

THE ROSARY AS SPIRITUAL WEAPON!

In his book "CHAMPIONS OF THE ROSARY: The History and Heroes of a SPIRITUAL WEAPON", Fr. Donald Callaway starts with St Dominic as the First Champion of the Rosary: on September 12, 1213 (over 800 years ago!), at the request of MARY, St Dominic was praying the Rosary inside the St James Church (St Jacques) in the besieged city of MURET, in South-west France. His praying the Rosary led to the FIRST MIRACLE OF THE ROSARY: the miraculous and decisive VICTORY of the much smaller troops of the King of France which were encircled by a much larger army of the King of Aragon. The King of France and his troops were leading a Crusade against the Cathars at the request of Pope Innocent III.

At stake was the fate of the Albigensians, leaders of the Cathar heresy threatening to divide the entire Catholic Church. Their heresy was their belief in dualism: good (spiritual realm created by God) and evil (physical world created by Satan). They were the chosen ones, and everything belonging to the world was evil, including our own bodies. As I was born in Muret and my grandmother was born near Foix (another center of Cathars), I recall her telling us stories about the Battle of Muret and the beliefs of the Cathars, including their objection to marriage and having children (so as to escape the world of evil).

A large concentration of Cathars was located near Toulouse and Albi (town that gave name of Albigensians to the heretics). The Battle of Muret was decisive in the rapid decline of Cathars' influence and preserving the UNITY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

When our parish went on pilgrimage to Fatima and Lourdes in 2017, we had the opportunity to stop in Muret (on the way between Toulouse, where we had flown from Fatima/Lisbon) to celebrate the Mass in the 12th century church of St James and visit the still existing Chapel where St Dominic prayed the Rosary! As six-day old baby, on September 12 (the Feast of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary) I had the privilege to be baptized in that very church. This was the beginning of my Marian spiritual journey...

Why writing about this First Miracle of the Rosary? I do not need to boast about my little village of Muret...But I simply want to illustrate the celebration of Our Lady of the Rosary last Sunday when Bishop Dorsonville blessed our large Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, consecrated to Mary the Greater Waldorf Area, led an outdoor procession of the Blessed Sacrament and the statue of Our Lady of Fatima. You may recall that in last week's column "WHO IS OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS?",

I attempted to explain the very close relationship between Our Lady of Victory, Our Lady of the Rosary, Our Lady of Fatima (Inviting us to pray the Rosary daily) and Our Lady Help of Christians, by using the Second Miracle of the Rosary: the Naval Battle of Lepanto (October 7, 1571). Also to be totally transparent, one of our parishioners regretted that I had not written about the Battle of Muret last week as it is clearly also a victory for Our Lady Help of Christians!

Bottom Line: there is only ONE LADY, the MOTHER OF JESUS, who receives many titles (50 of them in the sole Litany of Loretto). Some of her titles however are closer to that of HELP OF CHRISTIANS...While initially, the HELP OF CHRISTIANS title referred to assistance against physical attacks to the Church (e.g. invasion by barbarians in 1571), it has become much broader, covering any attacks against the Church, whether physical, spiritual, ideological, emotional or political (persecution). This is why we also chose to renew our personal consecration to Jesus through Mary on this Feast Day of Our Lady of the Rosary. To foster our spiritual renewal as a parish and as individuals, I invite each of you to recite the following consecration prayer following the 33 Days of Preparation proposed by St Louis de Montfort:

Blessed Mary, Ever-Virgin Mother of Jesus, Faithful Daughter of God the Father, and Spouse of the Holy Spirit:

I _____, a poor sinner, renew and ratify the vows of my baptism. I renounce forever Satan, his works, and his empty promises. I consecrate and give myself entirely to Jesus Christ. I choose to take up my cross and follow him all the days of my life, and to be more faithful to him than I have ever been before.

In the presence of all the angels and saints I choose you this day as my Mother and take you into my own heart. I entrust all that I am to you and resolve to honor and love you this day and every day for the rest of my life.

O Mary, you have already opened your heart to me! Accept now the gift of my heart, the offering of all that I am to you. Lead me to Jesus that through you I may The King of France and his troops were leading a Crusade against the Cathars at the request of Pope Innocent III in 1209. belong to him, with you I may adore him, in you I may be in communion with him and the Blessed Trinity, and by you I may become so perfectly his disciple so as to glorify him on earth and be lead to his glory in Heaven. Amen

One in Christ,

Father Alain

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time



CCD Class Schedule

Oct. 20/21- CCD classes

Oct. 27/28- All Youth night, Sacramental Prep. No CCD. Families are encourage to attend the Youth Mass at 4 PM.

