

# 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

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

## COME WORSHIP WITH US

Rev. Wojciech B. Jaskowiak  
*Pastor*

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

Mr. Thomas Lagatol      Mr. Albert McLaughlin  
*Deacons*

Susan Evarella      Denise Coulter  
*Religious Education*

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

Maria Hellrigel  
*Parish Secretary*

Jorden Pedersen Esq.  
*President Parish Council*

Jon Fischer CFA  
*Chairman Finance Committee*

### SPECIAL MASSES OR DEVOTIONS:

**First Friday:** 6:00pm Confessions followed by Devotions & Mass

**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 & 12:00 Noon Mass

### **OLV Adoration Schedule**

\* 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from after the 12 noon Mass until 3PM

\* Every Thursday Holy hour 7-8PM

\* Every Friday Adoration 12:30PM until 3PM

\* First Friday Adoration 12:30PM (after 12 Noon Mass),  
6PM confessions, 6:30PM devotions, concludes with 7PM Mass

\* First Saturday Adoration 12:30PM until 1PM

**SUNDAY, January 5, 2020 A.D.**  
**The Epiphany of the Lord**



### 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**



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Religious Education  
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155 Parkway  
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201-768-1705  
145 Parkway

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

### **POWER of PRAYER**

Last year I had the above title in my corner. I left it to start off this New Year because your prayers worked. **PRAYER IS POWERFUL!**

My mom soon will be coming here for a visit, she wants to personally thank you for your prayers. She is so excited.

I would like to thank you all for attending the Christmas Masses; we had this year around 3,000 faithful attending. Many mysterious and beautiful moments. We had some parishioners who had their first Christmas without a loved one. I received this Christmas the strangest card that gave me a homily idea. Then a couple who was excited because their daughter would be for the first time at Christmas Mass because she was just born and baptized this past year. (We had many like this!) Then another couple who cannot conceive as of yet, already married some time and at one Mass we all prayed for them, to the couple at midnight JUST married recently who brought the baby Jesus to the manger in a procession. A visitor who gave me a hug and managed to embrace me totally like a bear. Because I spoke that God wanted to hug us. I felt like a teddy bear. So many visitors from different places... etc... etc..

Today we want to learn from wise men never to give up looking for Christ even when He seems difficult to be found or understood. Just keep on... Do not stop... No matter what.

And one more thank you to all who decorated and beautified the Church and to all who sent me cards, gifts and lots of love - and to all who gave so generously to our parish. My office was overflowing just as **God overflowed in Christ in a manger.**

For everything, may GOD REWARD YOU. —Fr Wojciech

## **SPIRITUAL EXCERPT**

Because [Christ] is born in a cave, all who wish to see him must bend, must stoop, and the stoop is the mark of humility. The proud refuse to stoop. Therefore they miss divinity. Those, however, who are willing to risk bending their egos to go into that cave, find that they are not in a cave at all; but they are in a universe where sits a babe on his mother's lap, the babe who made the world.

—VENERABLE FULTON J. SHEEN from *Through the Year with Fulton Sheen: Inspirational Readings for Each Day of the Year*

## **ADORATION**

Just a reminder we have Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesdays from 12:30PM—3:00PM, Thursday night from 7:00PM—8:00PM, and Fridays from 12:30PM—3:00PM.

Let us learn from the SHEPHERD and the WISE MEN to **stop!** and **adore Our Eucharistic Lord.**

## **BEEFSTEAK DINNER - January 25**

This is a major fundraiser for the Knights of Columbus to fund our charities. It is a fun evening, and last year it was a great success. Please support this dinner. Cost: Adults \$35 - Children \$15.

## **Holy Name Society**

OLV Holy Name Society will meet Sunday, January 19th. The men attend 9:30am Mass, followed by recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and then a meeting and refreshments. New members are welcome.

