

Our Lady of Victories Church

(serving Harrington Park, River Vale and the Pascack/Northern Valley)

150 Harriot Avenue, Harrington Park, New Jersey

www.olvhp.org

Rev. Bryan F.J. Adamecik SFO, KHS Pastor

Sunday, March 12, 2017 A.D.

Rev. Duverney Bermudez

Rev. Anthony Mastroeni

Rev. Christopher M. Ciccarino KHS

Rev. John O'Connor

Rev. Brian Muzás

Latin Mass Assistants

Weekend Assistants

Br. Angelus CFR

Parish Seminarian

Sr. Elizabeth Holler, SC

Sr. Mary Corrigan, SC

In Residence-Convent

Mr. Thomas Lagatol Mr. Albert McLaughlin

Deacons

Susan Evarella

Religious Education

Deacon Al McLaughlin

Parish Catechetical Leader

Selena Piazza

Ministers of Music

Lesa Rossmann

Ministers of Music

Elizabeth Ulisse

Martin Coyne II

Parish Trustees

Jerryl Pulis & Meagan Mullany

Curtiss & Katie Stella

Jr. High School Ministry

High School Ministry

Maria Hellrigel

Parish Secretary

Jorden Pedersen Esq.

President Parish Council

Jon Fischer CFA

Chairman Finance Committee



WELCOME

To the Parish Family of
OUR LADY OF VICTORIES
(THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART)

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00pm, 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 8:15am (Latin)

9:30am, 10:45am, 12:00pm,

1:00pm (Spanish)

6:00pm & 7:00pm

Weekdays: M-Sat 8:00a.m. & 12:00noon

SPECIAL MASSES OR DEVOTIONS:

First Friday: 7:30pm, Mass of Sacred Heart & Devotions

First Saturday: 8:00am, Mass of Immaculate Heart of Mary

First Saturday: 12:00pm Mass for Souls in Purgatory

Novenas prayed after 8:00 a.m. Mass:

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal: Monday

St. Jude and St. Anthony: Wednesday

Infant of Prague: 25th of the month

Rosary: Recited M - Sat after 8:00am & 12Noon Mass.

Tuesday-Novena Prayer and Adoration: 2:00-3:00pm

Thursday-Holy Hour with Adoration & Benediction: 7:00pm

Friday-Exposition & Adoration: 12:30PM-3:00pm

THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE/CONFESSION:

Monday - Friday 7:30am - 7:50am. First Friday at 7:00pm

Saturday at 11:00a.m.-Noon; 3:00pm - 3:25pm

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

To register for Baptismal preparation and Baptism, call the rectory.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:

Call the Religious Ed Office for requirements/class schedule.

THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:

Please call the rectory for an appointment.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/LAST RITES:

Sick calls at any time in emergency.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS AND VOCATIONS:

Anyone contemplating a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life should contact the Vocations Office at 973.497.4365.



Find us on
Facebook

OLV Rectory
Phone: 201-768-1706
Email: olvrectory.hp@gmail.com

OLV Fax
201-768-3962

Religious Education
201-768-1400
olvhpccd@gmail.com

OLV Convent
201-768-1705

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Please **PRAY** in the name of **JESUS**, the Healer, that the **SICK** of **OLV PARISH** may be restored to health and all those who **ASSIST** and **CARE** for the sick will be given the **STRENGTH** to continue **GOD'S GOOD WILL**:

Fr. Apostoli, Br. Pius, a little boy—Finn, Sean, William Biasi, John Bolger, James Brady, Joey Bulger, Kamal Faris, Kathy Freeburn, Marylou Goreb, Thomas Haring, Rosanne Kearney, Peter Kellar, Arnold Kemner, Joseph LoVecchio, Anne Matthaehi, Teresa Meierdierks, Kathleen Musante, Canice Prince, Dan Ragusa, Danny Rizzi, Odalis Recchia, Mary Rinner, Danny Rizzi, Suzanne Rothschild, Wendy Ruggiero, George Rush, John Smith, Kathryn Turrell, Therese Vaglio, Jim Walsh, Yvette Walls, Catherine Wanner.

