

April 18, 2021

WATER AND BLOOD!

Pointing to the AMAZING, HUGE painting of Jesus Divine Mercy just given to us by the family of the artist Orlando Lagman, I asked one of our young children last Sunday: what do represent the two large streams of WATER and BLOOD coming out of the PIERCED HEART OF JESUS? He did not hesitate: WATER represents BAPTISM AND CONFESSION; BLOOD represents the EUCHARIST! I gave him an A+! He was right on the mark! He is a pious child. He loves to come to church. He loves to read the Bible. He may be a future priest! I wish we could clone him and have many, many children like him! I hope that like this child we can always remember that JESUS DIVINE MERCY keeps pouring upon us these two large streams of GRACE which we can receive frequently: the WATER OF RECONCILIATION which cleanses our sins in CONFESSION and the FLOW OF BLOOD, the EUCHARIST which we can receive at every Mass. It is a simple two -step approach: first, whenever we commit a major sin, we go to the priest in confession to receive the ABSOLUTION, allowing the second step: receiving the EUCHARIST in state of grace!

We just celebrated a most joyful DIVINE MERCY Sunday. We were blessed to be able to admire this HUMONGOUS painting of JESUS DIVINE MERCY (11 feet tall and 5 feet wide), which we displayed for the first time in our church. The artist Orlando Lagman had already painted for us the beautiful image of Our Lady Help of Christians. He finished this "humongous" painting just a few months before he was called back HOME by the Lord last year. We could say that this was his last masterpiece. He loved JESUS DIVINE MERCY and he wanted many people to be able to be touched by Saint Faustina's beautiful vision of DIVINE MERCY: JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU!

*"O BLOOD AND WATER which gushed forth from the HEART OF JESUS as a FOUNT OF MERCY for us, I TRUST IN YOU".* Just repeat these words three times as we do at the beginning of reciting the Divine Mercy Chaplet. As you repeat these words heard by Saint Faustina, feel the POWER of the HOLY SPIRIT coming down into your own minds and your hearts. JESUS is inviting YOU to come to the Sacrament of RECONCILIATION! Yes, HE is waiting for you. Remember how Jesus established this amazing Sacrament of Penance, which we simply call CONFESSION. HE BREATHED on HIS disciples and said: *"RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT. Whose sins you FORGIVE are forgiven, and whose sins you retain are retained "* (John 20:22-23).

On Divine Mercy Sunday, I heard confessions for about four hours. In the confessional, I reminded people that the priest represents the PERSON OF CHRIST (Persona Christi) in each sacrament, including the sacrament of Reconciliation. This is the Sunday when we all heard the Risen Lord meet his disciples locked in the upper room because of their fear of the Jews (John 20:19-31) and tell them: " PEACE BE WITH YOU". Jesus wants for all of us PEACE (SHALOM in Hebrew). We too want PEACE. Nobody wants to feel anxious, angry, torn apart. We all want that Peace that only Jesus can give us. JESUS LOVES each of us INFINITELY,

UNCONDITIONALLY. HIS MERCIFUL LOVE (HESED in Hebrew) is greater than we can ever imagine, bigger than the 11-foot-tall painting. JESUS is inviting all of us to RECONCILE with HIM before we come and receive HIM in the EUCHARIST. Can you refuse HIS invitation? Whenever we come to MASS, we have an APPOINTMENT with Jesus! HE IS COMING at every Mass. Whenever we come to CONFESSION, we have an APPOINTMENT with JESUS! We cannot refuse HIS invitation. If there is one sin that you have never mentioned in earlier confessions because of your shame, JESUS is inviting you to come and obtain HIS forgiveness. COME TO JESUS and HE will take away the heaven burden of that sin!

JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU! JESUS, FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR SORROWFUL PASSION, HAVE MERCY ON US AND ON THE WHOLE WORLD!

One in Christ,  
Father Alain



## 3rd Sunday of Easter

### RCIA

Interested in joining and learning about the Catholic Church for the first time? Want to complete a Sacrament (Baptism, Eucharist, and/or Confirmation)? . For more information, please contact Deacon Rich at [deacon@olhoc.org](mailto:deacon@olhoc.org) or Diane and Mike Spurgeon at [RCIA.olhoc@gmail.com](mailto:RCIA.olhoc@gmail.com)

### \*\*\*REMINDER\*\*\*

**-Wash your hands before coming to Mass and sanitize when entering the church**

**-Wear a mask**

**-Watch your distance, at least a 6 ft distance from non family members**

**-We have a spray bottle and paper towels at the back of the Nave for parishioners who wish to wipe their seats before Mass. Please DO NOT bring your own alcohol wipes as that will damage our pew finish**

**-If you feel ill, stay home and watch Mass on [www.olhoc.com](http://www.olhoc.com) -10 am on Sundays**

### Community Outreach

“Sharing Sunday” continues for the collection of non-perishable foods for the Food Bank and Family Shelter. The need is as great as ever for families in Waldorf! Your donations can be left in the Fr. Martin Hall all week long. Thank you OLHOC for all your support! The next Outreach meeting is May 5, 2021 At 7 p. m. on Zoom. The next Shepherd’s table is June 17, 2021

### HELP KEEP OUR CHURCH CLEAN

Since last year, OLHOC cut back on many of the services we use to pay for. Due to financial restraints, the lawn maintenance is all done by volunteers, we no longer have a staff person to help out with the facilities, and we cut back on our cleaning services to once a week.

Please do your part in helping to keep our church clean.

### The Case for Jesus

How do we *know* we can trust the Gospels? Who *really* wrote them and when?

Could they be fabricated fables or are they authentic truth? Who does Jesus profess to be?

