

# Our Lady Queen of Peace

DECEMBER 19, 2021

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

Luke 1:39-40



## FOURTH Sunday OF *Advent*

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Dorothy Feula and Harriet Sottile, Lay Trustees

### Mass Schedule

Saturday - 5:00 PM  
Sunday - 8:00, 10:00 AM\* and 12:00 Noon  
Monday-Saturday 8:30 AM  
Holy days - See Bulletin  
\*Livestreamed on Facebook

### Reconciliation

Saturday - 1:00 PM or by appointment

### Emergency Contact

(funerals, anointings, etc.)  
(201) 845-9566 ext. 3

Baptism - Please call to arrange for your child's baptism soon after birth.

### RCIA

Adults desiring to be baptized, confirmed or become a Catholic, please contact the Parish Office

### Anointing of the Sick

Please call for a priest to schedule this Sacrament of healing and forgiveness for someone who is seriously ill or in danger of death. Do not wait until the sick person is unconscious.

### Matrimony

All Catholics should seek to have their marriage blessed by the Church so as to live in God's good grace and receive the Holy Eucharist. Contact a priest a year prior to the intended date of marriage to ensure proper preparation.

**Parish Center Office Hours** Monday through Thursday: 9AM - 12N / 1PM - 3PM; Friday: 9AM - 1PM

[www.olqp.org](http://www.olqp.org)

[parish@olqp.org](mailto:parish@olqp.org)

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## + Mass Intentions

**December 19, 2021 to December 26, 2021**

### Sunday - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

12/19 8:00 am George and Virginia Tracey  
 10:00 am People of the Parish  
 12:00 pm John Hrablook

### Monday - Advent Weekday

12/20 8:30 am Norma Claudia

### Tuesday - Advent Weekday [Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church]

12/21 8:30 am John "Jack" Jordan

### Wednesday - Advent Weekday

12/22 8:30 am Mary Brandt

### Thursday - Advent Weekday [Saint John of Kanty, Priest]

12/23 8:30 am Jorge and Rosa Osorio

### Friday - Advent Weekday

12/24 8:30 am Sean David Quigley  
 5:00 pm John Hrablook  
 10:00 pm Cathy Cordasco

### Saturday - THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (Christmas) Solemnity [Holy Day of Obligation]

12/25 8:00 am Angel Junior Montilla  
 10:00 am Giuseppe "Joe" Percontino  
 12:00 pm Jose Nunes

### Sunday - THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH *Feast*

12/26 8:00 am The Georgetti Family  
 10:00 am Loretta Moylan  
 12:00 pm People of the Parish



Please park in designated parking spaces only. To ensure everyone's safety, please do not park on the fire lanes by the driveways. Thank you

## December 19, 2021 - Today's Readings

**First Reading** — From Bethlehem-Ephrathah shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:1-4a).  
**Psalm** — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).



**Second Reading** — We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:5-10).

**Gospel** — Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled (Luke 1:39-45).  
 The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## Please Remember in Your Prayers

### Rest in Peace

Gerard Alan Bezak

### Sick Relatives and Friends

Mary Adamo Cristina Aguilar Josefina Baldoza Mary Ellen Barberia Dcn. Anthony Balestrieri Claire Borrello Dorothy Brush Cardinal Burke Ginny Cattaneo Carmen Cepeda Carmen Maria Colon Brian Connors Joseph Cortese Richard DeSpagna Sally DeSpagna Emily DeStefano Phil Dimitri Eileen Diverio Mark Diverio Mario Elia Emily Ferreira	Yancey Garcia Gardenia Hougbo Richard Ivors Dominic Jengo Rosemarie Kaminski Rev. Michael Kreder Alice Liso Diane Lohrer Deacon Joseph Mantineo Gerry Marcincavage John McMullen Sonia Medrano Andrew J. Mendez Frankie Monnecka Deanna Mooney Jim Moran Barbara Nelson Gemma Olliges Sharon Osnowitz Mike Panasuik Harriet Pellicione <b>Mia Pensari</b> Vallie Pompilio	Mary Pontilla Christopher Quinn Francis Quinn Robert Raimo Melissa Finck-Ruisch Elsy Ruiz Fran Sampson Wilbert Santos Cindy Sommers Pat Sommers Joanne Sontag Joseph Steiner Carolyn Sobering Jacqueline Sullivan Liam Justin Torres Maria Viva Mary Walker Andrew Wey Julia Whitney Joyce Wilson *Names in bold are new to the list
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## Weekly Memorials