SPIRITUAL EXCERPT

THE EYES OF GOD

"You have got to learn to look at events, at everything that happens, through the eyes of God and not your own selfishness."

Mother Angelica, *Little Book of Life Lessons* page 41.

LENTEN Reading

We just received a huge new order of interesting books and booklets, so visit our bookrack and check out the vast selection of books, booklets, and pamphlets. LENT is a great time to read and become closer to God. Learn more about your Faith, the Saints, Mary, Jesus, or pick up one of the inspirational books in stock. Check out some of our new and interesting titles. Don't have time to read? Listen to a CD in the car since we also have a wide variety of Catholic CDs.

ADDITIONAL FRIDAY MASS

During LENT there will be an additional Friday evening Mass offered at 7:00PM followed by the Stations of the Cross which will be led by one of the adult ministries of OLV parish.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Monday afternoon at 4PM the CCD classes will do a **Children's Version** of the Stations. There will be Stations of the Cross by **St. Alphonsus Liguori**, on Thursday evenings at 7:00p.m. On Friday evenings after the 7PM Mass there will be the Stations according to the **Franciscan Tradition** Stations of the Cross, the **Scriptural version** will be held after 8:00a.m. Mass on Saturday mornings.

2017 Sharing God's Blessings Appeal

Your contribution to the 2017 Sharing God's Blessings Appeal makes a difference in the lives of so many in our community. Funds raised through the appeal help to educate children in our inner-city Catholic schools, serve the spiritual needs of people at parishes located in poor neighborhoods, and assist Catholic Charities in running its programs, which help the poor overcome the many obstacles in life. In addition, the appeal assists with seminarian and priest retirement costs. Please consider making a generous gift. **IF YOU MAKE A PLEDGE DIRECTLY TO THE ARCHDIOCESE, PLEASE INFORM THE RECTORY SO THAT WE CAN CHECK AND VERIFY THAT OLV GETS THE CREDIT.**

St. Zita's Villa for Women

When your loved one needs a Home away from Home, NYS certified St. Zita's Villa for women in Airmont, NY provides affordable private rooms with nutritious, tasty meals in a clean, comfortable Catholic setting with 24/7 personal care nursing and medical assistance. Please call 845-356-2011 for more info.

FRIDAY ADORATION

Just a reminder we have Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays from 12:00Noon – 3:00PM.

So stop by and adore Our Eucharistic Lord.

2017 LENTEN REGULATIONS

The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and abstinence substantially, or as a whole, is a serious obligation.

The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.

The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, March 5, 2017 to the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, June 11, 2017.**

Feast of St. Patrick-Friday in Lent

This year, the Feast of St. Patrick, March 17, falls on Friday the Second Week of Lent. Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin has dispensed the people of the Archdiocese of Newark from the obligation to abstain from meat on Friday, March 17, 2017. Catholics who avail themselves of this dispensation are highly encouraged to substitute some other act of penance, such as special prayer, acts of piety or works of charity on March 17.

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

We are constantly under attack and tempted by the forces of EVIL. Every Tuesday afternoon from 2:00-3:00PM members of OLV parish meet and pray the Mary Mother of All Nations Novena which focuses on this daily battle. All are welcome. Join us.

EASTER DUTY

The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty), that is the obligation of receiving the Eucharist for Easter extends to the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, June 11. No one conscious of committing a serious or mortal sin should receive Holy Communion until they have first gone to the Sacrament of Reconciliation a.k.a. Confession. Confessions are heard EVERY Saturday from 11:00AM to Noon and 3:00-3:30PM, every weekday morning at 7:30AM, and Fridays from 6:30-6:50PM. A Priest is also available to hear Confessions daily by appointment.

