

# 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, August 26, 2018 A.D.

To the Parish Family of  
**OUR LADY OF VICTORIES**

(THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART)

## COME WORSHIP WITH US

Rev. Wojciech B. Jaskowiak  
*Administrator*



Rev. Duverney Bermudez      Rev. Anthony Mastroeni  
Rev. Christopher M. Ciccarino KCHS      Rev. John O'Connor  
Rev. Brian Muzás      *Latin Mass Assistants*  
Rev. Msgr. Sam Sacus  
*Weekend Assistants*

Sr. Elizabeth Holler, SC      Sr. Mary Corrigan, SC  
*In Residence-Convent*

Mr. Thomas Lagatol      Mr. Albert McLaughlin  
*Deacons*

Susan Evanella      Deacon Al McLaughlin  
*Religious Education*      *Parish Catechetical Leader*

Selena Piazza      Elizabeth Gulfo  
Lesla Rossmann      Martin Coyne II  
*Ministers of Music*      *Parish Trustees*

Michael Flynn & Meagan Mullany      Curtiss & Katie Stella  
*Jr. High School Ministry*      *High School Ministry*

Maria Hellrigel  
*Parish Secretary*

Jorden Pedersen Esq.      Jon Fischer CFA  
*President Parish Council*      *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  
Address: 81 Lynn St.  
Email: olvrectory.hp@gmail.com

OLV Fax      Religious Education  
201-768-3962      201-768-1400  
155 Parkway  
olvhpccd@gmail.com

OLV Convent  
201-768-1705  
145 Parkway

## **Fr. Wojciech's Corner**

### **Tips for College Students & Parents!**

Dear Students,

As you head off to college the next couple of days, remember to stay focused on the most important things. Here are a few articles for you (and your parents).

#### **10 RULES FOR CAMPUS DATING**

<https://newmansociety.org/10-rules-4-campus-dating>

#### **TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR FAITH ALIVE IN COLLEGE**

<https://newmansociety.org/tips-keeping-faith-alive-college>

#### **A CHECKLIST FOR GROWING YOUR FAITH**

<https://newmansociety.org/checklist-growing-faith>

#### **THE HAPPY AND SUCCESSFUL STUDENT: SOBER AND CHASTE**

<https://newmansociety.org/happy-successful-student-sober-chaste>

### **THANK YOU OLV!**

New Hope Pregnancy Resource Center is humbled by the \$2500 gift from the parishioners of Our Lady of Victories, which was raised as part of the latest OLV Knights of Columbus Baby Bottle Boomerang Collection. Your support enormously helps our outreach services to first time mothers and their babies. Please visit our website [www.newhoperc.org](http://www.newhoperc.org) to learn more about our all-volunteer program. If you would like to volunteer or just stop by, please contact [marilyn@newhoperc.org](mailto:marilyn@newhoperc.org) or call 201-722-4705. We are located in Westwood at 149 Third Ave. We would love to hear from you.

### **CCD ANNOUNCEMENT**

Registration for CCD will close on September 23rd. If you didn't register your child, you can do so online at [olvhp.org](http://olvhp.org) or call the CCD Office 201-768-1400. We are finalizing our class sections and we don't want to leave anyone out!

### **St. Vincent de Paul Social Concerns**

OLV's St. Vincent de Paul Social Concerns Society meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM in the lower church. The first meeting for this season will be Tuesday, September 11, at 7:00PM. New members are always welcome.

### **LEARN TO KNIT/CROCHET**

The OLV Catholic Daughters meets every Wednesday evening in the lower church and will teach you to knit or crochet. Contact Renee Tringali at 201-768-0648 for more information.

### **7th Annual Gladys Heyliger/Mary Carley Scholarship**

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court 1639 is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to an 8th grade student going into a Catholic High School in September. For an application, please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Dr. Marie Woke, 20 Kensington Court, Norwood, NJ 07648.

