

# 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, July 2, 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

Lesla 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



## 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 -3:30pm

## 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

Weekdays: M-Sat 8:00am & 12:00noon



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, Mary Rinner, Danny Rizzi, Suzanne Rothschild, Wendy Ruggiero, George Rush, Alice Snyder, Kathryn Turrell, Therese Vaglio, Jim Walsh, Catherine Wanner.

### **SPIRITUAL EXCERPT**

"That person is truly blessed who understands what it is to love Jesus and to serve Him with deep humility. Jesus wishes to be loved above all things; everything else must come second. The love of anything other than Jesus is deceptive and fickle; the love of Jesus is faithful and enduring."

Thomas A Kempis *THE IMITATION OF CHRIST* Book 2 Chapter 7

### **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 Iafrate, 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;  
Colonel John McLaughlin, US Army;  
Lieutenant John G. Miele, US Army.

### **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.

### **Thirteen Stars and Thirteen Stripes**

It was on JUNE 14, 1777, that the Second Continental Congress selected the Flag of the United States. In 1916, Woodrow Wilson signed the Proclamation making JUNE 14 "National Flag Day." On Flag Day, 1942, Franklin D. Roosevelt stated: "The belief in man, created free, in the image of God - is the crucial difference between ourselves and the enemies we face...God of the free...grant us victory over the tyrants who would enslave all free men." On JUNE 14, 1954, Dwight Eisenhower signed Joint Resolution (Public Law 396) adding the phrase "One Nation Under God" to the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Eisenhower stated: "From this day forward, the millions of our school children will daily proclaim in every city and town, every village and rural school house, the dedication of our nation and our people to the Almighty. To anyone who truly loves America, nothing could be more inspiring than this rededication of our youth, on each school morning, to our country's true meaning." President Eisenhower ended: "In this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in America's heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country's most powerful resource, in peace or in war."

### **OUR SYMBOL**

As we come to celebrate Independence Day this week we are surrounded by the symbol of our freedom – the American Flag. "What so proudly we hail..." this banner of independence and unity, won through the blood of our forefathers, and preserved through the lives of our own fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, sons and daughters. Many will wear patriotic attire with the traditional red, white and blue to profess our national heritage.

How wonderful it would be to also wear the symbol that proclaims that we are dedicated to the service of our heavenly Mother and are members of the household of God – the Scapular. The Star Spangled Banner has led many through the perilous fight; The Scapular as a symbol of faith will help us lead the battle against Satan. The Blessed Virgin Mary revealed to St. Dominic, "One day through the Rosary and the Scapular I will save the world."

Devils revealed to Francis of Yepes (the brother of St. John of the Cross), that three things especially torment them. The first is the Name of Jesus, the second is the name of Mary, and the third is the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. "Take off that habit," they cried to him, "which snatches so many souls from us; all those clothed in it (the Scapular) die piously and escape us and Hell."

The Scapular then should take on a deep meaning for us. It is the rich present brought down from heaven by Our Lady herself. "Wear it devoutly and perseveringly," she says to each soul, "it is my garment." To be clothed in it means you are continually thinking of me and I in turn am always thinking of you and helping you to secure eternal life. How truly blessed we are to be children of God and to live in a country where we can freely profess our membership in His Family.

### **JOIN A MINISTRY THAT HAS NO MEETINGS**

Become one of our OLV 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.

### **TUESDAY AFTERNOON PRAYER GROUP**

Every Tuesday afternoon from 2:00PM-3:00PM we have a group who are praying a **Marian Novena Rosary** in Church in front of the Blessed Sacrament. **ALL ARE WELCOME.**

### **CLOTHING BINS**

Catholic Charities received a check for \$2,986 as a result of your donations from December 1st to May 31st. These funds combined with monies from other parishes throughout the Archdiocese alleviated the sufferings of the needy who sought relief through the many operations of Catholic Charities. We were privileged to assist 1,999 older adults with a range of compelling needs through 12 Catholic Charities programs (FY 2016). Thank you for enabling us to bring Christ's love to the most vulnerable in our society.