Cast Out the Leaven of Malice

Like yeast that causes the dough to rise as it changes into a gas, leaven also causes the dough to rise. But unlike yeast, a small amount of leaven, taken from the last batch of dough, was kneaded into the new dough; before it was left to rise and was baked, a small amount was kept to add into the next batch of dough. Eventually this led to leaven with less "rising power" – and it became a source of harmful bacteria; so in the Bible, leaven is a negative symbol. The Jews were divinely mandated to destroy all leaven and be "leaven-free" for one week during the annual Feast of Unleavened Bread, after which they started anew with fresh leaven. The Passover or Seder meal took place during this weeklong "leaven-free" time. To this day the Church uses unleavened hosts or the purest bread for the Eucharistic sacrifice, for Christ was sinless!

St. Patrick's Day Bake Sale

This weekend at OLV after each Mass.

Sponsored by Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Upcoming OLV Parish Events

Mar 11/12—Sat/Sun—CDA St. Patrick's Day Bake Sale—after Masses
 Mar 14 -Tue—Moms, Pops and Tots 11:30AM-1:30PM
 Mar 14-Tue – Marian Novena Prayer 2:00-3:00PM
 Mar 14—Tue—Bereavement Group 6:30PM—Rectory
 Mar 15—Wed—Bible Study Group—10:00AM
 Mar 15 - Wed—OLV Needlers 6:30PM
 Mar 17—Fri— Adoration from 12:30PM-3:00PM
 Mar 17—Fri—7:00PM Mass & Stations of the Cross
 Mar 25—Sat—Mass of Anointing 12:00PM
 Apr 2— Sun—Rosary Society Breakfast w/guest speaker
 May 21—Sun - 2:00PM -Confirmation

PRAY for THOSE in the MILITARY

Private Matthew Brady, U.S. Marine Corps;
 Lieutenant Julia H. Cheringal, US Navy;
 Lieutenant Ben Clemente, US Army;
 Ensign Jon Clemente, US Navy;
 1st Lieutenant Ryan Colomeo, U.S. Marine Corps;
 Major Michael Franson, US Army;
 Sergeant First Class Charles Greene, US Army;
 Lieutenant Tara Harris, US Air Force;
 1st Lieutenant Thomas Iafate, U.S. Marine Corps;
 Lieutenant Joseph Jaeger, US Navy;
 Lieutenant Andrew Jaeger, US Navy;
 Chief Master Sergeant Shawn Llewellyn, US Air Force;
 Captain Shawn Linn, US Army;
 SN Daniel T. LoVecchio, U.S. Navy;
 2nd Lieutenant Gigi McElroy, US Army;
 Colonel John McLaughlin, US Army;
 Lieutenant John G. Miele, US Army.

BREAKFAST CEREAL COLLECTION

Please remember the needy as you shop. OLV will be collecting breakfast cereal during the month of March for St Cecilia's food pantry.

Camp Veritas 2017

Camp Veritas is a one-week play & pray summer camp for teens going into 7th to 12th grades. 3 locations: Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, NY July 16-22; Summit Lake Camp in Emmitsburg, MD July 23-29; Camp Lakota in Wurtsboro, NY August 13-19. \$450 per camper. Early bird rate / paid in full by 4/1/17 \$400. Volunteers (must be 18 and older) are needed and free! For more info visit www.campveritas.com.

ANOINTING MASS AT OLV

Saturday, March 25, at 12noon in the Church OLV parish will have a Mass for the Sick which will include the Anointing of the Sick during Mass. Afterward there will be a light lunch. All elderly and sick are invited – please contact the rectory 201-768-1706 so we can properly plan for the event. **Holy Mass offered by Franciscan Friar, Fr. Bonaventure CFR.**

THE Legend of the CLADDAGH

Over 400 years ago in Ireland, there was a village called Claddagh. Its men were fishermen who often sailed way out into the Atlantic. On one particular voyage, Moorish pirates captured a fishing vessel and took the crew to Africa and sold them as slaves. One of the crewmen, a young man who was to be married, became a favorite of the Sultan and was taught the art of goldsmithing. The Sultan gave him permission to marry, but he would hold his heart for the girl who waited for him in the village of Claddagh. He fashioned a gold ring with a crown atop a heart held gently in two hands. The crown meant loyalty, the hands – friendship, and the heart – love. He finally escaped and returned to Ireland where he married his true love; the ring he had made was her wedding ring. To this day, the Claddagh ring represents loyalty, friendship and love.

