

# Our Lady of Victories Church

(serving Harrington Park, River Vale and the Pascack/Northern Valley)  
Harrington Park, New Jersey

www.olvhp.org

## WELCOME

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*

Rev. Edmond P. Ilg  
*Parochial Vicar*

Mr. Thomas Lagatol Mr. Albert McLaughlin  
*Deacons*

Maria Hellrigel - Parish  
201-

Secretary  
768-1706

Religious Educa-  
Susan  
Denise Coul-

tion (CCD)  
Evannella  
ter (LSEC)  
201-768-1400

Sr.  
Sr.

**BETHLEHEM**

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

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*

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

**God would have given us  
something greater  
if He had something greater  
than Himself.**

**St. John Vianney**

Sunday, January 3, 2021 A.D.  
Epiphany of the Lord  
*In the Year of Saint Joseph*



**Make your face shine on us,  
that we may be saved.** Psalm 80:3

### ATTENTION !

**no more sign-ups for**

Saturday evening / Sunday Mass.

Seating for Mass will be on a "first-come, first-served" basis,  
with the assistance of the ushers.

Weekend Mass Schedule:

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. No 7PM Sunday Mass

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.



Address:  
Phone:  
Email:

OLV Rectory  
81 Lynn St. (Mailing)  
201-768-1706  
olvrectory.hp@gmail.com

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

OLV Convent  
145 Parkway  
201-768-1705

OLV Church physical address: 150 Harriot Ave.

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

Again, I received so many beautiful Christmas cards, with so many beautiful and deep comments that made me reflect a lot about this past year and about our parish and what we went through. I thank all those who stood up to the challenge and coming out risking their own lives to serve others before being served themselves. Christmas 2020 will always remain in our memories as a Christmas during the pandemic. Life brings so many mysteries with it. For some that was also a first Christmas without a loved one. For others it was a Christmas with someone new - new baby. In spite of Covid, we have baptized so many new little Catholics who joined our Family. Some newlyweds. For OLV this Christmas is also with many new families, Welcome.

I thank all those who helped us decorate for Christmas, all those who sent their cards and all those who have so generously contributed to our parish during this time.

The 3 Kings came from foreign places after a long, long journey to visit THE KING. We want to learn from them patience in searching for God and courage to never stop nor give up. Jesus Himself said (in two different translations: "Seek (or in other translation *strive*) first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." Matthew 6:33 Speaking of "foreigners", we want to welcome also our many visitors from different places to our parish.

Thank you again for pouring out your kindness and love as God poured out His in Bethlehem's manger. For everything, may GOD REWARD YOU. —Fr. Wojciech

### **Pope Francis Declares "Year of St. Joseph"**

In a new Apostolic Letter entitled ***Patris corde*** ("With a Father's Heart"), Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Letter marks the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX's declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To celebrate the anniversary, Pope Francis has proclaimed a special "Year of St Joseph," beginning on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (December 8) 2020 and extending to the same feast in 2021.

In his letter, Pope Francis notes how, "Every day, for over forty years, following Lauds [Morning Prayer]" he has "recited a prayer to Saint Joseph taken from a nineteenth-century French prayer book of the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary." This prayer, he says, expresses devotion and trust, and even poses a certain challenge to Saint Joseph," on account of its closing words:

*My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power.*

At the conclusion of his Letter, he adds another prayer to St Joseph, which he encourages all of us to pray together:

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.*

*Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.*

The Apostolic Penitentiary also issued a decree granting special indulgences for the duration of the special year to celebrate the anniversary and "to perpetuate the entrustment of the whole Church to the powerful patronage of the Custodian of Jesus." The plenary indulgence is granted to the faithful under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, and prayer for the Pope's intentions) to Christians who, with a spirit detached from any sin, participate in the Year of St. Joseph on these occasions and manners indicated by the Apostolic Penitentiary. - **Vatican News**

### **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 + 21. 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 2021 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.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.*

## 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*

## 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.

## CONVALIDATION

Best way to start your married life is with God. In Sacramental Marriage God's own divine life can be experienced and lived. Were you married only civilly by a mayor or justice of the peace and would now like to be married in the Catholic Church? Contact Fr. Wojciech for details.

## REQUIREMENTS for GODPARENTS

Godparents play a very important role in your child's spiritual life as role models of the faith. They should support not only the child, but the parents as well. Additionally, in their role as godparent, they represent the larger Church community and this is a tremendous responsibility. The Church has provided guidelines to help parents choose the best possible godparents for their children. In recognizing the importance of the godparent and their duties:

**Godparent/Sponsor must be at least 16 years old.**

**Godparent/Sponsor must be in good standing with the Catholic Church.** Must be a practicing Catholic (*attend Sunday Mass weekly*).

