

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. Adamcik SFO, KHS Pastor

SUNDAY, June 11, 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

In Residence-Convent

Sr. Mary Corrigan, SC

Mr. Thomas Lagatol Mr. Albert McLaughlin

Deacons

Susan Evarella

Religious Education

Deacon Al McLaughlin

Parish Catechetical Leader

Selena Piazza

Les Rossmann

Ministers of Music

Elizabeth Ulisse

Martin Coyne II

Parish Trustees

Jerryl Pulis & Meagan Mullany

Jr. High School Ministry

Curtiss & Katie Stella

High School Ministry

Maria Hellrigel

Parish Secretary

Jorden Pedersen Esq.

President Parish Council

Jon Fischer CFA

Chairman Finance Committee



SPECIAL MASSES OR DEVOTIONS:

First Friday: 7:00pm, 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 6:30pm

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

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.

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



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, William Biasi, James Brady, Joey Bulger, Kathy Freeburn, Marylou Goreb, Thomas Haring, Peter Kellar, Arnold Kemner, Joseph LoVecchio, Anne Matthaëi, Teresa Meierdierks, Kyle Murphy, Canice Prince, Dan Ragusa, Odalis Recchia, Mary Rinner, Danny Rizzi, Suzanne Rothschild, Wendy Ruggiero, George Rush, Kathryn Turrell, Therese Vaglio, Jim Walsh, Catherine Wanner.

SPIRITUAL EXCERPT

"Holiness is attained with the help of the Holy Spirit, who comes to dwell in our souls, through grace given us by the sacraments and as a result of a constant ascetical struggle. My son, let us not have any false illusions about this. You and I—I'll never tire of repeating it—will always have to struggle, always, until the end of our lives. We will thus come to love peace, and we will spread peace around us, and we will receive our everlasting reward."

St. Josemaria Escriva - THE FORGE pg. 152.

ARE YOU A REGISTERED PARISHIONER?

Occasionally there is a misunderstanding on Parish Registration; every family should be properly registered on our Parish Census by filling out a Parish Registration Form. Couples married at OLV who continue to live in the Parish should register shortly after the marriage as a new family. The Parish where you receive your Sacraments does not continue to be your Parish unless you are properly registered. Sponsor Certificates for Baptism and Confirmation and reference letters can only be given to those who are registered parishioners.

RESPECT LIFE

At the instant of physical conception, a human life is in existence. To deliberately kill or destroy that human life, THE GREAT LAWGIVER AND SUPREME JUDGE says, is **MURDER**, punishable by eternal and final **DEATH!** Regardless of human lawyers, human courts, human judges, or even Supreme Court Justices, abortion is an act of murder, in defiance of the supreme almighty GOD. Those who commit it, and order it, or "legally" by man's law authorize it, will be held in contempt of THE SUPREME COURT OF HEAVEN, and answerable to the great **SUPREME JUDGE**.

Do You Have a First Grader?

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

JUST A REMINDER

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.

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.

POST-ABORTION COUNSELING

Contact PROJECT RACHEL - 732-388-8211

MARY GARDENS

Christians of the early Church frequently used floral symbolism to honor the Blessed Mother. The Church Fathers, for example, took passages from the Scriptural passages from The Song of Songs to liken Our Lady to the rose of Sharon and the lily of the valley. By the Middle Ages, nearly 700 flowers and herbs had come to be associated with the Blessed Virgin. Some were associated through tradition, such as the rose of Sharon and the lily of the valley. Some were associated through legend. Our Lady's bedstraw is an herb said to have been placed by Mary in the manger. Columbine was called Our Lady's slipper because it was said to have grown where Mary's feet touched the earth. Here is a list of some common annuals and perennials named after or dedicated to Our Lady:

Annuals	Perennials
Sweet alyssum—Mary's flower	Morning Glory—Our Lady's mantle
Marigold—Mary's gold	English daisy—Mary's rose
Petunia—Our Lady's praise	Snowdrop—Our Lady's tears
Sweet pea—Our Lady's smile	Lily of the Valley—Our Lady's tears
Cornflower—Our Lady's crown	Daffodil—Mary's star
Pansy—Our Lady's delight	Bleeding heart—Mary's heart
Forget-me-not—Eyes of Mary	Iris—Our Lady's sword

THE BASICS ABOUT ALL CHURCH MINISTRY

Jesus Christ our High Priest is the source of every Church ministry, for He is the one and only Priest. He 'adorns' each baptized Christian with a share IN His Priesthood; so all ministers: social, liturgical, catechetical, administrative, etc., are vehicles through whom Christ now functions in the world. From among the baptized Christ, "with a brother's love," calls some men to particular roles as teachers, leaders and officiants - not for their own glory - but to serve God's People.

