

# 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, March 18, 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

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 Gulfo

Martin Coyne II

*Parish Trustees*

Michael Flynn & Meagan Mullany

Curtiss & Katie Stella

*Jr. High School Ministry*

*High School Ministry*

**Maria Hellrigel**

*Parish Secretary*

Jorden Pedersen Esq.

*President Parish Council*

Jon Fischer CFA

*Chairman Finance Committee*

### SPECIAL MASSES OR DEVOTIONS:

**First Friday:** 7:00pm, Mass of Sacred Heart & Devotions

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

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

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

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

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

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

**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.

**Latin Mass every Sunday 8:15AM**

**Spanish Mass every Sunday 1PM**



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**: Bill Carpenter, Kathy Freeburn, Marietta Flahive, Tom Giuliano, Marylou Goreb, Thomas Haring, Peter Kellar, George Loder, Lisa LoSchiavo, Anne Matthaei, Timothy O'Shea, Canice Prince, Dan Ragusa, Mary Rinner, Suzanne Rothschild, Wendy Ruggiero, Kathryn Turrell, Therese Vaglio, Jim Walsh, Bill Weissmeier.

### **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."

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

### **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 Mary Mother of All Nations Novena which focuses on this daily battle. All are welcome. Join us.

### **THE Legend of the CLADDAGH**

Over 400 years ago in Ireland, there was a village called Claddagh. Its men were fishermen who often sailed way out into the Atlantic. On one particular voyage, Moorish pirates captured a fishing vessel and took the crew to Africa and sold them as slaves. One of the crewmen, a young man who was to be married, became a favorite of the Sultan and was taught the art of goldsmithing. The Sultan gave him permission to marry, but he would hold his heart for the girl who waited for him in the village of Claddagh. He fashioned a gold ring with a crown atop a heart held gently in two hands. The crown meant loyalty, the hands – friendship, and the heart – love. He finally escaped and returned to Ireland where he married his true love; the ring he had made was her wedding ring. To this day, the Claddagh ring represents loyalty, friendship and love.

### **Jesus asked one thing from us!!!**

On His last night on earth (Holy Thursday) Jesus asked His disciples one thing – to stay awake with Him for one hour. Every Thursday evening we at OLV try to fulfill this request by having a Holy Hour from 7-8PM. Join us in carrying out Jesus' request.

### **SIX SHORT STORIES**

Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. That's FAITH. When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. That's TRUST. Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set the alarms to wake up. That's HOPE. We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. That's CONFIDENCE.

We see the world suffering, but still we get married and have children. That's LOVE. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence "I am not 80 years old; I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience." That's ATTITUDE. Have a happy day and live your life like the six stories.

### **OLV Prayer Power House**

**Become one of our prayer team members.** There are no meetings, so this apostolate is wonderful for all, including those parishioners who are homebound. For information, please phone Maria at the rectory.

**"GOOD FRIENDS ARE THE RARE JEWELS OF LIFE...  
DIFFICULT TO FIND AND IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLACE!"**

### **ST. PATRICK**

St. Patrick was actually born around 385 in Scotland, probably Kilpatrick. His parents were Calpurnius and Conchessa, who were Romans living in Britain. As a boy of fourteen or so, he was captured during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. Ireland at this time was a land of Druids and pagans. He learned the language and practices of the people who held him captive. Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain, where he was reunited with his family. He then began his studies for the priesthood. St. Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre, ordained him. Later, Patrick was ordained a bishop and was sent back to Ireland to preach the Gospel. He arrived in Ireland on March 25, 433, at Slane. One legend says that he met a chieftain of one of the tribes, who tried to kill him. Patrick converted Dichu (the chieftain) after he was unable to move his arm. For over forty years, Patrick and his disciples preached all over Ireland, converting thousands and building Churches throughout the Emerald Island. Patrick died on March 17, 461 in Saul where he had built his first church.

### **BREAKFAST CEREAL COLLECTION**

Please remember the needy as you shop. OLV will be collecting breakfast cereal during the month of March for St. Cecilia's food pantry.