Nov. 3/4- CCD classes

The 27th International Week of Prayer and Fasting coalition, in collaboration with the Marian Fathers, Legion of Mary and Priests for Life and others are asking for individuals, families, prayer groups and parishes to unite for nine days of prayer and fasting from **November 2-10, 2019. The Opening International Day of Prayer** will be held on **Saturday November 2nd**, from **8:30am to 4:30pm** at the **Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C.** The day will include speakers, music, a Procession of the Nations, all-day Eucharistic Adoration, Mass at noon, and the four mysteries of the Rosary recited by representatives of African, Asian, North and South American, and European nations in their native language

Community Outreach

The next Outreach meeting will be Nov. 6, 2019 at 7 p.m. In the Fr. MARTIN Hall. We will be planning holiday food baskets and "Safe Nights". All are welcome.

Our next OLHOC Shepherd's Table is December 19, 2019 at Good Shepherd Church.

Sharing Sunday non perishable food donations may be left outside Fr. Martin Hall. All donations go to the Women's Shelter and the Food Bank of Southern Maryland.

Our OLHOC Coat Drive has been a huge success and will continue until the end of Oct. All donations of new and gently used coats, etc. may still be left outside the Fr. Martin Hall And will be taken to the Children's Aide Society of Waldorf. Thank you!

Baby Bottles

Baby Bottles for the Catherine Foundation are still available in the Narthex. Please return with your donation the weekend of November 9/10. Thank you for your generosity!

Survivors of Abuse

As the Church continues to minister to all survivors of abuse, the Archdiocese of Washington is sponsoring a retreat for survivors. The Archdiocese will offer a men's retreat is October 11-13, 2019 and women's retreats are November 15-17, 2019 and April 3-5, 2020. This retreat is an occasion for survivors to reflect on God's plan for their lives and for healing through prayer and the sacraments. For more information go to <https://adw.org/the-way-retreat/>. To register email mcdonald@adw.org or call Deborah McDonald at [301-853-4466](tel:301-853-4466).

RCIA Invitation

The **2019-2020 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! Please call the church office at (301-645-7112) or email Deacon Rich at: deacon@olhoc.org

Join Our Lady Help of Christians Parish in following the footsteps of Jesus Christ on a

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

June 21- July 1, 2020 9 days/8 nights

Spiritual Director:

Father Alain Colliou

Information can be found in the Narthex, or email MAY@AMICABANTRAVEL.COM

November 17th Black Catholic Month Celebration

Our Lady Help of Christians is celebrating it's 3rd Semi-Annual Black Catholic Month Celebration. Mass will be held on **November 17, 2019** at 11:30 am we are equally thrilled that Bishop Roy Campbell Jr. of the Archdiocese of Washington will be the main celebrant. Fellowship will follow in the Father Martin Hall . Please contact Jai Sutton to help coordinate with event.

CELEBRATION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE ORDINATION OF FATHER NARCISSE MARTIN

5 pm Mass on Sunday, October 20th Presentation and light refreshments following Mass. All are welcome

We are asked to pray for:

Sandra Barrientos
Dennis Hook
Ana Maria Delmira Sibrian Escobar
Nestor Ermelindo Molina
Doris Chesley
James Thompson
Rebecca (Tess) Franch
Vicky Welch
Naomi Lilly
Sterling Greene
Aleli Puzon
Patricia Delgado
Rosano Wheeler
Larry McGraw
Vivian Truxon
Kenny Lindsay
Pat Fisher
Christ Goldhammer

Adele Alvey
Dorothy Neal
Dunnie Proctor
Shirley Ehman
K.D. Dillard
Tabitha Barton
Maria Townsend
Chrystal Bearegard
Sheryl Carter
Alex Leon
Sharketer Butler
Steven Bowling
Edna Yarngo
Kathly Grimes
Sheny Padilla
Richard White
Mary Dooley
Victor Cordero
Georgiana Norgren

Marie Marie Bottorf
Joy Cooper
Dorian Webster
Dionne Gause
Patricia Sutton
Trenia Price
Michael Sofield Jr.
Norm Green
Mary A. Dyson
Jim Lavish
The Dixons
Louise Green
and all our military and civilians serving in
harm's way.
Funeral Mass for Catherine Francis Potter will
be Saturday, October 26, 2019 at 11 am

*Please let us know if any names should be removed
from the list.*



Mass Intentions this Week

Saturday, October 19, 9:00AM: Deacon Rich
Saturday, October 19, 5:00 PM: Joe Nikolai
Sunday, October 20, 8:30 AM: George Albrittain (+)
Sunday, October 20 10:00 AM: Jose & AnnaMarie Gonzales & family
Sunday, October 20, 11:30 AM: Our Lady Help of Christians Parishioners
Sunday, October 20, 1 PM: Agnes Moussi (+)
Sunday, October 20, 7:00 PM: Mauro Yanez Hernandez (+)
Monday, October 21, 9:00 AM: Tonye Patou (+)
Tuesday, October 22, 9:00 AM: Tonye Yannick
Wednesday, October 23, 9:00 AM: Joe Nikolai
Wednesday, October 23, 7:00 PM : Deacon Bill
Thursday, October 24, 9:00 AM: Father Alain
Friday, October 25, 9:00 AM: Jim Lavish

Come join the Catholic Faith Explorers as we delve into the Ascension Press Course-

Romans, The Gospel of Salvation. This course provides an authentically Catholic, comprehensive, and simple way to understand the overarching theme of Paul's intriguing letter to the Romans- salvation!