COUNT

Twice a year the diocese asks us to count the number of individuals who attend Mass at the parish, this year the count took place during the month of May. We've included the past few years so that you can see how we are growing.

May	2017	2016	2014	2010	2008
Week 1	2616	2212	1607	1090	952
Week 2	2532	2354	1834	1088	915
Week 3	2636	2435	1869	1133	855
Week 4	1807	2720	1504	1031	702

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

We are constantly under attack and tempted by the forces of EVIL. Every Tuesday afternoon from 2:15-3:00PM members of OLV parish meet and pray the Mary Mother of All Nations Novena which focuses on this daily battle.

Father's Day

Intention Cards for the Living and Remembrance Cards for the deceased are available in the vestibule.

APOLOGETICS

Defend your Catholic Faith but first learn more about it. Check out this site to learn more about Roman Catholicism @ <http://www.biblechristiansociety.com>

Did you know that dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish?

Upcoming OLV Parish Events

- Jun 13 - Tue – Marian Novena Prayer 2:00-3:00PM
- Jun 14 - Wed - OLV Needlers 6:30PM
- Jun 16 - Fri - Adoration from 12:30PM-3:00PM
- Jun 17 - Sat - AA meeting lower church 7:00PM

CLOTHING BINS

We congratulate and rejoice with all our graduates. The celebrations for the graduates are well-deserved. For some families, however, a full meal on any evening is a cause for “celebration” as often times, their tables are bare or sparse with food, Please help us to continue to distribute much-needed food throughout the Archdiocese. Your contributions to the Catholic Charities clothing bins help to provide the funding for the continuation of our many programs. Thank you .

WHO WALKS INTO YOUR LIFE

The first sentence is pretty powerful!!! God determines who walks into your life...it's up to you to decide whom you let walk away, whom you let stay, and whom you refuse to let go. Father, God bless all my friends in whatever it is that You know they may be needing this day! And may their lives be full of your peace, prosperity and power as they seek to have a closer relationship with you. Amen.

DEFEND YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH

Over the course of the last generation, Christianity and in particular our Catholic Faith has been under attack. Anti-Catholicism is the last acceptable prejudice. What can we do about it; besides prayer, all Catholics should join The Catholic League at 450 7th Ave, NY, NY 10123 or www.catholicleague.org and receive the journal The Catalyst, which has articles detailing where Catholicism is under attack and by whom.

Prayer for the Safety of Soldiers

Almighty and eternal God, those who take refuge in you will be glad and forever will shout for joy. Protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise you for your loving care. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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;
- Private Thomas lafrate, 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.

**My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance.
We'll see about that.**

RACIST ROOTS of Planned Parenthood

The following are just a few of the many racist comments by Planned Parenthood founder Margaret Sanger: "Birth control: to create a race of thoroughbreds." - "More children from the fit, less from the unfit - that is the chief aim of birth control." - "The most successful educational approach to the Negro is through a religious appeal. We do not want word to get out that we want to exterminate the Negro population, and the Minister is the man who can straighten out that idea if it ever occurs to any of their more rebellious members." - "Those least fit to carry on the human race are increasing most rapidly. Funds that should be used to raise the standard of our civilization are diverted to maintenance of those who should never have been born." - "It now remains for the US government to set an example to the world by offering a bonus or yearly pension to all those obviously unfit parents who allow themselves to be sterilized." Margaret Sanger, an American, is the founder of Planned Parenthood in the early 1900's. She believed in eugenics – that is, engineering a superior race, an idea that Adolph Hitler read about and embraced. For Margaret, the race would be Protestant, white, with Northern European ancestry. Catholics, Blacks, Southern Europeans, Indians and Asians were, therefore, genetically all inferior and should not be allowed to breed.

CHRISTIAN?????

