

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, July 12, 2020 A.D.

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

Parish Office 201-768-1706

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Rev. Wojciech B. Jaskowiak
Pastor

Mr. Thomas Lagatol Mr. Albert McLaughlin
Deacons

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 Elizabeth Gulfo
Lesa Rossmann Martin Coyne II
Ministers of Music Parish Trustees

Jorden Pedersen Esq. Jon Fischer CFA
President Parish Council Chairman Finance Committee



REMINDER! In order to attend Saturday evening / Sunday Masses you must sign-up in advance. You can now even sign-up for the whole month. You may sign-up in the lower church on Tuesday or Thursday: 11am-12Noon. Or write an email to parish email olvrectory.hp@gmail.com. See page 2 for new Mass schedule.

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 12:00Noon Mass

NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED

Stop in and visit Jesus in the Tabernacle. You can do it here at OLV Parish. Church is open 7am-3pm (M-F).

IN GOD WE TRUST

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION:

Mon.-Sat.: 7:30-7:50am. Saturday: 11:00-11:50am; 3:00-3:45pm

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.



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

OLV Fax
201-768-3962

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

OLV Convent
201-768-1705
145 Parkway

Fr. Wojciech's Corner

Our Bergen county has a new bishop, Bishop Michael Saporito. Together with two other bishops (Bishop Elias and Bishop Studerus) they were ordained on June 30. Congratulations and best wishes Your Excellency (ies). To know more about our new bishops please see the special edition of Catholic Advocate in the lower church lobby.

Some time ago, I announced that Fr. Marek Wysocki, our previous dean and pastor of St. Pius X has been named pastor of St. Michael the Archangel parish in Lyndhurst, NJ. We have now a new dean, Fr. Bob Wolfee, pastor of Sacred Heart parish in Haworth. Congratulations to Fr. Bob and best wishes.

We just got into summer, and yet what a different summer as the travel and possibility of vacation are very limited. Last year, I proposed to those who cannot travel some ideas to spend summer with the Lord. Psalm 62 says - In God alone my soul finds rest. What a perfect way to rest. See the box below for suggestion. Restful summer to all!

**GREAT WAYS
TO SPEND SUMMER** with kids
go to **DAILY MASS** with your kids
recite daily the **ROSARY**
and read Bible stories from Book of Genesis,
Exodus, Book of Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, Book
of Judith, Ruth, Esther and Book of prophet
Daniel and Jonah
Read **LIVES OF SAINTS**
by Alban Butler, Online resources
<http://www.sacred-texts.com/chr/lots/index.htm>
Or online google the saint of your birth day, Baptism,
1st Holy Communion, Graduation day, Confirmation
day, wedding day, etc. You can also travel virtually
to the places where they lived - SO MUCH FUN, so
much to find out and learn & above all so much
INSPIRATION
SO MUCH FUN + INSPIRATION

Sisters of Charity 50/50 Raffle

Sr. Elizabeth will be selling raffle tickets the weekend of July 25/26 after the Masses to support Maris Stella Retreat Ctr. \$20 each or 3 for \$50. 1st prize 25%, 2nd prize 15%, 3rd prize 10% of gross receipts. Drawing will be Sept. 6 at Maris Stella. Winner need not be present. Please make checks payable to **Sisters of Charity**.

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 penance.

New Mass Schedule for Opening Church

Saturday evening 4:00PM and 5:00PM
Sunday 7:00AM, 8:00AM *Latin*,
9:30AM - also live-streamed, 10:45AM,
10:45AM Family Mass in OLV GYM
12:00Noon, 1:00PM *Spanish*, 6:00PM,
There will be no 7:00PM Mass on Sunday evening.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Feast Day July 16



Before Christ: Mount Carmel is a biblical place where the prophet Elijah dwelt. It rises 1,742 feet above sea level and towers above Israel's Mediterranean coastline. It was here where Elijah prayed to God for the salvation of Israel, which was suffering a terrible drought at the time. He continued to pray and sent his servant up the mountain several times to look for rain. On the seventh try, Elijah's servant returned with good news. "Behold a little cloud arose out of the sea like a man's foot" (1 Kings 1:44). Soon thereafter, torrential rains fell upon the parched land and the people of Israel were saved.

