

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

WELCOME

Sunday, July 20, 2025
Jubilee Year of Hope

To the Parish Family of
OUR LADY OF VICTORIES

The Little Church with a BIG Heart

Parish Office 201-768-1706

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Rev. Wojciech Jaškowiak
Pastor

Rev. Edmond P. Ilg
Parochial Vicar

Mr. Thomas Lagatol Mr. Albert McLaughlin
Deacons

Maria Hellrigel - *Parish Secretary*
201-768-1706

Religious Education (CCD)
Susan Evanella Denise Coulter (LSEC)
201-768-1400

Sr. Elizabeth Holler, SC Sr. Mary Corrigan, SC
In Residence-Convent

Lesia Rossmann
Music Ministry

Martin Coyne II
Dean Ubriaco
Parish Trustees

Jorden Pedersen Esq.
President Parish Council

Jon Fischer CFA
Chairman Finance Committee

SPECIAL MASSES OR DEVOTIONS:

First Friday: during summer months adoration from 8:30-11:50am, no 7:00pm Mass

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

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

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

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal: Monday

St. Anthony: Tuesday

St. Joseph: Wednesday

St. Jude: Thursday

Infant of Prague: 25th of the month

Bl. Miriam Teresa Demjanovich: Friday

St. Peregrine: First Friday of the Month

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



**Do not neglect
to show hospitality to strangers,
for by so doing
some people have
entertained angels without knowing it.**

Hebrews 13:2

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION:

Mon.-Sat.: 7:30-7:50am. Saturday: 11:00-11:50am; 3:00-3:45pm

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.

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4pm & 5pm
Sunday: 7am, 8am Latin, 9:30am,
10:45am, 12pm, 1pm Spanish, 6pm

Phone: 201-768-1706
Address: 81 Lynn St.
Email: olvrectory.hp@gmail.com

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

OLV Convent
201-768-1705
145 Parkway



Fr. Wojciech's Corner

Aleteia.org featured an article about a great way of understanding Scripture. The article points out that "there is a great, free, online resource for checking into what saints and theologians of the first centuries had to say about God's Word. As Catholics, we are always invited to read Scripture from within the mind of the Church. There are few better ways to do this than to see what the Church Fathers thought about a particular passage. A great resource for consulting the Fathers comes to us from the Middle Ages. Among the numerous works of St. Thomas Aquinas, we find his compilation called the *Catena Aurea*, or "Golden Chain," a commentary on each of the four Gospels made up of quotations from the Church Fathers. Even better, this resource is available for free at ecatholic2000.com/catena/. For example-St. Augustine writes: Now as was her humility in sitting at His feet, so much the more did she receive from him. For the waters pour down to the lowest part of the valley, but flow away from the rising of the hill.

What does it mean that "Mary has chosen the better part"?

To the Fathers, Jesus here is pointing towards our supernatural destiny. While we are called to serve each other here on earth, our ultimate fulfillment is union with God forever - the contemplation of the divine essence in eternity. Thus, Martha's work is indeed good, but Mary's part is closer to what we will experience in heaven - unlike servile work, contemplation of God's word "will not be taken away" in the life to come. St. Gregory says, "the works of an active life pass away with the body, but the joys of the contemplative life rather begin to increase from the end." Pope Francis used to say "just 2 minutes a day with the Gospels and your life will change."

Enjoy the *Bible dive* at ecatholic2000.com/catena/.

Pray for Vocations

"If there is no priest, then there is no Holy Mass; if there is no Holy Mass, then there is no consecration of the Sacred Host; if there is not consecration of the Sacred Host then there is no Holy Communion; then if there is no Holy Communion there is no Sacramental Presence of Jesus."

What if you are CALLED! ???

Call the Vocations office 973-497-4365 and ask for Fr. Gino, Director, who is always ready to listen - or call Fr. Wojciech at our parish 201-768-1706, ext. 11.

dress code REVERENT DRESS

It is the Supper of the Lord - formal dinner. Please keep it in mind, especially now in the summer months. Let us be an inspiration rather than a distraction.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas Scholarship

Scholarship up to \$1000 open to 8th grade students entering Catholic high school this Fall. To receive an application, mail request to Dr. Marie Woke, 20 Kensington Court, Norwood, NJ 07648. [Deadline for completed essay submissions is August 1st.](#) For more information call Marie 201-741-0499.

GOING ON VACATION
www.masstimes.org

Why is July the Month of the Precious Blood?