When: Sundays, 6 Oct - 24 Nov at 9:30 am

Where: St. Mother Teresa Room

Questions: Contact Mike and Diane Spurgeon at ababel@verizon.net

Tuesday Scripture Study- Join us on Tuesday mornings after the 9 am Mass to study the readings for the next Sunday.

Wednesday Scripture Study- The Friday night scripture study has been changed to Wednesdays. They will be begin at 7:30, following the 7 pm Mass

First Friday- The first Friday of each month the evening Mass is said in Latin. This Mass is dedicated to promoting the Priesthood.

First Saturday-Join members of the Marian Group on the first Saturday of the month after the 9 am Mass. Learn more about consecrating your life to Jesus through Mary.

Divine Mercy- Join us on the first Saturday of each month as we pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet as a community at 3 PM.

Mass Readings for October 27, 2019.

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time



***First Reading**

Sirach 35:12-14, 16-18

***Second Reading**

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

***Gospel**

Luke 18:9-14



Upcoming Youth Events:

Youth Ministry: Questions, please contact Marlen marlen@olhoc.org

Life Teen: high school youth ministry (meets most Sundays 5-6:30 pm, check website for dates)

Edge: middle school youth ministry (meets monthly for All Youth Night)

FIAT: Faith in Action Team elementary school ministry (meets monthly for All Youth Night)

All Youth Night - Sunday, October 27th

Join us for 4 pm Mass followed by pizza, faith, fellowship & fun for children in Elementary (FIAT), youth in Middle School (EDGE) & youth in High School (Life Teen) from 5-6:30 pm. Bring some friends, ALL are welcome!

Save the Dates for the other All Youth Night for this year:

November 24, January 26, February 16, March 15, April 19 and May 24 (special time Mass 11:30 am with Archbishop Gregory).

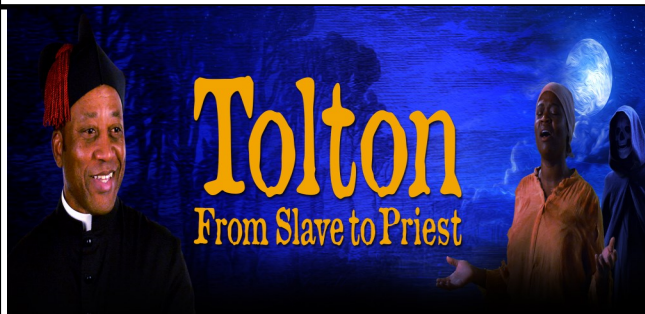
Time to Request Spots for Camp Covecrest - August 2-8, 2020 in Tiger, Georgia

Its that time to plan ahead for next summer's 2020 Life Teen Camp. Camp Covecrest, located in the North Georgia Mountains, is an amazing and transformative week of fun, activities, time with friends, prayer and growing in your faith (i.e. high ropes, messy games, obstacle course, zip line, white water rafting, team building experiences, music, talks, reflections, Mass, Adoration & personal growth). For more details, to request a spot or watch a video visit www.olhoc.org/camp Questions, please contact Marlen Coles marlen@olhoc.org

Quo Vadis Come and See Retreat

Young men in grades 11 and 12 and between the ages of 15 and 17, who are interested in learning more about priesthood and seminary, are invited to Saint John Paul II Seminary Friday, November 8 – Sunday, November 10, 2019, to experience seminary life firsthand. This is an opportunity to meet and talk to our seminarians, pray with them, listen to great talks, and enjoy time for sports and recreation. Please encourage high school juniors and seniors to consider attending this great weekend event. Please visit www.DCpriest.org and select "Events" to register. Please call the Office of Priest Vocations at 202-636-9020 or email Fr. Mark Ivany at vocations@adw.org with any questions.

Our Youth Support Team is an integral part of our Youth ministry at OLHOC. It consists of different components utilizing diverse gifts and time commitments of parents and other interested volunteers from our parish. These volunteer opportunities can range from assisting with special events (hospitality, chaperones, fundraisers, prayer team..) or joining the core team and work directly with the youth. Together we can help lead our youth closer to Christ! For more information please visit the website or talk to Marlen Coles.



Sunday evening, **November 3rd at 6:30 PM**, St. Luke Productions will present a live 90 minute production of the story of Father Augustus Tolton at **Our Lady Help of Christians Church**. Admission is free, good will offerings are accepted

Augustus Tolton was born in Missouri, the son of enslaved parents. Despite being rejected by every American seminary to which he applied, he was ordained in Rome in 1886, the first African American priest in the United States. Pope Francis has promulgated a Decree of Heroic Virtue, advancing the cause for Fr. Tolton's sainthood. **Tolton** is a powerful multi-media live production, filled with music and drama. It brings a message of hope and healing for the wounds that plague our culture. Jim Coleman plays the role of Father Tolton.

www.olhoc.org/tolton