

July 18, 2021: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS

Pope Francis has just established a NEW WORLD DAY From now on, every fourth Sunday of July, beginning SUNDAY JULY 25 this year, will be "WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND ELDERLY." The theme this year is: "I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS" based on the last verse of Matthew's Gospel (Matthew 28:20): "BEHOLD, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, UNTIL THE END OF THE AGE."

Why having a new World Day to be celebrated by the entire Catholic Church in every parish in every country? Many countries already have a National day for Grandparents. In a few traditionally Catholic countries, that day is July 26, the Feast Day of Jesus' grandparents St Joachim and St Anne, and the new World Day will not be much of a change as it is so close (this year, the Sunday before). But in other countries like ours, it could be confusing: we already have a national day for the Grandparents, the Sunday after Labor Day. But for Jesus, there are no borders: when HE looks down from heaven upon the earth, he sees his brothers and sisters all "CHILDREN OF GOD".

From the beginning of his papacy eight years ago, Pope Francis has spoken about the importance of the grandparents and the elderly in the Catholic Church. In his 4-page letter to all Grandfathers, Grandmothers and Elderly Friends of May 31st 2021 (see letter on our Website and Flocknotes), Pope Francis reiterates some of his earlier reflections and brings about some new ones. I will quote here some excerpts:

I am with you always (Matthew 28:20): this is the promise the Lord made to his disciples before he ascended into heaven. They are the words that I repeat to you today, dear grandfathers and grandmothers, dear elderly friends. "I am with you always" are also the words that I, as Bishop of Rome and an elderly person like yourselves, would like to address to you on this First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The whole church is close to you -to us- and cares about you, loves you and does not want to leave you alone!

Even at the darkest moments, as in these past months of pandemic, the Lord continues to send angels to console our loneliness and to remind us: "I am with you always". He says this to you, and he says this to me. This is the meaning of this Day, which I wanted to celebrate for the first time in this particular year, as long period of isolation ends and social life resumes."

The Lord sends us messengers through his words...Let us try to read a page of the Gospel every day, to pray with the psalms, to read the prophets! We will be comforted by the Lord's faithfulness ... In Matthew's Gospel (28:19-20), Jesus tells the Apostles: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you". These words are also addressed to you today. They help us better understand that our VOCATION is to preserve our roots, TO PASS ON THE FAITH TO THE YOUNG, AND TO CARE FOR THE LITTLE ONES. NEVER FORGET THIS...

No one is saved alone. We are all indebted to one another. We are all brothers and sisters... I want to tell you that you are needed in order to help build the world of tomorrow... All of us must take an active part in renewing and supporting our troubled societies...Among the pillars that support this new edifice there are three that you, better than anyone else, can help set up. Those THREE PILLARS are DREAMS, MEMORY AND PRAYERS...

The prophet Joel once promised: "Your old men shall dream dreams and your young men will have visions" (Joel 3:1). The future of the world depends on this covenant between young and old. Who, if not the young, can take the dreams of the elderly and make them come true? Yet for this to happen, it is NECESSARY THAT WE CONTINUE TO DREAM.

DREAMS are INTERTWINED with MEMORY. Keeping memory alive (including of past sufferings) is a true mission for every elderly person: keeping memory alive and sharing it with others...the foundation of life is memory...

Finally, PRAYER. As my predecessor, Pope Benedict, himself a saintly elderly person who continues to pray and work for the Church, once said: "THE PRAYER OF THE ELDERLY CAN PROTECT THE WORLD, helping it perhaps more effectively than the frenetic activity of many others." ... I ask the Lord that, also through his example, all of us may open our hearts to the sufferings of the poor and intercede for their needs. May each of us learn to repeat to all, and especially the young, the words of consolation we have heard spoken to us today: I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS! Keep moving forward! May the Lord grant you His blessing.

One in Christ,
Father Alain

Parish Registration

We know summer is the time of year when families are moving around.

If you are moving into our parish, welcome!

If you are moving out of the parish, we have enjoyed you worshiping with us and hope you will come back and visit.

Forms to register are on our website: <https://olhoc.com/parish-registration>

Please notify the office if you are moving out of the parish
(301)645-7112

COME BACK TO CHURCH

The dispensation of the Sunday and Holy Day obligation has been lifted. The reinstatement of the obligation to attend Mass at church began the end of June.

This does not apply to those who are ill, have reason to believe they have been exposed recently to the coronavirus, or any other serious or contagious illness. Anyone confined to a hospital, home or nursing facility, or anyone having a serious underlying health condition will continue to have dispensation.

Please consult with Father Alain if you have questions regarding your obligation to attend Mass.

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!

Our next Shepherd’s Table will be on August 19, 2021. The next Outreach meeting will be September 15 at 7 pm in the Father Martin Hall.