### **PRAY A HAIL MARY**

Father Gabriel Amorth, Chief Exorcist of the Vatican writes: One day a colleague of mine heard the devil say during an exorcism: "Every Hail Mary is like a blow on my head. If Christians knew how powerful the Rosary was, it would be my end." The secret that makes this prayer so effective is that the Rosary is both Prayer and meditation. It is addressed to the Father, to the Blessed Virgin, and to the Holy Trinity, and is a meditation centered on Christ

## **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**: baby Sean Cresci, baby Cole McKeon, Addie Bennington, Richard Bolton, Helene Burzi, Irene Ciccarino, Eleanor Daily, Antoinette Dougherty, Dan Filippone, Sebastian Filippone, Tommy Fitzpatrick, Danny Francis, Kathy Freeburn, Marietta Flahive, Bernardita Garcia, Kyle Gauweiler, Tom Giuliano, Marylou Goreb, Stefani Gosselink, Thomas Haring, Glen Hall, Megan Kavanagh, Peter Kellar, George Loder, Lisa LoSchiavo, Peter Mahler, Anne Matthaehi, Anne Merkle, David Mercur, Skylar Migliaccio, Len Moriarity, Kevin Mullane, John Murawski, Joyanna Peros, Canice Prince, Dan Ragusa, Mary Rinner, Suzanne Rothschild, Wendy Ruggiero, Michael Tobia, Kathryn Turrell, Jason Unanue, Therese Vaglio, Jim Walsh, Brian, Carla, Chris, Dierdre, Jennifer, Lucas, Lynn, Lori, Michael, Patrick, Paul, Peter, Robert, and Sean .

### **SPIRITUAL EXCERPT**

"We will never know all the good a simple smile can do. We speak about God who is good, merciful and compassionate. Are we a living token of that reality? Those who suffer – can they perceive in us that goodness, that forgiveness, that loving understanding? Everyone should see kindness in your face, in your eyes, in your smile."

**Mother Teresa**

### **NEED BAPTISM, FIRST COMMUNION OR CONFIRMATION**

If you want to become a Roman Catholic or complete your Initiation into the Church, the RCIA is for you! For more information, phone the rectory. *Adult Catholics* who have not yet celebrated *Confirmation*, should also contact the rectory for preparation class information.

### **THE INFANT OF PRAGUE**

Did you know that on the 25<sup>th</sup> of every month, we have a novena to the Infant Jesus of Prague after the 8:00AM Mass?

### **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. Wojciech for details and to see if your marriage can be regularized with the Church.

### **Knights of Columbus**

All men over 18 are invited to join the OLV Knights of Columbus, the world's largest men's fraternal organization. For more information or to join, please contact Greg Evanello 201-784-5752.

### **PRAY FOR VOCATIONS**

**"Lord help me to want to be what you want me to be."**

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary and following her example each of us must ever learn afresh to say fiat – Be it done unto me according to your word. — **Most Reverend John J. Myers**

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

On His last night of 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.

### **Holy Land Pilgrimage**

Fr. Chris Ciccarino, our weekend assistant, and Fr. Jerry Hahn of St. Anthony's in Northvale, invite OLV parishioners, particularly those who may have wanted to be pilgrims this year but could not, to join our March 7-15, 2019 Holy Land visit. For info, please call Fr Jerry 201.768.1177.

### **Upcoming OLV Parish Events**

Aug 28 - Tue – Marian Novena Prayer 2:00-3:00PM  
Aug 29 - Wed - OLV Needlers 6:30PM  
Aug 30 - Thu - Holy Hour 7:00PM  
Aug 31 - Fri - Adoration from 12:30PM-3:00PM  
Sep 11 - Tue - Social Concerns Meeting 7:00PM  
Sep 11 - Tue - Mass of Remembrance 7:30PM  
Sep 23 - Sun - Parish Picnic

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

Attention families of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students planning to attend Catholic high school in Fall 2019! The High School Placement Test (HSPT®) administered as part of the Cooperative Admissions Program for Catholic high schools will be given on **Friday, November 9**. Register online at [www.njcoopexam.org](http://www.njcoopexam.org) beginning September 4<sup>th</sup>. Catholic High School Expo admission fairs will be held 7-8:30pm on Tuesday, Sept. 25 at Visitation Academy, Paramus and Wednesday, Sept. 26 at the Archdiocesan Center, Newark. Visit [www.catholicchoolsnj.org](http://www.catholicchoolsnj.org) or call 973-497-4260.

