

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

Rev. José Rivera, Summer Assistant

Rev. Duverney Bermudez

Rev. Christopher M. Ciccarino KHS

Rev. Brian Muzás

Weekend Assistants

Br. Innocent CFR

Charles Niece

Parish Seminarians

Mr. Thomas Lagatol Mr. Albert McLaughlin

Deacons

Susan Evanelle Betty Ann Niece

Religious Education

Selena Piazza

Lesa Rossmann

Ministers of Music

Curtiss & Katie Stella

High School Ministry

Jorden Pedersen Esq.

President Parish Council

Rev. Anthony Mastroeni

Rev. John O'Connor

Latin Mass Assistants

Sr. Mary Corrigan, SC

Sr. Elizabeth Holler, SC

In Residence-Convent

Deacon Al McLaughlin

Parish Catechetical Leader

Elizabeth Ulisse

Martin Coyne II

Parish Trustees

Maria Hellrigel

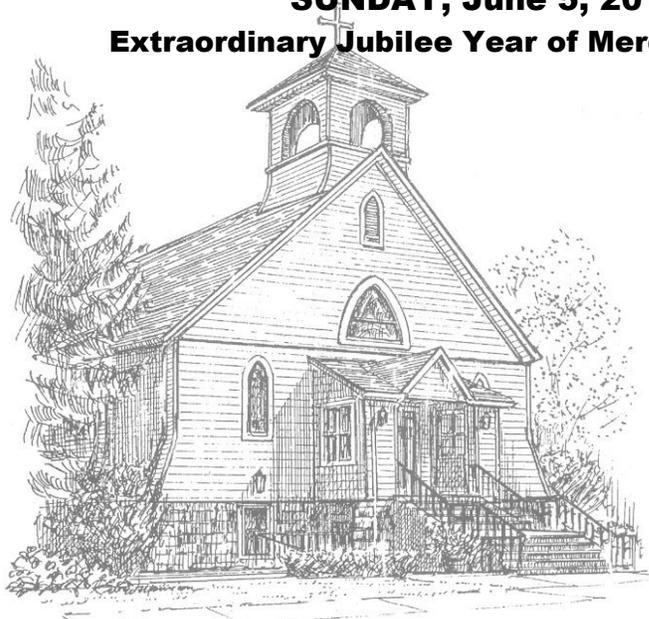
Parish Secretary

Jon Fischer CFA

Chairman Finance Committee

SUNDAY, June 5, 2016

Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy



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

Sundays: at 3PM Group Rosary

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

Nocturnal Adoration: First Friday evening 8pm to Saturday 8am

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
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OLV Fax
201-768-3962

Religious Education
201-768-1400
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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**: Br. Pius, Joseph Accardi, Maria Aleman, William Biasi, Terry Boyle, Michael Conmy, Thomas Haring, Peter Kellar, Arnold Kemner, Ken Mosier, Kathleen Musante, Dan Ragusa, Mary Rinner, Danny Rizzi, Suzanne Rothschild, Wendy Ruggiero, Cookie and George Rush, Cynthia Simonelli, Mildred Speck, Kathryn Turrell, Therese Vaglio, Mike Weber, Darien Wesler, Al Wiese, Roy Wurst, Marian Zanetti, Elaine Zito.

A Girl Born Deaf Can Now Hear

This past May 11, 2016 shortly before 20:30 she took off her prosthesis and said to her mother: "I no longer need this. I hear now." We're talking about a little girl who was staying with her mother, her grandmother and her brother on pilgrimage in Lourdes.

"The girl was born prematurely on December 25 of 2009. To save her, her doctors administered the drugs that damaged her hearing organs. In Gaslini Hospital of Genoa their own prostheses were used as hearing devices had no effect on her. With the help of speech therapy she learned in the course of time to read lips and speak with difficulty. Her story was told Giuseppe Secondi, the Unitali conductor of Milan West, who led the pilgrimage with the girl. Unitali is an ecclesial service, the Ambulance service operates at Lourdes and other international as well as Italian sanctuaries.

