

Our Lady of Victories Church

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

150 Harriot Avenue, Harrington Park, New Jersey

www.olvhpp.org

WELCOME

To the Parish Family of
OUR LADY OF VICTORIES

(THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART)

COME WORSHIP WITH US

HOLY ADVENTure

"Look for Christ and you will find him.
And with him, everything else."

C.S. Lewis



HOLY DAY MASSES for the
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
DECEMBER 8th

Friday 5:00PM, 6:00PM Latin & 7:00PM

Saturday 8:00AM & 12:00Noon

Sunday, December 2, 2018 A.D.

First Sunday of Advent

COME, LORD JESUS!



THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE/CONFESSION:

Monday - Friday 7:30am - 7:50am.

First Friday at 6:30pm

Saturday at 11:00a.m.-Noon; 3:00pm - 3:30pm

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.

Latin Mass every Sunday 8:15AM

Spanish Mass every Sunday 1PM



OLV Rectory
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Fr. Wojciech's Corner

YES, it's already here - ADVENT - a great time of preparation not only for Christ's coming, but a preparation for any coming of Christ in our life. That is why a true Catholic is a person who constantly lives an advent, always waiting for a new encounter with the Lord in the events of life and finally at the moment of our death. In fact, we even say Come Lord Jesus and in every Our Father, we say *your kingdom come*. We actually ask to shorten the time because THE TRUE LOVE of every Catholic is Jesus and it *cannot wait*.

As a way to fully live this season of Advent, Fr. Anthony and Deacon Al have prepared special events to help us. Both of these events will be in the context Prayer (Learning to be Vigilant) through the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Advent calls us to stay awake. Fr. Anthony will give us two reflections on two **Mondays December 3rd and 10th (7PM in the Church)**.

"Visus non mentietur" (Hab.2:3) The vision will not disappoint. Advent as a time of preparation for the personal coming of Christ in our lives and at the end of our lives.

Deacon Al will give us reflections **every Thursday** of Advent at **7PM in the Church** on **The Stories That Led up to Christmas** (Annunciation, Visitation and The Journey to Bethlehem).

Please join us for these great nights as much as you can. I am sure it will be great. More info on upcoming events that will be happening this Advent at OLV in this very Bulletin.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation

SATURDAY, December 8, is a Holy Day of Obligation. It is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception — the Patroness of the United States.

Masses will be FRIDAY 5:00PM, 6:00PM *Latin* and 7:00PM.
SATURDAY 8:00AM and 12:00Noon.

Parents Night Out

On **December 14th from 6PM-9PM** parents can drop their K-8th grade children off at the OLV School and then have a few hours to do last minute Christmas shopping or go out for a quiet meal before the real hustle and bustle of the Christmas season begins. In a holiday atmosphere with plenty of pizza and snacks, our Confirmation Candidates and the CCD Staff will entertain the children by showing Christmas movies, playing games, working on arts and crafts. If you would like your children to participate in this evening of fun, please call the CCD Office 201-768-1400.

CCD CORNER

Each CCD Class this month will begin with an **Advent Prayer Service** that will help prepare us for the coming of Christ. The students will be working on a special project, **A Gift of Joy**, in which they will bring in gifts for their counterparts who attend the Holy Family Academy in the Turk and Caicos Islands. Today, **December 2, after the 10:45 Mass**, our CCD Staff will be working with our children and their families in creating **Nativity Sets** for their homes. On **December 14, from 6-9PM**, our Confirmation Candidates will be sponsoring a **Parent's Night Out**, where moms and dads can get some free time while we entertain and interact with the children. On **December 9th, 15th & 16th** the students will be preparing their souls for the Nativity by receiving the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** and on **Christmas Eve at 3:30** they will be presenting a Christmas Pageant followed by Mass. May this Advent Season fill you and your families with awe and wonder as we move closer the Christmas.

Upcoming OLV Parish Events

Dec 3 - Mon - Advent Reflection 7:00PM
Dec 4 - Tue - Marian Novena Prayer 2:00-3:00PM
Dec 6 - Thu - Holy Hour: Advent Reflection 7:00PM
Dec 8/9 - Sat/Sun - Bethlehem Olivewood Crafts Sale
Dec 9 - Sun - Holy Name Society Mass/Meeting 9:30AM
Dec 9 - Sun - Giving Tree Gifts due back.
Dec 14 - Fri - Parents Night Out 6:00-9:00PM
Dec 18 - Tue - Silent Night, Holy Night 6:00-9:00PM

Giving Tree

Giving Tree Gifts are due back to OLV **next Sunday December 9th**.

