

Our Lady of Victories Church

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

www.olvhp.org

WELCOME

Sunday, January 31, 2021 A.D.
In the Year of Saint Joseph

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 Secretary
201-768-1706

Religious Education (CCD)
Susan Evanella Denise Coulter (LSEC)
201-768-1400

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

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

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

Novenas prayed after 8:00 a.m. Mass:
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal: Monday

St. Jude and St. Anthony: Wednesday

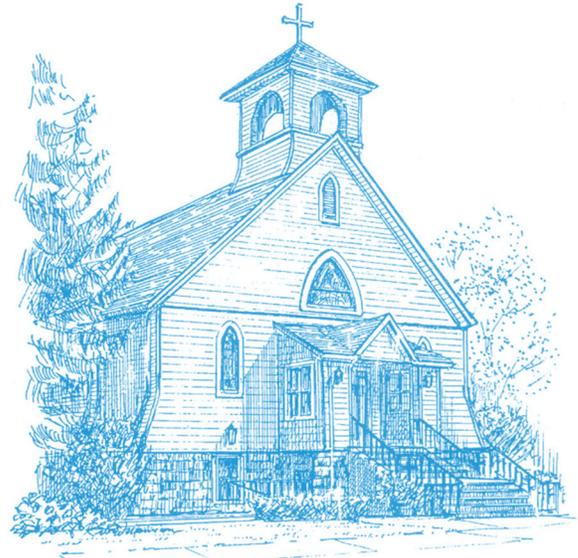
Infant of Prague: 25th of the month

St. Peregrine: First Friday of the Month

Rosary: Recited M - Sat after 8:00am & after 12:00Noon Mass

**Do not love God
for the sake
of a reward;**

**let God be
your reward!**
St. Augustine



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

Thank you to all those who offered their voices and hearts in last Friday's "March for Life" and participated in our Pro-Life Rosary and Novena last Friday. You witnessed with your lives that LIFE IS SACRED.

This past Thursday and Friday we had the great joy of celebrating for the **first time the Sacrament of RECONCILIATION of our 35 2nd graders** with their parents. What a joy it is to ADMIT our sins, be FORGIVEN and WELCOMED BACK in the house of the Father against whom we so many times rebel. THUMBS UP!

By now, all the poinsettias are already gone. I just want to thank all those who kept them alive for such a long time and those who clean and disinfect our Church and serve behind the scenes. That is a simple and yet devout way to consecrate our lives to the Lord. So many volunteers consecrate their time to our Church, THANK YOU!

This Tuesday, **February 2nd**, marks the 25th anniversary of Pope John Paul declaring the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple** as World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life and in parishes on the weekend of February 6-7, 2021. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. We have a privilege in our parish to have Sisters Elizabeth, Mary, Susanne, Peter Marie in Spain (daughter of parishioners Ken and Kathy Berlinghieri). Thank you Sisters! I thank all the visiting priests who help every single weekend and other occasions with such dedication. We thank the Franciscan Friars, SMA Fathers and all other religious who passed through our parish, for consecrating their lives to the Lord and for consecrating their time also to OLV.

When Jesus was presented in the Temple two elderly people who longed for the Messiah so many years, Simeon and Anna, now were granted a gift of recognizing Him. Let us not forget our elderly. I am so grateful for all you do and all your dedication, your solid faith, and your cheerful spirit! You teach us so much! As the psalm says, "Planted in the house of the LORD, they will flourish in the courts of our God. In old age they will still bear fruit; healthy and green they will remain".

Not to forget about the SUPER BOWL. NEXT WEEKEND as every year in our parish we have a **SOUPper-BOWL** Canned Food Collection that benefits St. Cecilia Food Pantry. More on page 3.

For the upcoming Catholic Schools Week, I commend all who sacrifice to have their children in Catholic Schools.

What if you are CALLED! ???

