

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

WELCOME

SUNDAY, February 4, 2018 A.D.

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

In Residence-Convent

Sr. Mary Corrigan, SC

Mr. Thomas Lagatol Mr. Albert McLaughlin

Deacons

Susan Evarella

Religious Education

Deacon Al McLaughlin

Parish Catechetical Leader

Selena Piazza

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: 12:30pm-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.

\$ Contribution Statements \$

2017 OLV Contribution Statements are now available.

To obtain a copy of your 2017 donations, please contact Maria at the rectory 201-768-1706



Find us on
Facebook

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**: Joey Bulger, Kamal Faris, Kathy Freeburn, Marietta Flahive, Gloria Genovese, Tom Giuliano, Marylou Goreb, Thomas Haring, Peter Kellar, Arnold Kemner, Lisa LoSchiavo, Anne Matthaiei, Canice Prince, Dan Ragusa, Mary Rinner, Suzanne Rothschild, Wendy Ruggiero, George Rush, Kathryn Turrell, Therese Vaglio, Jim Walsh, Mary Youngmans.

SPIRITUAL EXCERPT

"Time spent with God is never wasted."

Brother Francis Edkins C.F.R.

WHY DO WE HAVE A HOLY HOUR?

On Holy Thursday evening Jesus asked his disciples to stay awake for an hour and pray with him, yet despite his request, they all fell asleep. **Each Thursday evening** at OLV we have a Holy Hour where we stay awake in adoration of our Eucharistic Lord. During the Hour - prayers are recited, a song or two may be sung and there is quiet time for one to pray or meditate. We live in a very noisy world which pulls us in every direction. The weekly Holy Hour helps to refocus and recharge one's inner batteries to face the world for another day. So if you have never been at the Holy Hour, **try it you may like it.** **Every Tuesday afternoon** from 2:00-3:00pm we have a Holy Hour with recitation of the Marian Cantic Novena which is a version of the rosary with additional prayers. **On Fridays** we have continuous quiet meditation of the Blessed Sacrament from after the Noon Mass to 3PM.

Make a DIFFERENCE

What happens when 1.6 million men believe they can make a difference - they actually do. Join the Knights of Columbus. Last year they volunteered over 58 million hours to help the needy and better their communities. They raised over \$125 million for charities and local churches. For more information call Greg at 201-784-5752.

SUN/SUN TAN

During the summer we often go down the shore to "work" on our tans. We may spend an hour in the sun and get "burned" by the sun. Imagine how much good spending an hour before the Son of God will do us. During these long cold winter nights, we all yearn for the warm days of summer. Why don't you stop by the Church on Thursday evenings at 7PM and **bask in the brilliant rays of our Eucharistic Lord.** Join us and pray away those winter blues.

Marriage Encounter Weekend

Do you want to give your Valentine something that will be remembered for a lifetime? The **WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND** is a great romantic get away! **Military families**, are you getting ready to deploy? Is your family trying to reconnect after deployment? Marriage Encounter offers tools of communication that have kept many military marriages strong and happy throughout the ups and downs of military service. Contact your local chaplain or call Mike and Janet Turco at 973 427-7016 for more information.

LENT – SACRIFICE – CLOTHING BINS

Lent is a time of sacrifice in order to bring us closer to Christ. As we do so, we become more charitable. Would you be willing to sacrifice your time and efforts to go through your closet and donate any used clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, and children's books to the Catholic Charities clothing bin? If you do, you have made the connection and you have moved closer to Christ. Thank you.

SOUPer BOWL

Canned Food Collection

For the next two weeks OLV will be collecting assorted non-perishable canned foods for St Cecelia's food Bank. Please bring your donation to the Church or leave at the rectory garages. Thank you.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SEMINAR

Friday, February 16, 7pm, St. Joseph's Seminary (Yonkers). Presentation by James Monti, Author of "Praying in the Presence of Our Lord". More information and registration: nyliturgy.org/workshops. Contact: liturgy@archny.org or 914.968.6200, x8177.

PRE-CANA COUPLES NEEDED

The Archdiocese needs to increase it's pool of Archdiocesan team couples to present the new Archdiocesan Pre-Cana program. Training is provided by the Archdiocesan Family Life Office. If you would like to participate in this ministry, please contact Jill Cherrey 973-497-4325 or email jillc@joyfilledmarriageenj.org.