### Altar Bread and Wine

in Memory of Jack, Maureen and Jackie Taylor  
*by Donna, Rich, Ryan and Karly*

### Altar Candles

in Memory of Michael Nunes  
*by Teresa Nunes*

### Blessed Mother Candle

in Memory of John Hrablook  
*by Lauren Hrablook*

### St Joseph Candle

in Memory of Samuel, Sr. and Frances Monaco  
*by Maryann Monaco*

### Advent Wreath Candle

for the Living and Deceased Members  
 of the Martinez and Lopez Families  
*by Justine Garcia*

## Blessing of Prayer Shawls



If you are adding someone to our Parish sick list, please consider the healing power of these beautiful shawls. They are prayed over by the Prayer Shawl Ministry and blessed by our Pastor. If you know of someone you think is in need of a Prayer Shawl, please contact the Parish Center: 201-845-9566 or email [prayershawl@olqp.org](mailto:prayershawl@olqp.org)

## The Meanings and Traditions of Advent

Advent is a time of preparation. We prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ, and welcome his presence into our lives. During a time of Christmas shopping, holiday parties, and family gatherings, it can be hard to find the time to prepare properly for this faith-filled season. However, the Catholic Church has a rich history of traditions to help keep our minds focused on the true meaning of the season.

In an interview with EWTN News In Depth, Dominican Father Patrick Mary Briscoe, host of the Godsplaining podcast, discussed the history of Advent and how it began in the fourth century. "It was originally a kind of time of preparation for people that were preparing for baptism," he said. "The feast of the epiphany was a great day in the old calendar, it used to be alighted with the feast of the baptism of the Lord."

Since it was a time of preparation for those soon-to-be baptized, Father Patrick pointed out that "It had more of a feel of Lent to it." "There was a kind of rigor again, looking forward to the coming mysteries that were celebrated by the sacraments," he said.

Jumping forward to the present day, the meaning of Advent is different. It now focuses on the birth of Jesus, and families place an Advent wreath in their home. The Catholic Church also uses different colors to represent the season.

**"That deep purple that you see in Advent, that very rich color, is the color of repentance," Father Patrick explained. "It reminds us of the sober and somber character of the season and tells us that we should be preparing not just our homes, not just our surroundings, but our souls."**

The Advent season is not one entirely characterized by somberness, however. Gaudete Sunday represents the midway point of the Advent season and is a Sunday of rejoicing. On Gaudete Sunday, which is the third Sunday of Advent, a rose colored candle is illuminated.

"Christmas and the Advent season, I think, are so different from Lent principally because they have this note of hope," Father Patrick said. "Advent is a season ultimately of light and we see that in the candles of the Advent wreath." While many think primarily of the outward signs of Advent, this time of year is deeply rooted in the inward preparation we are called to as we draw closer to the birth of Jesus.

During the interview, Father Patrick recalled a homily given by Saint Bernard Clairvaux, which is read by the Church in the liturgy of the hours. In the homily, the saint describes three comings of Christ. "Christ came once as a child in Bethlehem, and the Lord Jesus is going to come again to judge the living and the dead, so this is the second principle meaning of Advent," he said. "But, the third coming of Christ is that Christ is coming into our hearts." "The spirit of Advent, then, is to be ready each Christmas to receive Christ in my life, in the here and now, in a new and deeper way," he said. (<https://www.ncregister.com/cna/the-meanings-and-traditions-of-advent>)

## Devotions Before Holy Communion

### An Act of Faith

O my God, I firmly believe that by the words of consecration spoken during Mass, bread truly becomes the Body of Christ and wine His most Precious Blood, and that Thy Divine Son is offered to Thee upon the altar under appearances representing that separation of His Body and Blood which took place on Calvary. Therefore, do I believe with my whole heart, that this holy Victim is the same as that of the cross, whom I am about to receive, in order to unite my sacrifices to His own, by immolating myself with Him for Thy glory. Amen.