### **Don Bosco Prep HSPT Exam Prep Course**

Don Bosco Prep's HSPT Exam Prep Course is open to all 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls to help prepare for the high school entrance exam. Sessions will be held on Saturdays from September 22 through November 3, 9AM-12PM in Savio Hall. Program Tuition is \$500. Deadline for application is Friday, September 14. For info, email [mcooper@donboscoprep.org](mailto:mcooper@donboscoprep.org).

### **High School Open House**

**Sunday, September 16, Bergen Catholic (Oradell), 1pm-3pm.** Register on [www.bergencatholic.org/admissions](http://www.bergencatholic.org/admissions). If you have questions please email Matt Rosa, Director of Admissions, at [mrosa@bergencatholic.org](mailto:mrosa@bergencatholic.org).

**Sunday, September 23, Paramus Catholic HS (Paramus), 1pm-4pm.** for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents.

**Wednesday, October 17, Paramus Catholic HS (Paramus), 7pm-9pm** for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents. For info' contact Admissions at 201-445-4466 x 104.

### **CLOTHING BINS**

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).

### **FARMERS MARKET IN HARRINGTON PARK**

The Harrington Park Farmers Market will take place every Sunday at the Borough Hall Parking Lot from 10AM to 2PM. The first Farmers Market will take place on Town Day on Saturday September 8<sup>th</sup> at Highland Field. There will be fresh produce, baked goods, healthy juices, activities for kids and lots more. All are welcome, admission is free.

### **ST PIUS X GOLF OUTING**

St. Pius X Church in Old Tappan is sponsoring its first annual Golf Outing on Monday, September 17, at the Old Tappan Golf Course. The day includes a BBQ at the course at 12Noon, 1PM Shotgun Start (scramble format 18 holes), 6PM dinner. Prizes for the golf! Tricky Tray at dinner. Sign up for golf as a single, pair or as a foursome. **Cost:** \$150 for BBQ, Golf, Dinner; \$60 for Dinner only; \$100 to Sponsor a Hole (\$650 for a foursome and a sponsor). Please call the St. Pius X Parish Office at 201-664-0913 for more information.

**God loves us the way we are,  
but too much to leave us that way.**

### **COMFORT FOR THOSE WHO MOURN**

**unknown author**

So many people imagine that death cruelly separates us from our loved ones. Even pious people are led to believe this great and sad mistake. When our loved ones die, they do not leave us, they remain. They do not go to some dark and distant place. They simply begin their eternity. We do not see them because we are still in the darkness of the world. But their spiritual eyes, filled with the light of heaven, are always watching us as they wait for the day when we shall share their perfect joy. We are all born for heaven, and one by one we end this life of tears to begin our life in endless happiness.

A firm faith in the real and continual presence of our loved ones has brought the conviction and consolation that death has not destroyed them, nor carried them away. Rather it has given them life – a life with power to know fully and to love perfectly. With this new life and new power our loved ones are always present to us, knowing and loving us more than ever before.

