

# Our Lady of Victories Church

(serving Harrington Park, River Vale and the Pascack/Northern Valley)

150 Harriot Avenue, Harrington Park, New Jersey

www.olvhp.org

Rev. Bryan F.J. Adamcik SFO, KHS Pastor

Rev. José Rivera, Summer Assistant

Rev. Duverney Bermudez

Rev. Anthony Mastroeni

Rev. Christopher M. Ciccarino KHS

Rev. John O'Connor

Rev. Brian Muzás

Latin Mass Assistants

Weekend Assistants

Br. Angelus CFR

Parish Seminarian

Sr. Elizabeth Holler, SC

Sr. Mary Corrigan, SC

In Residence-Convent

Mr. Thomas Lagatol Mr. Albert McLaughlin

Deacons

Susan Evanela Betty Ann Niece

Deacon Al McLaughlin

Religious Education

Parish Catechetical Leader

Selena Piazza

Elizabeth Ulisse

Lesa Rossmann

Martin Coyne II

Ministers of Music

Parish Trustees

Gail McElroy & Jerry Pulis

Curtiss & Katie Stella

Jr. High School Ministry

High School Ministry

Maria Hellrigel

Parish Secretary

Jorden Pedersen Esq.

Jon Fischer CFA

President Parish Council

Chairman Finance Committee

## SPECIAL MASSES OR DEVOTIONS:

**First Friday:** 7:30pm, Mass of Sacred Heart & Devotions

**First Saturday:** 8:00am, Mass of Immaculate Heart of Mary

**First Saturday:** 12:00pm Mass for Souls in Purgatory

**Sundays:** at 3:00pm Group Rosary

## Novenas prayed after 8:00 a.m. Mass:

**Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal:** Monday

**St. Jude and St. Anthony:** Wednesday

**Infant of Prague:** 25th of the month

**Rosary:** Recited M - Sat after 8:00am & 12Noon Mass.

**Tuesday-Novena Prayer and Adoration:** 2:00-3:00pm

**Thursday-Holy Hour with Adoration & Benediction:** 7:00pm

**Friday-Exposition & Adoration:** 12:30PM-3:00pm

## THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE/CONFESSION:

Monday - Friday 7:30am - 7:50am. First Friday at 7:00pm

Saturday at 11:00a.m.-Noon; 3:00pm - 3:25pm

## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

To register for Baptismal preparation and Baptism, call the rectory.

## THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:

Call the Religious Ed Office for requirements/class schedule.

## THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:

Please call the rectory for an appointment.

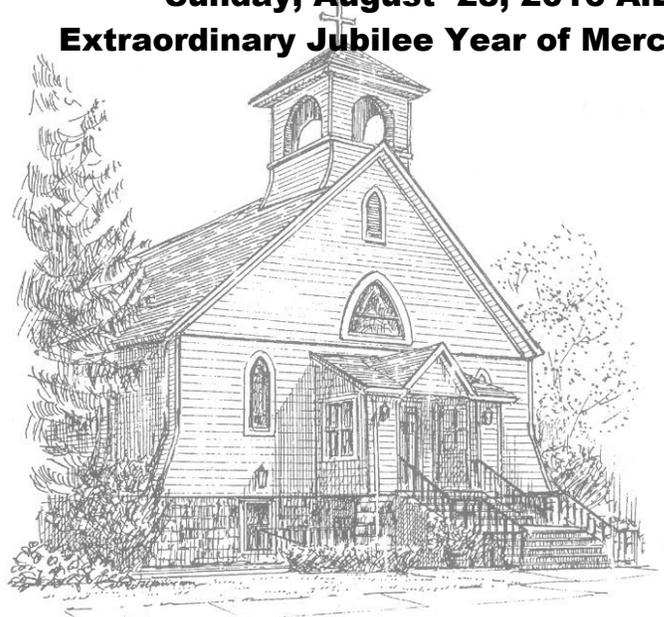
## THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/LAST RITES:

Sick calls at any time in emergency.

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS AND VOCATIONS:

Anyone contemplating a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life should contact the Vocations Office at 973.497.4365.