This monthly devotional stems from a pope's response to revolution.

Italy was in political turmoil for the first half of the 19th century. At that time, Austria ruled over some parts of Italy, and Italian revolutionaries were trying to throw off that rule. Petty skirmishes eventually led to a declaration of war on Austria in 1848 - and the Holy Father was caught in the middle.

Early in his pontificate, Blessed Pope Pius IX had extended political pardon to Italian revolutionaries who were exiled or imprisoned. His liberality, however, was greeted with demands to make further political concessions to the revolutionaries. Finally, revolutionaries attacked the pope's rule in the Vatican State itself. Some of the pope's ministers were even murdered.

By 1848, Pius IX found himself besieged in his own papal palace because he refused to sanction the war on Catholic Austria. Foreign ambassadors staying with the pope helped him disguise himself and flee the Vatican. He went to Gaeta, accompanied by a superior general of the Fathers of the Precious Blood.

Inspired by the superior general, Pius IX decided to institute an official feast for the Most Precious Blood, praying for the end of the war and bloodshed in Italy.

Soon after he announced this decision - at the end of June, 1849 - the war subsided. The first Sunday of July was set aside for the Most Precious Blood, and later Pope St. Pius X fixed the feast on July 1st. (In the current calendar, this feast is no longer fixed, but is a moveable votive Mass.)

MARY GARDENS

Christians of the early Church frequently used floral symbolism to honor the Blessed Mother. The Church Fathers, for example, took passages from the Scriptural passages from The Song of Songs to liken Our Lady to the rose of Sharon and the lily of the valley. By the Middle Ages, nearly 700 flowers and herbs had come to be associated with the Blessed Virgin. Some were associated through tradition, such as the rose of Sharon and the lily of the valley. Some were associated through legend. Our Lady's bedstraw is an herb said to have been placed by Mary in the manger. Columbine was called Our Lady's slipper because it was said to have grown where Mary's feet touched the earth. Here is a list of some common annuals and perennials named after or dedicated to Our Lady:

Annuals	Perennials
Sweet alyssum-Mary's flower	Morning Glory-Our Lady's mantle
Marigold-Mary's gold	English daisy-Mary's rose
Petunia-Our Lady's praise	Snowdrop-Our Lady's tears
Sweet pea-Our Lady's smile	Lily of the Valley-Our Lady's tears
Cornflower-Our Lady's crown	Daffodil-Mary's star
Pansy-Our Lady's delight	Bleeding heart-Mary's heart
Forget-me-not-Eyes of Mary	Iris-Our Lady's sword

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Pray for Those in the Military

US Army

Captain Ben Clemente
RRT Specialist James Crumb
Staff Sergeant Peter Dippolito
Major Michael Franson
Sergeant First Class Charles Greene
Captain Shawn Linn
Colonel John McLaughlin
Sergeant Major Marc Medina
Captain John G. Miele
Captain Joseph W. Niece
1st Lieutenant Megan Niece
Captain Jack Ottomanelli
Staff Sergeant David Petersen
Specialist John Petersen

US Marine Corps.

Corporal Shanna Bennett
Staff Sergeant Matthew Brady
1st Lieutenant Ryan Colomeo
Corporal Mark Fredrick
Private Nicholas Giron
Major Stephen Ikalowych
Captain J.P. Maher
Corporal Cody McGrath

US Navy

Commander Julia Cheringal
Lieutenant Jonathan Clemente
Lieutenant Joseph Jaeger
Lieutenant Andrew Jaeger
Airman Cody Massa