WHAT DOES GOD LOOK LIKE?

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

2018 Wedding Anniversary Masses

The Archdiocese of Newark is preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Christian marriage in 2018. Couples deserving of such recognition are urged to participate. These liturgies will be celebrated at 3:00p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark as follows:

Sunday, April 29, 2018— 5 & 25 years

Sunday, May 6, 2018—50 years

Please call the OLV Rectory to register at 201-768-1706.

Why do we have to attend Mass every Sunday?

Throughout our two thousand years of Church history, Sunday has been set aside as "the Lord's Day," to celebrate God's greater creation of the world. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "The Sabbath brings everyday work to a halt and provides a respite. It is a day of protest against the servitude of work and the worship of money" (CCC 2172). Observing Sunday as the Lord's Day helps us to keep our worship of God outward, visible, public, and regular.

Sunday is also the day we celebrate Jesus' resurrection. The Church instructs us to attend Mass each Sunday because that is where Jesus gives us what we need to stay strong in the world. Just as we take food into our bodies, so we take in Christ through the Eucharist. His body is real food and His blood is real drink (John 6:55-57). The resulting grace helps us to overcome our daily temptations and fulfill our responsibilities. And our faithful Communion will bring us eternal life in Heaven.

HOMEBOUND

If you or anyone you know is homebound – even for a short duration of time - please contact the parish office so I or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion can be scheduled to bring the Eucharist to the sick and homebound.

Upcoming OLV Parish Events

Feb 6 -Tue - Marian Novena Prayer 2:00-3:00PM
Feb 7 - Wed - Bible Study Group 10:00AM
Feb 7 - Wed - OLV Needlers 6:30PM
Feb 8 - Thu - Holy Hour 7:00PM

PRAY for THOSE in the MILITARY

Private First Class Matthew Brady, U.S. Marine Corps;
Lieutenant Julia H. Cheringal, US Navy;
Captain 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.

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.

Morning of Healing: For Perinatal Loss

Saturday, February 17, 8:30am-12:30pm at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, Bloomfield. The Offices of Family and Respect Life are offering a Morning of Healing to support families who have experienced the loss of a child due to miscarriage, stillbirth or neo-natal death. We invite all parents, siblings, grandparents and others who are affected by the loss of a baby, either recently or long ago. Agenda includes presentations on topics specific to perinatal loss, small group discussions, a memorial service, resources and fellowship. Lunch and refreshments provided. Free of charge and babysitting provided. Register at <http://Events.rcan.org/PerinatalLoss>.

TROUBLED MARRIAGE???

If your marriage has become troubled or stressed, unloving or uncaring, if your relationship has grown cold and distant, if you're thinking of separation or divorce, BUT you want to try again – then try the Retrouvaille program, it can help you. For more information, contact Family Life Ministries, at 973-497-4327. You may call anonymously. Please be assured that all inquiries are kept in confidence.

Rooted

As Catholics, we are to be rooted within a parish community, where we are obligated to come and 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, the parish secretary, and register to become a member of the OLV family.

TITHE IF YOU LOVE JESUS! ANYONE CAN HONK!

2018 Sharing God's Blessings Appeal

Your contribution to the 2018 Sharing God's Blessings Appeal makes a difference in the lives of so many in our community. Funds raised through the appeal help to educate children in our inner-city Catholic schools, serve the spiritual needs of people at parishes located in poor neighborhoods, and assist Catholic Charities in running its programs, which help the poor overcome the many obstacles in life. In addition, the appeal assists with seminarian and priest retirement costs. Please consider making a generous gift. **IF YOU MAKE A PLEDGE DIRECTLY TO THE ARCHDIOCESE, PLEASE INFORM THE RECTORY SO THAT WE CAN CHECK AND VERIFY THAT OLV GETS THE CREDIT.**

2018 LENTEN REGULATIONS

The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (or Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence.

On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, and **two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity.** Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast.

On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.

The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.

The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.