A man was being tailgated by a stressed-out woman on a busy boulevard. Suddenly, the light turned yellow in front of him. He did the right thing, stopping at the crosswalk, even though he could have barely beaten the light by accelerating through the intersection. The tailgating woman was furious and honked her horn, screaming in frustration, as she missed her chance to get through the intersection, dropping her cell phone and makeup. As she was still in mid-rant she heard a tap on the window and looked up into the face of a very serious police officer. The officer ordered her to exit her car with her hands up. He took her to the police station where she was searched, fingerprinted, photographed, and placed in a holding cell. Later an officer let her out of the cell and escorted her back to the booking desk where the arresting officer was waiting with her personal effects. He said, "I'm very sorry for this mistake. You see, I pulled up behind your car while you were blowing your horn, flipping off the guy in front of you, and cussing a blue streak at him. I noticed the 'What Would Jesus Do' bumper sticker, the 'Choose Life' license plate holder, the 'Follow Me to Sunday School' bumper sticker, and the chrome-plated Christian fish emblem on the trunk. Naturally, I assumed you had stolen the car.

BOX TOPS COLLECTION

The Archdiocese of Newark is helping the children of St. Joseph's Catholic school in Jersey City to collect Box Tops for Education. This is a program that was launched by General Mills to help support students and schools across the country. OLV is helping them in this endeavor. If you would like to donate any box tops to this cause, please drop off at the rectory.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

GLADYS HEYLIGER/MARY CARLEY SCHOLARSHIP

CDA Court 1639 is offering a \$1000 scholarship to an 8th grade student entering a Catholic High School in September 2017. For an application, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Dr. Marie Woke, 20 Kensington Ct, Norwood, NJ 07648. Deadline for application is July 31.

**Check out OLV's website olvhp.org
and find us on Facebook:
Our Lady of Victories Parish**

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY

OUR THANKS TO THE PARISHIONERS OF OUR LADY OF VICTORIES

The St. Vincent de Paul, Social Concerns Ministry has participated in the following activities this past year during the period of September 2016 to date. It is our mission to help the less fortunate with food, clothing, shelter, gifts and financial contributions.

Year round	Flowers and cards to sick/homebound.
September	Meals for needy family year round.
October	Coats for needy family.
October	118 dinners served at Hackensack walk-in shelter.
October	Peanut butter & jelly collection with the parish youth group.
November	Month long food collection, frozen turkeys and food collection.
November	Coats and sweater collection for the Archdiocese.
December	Giving Tree -- 250 families benefited from this drive.
January	Collection, ongoing for cereal & breakfast foods for St Cecilia's.
January	Gift baskets donated to Knights of Columbus Beefsteak dinner.
February	Souper-Bowl collection with the youth group.
March	103 dinners served at Hackensack walk in dinner.
March	Collection of breakfast foods for Office of Concern.
March	Toiletries collected for Little Sisters of the Poor.
April	Pasta collection for Office of Concern, St. Cecilia's.
May	Mother/child collection to benefit New Hope Pregnancy Center.
Summer	Food collections continue.

Financial Contributions are given to the needy via ShopRite or K-Mart gift cards throughout the year.

Assistance to our Pastor with Mass of Anointing twice a year.

OUR SPECIAL THANKS TO YOU PARISHIONERS WHO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE. WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND INVOLVEMENT.

New members are always welcome.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Every week, some treasures from our tradition are shared here in our parish bulletin. Where does all this history come from? The history of God's people of prayer is always coming to light, mostly because scholars have dedicated their lives to research. They translate and ponder prayers and songs; explore the places used for worship; look at the vessels, books, and vestments; and read works from legal documents to letters and diaries. In the 1930s, Hitler's rush to arm Germany closed seminaries as priests and seminarians alike were drafted into service. One professor, Father Josef Jungman, forced from his classroom, spent the war years in an Austrian library. His careful work disclosed much of what we know of the history of the Mass. His great work, *The Mass of the Roman Rite*, describes the evolution of Eucharistic celebration and inspired generations of scholars to explore a tradition surprisingly rich and varied. It was said of him that he had a command of the past that cast new light on the present, and opened up a clear direction to the future. His contributions to the Second Vatican Council helped shape the way that we worship today. At the end of his life, in 1975, his studies completed, he told a friend that he was waiting patiently for the Lord's knock at the door to take him to the heavenly banquet.

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION

Our Lord told St. Margaret Mary Alacoque that individuals should go to confession at a minimum once a month. This sacrament is offered EVERY Saturday from 11AM to Noon and 4-4:30PM; every weekday morning at 7:30AM, as well as every First Friday at 7PM. A Priest is also available to hear Confessions daily by appointment.

QUESTION??