US Air Force

1st Lieutenant Brian Kearney
Chief Master Sergeant Shawn Llewellyn

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 the 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 Will*: infants Jack Merritt, Abigail Jude, Aidan, Olive, Adeline Quarello, Jonathan & Joseph; children Gabriel Aungst, Antonio and Shane, Cordelia and Eileen, Remy and Silvie; Cheryl Alonso, Annie Baklycki, Kevin Douglas Barry, Michael Baruch, Julie Berbert, Richard Bolton, Paul Brennan, James Buckley, Joe Cafaro, Anna Carfagno, Bill Clark, Kevin Columbo, Thomas Connolly, Eddie Cooper, Paula Criqui, Michael Curran, Marie D'Ascenzo, Maryann Dean, Noelle DeJoseph, Vincent DePaola, Marge Devitt, Guy DeSantis, Siobhan Donaghi, Whitney Dugan, Carl Falasca, Michael Fallon, Dan Filippone, Jeremy Fillis, Peter Fimbel, Walter Flaherty, Mary Foley, Phil Gangusa & Vicky Ferrara, Robin Fletcher, Leo Gendron, Ken Grier, Glenn Hall, Pat Halligan, Cara Hansen, Amy Hartwell, Richard Hogan, Kristine Leigh Hook, Rolando Joaquim, Austin Kellar, Pat Kissane, Christina Kenny, Tim Keohane, Joseph Koch, Chester Kovalski, Artie Latz, Kenneth Luther, Peter Mahler, Robert Mayer, James McGarry, Matt McGowan, Michael McMahon, Adolfo Mendoza, David Mercur, Alice Miller, Len Moriarity, Gianna Moscatello, Kevin Mullane, Rose Marie Myers, Natalie Niebergall, Michael Oates, John Pal, Mary Parker, Tom Paskewich, Ronald Peterson, Louis Peduto, Bob Phillips, Cathy Pomett, Canice Prince, Christina Pulver, William Ragu, Dan & Phyllis Ragusa, Robert Rasmussen, Patrick Ricci, Herman Rodriguez, Veronica Romanchuk, Wendy Ruggiero, Beth Sacco, Blase K Sacus, Samantha Sconzo, Patricia Ann Shalhoub, Peggy and Chris Shelden, Roseanne Stella, Brian Sumereau, Michael Suresh, Maria Tamayo, Ollie Tetlow, Angeline Thomas, Felicia Veneruso, Jim Vlantes, Carl Walker, Megan Weingarten, Hope White, Maria Williams, Daniel Wu, Mary Young, Brian, Carla, Chris, Christina, Donna M., Edward, Elba, Jennifer, Joann, John, Karen, Kathleen V., Kaitlin V. Lauren, Lisa, Lou, Lucas, Lynn, Madeline, Mary, Mary Ann, Michelle, Patrick, Peter, Robert, Samantha, Sarah, Scott, Sean, Sharon, Steven, Tom.

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

- 1. July.
- 2. St. Mary Magdalene
- 3. Saints Joachim and Anne.
- 4. Sword.

Mass Intentions

Sunday, July 20 – St. Apollinaris - bishop - martyr

7:00 Rachel Minaya - 1st Anniversary R/b Sr. Elizabeth
8:00 Souls in Purgatory R/b Alysia and Ed Kelly
9:30 Fr. John H. O'Connor - 1st Anniversary
10:45 Vincent Schittulli R/b Mary Muggeo
12:00 Frank Muggeo R/b Bob and Sue Muggeo
1:00 People of the Parish
6:00 Roger Ryan R/b Sr. Elizabeth

Monday, July 21 – St. Lawrence of Brindisi - priest - doctor

8:00 Joseph Franchi R/b Tom and Jeanne Hennessey
12:00 William McGinnis R/b Pete Stonitsch

Tuesday, July 22 - St. Mary Magdalene

8:00 Bob Connolly R/b Margaret Brandes
12:00 Kathleen Falotico R/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich

Wednesday, July 23 – St. Bridget of Sweden, religious

8:00 Sally Leone R/b the Dunn Family
12:00 Connie Roccanova R/b Guy and Patti Schweizer

Thursday, July 24 – St. Charbel Makhlof, priest

8:00 Intentions of Mary Urban R/b the Coulter Family
12:00 Connie Roccanova R/b Dennis Falotico

Friday, July 25 – St. James, apostle

8:00 Intentions of Mary Higgins R/b Joan Crowley
12:00 Anna Lucia Arias R/b Maria Arias

Saturday, July 26 - Ss Joachim & Anne, Parents of Bl. Virgin Mary

8:00 Martha Bland R/b Laura Neuman
12:00 Mary Moylan R/b Pauline Burke
4:00 Michelle Paparella R/b loving parents
5:00 Jean Bentivegna R/b the Bentivegna Family

Sunday, July 27 - Ss. Nathalia, Aurelius & George-Martyrs

7:00 Harry Barrett R/b the Barrett Family
8:00 Intentions of Eleanor Walsh R/b Alysia Kelly
9:30 Andrew Oakes R/b Bill and Michele Blackinton
10:45 Anna and Joe Bonomolo R/b the Burderi Family
12:00 Christopher Cleary and Patrick Dolan R/b the Dolan Family
1:00 People of the Parish
6:00 Steven Fernandez R/b Allison Hargrove

Sanctuary Memorials (this week)

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn for the souls in Purgatory.