## **CLOTHING BINS**

Can you predict the events of 2020 with accuracy? Here we are at the beginning of a new year and no one knows what the future will bring... unprecedented joy or deep sorrow? Many families and individuals have the resources to cope with whatever comes along. Catholic Charities

## **EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING WITH CHALK**

The Church has a custom of blessing homes (as well as proclaiming the date of Easter) on the Feast of the Epiphany (January 6) and the weeks following. Family and friends gather to ask God's blessing on their homes and those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows. One way of doing this is to use chalk blessed during the Epiphany liturgy and write above the home's entryway, 20 + C + M + B + 20. The letters C, M, B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and 2020 is the year. Adoration of the Magi by John Flaxman, Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons: Marking the doorway to one's home is rooted in the Old Testament. Holy Scripture reminds us that God has at times commanded his people to mark their doors. The Israelites marked their doors with the lamb's blood on the night of the passover (Exodus 12:7). A similar command was given with the Shema Yisrael:

*Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
and with all your soul, and with all your might.*

*Keep these words that I am commanding you today  
in your heart ...and write them on the doorposts  
of your house and on your gates.*

*(Deuteronomy 6:4-6, 9)*

**Epiphany** is the manifestation (revelation) of Christ to the Gentiles as represented by the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12).

## **Did You Know?**

**IHS** This monogram of the Holy Name, common among Western Christians, comes from the first three letters in the Greek spelling of Jesus' name. Those letters are iota ("I"), eta ("H") and sigma (here rendered as its Roman equivalent: "S"). *Variations:* Sometimes the iota is rendered as a "J" (hence, "JHS"), or one will see the monogram in all Greek letters, or with the final sigma in a "C" shape (hence "IHC"), an alternate way of rendering the letter sigma. They all mean the same thing.

**IC XC** This monogram is more common among Eastern Christians. It is composed of the first and last letters of Jesus' Name in Greek (iota and sigma) with the first and last letters of Christos, the Greek word for Christ (chi and sigma, respectively). The sigmas are both rendered in "C" form, resulting in "IC XC". This monogram is commonly written on ikons of Christ near His halo to identify Him, and in the phrase "IC XC NIKA", meaning "Jesus Christ Conquers". The greatest promoters of the monogram were St. Bernardine of Siena and St. John Capistran.

## **The Golden Arrow**

This prayer was revealed by Jesus Himself to a Carmelite Nun of Tours in 1843 as a reparation for blasphemy. "This Golden Arrow will wound My Heart delightfully," He said, "and heal the wounds inflicted by blasphemy." *May the most holy, most sacred, most adorable, most mysterious and unutterable Name of God be always praised, blessed, loved, adored and glorified in heaven, on earth and under the earth, by all the creatures of God, and by the Sacred Heart of our Lord Jesus Christ in the most Holy Sacrament of the altar.*

## FRED ASTAIRE

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

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

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

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

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

### A Little Humor...

When you consider Christmas, there are four stages in your life:-

- 1) You believe in Santa.
- 2) You don't believe in Santa.
- 3) You are Santa.
- 4) You look like Santa.

## Mass Intentions

**Monday, Jan. 6—St. André Bessette of Quebec-Religious Brother**  
 8:00 Marie Landers R/b Margaret Burghold  
 12:00 Marie Falotico R/b Dennis and Kathleen Falotico

**Tuesday, January 7 – St. Raymond of Peñafort**  
 8:00 Jack Cummings R/B Lisa Unanue  
 12:00 Carter Murdock R/b Family of Patrick Dolan

**Wednesday, January 8 – St. Apollinaris, Bishop**  
 8:00 Jean Bentivegna R/b the Bentivegna Family  
 12:00 Carter Murdock R/b Tues. Night Families Anon.

**Thursday, January 9— St. Adrian of Canterbury, Abbot**  
 8:00 Sr. Regina Suplick R/b Sr. Elizabeth  
 12:00 Marie Landers R/b Joan Kincaid

**Friday, January 10—St. William, Bishop**  
 8:00 Mary Joyce O'Neill R/b Agus and Susan Kwee  
 12:00 Maryann Sandi Bocak R/b Al Algeria Family

**Saturday, January 11-St. Paulinus of Friuli, Italy-Bishop of Aquileia**  
 8:00 Edward Vassar R/b Sr. Elizabeth  
 12:00 Robert John Maynes IV R/b the Maynes Family  
 4:00 Denise Brown R/b Joe Tobia  
 5:00 Stanton / Vollmers Families R/b the Foley Family