As a gift to her family, the mother decided to make a thanksgiving pilgrimage to Our Lady at Lourdes with the children, which included her own mother. The pilgrimage took place in the usual way. Prayer, Holy Mass, dipping into the wells. On the evening of May 11, "we returned after the conclusion of the Eucharistic procession to the hotel," said the mother. "I was playing a bit with the kids, then I wanted to go to the meeting of the pilgrims who are first time attendees on a pilgrimage to Lourdes. When I told my daughter that I would go away but be inevitably long, she suddenly said in a clear voice, as she had never spoken before, that I should stay."

During the meeting pilgrim pilgrimage conductor Secondi was called. He was told that the girl had taken her hearing prosthesis out and told the mother that she no longer needed it, because she could now hear. "We stood in disbelief in front of her. From an adjoining room we called her several times with a soft voice and have found that she could really hear us. Above all, she now speaks very clearly, very different than before."

"I thank you, dear Mother, for what you have done to me". The next morning Secondi wanted to apply to the Bureau des Constatations Medicales to report the case. Previously, he had accompanied the girl to the grotto. While they were there, he said to the child: "Let's go to my Madonna, mine has a crown on her head." So we went to the great Lady of Lourdes, crowned statue of Our Lady. As we stood in front of her, the girl said to my astonishment: "I thank you, dear Mother, for what you have done to me." Then we went to the Bureau des Constatations Medicales. In the waiting room there was a stylized representation of Marie. The girl said: "this is ugly." When we came into the doctor's room, a picture of the Blessed Mother crowned was hung: "This is the Madonna," she said with satisfaction. The doctors examined her in detail, then the mother. They performed listening tests. Investigations have since continued in Italy and are still underway. Doctors in Genoa have presented to their astonishment, a cure of the hearing organs. There was also a change in character that took place. The previously very closed, introverted, girl has now become wholly different. In Lourdes one proceeds with caution and accurate investigations are necessary before a miracle is recognized. The surveys will therefore take some time to complete. The girl and the family are certainly happy and grateful.

Tolerance is Not a Christian Virtue ...

**Render to God the Things that are God's
by Archbishop Charles Chaput, OFM CAP**

Real freedom demands an ability to think, and a great deal of modern life - not just in the United States, but all over the developed world—seems deliberately designed to discourage that... The most important fact to remember is this: As adults, each of us needs to form a strong and genuinely Catholic conscience... That's why really knowing, living and submitting ourselves to our Catholic faith are so important. It's the only reliable guide we have for acting in the public square as disciples of Jesus Christ

We need to remember that tolerance is not a Christian virtue. Charity, justice, mercy, prudence, honesty - these are Christian virtues. And obviously, in a diverse community, tolerance is an important working principle. But it's never an end itself. In fact, tolerating grave evil within a society is itself a form of serious evil.

Likewise, democratic pluralism does not mean that Catholics should be quiet in public about serious moral issues because of some misguided sense of good manners. A healthy democracy requires vigorous moral debate to survive. Real pluralism demands that people of strong beliefs will advance their convictions in the public square - peacefully, legally and respectfully, but energetically and without embarrassment. Anything less is bad citizenship and a form of theft from the public conversation.

The "separation of Church and state" does not mean - and it can never mean - separating our Catholic faith from our public witness, our political choices and our political actions. That kind of separation would require Christians to deny who we are; to repudiate Jesus when he commands us to be "leaven in the world" and to "make disciples of all nations." That kind of radical separation steals the moral content of a society.

We serve Caesar best by serving God first. We honor our nation best by living our Catholic faith honestly and vigorously, and bringing it without apology into the public square and its debates. We're citizens of heaven first. But just as God so loved the world that he sent his only son, so the glory and irony of the Christian life is this: The more faithfully we love God, the more truly we serve the world.