Bethlehem Handicrafts

From the birthplace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Christian community is seeking your love and support through obtaining their handmade olive wood religious articles. These items will be displayed at the church after all Masses next weekend, December 8th and 9th. Your help can and will make a difference in the lives of your brothers and sisters in Bethlehem.

Youth Group Christmas Greens Sale

Proceeds of this sale support our Youth Ministry Program. Prices: Small Grave Blanket-\$25; Large Grave Blanket-\$35; Decorated Wreath-\$25. Thank you for your support.

Advent Reflections

During the next three Thursday evenings from 7 – 8PM OLV will be presenting **The Stories That Led Up to Christmas** during our weekly Holy Hours. Each night we will spend some time reflecting on these powerful moments and their impact on our lives and the history of salvation. We will recite from the Liturgy of Hours Evening Prayer and conclude with Benediction. Our topics for meditation are Week One: the **Annunciation**, Week Two: The **Visitation**, Week 3: The **Journey to Bethlehem**. As we prepare our homes for a joyous holiday let's find time to prepare our hearts and souls for the glorious Christmas Season!

Holy Name Society

OLV Holy Name Society meets on the second Sunday each month. The men attend 9:30AM Mass as a group, followed by recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet and then a meeting and refreshments. We discuss topics of interest to men who want to enhance their Catholic faith. Our next meeting is **Sunday, December 9**. New members are welcome.

Memorial Opportunity

The parish has purchased several sets of new vestments, which are available to be memorialized in honor of a loved one, deceased or living. Included are new vestments for deacons. The cost of the vestments to be memorialized is \$300 each. Call Maria at the rectory if you would like to memorialize any of these items in the name of your family or a loved one.

Clothing Bins

Most gifts will bring you a deep sense of joy on many levels – joy from the actual item you received and joy in knowing that someone thought about you. Catholic Charities reaches out to those who may not receive one gift and who may have very few if anyone to think about them. Help Catholic Charities by contributing to the clothing bin. Thank you.

SAVE THE DATE - January 26, 2019

Our Lady of Victories Knights of Columbus Council 14483

ELEVENTH ANNUAL "Hap Nightingale" BEEFSTEAK

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas Cards began in 1843 when a young British civil servant, who had no time to write Christmas letters to all his friends and relatives, asked an artist to design a card for him with the words: "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you." The card showed a family raising their glasses in a toast, which angered English Puritans who declared it promoted drunkenness! But 1,000 cards were sold at a penny a piece, and since the first "cheap" stamp had been introduced in Britain in 1840, a new tradition began! A few years later, an American of German descent, Louis Prang, the "father of American Christmas Cards," designed and printed beautiful, but rather expensive, cards. Eventually, mass-produced, less expensive cards flooded the market; US companies began to make them when German products were "taboo" during WWI and WWII, and a 169 year-old tradition began!

3 Comings of Christ

St. Bernard of Clairvaux says there are three comings: Advent prepares not just for the first coming of Christ to Israel, or even the second at the end of time. There is a third coming between these two in which Jesus comes in spirit and power for our rest and consolation. We know that there are three comings of the Lord. The third lies between the other two. It is invisible, while the other two are visible.

In the first coming he was seen on earth, dwelling among men; he himself testifies that they saw him and hated him. In the final coming all flesh will see the salvation of our God, and they will look on him whom they pierced. The intermediate coming is a hidden one; in it only the elect see the Lord within their own selves, and they are saved. In his first coming our Lord came in our flesh and in our weakness; in this middle coming he comes in spirit and in power; in the final coming he will be seen in glory and majesty.

In case someone should think that what we say about this middle coming is sheer invention, listen to what our Lord himself says: If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him. There is another passage of Scripture which reads: He who fears God will do good, but something further has been said about the one who loves, that is, that he will keep God's word. Where is God's word to be kept? Obviously in the heart, as the prophet says: I have hidden your words in my heart, so that I may not sin against you.

Keep God's word in this way. Let it enter into your very being, let it take possession of your desires and your whole way of life. Feed on goodness, and your soul will delight in its richness. Remember to eat your bread, or your heart will wither away. Fill your soul with richness and strength.

Because this coming lies between the other two, it is like a road on which we travel from the first coming to the last. In the first, Christ was our redemption; in the last, he will appear as our life; in this middle coming, he is our rest and consolation.

