**Daytime @ OLP**

**Our Lady of Pompeii Church**

129 Laverack Avenue

Lancaster, New York 14086

Deacon Greg Feary

683-6522 ext. 106

deacon.greg@olpparish.com

**The Books of Ruth, Judith and Esther**

Many influential women find their way into Salvation History. Three books of the Old Testament bear the names of women: Ruth, Judith and Esther. Join us as we explore the contribution of each of these women to our lives of faith.

The Book of Ruth is named for the Moabite woman who commits herself to the Israelite people by an oath to her mother-in-law Naomi and becomes the great-grandmother of David by marriage to Boaz of Bethlehem. Thus, she is an ancestor in the messianic line that leads to Jesus (Mt 1:5).

The Book of Judith relates the story of God’s deliverance of the Jewish people. This was accomplished “by the hand of a female”—a constant image through the book and is meant to recall the “hand” of God in the Exodus story.

The Book of Esther also tells a story of the deliverance of the Jewish people. We encounter the wicked royal minister pursues a personal vendetta against the Jews by having a royal decree issued ordering their destruction. Through the influence and intervention of two Jews, Esther and Mordecai, the tables are turned on the enemy. This story is the basis of the Jewish holiday of Purim. The book confronts the modern reader with important themes, the evils of genocide and racism.

Thursdays [see schedule below] 10:00 – 11:30 am … ~OR~ … 1:00 – 2:30 pm

***Session Schedule***

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| **Date** | **Book** |
| July 11 | Ruth |
| July 18 , 25 | Judith |
| August 15, 22, 19 | Esther |

**ALL SESSIONS ARE HELD IN THE**

**ST. STEPHEN ROOM OF THE MINISTRY CENTER**

**QUESTIONS OR TO REGISTER**

Contact Deacon Greg at deacon.greg@olpparish.com