

# The Parish Family of Our Lady of Perpetual Help



**Celebrating 113 Years:  
1905-2018**

as the Mother Church of Polonia in the  
Greater New Bedford Area  
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## **Conventual Franciscan Friars:**

Father Conrad Salach, O.F.M. Conv., Pastor  
[fracms@yahoo.com](mailto:fracms@yahoo.com)

## **Masses:**

Saturday (Lord's Day Vigil) .....4:00 PM  
Sunday Bi-Lingual English-Polish..... 10:00 AM  
Monday-Saturday .....7:30 AM  
Holy Day .....Please consult the bulletin

## **Devotions:**

Rosary: Lord's Day before Mass  
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament:  
First Fridays after Mass  
Divine Mercy Novena:  
Good Friday to Easter Saturday  
OLPH Triduum: June 24, 25, 26

**Parish Registration:** If you are new to the area, we welcome you to join our Parish Family. Please introduce yourself after Mass or at the rectory.

**Baptism:** Kindly consult with the Pastor at least a month in advance. Baptism Preparation Class is required.

**Reconciliation:** Confessions are heard before Saturday morning and Saturday evening Masses and at other times upon request.

**Marriage:** Kindly consult with the Pastor one year before your planned wedding date.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Kindly advise Father Conrad of your impending operation or current hospital stay, so that you can receive this sacrament of healing.

**Ministry to Parishioners Confined to Home:** Housebound parishioners are urged to notify Father Conrad of your desire to receive the sacraments.

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:** As a Parish Family, we strive to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ and emulate Him through His teachings. We honor Mary our Mother and promote a strong community through service and ministry. We extend our hands and open our hearts to embrace all people in unity, young and old, wishing to join us in worshipping together as a Parish Family in the spirit of Franciscan Joy, Peace and Love.

**THIS WEDNESDAY IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION,** the ***Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Blessed Mother into Heaven.*** As Catholics, our duty and obligation, under pain of serious sin, is to ***"assist at Mass on all Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation."***

Our Holy Day Masses will be celebrated Tuesday afternoon (the Vigil) at 5:30 and Wednesday morning at 7:30.



**FLOWERS** have been associated with the Blessed Mother since the time of her Assumption into Heaven. The custom of blessing flowers on this Solemnity has continued through the ages.

You are invited to bring flowers from your garden and put them in front of the altar before Mass for a blessing; then take them home to enjoy.

**THE PARISH COUNCIL** will meet in the parish hall this Tuesday evening, August 14th, at 6:30, that is, after the 5:30 Holy Day Mass. ***Autumn Fest 2018*** will be the main item on the agenda. This will be an open meeting; everyone is invited. Your input is very much valued.

**FEEDING THE HUNGRY** is one of the Corporal Works of Mercy. Just a reminder that there is a **basket in the main vestibule all year 'round** for donations of non-perishable food items (canned goods, peanut butter, cereal, dry pasta, etc). Every food item is gratefully used at the various food pantries sponsored by Catholic Charities.

**OLPH IS COOL!** Ours is one of the very few churches in the area to enjoy the blessing of air-conditioning, but most non-parishioners don't even know about it. You would be doing your friends and neighbors a kindness by letting them know and inviting them to join us in air-conditioned comfort for Mass.

**THE ANNUAL FRANCISCAN MISSION APPEAL** will be conducted here next weekend. The proceeds will help support the Friar's ministry of caring for the poor and building up the Church in the Franciscan missions of Ghana, Zambia, Uganda, Paraguay, Peru, India, Vietnam, South Korea, and Russia.

Father Piotr Dabek, O.F.M. Conv., a native of Poland who is currently a missionary in Uganda, will share some reflections with us about the ministry of our Franciscan Friars in our many foreign missions.

The Friars thank you in advance for the generosity of your hearts.

