

# 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*

Mr. Thomas Lagatol Mr. Albert McLaughlin  
*Deacons*

#### PARISH OFFICE

Maria Hellrigel - *Parish Secretary*

**201-768-1706**

Religious Education (CCD)  
Susan Evarella Denise Coulter (*LSEC*)

**201-768-1400**

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

Selena Piazza  
Lesia Rossmann  
*Ministers of Music*

Elizabeth Gulfo  
Martin Coyne II  
*Parish Trustees*

Jorden Pedersen Esq.  
*President Parish Council*

Jon Fischer CFA  
*Chairman Finance Committee*

#### Special Masses:

**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 & after 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

**SUNDAY, March 15, 2020 A.D.**  
**3rd SUNDAY OF LENT**



#### THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE/CONFESSION:

Monday - Friday 7:30am - 7:50am.

First Friday at 6:00pm - 6:50pm

Saturday at 11:00a.m.-Noon; 3:00pm -3:40pm

#### 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**



Phone: 201-768-1706  
Address: 81 Lynn St.  
Email: olvrectory.hp@gmail.com

OLV Rectory  
201-768-3962

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

OLV Convent  
201-768-1705  
145 Parkway

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

Two great saints will preside this week: St. Patrick (March 17), a kidnapped 16-year-old teen who was made into a slave - and a mature devout man, St. Joseph (March 19). By the way, congrats to my Irish parishioners for St. Pat's and all Italians to whom St. Joseph is so dear.

Both saints show an incredible creativity of God in leading them to holiness and their special mission. St. Patrick's was not a prayer, but rather a shout of despair and loneliness (to somebody he did not even believe exists) that helped him to discover God. Once he discovered God he also discovered a purpose and was able to return to the very place where he was a slave and suffered, and become its greatest missionary. How encouraging! St. Joseph instead was a man of whose words there is a silence in Scriptures. This silence however speaks volumes. This silence speaks about his silent and obedient heart devoted to God, to his spouse Mary and his Son Jesus. This silence speaks of accepting his mission as a father of Jesus here on earth and silent, humble raising of that Son for a great day of victory on the cross over sin and death. What a great Lenten lesson these two saints can give us. Shouting to God in your despair or silence before God. Deep lesson to reflect. I invite all parishioners to have these saints as great patrons in their struggles. I encourage the youth to find in St. Patrick their heavenly companion. I encourage especially all men, in particular fathers, to learn from St. Joseph the way to true manhood and fatherhood.

Fr. Sam Sacus our "true Irish" priest will celebrate the Mass Tuesday at noon on St. Patrick's Day. On Thursday we will celebrate the Solemnity of St. Joseph, patron saint of the Church and families. It happens that this Thursday marks the monthly meeting of our Rosary Society. Please join us for Mass at 12 Noon, Rosary, followed by food in the lower church. Let us celebrate God's goodness to us in giving us such great saints to help us. **St. Patrick and St. Joseph pray for us!**

This weekend our Confirmation students will announce an invitation to do some Lenten giving. Please welcome their initiative.

Please join us on our Lenten Bus Trip to the Marian Shrine. See details below. May Mary teach us how to be when crosses are near us.

#### **OLV - Lent - Bus Trip**

to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Shrine-Middletown, NY

**Day of Recollection - Friday, March 27**

Depart OLV 8AM - Return approx. 4PM. Day includes Lenten reflection by Carmelite priest, Confession, Mass, Stations of the Cross. Bring a brown bag lunch. Free will offering. To sign-up call OLV Rectory 201-768-1706.

