

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

SUNDAY, December 3, 2017 A.D.



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

**HOLY DAY MASSES for the Immaculate
Conception DECEMBER 8th**

Thursday 5:30 & 7:00PM

Friday 6:30AM, 8:00AM, 12:00Noon
3:30PM, 6:00PM Latin & 7:00PM



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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**: William Biasi, Joey Bulger, Rich Ferrara, Kathy Freeburn, Marietta Flahive, Gloria Genovese, Marylou Goreb, Thomas Haring, Peter Kellar, Arnold Kemner, Lisa LoSchiavo, Anne Matthaei, Canice Prince, Dan Ragusa, Mary Rinner, Suzanne Rothschild, Wendy Ruggiero, George Rush, Kathryn Turrell, Therese Vaglio, Jim Walsh, Mary Younghans.

SPIRITUAL EXCERPT

"What other nation is there so honored as the Christian people? Or what creature under heaven so beloved as a devout soul, to whom God cometh, that He may feed her with His glorious flesh? O unspeakable grace! O wonderful condescension, O infinite love, singularly bestowed upon man!"

Thomas a Kempis, *Imitation of Christ*, Bk. 4 ch 13.

GIVING TREE

Giving Tree Gifts must be brought to OLV by next Sunday, December 10th. Please remember the less fortunate as you shop and prepare for Christmas.

DID YOU KNOW?

The term Xmas is not a derogatory term, nor does it imply that Christ has been "crossed out" or "X'ed out" as some individuals may try to convince you. In Greek, the language in which much of the New Testament was originally written, the word Christ begins with the letter "Chi" which in Greek is written as an "X". The Church has always used the "Chi" or "X" to represent Christ.

ADORATION

Just a reminder we have Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays from 12:30PM—3:00PM, Thursday night from 7:00PM—8:00PM, and Fridays from 12:30PM—3:00PM.

So stop by and adore Our Eucharistic Lord.

BEEFSTEAK DINNER - 1/27/18

This is a major fundraiser for the Knights of Columbus to fund our seminarians - men studying for the priesthood and other charitable works. It is a fun evening, and last year it was a great success. Please support this dinner. If you would like to be a placemat advertiser send your business card and a check payable to the OLV K of C c/o The OLV K of C, PO Box 45, Harrington Park NJ 07640 or call Greg Evanello 201-784-5752.

THE FIVE FIRST SATURDAYS

On December 10, 1925 in Pontevedra, Spain, Our Lady appeared with the Child Jesus to Sr. Lucia and said: "Look, my daughter, at my heart, surrounded with thorns with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You at least try to console me and say that I promise to assist at the hour of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation, all those who, on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, shall: Confess—Receive Holy Communion — Recite five decades of the Rosary — Keep me company for fifteen minutes while meditating on fifteen mysteries of the Rosary with the intention of making reparation to me."

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 atrium.

DECEMBER 8

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

FRIDAY, December 8, is a Holy Day of Obligation. It is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception — the Patroness of the United States.

Masses will be THURSDAY at 5:30PM and 7:00PM.

FRIDAY 6:30AM, 8:00AM, 12:00Noon, 3:30PM, 6:00PM LATIN and 7:00PM.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

"The Immaculate Conception" is a title reserved for Mary, the mother of Jesus, the Christ. The expression means that MARY was conceived without sin. The conviction that Jesus was born of a virgin is a distinct belief, even though many Catholics erroneously believe that the Immaculate Conception refers to Jesus. Contributing to the confusion is the celebration of the Immaculate Conception during the season of Advent. While the faithful are preparing to honor the birth of their Savior Jesus, we commemorate the conception of Mary. The choice of December 8 for the Immaculate Conception does not directly relate to Advent; it corresponds more to the traditional date for the feast of the Birth of Mary, September 8. The feast of the conception of Mary is backed up from that day, by nine months. In a similar way, we celebrate the Annunciation on March 25, nine months before the birth of Jesus. Belief in the Immaculate Conception asserts that God preserved Mary from all sin from the moment of her conception, thus preparing a pure vessel for the incarnation of the Son. Although the Immaculate Conception of Mary has been affirmed since the earliest centuries of Christianity, it was not formally proclaimed until 1854. December 8 is now a Holy day of Obligation in the United States, which is placed under Mary's patronage with this title. Mary, the Immaculate Conception, is the exalted Queen of Heaven who manifests God's power over sin.