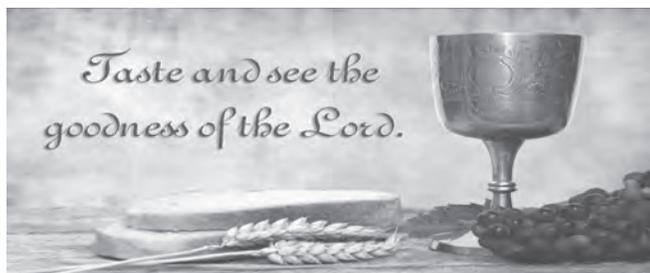
To learn more about Franciscan missions, go to [franciscanmission.org](http://franciscanmission.org)

**CHOOSE LIFE!...** Many people do not realize that Roe v. Wade legalized abortion through all nine months of pregnancy. Roe says abortions may not be restricted at all during the first three months of pregnancy, and in the second three months may be regulated only for the mother's health. After "viability," Roe allows abortion to be prohibited but must make an exception for the woman's life or health.

But in Roe's companion case, Doe v. Bolton, the court defined "health" to include "all factors — physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman's age—relevant to the well-being" of the mother. In most states, that is broad enough to permit virtually any abortion in the seventh, eighth, or ninth months of pregnancy if any of these reasons is invoked.

May a change in the U.S. Supreme Court move our nation closer to the day when every human being is protected in law and welcomed in life.

**This Friday, and every Friday until September 28th, we are invited to join in a nation-wide effort of prayer (one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory Be) and fasting (e.g., abstaining from meat) to help accomplish this.**

**Sat. - Aug. 11 - 19th Sunday Ordinary Time**

**4:00 PM** +Alvin Bodzioch  
(Birthday & 3rd Anniv.)  
Req. Ann Bodzioch Bojack  
& Michael Robinson

**Sun. - Aug. 12 - 19th Sunday Ordinary Time**

**10:00 AM** +Eugene, +Ulena, & +Marie  
Chaberek  
Req. Bourque Family

**Mon. - Aug. 13 - Sts. Pontian & Hippolytus**

**7:30 AM** OLPH Parishioners,  
Living & Deceased

**Tues. - Aug. 14 - St. Maximilian Kolbe**

**7:30 AM** Special Intention  
Req. Anthony Wrobel

**Tues. - Aug. 14 - Assumption of B.V.M.  
(A Holy Day of Obligation)**

OLPH Parishioners,  
Living & Deceased

**Wed. - Aug. 15 - Assumption of B.V.M.  
(A Holy Day of Obligation)**

**7:30 AM** +Rita Schemm  
Req. Sons, Tom & George

**Thurs. - Aug. 16 - St. Stephen of Hungary**

**7:30 AM** Health & Return to Sobriety  
Req. Gus S.

**Fri. - Aug. 17 - Weekday**

**7:30 AM** +Henry Smialkowski

**Sat. - Aug. 18 - Blessed Virgin Mary**

**7:30 AM** +Connie Mazzulla

**Sat. - Aug. 18 - 20th Sunday Ordinary Time**

**4:00 PM** +Dr. John Wolkowicz  
Req. Friends of Poland

**Sun. - Aug. 19 - 20th Sunday Ordinary Time**

**10:00 AM** Health of Bogumila Kwit  
Req. Helena Falkowska

Brothers and Sisters of Our Parish Family,

Have you ever wondered about those stories of burying statues upside down to sell a house, novenas that insist on certain requirements, (e.g., making lots of hand-written copies of a prayer) in order for your prayer to be answered, or that the sudden appearance of a flower means that you will get what you are praying for?

These and other such practices are superstitions that some people have attached to what we call intercessory prayer. In intercessory prayer one asks a saint to unite his or her prayers with ours and intercede to God for us. This can be a very powerful source of grace. But it is essential that we pray with faith and trust.

We can be assured that, when we pray with faith and trust in God, He will answer our prayers in the way that He knows is best for us. Praying on a regular and persistent basis, either directly to God or in union with the saints and angels, is an important part of building and maintaining a personal relationship with God.

While some practices might seem like harmless and pious customs, we need to be aware of the line between legitimate prayer and superstition. The Catechism of the Catholic Church defines superstition as attributing *"the efficacy of prayers or of sacramental signs to their mere external performance, apart from the interior dispositions that they demand"* (CCC, 2111).

When prayers or practices have a lot of specific requirements or guarantees, the likelihood of superstition increases. Instead, it is important that we develop a quiet, patient trust in God. Novenas, candles, and statues can be consoling reminders that God and His angels and saints love us, but these reminders cannot substitute for faith.

Peace and Blessings,

Father Conrad