The Bl. Virgin Mary Votive Lamp will burn for the repose of the soul of Kathleen Falotico, r/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich.

The St. Joseph Votive Lamp will burn for the victims of the floods and their families.

Sanctuary Offerings The Sanctuary Lamp, Bl. Virgin Mary Votive Lamp, St. Joseph Votive Lamp, and the bread and wine can be dedicated on a weekly basis. Altar Flowers may be dedicated as well - contact the rectory.

My Parish-My Responsibility Thank you to those who so generously continue to support our parish by mailing in your donations. At the same time, we understand that some are experiencing decreased income and are unable to continue their donations at this time. *Donations may be mailed to OLV Rectory, 81 Lynn St., Harrington Park, NJ 07640.*

New to the area? Register to become a member of the OLV Family. Visit OLV's website olvhp.org and click on "Parish Registration".

New address or phone number? Please inform the rectory.

Tuesdays are dedicated to the Apostles

**GREAT WAYS
TO SPEND SUMMER** with kids
go to **DAILY MASS** with your kids
recite daily the **ROSARY**
and read Bible stories from Book of Genesis, Exodus, Book of Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, Book of Judith, Ruth, Esther and Book of prophet Daniel and Jonah
Read LIVES OF SAINTS
by Alban Butler, Online resources
<http://www.sacred-texts.com/chr/lots/index.htm>
Or online google the saint of your birth day, Baptism, 1st Holy Communion, Graduation day, Confirmation day, wedding day, etc. You can also travel virtually to the places where they lived - SO MUCH FUN, so much to find out and learn & above all so much INSPIRATION
SO MUCH FUN + INSPIRATION

St. Mary Magdalene - July 22



The feast of St. Mary Magdalene is considered one of the most mystical of feasts, and it is said that of all the songs of the saints, that of Mary Magdalene is the sweetest and strongest because her love was so great. That love was praised by Jesus Himself who said that because much was for-

given her, she loved much. Where she is buried, no one knows. Legend has her dying in Provence, France, in a cavern where she spent her last days, and her body resting in the chapel of St. Maximin in the Maritime Alps. Another has her buried in Ephesus where she went with St. John after the Resurrection. This latter view is more likely, and St. Willibald, the English pilgrim to the Holy Land in the eighth century, was shown her tomb there.

She was the first recorded witness to the resurrection of Jesus, His most ardent and loving follower. She had stood with Mary at the foot of the Cross on that brutal Good Friday afternoon and had been by the side of Mary during these difficult hours. On Easter morning, she went with the other women to the tomb and it was there, in the garden near the tomb, that Jesus appeared to her. It was she who brought the news of the Resurrection to the Apostles, and Peter and John raced to the tomb to see what had happened.

She was from Magadala, a small fishing town on the Sea of Galilee, between Capernaum and Tiberias. She was known to be a "great sinner," a woman of the streets who heard Jesus speak of the mercy and forgiveness of God and changed her life completely. Her matter-of-fact witness to the Resurrection moved Peter and John to go and see for themselves: "I have seen the Lord and these things he said to me." Jesus had chosen her to bring the news to them and she simply told them what had happened.

She has always been the example of great love and great forgiveness, one of those close to Jesus who grasped the truth of God's love for human beings and spent her life bearing witness to that love.

—Excerpted from *The One Year Book of Saints* by Rev. Clifford Stevens

Are you an **ADULT** without

Confirmation, Communion or Baptism?

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

REQUIREMENTS FOR BAPTISM OR CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

Godparent/Sponsor must be at least 16 years old * **Godparent/Sponsor must be in good standing with the Catholic Church.** Must be a practicing Catholic (*Attend Sunday Mass weekly*). * Must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation. If married, must be married in the Catholic Church. * If single, not living with significant other, nor married civilly only. * **Godparent/Sponsor cannot be the candidate's parent.** Each child only requires one Godparent. If you wish to have two Godparents, there must be one female and one male. (CanonLaw872874)

Sacred Matrimony on Sacred ground

"ceremony" at the venue is not a valid Sacrament

For the Catholic Church the Sacrament of Matrimony is such a sacred matter that the Church requires for two Catholics to be married Sacramentally in the Catholic Church, not elsewhere. All the Sacraments except Confession are always celebrated in Church. Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and the Sacred Orders (Priesthood is even celebrated at the Cathedral of a given Diocese). A Catholic priest can only officiate Sacrament of Matrimony of two Catholics on sacred grounds (Church). This wedding at the same time is a civil wedding. For more info contact Fr. Wojciech.