### **Toiletries Collection for the LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR**

The Annual Toiletries Collection will be the weekends of March 17/18. Please see the shopping list below for suggested donations. Small and medium size toiletries are especially useful. REQUESTED ITEMS FOR THOSE IN NEED:

<b>Toothpaste</b>	<b>Soap</b>	<b>Disposable razors</b>
<b>Toothbrushes</b>	<b>Lip Balm</b>	<b>Body Lotion (unscented)</b>
<b>Dental Floss</b>	<b>Shampoo</b>	<b>Shaving Cream</b>
<b>Deodorant</b>	<b>Talcum/Baby Powder</b>	<b>Combs/Brushes</b>
<b>Denture Adhesive/Cleanser</b>	<b>Individual Packets of Tissues</b>	

*Please leave your donations in the Church vestibule.*

### **2018 LENTEN REGULATIONS**

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.*

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross, followed by Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, on Thursday evenings at 7:00p.m. Each week the Thursday evening **Stations of the Cross by St. Alphonsus Liguori** will be led by OLV's Confirmation Class. Also, **The Scriptural Stations of the Cross** will be held after 8:00a.m. Mass on Saturday mornings during Lent.

## **Upcoming OLV Parish Events**

Mar 20 - Tue - Marian Novena Prayer 2:00-3:00PM  
Mar 21 - Wed - Bible Study Group 10M  
Mar 21 - Wed - OLV Needlers 6:30PM  
Mar 22 - Thu - Holy Hour 7:00PM  
Mar 23 - Fri - Mass/Stations led by Social Concerns 7:00PM  
Apr 15 - Sun - Rosary Society Ladies Breakfast

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

Lance Corporal 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;  
Captain John G. Miele, US Army.

## **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. Monday thru Friday at 7:30AM, as well as every First Friday at 6:30PM. A Priest is also available to hear Confessions daily by appointment.

## **OLV K of C Council #14483**

All men over the age of 18 are cordially invited to join the OLV Knights of Columbus Council. The Knights are the largest Catholic Fraternal Organization in the world. For info' contact Greg Evanella at 201-784-5752.

## **New Hope - Hands of Hope**

**SAVE THE DATE!** Wednesday, April 18, 2018, 6:30 - 10:30pm. Seasons, 664 Pascack Road, Washington Twp. 07676, \$90 per person. Cocktail hour, gourmet dinner, Silent Auction, Tricky Tray, raffle, huge 50/50 and dancing. Your generosity enables us to reach out to first-time single mothers and their babies so please celebrate with us! To make a reservation, contact Kathy Turlick at (201) 573-8697.

## **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 .

### **Blessing of Water, Salt and Oil**

**After the Novena on Tuesday, March 27, 3:00PM**

## **SAVE USED EYEGLASSES**

The Knights of Columbus collects used and old eyeglasses for the less fortunate. Old or "retired" glasses may be left in the basket in the atrium..

**When Jesus is all we have, we realize Jesus is all we need.**

## **2018 Sharing God's Blessings Appeal**

**Y**our 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.**

## **OBI-WAN KENOBI**

Sir Alec Guinness is one of the most recognizable actors of the 20th century. While he appeared in lots of films over the years and won many awards, he is best known as having played Obi-Wan Kenobi in Star Wars. What many people don't know about him, though, is that at the age of 42 he converted to Catholicism – in part because of a miracle.

Guinness was born in 1914 in London to a broken family. He never knew his father and grew up in poverty. Though he was confirmed in the Anglican faith at 16, he was unsure of what he really believed about religion. Over the next few years he bounced around Presbyterianism, atheism, Marxism, Buddhism, and even attended a few Quaker meetings. Like a good Englishman of the early 20th century, though, he had no interest in Catholicism. While rehearsing for the play Hamlet, an Anglican priest approached him and explained that he was blessing himself wrong and showed him the correct way. Something about the encounter had a spiritual impact on him, and he regained some interest in Anglicanism.

He was drawn further into the Anglican faith in the turmoil of World War II, but it wasn't until 1954 when he was 40 years old that he had another experience that would open him to considering Catholicism. He was in France working on the film Father Brown, based on G. K. Chesterton's well known fictional crime-solving priest. He was playing the title role and so was dressed up as a Catholic priest. While walking down the street in priestly attire, a local child spotted him and mistook him to be a genuine Catholic priest. The child ran up, grabbed his hand trustingly, and walked with him down the road. The trust and affection the child had for Catholic priests had a deep impact on him and made him start to seriously consider Catholicism.