ROSARY SOCIETY ANNUAL WOMEN'S COMMUNION BREAKFAST

Date: Sunday, April 2

Time: 9:00AM Rosary recited in Lower Church / 9:30AM Mass in Church
 Breakfast (fully catered) in OLV GYM immediately after 9:30AM Mass
 Guest Speaker: Fr. Frederick Miller, Spiritual Director at St Andrew's Hall and Professor at the Major Seminary, Seton Hall University.

Topic: Forgotten Secrets about the Holy Eucharist

Tickets will be sold on March 18-19 and March 25-26 after all Masses or call Patrice Coyne 201-767-8409 or the OLV Rectory 201-768-1706

\$15 each or \$20 Mother/Daughter Combo. All women and girls welcome!

Toiletries Collection for the LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

The Annual Toiletries Collection will be held during the month of March. Please see the shopping list below for suggested donations. Small and medium size toiletries are especially useful.

REQUESTED ITEMS FOR THOSE IN NEED:

Toothpaste	Soap	Disposable razors
Toothbrushes	Lip Balm	Body Lotion (unscented)
Dental Floss	Shampoo	Shaving Cream
Deodorant	Talcum/Baby Powder	Combs/Brushes
Denture Adhesive/Cleanser	Individual Packets of Tissues	

Please leave your donations in the Church vestibule.

2017 Wedding Anniversary Masses

The Archdiocese of Newark is preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Christian marriage in 2017. Couples deserving of such recognition are urged to participate. These liturgies will be celebrated at 3:00p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

Sunday, April 30, 2017— 5 & 25 years

Sunday, May 7, 2017—50 years

Please call the OLV Rectory to register at 201-768-1706.

WHY DO WE HAVE A HOLY HOUR?

On Holy Thursday evening Jesus asked his disciples to stay awake for an hour and pray with him, yet despite his request, they all fell asleep. **Each Thursday evening** at OLV we have a Holy Hour where we stay awake in adoration of our Eucharistic Lord. During the Hour - prayers are recited, a song or two may be sung and there is quiet time for one to pray or meditate. We live in a very noisy world which pulls us in every direction. The weekly Holy Hour helps to refocus and recharge one's inner batteries to face the world for another day. So if you have never been at the Holy Hour, **try it you may like it.** **Every Tuesday afternoon** from 2:00-3:15pm we have a Holy Hour with recitation of the Marian Cenacle Novena which is a version of the rosary with additional prayers. **On Fridays** we have continuous quiet meditation of the Blessed Sacrament from after the Noon Mass to 3PM.

CCD Corner

As our students learn about the beautiful and rich Lenten rituals and liturgies, each class will journey with Christ as we reflect on the Stations of the Cross. At 4:10 (in the church) on Monday afternoons during Lent Stations will be recited and reflected on from a young person's point of view. The classes are working on their own Lenten acts of fasting and/or almsgiving. These offerings will be part of our Holy Thursday celebration and then distributed to the charities the students have selected. Please keep the children and their teachers in your prayers!

**"There is no distinctly Native American criminal class...
 save Congress"**
 Mark Twain

TERMINALLY ILL WITH CANCER

Rosary Hill Home, owned and operated by the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne, NY, since 1901, is committed to providing loving, one-on-one palliative care to those suffering from terminal cancer. Free to all who meet the Admission requirements. The Sisters depend solely upon the "providence of God and the hourly mercy of the charitable public;" no payment is accepted from patients, their families, private insurance or from the government. Call 914-769-0114 or visit www.rosaryhillhome.org.