Elijah saw the cloud as a symbol of the Virgin mentioned in the prophecies of Isaiah (Isaiah 7:14). The hermits who lived on Mount Carmel followed Elijah's example and prayed for the advent of the much-awaited Virgin, who would become the mother of the Messiah. The origins of the Carmelite Order can be traced back to Elijah and his hermitic disciples.

St. Simon Stock: In the 13th century, during the Crusades, St. Simon Stock joined a group of hermits on Mount Carmel during a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. In 1247, he was elected superior-general of the Carmelites at the first chapter held in Aylesford, England. However, the order had difficulty gaining general acceptance and suffered much persecution from secular clergy and other orders which prompted the monks to have recourse to the Blessed Virgin in the year 1251.

On Sunday July 16, 1251, as Simon Stock knelt in prayer, Our Lady appeared to him, holding the Child Jesus in one arm and the Brown Scapular in the other. She uttered the words: "Hoc erit tibi et cunctis Carmelitis privity legium, in hoc habitu moriens salvabitur" (This shall be the privilege for you and for all the Carmelites, that anyone dying in this habit shall be saved). On January 13, 1252, the order received a letter of protection from Pope Innocent IV, defending them from harassment. St. Simon Stock lived a holy life for 100 years and died in the Carmelite monastery at Bordeaux, France on May 16, 1265.

The Brown Scapular: The scapular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, also known as the Brown Scapular, is one of the most popular and celebrated of Roman Catholic devotions. The sacramental (as the lay faithful commonly use it) is a miniature derivative of the actual brown scapular used by the Carmelites – the sleeveless outer garment falling from the shoulders which is worn as a sign of their vocation and devotion.

Our Lady gave St. Simon a scapular for the Carmelites with the following promise, saying, "Receive, My beloved son, this habit of thy order: this shall be to thee and to all Carmelites a privilege, that whosoever dies clothed in this shall never suffer eternal fire...It shall be a sign of salvation, a protection in danger, and a pledge of peace."

Our Lady of Mount Carmel's Feast Day is July 16, the same day she appeared to St. Simon Stock



The things that we love tell us who we are.

-Saint Thomas Aquinas

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 Iafrate
Corporal Joseph Levine

US Navy

Lt. Commander Julia Cheringal
Ensign Jon Clemente
Lieutenant Joseph Jaeger
Lieutenant Andrew Jaeger

Mass Intentions

Monday, July 13 - St. Henry II of Bavaria-Emperor

8:00 Ida M. Walsh R/b the Zanetti Family
12:00 Jack Ferro R/b Angie Ferro

Tuesday, July 14 - St. Kateri Tekakwitha of Auriesville, NY-Virgin

8:00 Benjamin and Hazel Obutelewicz R/b Regina Bond
12:00 Michael B. Ryan R/b Frances Burns

Wednesday, July 15 - St. Bonaventure of Bagnorea, Italy-Bishop

8:00 Intentions of Erin Tully R/b Dan and Karen Brady
12:00 Thomas and Maria Capasso R/b Angie Ferro

Thursday, July 16 – Our Lady of Mount Carmel

8:00 Rev. Zachary H. Monet, O.Carm. R/b Pat Consoli
12:00 Theresa Wayne R/b Peter and Linda Wayne

Friday, July 17 – The Blessed Martyrs of Compiègne-Nuns

8:00 Mary Swiechocki R/b the Prendergast Family
12:00 Michael Giotta R/b Ann Giotta

Saturday, July 18 – St. Camillus de Lellis, priest

8:00 Matthew McTish R/b Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Brown
12:00 Frank Dunn Rb the Dunn Family
4:00 Joseph D'Annunzio R/b Gary and Annie Bonavita
5:00 Kevin Fleming R/b Carl and Rita Colasuonno