Bereavement Support Group

Bereavement Support Group has started! If interested in joining they meet on the second Tuesday each month at 6:30PM in the OLV rectory. The next meeting will be June 7th. If you would be interested in participating, or if you know someone who would find this program helpful, please call Phyllis 201-262-8665. **Refreshments will be served.**

MOMS, TOTS, & POPS

OLV has a playgroup for infants and children ages 1-5. The group meets Tuesday mornings from 9:30AM to 11:30AM in the lower church.

OLV K of C Baby Bottle Collection

Please remember to bring the bottle with your monetary donations to OLV Sunday or drop it off at the Rectory. Your contributions will benefit mothers in need and their new-born babies.

SPANISH MASS

The Spanish Mass is now celebrated on Sunday at 1:00PM.

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

We are constantly under attack and tempted by the forces of EVIL. Every Tuesday afternoon from 2:15-3:15PM members of OLV parish meet and pray the Mary Mother of All Nations Novena which focuses on this daily battle.

"Socialism only works in two places: Heaven where they don't need it and hell where they already have it." Ronald Reagan

Upcoming OLV Parish Events

June 4/5 Mother & Child New Baby Clothes Collection
Jun 6—Mon—Women of Grace 7:30PM
Jun 7 -Tue – Marian Novena Prayer 2:15-3:15PM
Jun 7—Tue—Bereavement Support Group 6:30PM
Jun 8—Wed—OLV Needlers
Jun 10—Fri— Adoration from 12:30PM-4:00PM
Jun 11 - Sat—Confessions 11:00-12:00 Noon 3:00-3:25PM

Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne

Young women who are discerning a religious vocation with the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne will have a weekend of sharing at the Motherhouse in Hawthorne NY July 29 –31, 2016

Questions call Sr. Alma Marie 845-745-1319
Hawthorne-Dominican.org

GOING ON VACATION

Visit www.masstimes.org for the locations of Catholic Churches and a Mass schedule, throughout the USA.

FISHERMEN WANTED

OLV Knights of Columbus Council invite you to their annual fishing trip on Saturday June 25. The fishing boat departs from Port Washington. Cost is \$70. For more info or for a seat, call Mike at 201-768-3714.

Mother / Child Collection June 4/5

Social Concerns Ministry is having it's annual Mother/Child collection to benefit New Hope Pregnancy Center. The center helps first time single mothers financially, physically, emotionally, and educationally. Items they are in most need of are: **diapers, newborn and sizes 4,5,6. Clothing size 2 toddler girls, 3 toddler boys. Pants, shorts, shirts, jackets, sweats are needed. New items only. Gift cards to Shop-Rite in amounts of \$10,\$15, &\$20 are needed.**

TRAVELING STATUE

OLV has a traveling statue of the Blessed Mother that can go from home to home so that prayers and rosaries can be said for the good of the people of the parish and the individual family. The statue will "visit" for a week before it will be sent to the next home. Contact the rectory for information or to have your name placed on the list to receive the statue.

PRAY for THOSE in the MILITARY

- Lieutenant Julia H. Cheringal, US Navy;
- Lieutenant Ben Clemente, US Army;
- Midshipman Jon Clemente, US Navy;
- 1st Lieutenant Ryan Colomeo, U.S. Marine Corps;
- Captain Michael Franson, US Army;
- Sergeant First Class Charles Greene, US Army;
- Lieutenant Tara Harris, US Air Force;
- Lieutenant Joseph Jaeger, US Navy;
- Lieutenant Andrew Jaeger, US Navy;
- Chief Master Sergeant Shawn Llewellyn, US Air Force;
- Captain Shawn Linn, US Army;
- Colonel John McLaughlin, US Army;
- Corporal Richard McKenna, USMC;
- Lieutenant John G. Miele, US Army.