Our young people often say that one of the biggest reasons they don't consider the Priesthood or Religious Life when they think about the future is that NO ONE EVER INVITED THEM to do so. So they do not feel adequate. Recently, in our diocese, several persons called the vocations office anonymously to discuss their potential vocations. Anonymous in case ...it is too hard...they did not want to disappoint their priests. Thanks to that talk, they are now official seminarians. How many who are now priests or religious were once inspired by the simple words of a parishioner or priest who told them: *you will be (or could be) a very good priest one day, or you will be become a bride of the Lord, the best of the best to espouse...* It takes sometimes so little, and yet what a great outcome it could bring. Do you know any young person whom according to you, the Lord is calling? Invite them to consider a life of service in the Church. You could tell them that they are called, or you could say that to his/her parish priest - and definitely pray for that person. For information, call the Vocations office at 973-497-4365 and ask for Fr. Gino, Director who is always ready to listen even anonymous inquiries or see or call Fr. Wojciech at our parish 201-768-1706, ext. 11.

BE A LAMP—Blessed Guerric of Igny

Be a lamp then in heart, in hand, in lips. The lamp in your heart will shine for you; the lamp in your hand or on your lips will shine out for your neighbors. The lamp in the heart is loving faith; the lamp in the hand is the example of good works; the lamp on the lips is edifying speech. But not just before men must we shine by works and word, but before angels too by prayer, and before God Himself by pure intention. Our lamp before the angels is the purity of our devotion, when in the sight of angels we chant the psalms with care or pray with burning ardor; our lamp before God is the honesty of our intention to please Him only whose approval we have won...

There are so many lamps then, my brethren, to lighten your way, if only you will come to the source of all light and be enlightened. Come, I say, to Jesus who shines out to us from Simeon's arms. He will give light to your faith, luster to your works, meaning to your words for men, ardor to your prayer, purity to your intentions... And when this life's lamp is extinguished there will arise a life's light which can never be extinguished, a shimmering noonday light, arising as it were at the evening of your life.

What are the Spiritual Works of Mercy?

1. To instruct the ignorant.
2. To counsel the doubtful.
3. To admonish sinners.
4. To bear wrongs patiently.
5. To forgive offenses willingly.
6. To comfort the afflicted.
7. To pray for the living and the dead.

What are the Corporal Works of Mercy?

1. To feed the hungry.
2. To give drink to the thirsty.
3. To clothe the naked.
4. To shelter the homeless.
5. To care for the sick.
6. To visit the imprisoned.
7. To bury the dead

ADORATIONS schedule. No appointment needed

Tuesdays and Thursdays adoration from 8:30AM till 12Noon.

First Thursdays of the month, Holy Hour at 7PM,

First Fridays regular adoration from 12:30PM till 7PM

First Saturday from 12:30PM till 1PM.

COME let us ADORE the EUCHARISTIC LORD.

[Our] love of neighbor is genuine love (instead of common interest) only if it includes the love of God and leaves the other free for God. Love of neighbor finds its fulfillment in the love of God, love of God its concretization in love of neighbor.

—Adrienne von Speyr from *The Passion from Within*

2021 ANNUAL APPEAL

Please prayerfully consider donating to the Annual Appeal. OLV parish goal this year is \$65,143. Appeal envelopes are available in the church. We ask you to submit your Appeal donations to the OLV rectory, so we can ensure that our parish receives proper credit for the donations. Please make checks payable to **2021 Annual Appeal**. Visit the Archdiocesan Website for more information and videos at 2021 Annual Appeal | Archdiocese of Newark (rcan.org). The link is available on our website.

First Thursday, Friday & Saturday**First Thursday-February 4** Monthly Holy Hour 7-8PM**First Friday-February 5.** 12:30PM afternoon adoration, followed by confessions at 6PM, followed by devotions to the Sacred Heart and 7PM Mass.**Saturday, February 6, is First Saturday.** Mass at 12 Noon will be offered for the Souls in Purgatory.**SOUPer BOWL****Canned Food Collection**

NEXT WEEKEND. Benefits St. Cecilia Food Pantry. Please bring your donations of non-perishable canned foods to the Church or leave at the rectory garage. Thank you.

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? Call 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)

Jesus asked one thing from us!!!

On His last night of earth (Holy Thursday) Jesus asked His disciples one thing – to stay awake with Him for one hour. OLV has Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Tuesday and Thursday - 8:30AM to 11:50AM.