Sunday, July 19 - St. Arsenius of Rome, Italy-Monk

7:00 Benjamin Obutelewicz R/b Regina Bond
8:00 John David Underwood R/b Michael Flynn
9:30 Frances Scaffa R/b loving Family
10:45 Susan Corcoran R/b Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Chase
10:45 Gym John Cendali Sr. R/b Joe Tobia
12:00 James M. Walsh R/b the Kip Family
1:00 People of the Parish
6:00 Intentions of Margie Roney R/b Chris and Mary Oakes

Sanctuary Memorials

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week for the intentions of

Paula Criquei, r/b Ruth and Ed Zajkowski.

The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp will burn this week for the

repose of the soul of Patricia Powers, r/b Richard and Erin Flynn and Family.

The Saint Joseph Votive Lamp will burn this week for In thanks-

giving for graces received by St. Joseph's glorious interces-
sion, r/b Natalie Tansky.

Flower & Sanctuary Offerings

If you would like to donate **flowers** for the Altar, BVM and St. Joseph, call the rectory. Flowers, Bread and Wine, the BVM and St. Joseph Votive Lamps and Sanctuary Lamp in the Church can be dedicated on a weekly basis.

My Parish—COVID-19—My Responsibility

We thank all those who so generously continue to support our parish by mailing in your donations. At the same time, we understand that some have been laid off from their work or experiencing decreased income and are unable to continue their donations at this time. *Donations / offering envelopes may be mailed to:*

OLV Rectory, 81 Lynn Street, Harrington Park, NJ 07640.

Thank you for your generosity.

Your soul is called to raise itself to God by the elevator of love & not climb the rough stairway of fear.

-St. Therese the Little Flower

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

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, Sal Cenicola, Helen Choma, Kevin Columbo, Marie D'Ascenzo, Maryann Dean, Lorraine Degerdon, Vincent DePaola, Marge Devitt, Carl Falasca, Jay Filip-pone, Marie Filippone, Christine Fitzgerald, Mary Foley, Amy Hartwell, Peter Kellar, Milan Krupa, Mary Lowe, James McGarry, Robert Milli, Gianna Moscatello, John Pal, John Peterson Jr, Joan and Buddy Phal-lon, Marie Piazza, Canice Prince, Louise Ricciardi, Vincent Ricciardi, Veronica Romanchuk, Beth Sacco, Mike Tobia, Brian, Carla, Chris, Chris-tina, Dierdre, Edward, Elba, Fiona, Jennifer, Joann, Karen, Lisa, Lou, Lucas, Lynn, Michael, Patrick, Paul, Peter, Robert, Roseann, Sean, Sharon.

Spiritual Communion *composed by Cardinal Rafael Merry del Val*

As I cannot this day enjoy the happiness of assisting at the holy Mysteries, O my God! I transport myself in spirit at the foot of Thine altar; I unite with the Church, which by the hands of the priest, offers Thee Thine adorable Son in the Holy Sacrifice; I offer myself with Him, by Him, and in His Name. I adore, I praise, and thank Thee, imploring Thy mercy, invoking Thine assistance, and presenting Thee the hom-age I owe Thee as my Creator, the love due to Thee as my Savior.

Apply to my soul, I beseech Thee, O merciful Jesus, Thine infinite merits; apply them also to those for whom I particularly wish to pray. I desire to communicate spiritually, that Thy Blood may purify, Thy Flesh strengthen, and Thy Spirit sanctify me. May I never forget that Thou, my divine Redeemer, hast died for me; may I die to all that is not Thee, that hereafter I may live eternally with Thee. Amen.

SICK OR "HOMEBOUND"

If you are sick or "homebound" (or know someone who is), and would like to have Communion, please contact the Rectory at 201-768-1706.

