

# 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

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

Lesa Rossmann

Ministers of Music

Elizabeth Ulisse

Martin Coyne II

Parish Trustees

Gail McElroy & Jerry Pulis

Jr. High School Ministry

Curtiss & Katie Stella

High School Ministry

Maria Hellrigel

Parish Secretary

Jorden Pedersen Esq.

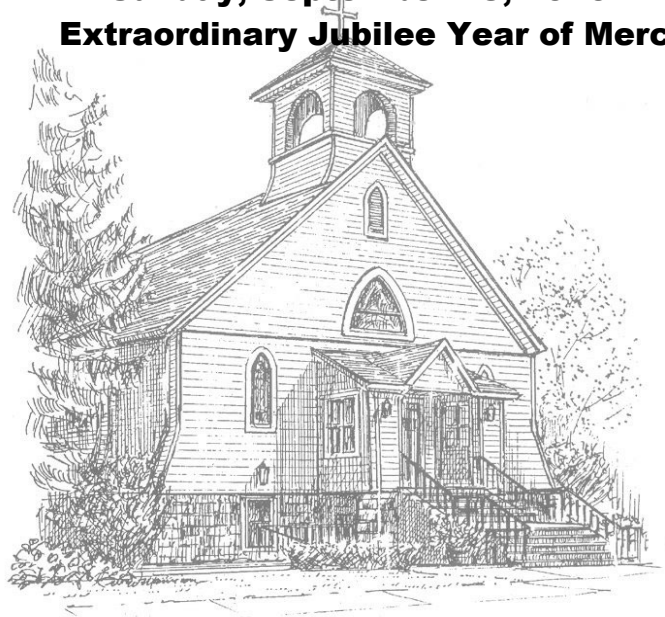
President Parish Council

Jon Fischer CFA

Chairman Finance Committee

Sunday, September 18, 2016 A.D.

Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy



# WELCOME

To the Parish Family of  
**OUR LADY OF VICTORIES**  
(THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART)

## COME WORSHIP WITH US

### Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00pm, 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 8:15am (Latin)

9:30am, 10:45am, 12:00pm,

1:00pm (Spanish)

6:00pm & 7:00pm

Weekdays: M-Sat 8:00a.m. & 12:00noon

#### SPECIAL MASSES OR DEVOTIONS:

**First Friday:** 7:30pm, Mass of Sacred Heart & Devotions

**First Saturday:** 8:00am, Mass of Immaculate Heart of Mary

**First Saturday:** 12:00pm Mass for Souls in Purgatory

**Sundays:** at 3:00pm Group Rosary

**Novenas prayed after 8:00 a.m. Mass:**

**Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal:** Monday

**St. Jude and St. Anthony:** Wednesday

**Infant of Prague:** 25th of the month

**Rosary:** Recited M - Sat after 8:00am & 12Noon Mass.

**Tuesday-Novena Prayer and Adoration:** 2:00-3:00pm

**Thursday-Holy Hour with Adoration & Benediction:** 7:00pm

**Friday-Exposition & Adoration:** 12:30PM-3:00pm

**THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE/CONFESSION:**

Monday - Friday 7:30am - 7:50am. First Friday at 7:00pm

Saturday at 11:00a.m.-Noon; 3:00pm - 3:25pm

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:**

To register for Baptismal preparation and Baptism, call the rectory.

**THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:**

Call the Religious Ed Office for requirements/class schedule.

**THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:**

Please call the rectory for an appointment.

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/LAST RITES:**

Sick calls at any time in emergency.

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS AND VOCATIONS:**

Anyone contemplating a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life should contact the Vocations Office at 973.497.4365.