If you keep the word of God in this way, it will also keep you. The Son with the Father will come to you. The great Prophet who will build the new Jerusalem will come, the one who makes all things new. This coming will fulfill what is written: As we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, we shall also bear the likeness of the heavenly man. Just as Adam's sin spread through all mankind and took hold of all, so Christ, who created and redeemed all, will glorify all, once he takes possession of all.

Congratulations to ...

Hailey Santiago, who earned a place on the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's List at Loyola University.

Jude Rossmann, 11th grade, who achieved second honors at Paramus Catholic High School.

A little humor ...

Not the Brightest Bulb on the Tree

A medical student working at a poison control center received a call from a woman who was very upset because she had caught her little girl eating ants. The medical student quickly assured the woman that ants are not harmful and there would be no reason to bring her daughter to the hospital. As the woman calmed down she happened to mention that **she gave** her daughter some **ant poison** to eat to kill the ants. The woman was told to bring her child to the Emergency Room right away.

Other Events ...

Church of St. Mary in Closter will have an Advent Mission on Monday, December 3, 7:30-8:30PM. Prayer and reflection, inspired preaching by Bishop John Flesey, Evening Prayer. All are welcome.

Immaculate Conception Church in Norwood will hold a three-evening parish mission. Please join Deacon Anthony Liguori and his son, Christian, as they present a Parish Mission in prayerful reflections and heartfelt songs as we journey together through Advent. Tuesday, December 11, Wednesday, December 12 and Thursday, December 13, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM. For more information you may call 201-768-1600.

St. Andrew's Church in Westwood will have a Presentation: Words of the Magnificat on Friday, December 14, 10-11:30AM and Wednesday, December 19, 7-8PM in St. Andrew's Parish Center. Fr. Phil Latronico, Chaplain of the Community of God's Love in Rutherford will lead us in a reflection on the words of the Magnificat that will unlock the path that leads to the heart of Christ. Please register by calling 201-666-5697.

Advent - HOW TO BE VIGILANT

Many centuries ago a rabbi once asked his students how they could tell when the night was passed and the day was on its way back again.

One suggested - "when you see an animal in the distance and you can tell if it is a sheep or a goat."

Another said: "When you can see a tree in the distance and you can tell whether it is a fig tree or a peach tree."

But the rabbi was not impressed with these answers. He finally told his students - it is when you can look at the face of any human being and see there the face your brother or sister - because if you cannot do this, then no matter what time it is - for you it is still night."

Memory Awakens Hope

"Advent is concerned with that very connection between memory and hope which is so necessary to man. Advent's intention is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. The purpose of the Church's year is continually to rehearse her great history of memories, to awaken the heart's memory so that it can discern the star of hope...."

It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."

—Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, *Seek That Which Is Above*, 1986

Pray for Those in the Military

US Army

Captain Ben Clemente
Specialist Peter Dippolito
Major Michael Franson
Sergeant First Class Charles Greene
Captain Shawn Linn
Lieutenant Gigi McElroy
Colonel John McLaughlin
Lieutenant John G. Miele

US Air Force

Chief Master Sergeant Shawn Llewellyn

US Marine Corps.

Lance Corporal Matthew Brady
1st Lieutenant Ryan Colomeo
Lance Corporal Thomas lafrate

US Navy

Lieutenant Commander Julia Cheringal
Ensign Jon Clemente
Lieutenant Joseph Jaeger
Lieutenant Andrew Jaeger
OS3 Daniel T. LoVecchio

Prayer for the Safety of Soldiers

Almighty and eternal God, those who take refuge in You will be glad and forever will shout for joy. Protect these soldiers as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of Your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of Your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise You for Your loving care. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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**: baby Sean Cresci, baby Cole McKeon, Addie Bennington, Richard Bolton, Irene Ciccarino, Mary Corcoran, Eleanor Daily, Pat Dinnell, Antoinette Dougherty, Dan Filippone, Sebastian Filippone, Tommy Fitzpatrick, Kathy Freeburn, Marietta Flahive, Bernardita Garcia, Kyle Gauweiler, Anne Giotto, Tom Giuliano, Marylou Goreb, Thomas Haring, Glen Hall, Megan Kavanagh, Austin Kellar, Peter Kellar, Andrew Kloepfel, Lisa LoSchiavo, Peter Mahler, Anne Matthaehi, David Mercur, Skylar Migliaccio, Len Moriarity, Kevin Mullane, John Murawski, John Pal, Joyanna Peros, Andy Pfeiffer, Canice Prince, Dan Ragusa, Mary Rinner, Linda Rivera, Suzanne Rothschild, Wendy Ruggiero, Michael Tobia, Kathryn Turrell, Therese Vaglio, Jim Walsh, Angela, Brian, Carla, Chris, Dierdre, Edward, Jennifer, Lucas, Lynn, Lori, Michael, Patrick, Paul, Peter, Robert, and Sean.