The tears that dampen our eyes in times of mourning are tears of homesickness, tears of longing for our loved ones. But it is we who are away from home. Death, for our loved ones, has been a doorway to an eternal home. And only because this heavenly home is invisible to our worldly eyes, we cannot see them so near us. Yet, they are with us, lovingly and tenderly waiting for the day when we, too, will enter the doorway of our eternal home. No, death is not a separation. It is a preparation for eternal union with those we love, in the peace and joy of heaven. Someone has written these beautiful words. One must read and try to understand the deep meanings in them. All things in life are temporary. If going well enjoy it, they will not last forever. If going wrong don't worry, they can't last long either. Old friends are like Gold! New friends are Diamonds! If you get a Diamond, don't forget the Gold! Because to hold a Diamond, you always need a base of Gold! Often when we lose hope and think this is the end, GOD smiles from above and says, "Relax, sweetheart, it's just a bend, not the end! When GOD solves your problems, you have faith in HIS abilities; when GOD doesn't solve your problems HE has faith in your abilities. When you pray for others, God listens to you and blesses them; and sometimes, when you are safe and happy, remember that someone has prayed for you. WORRYING does not take away tomorrow's TROUBLES; it takes away today's PEACE. Praying for love and peace to fill your life.

### **TWO BEGGARS**

Two beggars were sitting side-by-side on a street in Rome. One has a cross in front of him; the other one, the Star of David. Many people go by and look at both beggars, but put money only in the hat of the beggar sitting behind the cross. The Pope comes by, stops and watches throngs of people giving money to the beggar behind the cross, but giving none to the beggar sitting behind the Star of David.

Finally, the Pope goes over to the beggar behind the Star of David and says, "My poor fellow, don't you understand? This is a Catholic country; this city is the seat of Catholicism. People aren't going to give money if you sit there with a Star of David in front of you, especially when you're sitting beside a beggar who has a cross in front of him. In fact, they would probably give money to him just out of spite." The beggar behind the Star of David listened to the Pope, turned to the other beggar with the cross and said, "Moishe, look who's trying to teach the Goldstein brothers about marketing."

**PRAY for THOSE in the MILITARY**

Lance Corporal Matthew Brady, U.S. Marine Corps;  
Lieutenant Commander 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;  
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;  
Lieutenant Gigi McElroy, U.S. Army;  
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.

**TUESDAY AFTERNOON PRAYER GROUP**

Every Tuesday afternoon from 2:00PM-3:00PM we have a group who are praying a **Marian Novena Rosary** in Church in front of the Blessed Sacrament. **ALL ARE WELCOME.**

**FRIDAY ADORATION**

Just a reminder we have Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays from 12:30 – 3:00PM.

**So stop by and adore Our Eucharistic Lord.**

**OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL**

Did you know that every Monday after the 8:00AM Mass we have a novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. We also pray the Rosary DAILY after the completion of the 8:00AM weekday Mass.

**JUST A REMINDER**

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.

**Rachel's Vineyard**

**Healing the Wounds of Abortion**

Upcoming retreat weekend in the archdiocese:  
September 14th-16th 2018

For confidential help / info' 973-497-4350 or rileyche@rcan.org.  
www.Rachelsvineyard.org.

**Eternity is a long time to think  
about what you should have done.**

**Mass Intentions**

**Monday, August 27-St. Monica of Africa—Patron of Mothers**

8:00 Gina Ottomanelli Bender R/b the Ottomanelli Family  
12:00 Edward Rappa R/b Ed and Greg Rappa

**Tuesday, August 28 – St. Augustine, Bishop, Doctor**

8:00 Msgr. James M. Sheehan R/b the Adamcik Family  
12:00 Dragiea Sarunic R/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich

**Wednesday, August 29 – Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist**

8:00 Dennis McGuire R/b the Barrett Family  
12:00 Restituta Sasso R/b Mr. and Mrs. Peter Scotti

**Thursday, August 30– St. Fiacre, Hermit-Ireland**

8:00 Kathleen Musante R/b Eugene and Loretta Dvorak  
12:00 Janet Weis R/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich

**Friday, August 31– St. Aristedes, Athenian Philosopher**

8:00 Rose Vespucci R/b the Poggi Family  
12:00 Timothy Pommert R/b Judy Pommert

**First Saturday, September 1 – St. Giles, Abbot - France**

8:00 Marijan Fizulich R/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich  
12:00 Souls in Purgatory  
4:00 Catherine Cooney R/b Bruce Michael Ricciardi  
5:00 Daniel Rizzi R/b June Crawford