### **Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation FOOD DRIVE**

**During July—OLV will have a food collection to help Catholic Charities feed the homeless during the summer months.** Summertime means increased hardship for many needy families in the Archdiocese who rely on school breakfast and lunch programs to feed their children's nutritional needs. Food pantries are hard pressed to provide for these hungry people since many food collections drop off or stop for the summer months. Last summer over 50,000 people turned to the 50 faith-based food pantries supported by Catholic Charities (over 40% of these were children).

### **GOING ON VACATION**

Visit [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) for the locations of Catholic Churches and a Mass schedule, throughout the USA.

**God Bless America.**

## Upcoming OLV Parish Events

Jul 5 - Wed - OLV Needlers 6:30PM  
Jul 6 - Thu - Holy Hour 7:00PM  
Jul 6 - Thu - Support Group: Empowering Healing Tools 7:30PM  
Jul 7 - Fri - Adoration from 12:30PM-3:00PM  
Jul 7 - Fri - Mass followed by Sacred Heart Devotions 7:00PM \*new time  
Jul 8 - Sat - AA meeting lower church 7:00PM

## Discernment Retreat for Catholic Women

**Friday, July 21—Sunday, July 23.** Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne for women 19-45, for a weekend of sharing in our life of prayer and apostolate (Hawthorne, NY). For information or reservations contact Sr. Alma Marie 845-745-1319. Visit [www.hawthorne-dominicans.org](http://www.hawthorne-dominicans.org).

### ATTENTION ALL INCOMING 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE PARENTS

**Bergen Catholic High School** summer COOP Prep Course for this Fall's examination. July 6-July 14<sup>th</sup>. 9-11am. Fee: \$300. For info contact Matt Rosa, Director of Admissions, at [mrosa@bergencatholic.org](mailto:mrosa@bergencatholic.org)

**Don Bosco Prep** COOP Prep Course for 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys. Choose from two two-week sessions: Session 1: July 10-July 13 & July 17- July 20 or Session 2: July 24-July 27 & July 31-August 3. 8:00am to Noon. Tuition \$500. Contact Marilyn Palka at [mpalka@donboscoprep.org](mailto:mpalka@donboscoprep.org).

## Green Knights Basketball Camp

St. Joseph Regional HS in Montvale is the site of the 29<sup>th</sup> annual **Green Knights Basketball** camp for boys ages 9-15. 3 Sessions: July 10-14; July 17-21; July 24-28. Camp day is 9AM-3PM. Friday dismissal at Noon. Great fun and competition ... guest lecturers ... free basketball and player jersey to each camper! Please call 201-391-3300 for applications and information. Visit [www.sjrnj.org](http://www.sjrnj.org).

## 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.**

## STROKE

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions.

1. Ask the individual to SMILE.
2. Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.
3. Ask the person to SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE .  
(Coherently i.e... It is sunny out today.)

If he or she has trouble with any of these tasks, call 9-1-1 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

## SICK OR "HOMEBOUND"

If you are sick or "homebound" (or know someone who is), and would like to have Communion, please contact the Rectory at 201-768-1706.

## Why be rebellious in God's house?

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?

**Please dress appropriately when coming to Mass.**

## JULY 4<sup>th</sup> FACTS

- Independence Day commemorates the formal adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. However, it was not declared a legal holiday until 1941.
- Fireworks were made in China as early as the 11th century. The Chinese used their pyrotechnic mixtures for war rockets and explosives.
- Uncle Sam was first popularized during the War of 1812, when the term appeared on supply containers. Believe it or not, the U.S. Congress didn't adopt him as a national symbol until 1961.
- There are many precise rules for taking care of the American flag. And speaking of flag traditions, we're sorry to report that contrary to legend, historical research has failed to confirm that Betsy Ross sewed the first flag.
- Not all members of the Continental Congress supported a formal Declaration of Independence, but those who did were passionate about it. One representative rode 80 miles by horseback to reach Philadelphia and break a tie in support of independence.
- The first two versions of the Liberty Bell were defective and had to be melted down and recast. The third version rang every Fourth of July from 1778 to 1835, when, according to tradition, it cracked as it was being tolled for the death of Chief Justice John Marshall.
- The American national anthem, the "Star-Spangled Banner," is set to the tune of an English drinking song ("To Anacreon in Heaven").