Find us on  
Facebook

OLV Rectory  
Phone: 201-768-1706  
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**: Br. Pius, Joseph Accardi, Maria Aleman, William Biasi, Michael Conmy, Ellen Dunn, Philip Dunn, Sr. Mary Cordelia, Catherine Fallon, Kamal Faris, Kathy Freeburn, Thomas Haring, Marianne Harkins, Peter Kellar, Arnold Kemner, Jamie & Kerrie Lein, Joseph LoVecchio, Teresa Meierdierks, Kathleen Musante, Canice Prince, Dan Ragusa, Mary Rinner, Danny Rizzi, Ginny Romeo, Suzanne Rothschild, Wendy Ruggiero, Cookie & George Rush, Cynthia Simonelli, Mildred Speck, Kathryn Turrell, Therese Vaglio, Jim Walsh, Darien Wesler, Al Wiese, Marian Zanetti, Elaine Zito.

### **SPIRITUAL EXCERPT**

"What did He have to teach us? How to suffer—and yet you have people today who run as far from suffering as they can, as if it were evil."

**Mother Angelica**, Little Book of Life Lessons page 41.

### **WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!**

**Reader** is asked to proclaim the Word of God at Mass once or twice a week (14 years old or older).

**Eucharistic Minister** assists with giving out Communion at Mass (18 years old or older).

**Altar Server** assists at the Mass and works closely with the priest (4th grade thru high school).

**Choir Member** meets one evening during the week to practice and sings at the 9:30 Mass as well as at our special Liturgical functions (all ages are welcome).

**Usher** greets and assists our parishioners as they enter church. They prepare the collection and hand-out our bulletins. (12 years old and up).

### **ROOTED**

As Catholics, we are to be rooted within a parish community, where we are obligated to come to be fed on God's Word in Scripture and on Christ's Body and Blood in the Eucharist at least once a week. To join our Parish, stop by the Rectory any weekday and meet Maria, our parish secretary, and register as a member of Our Lady of Victories Family.

### **CLOTHING BINS**

September is one of the busiest months of the year as students return to school and most adults resume a normal working schedule after summer vacation. Through the turbulence of your many demands, would you be willing to take some time to gather your unwanted clothing and shoes to help Catholic Charities? Drop them in the Catholic Charities bins located on the Church grounds. In addition to all forms of used clothing we also welcome small appliances, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals and books (no reference books).

### **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 3:00-3:20PM, every morning at 7:30AM, as well as every First Friday at 7:00PM. A Priest is also available to hear Confessions daily by appointment.

### **Moms, Tots & Pops**

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

### **NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED**

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

"I derive my strength from daily Mass and Communion."

**Coach Vince Lombardi**

### **Maintenance Work**

Every month we have a maintenance collection, and some ask what we do with the money. OLV is comprised of five (5) aging buildings, and as with all homeowners we have ongoing maintenance projects. Things break, they need to be fixed, repaired or replaced. In addition to the regular repairs, the following is a list of additional projects that were completed this summer or are in progress:

#### **Convent**

-Painted the front of the porch and the Carmen Road side.

-New furnace is being installed.

#### **Carmen Road House**

-Old carpet removed and replaced.

-Interior cleaned and painted.

#### **Church**

-Lower church was painted to minimize the cleaning of finger prints and other markings.

-Electrical outlets added; we are scheduled to have the chandeliers fixed, add additional Sanctuary lighting and a ceiling fan in the atrium.

- Harriot Ave entrance will be power washed.

-Atrium windows will be cleaned.

#### **School**

-Entire building was painted, including the gym.

-Second floor complete transformation, including a new CCD Office and Teachers Library.

-New desks purchased and assembled for CCD office.

-3 flat screen TVs and carts purchased and assembled.

-Second floor hallway, classrooms and steps were waxed.

-Ceiling tiles in 2 classrooms were removed and replaced; front hallway tiles were removed and replaced; the tile outside the Teachers' Library will be replaced.

-Vents in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor bathrooms were fixed and are now operational.

-Roughly 60 second-hand desks were painted for CCD classrooms.

### **Congratulations**

... to the OLV Winners of the Sisters of Charity 50/50 Raffle. Congratulations to Judy Pommert who won 2nd prize—\$4500 and to Dorothy Donovan who won 3rd prize—\$3000.