**Sunday, August 28, 2016 A.D.**  
**Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy**



# WELCOME

To the Parish Family of  
**OUR LADY OF VICTORIES**  
(THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART)

## COME WORSHIP WITH US

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday: 4:00pm, 5:00pm**

**Sunday: 7:30am, 8:15am (Latin)**

**9:30am, 10:45am, 12:00pm,**

**1:00pm (Spanish)**

**6:00pm & 7:00pm**

**Weekdays: M-Sat 8:00a.m. & 12:00noon**



Find us on  
**Facebook**

OLV Rectory  
Phone: 201-768-1706  
Email: olvrectory.hp@gmail.com

OLV Fax  
201-768-3962

Religious Education  
201-768-1400  
olvhpccd@gmail.com

OLV Convent  
201-768-1705

### **PRAY FOR OUR SICK**

Please **PRAY** in the name of **JESUS**, the Healer, that the **SICK** of **OLV PARISH** may be restored to health and all those who **ASSIST** and **CARE** for the sick will be given the **STRENGTH** to continue **GOD'S GOOD WILL**: Br. Pius, Joseph Accardi, Maria Aleman, William Biasi, Michael Conmy, Philip Dunn, Kamal Faris, Kathy Freeburn, Thomas Haring, Marianne Harkins, Peter Kellar, Arnold Kemner, Jamie & Kerrie Lein, Joseph LoVecchio, Teresa Meierdierks, Ken Mosier, Kathleen Musante, Canice Prince, Dan Ragusa, Mary Rinner, Danny Rizzi, Ginny Romeo, Suzanne Rothschild, Wendy Ruggiero, Cookie & George Rush, Cynthia Simonelli, Mildred Speck, Kathryn Turrell, Therese Vaglio, Jim Walsh, Darien Wesler, Al Wiese, Marian Zanetti, Elaine Zito.

### **SPIRITUAL EXCERPT**

#### **GOD USES DODOS**

"God is looking for dodos. There are a lot of people who know it can't be done, so they don't do it, But a dodo doesn't know it can't be done. God uses dodos. And I'm a dodo." **Mother Angelica**

### **CCD Registration**

Registration forms for Religious Ed were sent out. It is important that you return your registration forms ASAP so we can order supplies for the Fall.

### **CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION**

Our Lord told St. Margaret Mary Alacoque that individuals should go to confession at a minimum once a month. This sacrament is offered EVERY Saturday from 11:00AM to Noon and 4:00-4:30PM, every morning at 7:30AM, as well as every First Friday at 7:00PM. A Priest is also available to hear Confessions daily by appointment.

### **WE ARE AT WAR**

Dear Parents, not only are we at war in the Middle East; we are in a spiritual battle for the souls of our children each and every day. On Tuesday afternoons from 2:00PM-3:00PM we have a group who pray the **Mary - Mother of All Nations Novena** to help win this war – come join us in this crucial battle. **ALL ARE WELCOME.**

### **Jesus asked one thing from us!!!**

On His last night of earth (Holy Thursday) Jesus asked His disciples one thing – to stay awake with Him for one hour. Every Thursday evening we at OLV try to fulfill this request by having a Holy Hour from 7-8PM. Join us in carrying out Jesus' request.

### **APOLOGETICS**

Defend your Catholic Faith but first learn more about it. Visit [www.biblechristiansociety.com](http://www.biblechristiansociety.com) to learn more about Roman Catholicism

### **STEWARDSHIP**

#### **MY FAMILY – MY PARISH – MY RESPONSIBILITY**

If you are away for the weekend or are on vacation, please mail Your Weekly Offering to the Rectory. **Our expenses continue even in your absence.**

### **SAVE USED EYEGLASSES**

The Knights of Columbus collects used and old eyeglasses for the less fortunate. Any old or "retired" glasses may be left in the atrium of the Church.

### **FRIDAY ADORATION**

Just a reminder we have Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays after Noon Mass until 3:00PM. So stop by and adore our Eucharistic Lord.

**A parish is not like a bus on which you pay your fare, and then sit passively to be driven by someone else to your destination. A parish is like a rowboat; there is a seat for everybody, and by every seat there is an oar.**

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

That when St. Joan of Arc was burned to death at the stake, her heart was not consumed by the fire. The British threw it into the River Seir. The local faithful hoped that, as the fire was unable to destroy it, neither would the water; it has never been found.