NEED BAPTISM, FIRST COMMUNION OR CONFIRMATION

If you want to become a Roman Catholic or complete your Initiation into the Church, the RCIA is for you! For more information, phone the rectory. *Adult Catholics* who have not yet celebrated *Confirmation*, should also contact the rectory for preparation class information.

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. Wojciech for details and to see if your marriage can be regularized with the Church.

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It is necessary to understand that the whole of our life must be an "Advent", a vigilant awaiting of the final coming of Christ.

Pope St. John Paul II

Mass Intentions

Monday, Dec. 3--St. Francis Xavier of Spain-Missionary Priest

8:00 Veronica Kucera R/b Tony and Laura Scott
12:00 Alice Becker R/b Rae Rinaldi

Tuesday, December 4 – St. John of Damascus, priest, doctor

8:00 Anne Bellini R/b Carole Bellini
12:00 Helen Smith R/b Ralph and Pat Dinnell

Wed, December 5--St. Gerald of France-Bishop of Braga, Spain

8:00 Michael Flannery R/b the Barrett Family
12:00 James McGrath, Sr. R/b Dennis and Kathleen Falotico

Thursday, December 6-- St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra aka St. Nick

8:00 Lydia Mohsenin R/b Jeanne Marie Walsh
12:00 Helen Smith R/b Bruce Michael Ricciardi

Friday, December 7--St. Ambrose-Bishop of Milan, Italy

8:00 John Nicoletti R/b Rose Nicoletti
12:00 Intentions of the Giron Family

Vigil Masses for Feast of the Immaculate Conception

5:00 Deceased of the Nelson Family R/b the Gill Family
6:00 Latin Intentions of Amalraj Martin and Birabha Amalraj -
- 2nd Wedding Anniversary R/b Rani Victor

7:00 Lydia Mohsenin

Sat., December 8 – IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BL. VIRGIN MARY

8:00 Anna Grassi R/b Family
Immaculada Santos R/b Jimmy and Bernardita Garcia
12:00 Charles Ruiz R/b the LoSchiavo Family
4:00 Joseph Colella R/b Tony and Gloria DiBari
5:00 Rev. Zachary H. Monet, O.Carm. R/b Pat Consoli

Sunday, December 9--Saint Juan Diego

7:30 Heather Bessent R/b Carl and Rita Colasuonno
8:15 Catherine Marin R/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich
9:30 Deceased and living members of the Holy Name Society
10:45 Infant John R/b the Zanetti Family
12:00 Bill Desmond R/b the Desmond Family
1:00 People of the Parish
6:00 Helen Smith R/b Mike and Maria Hellrigel
7:00 Victorio Torres R/b Julie Torres

SANCTUARY MEMORIALS

The Church Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for the souls in Purgatory.

The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp burns this week for the repose of the soul of Lydia Mohsenin, r/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich.

St. Joseph Votive Lamp burns this week for the repose of the soul of Lydia Mohsenin, r/b Stacye Page.

The Convent Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for those serving in defense of our country.

The Infant of Prague Votive Lamp burns this week for the unemployed.

The Pope John Paul Votive Lamp burns this week for the intentions of those on OLV parish sick list.

Sanctuary Offerings

The Bread and Wine, Bl. Virgin Mary Votive Lamp, St. Joseph Votive Lamp, and Sanctuary Lamp in the Church can be dedicated on a weekly basis. AND the Altar Flowers are also available to be memorialized. Please contact the rectory for more information 201-768-1706.

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

1. Hessian troops during the American Revolution. 2. 30 million.
3. 1851 4. Franklin Pierce 5. Calvin Coolidge in 1923.

St. Nicholas, Bishop, *REAL Santa Claus*

December 6 - Patron of Bakers & Pawnbrokers

It is the common opinion that St. Nicholas was a native of Patara in Lycia, Asia Minor. He became a monk in the monastery of Holy Zion near Myra. He was made Abbot of this house by the Archbishop, its founder. When the See of Myra, the capital of Lycia, fell vacant, St. Nicholas was appointed its Archbishop. It is said that he suffered for the Faith under Diocletian, and that he was present at the Council of Nice as an opponent of Arianism. He died at Myra, in the year 342.