### An Act of Hope

O my God, I place all my hope in Jesus, my loving Saviour, truly present before me on the altar. He, who on the cross offered to Thee the superabundant merits of His Divine Blood, shed for our sins. Do Thou graciously accept the offering, which I now make to Thee at the hands of Thy priests, of the holy Victim who has reconciled us to Thyself, and being fully appeased by Him, grant to my soul the graces it needs in order to receive my Lord worthily and obtain through Him all the effects of Thy Fatherly goodness. Amen.

### An Act of Contrition

O my God, at the moment of receiving within myself the Divine Victim of Calvary, I confess sincerely before Thy Divine Majesty and before the whole court of heaven, that I have offended Thee by thought, word and deed. By my sins I have contributed to the death of Jesus on the cross; but Thou hast forgiven me, washing my soul in the Blood of Thy Son and clothing it with the wedding garment of Thy grace. I come, therefore, contrite and repentant, but with a heart overflowing with boundless gratitude, to the holy table which Thou hast prepared for the prodigal child, who had abandoned Thee, and whom in Thy goodness Thou wouldst nourish with Heavenly Bread. Amen.

### An Act of Love

O my God, I love Thee with all my heart, with all my soul, with all my strength and with no other desire than to be inseparably united to Thee. It is through Thy Divine Son that this union is about to be realized within me. In Holy Communion I long to identify myself with Him, that it will no longer be myself, but Him, who lives in me; and when I have received Jesus within myself, then I shall love and be loved by Thee in that same measure, in which I am united to Him. Hasten then, to give me Thy Divine Son, at the hands of Thy priest, that through Jesus, I may unite myself forever to Thee, O God the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

## Rosary Society Advent Gathering



## A Note About Our New Hymnals



In addition to many beautiful hymns, please note that our new hymnals also contain the readings for all three liturgical years A, B and C.

## Daily Prayer for Pope Francis and Our Clergy



Almighty and everlasting God, have mercy upon Thy servant, Francis, our Supreme Pontiff, and direct him, according to Thy loving-kindness, in the ways of eternal salvation; that, of Thy gift, he may ever desire that which is pleasing unto Thee and may accomplish it with all his might. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. Jesus, Savior of the world, sanctify Thy priests and sacred ministers. Amen.

## 2022 Calendars



2022 calendars are now available at the doors of the Church. Thank you to Trinka Faustini for their most generous donation of calendars this year! Every year our friends at Trinka supply us with enough calendars for our entire parish family.

## New Email List Sign-Up!

**Sign Up** ▶

For announcements, bulletin updates, and the latest news happening at Our Lady Queen of Peace, please sign up for our email mailing list by visiting [www.olqp.org](http://www.olqp.org)!

## Please Consider Donating Your Used Car

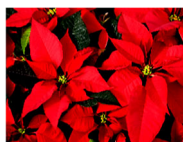
We have a family who is great need of a used vehicle. If you are interested in donating your used automobile, please contact the parish center.



## Poinsettia Sale - Dec 18th and 19th

**Joseph Scozzafava**  
Eagle Scout Project Fundraiser

**Our Lady Queen of Peace Landscape Beautification Project** - Butterfly and hummingbird garden to enhance the area around the Monument to the Unborn in addition to improving the area surrounding the statue of the Madonna and flag pole.



**POINSETTIA SALE**  
6 Inch Potted (Red or White)  
\$10 Each

Plants will be on sale **December 18th and 19th** in the OLQP Church Lobby **after the 5:00PM Saturday and 10:00AM and 12:00PM Sunday Masses.**

Plants can also be preordered and delivered to your home. All preorders must be received by December 15th.

Requests can be made by emailing:  
[josephmscozzafava@gmail.com](mailto:josephmscozzafava@gmail.com)  
Cash or Venmo accepted  
@Julia-Scozzafava

## Thanksgiving after Holy Communion



### Anima Christi (Soul of Christ)

SOUL of Christ, sanctify me.  
Body of Christ, save me.  
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.  
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.  
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.  
O good Jesus, hear me.  
Within Thy Wounds hide me.  
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee.  
From the malignant enemy, defend me.  
In the hour of my death, call me,  
And bid me come to Thee.  
That with Thy saints, I may praise Thee.  
Forever and ever. Amen.  
Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, may the whole world burn  
with love for Thee! (x3)