He later explained: "Continuing my walk, I reflected that a Church that could inspire such confidence in a child, making priests, even when unknown, so easily approachable, could not be as scheming or as creepy as so often made out. I began to shake off my long-taught, long-absorbed prejudices." Soon after, his son Matthew contracted polio and appeared to be close to death. Desperate and seeking divine help, Guinness started dropping by a local Catholic church to pray. He made a deal with God: if God healed Matthew, he would allow his son to become Catholic if he wanted. Against all expectations (miraculously?), his son recovered! So Guinness and his wife enrolled him in a Jesuit school. A few years later, Guinness, his wife, and his son all converted to Catholicism. Guinness remained a faithful Catholic the rest of his life until he died in 2000. May he rest in peace!

## **STEPHANIE CYSINSKI-O'BRIEN STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

For the 11th consecutive year, student scholarships are being offered through the Stephanie Cywinski-O'Brien Trust. Applications are now being accepted from parish 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students attending a Catholic grammar school (primary consideration), as well as Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors attending a Catholic high school (secondary consideration) and continuing their education at a Catholic school. Applications and eligibility requirements are available at the rectory. **Applications are due April 16** with decisions to be made by April 30.

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. 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. Call 914-769-0114 or visit www.rosaryhillhome.org.

THE FIGHTING IRISH

There were fighting Irish in Mexico. The Mexican American War (1846-48) saw great numbers of defectors from the U.S. side. The war was an unjust aggression upon the Catholic State of Mexico. President Polk was to blame, with his bizarre vision of Manifest Destiny, giving him the "right" to steal Texas, California, New Mexico, and Arizona from the Mexicans. One battalion of deserters from the U.S. side was 40% to 60% comprised of Irish-born soldiers. Convinced that the war was unjust and anti-Catholic, Captain John Riley, of County Galway, and hundreds of other immigrant soldiers, left the U.S. side to fight for the Mexicans. (Desecration of Catholic Churches, as well as murder, rape, and theft were apparently commonplace among the Texas Rangers, whom General, and later President, Zachary Taylor admitted he could not control.) The defectors, among whom were also Germans and other immigrants, named themselves the San Patricio Battalion, in honor of St. Patrick. The San Patricios fought in every major campaign of the war. After the Battle of Churubusco, near the end of the war, 85 San Patricio soldiers were captured and 72 were tried by court martial. Fifty were hanged and another 16 were flogged and branded on the face with the letter "D" for deserter. During his Mexican imprisonment, Captain Riley wrote to a friend in Michigan. "Be not deceived by the prejudice of a nation that is at war with Mexico, for a friendlier and more hospitable people than the Mexicans you will not find on the face of the earth." The San Patricios are honored in Mexico as national heroes in a special ceremony every September 12.

TIME IS

Too slow for those who wait, Too swift for those who fear, Too long for those who grieve, Too short for those who rejoice, But for those who love, Time is Eternity. Henry Van Dyke

COMMUNION DRESSES/SUITS NEEDED

The First Communion Day of our child is a very special occasion - a day to be celebrated and always remembered! Please help to make another child's First Communion Day one that will be cherished by donating any communion dresses, suits, head pieces or shoes. Monetary donations will also be accepted. Please bring all articles, clean and on hangers, to St. John the Baptist Church Parish Ctr. by April 15th or call Kathy 201-666-4185.

"I think Congressmen should wear uniforms, you know, like NASCAR drivers, so we could identify their corporate sponsors."

OLV Easter Flower Memorial-\$15 each

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_ (deceased)

For someone special \_\_\_\_\_ (living)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ Encl. \_\_\_\_\_