**Sunday, Sep. 2–St. Ingrid, Virgin-Swedish Dominican Sister**

7:30 Gina Ottomanelli Bender R/b the Ottomanelli Family  
8:15 Intentions of Carlos Alcala R/b Marita Morgan  
9:30 Maureen Flood R/b Joan Crowley  
10:45 Intentions of Raibatou Dao R/b the McElroy Family  
12:00 Catherine and Thomas Kerrigan R/b Stephen Kerrigan  
1:00 People of the Parish  
6:00 Tara Roche R/b John Roche  
7:00 Intentions of Eileen Loftus O'Brien R/b the Bolton Family

**SANCTUARY MEMORIALS**

**The Church Sanctuary Lamp** burns this week for the repose of the soul of Edith Spence, r/b Bruce Michael Ricciardi.

**The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp** burns this week for the repose of the soul of Mary Ryan, r/b Bonnie Ryan.

**St. Joseph Votive Lamp** burns this week for the repose of the soul of Mary Ryan, r/b Bonnie Ryan.

**The Convent Sanctuary Lamp** burns this week for those serving in defense of our country.

**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.

**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.

**GOING ON VACATION**

Visit [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) for the locations of Catholic Churches and a Mass schedule, throughout the USA.

**KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS**

- 1. Fisherman.
- 2. Luke was a physician .
- 3. Zacchaeus.
- 4. St. Joachim.
- 5. Thomas.

**ONE SOUL (excerpt from "Priests on Call" by Fr. Thomas Flynn)**

Silco, Mexico, is a place few people have ever heard of... Settled on one of the foothills of Orizaba, Silco's natural beauty stands in contrast to the grime and grunge of the poor alleyways and makeshift shacks that huddle around a cement factory. The poverty was a true shock for Fr. Michael Parker, who had arrived... with a group of missionaries from Maryland. However, much like the locals, he soon grew accustomed to the lack of comfort and came to discover that such poverty helped form the simplicity of these people's faith. Although every building in the town was in need of repair and a thorough cleaning, the church stood out with its white stucco walls and ornately painted columns. Statues adorned every niche and the sanctuary was decorated with fresh flowers that were prepared carefully by some pious woman. Yet, what impressed Fr. Michael most about the church was not the flowers or the paintings, but the number of people who would come in to spend time praying with their Lord. It was without a doubt the busiest edifice in town. Father watched them come and go, young and old, while he administered the sacrament of confession in the back of the church. Most of his day he spent sitting in that antique wooden confessional distributing God's mercy to the constant flow of faithful who had been deprived of this sacrament for so long due to lack of priests.

One woman entered the confessional and said, "Father I am not here to confess my sins... I am here to ask you a favor. There is a woman who lives higher up in the mountains and I am afraid she is dying. Would you be able to visit her? "Of course, I would," he said. "I can go tomorrow morning if you like." "Perfect. To get to her house you will have to take the trail that leaves Benito Street about half a mile up that way. The path is well marked, but it can get dangerous as you ascend. Follow the path until you find a large rock that is painted red. At that point, you need to turn right and go up for another few yards until you reach my friend's house. Her name is Gloria, and I am sure she will be happy to see you."

Fr. Parker began his journey early the next morning... He finally arrived at the woman's house. Getting down from his horse (because the road was not accessible by truck), he couldn't help but notice the dire situation of the poor little house. It seemed as if a gust of wind would be enough to bring the walls down...