ADVENT

Advent means "coming" and is a time when many prepare for Christ's coming/return. Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Many Christians use an Advent wreath or Advent calendar to mark the days leading up to Christ's Mass a.k.a. Christmas, which was a holy day from which we get the word "holiday". In the Middle Ages, people believed Christ's return was imminent, so the weeks before Christmas were set aside to prepare for the Second Coming.

ADVENT WREATH

"Customarily the Advent Wreath is constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which are inserted four candles. According to tradition, three of the candles are violet and the fourth is rose. However, four violet or white candles may also be used" (Book of Blessings 1510). The rose candle is lit the third Sunday of Advent, for this color anticipates and symbolizes the Christmas joy announced in the first word of the Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice" (Latin, Gaudete). For this reason the Third Sunday is also called Gaudete Sunday, and rose color vestments are permitted. During Advent, family and friends can gather around the Advent Wreath lighting the appropriate candle(s), read from the daily Advent meditation and sing songs. The Church's official Book of Blessings also provides a blessing ceremony for the advent wreath which can be used in the absence of a priest.

Happiness is like your shadow. Run after it and you will never catch it, but keep your face to the sun, and it will follow you. The happiest people are those who discover that what they should be doing and what they are doing are the same things.

Upcoming OLV Parish Events

- Dec 5 - Tue—Marian Novena Prayer 2:00-3:00PM
- Dec 6 - Wed—Bible Study Group—10:00AM
- Dec 6 - Wed—OLV Needlers 6:30PM
- Dec 8 - Fri - Immaculate Conception, Holy Day of Obligation**
- Dec 9 - Sat—Confessions 11:00-12:00Noon & 3:00-3:25PM
- Dec 9 - Sat—AA - lower Church 6:30-8:30PM
- Dec 10 - Sun — Giving Tree Gifts due back.
- Dec 10 - Sun—Junior Youth Group

Moms Pops and Tots will recess until January 10, 2018.

PRAY for THOSE in the MILITARY

- Private First Class 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;
- Specialist Peter Dippolito, U.S. Army;
- Major Michael Franson, US Army;
- Sergeant First Class Charles Greene, US Army;
- Lieutenant Tara Harris, US Air Force;
- Lance Corporal 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.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas Cards began in 1843 when a young British civil servant, who had no time to write Christmas letters to all his friends and relatives, asked an artist to design a card for him with the words: "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you." The card showed a family raising their glasses in a toast, which angered English Puritans who declared it promoted drunkenness! But 1,000 cards were sold at a penny a piece, and since the first "cheap" stamp had been introduced in Britain in 1840, a new tradition began! A few years later, an American of German descent, Louis Prang, the "father of American Christmas Cards," designed and printed beautiful, but rather expensive, cards. Eventually, mass-produced, less expensive cards flooded the market; US companies began to make them when German products were "taboo" during WWI and WWII, and a 169 year-old tradition began!

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

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

DID YOU KNOW?

That when St. Joan of Arc was burned to death at the stake, her heart was not consumed by the fire. The British threw it into the River Seir. The local faithful hoped that, as the fire was unable to destroy it, neither would the water; it has never been found.

SAFETY TIPS

Pastor Steve Breazier of Monterey, CA offered these "safety tips": Do not ride in an auto – they cause 20% of all fatal accidents. Do not stay at home – 17% of all accidents happen there. Do not walk in the street – 15% of all accidents occur to pedestrians. Do not travel by air, rail or water – 16% of all accidents result from these activities. Only .001% of all fatal accidents happen in church!

LOT'S WIFE

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, "My Mommy looked back once while she was driving," he announced triumphantly, "and she turned into a telephone pole!"

SANTA CLAUS

Our Santa Claus is really St. Nicholas, who was a bishop in Asia Minor during the 4th Century. St. Nicholas gave many gifts anonymously in his lifetime and became known as the protector of children. The Dutch settlers brought the tradition of St. Nicholas with them to America, where they celebrated his feast day on December 6th, which is near Christmas time. The Dutch version of this Saint was called "Sinterklaas". Santa Claus became an Americanization of that name.