## Audacity

There is a spirit of audacity in our readings today. During a time of injustice and threat of invasion, the prophet Micah boldly announces that the God of insignificant Israel will raise up a leader from backwater Bethlehem, and this leader will bring justice and peace to the whole world. In the Gospel, Elizabeth and Mary, marginalized women, brazenly celebrate that their sons will be world-changing instruments of God. We further learn that this audacity is rooted in trust in God. The author of Hebrews describes the faithful obedience of Jesus. Mary is shown as the exemplar of faithful trust in God. This is the way God often seems to work, in the ordinary and marginalized in our world. Those who seem weak have learned to trust in God's strength. These have the audacity to become instruments of God's peace and justice. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## Readings for the Week

**Monday:** Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38  
**Tuesday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45  
**Wednesday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46- 56  
**Thursday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66  
**Friday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79  
**Saturday:**  
**Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]  
**Night:** Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14  
**Dawn:** Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20  
**Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]  
**Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52



Please keep in your prayers all of our active military personnel here and overseas. We especially pray for our parishioners: Joshua Ashley, Ryan O'Connell, and John Velazquez.

## The 2022 Mass Book



The Church teaches us that our prayers are invaluable to the living as well as those who have died. We commend them to God's mercy when we pray for them. The living and the dead are helped not only by our daily prayers, but by the offering of Masses in their

name for the benefit of their souls. Please visit the Parish Center to select your preferred dates for 2022.

## Advent/Christmas Schedule

### SILENT NIGHT

The Church will be open for quiet prayer and reflection Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7:45 pm - 9:00 pm following the Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena.

### RECONCILIATION

Wednesday evening during Silent Night or by appointment.  
Note: There will be no confessions on December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup>.

### THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

Christmas Eve – December 24<sup>th</sup>  
5 pm and 10 pm

Christmas Day – December 25<sup>th</sup>  
8 am, 10 am and 12 pm

Note: There is no 5 pm Mass on Christmas Day.

### THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup> - 8 am, 10 am and 12 pm

### SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 5 pm  
Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup> at 10 am and 12 pm

### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 1<sup>st</sup> – 5 pm  
Sunday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8 am, 10 am and 12 pm

### THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup> – 5 pm  
Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup> - 8 am, 10 am and 12 pm

### **Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena**



Wednesdays 7 pm in the Church

## A Note from Deacon Tony Balestrieri

Thank you everyone at Our Lady Queen of Peace for your cards and prayers! *Deacon Tony*

## Act of Contrition



O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven, and the pains of hell; but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen.

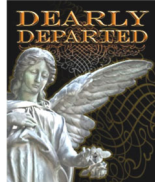
## Stewardship Corner

**Stewardship of Christmas:** We need to be good stewards of Christmas in our own homes, in our own families and in our own churches. We need to be good stewards by reaching out to bring Christmas to the unfortunate, the needy and the aged. In all the hustle and bustle of the season, we need to take time to meditate on the significance of the Holy day. We need to make sure that we are exchanging love more than exchanging gifts. *Rudy Schwarz*



**Thank you for your faithful contributions and may God reward you for your generosity! Due to very early bulletin deadlines during the season of Advent, contribution reports will be delayed.**

## Prayer for Our Dearly Departed



V. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.  
R. And let the perpetual light shine upon them.

And may the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

## Bible Study Reboot Coming Soon!

Mark your calendars for a Bible Study reboot coming soon! Please reply to Paul to the below email to get more information.  
[OLQP BibleStudy@gmail.com](mailto:OLQP BibleStudy@gmail.com)



## Treasures from Our Tradition

In ancient pagan Rome, these days in mid-December were a time for general slacking off at work and far too much rejoicing. The period of leisure after the harvest and a whole cluster of pagan festivals were a force for the church to reckon with. The Saturnalia, breaking out on December 17, was a time of high living and loose morals. Christians were advised by their bishops to drop out of the mayhem and do some serious fasting. A famous church council at Saragossa in Spain made a season of fasting mandatory from December 17 to December 23, exactly coinciding with the Saturnalia. The bishops at that time were perhaps less concerned with preparing for Christmas than with resisting the kind of loose living going on.