Jesus asked one thing from us!!!

On His last night on earth (Holy Thursday) Jesus asked His disciples one thing – to stay awake with Him for one hour. Every Thursday evening we at OLV try to fulfill this request by having a Holy Hour from 7-8PM. Join us in carrying out Jesus' request.

New Hope Gala - Helping Hands

Save the Date! Wednesday, April 26, 2017, 6:30-10:30pm. Seasons, 664 Pascack Rd, Washington Twp. 07676, \$85 per person. Cocktail hour, gourmet dinner, silent auction, Tricky Tray, raffle, huge 50/50 and dancing. Your generosity enables us to reach out to first-time single mothers and their babies so please celebrate with us! For reservations contact Kathy: (201) 573-8697 or kturlick@gmail.com.

THE FIGHTING IRISH

There were fighting Irish in Mexico. The Mexican American War (1846-48) saw great numbers of defectors from the U.S. side. The war was an unjust aggression upon the Catholic State of Mexico. President Polk was to blame, with his bizarre vision of Manifest Destiny, giving him the "right" to steal Texas, California, New Mexico, and Arizona from the Mexicans. One battalion of deserters from the U.S. side was 40% to 60% comprised of Irish-born soldiers. Convinced that the war was unjust and anti-Catholic, Captain John Riley, of County Galway, and hundreds of other immigrant soldiers, left the U.S. side to fight for the Mexicans. (Desecration of Catholic Churches, as well as murder, rape, and theft were apparently commonplace among the Texas Rangers, whom General, and later President, Zachary Taylor admitted he could not control.) The defectors, among whom were also Germans and other immigrants, named themselves the San Patricio Battalion, in honor of St. Patrick. The San Patricios fought in every major campaign of the war. After the Battle of Churubusco, near the end of the war, 85 San Patricio soldiers were captured and 72 were tried by court martial. Fifty were hanged and another 16 were flogged and branded on the face with the letter "D" for deserter. During his Mexican imprisonment, Captain Riley wrote to a friend in Michigan. "Be not deceived by the prejudice of a nation that is at war with Mexico, for a friendlier and more hospitable people than the Mexicans you will not find on the face of the earth." The San Patricios are honored in Mexico as national heroes in a special ceremony every September 12.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

"Lord help me to want to be what you want me to be."

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and following her example each of us must ever learn afresh to say fiat – Be it done unto me according to your word.

Most Reverend John Myers – Archbishop of Newark

TIME IS

Too slow for those who wait, Too swift for those who fear, Too long for those who grieve, Too short for those who rejoice, But for those who love, Time is Eternity. **Henry Van Dyke**

Mass Intentions

Monday, March 13 – St. Rodriguez, Priest/Martyr

8:00 Veronica Haskell
12:00 Hugh Johnson R/b Ray and Kathy Trochanowski

Tuesday, March 14 – St. Mathilda, Queen of Germany

8:00 Lawrence Orbe R/b John and Anna Heaney
12:00 Martino Busanic R/b the Busanic Family

Wednesday, March 15 – St. Louise De Marillac -Widow, Nun

8:00 Mary Barrett R/b the Barrett Family
12:00 Collins Family R/b Sisters of Charity, OLV

Thursday, March 16– St. Herbert of Worms, Germany-Bishop

8:00 Boniface Santoro R/b Frederick and Therese Laurenzo
12:00 John M. Ballas R/b the Zwerle Family

Friday, March 17– St. Patrick-Bishop of Armagh, Ireland

8:00 Dan Lynch R/b the Barrett Family
12:00 Lavelle Keating R/b Rick and Debbie Quinn
7:00 Lois Linn R/b Ray Trevisan

