

## May 2, 2021 5th Sunday of Easter

### EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLE AT OLHOC!

Last weekend, there was much excitement at OLHOC! Let me quote some of the words used or texted: *"Wow Father. What a great blessing. No doubt it is a Eucharistic miracle! ...God is great: Eucharistic Miracle in "my church"...God's name be forever praised. MY LORD and MY GOD! Love Eucharistic Adoration...What a great miracle, somehow my Faith is ignited and in full blast. Hallelujah, Ave Maria! Awesome: Our powerful God."*

What was this all about? The possibility that a Eucharistic Miracle had happened at OLHOC. First, one of our volunteer sacristans had sent to some parishioners a picture of a consecrated host that had been found on the floor of our church and had been disposed of in a vessel with water in the sacarium of our sacristy. As the host was almost dissolved after five days in a sacarium, we could see in the middle of it what seemed to be BLOOD in the shape of a heart (or a V). I took a close-up picture and also decided to send it to a few parishioners passionate about the Eucharist and Adoration (see two pictures on our website). Could that be the PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS as had happened in Italy, Spain, Argentina over the last 1,200 years? I recalled our parish pilgrimage to Lanciano (Italy) where you can see the flesh and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. The appearance of the Blood in the dissolved host at OLHOC looked similar. Did God choose to have a Eucharistic miracle at our humble parish?

We believe that at Every Mass at OLHOC the greatest miracle on earth happens: Through the HOLY SPIRIT and the words of Consecration pronounced by the PRIEST, the bread and the wine are truly transformed into the BODY and BLOOD of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Can you explain how this happens? No, it is a mystery, the Paschal mystery. We believe it happens at every Mass as we do what Jesus at the Last Supper asked us to say and to do. This is our FAITH based on continuous teaching from Jesus' Apostles and successors for the last 2,000 years. So why should we get excited about what looked like a single miracle in the "host with blood" at OLHOC when at every Mass at OLHOC ( as in any other Catholic Church) there is a total transformation of the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ ?

Some of you have asked me whether I planned to seek the authentication of the miraculous "host with blood. As the host is now dissolved, the only proof of the Eucharistic miracle is the two pictures confirming the testimony of a sacristan and a pastor. I plan to send the two pictures, together with this article and your own reflections/comments to the Archdiocese of Washington. Stay tuned!

In St John's Gospel, Jesus' miracles are presented as "SIGNS" to guide our faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ. Still today, GOD is using SIGNS to speak to us. Since the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, there will be no more divine revelation. Everything God wanted to achieve for our Salvation has been given to us. However, God keeps giving us SIGNS so as to strengthen our Faith in HIM and HIS SON .I invite all of you to see this little miracle at OLHOC as a SIGN FROM GOD. What is God telling us? Your thoughts and insights are most welcome!

For me, as your pastor for over 10 years, God is definitely asking me to preach more often about the SANCTITY OF THE EUCHARIST: THE REAL PRESENCE OF GOD! All of us, not just the priests or the pastor, need to help protect this sanctity. We would not have discovered a "HOST WITH BLOOD" if someone, accidentally, had not dropped a consecrated host. In my 11 years as a priest, I have seen maybe five hosts dropped right after the host is in the hands of a parishioner. What I always do then is to pick up the host and consume the host right away. So, God is telling me today: "Father Alain, it is your responsibility as OLHOC pastor to strengthen the protection of every consecrated host."

There is no doubt that our wearing masks at church has made it more difficult to receive the host. The safest way to avoid a host being desecrated or falling and not being picked up is TO ENSURE THAT THE HOST IS CONSUMED RIGHTAWAY. Before the distribution of the Communion at each Mass, the Celebrant ( Fr. Ben or I ) will remind you " *that if you do not receive on the tongue, as soon as the priest has put the host in your hands, you should take off your mask and consume the host right away. DO NOT START WALKING WITH A HOST IN YOUR HANDS. CONSUME. THE HOST FIRST. "*

GOD is also reminding us that the Sanctity of the Eucharist implies that we should not receive the Holy Communion when we are not in a state of grace (after having committed grave sins and having not yet gone to confession). Go to Confession first, and only then receive Communion

Let us pray to the Holy Spirit that we will all receive the Grace to treat the consecrated Host with the utmost respect and that the Miracle of the Eucharist will bring all of us closer to Christ and help us to be truly ONE WITH CHRIST!