"Hola!" Father called out. There was no answer. He strode around the side of the house toward the doorway that stood wide open. "Hola!" he tried again, and this time he heard a faint reply. The voice belonged to an elderly woman lying on a dirty mattress in the corner of the room... She appeared to be in her late 80s, and Father could tell that she was suffering. The wrinkles on her face changed their form as she broke into a smile for her new guest. "Good morning Gloria", Father began. My name is Fr. Michael Parker and someone told me that you might like me to visit you." She waved a hand inviting him to come closer to the bed. He pulled up a chair and began to chat about her health and how long she had lived in Silco. After a few minutes of small talk, there was a moment of silence in the conversation and Fr. Michael realized this was his opportunity. "Gloria would you like me to give the anointing of the sick?" She appeared perplexed and asked what anointing of the sick was. "Well, it's one of the seven sacraments of the Church, just like Baptism, confession and confirmation," Father said, trying to help her understand. The aged woman looked back at Father with her brow furrowed in confusion. "But Father, I'm not baptized."

There in that small shack in the forsaken jungle of Silco, Fr. Michael administered the sacraments of baptism, Holy Communion, confirmation and anointing of the sick to the elderly woman. As he descended the trail that led back to town he could not stop thinking about Gloria's words after everything that had happened. She thanked him for coming and then said, "Father, you are the first priest I have ever seen in my life."

Father stopped in the middle of the trail to gaze at the evening sky now painted red, purple and orange. Returning to Silco through that natural cathedral, he addressed God in prayer saying, "If you made me a priest, only so that Gloria could go to heaven, it would have been totally worth it."

## PADRE PIO

The saintly stigmatized Padre Pio was always a merciless enemy of feminine vanity: he never tolerated low-necked dresses, short and/or tight-fitting skirts, and forbade his spiritual children to wear transparent stockings. In the last few years of his life, his severity increased enormously, as fashions became more and more immodest. He unrelentingly dismissed from his confessional before they could step inside, all women judged to be incorrectly dressed. By 1967, on some mornings, he turned them away one after another, until he ended up confessing very few. His brethren noticed this with a certain unease; then, they decided to post on the door of the church a warning: "By Padre Pio's explicit wish, women must enter the confessional wearing skirts AT LEAST 8 INCHES BELOW KNEE. It is forbidden to borrow longer dresses in church and to wear them in the confessional." The beginning of the struggle with no concessions whatsoever coincided more or less with the advent of the mini-skirt, launched by the English girl Mary Quant. It had not yet reached Italy as Padre Pio was thundering against short skirts. As fashion houses announced: "Eight inches above the knee", Padre Pio warned: "Eight inches below the knee".

When summer comes, a pastor of souls worries a little more than usual about the salvation of the flock that Our Lord has confided to him. He knows that, in the summer season, souls are more exposed to occasions of offending God, "of attacking God with His own gifts", especially through sinful fashions of dress. Our Lady said to Sister Lucy at Fatima: "There will be fashions which will greatly offend My Divine Son". Today's fashions prove Our Lady's words true, for these fashions are occasions of sin, occasions, alas, of serious sin by reason of the sinful thoughts and desires which they provoke. In the Gospel, Our Lord warned us about such evil desires: "But I say to you that whosoever shall look on a woman to lust after her, hath already committed adultery with her in his heart". (Mt 5:28).

In the life of Saint Frances of Rome, we read of a vision of Hell which was granted her, and which lasted for four hours. God willed to show her in the fires of Hell, certain ladies whom she had known in Roman society. For what sins had these souls been damned? They had been damned: - for guilty desires, even though these had not been put into act. - for indecent styles of dress, which were the fashion of the day, and which had been a cause of seduction and of sin, for dances, considered inoffensive by the world. This vision of Hell so marked Saint Frances of Rome, that she had it painted on the murals of her chapel, as a constant reminder of the judgments of God. God then gave her the mission of drawing the Roman ladies out of their luxury and their vanity.

## KIDZ KORNER

1. Before he was a disciple of Christ, what did Simon Peter (St. Peter) do for a living?
2. Which Gospel was written by a doctor?
3. What is the name of the tax collector who climbed a tree to see Jesus?
4. Which saint is the maternal grandfather of Jesus Christ?
5. Which Apostle doubted that Christ had appeared to the Apostles hidden in the upper room after the death of Christ, but soon believed after touching the wounds of Jesus days later?

**Man's way leads to a hopeless end –  
God's way leads to an endless hope.**