Mass Intentions

- Monday, March 19 - St. Joseph - Spouse of the Bl. Virgin Mary
8:00 Rev. Zachary H. Monet, O.Carm. R/b Pat Consoli
12:00 Joseph Lamendola R/b Jinnie Moran
Tuesday, March 20-St. Wulfran, Bishop
8:00 Frank and Norma Dello Stretto R/b John and Leslie O'Donnell
12:00 Intentions of Flor Alto R/b Kathleen Falotico
Wednesday, March 21-St. Enda, Abbot
8:00 James J. Markham R/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich
12:00 Intentions of baby Lexi Reilly R/b the Napolitano Family
Thursday, March 22-St. Nicholas Owen, Martyr
8:00 Mary Beverly Martin R/b the Oakley Family
12:00 George W. Smith R/b the Pedersen Family
Friday, March 23-St. Turibius De Mogrovejo of Spain
8:00 Jorden Pedersen Sr. R/b the Pedersen Family
12:00 Alice Pellosian R/b Rae Rinaldi
7:00 Richard Ferrara R/b Jorden Pedersen
Saturday, March 24-St. Irenaeus of Sirmium, Bishop
8:00 Gina Ottomanelli Bender R/b the Ottomanelli Family
12:00 George Duggan R/b Pat Duggan
4:00 Helen Andreone McEnaney R/b Bruce Michael Ricciardi
5:00 Thomas Crowley R/b Joan Crowley
PALM SUNDAY, March 25
7:30 Gina Ottomanelli Bender R/b the Ottomanelli Family
8:15 Intentions of Joseph and Mary Beres R/b Joe and Johanna Healy
9:30 Mark Harding R/b Mike and Maria Hellrigel
10:45 Anna Lucia Arias R/b Maria Arias
12:00 Irene Ulisse R/b Don Ulisse
1:00 People of the Parish
6:00 Jack Romano R/b Debbie Romano
7:00 Corinne Madormo R/b Chris and Cathy Plunkett

Sanctuary Memorials

- The Church Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for the repose of the soul of Phylis Gilroy, r/b the Oakley Family.
The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp burns this week for a special intention, r/b Julia Dalton
The St. Joseph Votive Lamp burns this week for the repose of the soul of Alex McGourty, r/b the Scaffa and Purcell Families.
The Hosts and Wine used at Mass this week have been donated in memory of James J. Markham, r/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich.
The Rectory Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for our military.
The Convent Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for the unemployed.
The Infant of Prague Votive Lamp burns this week for the unemployed
The Pope John Paul II Votive Lamp burns this week for the souls in Purgatory.

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.

Kidz Korner Answers

- 1. St. Paul. 2. Golgotha. 3. Barabbas. 4. Two thieves. 5. Jesus spent 40 days in the desert fasting right after his baptism and before his public ministry.

When I was a child, I thought nap time was punishment. Now it's like a mini-vacation.

## March is dedicated to St. Joseph

### COVERING CROSSES AND STATUES

They say half of today's Catholics never experienced the traditional custom of shrouding holy images in purple during Lent! This report shocked me --- not because 50% of Catholics never saw 'covered statues' --- but because I'm in the older half that DOES remember! Why did we cover holy images? Why did we stop doing it? And, why are we doing it again? For centuries before the Second Vatican Council's reform of the liturgy in the 1960's, Lent was mostly a prolonged meditation of the Lord's Passion and Death. Lent was marked by forms of the Stations of the Cross highlighting the physical sufferings of Our Lord, the sorrowful mysteries of the rosary, somber music with little or no accompaniment, stark devotions, acts of self-mortification, self-denial and fasting. Lent seemed more of a preparation for Good Friday than Easter! In fact, before Vatican II, the Lord's Passion was proclaimed numerous times during Lent, and the last two weeks of Lent were called 'Passion of the Lord - Week I' and 'Week II.' Now, the Lord's Passion is proclaimed only twice; Saint John's account is read on Good Friday, and one of the other versions (Saint Matthew in Year A, Saint Mark in Year B, and Saint Luke in Year C) are read on Passion (Palm) Sunday - since not everyone (sadly) can attend Good Friday's main service. But back then, when Christ's sufferings were proclaimed so often, the Church literally put on robes of mourning; crosses and crucifixes were veiled in red, statues, icons and holy images were cloaked in purple --- from the 5th Sunday of Lent (Passion I) until during the Gloria on Holy Saturday night. The rubrics even called for the old "Easter Vigil Mass" to begin at such an hour to make the Gloria begin exactly at midnight; then, since it was technically 'Easter morning', the crosses, statues and images were unveiled. Thus, covered images were, for many, the main 'sign' of the end of Lent and Easter's beginning!