To find out, come join The Catholic Faith Explorers in our next study - *The Case for Jesus*. Dr. Brant Petri draws evidence from early Christian and non-Christian writings attesting to the authenticity, authorship, and dating of the Gospels, and gives an in-depth look at the Gospel accounts of Jesus’s Crucifixion, Resurrection, and the proclamation of His divinity.

Class Dates/Time: 11 Apr - 6 Jun, Sundays at 8:00 am

Via Zoom Meeting  
Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94165603422?pwd=dlg2TjVoQldwOXhKRFJrQigkQWc5QT09>



## Come Holy Spirit!

*Please pray for our Youth being Confirmed this Friday, April 23rd by Bishop Mario Dorsonville*

### All Youth Night!

Join us on **Sunday, April 18th** for Mass at 2:30 pm followed by Youth Ministry for youth in EDGE (middle school) and Life Teen (high school) from 3:30 pm-5 pm. Invite some friends to join you for some faith, fun and fellowship. Unfortunately at this time, we will not be offering FIAT (elementary) after Mass. Please visit [www.olhoc.org/ynevents](http://www.olhoc.org/ynevents) and sign up to join us.

**Sacramental Preparation for Confirmation will continue on Sunday, April 18th.** For Year 2, we will be offering the option to attend in person. The workshop will be from 1-2:30 pm followed by 2:30 pm Mass and All Youth Night activities from 3:30 - 5pm. Students in Year 1, please check your email for the instructions on how to join the virtual gathering at 1pm. For more details and questions, visit [www.olhoc.com/confirmation-1](http://www.olhoc.com/confirmation-1) or contact Marlen Coles [marlen@olhoc.org](mailto:marlen@olhoc.org)

**Please keep the Confirmation candidates in your prayers.** The Confirmation Rehearsal will take place on Thursday, April 22nd at 6:30 pm. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Friday, April 23rd at 7 pm with Bishop Mario Dorsonville celebrating the Mass. We will live stream the Mass on the OLHOC YouTube channel.

**Attention High School & College Graduate Class of 2021:** Please save the date and join us on Sunday, June 6th at the 11:30 am Mass for a special blessing. We will also have special virtual gatherings for high school seniors with special topics and guest speakers. Please sign up online [www.olhoc.org/graduate](http://www.olhoc.org/graduate) If you have any questions contact Marlen [marlen@olhoc.org](mailto:marlen@olhoc.org)

**We are asked to pray for:**

Brandon Mack  
Nestor Ermelindo Molina  
James Thompson  
Rebecca (Tess) Franch  
Joseph Albrittian  
Sid and Suszanna Marcus  
Aleli Puzon  
Patricia Delgado  
Ann Marie Hobart  
Larry McGraw  
Ilene Custer  
Derrick Webster  
Julie Davis  
David DeMarr  
Dunnie Proctor  
Amelia Vinceguerra  
Lorraine Celijewski  
Cren Wolden  
Tabitha Barton  
Maria Townsend

Chrystal Beauregard  
Sheryl Carter  
Alex Leon  
Sharketer Butler  
Steven Bowling  
Edna Yarngo  
Kathly Grimes  
Sheny Padilla  
David Mesler  
Victor Cordero  
Georgiana Norgren  
Marie Bottorf  
Dorian Webster  
Dionne Gause  
Billy Dexter  
Trenia Price  
Erick M. Knapp  
Norm Green  
Sarah Dixon  
Grace Albrittain  
Elaine Moses

Yvonne Buford  
Karen Zimmerman  
Steve Wyloge  
Terri Elizabeth McAllister Burnette  
Joanne Johnson  
Mike Spurgeon  
Mary A. Dyson  
Kevin Viel Sr.  
Ligia Lam  
David Stanley  
Jim McMahan  
Drew Shuda  
Wilma Cruz

and all our military and civilians serving in harm's way.



**Mass Intentions this Week**

**Saturday, April 17, 5:00 PM: Jesus Morales & Santos Dias (+)**  
**Saturday, April 17, 8:00 PM: Ourdraogo Family (+)**  
**Sunday, April 18, 8:30 AM: Fr. Martin Flum**  
**Sunday, April 18, 10:00 AM: Yohan Oudraogo**  
**Sunday, April 18, 11:30 AM: OLHOC Parishioners**  
**Sunday, April 18, 1:00 PM: OLHOC Confirmandees**  
**Sunday, April 18, 7:00 PM: Alejandro Wilson**  
**Monday, April 19, 9:00 AM: Victor Codero & family**  
**Tuesday, April 20, 9:00 AM: Marcus Williams & family**  
**Wednesday, April 21, 9:00 AM: Yolanda**  
**Wednesday, April 21, 7 PM: Olga Tabsoba**  
**Thursday, April 22, 9:00 AM: Ruth WI Dayton (+)**  
**Friday, April 23, 9:00 AM: Joseph Nikolai (+)**

**3 New Masses!**

*Sundays at 1 PM, Mondays and Fridays at 7 AM*

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

**Friday Scripture Study** - The Friday night scripture study is now online. Please call the office for information on how to join us.

**First Friday** - The first Friday of each month the evening Mass is dedicated to promoting the Priesthood. Following evening Mass, devotion to the Alliance of the two Hearts.

**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.

**OLHOC Prayer Chain**

If you have a prayer request, please call the parish office or send email to [office@olhoc.org](mailto:office@olhoc.org).

**Mass Readings for April 25, 2021**

*4th Sunday of Easter*

**\*First Reading**

Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12

**\*Second Reading**

1 John 3:1-2

**\*Gospel**

John 10:11-18

[www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)

