

## May 9, 2021 6th Sunday of Easter

### UNITED IN EUCHARISTIC MIRACLE

I got a large number of comments/suggestions on last week's column's "*Eucharistic Miracle at OLHOC*". In my 10 years at OLHOC, I do not recall any other "unplanned" event that received so much attention and created so much excitement. I simply want today to reflect on where we are and where the Holy Spirit is leading us.

For me, the main lesson so far of the Eucharistic Miracle at OLHOC is that it has helped UNITE OUR PARISH IN FOCUSING ON THE EUCHARIST in ways we had not experienced before.. and I pray that it will continue to do so for many many more years! My motto over the last 10 years has been and remains "*ONE IN CHRIST*". Those three words mean a lot for all of us at OHLOC. They mean that God the Father wants all of us to become ONE in His Son, in the same way that the Father and the Son are ONE. As a result of our ONENESS or UNITY in God the Father and the Son (and the HOLY SPIRIT, that LOVE between the Son and the Father), we also become ONE with one another. St John (Gospel and First Letter) provides much emphasis on that oneness with Jesus. Last Sunday's Gospel (John 15:1-8) gives us this powerful image of JESUS AND US BEING UNITED IN THE SAME VINE. Jesus proclaims: "*I AM THE VINE. YOU ARE THE BRANCHES. WHOEVER REMAINS IN ME AND I IN HIM WILL BEAR MUCH FRUIT, because without me you can do nothing.*" We are all invited to stay with Jesus, to be united with Jesus not just at Mass but all the time!

Every Mass is a very special moment of UNITY, of COMMUNION for our parishioners: it is an ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST! That encounter can transform us and feed us for the rest of the week. We listen to Jesus through the Gospel. The altar represents Jesus Himself (the Sacrifice). The priest represents the person of Jesus when celebrating the Mass. Jesus HIMSELF comes at every Mass: through the Holy Spirit and the words of Consecration, JESUS comes and humbles himself in the EUCHARIST, Body, Soul and Divinity. The Assembly together represents the BODY OF CHRIST, in which we are all called to partake in the HOLY COMMUNION. Jesus becomes part of us! WE BECOME ONE IN THE EUCHARIST!

Another fruit so far has been the interest many of you have shown in past Eucharistic Miracles. Some of you have referred to the excellent presentation of one our former seminarians at OLHOC (Joseph Salser) on some of the most famous Eucharistic miracles that have occurred in the last 2,000 years. Certainly, we could organize a similar presentation focusing on the resemblances and differences with what happened in our parish and was discovered last Friday April 23, the very day 34 of our Youth received fully the HOLY SPIRIT through their CONFIRMATION at OLHOC.

I received more written comments on the Eucharistic miracle in the last few days. Through social media, a large number of people (including beyond Waldorf) have become aware that something special has happened in our parish. Comments were received from as far as Oklahoma and California. As more information will be shared in the

coming weeks, our little miracle will impact more and more people.

Please keep writing to us. I will quote here a very insightful, recent comment from one of our own parishioners: "*Upon viewing the picture of the host (my hear leapt!), and hearing the accompanying facts, my faith response is as I mentioned before (orally): How many instances do I/we walk up to receive the Eucharist, with a "rote" attitude, saying "AMEN", then returning to my seat ready to move on with my day? Seeing the picture was a "WAKE UP CALL", an earth-shaking REMINDER OF not what I am receiving, but WHO I AM RECEIVING!!!! Thanks be to God!"*

Our little miracle is a major sign from God reinforcing for all of us the REAL PRESENCE of the Body and Blood of Christ Eucharist. JESUS is asking us to strengthen our preparation before our personal Encounter with HIM at Mass. When you come to Mass, be aware that JESUS is awaiting to meet YOU! Prepare yourself for that encounter with GOD himself: 1. Meditate in advance on all the readings, but especially the Gospel 2. Go to CONFESSION if you have committed a grave sin since your last confession (including missing Sunday Mass unless for health reason and having received earlier Eucharist in a state of grave sin). 3. Arrive early at Church, at least five minutes before Mass begins so that you can put yourself in the presence of the Lord and be prepared to welcome the Celebrant as he enters the Church in procession.