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. A Priest is also available to hear Confessions daily by appointment.

Array of Hope - Awakening Hearts: Check out all that we have been up to on **social media** and make sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to stay up to date! Listen to our **NEW podcast** episode *Behold Your Mother* featuring Carrie Gress. Our **virtual events** have proven to be a blessing during this time when we are far apart. - Tune in to our **Instagram Live** Monday thru Friday @ 3pm for a LIVE daily *Divine Mercy Chaplet*!

Mass Intentions**Monday, February 1–St. Bridgid of Dundalk, Ireland, Nun**

8:00 John Tibbs R/b Pat Bland

12:00 Martino Scriverich R/b the Busanic Family

Tuesday, February 2 - Presentation of the Lord

8:00 James and Pat Barrett R/b the Barrett Family

12:00 Blase Sacus R/b the Oakley Family

Wednesday, February 3 - St. Blase, Bishop and Martyr

8:00 Michael Coviello R/b the Supple Family

12:00 Amelia Fabiano R/b George and Gail Fabiano

Thursday, February 4–St. Veronica of Jerusalem-Virgin

8:00 John Pantalon R/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich

12:00 Edward and Winifred Pavlu R/b the Kip Family

First Friday, February 5 - St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

8:00 Jean and Mike Barrett R/b the Barrett Family

12:00 Julianna Herrara R/b the Giron Family

7:00 John O'Donnell R/b John and Leslie O'Donnell

First Saturday, February 6-St. Paul Miki, martyr and companions

8:00 Salvatore Cusimano R/b Peter and Kym Unanue

12:00 Sr. Ann Regina Eckert IHM R/b Family

4:00 James Quaglietta R/b Tom and Gloria Pfeiffer

5:00 Benedict Walsh R/b John and Elizabeth Kelly

Sunday, February 7-St. Richard of England-King of West Saxon

7:00 Sr. Emily Patrick R/b Sr. Elizabeth

8:00 Richard H. O'Donnell R/b Greg and Susan Evanella

9:30 Roseann Vetter R/b the Anzalone Family

10:45 Kathleen Mahoney R/b the Chimento Family

10:45 Gym Enzo D. Marinelli R/b Claire Marie Reynoso

12:00 Fred DeCroce R/b Norma DeCroce

1:00 People of the Parish

6:00 Arthur M. Cooke R/b Roy and Maria Lapidus

SANCTUARY MEMORIALS

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week for the **First Responders** in our community,

The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp will burn this week for the **repose of the soul of Joan Buchanan**, r/b the McCarthy Family.

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

The Hosts and Wine which will become the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ at holy Mass this week have been donated in **loving memory of Elizabeth Maureen Haugh**, r/b the Haugh and Cortes Family

The Altar Flowers have been donated in **loving memory of Elizabeth Maureen Haugh**, r/b the Haugh and Cortes Family.

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.

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.

When you know how much God is in love with you then you can only live your life radiating that love. St. Mother Teresa, A Simple Path

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 Iafrate
Corporal Joseph Levine
2nd Lieutenant J.P. Maher

US Navy

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

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, baby Joseph William Ragu, Richard Bolton, Robert Brawley, Dominic Carini, Sal Cenicola, Helen Choma, Kevin Columbo, Paul Corbett, Anna Creagh, Marie D'Ascenzo, Cathy Daleo, Maryann Dean, Lorraine Degerdon, Roseann Dennehy, Vincent DePaola, Marge Devitt, Mike Donohue, Carl Falasca, Jay Filippone, Marie Filippone, Christine Fitzgerald, Christine Flatt, Mary Foley, Leslie Handler, Amy Hartwell, Peter Kellar, Mary Lowe, Richard Mayer, James McGarry, Robert Milli, Gianna Moscatello, Natalie Niebergall, Adelaide Pakingham, 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, Maria Williams, 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.