### **ROOTED**

As Catholics, we are to be rooted within a parish community, where we are obligated to come to be fed on God's Word in Scripture and on Christ's Body and Blood in the Eucharist at least once a week. To join our Parish, stop by the Rectory any weekday and meet Maria, the parish secretary, and register as a member of Our Lady of Victories Family.

### **COMFORT**

A nurse took the tired, anxious serviceman to the bedside. "Your son is here," she said to the old man. She had to repeat the words several times before the patient's eyes opened. Heavily sedated because of the pain of his heart attack, he dimly saw the young uniformed Marine standing outside the oxygen tent. He reached out his hand. The Marine wrapped his toughened fingers around the old man's limp ones, squeezing a message of love and encouragement. The nurse brought a chair so that the Marine could sit beside the bed. All through the night, the young Marine sat there in the poorly lighted ward, holding the old man's hand and offering him words of love and strength. Occasionally, the nurse suggested that the Marine move away and rest awhile.

He refused. Whenever the nurse came into the ward, the Marine was oblivious of her and of the night noises of the hospital - the clanking of the oxygen tank, the laughter of the night staff members exchanging greetings, the cries and moans of the other patients. Now and then she heard him say a few gentle words. The dying man said nothing, only held tightly to his son all through the night. Along towards dawn, the old man died. The Marine released the now lifeless hand he had been holding and went to tell the nurse. While she did what she had to do, he waited.

Finally, she returned. She started to offer words of sympathy, but the Marine interrupted her. "Who was that man?" he asked. The nurse was startled, "He was your father," she answered. "No, he wasn't," the Marine replied. "I never saw him before in my life." "Then why didn't you say something when I took you to him?" "I knew right away there had been a mistake, but I also knew he needed his son, and his son just wasn't here. When I realized that he was too sick to tell whether or not I was his son, knowing how much he needed me, I stayed." The next time someone needs you ... just be there. **WE ARE NOT HUMAN BEINGS GOING THROUGH A TEMPORARY SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE. WE ARE SPIRITUAL BEINGS GOING THROUGH A TEMPORARY HUMAN EXPERIENCE.**

### **SECOND HAND SMOKE---HOW KIDS PAY**

According to the University of Massachusetts Medical Center study, each year tobacco smoke (second hand smoke) is responsible for:  
Up to 40% of the incidences of Sudden Infant Syndrome (SIDS).  
Up to 20% of lower respiratory infections in children under 5, such as bronchitis and pneumonia.  
Up to 13% of the asthma cases in youths 14 and under, and about 500,000 doctors' visits by children with symptoms of asthma.  
Up to 13% of the cases of otitis media, which is associated with fluid buildup, inflammation, and possible chronic infection of the middle ear.

### **NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED**

Stop in and visit Jesus in the Tabernacle. You can do it here at OLV Parish. Our Church is open 7am-4:30pm (M-F).

**Upcoming OLV Parish Events**

- Aug 30 -Tue—Moms, Pops and Tots 9:30-11:30AM
- Aug 30 -Tue – Marian Novena Prayer 2:00-3:00PM
- Aug 31 - Wed—OLV Needlers 6:30PM
- Sep 2 -Fri– Adoration from 12:30PM-3:00PM
- Sep 2 - Fri- Confessions 7:00-7:25PM
- Sep 2 - Fri- Mass 7:30PM followed by Sacred Heart Devotions
- Sep 3 - Sat—Confessions 11:00-12:00Noon & 3:00-3:25PM
- Sep 3 -Sat—AA basement of Church 6:30-8:30PM
- Sep 13 - Tue—Bereavement Group 6:30PM
- Sep 20 - Tue -Catholic Daughters of the Americas Mtg. 7:00PM
- Sep 25 - Sun—Parish Picnic 1:30-5:30PM
- Oct 16 - Sun -Catholic Daughters Brunch—Madeleine's Petit Paris

**PRAY for THOSE in the MILITARY**

- Lieutenant Julia H. Cheringal, US Navy;
- Lieutenant Ben Clemente, US Army;
- Ensign Jon Clemente, US Navy;
- 1st Lieutenant Ryan Colomeo, U.S. Marine Corps;
- Major Michael Franson, US Army;
- Sergeant First Class Charles Greene, US Army;
- Lieutenant Tara Harris, US Air Force;
- Lieutenant Joseph Jaeger, US Navy;
- Lieutenant Andrew Jaeger, US Navy;
- Chief Master Sergeant Shawn Llewellyn, US Air Force;
- Captain Shawn Linn, US Army;
- Colonel John McLaughlin, US Army;
- Lieutenant John G. Miele, US Army.

