

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary: August 15!

This year, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary falls on **Tuesday, August 15!** This is a **Holy Day of Obligation!** This means that missing Mass on that day is the same as missing Mass on Sunday and is a major sin (unless we are sick). We will have Masses at 9 am, 12 noon and 7 pm. **Mark your calendars:** which Mass you plan to attend on August 15 and also on the next two Holy Days of Obligation: All Saints, on Wednesday, November 1 and Immaculate Conception on Friday, December 8. Many of you have told me in the past that it has proven difficult to keep track of these days of obligation. We hope that this gentle reminder will be helpful.

As you read this weekly bulletin, our pilgrimage is still going on in France. We have already left **Fatima and Lourdes**, the two most famous sites of apparition of Mary in Europe, and spent Friday night (August 11) at the site of Mary's apparition at **La Salette**. Although less well-known than Fatima (1917) and Lourdes (1858) apparitions, **La Salette** is also a magnificent Marian Site. On September 19, 1846 (12 years before Lourdes), Mary appeared to two children—Maxim (age 11) and Melanie (age 14, same age as Bernadette Soubirous in Lourdes) tending sheep on a spectacular mountain in the French Alps. She appeared to them as a **beautiful lady** who was **weeping bitterly**, and kept weeping even as she began to talk to them. You can see a mosaic representation of Our Lady of La Salette praying and weeping in the main church of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC. Quite similar to the message of repentance and conversion of Our Lady of Fatima to the three little children (Francisco, Jacinta and Lucia, also shepherds), though 71 years earlier, the constant weeping of Our Lady of La Salette is a reminder to all of us today of the need of **conversion** of the whole world to **Christ**. The Spirit of La Salette can be seen as one of **prayer, conversion, and commitment**, including commitment to **keep the Sabbath Holy** (going to Mass on Sunday, which was not obeyed by most of the peasants in the nearby villages).

This Sunday, August 13, we are celebrating the Mass in the **Chapel of Apparitions** in the small old-town of **Paray-le-Monial** where St. Mary Marguerite Alacoque had the vision of the **Sacred Heart of Jesus** over 300 years ago, a vision which led to the devotion of receiving the Eucharist on nine consecutive First Fridays. Then, on Monday, August 14, we will visit the **Chapel of the Miraculous Medal**, Rue du Bac, Paris, inside the convent where St. Catherine Laboure had the vision of Mary; we will also celebrate the Mass at the **Chapel of the Assumption** in St. Sulpice Church (on the vigil of the Feast of the Assumption). On the last day of our pilgrimage, Tuesday, August 15, we will celebrate the Assumption of Mary, at the most northern part of France, in Aire-sur-la-Lys, little town where Fr. Narcisse Martin was born on December 31st, 1845 (one year after La Salette Apparition, 15 years after the Apparition of Mary at the Rue du Bac Convent). This day will be the crowning of our Marian Pilgrimage: the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. By that time, we will be **40 pilgrims from Waldorf** (two more are joining us on that very day). In the evening, we will participate in the traditional candlelight Marian procession in the nearby woods, led by Bishop Jaeger, (who had led a delegation to Waldorf five years ago). The 40 of us will be in in

Mass Intention

- Saturday, August 12, 5:00 PM: Nell Brown +
- Sunday, August 13, 8:30 AM: Lloyd Cordner +
- Sunday, August 13, 10:00 AM: OLHOC Parishioners
- Sunday, August 13, 11:30 AM: Grant M. Rowlands +
- Sunday, August 13, 7:00 PM: Hugo Alcantara +
- Monday, August 14, 9:00 AM: Jaime Hernan Trochez +
- Wednesday, Aug. 16, 9:00 AM: Richard & Joann DiLiberto
- Thursday, Aug. 17, 9:00 AM: Jean Couto +
- Friday, August 18, 9:00 AM: Karl Lass +

Prayer Requests

We are asked to pray for: Randy Howells, Connie Miller, Edmond Ferguson, Josephine Manalo, Aaron Morgan, Pat Gray, John Kopec, Maria Reyes, John Cumpion, Barbara Lagman, Joe Martinez, Ann Gillespie, Cosmo Quattrone, Julie King, Paulette Savoy, Kelvin Young, Annie Rope, Dave Biggerstaff, Jim Ritchie, Bonnie Castro, Therese Gendron, Andy Green, Judee Parkinson, Tanya A. Viola, Dolores Proctor, April Sheffield, Dr. Suresh Verghese, Marisa Costas Pena, Marino Gadea, Monica Myers, Theresa Beinert, Mike Connolly, Samuel Lopez, Robin Dwars, Julieta Bool, Wilbur Etbauer, Susan Walker, Doris Conover, Elijah Larson, Sunni Park, Mireille Obas, Joan Etbauer, Joseph Cheseldine, Sr., Consuela Velasquez, Wilhelmina Franck, Tabitha Barton, Isabel Smith, Elinore Fortney, Errol Randall, Dorothea Johnson, Vanessa Barrett, Graham Baldwin, Jane Watson, Ollie Johnson, Kathy Baumgaertner, Baby Kaden, Dennis Archible Jr., Phillip Green, Doris Chesley, Patricia & James Robey, Dick White, Ada Johnson, James Thompson, Sean Guido, Marcus Williams, and all our military and civilians serving in harm's way.