#### **SPIRITUAL EXCERPT** **"PENANCE"**

We all know that we need to be sorry for our sins, and yet we seem to know it much less than we used to. Personal penance, which in some way was painful or unpleasant, used to be part of the Christian life. For Catholics, it meant fasting, extra prayers, generosity to the poor, and just putting up with life without complaining. Somehow, in the last few decades, we moved away from any unpleasantness in fulfilling our Christian duties. We felt we had to have cushy, padded kneelers in church. We now have practically no Eucharistic fast, and our current Lenten fast would have brought laughter to the early Christians or even to those of the early twentieth century. Penance is supposed to be tough. As the three sacred days of Holy Week approach, those of us in the hospital have little opportunity to do traditional penances. Because of illness, we also feel that we are doing enough. Perhaps a lot of other people who are not in the hospital but who have severe problems, heavy crosses, or chronic difficulties with family all feel that they too are doing enough. But this is a time to do more, or to do better what we always do, and to do it with much love for Christ. Because of the film *The Passion of the Christ*, millions of people have a better awareness of what Christ suffered for us. Penance is the scriptural way of showing one's gratitude.

**Fr. Benedict Groeschel CFR There are No Accidents page 10**

### **SOLEMNITY of ST. JOSEPH-March 19**

The Bible pays Joseph the highest compliment: he was a "just" man. The quality meant a lot more than faithfulness in paying debts. When the Bible speaks of God "justifying" someone, it means that God, the all-holy or "righteous" One, so transforms a person that the individual shares somehow in God's own holiness, and hence it is really "right" for God to love him or her. By saying Joseph was "just," the Bible means that he was one who was completely open to all that God wanted to do for him. He became holy by opening himself totally to God. The rest we can easily surmise. Think of the kind of love with which he won Mary, and the depth of the love they shared during their marriage. It is no contradiction of Joseph's manly holiness that he considered divorcing Mary when she was found to be with child. The important words of the Bible are that he planned to do this "quietly" because he was "a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame" (Matthew 1:19).

The just man was simply, joyfully, wholeheartedly obedient to God - in marrying Mary, in naming Jesus, in shepherding the precious pair to Egypt, in bringing them to Nazareth, in the undetermined number of years of quiet faith and courage. The Bible tells us nothing of Joseph in the years after the return to Nazareth except the incident of finding Jesus in the Temple (see Luke 2:41-51). Perhaps this can be taken to mean that God wants us to realize that the holiest family was like every other family, that the circumstances of life for the holiest family were like those of every family, so that when Jesus' mysterious nature began to appear, people couldn't believe that He came from such humble beginnings: "Is He not the carpenter's son? Is not His mother named Mary...?" (Matthew 13:55a). It was almost as indignant as "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" (John 1:46b).

Novena to St. Joseph starts March 10th

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/full-novena-13879>

#### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

**During Lent**

**Mondays - 4:15PM led by CCD children in church**

**Fridays - 11:30AM & 7:00PM in church**

#### **SPECIAL ROSARY**

**meditating on the 7 Sorrows of Mary**

**Wednesdays-3:00PM before Statue of Mary outside.**

**"All the greatest pains become sweet for whoever looks at Jesus Christ on the Cross." – St. Mary Magdalen of Pazzi**

#### **CCD CORNER**

In class this past week our students took some time to write letters of encouragement to a seminarian who is being sponsored by the OLV Knights of Columbus Council 14483. The catechists discussed **vocations** with the students and emphasized that we all have a vocation and are all called to live our lives in service to God and others no matter what our calling in life, whether it be to the priesthood, religious life, marriage or the single life.

As we enter the third week of Lent our students are encouraged to continue the Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Students in Mr. Evanela's 5<sup>th</sup> grade class are working on filling a mason jar with red beans to represent the good works that they have done the previous week. They are anxious to fill the jar with good works. It is a beautiful visual of doing a **little more**.

A gentle reminder that while attendance in CCD classes is important **the more and most important thing is to bring your children to Mass each week**. Join other families at the **10:45 Family Mass** and introduce your children to our Children's Liturgy of the Word each week.

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.