GOD'S HOUSE

The Church is God's special dwelling place and some people come to pray so please be aware of this and please refrain from idle chatter before and after Mass. We should behave differently in God's House as opposed to being at home, at the mall, a grocery store or a civic center.

NOT THE BRIGHTEST BULB ON THE TREE

A medical student working at a poison control center received a call from a woman who was very upset because she had caught her little girl eating ants. The medical student quickly assured the woman that ants are not harmful and there would be no reason to bring her daughter to the hospital. As the woman calmed down she happened to mention that **she gave** her daughter some **ant poison** to eat to kill the ants. The woman was told to bring her child to the Emergency Room right away.

A COURAGEOUS CHOICE

Over 2000 years ago, an angel announced the pregnancy of a young unmarried girl. The courageous choice made by that young woman to give birth in difficult circumstances, supported by a man named Joseph, still stands as a model of God's way to handle unplanned pregnancy.

CCD CORNER

It is hard to believe that this week we enter the Advent Season. Our CCD children will begin each class by gathering together and participate in an Advent Prayer service. During the next four weeks they will begin their Christmas Pageant practices, learn about this special time of the Church year and prepare their hearts and souls for the coming of Christ by going to confession. This coming Friday, December 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and a holyday of obligation, and there will be a special 3:30pm Mass for the children in the church. The Confirmation Candidates will meet today at 10:50 with Deacon Al and then serve as ministers at the 12:00 Mass. As a family, let's make sure we include Jesus in our holiday preparations and plans!

"Without humility, we cannot be pleasing to God."
Saint Faustina Kowalska.

CATHOLIC CARE FOR THOSE 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; there is no discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, sex or handicap. 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. For info' call 914-769-0114 or visit www.rosaryhillhome.org.

Real but Dangerous:**A Catholic Account of the 3 Kinds of Ghosts**

Do ghosts really exist? And if so, how should Catholics think about them? The prolific Catholic Dr. Peter Kreeft, professor of philosophy at Boston College, gives a resounding 'yes' to the first question and a great explanation to the second. "[Even] [w]ithout our action or invitation, the dead often do appear to the living," Kreeft asserts. "There is enormous evidence of 'ghosts' in all cultures."

The first thing Catholics should know about ghosts, Kreeft explains, is that we should not try to contact or communicate with them. Any kind of participation in the occult or spiritism is sinful. "We are out of our depth," Kreeft explains, and there is "danger of deception by evil spirits." This is why, when it comes to supernatural things, we should stick exclusively with God, his revelation, and his Church. But how does the existence of ghosts fit into our faith? Kreeft suggests there are three kinds of ghosts, one kind from each of the places of the afterlife:

1) Ghosts from hell

"[T]here are malicious and deceptive spirits," Kreeft explains, "and since they are deceptive, they hardly ever appear malicious. These are probably the ones who respond to conjurings at séances. They probably come from Hell. Even the chance of that happening should be sufficient to terrify away all temptation to necromancy."

2) Ghosts from purgatory

This is "the most familiar kind: the sad ones, the wispy ones," Kreeft explains. "They seem to be working out some unfinished earthly business, or suffering some purgatorial purification until released from their earthly business. These ghosts would seem to be the ones who just barely made it to Purgatory, who feel little or no joy yet and who need to learn many painful lessons about their past lives on earth."

3) Ghosts from heaven

Lastly, "there are the bright, happy spirits of dead friends and family, especially spouses, who appear unbidden, at God's will, not ours, with messages of hope and love. They seem to come from Heaven. Unlike the purgatorial ghosts who come back primarily for their own sakes, these bright spirits come back for the sake of us the living, to tell us all is well."