**Sanctuary Offerings**

Mass intentions for the living and the deceased are available for 2017 at Our Lady of Victories Church and Convent. The Altar Flowers, Bread and Wine and the Sanctuary Lamp in the Church and in the Convent can be dedicated on a weekly basis. The offering for ALL MASSES throughout the Archdiocese is \$10.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE**

**The Challenge of Consumption**

Pope Benedict XVI, in the homily given at his Mass on inauguration as Pope, raised the spectre of the deserts that are growing on the planet, deserts that are both spiritual and material. The Pope said that it cannot be a matter of unconcern that so many of our contemporaries are living in the desert. "There is the desert of poverty, the desert of hunger and thirst, the desert of abandonment. These external deserts are growing," he asserted, "because the internal deserts have become so vast. Therefore the earth's treasures no longer serve to build God's garden for all to live in, but they have been made to serve the powers of exploitation and destruction."

**PAPAL BLESSING REQUESTS**

Papal Blessings can be obtained from the Vatican Office in Rome or from the Apostolic Nunciature in Washington, DC. Individuals named in the blessing must be practicing Catholics. In general, a Papal blessing is customarily sought on the following occasions: Priests' First Mass, parish Religious events, e.g., anniversaries, Religious Profession or Entrance into Consecrated Life, Anniversaries of Priestly Ordination, Religious Profession; Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, Marriage, Wedding Anniversary, Birthday, or a General Blessing. If interested, please contact the Parish Office.

**CLOTHING BINS**

Would you be willing to go through your closets to get rid of all those unwanted winter clothes and shoes which served you so well during the winter? Why not donate them to the Catholic Charities bin on the Church grounds. Thank you for helping Catholic Charities continue its mission.

**What is the Catholic League?**

The Catholic League is the nation's largest Catholic civil rights organization. Founded in 1973 by the late Father Virgil C. Blum, S.J., the Catholic League defends the right of Catholics – lay and clergy alike – to participate in American public life without defamation or discrimination. Motivated by the letter and the spirit of the First Amendment, the Catholic League works to safeguard both the religious freedom rights and the free speech rights of Catholics whenever and wherever they are threatened.

What can we do about it? Besides prayer, all Catholics should join The Catholic League at [www.catholicleague.org](http://www.catholicleague.org) or 450 7th Ave, NY, NY 10123 and receive the journal *The Catalyst*, which has articles detailing where Catholicism is under attack and by whom.

**Moms, Tots & Pops**

OLV has a playgroup for infants and children ages 1-5. The group meets Tuesdays from 9:30AM to 11:30AM in the lower church.

**LEARN TO KNIT/CROCHET**

The OLV Catholic Daughters meets every Wednesday evening in the rectory and will teach you to knit or crochet. For more information, contact Renee Tringali at 201-768-0648.

**JOIN OLV Power House PRAYER GROUP**

This prayer group is one that each and every parishioner could and should join - even children can become members. A person who joins is given a couple of names of sick, dying or injured individuals who need prayers. Each and every day you then pray for the people. It is that easy and simple so become one of our prayer team members. There are no meetings, so this apostolate is wonderful for all, including those parishioners who are homebound. For information, phone Maria at the rectory.

**RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT**

"Healing the Pain of Abortion" ... September 9-11, 2016 at the Archdiocesan Youth Retreat Center, Kearny, NJ. Cost: \$150 (Includes all materials and meals). For information call Cheryl Riley 973-497-4350 or email [rileyche@rcan.org](mailto:rileyche@rcan.org). All calls/emails confidential.