Corporal Shanna Bennett
Corporal Matthew Brady
1st Lieutenant Ryan Colomeo
Lance Corporal Thomas lafrate
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 James Amicucci, baby Jonathan, Richard Bolton, Robert Brawley, Dominic Carini, Carolanne Carini, Sal Cenicola, Helen Choma, Kevin Columbo, Marie D'Ascenzo, Maryann Dean, Lorraine Degerdon, Isabelle DeLeonibus, Vincent DePaola, Marge Devitt, Carl Falasca, Jay Filippone, Marie Filippone, Mary Foley, Leslie Handler, Amy Hartwell, 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, Louise Ricciardi, Vincent Ricciardi, Veronica Romanchuk, Beth Sacco, Mike Tobia, Eric Unger, Brian, Carla, Chris, Christina, Dierdre, Edward, Elba, Fiona, Jennifer, Joann, Lisa, Liz, Lucas, Lynn, Michael, Patrick, Paul, Peter, Robert, Roseann, Sean, Sharon.

HOMEBOUND

If you or anyone you know is homebound - even for a short duration of time - please contact the rectory so I or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion can be scheduled to bring the Eucharist to the sick and homebound. Let us not wait until the death of someone to look for a priest.

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

We are constantly under attack and tempted by the forces of EVIL. Every Tuesday afternoon from 2:00-3:15PM members of OLV parish meet and pray the Marian Novena which focuses on this daily battle. All are welcome. Join us.

Will you GIVE UP your Time to Adore the Lord this Lent?

Thursday Holy Hour at 7PM & Friday 12:30PM-3PM.

When great masterpieces of art are restored, layers and layers of the over-layer are removed before the real painting is found. So it is with our sins. We ask God to take off one coat after another of sin and pretense until His real image is visible again. - Mother Mary Francis from A Time of Renewal

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"The greatest glory we can give to God is to fulfill His blessed will in all things."

St. Alphonsus Liguori

Mass Intentions

Monday, March 16 - St. Herbert of Worms, Germany-Bishop

8:00 Boniface Ben Santoro R/b Family
12:00 John M. Ballas R/b the Zwerle Family

Tuesday, March 17 - St. Patrick-Bishop of Armagh, Ireland

8:00 Mary Barrett R/b the Barrett Family
12:00 Patrick James Dolan R/b Glynis Burke

Wednesday, March 18 - St. Cyril of Jerusalem-Bishop & Doctor

8:00 Thomas Giuliano R/b Tom and Jeanne Hennessey
12:00 James DeBrino R/b William and Carole DeBrino

Thursday, March 19 - St. Joseph - Spouse of the Bl. Virgin Mary

8:00 Rosemary Stark R/b Tom and Jeanne Hennessey
12:00 Joseph Lamendola R/b Jinnie Moran

Friday, March 20 - St. Wulfran, Bishop

8:00 John Holler Sr. R/b Sr. Elizabeth
12:00 Nicolo Scrivanich R/b Nick and Maria Busanic

Saturday, March 21 - St. Enda, Abbot

8:00 Thomas Giuliano R/b Tony and Laura Scott
12:00 Joseph Amato R/b Carl and Ellen Sutter
4:00 Ellen Keohane R/b the Oates Family
5:00 Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Williams R/b the DelGrande Family

Sunday, March 22 - St. Nicholas Owen, Martyr

7:30 Robert Hamilla R/b Peter and Joan Hamilla
8:15 Rose Calderone R/b Christine and Armando Carrino
9:30 George W. Smith R/b the Oakley Family
10:45 Kathleen Walters R/b the Van Dyke Family
12:00 Silvio and Mary Burderi R/b the Burderi Family
1:00 People of the Parish
6:00 Nora Vallone R/b the Foley Family
7:00 Michael Ryan R/b Sal and Linda Cappadona

Sanctuary Memorials

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

Virginia Kneeland, r/b Domenic and Marcella Cafarella.

The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp burns this week for the repose of the soul of Lydia Mohsenin, r/b the Dunn Family.