PRAYER FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY

O Prince of peace, we humbly ask your protection for all our men and women in military service. Give them unflinching courage to defend with honor, dignity and devotion, the rights of all who are imperiled by injustice and evil. Be their rock, their shield, and their stronghold and let them draw their strength from you. For you are God, for ever and ever.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all for the cards, prayers, Masses, gifts and well wishes given to me for my 20th Anniversary to the priesthood. Thank you to all who participated in the Corpus Christi procession and reception and for those who went to Fr. Innocent's CFR first Mass and the reception.

Fr. Bryan

Action Item: Restore Aid to Nonpublic Schools

Our priority again for this month is to ask the legislature to restore the drastic cuts in nonpublic school aid that Governor Christie has made in his budget. The New Jersey Catholic Conference reports that " the Governor's Fiscal Year 2017 Budget cut funding for nonpublic school programs by 6.8%. Specifically, the Nonpublic School Security Program was totally eliminated; the per pupil amounts for nursing services and technology were reduced. The per-pupil amount for nonpublic school transportation remained frozen at \$884.00 - an amount that has been frozen for nine years." If you care about the future of Catholic Education in New Jersey please ask your members to contact their legislators (Both their Assembly People and their State Senator) and request that they restore the funding for the Nonpublic School Security Program and increase funding for nonpublic nursing services to \$94.00 per pupil and nonpublic technology aid to \$40.00 per pupil. If your State legislators are not on one of the Budget Committees, ask them to urge their colleagues on the Committee to restore the funding. Below is a list of legislators on the Budget Committees. An easy way to do this is to go to the New Jersey Catholic Conference website (www.njathconf.com), click on the Faith in Action icon and follow the prompts. Your concerns will be sent to both of your Assembly People and your State Senator. Another method is to email your Senator at senlastname@njleg.org and your Assemblyman at asmlastname@njleg.org and your Assemblywoman at aswlastname@njleg.org.

NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED

Stop in and visit Jesus in the Tabernacle. You can do it here at OLV Parish. Church is open 7am-4:30pm (M-F).

CLOTHING BINS

Through the turbulence of your many demands, would you be willing to take a few minutes to gather your unwanted clothing and shoes to help Catholic Charities? Please drop them in the Catholic Charities donation bin located on the Church grounds. Your donations help Catholic Charities and Mt. Carmel Guild. Thank you.

HOW SHOULD WE DRESS??

People generally have no real problem wearing proper clothing when entering places that demand such attire. Would you ever consider attending a formal dinner or a wedding dressed in a tee-shirt and shorts, or a tank top and swimming trunks? Why be rebellious in God's house?

CONVALIDATION

Were you married civilly by a mayor or justice of the peace and would now like to be married in the Catholic Church? See Fr. Bryan for more details and to see if your marriage can be regularized with the Church.

Saint Jude & Saint Anthony

Did you know that every Wednesday after the 8AM Mass we have a novena to St. Jude and St. Anthony. We also pray the Rosary DAILY after the completion of the 8AM weekday Mass.

FRIDAY ADORATION

Just a reminder we have Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays after noon mass – 3PM. So stop by and adore our Eucharistic Lord.

A House is not a Home without God.

SUN/SUN TAN

During the summer we often go down the shore to "work" on our tans. We may spend an hour in the sun and get "burned" by the sun. Imagine how much good spending an hour before the Son of God will do us. Why don't you stop by the Church on Thursday evenings at 7PM.

NFP SEMINAR

Please join us for a morning of professionals speaking, in an understandable way, about different dimensions of Natural Family Planning, and why NFP matters. Attendees will hear about the physical, emotional, and spiritual significance of NFP and there will also be book giveaways. We welcome engaged and married couples, single men and women, clergy and Religious, health professionals, youth leaders, teachers, and anyone else who would like to join us.