## ONLY IN AMERICA

- Only in America.....do drugstores make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front.
- Only in America.....do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries, and a diet coke!
- Only in America.....do banks leave both doors open and then chain the pens to the counters.
- Only in America.....do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in the driveway and put our useless junk in the garage.
- Only in America.....do we buy hot dogs in packages of ten and buns in packages of eight.
- Only in America.....do we use the word 'politics' to describe the process so well: 'Poli' in Latin meaning 'many' and 'tics' meaning 'bloodsucking creatures'.
- Only in America.....do they have drive-up ATM machines with Braille lettering.

## NEED BAPTISM, FIRST COMMUNION OR CONFIRMATION

If you want to become a Roman Catholic or complete your Initiation into the Church, the RCIA is for you! For more information, phone the rectory. *Adult Catholics* who have not yet celebrated *Confirmation*, should also contact the rectory for preparation class information.

## APOLOGETICS

Defend your Catholic Faith, but first learn more about it. Visit [www.biblechristiansociety.com](http://www.biblechristiansociety.com) to learn more about Roman Catholicism.

## OPIOD'S PLAGUING LIVES!

Open Support Group "Empowering Healing Tools" for loved ones. Next meeting Thursday, July 6, 7:30PM at OLV Rectory. Thereafter Tuesdays 7:30PM. Donation. Experienced Facilitator.

## QUESTION?

Have you ever wondered what happened to the 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence? Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured. Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War. They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. What kind of men were they? Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists, eleven were merchants, nine were farmers and large plantation owners; men of means, well educated, but they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured. Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags. Thomas McKean was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward. Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heyward, Rutledge, and Middleton. At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt. Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months. John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled for their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more than a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished. **So, take a few minutes while enjoying your 4th of July holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid. Remember: freedom is never free! I hope you will show your support by sending this to as many people as you can, please. It's time we get the word out that patriotism is NOT a sin, and the Fourth of July has more to it than beer, picnics, and baseball games.**

## Question?

Did Betsy Ross really sew the first official American flag? The Betsy Ross legend is a cute story, but highly unlikely; in fact, the story was unheard of before 1870. Francis Hopkinson, an artist who helped design US currency and the official seal, billed the Congress for his work on the flag. He was never paid because Congress cited, "he (Hopkinson) had not been the only one to work on the project."

When the Continental army began forming, each militia had its own unique flag, but they were seldom flown. At that time, flags were flown by navies, not by armies. In 1776, a common flag was adopted for use: the British Meteor, which had six horizontal white stripes across a red field. (The British flag had the Union Jack in its upper corner). The colonial flag was known as the Grand Union or Continental flag.

After the Declaration of Independence, this flag fell out of favor. On June 14, 1777, the Marine Committee of the second Continental Congress resolved that the flag of the United States be made of 13 stripes, alternate red and white, that the union be 13 stars, white on a blue field, representing a new constellation. The resolution did not define the arrangement or sizes of the stars or stripes; thus, it was open to interpretation. Various flag designs were created and flown in every conceivable arrangement. Some variations of the flag had vertical stripes. It wasn't until 41 years later that Congress specified that the stripes should be horizontal, and it wasn't until 1912 that the exact specifications of the flag were defined.

**Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators. We haven't met yet.**

## Mass Intentions

**Monday, July 3 – St. Thomas the Apostle**

8:00 Harold Slattery R/b Tom and Jeanne Hennessey

12:00 Pauline Vaglio—1st Anniversary

**Tuesday, July 4 – INDEPENDENCE DAY**

8:00 Charles F. Scott R/b Tony and Laura Scott

Francis Menton

R/b Richard and Maureen Ferrara

**NO 12:00 MASS TODAY**

**Wednesday, July 5-St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria - Priest**

8:00 Kevin Lagatol R/b the Lagatol Family

12:00 Frieda Heimbuch R/b OLV Social Concerns

**Thursday, July 6 - St. Maria Goretti, virgin**

8:00 Ted Gormley R/b the Gormley Family

12:00 Intentions of Victoria Alcala R/b Marita Morgan

**First Friday, July 7—Bl. Ralph Milner and Roger Dickenson, Martyrs**

8:00 Intentions of Raph, Mike and Sandra Giron R/b the Giron Family

12:00 Rose Bandiera R/b the Garzino Family

7:00 Nicolo Tarabocchia R/b Mr. and Mrs. Marty Plccinich

**Saturday, July 8 - St. Grimbald, Abbot of Newminster**

8:00 Eileen Seneca R/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich

12:00 Bartolomeo and Gelsomina Merola R/b Richard & Maureen Ferrara

4:00 Helen Andreone McEnaney R/b Sam and Louise Mercurio

5:00 James and Alice Attas R/b Josephine J. Fogarino & Marie Michaels

**Sunday, July 9 – St. Augustine Zhao Rong and companions**

7:30 Tony Accavallo R/b Karen Accavallo

8:15 Mary Healy R/b John and Carole Deignan

9:30 Thomas F. Lagatol II R/b the Lagatol Family

10:45 Bob and Mary Kaiser R/b Mary C. Connolly

12:00 Gino Zocco R/b Mike Zocco

1:00 People of the Parish

6:00 Intentions of Angelina Betin R/b the McElroy Family

7:00 Special Intentions R/b the Maher Family

## SANCTUARY MEMORIALS

**The Church Sanctuary Lamp** burns this week for those who serve in defense of our country.

**The Convent Sanctuary Lamp** burns this week for religious vocations.

**The Bl. Virgin Mary Votive Lamp** burns this week for the intentions of

Tina Amato, r/b Domenic and Marcella Cafarella.

**The St. Joseph Votive Lamp** burns this week in thanksgiving, r/b the Brennan Family.

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

**The Pope John Paul II Votive Lamp** burns this week for the souls in Purgatory.

## 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.

## 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.

## KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

1. Maryland
2. Charles Carroll
3. John Carroll
4. John F. Kennedy
5. Elizabeth Ann Seton

**History Lesson - The Star Spangled Banner  
OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM....IN GOD DO WE TRUST!**

Unless you know all four stanzas of the Star Spangled Banner you may find this most interesting. Perhaps most of you didn't realize what Francis Scott Key's profession was or what he was doing on a ship. This is a good brush-up on your history. In 1812, the United States went to war with Great Britain, primarily over freedom of the seas. We were in the right. For two years, we held off the British, even though we were still a rather weak country. Great Britain was in a life and death struggle with Napoleon. In fact, just as the United States declared war, Napoleon marched off to invade Russia. If he won, as everyone expected, he would control Europe, and Great Britain would be isolated. It was no time for her to be involved in an American war.

At first, our seamen proved better than the British. After we won a battle on Lake Erie in 1813, the American commander, Oliver Hazard Perry, sent the message, "We have met the enemy and they are ours." However, the weight of the British navy beat down our ships eventually. New England, hard-hit by a tightening blockade, threatened secession. Meanwhile, Napoleon was beaten in Russia and in 1814 was forced to abdicate. Great Britain now turned its attention to the United States, launching a three-pronged attack.

The northern prong was to come down Lake Champlain toward New York and seize parts of New England. The southern prong was to go up the Mississippi, take New Orleans and paralyze the west. The central prong was to head for the mid-Atlantic states and then attack Baltimore, the greatest port south of New York. If Baltimore was taken, the nation, which still hugged the Atlantic coast, could be split in two. The fate of the United States, then, rested to a large extent on the success or failure of the central prong. The British reached the American coast, and on August 24, 1814, took Washington, D.C. Then they moved up the Chesapeake Bay toward Baltimore. On September 12, they arrived and found 1,000 men in Fort McHenry, whose guns controlled the harbor. If the British wished to take Baltimore, they would have to take the fort. On one of the British ships was an aged physician, William Beanes, who had been arrested in Maryland and brought along as a prisoner. Francis Scott Key, a lawyer and friend of the physician, had come to the ship to negotiate his release. The British captain was willing, but the two Americans would have to wait. It was now the night of September 13, and the bombardment of Fort McHenry was about to start. As twilight deepened, Key and Beanes saw the American flag flying over Fort McHenry. Through the night, they heard bombs bursting and saw the red glare of rockets. They knew the fort was resisting and the American flag was still flying. But toward morning the bombardment ceased, and a dread silence fell. Either Fort McHenry had surrendered and the British flag flew above it, or the bombardment had failed and the American flag still flew.

