

SAT. OCT. 25 7:30 PM — 12:30 AM
 TICKETS... \$20 ADVANCE \$25 AT THE DOOR. FOR SALE AT OLG RECTORY, 201-659-0369

EVENT IS FOR GOWBOYS AND GOWGIRLS 21 AND OVER... GIDDY UP!



FULL OF GRACE *News*

Church of Our Lady of Grace & St. Joseph, 400 Willow Avenue, Hoboken, NJ 07030

October 2008, Issue 12

Tour Guide

Recently, some visitors to Hoboken stopped by to chat after Mass and when I discovered that they were staying in Secaucus, I told them about the great hotels in downtown Jersey City. Each week, I meet people from all over the country, and even the world, who are visiting adult children or friends in Hoboken. I find myself telling them about the great places to visit in town, giving directions and being a booster of the sights and sounds of the Mile Square City. It's also heartening to hear their observations about the shopping, food and people.



I also see their awe as they talk about Our Lady of Grace Church, which next month, November 10th to be exact, will turn 130 years old. "They don't build churches like this any more" or "I've never seen any church like this!" are some of the expressions I hear all the time. If the walls could speak about the lives of thousands of people who would come faithfully to church so that it was filled to capacity (1400 at the time) for every Mass on every Sunday, what stories we'd hear. Many first and second generation immigrants could find work on the docks and piers, in the factories that dotted Hudson County, and raise their families in modest surroundings. Sunday was a time to give thanks to God and find a sense of common purpose among their neighbors and friends. Life might have been simpler in the last century and faith was a guide to good and decent living.

I am amazed at the diversity of the people who worship today. Not only their geographical origins, their economic backgrounds or whatever else distinguishes one from another. And what is common for all is that church and faith still serve as a compass or anchor to face the challenges of daily life. We don't need as large a structure and yet people stream in and walk out with a feeling that life in community is worth living. This sacred space is hallowed ground that also connects us to the traditions and wisdom of the Catholic Church, which serves as a living guide to God and Jesus.

I find more joy in giving those kinds of directions.

Peace,

Father Alex Santora

Pastor

Mass Schedules

OUR LADY OF GRACE CHURCH

Saturday Confessions, 4:00 to 4:50pm
 and Vigil Mass, 5:00pm
 Sunday Masses, 9:00am, 10:30am,
 12:30pm (Spanish), 7:30pm

Daily Masses in the Chapel, 411 Clinton
 Monday to Friday, 12:30pm
 Monday to Thursday, 7:00pm

Our Lady of Grace Church is located at 400 Willow Avenue, between 4th & 5th Streets. There is limited parking next to the church and public parking in the Mid-Town Garage on Clinton and 4th Streets. Contact us at (201) 659-0369 or olgrace@optonline.net, or visit us at www.olghoboken.com.

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

Sunday 10:00am (Spanish), 12:00pm

St. Joseph Church is located at 61 Monroe Street, between First St. & Paterson Avenue. There is a large parking lot next to the church.

GIVE THANKS

Join us Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27, 2008, for a 9:00am, Bi-Lingual Mass. Bread donated by Marie's Bakery, 2nd & Park, is blessed and distributed. Collection benefits the Hoboken Shelter and In Jesus' Name Charities.

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HALLOWEEN HOEDOWN

Saturday, October 25, 2008



Don't be surprised if you see Roy Rogers and Dale Evans walking down the streets of Hoboken en route to the "Halloween Hoedown" at Our Lady of Grace Church Hall on Saturday, October 25, 2008. They will be joining the other western would-be look alikes for the annual Halloween social and dance.

Though costumes are optional, you need to dress up to win several of the costume prizes. But every one's a winner when you see what a \$20 advance ticket (\$25 at the door) will buy: food, a free drink, prizes, dancing to a DJ and a great time. And don't forget to taste the signature drink of the evening, The Giddyup! Tickets are available at the rectory next to the church or by calling (201) 659-0369.