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 www.catholicleague.org or 450 Seventh Avenue, NY, NY 10123 and receive the journal, *The Catalyst*, which has articles detailing where Catholicism is under attack and by whom. As Christmas approaches, we will see secularism creep in and try to wrestle and strip the season of its Christian elements. **Remember Christ is the reason for the Season.**

Mass Intentions**Monday, December 4 – St. John of Damascus, priest, doctor**

8:00 Anne Bellini R/b Carole Bellini
12:00 Lauren Gould R/b William and Dianne Smith

Tuesday, December 5–St. Gerald of France-Bishop of Braga, Spain

8:00 Gina Ottomanelli Bender R/b Gregory and Clementina Roesner
12:00 James McGrath, Sr. R/b Dennis and Kathleen Falotico

Wednesday, December 6– St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra aka St. Nick

8:00 Intentions of Matthew Brady R/b Dan and Karen Brady
12:00 Patricia Horton R/b Bob and Renee Tringali

Thursday, December 7–St. Ambrose-Bishop of Milan, Italy

8:00 Intentions of Sr. Elizabeth Holler R/b Chris Cirillo
12:00 Frank Cangialosi R/b Ruth Cangialosi

Vigil Masses for Feast of the Immaculate Conception

5:30 Teresita D. Lapid R/b Donna Steindl
7:00 Corrado and Giovanna Iozzia R/b Mike Zocco

Friday, December 8 – IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BL. VIRGIN MARY

6:30 Anna Grassi—2nd Anniversary R/b Family
8:00 Mark Joseph Fizulich R/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich
12:00 Alice Harloe R/b Ron and Adele Filippone
3:30 Michael Murtaugh R/b William and Dianne Smith
6:00 (*Latin*) Silvio and Mary Burderi R/b the Burderi Family
7:00 Charles Ruiz R/b the LoSchiavo Family

Saturday, December 9–Saint Juan Diego

8:00 Gina Ottomanelli Bender R/b Family
12:00 Infant John R/b the Zanetti Family
4:00 Fr. James Rush R/b Dennis and Janet Smith
5:00 Marion Luthin R/b Frank and Claire Lerant

Sunday, December 10–St. Romaric-Abbot

7:30 Rosemary O'Brien R/b Judy Pommett
8:15 Intentions of Laura Alcalá R/b Marita Morgan
9:30 John Nicoletti R/b Rose Nicoletti
10:45 William McGinnis R/b Peter and Carole Stonitsch
12:00 Rev. Henry Goodwin, O.Carm. R/b the Zwerle Family
1:00 People of the Parish
6:00 Francie Kelly R/b Chris and Mary Oakes
7:00 Elizabeth Pfeiffer

SANCTUARY MEMORIALS

The Church Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for the men and women who serve in defense of our country.

The Convent Sanctuary Lamp burns for the souls in Purgatory.

The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp burns this week for the repose of the soul of Michael Murtaugh.

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 an increase in religious vocations.

The St. Peregrine Votive Lamp burns this week for the intentions of Carla, Clare, Debbie, Jim, Margoth, and Rich.

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

1. Hessian troops during the American Revolution. 2. 30 million.
3. 1851 4. Franklin Pierce 5. Calvin Coolidge in 1923.

The only exercise some people get is always jumping to conclusions, sidestepping responsibility, dodging issues, passing the buck and pressing their luck!

FAMILY FRIENDLY

We often say that where advertisers spend their money is a reflection of their corporate values. As consumers, where we shop is also a reflection of our values. When you're doing your Christmas shopping, let your values be your guide. The Parents Television Council's (PTC) list of Best and Worst Advertisers shows which companies have sponsored safe, family-friendly TV shows, and which have not. I encourage you to take these brands into consideration when you're making purchases for your family, at Christmastime and beyond. By "voting with your wallet," you are supporting the companies that make programming safe for your children or grandchildren, and also sending a message to the companies that are helping to underwrite some of the worst content on television.

GENERAL RETAIL

BEST -Walmart
WORST-Target

CLOTHING RETAIL

BEST—TJX Companies: Marshalls, Home Goods, TJ Maxx
WORST- Gap, Inc.: The Gap, Old Navy

GROCERIES

BEST—ConAgra: Healthy Choice, Bertolli, Chef Boyardee, Hunts, Redi-Whip J. M. Smucker Company: Jif, Folgers, Crisco, Pillsbury General Mills: Yoplait, Gold Medal, Green Giant, Progresso
WORST—Mondelēz International, Inc.: Trident, Wheat Thins, Sour Patch Kids, Tang, Ritz, Oreo, Nabisco Kellogg's: PopTarts, Eggo Nestlé: Gerber, Coffee Mate, Friskies, Purina, Hot Pockets, Stouffer's