**Catholic Daughters of the Americas**

If you are a woman over the age of 18 and looking for a ministry at Our Lady of Victories that will fulfill your desire to become more active within the church community, CDA is for you. We invite you to attend our next meeting on Tuesday, September 20, at 7:00PM, in the lower church for coffee and cake. At this meeting we will talk about some of the many worthwhile CDA projects in local communities and throughout the nation, e.g. scholarships - Gr. 8 through college, guest speakers, fund raising, unwed mothers, homelessness, and morality in the media. If you would like to attend the meeting or become a member, contact [ReneeTringali@gmail.com](mailto:ReneeTringali@gmail.com) or 913-2580.

**RESPECT LIFE**

Yet another example of the ongoing flood of success stories with non-embryonic stem cells is that of three year old Alyssa Dupuis who suffered brain damage at birth that caused cerebral palsy. Her parents decided to bank her umbilical cord blood which was recently given to Alyssa via stem cell transfusion. Immediate positive results were seen, and at last report this little girl, according to her mother is "about 85% cured from cerebral palsy". *NRL News, Feb-Mar, 2010*

**IT'S IN THE BIBLE**

The phrase "*Den of thieves*", used to describe an area in which we would not want to be, comes to us from Jeremiah 7:11.

**Volunteers Needed—Life Source Hospice**

Life Source Hospice is seeking volunteers to be part of our elderly patients' end-of-life care. Volunteers provide patients throughout Bergen County with companionship by sitting, listening and praying with them. Volunteers determine their own schedules and can visit on evenings and weekends. Most volunteers donate 2 hours a week of their time for a minimum of one year. Volunteers receive ongoing hospice training and support by experienced hospice professionals. For more information, contact Life Source Hospice 201-967-4313 or [kplifefsourcehospice@yahoo.com](mailto:kplifefsourcehospice@yahoo.com).

**PADRE PIO**

The saintly stigmatized Padre Pio was always a merciless enemy of feminine vanity: he never tolerated low-necked dresses, short and or tight fitting skirts, and forbade his spiritual children to wear transparent stockings. In the last few years of his life, his severity increased enormously, as fashions became more and more immodest. He unrelentingly dismissed from his confessional before they could step inside, all women judged to be incorrectly dressed. By 1967, on some mornings, he turned them away one after another, until he ended up confessing very few. His brethren noticed this with a certain unease; then, they decided to post on the door of the church a warning: "By Padre Pio's explicit wish, women must enter the confessional wearing skirts AT LEAST 8 INCHES BELOW KNEE. It is forbidden to borrow longer dresses in church and to wear them in the confession." The beginning of the struggle with no concessions whatsoever coincided more or less with the advent of the mini-skirt, launched by the English girl Mary Quant. It had not yet reached Italy as Padre Pio was thundering against short skirts. As fashion houses announced: "Eight inches above the knee", Padre Pio warned: "Eight inches below the knee".

When summer comes, a pastor of souls worries a little more than usual about the salvation of the flock that Our Lord has confided to him. He knows that, in the summer season, souls are more exposed to occasions of offending God, "of attacking God with His own gifts", especially through sinful fashions of dress. Our Lady said to Sister Lucy at Fatima: "There will be fashions which will greatly offend My Divine Son". Today's fashions prove Our Lady's words true, for these fashions are occasions of sin, occasions, alas, of serious sin by reason of the sinful thoughts and desires which they provoke. In the Gospel, Our Lord warned us about such evil desires: "But I say to you that whosoever shall look on a woman to lust after her, hath already committed adultery with her in his heart". (ML 5:28).

In the life of Saint Frances of Rome, we read of a vision of Hell which was granted her, and which lasted for four hours. God willed to show her, in the fires of Hell, certain ladies whom she had known in Roman society. For what sins had these souls been damned? They had been damned: - for guilty desires, even though these had not been put into act. - for indecent styles of dress, which were the fashion of the day, and which had been a cause of seduction and of sin, for dances, considered inoffensive by the world. This vision of Hell so marked Saint Frances of Rome, that she had it painted on the murals of her chapel, as a constant reminder of the judgments of God. God then gave her the mission of drawing the Roman ladies out of their luxury and their vanity.

