

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, January 7, 2018 A.D.

WELCOME

To the Parish Family of
OUR LADY OF VICTORIES

(THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART)

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Rev. Bryan F.J. Adamcik SFO, KCHS

Pastor

Rev. Duverney Bermudez

Rev. Anthony Mastroeni

Rev. Christopher M. Ciccarino KCHS

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 Gulfo

Martin Coyne II

Parish Trustees

Michael Flynn & 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

St Peregrine: First Friday 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.



Phone:

OLV Rectory

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**: William Biasi, Joey Bulger, Kamal Faris, 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

"THE EYES OF GOD"

"You have got to learn to look at events, at everything that happens, through the eyes of God and not your own selfishness. What is it in your life and in my life that smothers the real truth? What is covering it over? Is it riches? Is it a desire for human glory? Is it lust? Is it alcohol? Is it sex? Pride? What is it that covers up the glory of the kingdom and makes us desire the very least? Why are we willing to spend eternity in a mud shack, when we could have a spiritual mansion?"

Mother Angelica, Little Book of Life Lessons page 41

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 Evanella 201-784-5752.

WORKERS NEEDED

The Harvest is great but the laborers are few. Pray to the Lord to send more laborers into the harvest. Become a Priest or Religious Brother or Sister or Permanent Deacon. For information see Fr. Bryan or call the Vocations Office 973-497-4365.

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.

CLOTHING BINS

Can you predict the events of 2018 with accuracy? Who would dare to make such a claim? Here we are at the beginning of a new year and no one knows what the future will bring...unprecedented joy or deep sorrow? Many families and individuals have the resources to cope with whatever comes along. Catholic Charities reaches out to those who have very limited resources. Help us to continue our mission by contributing to our clothing bin. Any questions or comments, please contact Maria Biancheri at 973-596-3985 or mbiancheri@ccannj.org.

Men's Cornerstone 2018

A 26 hour retreat: Friday, Feb 2 at 7PM through Saturday, Feb 3 at 9PM, Church of St. Mary in Closter. What you can expect: friendship, prayer, good food, reconciliation, laughs, reflection. \$35 contribution will cover cost of retreat, including meals and materials. Financial assistance available if needed. For more information contact Brian Milli 201-256-5122.

Office of Concern Food Pantry at St. Cecilia

We are always in need and if you wish to contribute specific holiday foods such as cranberry sauce and other fixings, that is fine, but there are also **three areas of year-round foods that are especially valuable: canned fruits and vegetables, pasta (spaghetti, rigatoni, etc.) and breakfast cereals.**

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.

OLV SCRIPTURE STUDY

The OLV Scripture Study Group meets on Wednesdays at 10:00AM in the OLV Church conference room. All are welcome to join us.

THE LOVE OF GOD

No matter how long it has been, the Love of God knows no time. We celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on **First Friday** at 6:30PM, **Saturday** at 11AM until Noon, and from 3:00 – 3:30PM. **Monday thru Friday** at 7:25AM – 7:50AM.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

If we could shrink the earth's population to a village of precisely 100 people, with all the existing human ratios being the same, it would look something like the following: There would be 57 Asians, 21 Europeans, 14 from the Western Hemisphere (both North & South), and 8 Africans. There would be 52 females and 48 males. There would be 30 whites and 70 non-whites. There would be 70 non-Christians and only 30 Christians. 6 individuals would possess 59% of the entire world's wealth, and all 6 would be from the United States. 80 of the individuals would live in substandard housing. 70 individuals would be unable to read. 50 would suffer from malnutrition. One would be near death, and another would be near birth. ONLY one individual would have a college education and one would own a computer. When one considers our world from such a compressed perspective, the need for acceptance, understanding and education becomes glaringly apparent.

An Uncommon Error

Along with the frontal assault on public Christmas displays, there is a concerted effort to remove any quotidian mention of Christ's birth or life. According to these revisionists, Jesus' existence must be expunged from the historical record. One means to their end is changing the standard nomenclature of BC and AD to BCE and ACE, that is from Before Christ and Anno Domini (Year of the Lord) to the utterly ambiguous Before the Common Era and After the Common Era.