The Saint Joseph Votive Lamp burns this week for the repose of the soul of Tom Giuliano, r/b OLV Choir.

Sanctuary Offerings

The Bread and Wine, Bl. Virgin Mary and St. Joseph Votive Lamps, and Sanctuary Lamp in Church may be dedicated on a weekly basis. And the Altar Flowers may be memorialized. Call OLV rectory for information 201-768-1706.

New to the area? If you are, why not join our ever-growing Parish family. Stop by the Rectory any weekday and meet Maria and register to become a member of the OLV family.

PLEASE, if you change your address or phone number, let us know!

STEWARDSHIP My Family—My Parish—My Responsibility

Did you ever notice that the price of a movie is now over \$10, milk is almost \$3 a gallon, and there is no longer such a thing as penny candy? The price of everything around us has increased, but has your weekly donation to the Church ever increased? That one dollar donation doesn't buy as much as it once did. As your expenses increase, so do those of the Church, but we rely on your generosity to meet our expenses. Please be generous. Thank you.

"We should surrender ourselves wholly to the Creator."
St. Teresa of Avila

### 2020 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 (on 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, March 1, 2020 to the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, June 7, 2020.**

\*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.*

### Annual Appeal Shining the Light of Christ

Your gift supports ministries and programs including Family Life Office, international Missions, Catechetical Office, Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Catholic Charities, hospital and Prison Chaplaincy, Ministry with Persons with Disabilities, Respect Life Office, seminarian education, priest health care, continuing education and formation for priests. Our 2020 parish goal is \$58,285.

### Arrivederci OLV, Ciao Roma

Interested in our parish pilgrimage to Italy this October? Contact Deacon Al at [deaconalatolv@gmail.com](mailto:deaconalatolv@gmail.com).

### Relevant Radio—1430 AM

Tune in to Relevant Radio, the largest Catholic radio network in the nation. Listen online [www.relevantradio.com](http://www.relevantradio.com) and on the free mobile app.

"Know that even when you are in the kitchen, our Lord moves amidst the pots and pans." **St. Teresa of Avila**

### DID YOU KNOW?

**The three-leaf clover**, a type of trefoil plant, has been considered the unofficial national flower of Ireland for centuries. Irish legend says that Saint Patrick used the **shamrock** as an educational symbol to explain the Holy Trinity to nonbelievers as he converted the Irish to Christianity in the fourth century.

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**Three colors of Irish flags** stand for Catholics-green, Protestants-orange and white in-between to symbolize peace between the two.

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The **original color of St. Patrick** was blue.

### Kidz Korner Answers

1. None. However, his silence speaks volumes. 2. His father Joseph. It was a father's duty to give a name to his son. See: (Mt 1:21, 25).
3. His father Zechariah (Lk 1:63). 4. St. Patrick.
5. Three leaf shamrock, representing the Most Holy Trinity.

**2020 Wedding Anniversary Masses:** The Archdiocese of Newark is preparing the annual tradition of honoring those couples who will celebrate five, twenty-five and fifty years of Christian marriage in 2020. Couples deserving of such recognition are urged to participate. These liturgies will be celebrated at 3pm at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark: Sunday, April 19 - 5 & 25 years / Sunday May 3 - 50 years. Call OLV Rectory to register 201-768-1706.

**Family Promise Super 50/50 Cash Raffle.** For info' or to purchase a ticket visit [www.bergenfamilypromise.org](http://www.bergenfamilypromise.org) or call 201-833-8009.

**Breakfast Cereal Collection** during March. Benefits St. Cecilia Food Pantry. Donations may be left in church or rectory garage.

**First Communion Dresses/Suits Needed.** Please help to make a child's First Communion Day one that will be cherished by donating any Communion dresses, suits, head pieces or shoes. Please bring all articles, clean, on hangers, and covered in plastic to St. John the Baptist Church in Hillsdale by April 1st or call Kathy at 201-666-4185. Monetary donations also accepted. If you or anyone you know may need an outfit, please contact Kathy.