It is a poverty to decide that a child must die so that you may live as you wish. —**St. Teresa of Calcutta**

PROMISES OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

"Pray the Rosary every day, in order to obtain peace for the world, and the end of the war... If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace...If my requests are heeded, Russia will be converted, and there will be peace...In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph. The Holy Father will consecrate Russia to me, and she will be converted, and a period of peace will be granted to the world. In Portugal, the dogma of Faith will always be preserved ... He (Jesus) wants to establish in the world, devotion to my Immaculate Heart. I promise salvation to those who embrace it, and these souls will be loved by God, like flowers placed by me to adore His throne...The moment has come in which God asks the Holy Father, in union with all Bishops of the world, to make the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart, promising to save it by this means." *Words of OUR LADY at Fatima*

QUOTE to PARENTS

Read this well: Your children are not stupid. They know very well if you take your faith seriously or if you are picking and choosing which parts of the Faith or the moral law to obey and they will interpret that to mean that they can, too.

- Leila Miller from *Raising Chaste Catholic Men*

SUMMER CHURCH DRESS

Dress up for the Lord, HE IS THE LORD. Show Him your love also with your clothes. Love the Lord with all your ... dress.

Clothing Bins

Christ freed us from sin. Patriots throughout the ages fought for our freedom. There are still those today who cannot enjoy freedom from poverty. Why not celebrate your freedom by an act of kindness? One way to do this is by donating your unwanted used clothing, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, toys and children's books to our Catholic Charities donations bins located on the church grounds. Thank you.

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

1. Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance (Confession, Reconciliation), Matrimony, Holy Orders, Extreme Unction-Anointing of the Sick.
2. A Sacrament is defined as "an outward sign of inward grace" which was instituted by Christ Himself and receives its power from God, through the merits of Christ.
3. To feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to shelter the homeless, to visit the sick, to visit the imprisoned, to bury the dead.
4. To counsel the doubtful, to instruct the ignorant, to admonish the sinner, to comfort the sorrowful, to forgive all injuries, to bear wrongs patiently, to pray for the living and the dead.

A Little Humor ...

Q: Where do bees go on vacation?
A: Stingapore!

Q: Where do sharks go on summer vacation?
A: Finland!

Q: Where did Tarzan go on summer vacation?
A: Hollywood and Vine.

Q: Why did the robot go on summer vacation?
A: He needed to recharge his batteries.

Q: Where do sheep go on vacation?
A: To the baaaaahamas.

Garment of Grace: Why Do We Wear the Scapular?

If you wear Mary's Brown Scapular, you should be introduced to St. Simon Stock. Actually, St. Simon is an old friend, for it was to him that Our Blessed Mother gave the Scapular promise in 1251, saying, "Whosoever dies wearing this Scapular shall not suffer eternal fire." The Church's understanding is that the scapular is a miniature religious habit and as such is a highly indulgenced sacramental. The Scapular inspires those who wear it and who commit themselves to our Lady's way of life, a life in which Mary expressed her total openness to the will of God when she said, "Be it done to me according to your word." The message of the Scapular is the same advice she gave to the servants at the Cana wedding: "Do whatever He tells you,"—to follow Christ in faith, hope, and charity. The second scapular promise concerns prompt deliverance from Purgatory. Known as the Sabbatine Privilege, it stems from a bull or decree issued on March 3, 1322 by Pope John XXII, it links the Scapular to Saturday, Our Lady's day, and spells out the requirement of a genuine Christian life: prayer, penance, purity, and fidelity to the sacraments. Our Blessed Mother in speaking with St. Simon Stock promised that those who wear Her Brown Scapular, "On Saturday, as many as I shall find in Purgatory I shall free."

"When you pray, go to your inner room"

In those who have entered into the unity of the divine inner life, everything is one: rest and activity, contemplation and action, silence and speech, listening and communicating, loving receptiveness, and loving gift of self in thanksgiving and praise... We need hours of silent listening, when we allow the divine Word to work in us, until it craves to become fruitful in the sacrifice of praise and of action.