The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the **First Sunday of Lent, February 18, 2018 to the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, May 27, 2018.**

*Canon 920, §1. *All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS NO LONGER PART OF OUR PARISH? OR SOMEONE WHO NO LONGER ATTENDS MASS?

If so, begin to pray and think of ways you can invite that person to be a part of our celebration of the 100th anniversary of our parish. As we prepare for this celebration, we want to reach out to as many people as possible. Think of young people who may not look to the Church to help them find meaning in their lives. Think of those who may be angry with the Church. Reach out to them, because we want everyone to be a part of this great celebration. Think of those who left and went somewhere else – invite them back and tell them what is going on here at OLV. We want to reach out to everyone and move together as a human family toward greater unity and reconciliation.

CCD Corner

This has been a beautiful weekend for our parish. On Saturday morning a group of Confirmation Candidates and the KofC brought to life today's Gospel by going down to Newark to help **feed the hungry and homeless.** Later on this same day over 40 second graders received the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** for the first time. Today our parish celebrated **Grandparents Day** with a special Mass which was followed up with a breakfast with our CCD Students who thanked these special people for being such loving and caring role models in their lives. Two little angels, **Luke Francis Scampone and John Francis Witkowski** were baptized and welcomed into the Church. God's presence is very much alive in our parish and as it does so very often, it manifest itself through the gift of our children!

Catholic Men’s Conference

Saturday, March 10, 2018, 8:00am–4:30pm, Cost: \$25, Seton Hall University. This year’s theme is “Be Not Afraid: The Victory is Christ’s!” His Eminence Joseph W. Cardinal Tobin will be celebrating the Mass! Register at www.NJCatholicMen.org

Women’s Commission Day of Reflection

Saturday, March 3, 2018, 8:00am–4:00pm, Cost: \$25, Seton Hall University. This year’s theme is “Alive in Christ ... Renewing Our Families”. Register at www.rcan.org/womenscommission. His Eminence Joseph W. Cardinal Tobin will celebrate Mass at 4:00PM. Registration for both events is \$25. Priests and religious are free.

Both events include continental breakfast and lunch. For more information, visit: www.rcan.org/womenscommission and www.NJCatholicMen.org

CATHOLIC CARE FOR THOSE 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 information call 914-769-0114 or visit www.rosaryhillhome.org.

St. Zita’s Villa for Women

When your loved one needs a Home away from Home, NYS certified St. Zita’s Villa for women in Airmont, NY provides affordable private rooms with nutritious, tasty meals in a clean, comfortable Catholic setting with 24/7 personal care nursing and medical assistance. 845-356-2011.

GRATITUDE

I am thankful for:

- ...the mess to clean after a party because it means I have been surrounded by friends .
- ... the boss who annoys me because it means I have a job and some money .
- ... the clothes that fit a little too snugly because it means I have more than enough to eat.
- ...my shadow who watches me work because it means I am out in the sunshine .
- ...my little sister who always wants to play because it means I have a family to care for.
- ... a lawn that my parents want me to mow, the garbage that needs to be taken out and my room that needs cleaning because it means I have a home .
- ... all the complaining I hear about our government because it means we have freedom of speech.
- ... the class on the opposite side of the school because it means I am capable of walking .
- ...the person behind me in church who sings off-key because it means I can hear .
- ...the teacher who bugs me because it means I have the privilege of going to school and learning.
- ...weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means I have been productive.
- ... the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours because it means that I am alive.

