

## July 25, 2021: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### THE EUCHARISTIC MIRACLE: JOHN CHAPTER SIX!

GOD WANTS US TO REMEMBER the LITTLE EUCHARISTIC MIRACLE that happened at OLHOC last April. GOD WANTS US TO SHOW UTMOST REVERENCE and RESPECT for the EUCHARIST. GOD WANTS US TO REMEMBER the picture of the host with blood after having been abandoned for 15 hours on the floor of our church (see picture below). For the next five Sundays, GOD WANTS US to HEAR JOHN'S ENTIRE CHAPTER SIX, all about the GREATEST MIRACLE ON EARTH: the transformation of the bread and wine into THE BODY and BLOOD of OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, a miracle that occurs at every Mass and is much greater than our "little" Eucharistic miracle of last April.

Every three years, in the Year of Mark and during the Summer, we hear the entirety of Chapter 6 of John's Gospel in five consecutive Sundays (17th through 21st Sundays of Ordinary Time, Cycle B). Mark's is the shortest Gospel, and this leaves space to hear about one of the most important Chapters of the entire Bible: John 6!

If a non-Catholic Christian asks: "Why do you Catholics believe in the REAL PRESENCE of the Body and Blood of Christ in the Eucharist?" You can simply answer in three words: JOHN CHAPTER SIX!

John Chapter 6 begins with the miraculous multiplication of the bread (John 6:1-15) which we will hear this coming weekend and then goes on with the Jesus' BREAD OF LIFE discourse, where Jesus proclaims: "*I AM THE LIVING BREAD that came down from Heaven; WHOEVER EATS THIS BREAD WILL LIVE FOREVER; and THE BREAD that I will give IS MY FLESH FOR THE LIFE OF THE WORLD.*" (John 6:51).

You may have noticed the newly written message posted in OLHOC letter form on the entrance door to the Church. It first describes the New Protocol at Mass and then refers to the importance to respect Holy Ground of the House of God (the Church) and the respect and to show utmost reverence to the Eucharist:

*WEAR A MASK if you are not vaccinated or if you feel more comfortable in wearing one.  
KEEP 3-feet SOCIAL DISTANCING between families.  
SANITIZE your hands.  
IF YOU ARE NOT FEELING WELL, please stay home.*

*REMEMBER, YOU ARE NOW ENTERING HOLY GROUND:  
THE HOUSE OF GOD, CREATOR of Heaven and Earth, and  
HAVING ALL POWER over your life.*

*BE aware and RESPECTFUL of the REAL PRESENCE OF  
THE LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE TABERNACLE. JESUS  
has died to give you the BREAD OF LIFE on earth and  
ETERNAL LIFE IN HEAVEN, not to perpetuate your physical  
life in this passing world.*

*AND ALWAYS REMEMBER: EVERY MASS IS HEAVEN ON  
EARTH!!!*

Throughout the next five weeks, I invite everyone to go back to your Bibles and meditate on John's Chapter 6. Begin with the first 15 verses: this week's multiplication of the bread. As you read those verses slowly, reflect on their relationship with the EUCHARIST AND THE MASS as the EUCHARISTIC BANQUET, a preview of the ETERNAL FEAST WITH GOD IN HEAVEN. I will comment only on three verses:

VERSE 2: "*A large crowd followed Jesus because they saw the signs he was performing on the sick*". We gather as a large ASSEMBLY at every SUNDAY MASS to BE WITH JESUS, because we believe HE CAN HEAL US of our sickness, which is our spiritual illness: sinfulness. The Mass starts with the Penitential Rite: "I confess to Almighty God that I have sinned..." **"EVERY MASS IS A HEALING MASS WITH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.** Jesus said that he had come into the world to help sinners. Jesus is present at every Mass through the priest (in persona Christi), the altar (Jesus is both the Victim and the High Priest in the sacrifice of the Mass), the Scriptures (especially the Gospel), the entire Assembly (being the Body of Christ, the Church), and the EUCHARIST (Jesus really present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. **THE EUCHARIST IS A HEALING SACRAMENT!** We come to Mass to encounter Jesus Christ and to be HEALED SPIRITUALLY!

VERSES 10-11: "*Jesus said HAVE THE PEOPLE RECLINE...Then Jesus TOOK the loaves, GAVE THANKS and DISTRIBUTED them to those who were reclining*". You can see in these words the beginning of the CONSECRATION Prayer at Mass: **JESUS TOOK BREAD AND GIVING THANKS BROKE IT and GAVE IT TO HIS DISCIPLES SAYING: TAKE THIS ALL OF YOU AND EAT OF IT FOR THIS IS MY BODY....**In Greek, the word EUCHARIST means GIVING THANKS. Jesus being represented by the priest also distributes the HOLY COMMUNION at every Mass. Jesus is inviting people to EAT when he is asking them to recline. One can imagine that not everyone chose to recline on that day. In the same way, Jesus does not invite everyone to receive the Eucharist, only those who are in state of GRACE! **RECONCILIATION PRECEDES COMMUNION!**

In this first World Day (July 25), may God bless all GRANDPARENTS AND ELDERLY in our parish and help them to pass on their FAITH to the younger generation.

One in Christ,  
Fr. 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 (Please canned or box foods only!). 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.

### **YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS**

#### **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, visit [www.olhoc.org/ymteam](http://www.olhoc.org/ymteam) or talk to Marlen Coles [marlen@olhoc.org](mailto:marlen@olhoc.org)

### **\*\*\*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.

### **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 Albrittitan  
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 Albrittitan  
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 24,**

**9:00AM:** Junie & May Ortezya & family

**5:00 PM:** Fr. Ben Garcia

**Sunday, July 25,**

**8:30 AM:** Anthony Sabangan

**10:00AM:** OLHOC Parishioners

**11:30 AM:** The Deguzman family

**1:00 PM:** Dan Montes (+)

**7:00 PM:** Fr. Ben Garcia

**Monday, July 26,**

**7:00 AM:** Fr. Ben Garcia

**9:00 AM:** Gerald Alphonso

**Tuesday, July 27,**

**9:00AM:** Darren Williams

**Wednesday, July 28,**

**9:00 AM:** Peter Rumore

**7:00 PM:** Almarinda Verrigni (+)

**Thursday, July 29,**

**9:00 AM:** Martine Etamane

**Friday, July 30,**

**7:00 AM:** Beth Watson (+)

**9:00 AM:** Arit Ita-Idedevo

*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](mailto:office@olhoc.org).

**Mass Readings for August 1, 2021**

**18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**\*First Reading**

**Exodus 16:2-4**

**\*Second Reading**

**Ephesians 4:17-, 20-24**

**\*Gospel**

**John 6:24-35**

**www.usccb.org**



## ***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 (one week left!). 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 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](mailto:deacon@olhoc.org) or Diane and Mike Spurgeon at [RCIA.olhoc@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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.