Upcoming OLV Parish Events

- Jan 9 -Tue - Marian Novena Prayer 2:00-3:00PM
- Jan 10 - Wed - Moms, Pops & Tots 9:30-11:30AM
- Jan 10 - Wed - Bible Study Group 10:00AM
- Jan 10 - Wed - OLV Needlers 6:30PM
- Jan 11 - Thu – Holy Hour 7:00PM
- Jan 14 - Sun - Holy Name Mass/Meeting 9:30AM
- Jan 27 - K of C Beefsteak Dinner

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 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;
- Colonel John McLaughlin, US Army;
- Lieutenant John G. Miele, US Army.

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

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

QUESTION?

If our Mass is a sacrifice, were there sacrifices in the Old Testament prefiguring our sacrifice? Before our Lord came down upon the earth, sacrifices of lambs, goats and oxen were offered throughout the Old Testament; but they were poor and imperfect sacrifices. They were only figures or signs of the eternal sacrifice of the Mass of the New Testament. For example:

- Abel killed a lamb and burned it on a stone altar. The lamb is a figure of the innocent, suffering Savior (Consecration).
- Melchisedech, the high priest, offered bread and wine as a sacrifice to thank God for the victory over his enemies (Offerory). He then gave the bread and wine to the tired soldiers that they might eat it and be strengthened (Communion).
- Abraham was willing to offer up his son, Isaac. This offering was a figure of the perfect sacrifice - the death of the Son of God on the cross (Consecration).
- On the Day of Atonement, the high priest placed his hands on a goat to show that he was placing all his sins and the sins of the people upon the animal. This goat was driven out into the desert, to show that the sins of the people were taken away, out of God's sight. (This is incidentally where we get the term scape goat) At Mass when the priest holds his hands over the offering of bread and wine before the Consecration, we are reminded that the sins of all people were placed upon our Lord on Calvary and that He made atonement for them by His death.

FRED ASTAIRE

Iconic American actor, dancer and choreographer Fred Astaire once said, "The hardest job kids face today is learning good manners without seeing any." If only Fred were still around to see the state of civil society in our nation. I think he'd dance off into the sunset shaking his head in bewilderment! The issue of public civility is often in the headlines, with politicians and pundits clucking and shaking their heads about the abhorrent examples of uncivilized debate that characterize today's public discourse. Even our president seems to think that simply calling for a more civil tone will restore genuine respect for those who express opposing points of view. But polite political discourse isn't a path to a more civilized society — rather, it's a reflection of social mores that should dictate public behavior. The reason we're struggling with uncivilized behavior is because (hold onto your hats...) we've turned into a less civilized society.

Only a generation ago, it was still shocking to hear coarse language in public or in mixed company. It was still considered rude to pry about personal subjects like sex and household finances. Children used to learn not to criticize someone's religious or political beliefs and to treat elders and strangers with genuine respect. We valued modesty in dress and humility in demeanor. Ponder those social mores as you sit in a restaurant, listening to the folks at the next table cuss about their relatives and loudly discuss their colonoscopies, as you wait for a waitress to arrive at your table and cheerfully ask, "You guys ready to order?" We're rude and we know it.

Not long ago, pretty much everyone practiced America's social mores. Not just the rich or well educated. Not just those from intact families or those raised "in the church." Everybody knew and exhibited the manners and etiquette that reflected an elevated civilization. In fact, back in the day, even the poorest of the poor in America took pride in practicing impeccable manners, revealing the inherent dignity that our founders spoke of when they formed our nation. Sure, there were bullies and thugs. But they were the exception, not the rule. That's why they were labeled bullies and thugs. Here's a not-so-shocking revelation: An Associated Press annual "rudeness poll" finds that almost 70 percent of Americans believe as a society, we are ruder than we were 20 or 30 years ago. When asked who was to blame for this trend, the number one response — wait for it — was "parents not teaching good manners to children." Let's assume that a majority of the people polled are parents. That means parents are able to see and admit a problem and realize that they are at least partly to blame for it (in this case, mostly to blame), yet they aren't changing their parenting styles or their expectations of their kids.