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Mass Readings for August 20, 2017

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading- Isaiah 56: vs. 1, 6-7

Second Reading- Romans 11: vs. 13-15, 29-32

Gospel- Matthew 15: vs. 21-28

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May the mystery of the Assumption of Mary inspire all of us to imitate the great virtues of Mary, especially her great **faith**, her amazing **humility** and her total **obedience** to God the Father! May Mary continue to lead us to **Jesus!**

*One in Christ,
Fr. Alain*

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

CCD Class Schedule

Our Lady Help of Christians 2017-2018 CCD Registration is open online: www.olhoc.org.

Religious Education Classes

CCD Classes begin **September 17/18, 2017!** Families must **re-register each year** to ensure contact info is up-to-date. Please register online now (www.olhoc.org) so class assignments can be made and communicated in a timely manner. If 2016-17 online lessons have not yet been completed, please complete them before the end of August in order to move on to the next level of learning about our Catholic Faith in September. If assistance or wi-fi access is needed, don't hesitate to contact Therese in the parish office.

Share the Faith!

Catechists, parent volunteers, and teen volunteers are needed for the CCD year. If you have ever considered answering the Lord's call to be a witness of the Faith to the children of our parish, please be sure to contact Therese or complete the RE Volunteer form online: www.olhoc.org/revolunteer.

Contact **Therese Thiedeman** at 301-645-7112 or dre@olhoc.org

Parish Youth Night!

Life Teen: high school youth ministry (Sun., 5-6:30 pm- check website)

Edge: middle school youth ministry (meets monthly)

FIAT: elementary school Faith in Action Team (meets monthly)

Attention Families!!

The next All-Youth Night (FIAT, Edge and Life Teen) will be on August 20 and will begin with 4:00 PM Mass followed by a fun pool party. Bring your friends! See the website at: olhoc.org/ym.

RCIA Invitation

Registration for the 2017-2018 RCIA class has begun. We meet on Wednesdays from 7:00-9:00 PM. Anyone interested in learning about the Catholic Church for the first time, wanting to complete their Sacraments of Initiation, or wishing to learn more about their Catholic faith are welcome to join us! Interested? This is the group for you! An **Open House (for English)** will be held on **Wednesday, August 30, 2017 at 7-8:30 PM** in the Social Hall. An **Open House for Spanish** will be held on **Sunday, September 3, 2017 at 5:00 – 6:00 PM** in Room 105. Come and meet the Team Members. If interested call the office (301-645-7112) or email deacon@olhoc.org.



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The **Masses** at OLHOC for the Assumption on **August 15**, a Holy Day of Obligation, will be at **9 am, 12 noon, and 7 pm**. There will be no Vigil Mass.

OUR LADY'S LITTLE CHRISTIANS

<http://www.olhoc.org/preschool.html>

- Fall registration continues for all new students.
- Please call 301-645-7112 or email : preschool@olhoc.org for information.

2017 Jubilee of Fatima Schedule

Celebrate the joy of the **100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima** right here in Charles County.

- **Sunday, August 13, St. Frances de Sales, Benedict, MD at 11:00 am.**
- **Wednesday, September 13, St. Joseph, Pomfret, MD at 9:00 am (after Mass).**
- **Friday, October 13, Sacred Heart, La Plata, MD at 6:00 pm. (Procession/Closing Mass)**

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Upcoming Child Protection Classes

Upcoming sessions of "Protecting God's Children for Adults" for those who need to become Virtus Compliant (Adults wishing to volunteer in any capacity while children are present).

- **August 14 @6:00 pm- ANS, La Plata (in English)**

Go to VIRTUS.org to register. Call Nieda or Therese with questions at 301-645-7112.

Community Outreach

The next **Shepherds' Table Dinner** will be held on **Thursday, August 17, 2017**. The next Outreach Committee Meeting will be held on **September 6** at 7 pm. All are welcome!

Volunteers go to: www.olhoc.org and click on the Community Outreach link. or sign-up at: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/60B044FABAD2DAA8-olhc

Upcoming Project

Watch the bulletin for information concerning the **OLHOC Coat Drive** coming up soon. There will be a box in the Social Hall to collect coats, hats, gloves, and scarves for adults to be donated to the shelters and Children's Aid. Although our current weather is summer – like, the cold temperatures will be upon before we know it. Those in need will be helped by your extra garments!

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