Why are many coin banks shaped like pigs? Long ago, dishes and cookware in Europe were made of a dense orange clay called 'pygg'. When people saved coins in jars made of this clay, the jars became known as 'pygg banks.' When an English potter misunderstood the word, he made a container that resembled a pig. And it caught on.

Mass Intentions

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

8:00 Catherine Fallon

12:00 Angelo DaRosso

R/b Walter and Joy Flaherty

Tuesday, June 13–St. Anthony of Portugal–Priest of Padua-Italy

8:00 Frank Ciccarino

12:00 Cyrus Mohsenin

R/b the Dunn Family

Wednesday, June 14 - St. Methodius of Sicily – Patriarch

8:00 Rosa Ramos

R/b Lorraine Gobbetti

12:00 Josephine Conlon

R/b John Conlon

Thursday, June 15– St. Germaine Cousin of France - Virgin

8:00 Michael Diceglie

R/b Jennifer and children

12:00 Edward Pavlu

R/b the Kip Family

Friday, June 16 – St. John Francis Regis of France - Priest

8:00 Thomas F. Lagatol II

R/b the Lagatol Family

12:00 Lizette Donnelly

R/b the Genco Family

Saturday, June 17. St. Harvey of France-Abbot

8:00 George and Frances Duggan

R/b Pat Duggan

12:00 Carole Barlowe

R/b the Bland Family

4:00 Michael Giotta

R/b the Giotta Family

5:00 Bill and Kay Byrne

R/b Pete and Fran Redmond

Sunday, June 18 – St. Gregory Barbarigo of Italy-Bishop

All Masses today are for Fathers, living and deceased.

SANCTUARY MEMORIALS

The Church Sanctuary Lamp burns for an increase in religious vocations.

The Bl. Virgin Mary Votive Lamp burns this week for the souls in Purgatory

The St. Joseph Votive Lamp burns this week for a special intention.

The Infant of Prague Votive Lamp burns this week for the unemployed.

The Pope John Paul II Votive Lamp burns this week for those who have given their lives in defense of our country.

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.

DAILY OFFERING

O My Jesus, I include myself in all the Holy Masses which are celebrated this day throughout the world, and offer them to You in union with the intentions of You Sacred Heart. I implore You to reserve for me, from each Holy Mass, Your most precious Blood to atone for my sins and their punishment.

CHECK OUT THE BOOK RACKS

We have plenty of interesting books, booklets, and pamphlets as well as children's books and other items. The summer is a perfect time to learn more about your faith.

Immaculate Heart Academy Summer Courses

July 10-August 3: co-ed summer enrichment courses through IHA Summer@theheart program. Open to students of several age levels. Courses include Broadcasting, STEAM (Art Meets STEM), Young Artists Workshop, Personal Leadership, Beginning Theatre, T-shirt Quilt Making, and more! Email Kelly Tweed ktweed@ihani.com or visit www.ihani.com.

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

1. God. 2. Jacob. 3. Zechariah. 4. Joachim. 5. Adam.

"We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way."

St. Francis of Assisi

F Y I

From Rev. Msgr. Thomas P. Nydegger, Ed.D.

Vicar General for the Archdiocese of Newark May 19, 2015

In September 2005, information was sent to all Pastors and Priest Administrators in the Archdiocese of Newark regarding the establishment of a Decree in March 2004 by the Bishops of the Province of New Jersey reaffirming that the **Mass Stipends (Offerings) for public Masses will remain at \$10.00 for weekday, Sunday and Holyday Masses.**

SAINT PETER'S BASILICA

Those who have visited Saint Peter Basilica know its immensity; just the nave or main aisle is 610 feet long! [Our center aisle is 70 feet, a football field is 300 feet long!] Our first Pope's statue is near the Basilica's midpoint, which means its hundreds of feet from the yellow alabaster window of the Holy Spirit which is above the back wall's Altar of the Chair. How appropriate that the Basilica's central focal point is not Peter but the Holy Spirit. As the Church's first history book, the Acts of the Apostles attests - and as her endurance and growth through SO MANY far less-than holy Popes or Cardinals, Bishops, Priests or Deacons, Religious Sisters or Brothers, lay men and women also attests: the Church must be truly divine - for she would have collapsed long ago if she were merely a human enterprise! For from the start, the Church has been rocked by scandals, split by schisms, marred by her sinful leaders and members, persecuted by internal and external forces and mired in countless controversies. Yet she endures.