One in Christ,

Fr. Alain

*“Nothing ever happens in the world that does not happen first inside human hearts.”*

Fulton Sheen

**\*\*\*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

**Now accepting applications for Our Lady’s Little Christians 2021/2022 school year.**

We are now accepting applications for children ages 3-5. Openings are available for both AM classes, and full day. For more information, please contact Nieda Tice  
[preschool@olhoc.org](mailto:preschool@olhoc.org)

**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=dlg2TjVoQldwOXhKRFJrQW9kQWc5QT09>

***Thank you for your Pandemic Relief donations***

*We have collected over \$3,000 thanks to your generosity. This will help the youth in our parish to attend camp when they might not have been able to. Donations are still being accepted, it’s not too late!*

**Youth News**

**Life Teen (High School) Youth Ministry & current 8th Graders** will meet on Sunday, May 2nd from 1pm - 2:30 pm. Bring your friends and join us for some fun, faith and fellowship! For more Youth Ministry events, please visit [www.olhoc.org/ymevents](http://www.olhoc.org/ymevents) or contact Marlen Coles [marlen@olhoc.org](mailto:marlen@olhoc.org)

**Congratulations** to the 34 youth who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday, April 23rd. Many thanks to all who have assisted with their preparation in any way. Please continue to keep the youth of the parish in your prayers! For more information on receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, please visit [www.olhoc.org/confirmation-1](http://www.olhoc.org/confirmation-1) or talk to Marlen Coles [marlen@olhoc.org](mailto:marlen@olhoc.org)

**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 in May for the high school seniors with special topics and guest speakers. Please sign up online [www.olhoc.org/graduate](http://www.olhoc.org/graduate) so we can plan better. 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

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 Albrittian  
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  
Fr. Eamon Dignan

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

*Please pray for soul of Chrystal Beauregard*



**Mass Intentions this Week**

Saturday, May 1, 9:00 AM: Hong Nguyen  
Saturday, May 1, 5:00 PM: OLHOC parishioners  
Sunday, May 2, 8:30 AM: Teodore Miller  
Sunday, May 2, 10:00 AM: Rose Blaso (+)  
Sunday, May 2, 11:30 AM: Aurora Tecson & Josephina Clarkston (+)  
Sunday, May 2, 1:00 PM: Tonye Tonye (+)  
Sunday, May 2, 7:00 PM: Fernando Lam  
Monday, May 3, 7:00 AM: Edward & Margie Charron (+)  
Monday, May 3, 9:00 AM: Laurentine Etamane (+)  
Tuesday, May 4, 9:00 AM: Tina Hanes  
Wednesday, May 5, 9:00 AM: Michael LeSesne (+)  
Wednesday, May 5, 7 PM: Maria Ana  
Thursday, May 6, 9:00 AM: Aayden Gonzales  
Friday, May 7, 7:00 AM: Lorrin Green  
Friday, May 7, 9:00 AM: Manuel Lam (+)  
Friday, May 7, 7:00 PM: Manuel Lam (+)

**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 May 9, 2021**

*6th Sunday of Easter*

**\*First Reading**

Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

**\*Second Reading**

1 John 4:7-10

**\*Gospel**

John 15:9-17

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



## Feast of Our Lady of Fatima

May 13 is the celebration of the feast of Our Lady of Fatima.

Our Lady first appeared to three children in Fatima, Portugal on May 13, 1917.

When they took their sheep out to a pasture, known as Cova da Iria (Cove of Peace), they saw “A lady, clothed in white, brighter than the sun, radiating a light more clear and intense than a crystal cup filled with sparkling water lit by burning sunlight.”

She told them not to be afraid, she came from heaven. Our Lady told them to offer themselves to God, and to say the Rosary every day to bring peace to the world and end the war (WW1). She appeared on the 13 of each month for six months.

This advice is still relevant for us today. We will celebrate her feast day on Thursday, May 13 at a 7 pm Mass. Please join us

### **33 Day Consecration to St. Joseph May 19– June 20**

For those who did not have the opportunity, the total consecration to St. Joseph will begin again on May 19, ending on Father’s Day, Sunday June 20. You can follow along on YouTube with Father Alain and Father Ben daily.

The daily prayers can be found here:

[https://www.unleashthegospel.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/33-Days-of-Prayers-and-Daily-Challenge\\_ENGLISH.pdf](https://www.unleashthegospel.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/33-Days-of-Prayers-and-Daily-Challenge_ENGLISH.pdf)

*“With the phrase “guardian of the mystery of God” used to describe St. Joseph’s role in salvation history, Pope St. John Paul II has left us with a sure point of departure as we begin our 33-Day Consecration to St. Joseph. It is for us, all of us, to become a new creation, to become people who, having been knit together by the Holy Spirit, are now focused and bidden to draw life from the Mystery of God, from the mystery made flesh in the person of Jesus Christ, the one who bids us to come after him, called to become faithful guardians of the mystery of God. “*

*Bishop Gerard Battersby*

### **Retired Flags and Religious articles**

The Knights of Columbus, along with local Catholic Churches will retire worn flags and religious articles at the end of May at St. Josephs in Pomfret. There is a bin by the office door, if you have anything you need disposed of properly, please put it in that bin. We will collect items through May 23, 2021

### **HELP KEEP OUR CHURCH CLEAN**

Since last year, OLHOC cut back on many of the services we had paid 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.

*Thank you!*