**YOU'RE INVITED**

Our young people often say that one of the biggest reasons they don't consider the priesthood or Religious Life when they think about the future is that NO ONE EVER INVITED THEM to do so. Do you know any young people who have a healthy sense of self, who spend time volunteering to help others, attend Mass regularly, and have leadership potential? Pray for them and invite them to consider a life of service in the Church. For info, call Fr. Matt Dooley at 973-497-4365.

**Mass Intentions**

**Monday, August 29 – Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist**

8:00 Intentions of Kelly Bolton R/b the Bolton Family  
12:00 David Carron R/b the Bloomer Family

**Tuesday, August 30– St. Fiacre, Hermit-Ireland**

8:00 Frances Schmitt R/b Tom and Jeanne Hennessey  
12:00 Melanie Punla R/b Minene Pacia

**Wednesday, August 31– St. Aristedes, Athenian Philosopher**

8:00 Rose Vespucci R/b the Poggi Family  
12:00 Timothy Pommert R/b Judy Pommert

**Thursday, September 1 – St. Giles, Abbot - France**

8:00 Marijan Fizulich R/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich  
12:00 Joseph Sekerak R/b Erik and Michele Liik

**First Friday, Sep. 2–St. Ingrid, Virgin-Swedish Dominican Sister**

8:00 Theresa Corcoran R/b Tom and Jeanne Hennessey  
12:00 Giron Family R/b Raphael and Margoth Giron  
7:30 Beatrice Ucci R/b Joe Tobia

**First Saturday, September 3–St. Gregory the Great of Rome, Italy-Pope**

8:00 Joseph and Anna Bonomolo R/b Tom and Phyllis Burderi  
12:00 Souls in Purgatory  
4:00 Irene Ricciardi R/b Bruce Michael Ricciardi  
5:00 Wendy Walker R/b Tony and Laura Scott

**Sunday, September 4-St. Rosalia of Palermo, Italy-Virgin**

7:30 William and Irene O'Neill R/b the Reeves Family  
8:15 Intentions of Ann Vassel R/b the Bolton Family  
9:30 Charles Orlando R/b John and Sandy Trainor  
10:45 Martino Scivanich R/b the Busanic Family  
12:00 David Zocco R/b Mike Zocco  
1:00 People of the Parish  
6:00 Teresa Davey R/b Chris and Mary Oakes  
7:00 William Hudson R/b Erik and Michele Liik

**Sanctuary Memorials**

**The Church Sanctuary Lamp** burns this week for the **Intentions of Anna Heaney**, r/b John Heaney.

**The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp** burns this week for the **Intentions of Anna Heaney**, r/b John Heaney.

**The St. Joseph Votive Votive Lamp** burns this week for the **Intentions of Anna Heaney**, r/b John Heaney.

**The Hosts and Wine** used at Mass this week have been donated for the **intentions of Anna Heaney**, r/b John Heaney.

**JUST A REMINDER**

The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.

**REMINISCE**

A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

**Kids Korner Answers**

1. Santa Susanna
2. Los Angeles with 5 million RCs
3. The Cathedral of San Fernando in San Antonio - 1738
4. St. Patrick's in NYC
5. Sixteen (16)
6. over 19,000

"It is not enough to be Christian in name; it behooves us to be such in fact." **St. Ignatius of Antioch**

**What an awesome and orderly GOD!!**

God's accuracy may be observed in the hatching of eggs.  
For example:

- the eggs of the potato bug hatch in 7 days;
- those of the canary in 14 days;
- those of the barnyard hen in 21 days;
- The eggs of ducks and geese hatch in 28 days;
- those of the mallard in 35 days;
- The eggs of the parrot and the ostrich hatch in 42 days.

(Notice, they are all divisible by seven, the number of days in a week!)

The lives of each of you may be ordered by the Lord in a beautiful way for His glory, if you will only entrust Him with your life. If you try to regulate your own life, it will only be a mess and a failure. Only the One Who made the brain and the heart can successfully guide them to a profitable end.

God's wisdom is seen in the making of an elephant. The four legs of this great beast all bend forward in the same direction. No other quadruped is so made. God planned that this animal would have a huge body, too large to live on two legs. For this reason He gave it four fulcrums so that it can rise from the ground easily.