The Litany to St. Joseph

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Jesus, hear us. Jesus, graciously hear us. Jesus, 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.
Holy Mary. Pray for us.
St. Joseph. Pray for us.
Renowned offspring of David. Pray for us.
Light of Patriarchs. Pray for us.
Spouse of the Mother of God. Pray for us.
Chaste guardian of the Virgin. Pray for us.
Foster father of the Son of God. Pray for us.
Diligent protector of Christ. Pray for us.
Head of the Holy Family. Pray for us.
Joseph most just. Pray for us.
Joseph most chaste. Pray for us.
Joseph most prudent. Pray for us.
Joseph most strong. Pray for us.
Joseph most obedient. Pray for us.
Joseph most faithful. Pray for us.
Mirror of patience. Pray for us.
Lover of poverty. Pray for us.
Model of artisans. Pray for us.
Glory of home life. Pray for us.
Guardian of virgins. Pray for us.
Pillar of families. Pray for us.
Solace of the wretched. Pray for us.
Hope of the sick. Pray for us.
Patron of the dying. Pray for us.
Terror of demons. Pray for us.
Protector of Holy Church. Pray for 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.
He made him the lord of his household.
And prince over all his possessions.
Let us pray, --- O God, in your ineffable providence you were pleased to choose Blessed Joseph to be the spouse of your most holy Mother; grant, we beg you, that we may be worthy to have him for our intercessor in heaven whom on earth we venerate as our Protector: You who live and reign forever and ever. Saint Joseph, pray for us.

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

- 1. St. Blaise 2. St. Damien of Molokai 3. St. Jeanne Jugan

Relevant Radio - 1430AM

Bringing Christ to the world through the media **Trending with Timmerie** on Relevant Radio brings the timeless principles of Catholicism to trending thought and experience. Are you looking for relevant ways to bring together trending conversations and timeless principles? Here's your opportunity to engage the culture head-on with truth and Catholic faith. Visit relevantradio.com/listen/trending-with-timmerie to listen to these podcasts.

DID YOU KNOW? *Catholic Schools Week*

National Catholic Schools Week (CSW) will be observed in dioceses around the country January 31–February 6. This year’s theme, “**Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service.**” focuses on the important spiritual, academic and societal contributions provided by a Catholic education firmly rooted in the Truth of the Gospel. Nearly 1.7 million students are currently educated in 6,183 Catholic schools around the country. 99 percent of Catholic school students graduate from high school and 85 percent of Catholic school graduates attend college. Catholic schools are a great gift to the nation. Large numbers of Catholic schools provide top-quality education to very poor children. These children then become productive members of society. Catholic schools are a great well of vocations. The vast majority of priests and Religious graduated from Catholic schools. In this time of diminished vocations to the priesthood and religious life, we greatly help the cause of vocations and Church leadership by supporting Catholic schools. May the Lord bless all who support Catholic schools by their prayers and contributions.

Presentation of the Lord—Candlemas

Mary and Joseph comply with the ordinance of bringing the 40-day old Infant Jesus to the temple and offering a sacrifice. Amidst the crowd of priests and people, the Savior of the world is known only by Simeon and Anna.

Simeon, who had been told by the Holy Spirit that he would not experience death until he had seen the Anointed of the Lord (the Messiah, the Christ), praises GOD and says he is now ready for death since he has seen “a revealing light for the Gentiles and the glory of GOD’s people, Israel.” Simeon goes on to say to Mary that the Baby she holds in her hands will be the downfall and rise of many in Israel and that Mary’s own life will experience hardships because of the Infant.

The prophetess Anna also gives thanks to God as she recognizes that the Baby will be the source of deliverance for God’s holy people. Simeon and Anna had seen thousands upon thousands of couples and their infants being brought to the temple over the years. Yet, both Simeon and Anna were attuned to God’s presence in what some would call ordinary happenings in a way that others did not even have a clue.

Based upon Simeon’s proclamation that Jesus is the revealing light to the Gentiles, since the 8th century the church has blessed candles used in sacred worship on this day; hence, this feast is also called ‘Candlemas’. -*EWTN; reflections by Bob.com*

Groundhog Day or Candlemas?

On February 2nd a quaint tradition unfolds, known well to schoolchildren and adults alike. The fate of Spring hangs in the balance as a burrowing animal looks for its shadow. But where did this tradition come from?