**Sunday, January 12—The Baptism of the Lord**  
 7:30 Carly Bacci R/b Jeanne Marie Walsh  
 8:15 Rev. Zachary H. Monet, O.Carm. R/b Pat Consoli  
 9:30 Brian Torpey R/b Cathy and Gary Abbate  
 10:45 Diane Melchiorre R/b George and Claire Meyer  
 12:00 David Zocco R/b Mike Zocco  
 1:00 People of the Parish  
 6:00 Cousin Jimmy R/b the McLarnon Family  
 7:00 Ugo D'Andrea R/b Stefano Pappalardo

## Sanctuary Memorials

**The Sanctuary Lamp** burns this week for the **repose of the soul of**

**Hector Reyes**, r/b the McKiernan Family.

**The Bl. Virgin Mary Votive Lamp** burns for the **Souls in Purgatory.**

**The St. Joseph Votive Lamp** burn this week for **Francis Scaffa**,  
 r/b loving Family.

## Sanctuary Offerings

**The Bread and Wine, Bl. Virgin Mary Votive Lamp, St. Joseph Votive Lamp, and Sanctuary Lamp** in the Church can be dedicated on a weekly basis. Please contact the rectory for more information 201-768-1706.

### Keep Your Eyes Fixed

A great artist once painted a picture in which a solitary figure is seen rowing a small boat across the dark waters of a lonely lake. A high wind is churning up the waters causing white-crested billows to rage ominously around the tiny skiff. As he rows on, the boatman's eyes are fixed on the one lone star shining through the darkness. Under the picture, the artist has inscribed these words: "If I lose that, I am lost."

What are you doing, O Magi? Do you adore a little Babe, in a wretched hovel, wrapped in miserable rags? Can this Child be truly God? ... Are you become foolish, O Wise Men ... Yes, these Wise Men have become fools that they may be wise.

— Saint Bernard of Clairvaux

## KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

1. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*. More info in the blurb in this bulletin, page 2!
2. King Herod.

# Sundays are dedicated to the Holy Trinity.

## Pray for Those in the Military

### US Army

Captain Ben Clemente  
 RRT Specialist James Crumb  
 Specialist Peter Dippolito  
 Major Michael Franson  
 Sergeant First Class Charles Greene  
 Captain Shawn Linn  
 Lieutenant Gigi McElroy  
 Colonel John McLaughlin  
 Captain John G. Miele

### US Air Force

Chief Master Sergeant Shawn Llewellyn

### US Marine Corps.

Lance Corporal Shanna Bennett  
 Corporal Matthew Brady  
 1st Lieutenant Ryan Colomeo  
 Lance Corporal Thomas Iafraate  
 Corporal Joseph Levine

### US Navy

Lt. Commander Julia Cheringal  
 Ensign Jon Clemente  
 Lieutenant Joseph Jaeger  
 Lieutenant Andrew Jaeger  
 OS2 Daniel T. LoVecchio

## 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.

## Pray for Our Sick

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK:** Please *Pray* in the name of **JESUS**, the Healer, that the *sick of the 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 Will*: baby Cordelia, baby Emmet Fischer, baby Sylvie, Richard Bolton, Dominic Carini, Carolanne Carini, Sal Cenicola, Helen Choma, Kevin Columbo, Marie D'Ascenzo, Mar-yann Dean, Lorraine Degerdon, Isabelle DeLeonibus, Vincent DePaola, Marge Devitt, Carl Falasca, Jay Filippone, Marie Filippone, Mary Foley, Kathy Freeburn, Rich Goldfarb, Leslie Handler, Peter Kellar, Milan Krupa, Mary Lowe, James McGarry, Robert Milli, Gianna Moscatello, John Pal, Joyanna Peros, John Peterson Jr, Marie Piazza, Terry Pommert, Canice Prince, Veronica Romanchuk, Phylis Rooney, Mike Tobia, Eric Unger, Brian, Carla, Chris, Christina, Dierdre, Edward, Elba, Fiona, Jennifer, Joann, Lisa, Lucas, Lynn, Michael, Patrick, Paul, Peter, Robert, Sean, Sharon.