**40 Days for Life:** Please consider giving one hour per week during Lent to join us in prayer at a modified vigil for the *40 Days for Life* this Lent on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 7AM-2PM at 10 Zabriskie St., Hackensack. To sign-up please contact Margaret at 201-805-0937.

**Grace & Healing - For families affected by Opioid Crisis** Wednesday, March 18, at 12:00Noon at Seton Hall University (Bethany Hall, Room A). Understanding the role of the Church as a resource for those afflicted by *The Opioid Crisis* and their families. Lunch will be provided. RSVP by March 13 to [Melinda.papaccio@shu.edu](mailto:Melinda.papaccio@shu.edu).

**Morning of Recollection for Women-Lent: a season of grace and interior growth:** Thursday March 19, 9:30-11:30am at Our Lady - Mother of the Church in Woodcliff Lake to help women of all ages live Lent well and prepare for Easter. Content inspired by the teachings of St Josemaria, founder of Opus Dei . For info' Jeanne [jmhennessy6@gmail.com](mailto:jmhennessy6@gmail.com).

**Mass for Recovery and Healing:** All are welcome to Church of St. Mary, Closter for the Third Saturday Recovery and Healing Mass with anointing of the sick on Saturday, March 21, at 12noon. Mass is offered for the support, healing and recovery of those directly afflicted with a substance use disorder, as well as those affected by the abuse of alcohol and/or drugs. Open support group after Mass. For info call 201-768-7565.

**New Hope Annual Gala** at Seasons in Washington Township \* New Hope Celebrating 35 Years of Supporting First Time Single Moms and Their Babies Wednesday, April 22 \* 6:30 - 10:30pm \* Cost: \$100 (\$95 prior to March 15) \* Cocktail Hour, Dancing, Gourmet Dinner \* 50/50 Raffle, Tricky Tray, Silent Auction \* Reservations: Kathy Turlick 201-519-5149 or [kturlick@gmail.com](mailto:kturlick@gmail.com)

**Stephanie Cywinski-O'Brien Scholarship** Applications are now being accepted from parish 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students attending a Catholic grammar school, as well as Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors (secondary consideration) attending a Catholic high school and continuing their education at a Catholic school. Applications and eligibility requirements are available at the parish office and/or on the parish website. Applications are due April 10 with decisions due on or about May 1.

**Immaculate Heart Academy** in Township of Washington presents *Mamma Mia!* April 3 and 4 at 7:30pm and April 4 and 5 at 2pm Tickets - \$15 each - are available for pre-purchase at [ihatheater.com](http://ihatheater.com) and sold at the door. For more information, visit [ihatheater.com](http://ihatheater.com) or call IHA at 201.445.6800.

### Clothing Bins

Please help Catholic Charities to continue our mission by contributing to the donation bins on the church grounds. We need all forms of used clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, and children's books. Thank you!

### Save Used Eyeglasses

The Knights of Columbus collects used and old eyeglasses for the less fortunate. Any donations may be left in the basket in the back of Church.

### The Miracle of the Scarlet Thread

With the destruction of the Second Temple in A.D. 70, the Jewish people lost the ability to perform sacrifices for the atonement of sins. Yet, according to Christianity, the efficacy of such sacrifices should already have ended at the time of the crucifixion about forty years earlier. For it was then that the Old Covenant, with its animal sacrifices for the atonement for sins, was replaced by the New Covenant, in which Jesus shed His blood once and for all for the atonement of sins.