We parents need to make it our priority to teach our children to practice proper manners. Speaking and acting in a mannerly fashion shows that we respect others. And respect for others is the foundation of all public behavior, including political discourse. What happens if we don't stress the fundamentals of good manners? We're already seeing the results, with rude, hurtful and violent behavior cropping up among tweens and teens all across the nation. When middle schoolers routinely threaten and abuse each other in the school yard, on Facebook and in text messages, we're watching an uncouth and uncultured generation devolve into barbarism.

Beyond the magic words. Every mom routinely coaches her pre-schooler to use the "magic" words, "please" and "thank you." But unfortunately, because the standards for social behavior and manners have sunk so low, we might decide it's no longer necessary to teach the rest of the rule book. Yet, as Mr. Astaire noted years ago, our kids won't learn proper manners without a clear example. Nor will they practice mannerly behavior without our diligent training. Here's some reassurance from a mom whose children were often complimented on their manners — it's worth the effort! Not only will your kids learn to exhibit respect for others, they'll be rewarded with frequent praise for demonstrating a level of civility that has become far too rare among our youth. Not to mention, if we work hard to instill good manners in ourselves.

SCRIPTURE QUESTION

Where in Scripture is the Divine origin and establishment of the Sacrament of Holy Orders and the fact that God ordains Priests to offer up sacrifice for sins, to forgive sins, and to govern His Church.

“Be on guard for the whole flock, where the Holy Spirit has placed you bishops, to rule the Church of God...” **Acts 20:28**

“For every high priest taken from among men, is ordained for men in the things that appertain to God, that he may offer up gifts and sacrifice for sins...neither does any man take the honor to himself, but he who is called by God, as Aaron was.” **Hebrews 5:1-4**

“And taking bread, He gave thanks, and broke it; and gave it to them, saying, This is my body, which is given for you. Do this for a commemoration of me.” **Luke 22:19**

“... the disciples were gathered together...Jesus came and stood before them: Peace be with you...As the Father has sent me, I also send you...Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained.” **John 20:19-23**

“In each of the churches they had ordained to them priests, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, in whom they believed.” **Acts 14:22**

“For this cause I (Paul) left you (Titus) in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are wanting, and should ordain priests in every city, as I appointed you...” **Titus 1:5**

“For which cause I (Paul) admonish you (Timothy), that you stir up the grace of God which is in you, by the imposition of hands.” **2Timothy 1:6**

“Neglect not the grace that is in you, which was given you by prophecy, with imposition of the hands of the Priesthood.” **1Timothy 4:14**

ARE YOU NEW TO THE AREA?

If you are, why not join our ever-growing Parish family. Stop by the Rectory any weekday and meet Maria and register to become a member of the OLV Family. Census forms are also located in the Church vestibule.

HEAPS OF HEALING HUMOR

I was inspired by a woman in her fourth stage of ovarian cancer. Even her doctors were amazed at how well she was doing. Her secret? Laughter. “My sense of humor helps me find a lighter side of things, even on tough days,” she told me. What do we need to survive life’s heartaches? Heaps of healing humor. Healing humor reduces stress, elevates moods, boosts the immune system and fosters relaxation. It helps us overlook the ugly, tolerate the unpleasant, cope with surprises, and smile through the unbearable. Humor is a shock absorber, minimizing the pain troubles can bring. Today’s people seem to be serious about everything. Some go through life with their finger on the panic button, crossing bridges before they get to them, certain trouble is just around the corner. The prescription for those suffering from humor-deficiency: an injection of laughter. People with positive outlooks laugh often to relieve themselves of life’s tears. A good belly laugh stirs the blood, expands the chest, and clears the cobwebs from the brain. Laughter is a gift we need to survive. If it’s missing, put it back! Remember: Laugh and the world laughs with you. Cry and all you get is wet!

We don't change God's message -- His message changes us.