As dawn began to brighten the eastern sky, Key and Beanes stared out at the fort, trying to see which flag flew over it. He and the physician must have asked each other over and over, "Can you see the flag?" After it was all finished, Key wrote a four stanza poem telling the events of the night. Called "The Defense of Fort McHenry," it was published in newspapers and swept the nation. Someone noted that the words fit an old English tune called, "To Anacreon in Heaven" -- a difficult melody with an uncomfortably large vocal range. For obvious reasons, Key's work became known as "The Star Spangled Banner," and in 1931 Congress declared it the official anthem of the United States.

Now that you know the story, here are the words. Presumably, the old doctor is speaking. This is what he asks Key: Oh! say, can you see, by the dawn's early light, What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming? Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight, O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming? And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there. Oh! say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave, O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave? ("Ramparts," in case you don't know, are the protective walls or other elevations that surround a fort.)

The first stanza asks a question. The second gives an answer:

On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mist of the deep Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes, What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep. As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses? Now it catches the

gleam of the morning's first beam, In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream 'Tis the star-spangled banner. Oh! long may it wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave! "The towering steep" is again, the ramparts. The bombardment has failed, and the British can do nothing more but sail away, their mission a failure. In the third stanza I feel Key allows himself to gloat over the American triumph. In the aftermath of the bombardment, Key probably was in no mood to act otherwise?

During World War I when the British were our staunchest allies, this third stanza was not sung. However, I know it, so here it is:

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion A home and a country should leave us no more? Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution. No refuge could save the hireling and slave From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave, And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

(The fourth stanza, a pious hope for the future, should be sung more slowly than the other three and with even deeper feeling):

Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand Between their loved homes and the war's desolation, Blest with victory and peace, may the Heaven - rescued land Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation. Then conquer we must, for our cause is just, And this be our motto -- "In God is our trust." And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

I hope you will look at the national anthem with new eyes. Listen to it, the next time you have a chance, with new ears. Pay attention to the words. And don't let them ever take it away ... not even one word of it.

**How to Know YOU are Growing Old**

Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt, doesn't work. The gleam in your eye is from the sun hitting your bifocals. You feel like the night before, and you haven't been anywhere. Your knees buckle, but your belt won't. Your little black book contains only names ending in M.D. You get winded playing chess. You look forward to a dull evening. Your children begin to look middle-aged. You join a health club and can't go. A dripping faucet causes an uncontrollable bladder urge. You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going. You turn off the lights for economic reasons. You know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions. Your back goes out more often than you do. You sink your teeth in a steak, and they stay there. You have too much room in your house, but not enough in the medicine cabinet. The little gray-haired man/woman you helped across the street is your husband/wife.

**DID YOU KNOW????**

America is named after a Saint...indirectly. Amerigo Vespucci, the Italian cartographer who lent his name to the two continents of the New World, was himself a baptized Catholic. As is still the case, law of the Church was that a baby be given the name of a saint upon baptism. Little baby Amerigo was named after St. Emericus. There are at least two saints who bear the name Emericus. One was martyred during the persecution of Emperor Galerius; the other, St. Emeric of Hungary, was the son of St. Stephen of Hungary.

**KIDZ KORNER**

1. Which of the original colonies was the Catholic colony?
2. Who was the Catholic signer of the Declaration of Independence?
3. Who was the first Catholic bishop in the US?
4. Who was the first Catholic president?
5. Who was America's first native born Saint?

**Answers on page four**

**Why do I have to press one for English when you're just going to transfer me to someone I can't understand anyway?**