BEVERAGES

BEST—Pepsi: Tropicana, Gatorade, Aquafina
WORST- Red Bull

FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS

BEST—Dunkin' Brands: Dunkin' Donuts, Baskin Robbins Papa John's
WORST—Burger King Yum! Brands: KFC, Taco Bell

PERSONAL ITEMS

BEST—Chattam: Allegra, Gold Bond Procter and Gamble: Cover Girl, Luvs, Swiffer, Bounty, Tide, Crest, Pampers, Olay, Duracell, Gillette, Always, NyQuil
WORST—Johnson & Johnson: Aveeno, Visine, Splenda, Listerine, Clean & Clear Unilever: Dove, Axe, Lipton, Suave, Vaseline, Hellmann's

COMPUTER HARDWARE/SOFTWARE

BEST—Hewlett Packard
WORST—Microsoft

FINANCIAL SERVICES/SOFTWARE

BEST—Intuit
WORST—H&R Block

The Theology of the Body: An Education in Being Human

Tuesday December 12, 7- 8pm at Hillsdale Public Library. In a phrase, the theology of the body (TOB) is the Great Mystery of how the invisible (God) becomes visible through the physical (us!). This is a refreshing vision of the beauty and dignity of the human person, body and soul, and our call to love and communion. The TOB comes from St. John Paul II's penetrating series of meditations on both the Bible and human experience, revealing our invitation to become a gift, and through this gift, we "fulfill the very meaning of our being and existence"! We are made by Love, for love, to make love present in the visible world! Come and see for yourself! Presented by Bernadette Kozak, graduate of THE THEOLOGY OF THE BODY INSTITUTE in Downingtown, Pa.

Hail Mary's aren't just for football players.

Satan Loves to Take Over Politicians, Says Roman Exorcist

by Catholic News Agency - September 5, 2015

In an interview with the magazine "Maria Mensajera," famous Italian exorcist Father Gabriele Amorth said, "Everybody is vulnerable to the work of Satan" and that "the devil loves to take over those who hold political office." The Spanish daily "La Razon" published the interview in an article by Alexander Smoltczyk, in which the elderly priest describes what happens in an exorcism. He said he has performed more than 70,000.

"Evil exists in politics, quite often in fact," Father Amorth said. "The devil loves to take over business leaders and those who hold political office. Hitler and Stalin were possessed. How do I know? Because they killed millions of people. The Gospel says: 'By their fruits you will know them.' Unfortunately, an exorcism on them would not have been enough, since they were convinced of what they were doing. We can't say it was a possession in the strict sense of the word, but rather a total and voluntary acceptance of the suggestions of the devil."

"I tell those who come to see me to first go to a doctor or a psychologist," the priest continued. "Most of the time there is a physical or psychological basis for explaining their suffering. The psychiatrists send me the incurable cases. There is no rivalry. The psychiatrist determines if it is an illness, the exorcist if it is a curse," Father Amorth explained.

Nobody, he went on, not even himself, is "safe from the devil. Everyone is vulnerable." "The devil is very intelligent. He retains the intelligence of the angel that he was." "Suppose, for example, that someone you work with is envious of you and casts a spell on you. You would get sick. 90 percent of the cases that I deal with are precisely spells. The rest are due to membership in satanic sects or participation in séances or magic. If you live in harmony with God, it is much more difficult for the devil to possess you," Father Amorth stated.

"The Pope supports exorcists," he explained, but "satanic sects are proliferating," and for this reason Father Amorth said his calendar for the next two months is full. "I work seven days a week, from morning until night, including Christmas Eve and Holy Week," he said.

THANK YOU

OLV Social Concerns thanks you for donating all the groceries and 137 Turkeys and 4 hams which were collected at Thanksgiving for the less fortunate.

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.

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 11:00AM to Noon and 3:00-3:30PM, every morning at 7:30AM, as well as every First Friday at 6:30PM. A Priest is also available to hear Confessions daily by appointment.

KIDZ KORNER

- 1. Who introduced the tradition of Christmas trees in the U.S.?
- 2. How many people in the U.S. buy live Christmas trees?
- 3. In what year were Christmas trees first sold in NYC?
- 4. What President first had a Christmas tree in the White House?
- 5. Which President started the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony?

Answers on page four

**If you're far from God in life,
you'll be far from God in death.**