The horse rises from the ground on its two front legs first. A cow rises from the ground with its two hind legs first. How wise the Lord is in all His works of creation!

God's wisdom is revealed in His arrangement of sections and segments, as well as in the number of grains.

- Each watermelon has an even number of stripes on the rind.
- Each orange has an even number of segments.
- Each ear of corn has an even number of rows.
- Each stalk of wheat has an even number of grains.
- Every bunch of bananas has on its lowest row an even number of bananas, and each row decreases by one, so that one row has an even number and the next row an odd number.
- The waves of the sea roll in on shore twenty-six to the minute in all kinds of weather.
- All grains are found in even numbers on the stalks, and the Lord specified thirty fold, sixty fold, and a hundredfold - all even numbers.

God has caused the flowers to blossom at certain specified times during the day, so that Linnaeus, the great botanist, once said that if he had a conservatory containing the right kind of soil, moisture and temperature, he could tell the time of day or night by the flowers that were open and those that were closed!

Thus the Lord in His wonderful grace can arrange the life that is entrusted to His care in such a way that it will carry out His purposes and plans, and will be fragrant with His presence. Only the God-planned safe life is successful. Only the life given over to the care of the Lord is fulfilled.

**TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR PARISH'S APPEARANCE**

At the end of each weekend the Church looks as if a tornado has touched down. The missals are tossed all over the pews and the floor. Tissues and a diverse assortment of garbage is strewn about. After the Masses please place the missals back in their racks, (closed and facing downward), and please kindly dispose of the assorted garbage.

**AIDS AWARENESS**

If we ignore AIDS until one of our friends or family becomes infected, it will be too late. Prevent AIDS by spreading the facts, not the fear.

**THE FUTURE**

Americans need to look to Canada to see their future. A monthly Catholic news magazine incurred thousands of dollars of legal fees to defend itself against the government's bogus charges and scurrilous campaign of harassment, including a human rights complaint from homosexual activists. Since Canada allows homosexual marriage, it is not surprising that they would be in the forefront to restrict Christianity's strictures against their sexual behavior. In fact the Canadian approach has already started to show its ugly face. A perfect example is the case of Kenneth Howell, a former University of Illinois adjunct professor who was recently fired from the Department of Religion for teaching in an Introduction to Catholicism class that homosexual acts violated the natural law. The decision came after an anonymous student complained in an email written by a friend that Howell's comments constituted *hate speech*. Howell had been teaching this class without incident since 2001. He vigorously protested that the department's decision was a violation of academic freedom. His protests fell on deaf ears as political correctness had trumped freedom of speech. The winds of change are definitely blowing.

**YOU ARE SPECIAL**

This should probably be taped to your bathroom mirror where one could read it every day. You may not realize it, but it's 100% true.

1. There are at least two people in this world that would die for you.
2. At least 15 people in this world love you in some way.
3. The only reason anyone would ever hate you is because they want to be just like you.
4. A smile from you can bring happiness to anyone, even if they don't like you.
5. Every night, SOMEONE thinks about you before they go to sleep.
6. You mean the world to someone.
7. You are special and unique.
8. Someone that you don't even know exists loves you.
9. When you make the biggest mistake ever, something good comes from it.
10. When you think the world has turned its back on you take another look.
11. Always remember the compliments you received. Forget about the rude remarks.
12. Good friends are like stars. You don't always see them, but you know they are always there.

**CONVALIDATION**

Were you married civilly by a mayor or justice of the peace and would now like to be married in the Catholic Church? See Fr Bryan for more details and to see if your marriage can be regularized with the Church

**RESPECT LIFE**

In a statement so aptly describing our culture, Pope John Paul II wrote, "So great is the confusion at time that for many people the difference between good and evil is determined by the opinion of the majority, and even the time-honored protectors of human life – the family, the law and medicine – are sometimes made to serve the culture of death."

**KIDZ KORNER**

1. What's the name of the Catholic Church in Rome for Americans?
2. What is the largest Archdiocese in the US?
3. Which is the oldest Catholic cathedral in the US?
4. Which is the largest Catholic cathedral in the US?
5. How many American Cardinals are there?
6. How many Catholic parishes are there in the US?

**Answers on page four.**