The characteristic virtue of St. Nicholas appears to have been his charity for the poor. St. Nicholas gave many gifts anonymously in his lifetime and became known as the protector of children, and our well-known Santa Clause is a derivative of St. Nicholas. The Dutch settlers brought the tradition of St. Nicholas with them to America, where they celebrated his feast day on December 6th, which is near Christmas time. The Dutch version of this Saint was called "Sinterklaas". Santa Claus became an Americanization of that name.

St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

December 7 - Patron of Candlemakers

St. Ambrose was born in Gaul, where his father exercised the office of Prefect of the Praetorium, about the year 340. His father died while he was still an infant, and with his mother he returned to Rome, where he enjoyed a good education, learned the Greek language, and became a good poet and orator. Later he moved to Milan with his brother.

Probus, Praetorian Prefect of Italy, appointed Ambrose Governor of Liguria and Aemilia. His virtues in this office and the voice of a child who proclaimed him Bishop, marked him out to the people of Milan as their Bishop on the vacancy of the See. Both Catholics and Arians elected him to the first dignity in the diocese, a dignity which he reluctantly accepted. As he was only a catechumen, he received the Sacrament of Baptism, after which he was consecrated Bishop, in 374, at the age of thirty-four.

After giving his fortune to the Church and the poor, he applied himself to study the Scriptures and ecclesiastical writers, placing himself under the instruction of Simplicianus, a priest of the Church of Rome, who succeeded him in the Archbishopric of Milan. His warfare against the Arians was such that by the year 385 very few still professed that heresy in the diocese.

When Maximus assumed the purple in Gaul, St. Ambrose was sent there, and he succeeded in concluding a treaty with the Emperor. But a second embassy, in 387, was not so successful: Maximus invaded Italy and was defeated by the Emperor Theodosius. St. Ambrose at a later date had occasion to reprehend Theodosius and did so with the greatest apostolical freedom.

He had the satisfaction of witnessing the conversion of the great St. Augustine, whom he baptized in 387. One of his last actions was the ordination of St. Honoratus. After a life of labor and prayer the holy Bishop of Milan died in 397.

"Mary, Queen of light, light the souls of sinners. Sunday is the property of our good God; it is his own day, the Lord's day."

Saint John Vianney

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

"The Immaculate Conception" is a title reserved for Mary, the mother of Jesus, the Christ. The expression means that MARY was conceived without sin. The conviction that Jesus was born of a virgin is a distinct belief, even though many Catholics erroneously believe that the Immaculate Conception refers to Jesus. Contributing to the confusion is the celebration of the Immaculate Conception during the season of Advent. While the faithful are preparing to honor the birth of their Savior Jesus, we commemorate the conception of Mary. The choice of December 8 for the Immaculate Conception does not directly relate to Advent; it corresponds more to the traditional date for the feast of the Birth of Mary, September 8. The feast of the conception of Mary is backed up from that day, by nine months. In a similar way, we celebrate the Annunciation on March 25, nine months before the birth of Jesus. Belief in the Immaculate Conception asserts that God preserved Mary from all sin from the moment of her conception, thus preparing a pure vessel for the incarnation of the Son. Although the Immaculate Conception of Mary has been affirmed since the earliest centuries of Christianity, it was not formally proclaimed until 1854. December 8 is now a Holy day of Obligation in the United States, which is placed under Mary's patronage with this title. Mary, the Immaculate Conception, is the exalted Queen of Heaven who manifests God's power over sin.

ANNOYING HABIT

A couple of aunts of mine had the annoying habit of coming up to me at weddings, poking me in the ribs and cackling, "You're next!" They stopped after I started doing the same to them at funerals.

ADVICE OF SAINTS FOR ADVENT

"In times of aridity when I am incapable of praying, of practicing virtue, I seek little opportunities, mere trifles, to give pleasure to Jesus; for instance a smile, a pleasant word when inclined to be silent and to show weariness. If I find no opportunities, I at least tell Him again and again that I love Him; that is not difficult and it keeps alive the fire in my heart. Even though this fire of love might seem extinct, I would still throw little straws upon the embers, and I am certain it would rekindle."

Saint Therese Lisieux, "The Little Flower"

SPIRITUAL EXCERPT

We are Christians and Catholics not because we worship a key, but because we have passed through the door; and felt the wind that is the trumpet of liberty blow over the land of the living."

G. K. Chesterton, *The Everlasting Man*, 2,4.

KIDZ KORNER

1. Who introduced the tradition of Christmas trees in the U.S.?
2. How many people in the U.S. buy live Christmas trees?
3. In what year were Christmas trees first sold in NYC?
4. What President first had a Christmas tree in the White House?
5. Which President started the National Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony?

Answers on page four.