For centuries, February 2nd has been celebrated as Candlemas, also called the Feast of the Presentation, because it honors the day that Mary and Joseph presented the infant Jesus at the Temple. In bringing their child to the Temple and offering a sacrifice, Joseph and Mary complied with the Mosaic law (specifically Leviticus 12:6). As the Gospel of Luke recounts:

“And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.” (Luke 2:22)

Why is Candlemas on February 2nd? Candlemas is always on February 2nd because it is exactly 40 days (inclusive) after Christmas. The Mosaic law stated that 40 days was the period of purification after the birth of a child, and so the presentation took place 40 days after Jesus was born.

So what’s the connection to Groundhog Day? Candlemas became linked to weather predictions about the end of winter because of an old English poem:

If Candlemas be fair and bright, Come winter, have another flight.

If Candlemas bring clouds and rain, Go winter, and come not again.

Early February was a good time to predict the weather, especially as February 2nd marks the midpoint between Winter and Spring. And the English poem appears to be the source of the shadow connection: “fair and bright”=sun= shadows=more winter, while “clouds and rain”=no sun=no shadows=spring arriving soon. It seems counterintuitive (why should a sunny day mean *more* winter?), but this is the exact pattern that Groundhog Day follows.

The name Candlemas refers the traditional processions and blessing of candles that came to characterize the feast day .— *Catholicculture.org*

WHEN LIGHTING A CANDLE

When you light a candle for another person or for your very personal intention always remember that the candle prolongs your prayer. As long as the candle is burning, your prayer is rising to God. Like the candle is spreading light and warmth, so you can imagine that with your prayer, your love and the love of God is flowing towards the person for whom you pray. Your prayer makes the life of the person brighter and warmer. Your prayer brightens your vision so that with greater confidence you can look upon the person and see with the eyes of the Love of God. When you pray for a personal intention light will enter the darkness; hope fills you. You may trust that God himself looks upon you and HIS merciful love overshadows you.

A candle radiates a gentle light. In the dim light of a candle you will look upon people and on your own life with gentleness. In calmness you will also be able to look at your own faults to have them healed by God.

NUNC COEPI

How beautiful! NFL’s San Diego Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers announced his retirement after a 17-season career. The devout Catholic husband and father of nine children thanked God and honored martyr St. Sebastian, the patron saint of athletes. His feast day is January 20. Rivers also concluded his statement with the Latin phrase “Nunc Coepi,” which means “Now I begin.” “A priest friend of ours gave me that phrase years ago...it’s that never-ending begin,” he says of the phrase.

“Every year, January 20th, is a special and emotional day. It is St. Sebastian’s feast day, the day I played in the AFC championship without an ACL, and now the day that after 17 seasons, I’m announcing my retirement from the National Football League. “Thank you God for allowing me to live out my childhood dream of playing quarterback in the NFL. “I am grateful to the Chargers for 16 seasons, and the Colts for the 17th season. Thank you to all my coaches that helped me grow as a player and person. Thanks to the support staff. “I appreciate the opposing defenses making it challenging physically and mentally every week...I also enjoyed the banter. I appreciate the referees for putting up with all my fussing.” “Thanks to the fans in San Diego and around the nation that both cheered and booted. Special thanks to my teammates. Without a doubt my favorite part of the game, being a teammate. Thank you for being mine. “Lastly, thank you to my wife and best friend Tiffany, and our children Halle, Caroline, Grace, Gunner, Sarah, Peter, Rebecca, Clare, and Anna. Could not have done it without y’all’s unwavering support. “As my playing career comes to an end, the next chapter begins. “NUNC COEPI.” -*Churchpop.com*

KIDZ KORNER

- 1. Name the Saint who saved a choking child?
- 2. Name the Saint who helped lepers in Hawaii?
- 3. What Saint started the Little Sisters of the Poor?

Answers on page 4.

**Consecrated = conformed to the WORD
not the world**

Passion and purity are not rivals. In fact, they require each other to thrive. Many understand how passion can enrich love, but few realize how purity intensifies passion. Even fewer realize how essential passion is for developing purity.

-*JASON EVERT from Theology of the Body in One Hour*