All are Led and Guided by the Holy Spirit. Only Bishops, who have the fullness of the Sacrament of Holy Orders, also have the fullness of the Holy Spirit's gifts and graces; so when the Pope acts in union with the Bishops, they are free from error in matters of faith and morals. We call this the Doctrine of Infallibility; while only defined in 1867, it was practiced in theory ever since Peter and the Apostles [the first Pope and Bishops] declared as 'truth' all that must be believed by Christians. This 'power' is based on what Christ told them: "Whoever listens to you listens to me. Whoever rejects you rejects me." [Luke 10:16a] and to Peter: "I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven" [Matthew 16:19]

However, Bishops are not the only ones empowered by the Holy Spirit! Every Christian receives a 'dose' of the Spirit's sevenfold gifts at their Baptism and Confirmation; in the Anointing of the Sick the infirm receive a boost of courage among other things; at their Ordination Deacons and Priests are infused with special gifts; in Matrimony, the Spirit imparts the graces without which marriage would be impossible; in Penance those who confess their sins hear these beautiful words in the Prayer of Absolution: "God, the Father of mercies, through the Death and Resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins." And without the Holy Spirit, we would not have - or at least understand as best we do, the ultimate of gifts: the Eucharist.

In fact, without the Holy Spirit, every liturgical time [which we once called 'season'] would lose its spiritual meaning; Christmas and Eastertide would succumb to their secular meaning. Without the Holy Spirit we could not understand the Bible or Church teaching - or make sense of - or at least see how God's plan unfolds through this world's many challenges - like the Cross. Without the Holy Spirit our prayers of thanks and our deeds of gratitude for God's many graces and blessings would be devoid of any meaning or effectiveness. Without the Holy Spirit even our joy would be incomplete, for the Bible often states that one main 'fruit' of the Spirit ... is JOY!

Prayers Which May Be Said at the Offertory When the Priest offers the Host.

Through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and in the Holy Will of God, I place upon the paten my heart; the hearts of all those near and dear to me, especially the hearts of my relatives; the hearts of all those for whom I have promised to pray; the hearts of all those who have injured me; the hearts of all those whom I may have injured; the hearts of all the agonizing. Jesus when Thou changest the bread and wine into Thy Body and Blood, change our hearts into hearts pleasing to Thee. Jesus, gaze into my soul, purify, illuminate.

YOU HEARD IT SAID

"Catholics should follow their conscience in all things ... whether it's abortion, birth control, or women's ordination." It's true -- the Catechism says quite plainly, "Man has the right to act in conscience and in freedom so as personally to make moral decisions. 'He must not be forced to act contrary to his conscience. Nor must he be prevented from acting according to his conscience, especially in religious matters'" (1782). This teaching is at the heart of what it means to have free will. But that doesn't mean that our conscience is free from all responsibility or may remain ignorant of God's law. This is what the Catechism refers to as having a "well-formed conscience." The Catechism assigns great responsibility to a person's conscience: Moral conscience, present at the heart of the person, enjoins him at the appropriate moment to do good and to avoid evil. It bears witness to the authority of truth in reference to the supreme Good to which the human person is drawn, and it welcomes the commandments. When he listens to his conscience, the prudent man can hear God speaking (1777). In other words, our conscience isn't just "what we feel is right" -- it's what we judge to be right based on what we know of the teachings of God and the Church. And in order to make that judgment, we have a responsibility to study and pray over these teachings very carefully. The Catechism has a section dedicated entirely to the careful formation of our conscience -- that's how important it is in making right decisions. And in the end, whether right or wrong, we're still held accountable for our actions: "Conscience enables one to assume responsibility for the acts performed" (1781). When properly formed, it helps us to see when we've done wrong and require forgiveness of our sins. By seeking a fully formed conscience, we actually experience great freedom, because we're drawing closer to God's infinite Truth. It's not a burden or something that keeps us from doing what we want; it's a guide to help us do what is right. "The education of the conscience guarantees freedom and engenders peace of heart" (1784).

CEREAL COLLECTION

For the month of June OLV will be having a breakfast cereal collection to benefit the St. Cecelia Food Pantry.

KIDZ KORNER

1. Who is the Father of Jesus?
2. Who was the father of Joseph?
3. Who was the father of John the Baptist?
4. Who was the father of Mary?
5. Who was the father of Cain and Abel?

Answers on page four.

"For my own part, I sincerely esteem the Constitution a system without the finger of God, never could have been suggested and agreed upon by such a diversity of interests."

Alexander Hamilton