Saturday, June 11, 2016 9:30am – 12:00 noon
Archdiocesan Center 171 Clifton Ave., Newark
RSVP Preferred : jillc@njnfp.org or call 973-497-4325

The number of Christian martyrs has tripled in two years

By Kevin Jones (EWTN News / CAN)

In 2013, there were some 2,100 Christians killed for faith-related reasons across the globe. Last year, that number rose to at least 7,100, according to a recent report from an advocacy group. "The persecution of Christians is getting worse – in every region in which we work – and it's getting worse fast," Lisa Pearce, CEO of Open Doors UK and Ireland, said in the group's 2016 report. "Many countries have dropped down the list, not because persecution there is decreasing, but simply because others are getting worse faster. And it wasn't good three years ago."

The latest report found that anti-Christian persecution reached a new peak in 2015, with thousands more people killed for faith-related reasons. About 4,000 Christians were killed in Nigeria, over 1,200 in the Central African and over 700 in Chad throughout 2015. In addition, over 2,400 churches were attacked or shut down for faith-related reasons, the Open Doors report said. Open Doors' World Watch List evaluates Christian persecution in the world's countries and ranks the worst 50. The worst 10 countries on the 2016 list are North Korea, Iraq, Eritrea, Afghanistan, Syria, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan, Iran and Libya. North Korea, a communist state, is still the country where it is most difficult to be a Christian, the group found... and has headed Open Doors' watch list for 14 years.

Open Doors said the country's leadership sees Christianity as "deeply Western and despicable." In Iraq, hundreds of thousands of Christians have fled their homes for fear of violence, especially from ISIS. In Eritrea, the regime is absolutely authoritarian and intolerant towards any form of association, dissent and free expression. The Middle East, Africa and Central Asia were the fastest growing areas of persecution. Religious extremism, including Islamic, Hindu and Buddhist extremism, is the greatest source of anti-Christian persecution. The report blamed tribal antagonism as well as churches that do not want to recognize Christians of other denominations.

DID YOU KNOW?

If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle. If the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died because of wounds received in battle. If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

SAVE USED EYEGLASSES

The OLV K of C collects used and old eyeglasses for the less fortunate. Any old or "retired" glasses may be left in the basket in the atrium.

SIN = Soul in Need

Mass Intentions

Monday, June 6 – St. Norbert of France, Bishop

8:00 Frank Adamcik R/b the Adamcik Family
12:00 Rose Roccanova R/b Dennis and Kathleen Falotico

Tuesday, June 7- St. Robert of England - Abbot

8:00 Blanche Olzewski R/b Family
12:00 Eileen Ellis R/b Bill and Cathy Ryan

Wednesday, June 8 – St. William of England - Archbishop

8:00 Gloria Mioli R/b Connie and Mary Lou Roccanova
12:00 George Gill R/b Winnie Gill

Thursday, June 9 – St. Ephrem, Deacon, Doctor

8:00 Sam Burruano R/b Peter and Linda Wayne
12:00 Grace von Bartheld

Friday, June 10 – St. Landry of France - Bishop

8:00 Angela O'Connor R/b Aileen Vassar
12:00 Rev. Zachary H. Monet, O.Carm. R/b New Milford Prayer Group

Saturday, June 11 – St. Barnabas, Apostle

8:00 Dick Bremen R/b Mary Warner
12:00 Angela O'Connor R/b Sr. Elizabeth

4:00 Michael A. Casenta R/b Colleen Connors-Casenta

5:00 Stephen & Mary Fogarino R/b Josephine J. Fogarino & Marie Michaels

Sunday, June 12 – St. Guy Vignotelli of Italy - Priest

7:30 Joseph Neglia R/b the Evanella Family
8:15 People of the Parish

9:30 William Tristano R/b Josephine Tristano

10:45 Jean Bentivegna R/b the Bentivegna Family

12:00 John Kelly R/b the Younghans Family

1:00 Ramon Emilio Rodriguez R/b Tony and Laura Scott

6:00 Sam Napolitano R/b Bob and Renee Tringali

7:00 Frank Ciccarino

Sanctuary Memorials

The Church Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for the **unemployed.**

The Convent Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for the **souls in Purgatory.**

The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp burns this week for the **repose of the soul of Michael Giotta, r/b loving family.**

The St. Joseph Votive Lamp Votive Lamp burns this week for the **repose of the soul of Margaret A. Hilla, r/b Stacey Page.**

The Pope John Paul II Votive Lamp burns for the **intentions of the men and women who serve in defense of our country.**

THE WATER PISTOL

When my three-year old son opened the birthday gift from his grandmother, he discovered a water pistol. He squealed with delight and headed for the nearest sink. I was not so pleased. I turned to Mom and said, "I'm surprised at you. Don't you remember how we used to drive you crazy with water guns?" Mom smiled and then replied ... "I remember."