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## QUESTION?

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

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

## The Epiphany of the Lord

Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body. As they look, they believe and do not question, as their symbolic gifts bear witness: incense for God, gold for a king, myrrh for one who is to die. — *St. Peter Chrysologus*

## “MONASTERY OF SILENCE”

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

## RIGHT WALL

Robert McFarlane was Ronald Reagan’s National Security Advisor, a twenty-year veteran of the Marine Corps., and the architect of the Iran-Contra plan. When his plan failed, McFarlane resigned his position and later attempted suicide. In a talk he gave at the National Prayer Breakfast several years ago, McFarlane described the incredible power he had achieved, the ladder to success he had climbed. But then Bud McFarlane told his audience, with tears in his eyes, that it was nothing. He got to the top, and there was nothing there. Only after he fell off that ladder did he discover that it was leaning against the wrong wall—that life really consists of loving God and loving people. Nothing else.

## TWISTED...

According to an ancient fable, there once lived in a small village a man whose body was so twisted and his face so disfigured the townspeople laughed at him, avoided him -- the children teased him, the dogs barked at him. And the man became so embittered that he left the village where he had been born and went deep into the forest, where he lived alone ...There, in the deep forest he found a measure of comfort: in the beauty of sunrises and sunsets and the soft sighing of the breeze in the trees and the sweet songs of the birds in the air. Still, the bitterness only softened. It did not go away. One day, a visitor came into the hermit's hut. As they sat down together for a simple meal, the hermit asked the visitor to offer a prayer, but the visitor said, "No, you are the master here, it is you who must say the blessing." And so the hermit, nervous at first, spoke his gratitude for the beauty of the forest, the wonder of nature and the nourishment they were about to share. Whereupon, the visitor said, "You have forgotten one thing. You have neglected to thank God for yourself." The hermit looked away, saying nothing. The visitor continued, "You have retreated into the forest because you have despaired of your physical unattractiveness. You have forgotten that in the eyes of God you are far more beautiful than all the trees and all the flowers and all the birds of the forest." The hermit could not forget those words, and when the opportunity came he moved back to the town of his birth. Strange to say, the people of the community no longer avoided him or laughed when he walked by. The children no longer teased him and his heart sang with joy for he realized that he was living in the same town with the same people, even the same dogs, but all was different. All was different because he was different. He had learned to thank God for himself. *What an epiphany (revelation)?!*

*beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder-Shakespeare*

## Holy Name of Jesus—Short History of this devotion

Devotion to the Holy Name falls loosely into three periods. The first phase is the very early Church and was encouraged by the Apostles and the early disciples. In this period devotion is to the Name of Christ, to the Name of Christ Jesus, to the Name of the Lord, and to the Name of Jesus.

The second phase is found in the early middle ages. Here devotion to the Holy Name was fixed specifically to the Name of Jesus. Pope Gregory X (1271 - 1276) and the Council of Lyons in 1274 initiated a call of the Universal Church to this special devotion. Through the works of Blessed John of Vercelli, the fifth Master General of the Order of St. Dominic, the Dominicans began preaching on the virtues of the Holy Name and built special altars where the lay faithful could venerate the Holy Name of Jesus.

The third phase was brought to life by St. Bernardine of Siena (1380 - 1444), the Franciscan who reformed his Order and preached fiery sermons all over Italy. St. Bernardine painted a special wooden tablet with the Monogram of the Name of Jesus surrounded by rays of the sun. During these very popular sermons, he would hold up for veneration the monogram of Christ's Name. Because of the influence of St. Bernardine's work, the Name "Jesus" was added to the Hail Mary prayer, and the Feast of the Holy Name was later added to the calendar. The office of this Mass was written by Bernardine dei Busti, and it makes use of the beautiful 12th century hymn, *Iesu Dulcis Memoria* which speaks of His Name and was written by another who had devotion to it, St. Bernard of Clairvaux (A.D. 1090-1153). St. Bernardine's apostleship of the Holy Name was carried on by St. John Capistran, A.D. 1385-1456, and to them both is attributed the Litany of the Holy Name. St. Bernardine and his contemporary St. John Capistran popularized this devotion and made it so widespread that the monogram of the name of Jesus, even today, stands at the side of the cross as a symbol of Christianity.