Both the Talmud and the Zohar contain accounts of how, in the days of the Temple, the High Priest would once a year - on Yom Kippur, or the "Day of Atonement" - enter the Holy of Holies and offer sacrifice for the atonement of the sins of all Israel. Both mention the "miracle of the scarlet thread", in which a scarlet thread would miraculously turn white as the sign that God had accepted the sacrifice. From the account in the Zohar (Vayikra, Section 3, condensed):

All the sins are [taken] away on this day, the defilement of the soul and of the body... All that day ... God makes atonement for Israel and purifies them from all their sins and they are not accused before Him .... On this day the priest ... makes atonement for himself and his house and the priests and the sanctuary and all Israel ... They used to know by a certain thread of scarlet if the priest had been successful. ... (It was known by the thread changing its color to white, when there was rejoicing above and below. If it did not, however, all were distressed, knowing that their prayer had not been accepted).

The scarlet thread turning white would be the sign that God had accepted the sacrifice and had forgiven the Jewish people their sins ("though your sins be like scarlet, they may become white as snow; though they be crimson red, they may become white as wool"-Isaiah 1:18). Yet the Talmud itself reports that forty years before the Temple was destroyed, this great miracle, which gave divine confirmation that the High Priest's sacrifice had been accepted taking away the sins of the Jewish people, ceased to occur. The passage from the Talmud reads (Rosh Hashanah 31b):

Originally they used to fasten the thread of scarlet on the door of the [Temple] court on the outside. If it turned white the people used to rejoice, and if it did not turn white they were sad ... For forty years before the destruction of the Temple the thread of scarlet never turned white, but it remained red.

The Temple was destroyed about A.D. 70; hence the miracle ceased to occur about A.D. 30, which is precisely when the crucifixion took place - the crucifixion that replaced the sacrifice of the Old Covenant with that of Jesus on the Cross. According to the New Testament at the very moment that Jesus died on the Cross the curtain of the Temple that separated off the Holy of Holies was rent in two, symbolizing the end of the efficacy of the sacrifices of the Old Covenant (cf. Matthew 27:51; Mark 15:38; Luke 23:45). It is the Talmud itself that unwittingly confirms this when it recounts that from that time on - forty years before the destruction of the Temple in A.D. 70 - **the scarlet thread never again turned white.**

### INTERESTING INSIGHTS

Abba John the Dwarf said, 'If a king wanted to take possession of his enemy's city, he would begin by cutting off the water and the food, and so his enemies, dying of hunger, would submit to him. It is the same with the passions of the flesh: if a man goes about fasting and hungry, the enemies of his soul grow weak.'

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Isidore the Priest said, 'If you fast regularly, do not be inflated with pride, but if you think highly of yourself because of it, then you had better eat meat. It is better for a man to eat meat than to be inflated with pride and to glorify himself.'

### ST. PATRICK – MARCH 17

St. Patrick was actually born around 385 in Scotland, probably Kilpatrick. His parents were Calpornius 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.

### 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.

### A little humor ...

A man walks into a bar, orders three pints of beer and sits in the back of the room, drinking a sip out of each one in turn. When he finishes them, he comes back to the bar and orders three more. The bartender asks him, "You know, a pint goes flat after I draw it; wouldn't you rather I draw fresh pints for you one at a time?" The fellow replies: "Well, you see, I have two brothers. One is now in America and the other in Australia. When we all left home, we promised we'd drink this way to remember the days when we drank together." The bartender admits that this is a nice custom, and leaves it there.

The fellow becomes a regular in the bar, and always drinks the same way: he orders three pints and drinks them in turn. One day, he comes in and orders two pints. All the regulars notice and fall silent, speculating about what might have happened to one of the absent brothers. When the fellow goes back to the bar for a second round, the bartender says, "I don't want to intrude on your grief, but I wanted to offer my condolences on your great loss." The fellow looks confused for a moment and then a light dawns in his eye and he laughs and says: "Oh, no, everyone's fine. You see, it's just that I've given up beer for Lent."

### KIDZ KORNER

1. How many words of St. Joseph are recorded in the Gospels?
2. Who named Jesus after His birth, his father or mother?
3. Who gave the name John to John the Baptist?
4. Who is a Roman saint born in Scotland but patron of Ireland?
5. What is the most common symbol of Ireland and what does it represent?

Answers on page 4.