Kidz Korner Answers

1. Unity, Sanctity, Catholicity, Apostolicity. 2. Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Zabulon, Issachar, Dan, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Joseph (Menasseh and Ephraim), Benjamin. 3. OLV parish was founded in 1910. 4. The Church was built in 1912. 5. April 15, 1912 the Titanic sank and the floor of OLV church collapsed killing two women.

"Truly great must be the value of human life if the Son of God has taken it up and made it the instrument of the salvation of all humanity." **Pope John Paul II**

To have more, desire less.

Enjoy your transgender bathrooms. We just lost America.

Kyle S. Reyes | May 17, 2016

While you were fighting over who should use what bathrooms at Target, we lost our country. While you were arguing with coworkers over who would leave the country first if Trump/Clinton were elected, the "American Dream" perished. Don't believe me? Then perhaps ALL is lost. And I can prove it all to you through the eyes of a child. The screens around our house in the past couple of weeks stand in stark contrast to what's in front of them. The television ... the laptops ... the iPads ... the cell phones ... filled with images of the attacks around the world. Day in and day out, we hear stories about "refugees" pouring into the United States. Broadcast are the sounds of tone-deaf leaders. Of anger. Of hatred. Of hurt. In front of those screens runs our little daughter. Just over a year old, she's the greatest blessing a young family can have. She's filled with innocence, love, joy and our hopes for the future.

But there was a lull in the media noise on Sunday when we attended Mass. Our priest usually preaches about love. Faith. Hope. But there was a different dynamic this week. There was a different energy. This time, he talked about the end of times. Our priest is far from being an alarmist. Just the opposite. But this particular Mass, he spoke deeply and heavily about being prepared. "For we know not the hour ..." He wasn't trying to frighten people. But he also understood that he couldn't be tone-deaf to the deep concerns of his flock.

It's hard not to be afraid. It's hard not to have an underlying anxiety. It's hard not to wonder and pray over whether your children will have the same opportunities you did. Growing up, I paid close attention in history class. And I've always felt a very deep sense of patriotism. I've always felt great respect for my country and believed that if, God forbid, we ever faced World War III, America would once again triumph. Perhaps my fear, and the anxiety of so many others, is that we were wrong. We were wrong because of one simple line that I believe may have been written wrong. It should have read, "One Nation, Divisible After All." Have we ever faced a time when our country was so polarized? Have we ever faced enemies so dangerous?

Have we ever been on such a precipice that a frightening and painful energy radiated through each of us, tying us together in some disturbing, unifying, powerful and yet simultaneously divisive way? I'm angered to see that we live in a country where we have gone soft. We've become hypocrites, and we've become pansies. We forget that our grandfathers stormed beaches to protect freedom. Instead, we demand that the freedom now come in the form of a shelter from hearing words we don't like. We flip out because our \$7 coffee comes in a red cup. We cancel concerts and cost people jobs because we don't agree with a law that the people of the state passed. We care more about protecting where someone can take a leak than we care about the safety of our children.