Modern times have restored a bit of the Saturnalia spirit to our culture, so that a general period of partying with a vague connection to religion is now upon us. How does a Christian keep balance? The practice of charity by remembering the poor in our gift-giving, of hospitality in finding a place at our holiday tables for the poor and lonely, and of daily prayer in the home and at church are great helps. Although Advent is not a penitential season like Lent, it is a time for making room in our lives for what matters most. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

## Saints and Special Observances

**Sunday:** Fourth Sunday of Advent  
**Tuesday:** St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins  
**Thursday:** St. John of Kanty  
**Friday:** The Vigil of Christmas  
**Saturday:** The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

### PRAYER OF THE WEEK

#### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,  
your grace into our hearts,  
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son  
was made known by the message of an Angel,  
may by his Passion and Cross  
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

### Reflection question:

How can I make known to others the Incarnation of Christ?

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### LIGHT

All the darkness of the world cannot put out the light of one small candle.

—Anonymous

### NATURE RESTORED

Christ is born, that by his birth he might restore your nature.

—St. Peter Chrysologus

### LOVE NOW

Let those love now  
who never lov'd before;  
let those who always lov'd  
now love the more.

—Anonymous

### Why should I register in the parish?

All members of the parish should be formally registered as members of the parish. You must be formally registered if you wish to arrange a Baptism, a Confirmation, or a Wedding in the parish Church or wish to register in the Parish School or the Religious Education (CCD) Program. You must also be a registered member of the parish for at least three months before you can obtain a Sponsor Certificate or schedule a Baptism or a Wedding.

**Please call the Parish Center at 201-845-9566 to register or visit our home page at [www.olqp.org](http://www.olqp.org), scroll down to the middle of the page and click where it states "Parish Registration" to download the form. Thank you and welcome to Our Lady Queen of Peace!**



FOURTH

Sunday

OF

Advent

DECEMBER 19, 2021

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

Luke 1:39-40

## INCARNATION AND PASCHAL MYSTERY

For years, Catholic spiritual writers have drawn our attention to the Christmas liturgy's subtle—and not-so-subtle—linking of Christ's incarnation with his paschal mystery. In the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke, there are countless intimations of the Passion and cross. The saints of the Christmas octave, dubbed "comites Christi," Christ's companions in suffering, form a royal honor guard of martyrs and others who bore witness at great personal sacrifice to the Child we hail as "Prince of Peace," while the wood of the manger evokes the wood of the cross. But these days, sadly, in the wake of seemingly endless mass shootings at schools, we need no reminders of how close in real life are the cradle and the cross. May our hearts find, if not answers, at least comfort in the prophet Micah's reminder that, from the pain of a woman's labor came forth the Child who is our incarnate peace.

## COMFORT AND SALVATION

All of today's scriptures seem to declare Christmas's "comfort and joy." Micah declares that, as small as Bethlehem is, the child born there will bring peace that "shall reach to the ends of the earth." Hebrews proclaims that, despite pain and suffering, the "offering of the body of Jesus Christ" saves us all. In today's Gospel, bearing the Christ Child within her, Mary, barely more than a child herself, immediately, unselfishly sets aside her own preoccupations—and as a betrothed but as yet unmarried mother-to-be, how many they must have been—to travel in haste, over dangerous terrain, a four-day journey (the scholars say) from Nazareth to Ain-Karem, to the home of Elizabeth and Zechariah.

## BLESSED

Then, just as David leapt and danced before the ancient Ark of the Covenant that bore precious signs of God's abiding presence, so John leaps in his mother Elizabeth's womb as Mary arrives, a living ark bearing God's living presence. Elizabeth joyfully greets Mary in words that we pray daily in the "Hail Mary": "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Why Mary is so "blessed" Elizabeth then explains: "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." Likewise, we may dare hope to be "blessed" for "believing that what was spoken" to us "by the Lord"—Jesus' promise of mercy—will be fulfilled as we share God's mercy with everyone. For by reason of our baptism and, more immediately and repeatedly, because of our participation in the Eucharist, we too bear within ourselves the living Christ. To whom, or to what situation, do we need to bear Christ this Christmas? Indeed, throughout the year, how selflessly do we set our own concerns aside? How eagerly—"in haste"—do we, disregarding difficulties, traverse whatever dangerous terrain needs conquering to be of service to another?

## TODAY'S READINGS

Micah 5:1-4a  
Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-45



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