Mass Intentions

OLHOC offers Mass intentions for the deceased, the sick, to give thanks, in celebration of a special event, or for someone who may need extra prayer. Dates and times of Masses are on a first come, first served request. A stipend for clergy is usually offered with a Mass intention. The Archdiocese recommends that it be \$10.00. However, the decision is left to the requester of the intention. To request a Mass intention, please come by the office.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

3 Days of Service (July 20-22nd) - Youth in EDGE (middle school) and Life Teen (High school) are invited to join us for 3 days of service at OLHOC. We will meet at 8:50 am and attend the 9 am Daily Mass. We will then do a variety of projects at OLHOC. For more details or to register, visit www.olhoc.org/ymevents

Volunteer for Youth Core Team

If you are interested in joining our team and assist with the Youth Core team, be a Confirmation Mentor, or learn more about ways to volunteer with the youth, please visit www.olhoc.org/yteam or talk to Marlen Coles marlen@olhoc.org

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

For more info. and an updated list of our summer events please visit www.olhoc.org/ymevents

New Mass protocol as of July 14

- *Masks are recommended for unvaccinated people. Optional for fully vaccinated.
- *All pew rows are open seating.
- *Please maintain 3’ social distance between families.
- *We continue to use the offertory box in the Narthex. Thank you for your donations.
- *If you feel ill, please stay home.

***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
Eric M. Knapp
Norm Green
Sarah Dixon
Grace Albrittian
Elaine Moses

Yvonne Buford
Karen Zimmerman
Terri Elizabeth McAllister
Burnette
Joanne Johnson
Mike Spurgeon
Mary A. Dyson
Kevin Viel Sr.
Ligia Lam
David Stanley
Jim McMahon
Drew Shuda
Wilma Cruz
Fr. Eamon Dignan
Dr. Michael St. Thomas
Bessie Davis
Dorian Webster
Derrick Webster
Brandon Mack

Dionne Gause
Thomas Keim
Jack Lyons
Margaret Clark

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

**Names will be removed after 3
months unless you notify the office*



Mass Intentions this Week

Saturday, July 17,
9:00AM: Carlitos Joaquin
5:00 PM: OLHOC Parishioners
Sunday, July 18,
8:30 AM: Mia Ballesteros
10:00AM: Isabel Santos (+)
11:30 AM: Fr. Alain Colliou
1:00 PM: Fr. Benjamin Palacios
7:00 PM: Lauretta Belli (+)
Monday, July 19,
7:00 AM: Daniella King
9:00 AM: Thomas family

Tuesday, July 20,
9:00AM: Darius King
Wednesday, July 21,
9:00 AM: Sarah Tchakala
7:00 PM: Dominic Andrews
Thursday, July 22,
9:00 AM: Magda Monteros
Friday, July 23,
7:00 AM: Lorelie Goodpaster
9:00 AM: Ashley Lawrence

*Please remember to pray for the
Souls in Purgatory*

Eucharistic Adoration

We have an Adoration Chapel at OLHOC that provides a place for people to spend time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. The chapel is open Monday– Friday from 10 am– noon. Please sign up online: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040a44a4a723a2fa7-adoration40> We also have Adoration Thursdays from 9 pm-10 pm in the church. Please come!

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.

Mass Readings for July 25, 2021

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

***First Reading**

2 Kings 4:42-44

***Second Reading**

Ephesians 4:1-6

***Gospel**

John 6:1-15

www.usccb.org



GRANDPARENTS/ELDERLY

Will be celebrated on

SUNDAY, JULY 25 at the 8:30 Mass

***All are welcome, please bring an elderly friend, and
or/grandparents***

ANNUAL SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

The Outreach Committee is collecting school supplies. Pencils, paper, crayons, binders, glue, rulers, notebooks, markers, tissues and wipes can be donated. A box is set up by the office entrance until August 1. All items will be donated to the Children's Aid Society. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

James– Pearls for Wise Living Course

Our 10-session course which has already begun is James – Pearls for Wise Living by Ascension Press. It is every Sunday from 13 Jun – 15 Aug 21, 0930 (between the 8:30 and 11:30 Masses), in the Father Martin Hall and via Zoom Presenter, Jeff Cavins, shows how James' teachings speak to us who feel torn between the competing demands of this world and our Faith. The Book of James helped a fledgling Church live out its Faith in the face of persecution and a worldview opposed to the gospel and you will discover wisdom you can apply to your own life, now.

To Register on Ascension Press:

<https://study.ascensionpress.com/studies/55902/registrations/new>

Get Workbook (optional):

<https://ascensionpress.com/products/james-pearls-for-wise-living-study-set-1?variant=7553718616100>

Zoom Meeting Link: [Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

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 or Diane and Mike Spurgeon at RCIA.olhoc@gmail.com

Anointing of the Sick, Questions for the Clergy

Clergy is available for calls to the sick—with all precautions observed. Urgent confessions can be said with a home visit. If you have a question for clergy, you can leave a message by phone (301-645-7112) or email (office@olhoc.org) for Fr. Alain or Fr. Jan

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.