Later in 1455, Pope Callistus III asked St. John to preach a crusade invoking the Holy Name of Jesus against the vicious Turkish Moslems who were ravaging Eastern Europe; victory came in their defeat at the Battle of Belgrade in 1456.

In 1597, Pope Sixtus V granted an indulgence to anyone reverently saying, "Praised be Jesus Christ!" Pope Clement VII in 1530 allowed the Franciscans to celebrate a feast day in honor of the Holy Name, and Pope Innocent XIII extended this to the universal Church in 1721. In the liturgical revisions of Vatican II, the feast was deleted, though a votive Mass to the Holy Name of Jesus had been retained for devotional use. With the release of the revised Roman Missal in March 2002, the feast was restored as an optional memorial on January 3.

Pope John Paul II reinstated the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus to be celebrated on Jan. 3. Moreover, the reverential invocation of the Holy Name of Jesus as part of prayer or work, and the recitation of the Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus, still convey a partial indulgence for the reparation of sin. The Holy Name Society, first organized in 1274 and granted the status of a confraternity in 1564, continues to promote at the parish and diocesan levels an increased reverence for the name of Jesus, reparation for the sins of profanity and blasphemy against the Holy Name, and the personal sanctification of its members.

## Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus: January 3

The Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus has been celebrated in the Roman Catholic calendar of saints, at least at local levels, since the end of the fifteenth century. The veneration of the Holy Name was extended to the entire Roman Catholic Church on 20 December 1721, during the pontificate of Pope Innocent XIII.

The celebration has been held on different dates, usually in January, because January 1st, eight days after Christmas, commemorates the circumcision of the child Jesus; as recounted in the Gospel read on that day, "at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb." It is observed on January 3rd by Catholics following the General Roman Calendar. The entire month of January is devoted to the worship of the Holy Name and to Christ's Divine Childhood.

## Mystic taught about the Name of Jesus

Richard Rolle, a mystic of fourteenth century England, taught about the Name of Jesus: If you will be well with God, and have grace to rule your life, and come to the joy of love: this name Jesus, fasten it so fast in your heart that it come never out of your thought. And when you speak to him, and through custom say, "Jesus," it shall be in your ear, joy; in your mouth, honey; and in your heart, melody: for men shall think joy to hear that name be named, sweetness to speak it, mirth and song to think it. If you think the name "Jesus" continually, and hold it firmly, it purges your sin, and kindles your heart; it clarifies your soul, it removes anger and does away slowness. It wounds in love and fulfills charity. It chases the devil, and puts out dread. It opens heaven, and makes a contemplative man. Have Jesus in mind, for that puts all vices and phantoms out from the lover.

## The Holy Name of Jesus

The month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus. "In the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those that are in heaven, on earth and under the earth" (Phil 2:10). Christ's name is chosen in heaven, and the Angel Gabriel announces it when he informs the Blessed Virgin of the incarnation: "Behold thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus". It is a name that has marvelous implications, for it means "savior." The very name bespeaks the magnitude of His mission, His infinite love, a love that will cause Him to offer Himself up for us. The name of Jesus is the sweetest of all names, and He who bears it is most worthy of all love. He who calls Jesus his friend can be assured that this friend is the most devoted and unselfish of all friends. Jesus is our all. In His name we may pray to the Father with assurance of being heard. In His name the Church administers all her sacraments. In His name she offers all her prayers and blesses homes, the fields, and the sick. In the name of Jesus she casts out evil spirits, and at the hour of our death bids us, "Go forth, Christian soul." She assures us that whoever shall call upon this name will be saved. When our soul has departed this life to seek its eternal home, the Church asks in the name of Jesus, "Eternal rest give unto him, O Lord."

## KIDZ KORNER

1. What does C+M+B stand for?
2. What is the name of the king who felt threatened by baby Jesus?

**Answer on page 3.**