Saturday, March 18–St. Cyril of Jerusalem-Bishop & Doctor

8:00 James DeBrino R/b William and Carole DeBrino
12:00 Ivan Busanic R/b the Busanic Family

4:00 Mario Gobbetti R/b John and Carol Baist
5:00 Frank and Nancy McGrory R/b Peter and Fran Redmond

Sunday, March 19 – St. Joseph – Spouse of Mary

7:30 Rev. Zachary H. Monet, O.Carm. R/b Pat Consoli
8:15 Andrew Klutkowski R/b the Evanella Family

9:30 Peter Bentivegna R/b the Bentivegna Family
10:45 Ellen Saporito R/b the Evanella Family

12:00 Joseph Lamendola R/b Jinnie Moran
1:00 Emiro Franco– 3rd Anniversary R/b John Franco Family

6:00 People of the Parish
7:00 Derek Smith R/b the Youngmans Family

The Church Sanctuary Lamp burns for the soul of the **Bob Shortal**.
The Convent Sanctuary Lamp burns for the soul of the **Mike Murtaugh**.

The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp burns this week for the **Intentions of Mike, r/b parents**.

The St. Joseph Votive Lamp burns for a **Special Intention**.
The Infant of Prague Votive Lamp burns for the **Intentions of Peter, r/b grandparents**.

The Pope John Paul II Votive Lamp burns for an **increase in Priestly and Religious Vocations, r/b Patti Jones**.

The Hosts and Wine for the Masses this week have been donated in **memory of deceased priests of OLV**.

CLOTHING BINS

"What better way to share your heart with someone than to help a person in time of need? Would you be willing to take few moments and look in your closet today? We accept clothing, shoes, small appliances, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels and children's books. Thank you with all our heart.

Sanctuary Offerings

The Altar Flowers, Bread and Wine, the BVM Votive Lamp, and St. Joseph Votive Lamp, the Sanctuary Lamp in the Church and in the Convent can be dedicated on a weekly basis.

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS.

- 1. Ash Wednesday & Good Friday. 2. Fridays during Lent and Fridays during the year are days of Penance. 3. 40 days. 4. Ash Wednesday. 5. To atone for our sins and the sins of the world.

Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever.

March is dedicated to Saint Joseph.

ISN'T IT STRANGE

Isn't it strange how a 20 dollar bill seems like such a large amount when you donate it to church, but such a small amount when you go shopping?

Isn't it strange how 2 hours seem so long when you're at church, and how short they seem when you're watching a good movie?

Isn't it strange that you can't find a word to say when you're praying, but you have no trouble thinking what to talk about with a friend?

Isn't it strange how difficult and boring it is to read one chapter of the Bible, but how easy it is to read 100 pages of a popular novel, such as HARRY POTTER?

Isn't it strange how everyone wants front-row tickets to concerts or games, but they do whatever is possible to sit in the last row in Church?

Isn't it strange how we need to know about an event for Church 2-3 weeks before the day so we can include it in our agenda, but we can adjust it for other events at the last minute?

Isn't it strange how difficult it is to learn a fact about God to share with others, but how easy it is to learn, understand, extend and repeat gossip?

Isn't it strange how we believe everything that magazines and newspapers say, but we question the words in the Bible?

Isn't it strange how everyone wants a place in Heaven, but they don't want to believe, do, or say anything to get there?

ST. PATRICK

St. Patrick was actually born around 385 in Scotland, probably Kilpatrick. His parents were Calpornius and Conchessa, who were Romans living in Britain. As a boy of fourteen or so, he was captured during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. Ireland at this time was a land of Druids and pagans. He learned the language and practices of the people who held him captive. Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain, where he was reunited with his family. He then began his studies for the priesthood. St. Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre, ordained him. Later, Patrick was ordained a bishop and was sent back to Ireland to preach the Gospel. He arrived in Ireland on March 25, 433, at Slane. One legend says that he met a chieftain of one of the tribes, who tried to kill him. Patrick converted Dichu (the chieftain) after he was unable to move his arm. For over forty years, Patrick and his disciples preached all over Ireland, converting thousands and building Churches throughout the Emerald Island. Patrick died on March 17, 461 in Saul where he had built his first church.