Latest developments ...I did send the two pictures of the "*host with blood*" to the Archdiocese of Washington but have not yet heard back from them. We have also begun an experiment beginning last Thursday morning: we put a non-consecrated host in water in same conditions as the consecrated "*host with blood*". After six full days there was an apparent softening of the non-consecrated host (dissolution is beginning) but there has been no changes at all in the color, which tends to demonstrate that the color change in the consecrated host was entirely based on the fact that it had become the Body of Christ...Since the consecrated "*host with blood*" is now dissolved, we do not have any other means to test the authenticity of the miracle. However, one could base that authenticity upon the amazing similarities with the recent Eucharistic miracle in Buenos Aires: host inadvertently dropped by one parishioner at communion during Mass, then recovered by another parishioner and given to one of the parish priests, who put it to dissolve in water in a ciborium, and then the pastor discovering the host had begun to dissolve and had clear spots of blood (August 1996). Our Parish Council will discuss the OLHOC "*miracle*" later this week and make suggestions for additional follow-up. Stay tuned!

Heavenly Father, send Your Spirit upon us and help us to remain ONE with YOUR SON! May you help us understand and apply in our daily lives the recent SIGN You gave us about the REAL PRESENCE of the BODY and BLOOD of JESUS in the EUCHARIST!

One in Christ,  
Fr. Alain

*Heavenly Father, Throughout this month of May, we pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers. ~Pope Francis*

**\*\*\*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 June 2, 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=dlg2TjVoOldwOXhKRFJrQigkQWc5QT09>

***First Communion***

Please keep our 30 young parishioners in your prayers, they will receive their first Holy Communion on Saturday, May 23.

**Youth News**

**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 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  
Fr. Eamon Dignan

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



**Mass Intentions this Week**

Saturday, May 8, 9:00 AM: Mason S. Friedman  
Saturday, May 8, 5:00 PM: Oudraogo family  
Sunday, May 9, 8:30 AM: OLHOC parishioners  
Sunday, May 9, 10:00 AM: Orlando Lagman (+)  
Sunday, May 9, 11:30 AM: Jose and AnnaMarie Gonzales & family  
Sunday, May 9, 1:00 PM: Olga Tabsoba  
Sunday, May 9, 7:00 PM: Robert Andrew Michelitch (+)  
Monday, May 10, 7:00 AM: Maria Lam  
Monday, May 10, 9:00 AM: Rosemary Wisen (+)  
Tuesday, May 11, 9:00 AM: Chrystal Beauregard (+)  
Wednesday, May 12, 9:00 AM: Stephanie Arehas  
Wednesday, May 12, 7 PM: Vanessa & AmelioVega (+)  
Thursday, May 13, 9:00 AM: Sylvia Ita  
Friday, May 14, 7:00 AM: John Henehan  
Friday, May 14, 9:00 AM: Joseph Fitzpatrick (+)

***Pentecost Midnight Mass/All night Eucharistic Adoration***

To Celebrate our church's "birthday", we will have a Mass at midnight on May 23, followed by all night Eucharistic Adoration until Mass at 8:30 am. Please plan to celebrate with us.  
(No 1 pm Mass on May 23)

**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 16, 2021**

**7th Sunday of Easter**

**\*First Reading**

Acts of the Apostles 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26

**\*Second Reading**

1 John 4:11-16

**\*Gospel**

John 17:11b-19

[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)

## *May Crowning*

On Sunday, May 23, we will celebrate Pentecost, our Parish Feast Day and our childrens First Communion. Mary will be crowned at 11 am, followed by an outdoor Mass beginning at 11:30 am. We will not have a 1 PM Mass on May 23

## *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.

*Happy Mother's Day!*