### **The Joy of Old Age**

From a lady who used to work in a retirement home complex. The people who lived there have small apartments, but they all eat at a central cafeteria. One morning one of the residents didn't show up for breakfast so the nurse went upstairs and knocked on his door to see if everything was OK. She could hear him through the door and he said that he was running late and would be down shortly. So she went back to the dining area. An hour later he still hadn't arrived so she went back up towards his room and she found him on the stairs. He was coming down the stairs but was having a difficult time. He had a death grip on the hand rail and seemed to have trouble getting his legs to work right. She told him she was going to call an ambulance but he told her no, he wasn't in any pain and just wanted to have his breakfast. So she helped him the rest of the way down the stairs and he had his breakfast. When he tried to return to his room he was completely unable to get up even the first step so they called an ambulance for him. A couple hours later she called the hospital to see how he was doing. The receptionist there said he was fine, he just had both of his legs in one leg of his boxer shorts.

### **Upcoming OLV Parish Events**

Sep 20 -Tue—Moms, Pops and Tots 9:30-11:30AM  
Sep 20 -Tue – Marian Novena Prayer 2:00-3:00PM  
Sep 20 - Tue -Catholic Daughters of the Americas Mtg. 7:00PM  
Sep 21 - Wed—OLV Needlers 6:30PM  
Sep 23 -Fri– Adoration from 12:30PM-3:00PM  
Sep 24 - Sat—Confessions 11:00-12:00Noon & 3:00-3:25PM  
Sep 24 -Sat—AA - lower Church 6:30-8:30PM  
Sep 25 - Sun—Parish Picnic 1:30-5:30PM  
Oct 2—Sun—Flu Shot Clinic at OLV  
Oct 16 - Sun -Catholic Daughters Brunch—Madeleine's Petit Paris  
Oct 22-Sat—Mass of Anointing 12:00PM

### **PRAY for THOSE in the MILITARY**

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;  
Lieutenant Joseph Jaeger, US Navy;  
Lieutenant Andrew Jaeger, US Navy;  
Chief Master Sergeant Shawn Llewellyn, US Air Force;  
Captain Shawn Linn, US Army;  
Colonel John McLaughlin, US Army;  
Lieutenant John G. Miele, US Army.

### **Catholic Daughters of the Americas**

If you are a woman over the age of 18 and looking for a ministry at Our Lady of Victories that will fulfill your desire to become more active within the church community, CDA is for you. We invite you to attend our next meeting this Tuesday, September 20, at 7:00PM, in the lower church for coffee and cake. At this meeting we will talk about some of the many worthwhile CDA projects in local communities and throughout the nation, e.g. scholarships—Gr. 8 through college, guest speakers, fund-raising, unwed mothers, homelessness, and morality in the media. If you would like to attend the meeting or become a member, contact Renee Tringali@Gmail.com or 913-2580.

### **CATHOLIC HS CO-OP TEST**

In order to apply to the 32 Catholic high schools in the four counties within the Archdiocese of Newark, students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade must take the 2017 COOP Exam. The exam will be given on Friday, November 4, 2016. For more info, visit [www.coopexam.org](http://www.coopexam.org).

### **Knights of Columbus**

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic, Family, Fraternal, Service Organization and is the largest Fraternal Organization in the world with a total membership of 1.8 million members and over 64,000 members in New Jersey. From the moment of their founding in 1882, charity has been the first principle of the Knights of Columbus. They are men of faith and men of action. Last year alone, in addition to raising and donating more than \$151 million to charitable needs and projects, Knights volunteered more than 69 million hours of their time to charitable causes. They undertake these acts of charity because they see those in need through the eyes of faith. Moreover, in the Knights of Columbus, they approach these acts of charity together. Pope Benedict XVI calls this the "practice of love ... as a community." All men over 18 are invited to join the OLV parish Knights of Columbus, the world's largest men's fraternal organization. Upcoming events include a paintball expedition, skeet-shooting and golf outing. For more information or to join, please contact Grand Knight Greg Evanella. at 201-784-5752.