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 8 – The Baptism of the Lord

8:00 William Quinn Jr. R/b the Barrett Family

12:00 Ellen Keohane R/b Dennis and Kathleen Falotico

Tuesday, January 9– St. Adrian of Canterbury, Abbot

8:00 Steven LaScalla R/b Russell and Carol Ross

12:00 Les Raskin—1st Anniversary R/b Rae Rinaldi

Wednesday, January 10—St. William, Bishop

8:00 Hank Serverini R/b Bob and Renee Tringali

12:00 Birdena Day R/b Karen Accavallo

Thursday, January 11-St. Paulinus of Friuli, Italy-Bishop of Aquileia

8:00 Frank Adamcik R/b the Adamcik Family

12:00 Rocco Annarumma R/b Bill and Cathy Ryan

Friday, January 12–St. Benedict Biscop-Abbot

8:00 Rev. Zachary H. Monet, O.Carm. R/b Pat Consoli

12:00 Diane Melchiorre R/b George and Claire Meyer

Saturday, January 13–St. Hilary-Bishop of Poitiers, France

8:00 Grace Harold R/b John Walsh

12:00 Domenico Bandiera R/b the Garzino Family

4:00 Stanley Powell—1st Anniversary R/b Bill and Kim Miller

5:00 James Gerety R/b Marie Ortiz

Sunday, January 14– St. Sava-Bishop of Serbia

7:30 Josephine Raymond R/b William Raymond

8:15 Anna Berberian R/b Legion of Mary, Immaculate Conception Presidium

9:30 Deceased and Living Members of the Holy Name Society

10:45 Ida Mae Walsh and John Zanetti R/b Marion Zanetti

12:00 Joan van Wart R/b Michael and Maureen Glennon

1:00 People of the Parish

6:00 John Lettau R/b Joanne and David Novarro

7:00 Grace E. Tennent R/b Brian and Lisa Mulligan

Sanctuary Memorials

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for the repose of the soul of Helen Smith, r/b Leo and Eileen DeBartolo.

The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp burns this week for the repose of the soul of Lloyd Kennedy, r/b Josephine and Fausto Galeazza.

The St. Joseph Votive Lamp burn this week for a special intention, r/b the Werner Family.

The Convent Sanctuary Lamp burns for those serving in our military.

The Rectory Sanctuary Lamp burns for the Souls in Purgatory.

The Infant of Prague Votive Lamp burns this week for the intentions of Linda Russo—80th birthday blessings.

The Pope John Paul II Votive Lamp burns for the unemployed.

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

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

1. About 2.2 billion. 2. About half. 3. Brazil, with nearly 134 million Catholics. There are about 74 million Catholics in the United States, about 35 million in Poland and about 50 million in Italy. 4. The United States. There are about 160 million Protestants in the US, nearly 29 million in Germany, nearly 60 million in Nigeria and about 14 million in Indonesia. 5. Russia. There are over 101 million Orthodox Christians in Russia, nearly 2 million Orthodox Christians in the United States, about 10 million in Greece, and nearly 4 million in Egypt.

Where Did Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus Come From?

This year on June 8, the Catholic Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. But where did that tradition originate?

Devotion to the wounded heart of Jesus has its origins in the eleventh century, when pious Christians meditated on the Five Wounds of Christ. There grew up among the faithful prayers to the Sacred Heart, prayers to the Shoulder Wound of Christ—private devotions which helped Christians to focus on the passion and death of Christ, and thus to grow in love for our Savior who had suffered and died for us. It was not until 1670, however, that a French priest, Fr. Jean Eudes, celebrated the first Feast of the Sacred Heart.

Around the same time, a pious sister by the name of Margaret Mary Alacoque began to report visions of Jesus. He appeared to her frequently, and in December 1673, he permitted Margaret Mary—as had once allowed St. Gertrude—to rest her head upon his Heart. As she experienced the comfort of his presence, Jesus told her of his great love and explained that he had chosen her to make his love and his goodness known to all.

The following year, in June or July of 1674, Margaret Mary reported that Jesus wanted to be honored under the figure of His Heart of flesh. He asked the faithful to receive Him in the Eucharist frequently, especially on the First Friday of the month, and to observe a Holy Hour of devotion to Him.

And then in 1675, during the octave of Corpus Christi, Margaret Mary received the vision which came to be known as the “great apparition.” Jesus asked that the modern Feast of the Sacred Heart be celebrated each year on the Friday following Corpus Christi, in reparation for the ingratitude of men for the sacrifice which Christ had made for them.

The devotion became popular after St. Margaret Mary’s death in 1690. However, because the Church is always careful in approving a private apparition or devotion, the feast was not established as an official feast for all of France until 1765.