Must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation. If married, must be married in the Catholic Church. If single, not living with significant other, nor married civilly only.

**Godparent/Sponsor cannot be the candidate's parent. Each child only requires one Godparent. If you wish to have 2 Godparents, there must be one female and one male. (Canon Law 872-874)**

## CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION

**Our Lord** told St. Margaret Mary Alacoque that individuals should go to confession **at a minimum once a month**. This sacrament is offered every weekday at 7:30AM, as well as First Friday at 6PM, and Saturdays from 11AM to Noon and 3-3:40PM; every . A Priest is also available to hear Confessions daily by appointment.

**Clothing Bins:** Please donate clothes, small appliances, shoes, linens, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, novels, knickknacks, toys, and children's books. Please place your donations **INSIDE** the bins (sometimes you have to push it in). Do not leave items outside.

## 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.

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, January 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton of the USA

8:00 Martino Scrivanich R/b the Busanic Family

12:00 Schwendel and Gaffney Family R/b Joan Gaffney

### Tuesday, January 5—St. John Neumann, US Bishop

8:00 Bridget and William Quinn R/b the Barrett Family

12:00 Mary Turnbull R/b Rita McNamara

### Wednesday, January 6—Bl. Andre Bessette of Quebec-Religious Brother

8:00 Marie Falotico R/b Dennis and Kathleen Falotico

12:00 Patrick Clemenza R/b the Oakley Family

### Thursday, January 7 – St. Raymond of Peñafort

8:00 Eliana Montagne R/b the Montagne Family

12:00 George Apuzzi R/b Chris and Karen Anderson

### Friday, January 8 – St. Apollinaris, Bishop

8:00 Kathleen Freeburn-Nemecek - First Anniv. R/b Gregory Nemecek

12:00 Mary Keegan R/b Cathy Ryan

### Saturday, January 9— St. Adrian of Canterbury, Abbot

8:00 Sr. Regina Suplick R/b Sr. Elizabeth Holler

12:00 Dan Brennan R/b Rita McNamara

4:00 Eckert Family

5:00 Maria Krsulic R/b Kevin and Susan Olsen

### Sunday, January 10—BAPTISM OF THE LORD

7:00 Fred Brown R/b Family

8:00 Roberto Torres R/b Greg and Susan Evanella

9:30 Michael A. Casenta R/b Colleen Connors Casenta

10:45 Blase Sacus R/b Selena Piazza

10:45 Gym William Cummings R/b the Coulter Family

12:00 Samuel Milano R/b Chris and Mary Oakes

1:00 People of the parish

6:00 Cousin Jimmy R/b the McLarnon Family

## SANCTUARY MEMORIALS

**The Sanctuary Lamp** will burn this week for the men and women who serve in defense of our country.

**The Bl. Virgin Mary Votive Lamp** will burn this week for the repose of the soul of Lydia Mohsenin, r/b the Dunn Family.

**St. Joseph Votive Lamp** will burn this week for the souls in Purgatory.

## 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.*

## 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

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
Private First Class Sean Keohane
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
2nd Lieutenant J.P. Maher

US Navy

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

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. 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. author Marybeth Hicks

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, Paul Corbett, Paula Brennan Comine, Marie D'Ascenzo, Cathy Daleo, Maryann Dean, Lorraine Degerdon, Vincent DePaola, Marge Devitt, Mike Donohue, Carl Falasca, Jay Filippone, Marie Filippone, Christine Fitzgerald, Christine Flatt, Mary Foley, Amy Hartwell, Peter Kellar, Milan Krupa, Mary Lowe, James McGarry, Robert Milli, Gianna Moscatello, Natalie Niebergall, Adelaide Packerham, John Pal, Tom Paskewich, Joan and Buddy Phalon, Marie Piazza, Canice Prince, Debra Rendon, Bruce Michael Ricciardi, Louise Ricciardi, Vincent Ricciardi, Veronica Romanchuk, Beth Sacco, Janet Sylvia, Aileen Vassar, Brian, Carla, Chris, Christina, Dierdre, Edward, Elba, Jennifer, Joann, Karen, Lauren, Lisa, Lou, Lucas, Lynn, Michael, Patrick, Paul, Peter, Robert, Sean, Sharon, Tina W., Tom.

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 homage 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.

Relevant Radio 1430AM

### **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."

### **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.

### **KIDZ KORNER**

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

**Answers on page 3.**