### **Olympic Gold for Catholic Homeschooler Featured**

**Written by Michael Matt | Editor THE REMNANT**

**Friday, August 12, 2016**

Simone Arianne Biles was born March 14, 1997. The other night she became the 2016 Olympic individual all-around champion. But this little dynamo is no stranger to winning. She is a three-time world all-around champion, three-time world floor champion, two-time world balance beam champion, four-time US national all-around champion, and a member of the gold medal-winning American teams at the 2014, the 2015 World Artistic Gymnastics Championships and the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

More importantly from our perspective, Simone Biles is a Roman Catholic home-schooler who might have been a victim of abortion had her birth mother been someone other than Shannon Biles who suffered from drug and alcohol addiction but, rather than aborting her baby, gave Simone up for adoption. The story is like something out of a feel-good movie, with little Simone—rather than ending up in a dumpster or sucked into a vacuum or having her head stabbed by an abortion doctor—getting a chance to live, and then going on to become the first woman in history to win three consecutive world all-around titles and, by the way, the most decorated American female gymnast in World Championships history, with a total of fourteen medals, ten of them gold.

Why? Because she was taken in by a loving and generous family who believed in her, challenged her, and showed her how to love Christ and keep her Catholic faith -- all of which was only possible because Simone's birth mother cared more for the sanctity of the life of her child than her own "reproductive rights as a woman." In 2003 Simone's grandparents took the child and her sister, Adria, out of foster care, in order to give them a loving home and a chance to thrive despite all they'd been through. Simone's grandfather is a retired air traffic controller while her grandmother is the former co-owner of a chain of nursing homes, and a woman obviously blessed with great compassion.

Simone Biles spent all her secondary education as a homeschooler and graduated in the summer of 2015. The family is Roman Catholic, and the little gymnast, who is now taking the world by storm, lights a votive candle to St. Sebastian (patron saint of athletes) before all of her meets. She also keeps her rosary with her at all times, and isn't afraid to proudly admit it. The 19-year-old told US Weekly that her mother gave her the cherished rosary, and that she keeps it with her at all times, praying before every competition "just in case."

I'm not much of an Olympics guy. I got tired of all the politically correct claptrap that goes along with the games. I've discouraged my own children from paying any attention to them, in fact. But I do find it singularly annoying when the "up close and personal" stories that dominate the Olympic headlines are about Muslim athletes or transgenders or whatever, and then a story like this is ignored completely—the most decorated woman gymnast in Rio is an adopted, home-educated, Roman Catholic who prays the rosary and relies on God and His blessed Mother to help make her the best person and athlete she can be.

Kind of a big deal, unless you're a one of the cold chroniclers of Christophobia in the mainstream media—in which case it's cover-up time. Whatever. The media will do what they do best. But the story of Simone Biles is a little shaft of light in a big world of darkness. It's so encouraging to see that, despite everything, little miracles like this are still happening every day and all over the world. A drug-addicted alcoholic living in Cleveland had enough goodness left in her soul to do the right thing, even when the whole world was telling her to do the wrong thing. She kept the child, put her up for adoption, and great things happened.

God is good and all is not lost. All glory and honor to Him, and may He bless and keep Shannon Biles for giving a dreary world something good to believe in for a change -- a brilliant little gymnast who's proudly in love with Jesus Christ.

### **HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES**

**Thu., Sep. 29, Don Bosco Prep, Ramsey, 6:30-8:30PM.** Register online at [www.donboscoprep.org](http://www.donboscoprep.org) under "Admissions". 201-327-8003.

**Sun., Oct. 2, St. Joseph Regional HS, Montvale, 11AM-2PM,** for prospective students (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys) and their families to gain more information. SJR students will provide tours and guests will have the opportunity to speak with faculty, administrators & parents. For info call 201-391-3300 or register at [www.sjrnj.org](http://www.sjrnj.org).