We need the traditional forms and participation in the set forms of acts of regular worship, so that the inner life can be awakened and guided and find a suitable expression. The solemn divine praise must have its homes on earth where it is developed to the greatest perfection possible to human beings. From these it ascends to heaven for the whole Church and becomes effective in the members of the Church, quickening their interior life, inviting their participation. But it must itself be quickened from within even in these places by leaving space for silence and depth. Otherwise it would degenerate into mere lip-service. Contemplative houses where souls stand in solitude and silence before the face of God are a protection against this danger. They wish to be in the heart of the Church the love that vivifies all. -St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross [Edith Stein] (1891-1942) Carmelite, martyr, co-patron of Europe-The Prayer of the Church (trans. Darlington Carmel)

There are other events that contributed to Edith [Stein's] conversion. She tells us how moved she was when she saw a woman with a shopping basket enter a Catholic church to make a visit. It was, she said, as though the woman were going to have an intimate conversation with someone. She had never seen anything like this; she had been to churches only for services. The woman who made the visit impressed Edith, it seems, because the woman's faith informed her daily life; her faith was a communion with a Person. – Sr. M. Regina van den Berg from *Communion with Christ*

Saint Dymphna

Patroness of those who suffer with mental and nervous disorders.



Saint Dymphna has become increasingly popular in recent years as someone to turn to when experiencing worry, fear, and anxiety. Saint Dymphna can be invoked for help with a range of mental issues, from daily stress to the more serious anxiety disorders.

St. Ephraem:

"O Lord, we cannot go to the pool of Siloe to which you sent the blind man. But we have the chalice of Your Precious Blood, filled with life and light. The purer we are, the more we receive."

July is the Month of the Precious Blood. During this month, we remember our special devotion to the Most Precious Blood of Jesus poured out for us on the cross. The Blood of Christ is the price of our salvation; no other sacrifice could win for us atonement for our sins and eternal life. Having a devotion to the Precious Blood reminds us of our total dependence on God's mercy and calls us to humble personal atonement.

LITANY OF THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS *For private recitation.*

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, hear us.

Christ, graciously hear us.

God, the Father of Heaven, *have mercy on us.*

God the Son, Redeemer of the world, *have mercy on us.*

God, the Holy Spirit, *have mercy on us.*

Holy Trinity, One God, *have mercy on us.*

Blood of Christ, only-begotten Son of the Eternal Father, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, Incarnate Word of God, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, of the New and Eternal Testament, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, falling upon the earth in the Agony, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, shed profusely in the Scourging, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, flowing forth in the Crowning with Thorns, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, poured out on the Cross, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, price of our salvation, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, Without Which there is no forgiveness, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, Eucharistic drink and refreshment of souls, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, stream of mercy, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, victor over demons, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, courage of Martyrs, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, strength of Confessors, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, bringing forth Virgins, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, help of those in peril, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, relief of the burdened, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, solace in sorrow, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, hope of the penitent, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, consolation of the dying, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, peace and tenderness of hearts, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, pledge of eternal life, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, freeing souls from purgatory, *save us.*

Blood of Christ, most worthy of all glory and honor, *save us.*

Lamb of God, Who take away the sins of the world, *spare us, O Lord!*

Lamb of God, Who take away the sins of the world, *graciously hear us, O Lord!*

Lamb of God, Who take away the sins of the world, *have mercy on us, O Lord!*

V. Thou hast redeemed us, O Lord, in Thy Blood.

R. And made us, for our God, a Kingdom.

Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, Thou hast appointed Thine only-begotten Son the Redeemer of the world, and willed to be appeased by His Blood. Grant we beg of Thee, that we may worthily adore this price of our salvation, and through its power be safeguarded from the evils of the present life, so that we may rejoice in its fruits forever in Heaven. Through the same Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

KIDZ KORNER

1. What are the **seven sacraments**?
2. What is a **sacrament**?
3. What are the seven **corporal works of mercy**?
4. What are the seven **spiritual works of mercy**?