OLG ON THE WEB

by Chelsea Dodd

Did you know that Our Lady of Grace has a website?

At olghoboken.com, visitors can find everything from parish activities and ministries to Mass schedules and information on joining the OLG and St. Joseph community.

Our IT task force, consisting of Eugenia Deile, Chelsea Dodd, Gerri Lupo, Joe Hemler and Margaret Parry, works to improve our website and keep the community updated on the latest happenings in the parish. The task force meets monthly to develop new ideas for making the website user-friendly for its visitors and a valuable tool for our community.



The latest features added to the website include event photo albums, parish history and details about the sacraments and R.C.I.A. Visit olghoboken.com often to explore more about our community, and to check out the frequent updates and changes to the site.

The new young adult group at OLG is also on the web at Facebook.com. The Facebook group "Young Adults of Our Lady of Grace, Hoboken, NJ" serves as a way for our 20- to 40-year-old parishioners to meet and keep in touch. This page is updated regularly with upcoming events. If you are a member of Facebook, please check out our group page to learn more.

For more information about our IT task force or our young adults group, email olgrace@optonline.net.



CHILDREN DANCE TO THE MUSIC

by Megan Moffit

Some families have Christmas traditions like going to see the show "A Christmas Carol" or "The Nutcracker" every year during the holiday season. The family at Church of Our Lady of Grace and St. Joseph is starting a new tradition of putting on the show "Christmas Spectacular"! Megan Moffit, Pastoral Associate, and parishioner Maureen Straub, both trained in dance and theatre, will organize children pre-school through eighth grade in a Christmas dance performance and Christmas pageant. The rehearsals are held Mondays from 4:30 to 5:30pm in the choir room at Our Lady of Grace Church.

The rehearsals are open to all kids and no performance experience is necessary. The performance date is Saturday, December 20, at 7:00pm in the OLG parish hall. Contact Megan Moffit at (201) 659-0369 to register your child in the show. We hope you will join us as the children put a little Christmas spirit in our hearts.

YOUNG & FAITHFUL

by Catherine Hannibal



Recently young adults sat down for dinner to discuss ways they could help foster a stronger sense of community for young adults (ages 18-40) at OLG. The ideas generated by the committee propelled two promising "start-up" spiritual and social fall events.

At a monthly spiritual group – every 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:45pm in the chapel at 411 Clinton St. – young adults meet to discuss spirituality in their lives, ending the meeting with a prayer and brief meditation.

Afterward, drinks and food out on the town for whoever is interested in carrying on the discussion. The meetings are co-ed.

Earlier this month, they day-tripped through western NJ for pumpkin and apple picking. This event provided a great opportunity for people to get to know each other and served as a festive prelude to the Halloween Hoedown on October 25. Currently, ideas are being floated for a Christmas Seasonal Social that may include a holiday gingerbread house-making party, a holiday semi-formal dinner and more. The planning committee is eager to hear your ideas.

To be included for future events, e-mail Megan Moffit directly at olg@optonline.net with your e-mail contact and suggestions.

Please join the **2nd planning committee meeting on November 2 at the rectory next to the church at 5:00 pm**, when we will discuss how our start-up events have been going this fall and generate more ideas for community building. It will be a potluck, so bring those award-winning garlic mashed potatoes or a plate of your grandma's famous chocolate chip cookies and gather round the table!

CHRISTMAS PREMIERE

Our Lady of Grace will present a Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 14, 2008, at 6:00pm in the cathedral-sized church. One of the top adult choruses in the nation, the Canticum Novum Singers, under the direction of renowned conductor Harold Rosenbaum, will return.

Among the selections to be performed will be an original work by Hoboken native Daniel Castellanos, an eighth grader at the St. Thomas Choir School, New York City. His "Eternal Light" (2008), a setting of a prayer by the eighth-century abbot Alcuin of York, was characterized by THE NEW YORK TIMES as "straightforward, serene and attractively harmonized; nothing about it marks it as the work of a child."