**Sun., Oct. 2, Paramus Catholic HS, Paramus, 1-4PM,** for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students and parents. Location: 425 Paramus Road, For info call Admissions Office 201-445-4466 x104. [www.paramuscatholic.com](http://www.paramuscatholic.com)

**Wed., Oct. 19, Paramus Catholic HS, Paramus, 7-9PM.**

**Sun, Oct. 30, Don Bosco Prep, Ramsey, 1-3PM.**

### **National Baseball Hall of Fame**

Mike Piazza, the newest inductee of the National Baseball Hall of Fame, gave a shout-out to Pope Benedict XVI and his mother Veronica. Piazza said in his induction speech Sunday, "She gave me the gift of my Catholic faith, which has had a profound impact on my career and has given me patience, compassion and hope," and "Pope Benedict XVI said, 'One who has hope, lives differently.'" "Mom, you raised five boys, and you were always there for me."

### **Religious Freedom Report**

Bill Donohue comments on the findings of the 2015 International Religious Freedom Report issued by the U.S. State Department:

It is a mistake to ascribe all religious persecution to Muslim madmen who belong to terrorist groups such as ISIS, al Qaeda, al Shabab, and Boko Haram. The sad fact is that Muslim-run governments are centrally involved in oppression, as are Communist-run governments.

The Report cites Penn State researchers who found that "the number of countries that require some sort of [religious] registration has increased significantly over the last two decades, to nearly 90 percent of all countries." Worse is the practice of punishing people for merely criticizing Islam or converting to another religion. Such persons are routinely tortured and killed, with the approval of street mobs.

In Mauritania, a blogger critical of the government was initially sentenced to death, but it was revoked after he apologized; he is still in prison. Mobs in Pakistan have killed 62 persons for blasphemy since 1990. Sudan punishes anyone who claims that the Quran—not the government—is the sole source of authority.

In Saudi Arabia, a Palestinian poet was sentenced to 8 years in prison and 800 lashes (he was initially sentenced to death); three others had their death sentences upheld. The Syrian government has been on a tear killing Sunnis and other religious minorities. Iran executed at least 20 persons for blasphemy. Religious minorities were tortured in Eritrea, and three persons were legally stoned to death in Brunei for apostasy. China demolished several Catholic and Protestant churches, and "the exercise of religious freedom continued to be nearly non-existent in North Korea."

Still worse is the fact that the Obama administration continues to cut deals with Iran, and has been muted in its condemnation of Christian persecution. Beyond belief is the fact that the Clinton Foundation has received upwards of \$25 million from the thugs in Saudi Arabia. For obvious reasons, the Democratic-controlled State Department failed to cite any of these facts. Phone: 212-371-3191. E-mail: [pr@catholicleague.org](mailto:pr@catholicleague.org).

### **CONVALIDATION**

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

### **Mass Intentions**

**Monday, September 19 – St. Januarius, Bishop, Martyr**

8:00 Joseph M. Ciolino R/b the Grassi Family  
12:00 Theresa Corcoran R/b OLV Knights of Columbus

**Tuesday, September 20 – St. Andrew Kim Taegon & Companions**

8:00 In Thanksgiving to St. Pio R/b the Zaccaro Family  
12:00 Frank Cangialosi R/b Ruth Cangialosi

**Wednesday, September 21 – St. Matthew, Apostle**

8:00 Loretta Madaio R/b Arthur and Lida Fanzo  
12:00 Marco Alexander Fiaschi R/b Fred and Therese Laurenzo

**Thursday, September 22–St. Thomas of Villanova, Spain-bishop**

8:00 Catalina Bonzon R/b Esty Parlanti  
12:00 Abbadessa Family R/b Ruth Cangialosi

**Friday, September 23 – St. Pio of Pietrelcina-priest**

8:00 Mark Joseph Fizulich R/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich  
12:00 In Thanksgiving to Padre Pio R/b Esty Parlanti

**Saturday, September 24–St. Pacific of San Severino of Italy-priest**

8:00 Silvio and Mary Burderi R/b Tom and Phyllis Burderi  
12:00 Augustine Merola R/b Richard and Maureen Ferrara