Answers on page 4.

Blessed Carmelite martyrs of Compiègne

On July 17th we commemorate the 16 Blessed Carmelite martyrs of Compiègne, Mother Teresa of St. Augustine and Companions, who were executed on July 17, 1794 during the French Revolution.

The Sisters had refused to comply with the Civil Constitution of the Clergy, a law passed in 1790, which subordinated the Catholic Church to the revolutionary government, confiscated all Church land and banned religious orders. The Carmelites of Compiègne resisted the suppression of their monastery and so were arrested in June 1794 and imprisoned at the former Visitation convent of Compiègne, where they offered themselves daily for the peace of France and the Church. On July 17th they were tried in Paris, convicted of treason and sentenced to death by guillotine. Providentially, they were wearing their outlawed religious habits, since their only secular clothes were being washed on the day of the trial.

The Sisters were then transported in tumbrels among a group of 40 condemned prisoners to the place of execution at the Place du Trône, Paris. On the journey, the Sisters chanted the combined Offices of Vespers and Compline. This included the *Miserere*, the penitential Psalm 50: "*Have mercy on me, O God, in your kindness...*" and concluded with the *Salve Regina*. Eyewitness accounts report that the usually hostile crowds along the route were strangely silent.

On reaching the place of execution, Mother Teresa intoned the *Te Deum*, and then the *Veni Creator Spiritus*. Then all of the Sisters renewed their vows and Sr. Constance, the youngest and still a novice, joined in, thus making Profession before mounting the scaffold. Sr. Constance was the first to die, after kneeling for the blessing of her Prioress, and kissing a small statue of Our Lady. As she approached the guillotine, she intoned *Laudate Dominum Omnes Gentes* (Psalm 117): "O praise the Lord, all you nations; acclaim him all you peoples. Strong is his love for us; he is faithful for ever." This was taken up by all the Sisters, who continued to sing, with diminishing voices, until all had died. Usually executions were accompanied by shouting and cheers but there was only silence.

Sr. Constance waved aside the executioner and his two assistants and approached the guillotine unaided. It is likely that the executions continued in order of religious profession. We know that Mother Teresa was the last. The 78 year old Sr. Mary of Jesus Crucified was heard to say to the executioners "I forgive you, my friends. I forgive you with all that longing of heart with which I would that God forgive me!" The bodies of the Carmelites were buried in a Mass grave.

Many believe that the sacrifice of Mother Teresa of St. Augustine and her community brought about the end of the 'Reign of Terror', which happened just 10 days later on July 27, 1794. They were beatified by Pope St. Pius X on May 27, 1906.

The heads and bodies of the martyrs were thrown into a deep sandpit in a cemetery at Picpus. Because this pit contains over 1300 victims of the Revolution, there seems to be no hope of their relics being recovered.

There is a British connection with the Compiègne Martyrs. The English Benedictine community of Cambrai were ejected from their monastery in 1792 and imprisoned at Compiègne. From June 1794, the Carmelites joined them, although they were detained separately. The Benedictine community testified to the holiness of the Compiègne sisters and believed that the Carmelites' martyrdom saved their own lives. It may also be that their English nationality prevented them from being executed for treason. They remained in prison until April 1795, and were then banished to England, where they eventually settled at Stanbrook Abbey. Their only 'possessions' were the secular clothes of the Carmelites, which they wore. The surviving pieces of cloth and one espadrille are now venerated at Stanbrook as relics.

The martyrs of Compiègne have been models of inspiration for all Carmelites, including Saint Thérèse of Lisieux, Saint Julie Billiart, Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat, Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity, Blessed Titus Brandsma, and Saint Teresa Benedicta (Edith Stein). Their story has been the subject of numerous articles, books, a film, and even an opera, Poulenc's *Dialogues des Carmélites*. — Carmelite nuns in Britain