OUR CHILDREN. We give out trophies to kids who come in 8th place. Eighth freaking place. We dig up the graves of people who have been dead for a hundred-plus years because they had something to do with the Confederate flag, and that offends someone NOW. We say we hate what Democrats have done to the country, so we elect a House and Senate full of Republicans who proceed to also place THEIR heads up their collective asses as well. It seems as if both parties forgot what they were supposed to be doing and whom they are supposed to be representing. We pick sides and parties and teams and defend them to the ends of the Earth, ignoring the facts, pointing the fingers and hoping someone else will cover the cost of our skyrocketing and borderline pointless health insurance. We talk about the number of homeless vets who we have to feed and clothe and house when it's convenient for us to leverage them like pawns in a game - yet tomorrow, so many will forget to feed and clothe and house them. We ignore the simple facts about our dangerously open borders and the lack of a vetting process for refugees, then we stand in horror as ISIS attacks and we ask our politicians how they could have let this happen. And then, of course, we put a fast lane in for more to cross the border.

We put in place more gun laws to prevent the bad guys from doing bad things. Because for some reason, we believe that bad guys give a damn about laws and that giving them an open shooting range on a military base or school

campus will somehow protect our citizens. But then we completely ignore the massive problem of mental health in this country. We're more worried about the tool than we are the person. We cry out that police are our enemies ... and then we beg them to protect us from the likes of ISIS. We celebrate court rulings with rainbow flags that speak volumes about how far we've come and how inclusive we are as Americans ... then we tell our neighbors to remove their American flags and stop saying "Merry Christmas" and "Happy Hanukkah" because it offends us.

We send billions of dollars overseas to help the homeless in impoverished and war-torn nations while we cut the funding for our own food banks and homeless programs. We get into fistfights about "under-inflated balls" while gorging ourselves on beer and wings at football games ... while millions of Americans wonder how they're going to pay their mortgage and put food on the table for their families. We fight tooth and nail over whether someone dying of stage four pancreatic cancer should be allowed to use medical marijuana while drugs like heroin are running rampant in our schools.

We teach kids that there should be no boys section or girls section at the store, but our kids notice that we won't sit down with our neighbor for a beer because they have a different skin color and we're too busy fighting over what is and isn't racism. We hold massive rallies demanding \$15/hour for flipping burgers ... but we sit quietly on the sidelines when our men and women protecting our country who make \$11/hour aren't getting paid because Congress is debating their funding. We change our profile pictures to colors that represent solidarity with a country that was attacked by terrorists ... then we attack our neighbors for being concerned that the same could happen here.

We're terribly focused on what matters to us as individuals. Marriage. Cell phones. Birth control. On and on and on. We're so worried about what matters to "me" that we forgot that in order for us to have a "me" ... we have to first have an "us." A safe "us." A unified "us." An "us" that can at least find some kind of middle ground. Tomorrow is a new day. So tonight, before bed, we pray ... just a little harder, perhaps, than we've prayed before. We put our daughter to sleep and shut off the television. The internet. The phones. The iPads. All screens but the black and white monitor where we can see nothing but innocence. And for a moment, just one fleeting, precious moment, we're once again one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. I don't expect everyone to agree with everything in this article. But if even a piece of it resonated with you, please share it with others and ask them to do the same. It's time we start having some very difficult and very real conversations. I hope this helps start that.

Kyle S. Reyes is President and CEO of The Silent Partner Marketing He's also an acclaimed keynote speaker on entrepreneurship, leadership, marketing and social media.

Do You Have a First Grader?

Time to register for CCD! Please call 201-768-1400 or email olvhpccd@gmail.com for a registration form and info. Classes begin in September.

What is Opus Dei?

St. Josemaría Escrivá de Balaguer (the founder of Opus Dei) once defined Opus Dei as "a divine journey made by Christians who want to live like Christians." We do not intend to do anything sensational; we are common people seeking sanctification in our daily life.

STEWARDSHIP

MY FAMILY – MY PARISH – MY RESPONSIBILITY

As your expenses increase, so do the Church's, but we rely on your generosity to meet our expenses. Please be generous.

KIDZ KORNER

1. What are the four marks of the Church?
2. Name the twelve tribes of Israel?
3. When was OLV parish founded?
4. When was the OLV Church built?
5. What happened the day OLV church opened?

Answers on page four.