “What might happen to me?” Faith asks, “What is God asking of me?” When we keep our eyes on Christ, fear loses its power and trust takes its place. [St. John Paul II.]

Lord Jesus, You know our fears, anxieties, and uncertainties. Help us to trust in Your loving care. St Pascal Baylon and St. Catherine of Siena, pray for us. Our Lady of Light leads us to walk in faith, not in fear. Amen.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEWS

Father's Day Prayer

Father, it is Your Commandment that we should honor our fathers; hear the prayers we offer You for them. Grant them many years on earth and keep them in health of mind and body. Bless their word and all they do. Give them back a hundred-fold whatever they have done for us. Inspire them with Your love and help them to fulfill Your holy law. One day, may we be their comfort and support, so that having enjoyed their affection on earth we may have the joy of being with them forever in Your home in Heaven. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following young ladies who received the "Youth of the Year" Award on Sunday, June 14th from the St. Pascal Baylon Rosary Society:

Prudence Aifuobhokhan

Nnenna Akamnonu

Joie-Joie Logossou

We wish them well in their future academic endeavors and we extend best wishes and congratulations to their parents also.

SPB Rosary Society

Mrs. Maxine Dinnall, President

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 me at ourladyoflightsa@gmail.com. The following information

Name, School Name, Grade, Degree

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

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 06/15/26 we have received \$81,298.00 pledged \$35,254 paid and balance due is \$46,044.00. If you have already pledge, thank you for your support. **We thank all who have participated with a gift to the 2025 Appeal.**

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

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

NEWS NOTES COMING SOON

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.

SAVE THE DATES

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENNA ROSARY
SOCIETY OF OUR LADY OF LIGHT PARISH
INVITES ALL TO JOIN US FOR OUR
WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION WEEK
Theme - **"I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND
THE LIGHT"**

WOMEN'S DAY PRAYER NIGHT -
Tuesday - October 20, 2026 - 7:30 P.M.-
St. Catherine of Sienna Church

WOMEN'S DAY BRUNCH
Saturday - October 24, 2026 - 12:00 A.M.- 4:00
P.M.

DETAILS TO FOLLOW !

WOMEN'S DAY MASS
Sunday - October 25, 2026 - 8:00 A.M. Mass
LADIES, PLEASE WEAR WHITE

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 70's or 80's attire.
Get Ready to Dance the Night Away
More details to follow.

PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE 2027

Join 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.

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.

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.

“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**