Mass Intentions

- Monday, February 5 - St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr**
8:00 Margaret Gallagher R/b the Barrett Family
12:00 Joanne M. Stevens R/b John McDonough
- Tuesday, February 6-St. Paul Miki, martyr and companions**
8:00 Mary Harrington R/b Jeanne Marie Walsh
12:00 Santa Crisall R/b Rita Puleo
- Wednesday, February 7-St. Richard of England-King of West Saxon**
8:00 Kathleen Musante
12:00 John Dunderman R/b the Oates Family
- Thurs., Feb. 8–Ss. Jerome Emiliani, priest and Josephine Bakhita, virgin**
8:00 Michael Coviello R/b the Supple Family
12:00 Betty Gulfo—12th Anniversary R/b Liz Gulfo
- Friday, February 9 – St. Apollonia – Virgin and Martyr**
8:00 Rev. Joseph Buzzerio R/b Bob and Renee Tringali
12:00 John O'Donnell R/b John and Leslie O'Donnell
- Saturday, Feb. 10-St. Scholastica of Plombariola, Italy, Nun**
8:00 Gina Ottomanelli-Bender R/b Family
12:00 Mary Sweeney R/b George and Gail Fabiano
4:00 Joseph and Helen Menton R/b the Ferrara Family
5:00 John Scrivanich R/b the Busanic Family
- Sunday, February 11–Our Lady of Lourdes**
7:30 Rev. Zachary H. Monet, O.Carm. R/b Pat Consoli
8:15 Norm O'Connor R/b Marita Morgan
9:30 Holy Name Society, deceased and living members
10:45 Fred DeCroce R/b Norma DeCroce
12:00 Richard Murphy-Anniversary R/b the McAuley Family
1:00 People of the Parish
6:00 Amelia Bogosian R/b the Evanelia Family
7:00 Infant Nicholas Barbieri R/b John and Shelli Schaninger

Sanctuary Memorials

- The Church Sanctuary Lamp** burns this week for cousin Peg Gallagher, r/b Matt Renaghan.
- The Bl. Virgin Mary Votive Lamp** burns this week for the repose of the soul of Lorenzo Cafasso, r/b Family.
- The St. Joseph Votive Lamp** burns this week for a special intention, r/b the Werner Family.
- The Hosts and Wine** used at Mass this week have been donated in loving memory of John Rube, r/b Ria and Tom Ragusa.
- The Convent Sanctuary Lamp** burns this week for the intentions of twins Lincoln and Mateo, r/b the Leyden Family.
- The Rectory Sanctuary Lamp** burns this week for the priests of OLV.
- The Infant of Prague Votive Lamp** burns this week for the intentions and healing of Christine Cappone, r/b Aunt Marcella, Aunt Mimma and Aunt Tina.
- The Pope John Paul II Votive Lamp** burns this week in loving memory of David Scaffa, r/b the Purcell Family.

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 3:00PM – 3:30PM. **Monday thru Friday** at 7:25AM – 7:50AM.

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.

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

- 1. St. Blaise
- 2. St. Damien of Molokai
- 3. St. Jeanne Jugan
- 4. Violet
- 5. Ash Wednesday which is Feb. 14 this year.

February is dedicated to the Passion.

BLESSED BE JESUS CHRIST! SIGN OF GLORY

Catholics often make the Sign of the Cross casually, just as a nice gesture for beginning and ending their prayers. But, when we learn to take this act seriously, signing ourselves frequently with faith and reverence, remarkable results can take place. We find ourselves doing measurably better in our Christian life: Praying with more passion, resisting our bad inclinations more effectively, and relating to others more kindly.

The Sign of the Cross, after all, is not merely a pious gesture. It is a powerful prayer, a sacramental of the Church. Holy Scripture, Church Fathers and saints, and Catholic teaching offer perspectives on the Sign of the Cross that reveal why making It opens us to life transforming graces. Once we grasp them, we can make the gesture with more faith and experience its great blessings.

A MINI-CREED:

The Sign of the Cross is a profession of Faith in God as He has revealed Himself. It serves as an abbreviated form of the Apostles' Creed. Touching our forehead, breast and shoulders (and in some cultures, our lips as well), we declare our belief in the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. We are announcing our faith in what God has done: the creation of all things, the redemption of humanity from sin and death, and the establishment of the Church which offers new life to all. When we Sign ourselves, we are making ourselves aware of God's presence and opening ourselves to His action in our lives. That much alone would be enough to transform us spiritually, wouldn't it? But there is much, much more!

A Mark of Discipleship:

At Baptism, the Lord claimed us as His own by marking us with the Sign of the Cross. Now, when we Sign ourselves, we are affirming our loyalty to Him. By tracing the Cross on our bodies, we are denying that we belong to ourselves and declaring that we belong to Him alone (see Lk. 9:23). The Church Fathers used the same word for the Sign of the Cross that the ancient world employed to indicate ownership. The same word named a shepherd's brand on his sheep, a general's tattoo on his soldiers, a householder's mark on his servants, and the Lord's mark on His disciples. Signing ourselves is recognition that we are Christ's sheep and can count on His tender care. We are His soldiers, commissioned to work with Him in advancing His Kingdom on earth. And His servants, dedicated to doing whatever He tells us.