OLV Prayer Power House

Become one of our prayer team members. There are no meetings, so this apostolate is wonderful for all, including those parishioners who are homebound. For information, please phone Maria at the rectory.

STEPHANIE CYSINSKI-O'BRIEN SCHOLARSHIP

For the 10th consecutive year, student scholarships are being offered through the Stephanie Cywinski-O'Brien Trust. Applications are now being accepted from parish 7th and 8th grade students attending a Catholic grammar school, as well as Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors attending a Catholic high school and continuing their education at a Catholic school. Applications and eligibility requirements are available at the rectory. Applications are due March 31 with decisions to be made by April 30.

Bishop George Ahr/St. Thomas High School Alumni!

In anticipation of its 50th anniversary, Bishop George Ahr / St. Thomas HS wants to reconnect with all of its alumni. If you have not provided us with your most recent contact information please reach us at dchippendale@bgahs.org or 732-549-1108 x605, the alumni office, so we can keep you informed of our upcoming milestone celebration.

LENTEN CANNED FOOD DRIVE

OLV is having a canned food drive. You can help a neighbor in need by bringing a bag of food next week to the FOOD DRIVE. Your help can put food on the table and hope back into lives of our neighbors facing difficult times.

ST. JOSEPH

The Bible pays Joseph the highest compliment: he was a "just" man. The quality meant a lot more than faithfulness in paying debts. When the Bible speaks of God "justifying" someone, it means that God, the all-holy or "righteous" One, so transforms a person that the individual shares somehow in God's own holiness, and hence it is really "right" for God to love him or her. By saying Joseph was "just," the Bible means that he was one who was completely open to all that God wanted to do for him. He became holy by opening himself totally to God. The rest we can easily surmise. Think of the kind of love with which he won Mary, and the depth of the love they shared during their marriage. It is no contradiction of Joseph's manly holiness that he considered divorcing Mary when she was found to be with child. The important words of the Bible are that he planned to do this "quietly" because he was "a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame" (Matthew 1:19).

The just man was simply, joyfully, wholeheartedly obedient to God—in marrying Mary, in naming Jesus, in shepherding the precious pair to Egypt, in bringing them to Nazareth, in the undetermined number of years of quiet faith and courage. The Bible tells us nothing of Joseph in the years after the return to Nazareth except the incident of finding Jesus in the Temple (see Luke 2:41-51). Perhaps this can be taken to mean that God wants us to realize that the holiest family was like every other family, that the circumstances of life for the holiest family were like those of every family, so that when Jesus' mysterious nature began to appear, people couldn't believe that He came from such humble beginnings: "Is He not the carpenter's son? Is not His mother named Mary...?" (Matthew 13:55a). It was almost as indignat as "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" (John 1:46b).

Divine Mercy Sunday April 21, 2017

On Divine Mercy Sunday from 3-4pm, there will be a Holy Hour conducted by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. At 4:15pm there will be **Holy Mass offered by Franciscan Friar of the Renewal, Fr. Innocent CFR.**

QUESTION?

Why do X's at the end of a letter signify kisses? In the Middle Ages, when many people were unable to read or write, documents were often signed using an X. Kissing the X represented an oath to fulfill obligations specified in the document. The X and the kiss eventually became synonymous.

SAVE USED EYEGLASSES

The Knights of Columbus collects used and old eyeglasses for the less fortunate. Any old or "retired" glasses may be left in the basket in the back of Church.

KIDZ KORNER

1. On what days do Catholics Fast?
2. On what days do Catholics abstain from meat?
3. How many days is Lent?
4. On what day does Lent begin?
5. Why do Catholics Fast & Abstain from certain foods?

Answers on page four

We're supposed to have character, not be one.