When Vatican II researched the origins of Lent, they found it began as a time of intense preparation for those adults preparing for initiation into the Church through Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist on Easter. At first, only these 'converts' received ashes and performed the traditional Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. While the whole Church was encouraged to spiritually join them in Lenten devotions --- it was not required to do so. Then, when infant Baptism became the norm, and Confirmation and First Eucharist were celebrated at a later age, Lent's baptismal nature was lost, and Lent's focus and purpose became what 'older' Catholics like me, remember: intense self-denial and signs of sadness. One of the main liturgical reforms of the Council was reinstating the ancient RCIA; the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults by which adults become full members of the Church. And it seems that, in the 1970's, the American Bishops were so intent on implementing the RCIA and helping it grow, they intentionally downplayed other aspects of Lent, such as the option of covering statues. For although the rubrics of the 'new' Mass in the 1970's still called for images to be covered from the 5th Week of Lent until Easter, each nation's Conference of Bishops could 'suppress' the custom ---- as our Bishops did, a decision not welcomed by all Catholics. In the revised Roman Missal (2003), the American Bishops neither suppressed the custom (as they did in the 1970 Missal) nor required it; this issue of 'lesser importance' is left to the pastor's discretion.

The Church is very clear on the 'Important Issues' no pastor or Bishop can change the type of bread used for Eucharist; who purifies sacred vessels; admitting non-Christian godparents or to the Eucharist. But as a mere custom, the covering of statues and holy images may take place from before the 5th Sunday of Lent until before the beginning of the Easter Vigil so that it does not become a focal point of that Mass, which should be the Word of God and the Sacraments of Initiation. And crosses and crucifixes may be covered from before the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday until after the celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday.

While no color is suggested, red is traditionally used for crosses and crucifixes, and purple for all other things. And, as always, liturgy should not be changed or altered without first giving a good catechesis or explanation. So, having read this, you should be ready to experience or be reacquainted with an ancient custom! **Why cover holy images?** In Lent, we 'fast' from many things: festive music, the Gloria, Alleluias, flowers and other signs of joy; some 'fast' from certain foods, activities, habits, etc. And so as the Lord's Passion draws near, the Church removes, covers or 'fasts' from anything that takes our focus off of the awesome, grace-filled Triduum liturgies in which we join ourselves to Christ's Last Supper - His Passion, Death and Burial - and His glorious Resurrection!

### LENTEN CANNED FOOD DRIVE

**O**LV is having a canned food drive. You can help a neighbor in need by bringing a bag of food next week to the FOOD DRIVE. Your help can put food on the table and hope back into lives of our neighbors facing difficult times.

### ST PATRICK'S PARADE

This week we remember and celebrate the great St. Patrick. Are you familiar with the history of the famous parade on Fifth Avenue in New York City? The first official parade in the city was held in 1766 by Irishmen in a military unit recruited to serve in the American colonies. For the first few years of its existence, the parade was organized by military units until after the war of 1811. At that point in time, Irish fraternal and beneficial societies took over the duties of hosting and sponsoring the event.

Originally, Irish societies joined together at their respective meeting places and moved in a procession toward St. Patrick's Old Cathedral, St. James Church, or one of the many other Roman Catholic churches in the City. However, as the years passed, the size of the parade increased and around the year 1851, as individual societies merged under a single grand marshal, the size of the parade grew sharply. Each year a unit of soldiers marches at the head of the parade; the Irish 165th Infantry (originally the 69th Regiment of the 1850's) has become the parade's primary escort, and they are followed by the various Irish societies of the city. Some of the other major sponsors and participants in the parade are the Ancient Order of Heibernians, the thirty Irish county societies, and various Emerald, Irish-language, and Irish nationalist societies. This year the festivities started at 44th Street and Fifth Avenue at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday, March 17th, with bagpipers, high school bands, and the ever-present politicians making their way up Fifth Avenue to 79th Street. Happy St. Patrick's Day to all!

### EASTER EGG HUNT

On Easter Sunday morning the OLV Youth Group will host an Easter Egg hunt for little Children. The Hunt will take place after the 9:30 Masses in the outside area (weather permitting) by the back parking lot entrance of the OLV school building.

### KIDZ KORNER

1. Who witnessed the stoning of Stephen the Martyr?
2. What was the name of the hill on which Jesus was crucified?
3. Pontius Pilate set what prisoner free instead of Jesus?
4. Jesus was crucified between whom?
5. Where did we get the idea for the Lenten 40-day fast?

**Answers on page four**

**People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.**