A Two-Edged Move Against The Devil:

When the devil watched Jesus die on the Cross, he mistakenly believed he had won a great victory. But, the Lord surprised him with an ignominious defeat (see 1 Cor. 2:8). From the first Easter morning through the present the Sign of the Cross makes the devil cower and flee. On one level, then, making the Sign is a defensive move, declaring our inviolability to the devil's influence. But more importantly, the Sign is also an offensive weapon, helping us reclaim with Christ all that Satan lost at the Cross. It announces our cooperation with Jesus in the indomitable advance of the Kingdom of God against the kingdom of darkness.

A Victory Over The Flesh:

In the New Testament, the word "flesh" sums up all the evil inclinations of our old nature that persist in us even after we die with Christ in Baptism (see Gal. 5:16-22). Making the Sign of the Cross expresses our decision to crucify these desires of the flesh and to live by the Spirit, like tossing off a dirty shirt or blouse. Making the Sign indicates our stripping ourselves of our evil inclinations and clothing ourselves with the behaviors of Christ (see Col. 3:5-15). The Church Fathers taught that the Sign of the Cross diffused the force of powerful temptations such as anger and lust. So, no matter how strongly we are tempted, we can use the Sign of the Cross to activate our freedom in Christ and conquer even our besetting sins.

DEAR PARENTS

It is a genuine cause for alarm that so many children who attend Catholic Grammar Schools and High Schools or our Parish's Religious Education Classes (CCD) **DO NOT** go to Mass on the weekends. **ALL the MONEY, TIME and COMMITMENT** to our Catholic Religious Education is **WASTED** if **PARENTS** fail to impress upon their children the importance of worshipping on Sunday. **Also Confirmation is NOT GRADUATION from attending Mass. There is no substitute for fulfilling your Sunday Mass obligation.**

What Padre Pio says about the Deceased

- The celebration of Holy Mass is extremely important for the release of a soul from Purgatory.
- The deceased still live among us spiritually.
- We must come to accept the passing of someone we love (and be open to God's grace for such acceptance) because this is very helpful for the happy repose of their soul.
- We are part of the Communion of Saints, so we must help the souls of the departed. We should not forget them in our daily prayers and Masses, and in our works of charity.
- Maybe one day, from their place of joy in Heaven, those same souls will intercede with God for us, and ask Him to bring us into their company.

"Do as I have done. Pray, pray always for the souls of the dear departed. Even if your loved ones are in heaven we must always pray. If they no longer need prayers, they are applied to other souls."

St. Pio of Pietrelcina

At times the Capuchins at San Giovanni Rotondo reported hearing "voices singing in beautiful harmony" in the Friary, and no one could determine the source of these voices. When asked about the singing, Padre Pio responded, "Why are you all so surprised? They are the voices of the Angels, who are taking souls from Purgatory into Paradise."

WHEN LIGHTING A CANDLE

When you light a candle for another person or for your very personal intention always remember that the candle prolongs your prayer. As long as the candle is burning, your prayer is rising to God. Like the candle is spreading light and warmth, so you can imagine that with your prayer, your love and the love of God is flowing towards the person for whom you pray. Your prayer makes the life of the person brighter and warmer. Your prayer brightens your vision so that with greater confidence you can look upon the person and see with the eyes of the Love of God. When you pray for a personal intention light will enter the darkness; hope fills you. You may trust that God himself looks upon you and HIS merciful love overshadows you.

A candle radiates a gentle light. In the dim light of a candle you will look upon people and on your own life with gentleness. In calmness you will also be able to look at your own faults to have them healed by God.

KIDZ KORNER

1. Name the Saint who saved a choking child?
2. Name the Saint who helped lepers in Hawaii?
3. What Saint started the Little Sisters of the Poor?
4. What color vestments are worn during Lent?
5. When does Lent begin?

ANSWERS ON PAGE FOUR

CAN'T SLEEP? TRY COUNTING YOUR BLESSINGS.