On May 8, 1873, the devotion to the Sacred Heart was formally approved by Pope Pius IX; and 26 years later – on July 21, 1899 – Pope Leo XIII urgently recommended that all bishops throughout the world observe the feast in their dioceses. Pope Leo approved the following indulgences for the devotion:

- For performing the devotion publicly or privately, seven years and seven quarantines (the remission of temporal punishment equivalent to what would be granted for forty days of penance) each day;
- If the devotion is practiced daily in private, or if a person assists at least ten times at a public function, a plenary indulgence (remission of all temporal punishment for sins) on any day in June or between July 1-8 (Decree urbis et orbis, May 30, 1992);
- The indulgence toties quoties (for the souls in Purgatory) on the thirtieth of June or the last Sunday of June (January 28, 1908) in those churches where the month of June is celebrated solemnly. Pius X (August 8, 1906) urged a daily sermon, or at least for eight days in the form of a mission (January 26, 1908);
- To those priests who preach the sermons at the solemn functions in June in honor of the Sacred Heart, and to the rectors of the churches where these ceremonies are held, the privilege of the Gregorian Altar on June 30 (Pius X, August 8, 1906).
- A plenary indulgence for each communion in June, and to those who promote the solemn celebration of the month of June (“Acta Pontificia”, IV, 388, August 8, 1906)

Today, the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart is celebrated throughout the world on the Friday following the Feast of Corpus Christi.

Promises of the Sacred Heart

1. I will give them all the graces necessary for their state of life.
2. I will give peace in their families.
3. I will console them in all their troubles.
4. I will be their refuge in life and especially in death.
5. I will abundantly bless all their undertakings.
6. Sinners shall find in my Heart the source and infinite ocean of mercy.
7. Tepid souls shall become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall rise speedily to great perfection.
9. I will bless those places wherein the image of My Sacred Heart shall be exposed and venerated.
10. I will give to priests the power to touch the most hardened hearts.
11. Persons who propagate this devotion shall have their names eternally written in my Heart.
12. In the excess of the mercy of my Heart, I promise you that my all powerful love will grant to all those who will receive Communion on the First Fridays, for nine consecutive months, the grace of final repentance: they will not die in my displeasure, nor without receiving the sacraments; and my Heart will be their secure refuge in that last hour.

Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

O most holy heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing, I adore you, I love you, and with lively sorrow for my sins I offer you this poor heart of mine. Make me humble, patient, pure and wholly obedient to your will. Grant, Good Jesus, that I may live in you and for you. Protect me in the midst of danger. Comfort me in my afflictions. Give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs, your blessing on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death. Amen.

“MONASTERY OF SILENCE”

Brother Pat entered the “Monastery of Silence” in Limerick and the Chief Priest said, “Brother, this is a silent monastery and you are welcome here as long as you like, but you may not speak until I direct you to do so.” Brother Pat lived in the monastery for 5 years before the Chief Priest said to him: “Brother Pat, you have been here 5 years now, you may speak two words.” Brother Pat said, “hard bed.” “I’m sorry to hear that” the Chief Priest said. “We will get you a better bed.” After another 5 years, Brother Pat was called by the Chief Priest. “You may say another two words Brother Pat.” “Cold food”, said Brother Pat, and the Chief Priest assured him that the food would be better in the future. On his 15th anniversary at the monastery, the Chief Priest again called Brother Pat into his office. “Two words you may say today.” “I quit” said Brother Pat. “It is probably best” said the Chief Priest. “You’ve done nothing but complain since you got here.”

RESPECT LIFE

As we give thanks for the gift of life, consider the words of Pope John Paul II: “Causing death can never be considered a form of medical treatment. Rather, it runs completely counter to the health-care profession, which is meant to be an impassioned and unflinching affirmation of life.” *Gospel of Life*

THANK YOU

A special word of thanks goes out to all those who sent Christmas cards and plants, candies, baked goods, fruit baskets and other treats and for all the other ways you remembered me and the Rectory Staff during the Christmas Holy Days. Fr. Bryan

KIDZ KORNER

1. How many Christians are there in the world today?
2. What share of all Christians around the world are Catholics?
3. Which country has the most Catholics?
4. Which country has the most Protestants?
5. Which country has more Orthodox Christians?

Answers on page 4.