4:00 Alice Boty R/b Robert and Denise Wagner  
5:00 Hugh Degnen R/b Stephen Lutz

**Sunday, September 25– St. Finbar—bishop**

7:30 Jean Hickey R/b the Barrett Family  
8:15 Peggy Soderberg R/b William and Carole DeBrino  
9:30 Wendy Walker R/b Michael and Maria Hellrigel  
10:45 Wilma Longo R/b the Bentivegna Family  
12:00 Anna Lucia Arias R/b Maria Arias

1:00 People of the Parish

6:00 Joseph Rinaldi R/b Rae Rinaldi

7:00 Jack Romano R/b Debbie Romano

### **Sanctuary Memorials**

**The Church Sanctuary Lamp** burns this week for the **Souls in Purgatory.**

**The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp** burns this week for the **repose of the soul of Laura Donnelly, r/b Jennifer Link.**

**The St. Joseph Votive Votive Lamp** burns this week for the **the repose of the soul of Barbara Stonitsch, r/b Peter and Carole Stonitsch.**

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

### **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 Saturday at 11:00AM until 11:50AM and from 3PM–3:20PM. Monday-Saturday at 7:25AM–7:45AM.

### **Newark Archdiocesan Jubilee of Mercy Pilgrimage**

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, DC on Saturday, October 22. If you are interested in attending, please call OLV rectory 201-768-1706 or see Deacon Tom.

### **KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS**

1. Methuselah, 969 years.
2. Simeon and Anna.
3. Tithe.
4. The love of money.
5. No, Moses did not.

## September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows

### VIETNAMESE IMMIGRANT

The following is the text of a speech given by a Vietnamese immigrant who came to the US through our legal system. He shares his story of claiming the American Dream as his own and how grateful he is to be a part of our nation. I believe his story could represent the experience of all who come here legally. Those who completed the time consuming and sometimes frustrating system to earn citizenship certainly have a greater appreciation for what they have.

On Saturday, July 24, 2010 the town of Prescott Valley, AZ, hosted a Freedom Rally. Quang Nguyen was asked to speak on his experience of coming to America and what it means. He spoke the following in dedication to all Vietnam Veterans. Thought you might enjoy hearing what he had to say:

35 years ago, if you were to tell me that I am going to stand up here speaking to a couple thousand patriots, in English, I'd laugh at you. Man, every morning I wake up thanking God for putting me and my family in the greatest country on earth. I just want you all to know that the American dream does exist and I am living the American dream. I was asked to speak to you about my experience as a first generation Vietnamese-American, but I'd rather speak to you as an American.

If you hadn't noticed, I am not white and I feel pretty comfortable with my people. I am a proud U.S. citizen and here is my proof. It took me 8 years to get it, waiting in endless lines, but I got it, and I am very proud of it.

I still remember the images of the Tet offensive in 1968, I was six years old. Now you might want to question how a 6-year-old boy could remember anything. Trust me, those images can never be erased. I can't even imagine what it was like for young American soldiers, 10,000 miles away from home, fighting on my behalf.

35 years ago, I left South Vietnam for political asylum. The war had ended. At the age of 13, I left with the understanding that I may or may not ever get to see my siblings or parents again. I was one of the first lucky 100,000 Vietnamese allowed to come to the U.S. Somehow, my family and I were reunited 5 months later, amazingly, in California. It was a miracle from God.

If you haven't heard lately that this is the greatest country on earth, I am telling you that right now. It was the freedom and the opportunities presented to me that put me here with all of you tonight. I also remember the barriers that I had to overcome every step of the way. My high school counselor told me that I cannot make it to college due to my poor communication skills. I proved him wrong. I finished college. You see, all you have to do is to give this little boy an opportunity and encourage him to take and run with it. Well, I took the opportunity and here I am.

This person standing tonight in front of you could not exist under a socialist/communist environment. By the way, if you think socialism is the way to go, I am sure many people here will chip in to get you a one-way ticket out of here. And if you didn't know, the only difference between socialism and communism is an AK-47 aimed at your head. That was my experience.

In 1982, I stood with a thousand new immigrants, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and listening to the National Anthem for the first time as an American. To this day, I can't remember anything sweeter and more patriotic than that moment in my life.

Fast forwarding, somehow I finished high school, finished college, and like any other goofball 21 year old kid, I was having a great time with my life. I had a nice job and a nice apartment in Southern California. In some way and somehow, I had forgotten how I got here and why I was here. One day I was at a gas station, I saw a veteran pumping gas on the other side of the island. I don't know what made me do it, but I walked over and asked if he had served in Vietnam. He smiled and said yes. I shook and held his hand. The grown man began to well up. I walked away as fast as I could and at that very moment, I was emotionally rocked. This was a profound moment in my life. I knew something had to change in my life.

It was time for me to learn how to be a good citizen. It was time for me to give back.

You see, America is not just a place on the map, it isn't just a physical location. It is an ideal, a concept. And if you are an American, you must understand the concept, you must accept this concept, and most importantly, you have to fight and defend this concept. This is about Freedom and not free stuff. And that is why I am standing up here.

Brothers and sisters, to be a real American, the very least you must do is to learn English and understand it well. In my humble opinion, you cannot be a faithful patriotic citizen if you can't speak the language of the country you live in. Take this document of 46 pages - last I looked on the Internet, there wasn't a Vietnamese translation of the U.S. Constitution. It took me a long time to get to the point of being able to converse and until this day, I still struggle to come up with the right words. It's not easy, but if it's too easy, it's not worth doing.

Before I knew this 46-page document, I learned of the 500,000 Americans who fought for this little boy. I learned of the 58,000 names scribed on the black wall at the Vietnam Memorial. You are my heroes. You are my founders. At this time, I would like to ask all the Vietnam veterans to please stand. I thank you for my life. I thank you for your sacrifices, and I thank you for giving me the freedom and liberty I have today. I now ask all veterans, firefighters, and police officers, to please stand. On behalf of all first generation immigrants, I thank you for your services and may God bless you all.

Quang Nguyen  
Creative Director/Founder  
Caddis Advertising, LLC

### A Story of Four Worms

A minister was preparing for his Sunday sermon and thought a visual might help give it some extra emphasis. He went out to his backyard with a flashlight and found four night crawlers. He placed them into separate jars: the first worm was put into a jar of alcohol, the second in a jar of cigarette smoke, the third in a jar of chocolate, and the fourth in a jar of clean soil. The minister took the jars to church, explained his experiment during his sermon, and then reported the following results: all the worms were dead except the one in a jar of clean soil. So the minister asked the congregation, "What can we learn from his demonstration?" From the back of the church came the response: "As long as you drink, smoke, and eat chocolate, you won't have worms!" Here's the way I see it: Life is often about perception. As Oscar Wilde once said, "We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars."

### PARISH PICNIC

Join us next Sunday, September 25, 1:30p.m. to 5:30p.m. for our annual parish picnic on the parish grounds. In addition to great food, there will be Colors the Clown, cotton candy, popcorn, sno-cones and a bounce-house. Tickets are \$10.00 per person / family cap \$25.00 (Mother, Father, and minor children). Tickets may be purchased at the rectory or outside Church after Mass this weekend. Come join the festivities.

### FRESHMEN & SOPHOMORES IN HIGH SCHOOL

If you are in high school and have not made your Confirmation and would like to — you must be registered ASAP. See or call Deacon Al.

### KIDZ KORNER

1. According to Scripture who lived longer than anyone else in the Bible?
2. Name the 2 Jews waiting for Jesus in the Temple 8 days after His birth?
3. Israelites gave 10% of their income to God. What is this called?
4. According to the New Testament, what is the root of evil?
5. Did Moses ever get to enter the "Promised Land"?

**Answers on page four.**