Respect Life Any woman who is pregnant and in need of assistance should **never** feel that abortion is her only option. For confidential assistance call: Archdiocese Respect Life Office: 973-497-4350 * Gateway Pregnancy Center: 908-353-0604 * Catholic Community Services: 201-246-7379 * Lifecall: 800-662-2678 * Birthright: 201-845-4646.

Job Opportunity: New Hope is seeking a nurturing, dependable woman with a heart for supporting young mothers in need at our maternity home. This person would be a live-in (Salary included with free home & board) House Mother and provide daily guidance and structure for 2 to 5 pregnant women or new mothers. If interested, please contact us at 201-722-4705 or info@newhopeprc.org.

OLV Needlers If you'd like to learn to knit or crochet, join us in the lower church Wednesdays at 6PM and/or Thursdays after 12Noon Mass. Yarn, crochet hooks and knitting needles supplied.

OLV Knights of Columbus All men over 18 are invited to join the Knights of Columbus, the world's largest men's fraternal organization. As Catholic men we are called to lead, serve, protect and defend our Faith, families, and our parish. The Knights of Columbus will help you grow as a husband, father and Catholic. Join us!

Catholic Daughters of the Americas For info call Marie 201-741-0499.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat *Healing the pain of abortion...*

September 19-21, 2025

For info contact Cheryl Riley at 973-497-4350 or Cheryl.riley@rcan.org.

KIDZ KORNER

1. What month is dedicated to the Precious Blood?
2. Which saint was the first recorded witness to Jesus' resurrection?
3. What saints are the patrons of grandparents?
4. The Iris is associated with Our Lady's ____?

Answers on page 3

Saint Bridget of Sweden—July 23rd



Saint Bridget of Sweden was born about the year 1302 in Sweden, and belonged to an illustrious as well as pious family. Shortly after her birth Bridget lost her saintly mother. Her father then undertook to raise her with the aid of an aunt. As a very young girl Saint Bridget manifested a decided inclination for things spiritual. At the age of ten God favored her with a vision of the Crucified. The thought

of the unspeakable torments which our Lord endured on Calvary affected her so deeply that she shed copious tears, and from that moment the sacred Passion was the subject of her meditation. Saint Bridget of Sweden wished to consecrate her virginity to the Lord, but obedient to the wish of her father she married Prince Ulf, a young man of solid virtue. Both joined the Third Order in order to strengthen themselves in the works of piety and the practice of penance. God blessed their marriage with eight children, and Bridget made it her sacred duty to raise them in the fear of God. Among her charities there stands out especially her service to the poor and the infirm; she waited on them with great care, sometimes even washing their feet and kissing them. During the return journey from Compostela, where they visited the grave of the Apostle St James, Ulf fell seriously ill at Arras. St. Denis then appeared to Bridget at night and assured her that her husband would recover. He also foretold events which would take place in their lives. Ulf soon afterwards entered the Cistercian monastery of Alvastra, where he died in the odor of sanctity in 1344. Saint Bridget of Sweden now divided her estate among her children and the poor, clothed herself in a coarse garment with a cord for a girdle, and began to lead a very austere life. She built a convent for nuns at Vadstena and gave them the rule of St Augustine, thus founding the Order of Our Savior. She spent two more years partly at Vadstena and partly at Alvastra, where her husband had died. Then, at God's command, she went to Rome, where she practiced the virtues in a high degree. St Bridget labored much for the return of the papacy to Rome, and was charged by God to deliver several messages to Popes Innocent VI, Urban V, and Gregory XI. In 1371 she made a visit to the Holy Land in compliance with a command from our Lord. There He bestowed on her extraordinary graces and imparted to her a knowledge of His sacred mysteries. Upon her return to Italy she was stricken with a grievous illness, which afflicted her for an entire year. Having foretold the day of her death, she passed into the joys of eternity on July 23, 1373 at the age of 71 years. St Bridget was laid to rest in the Poor Clare convent of St Lawrence in Panisperna. The following year her body was removed to the convent at Vadstena in Sweden. Many miracles were wrought at her intercession, and Pope Boniface IX canonized her.

www.roman-catholic-saints.com

**Miracle at St. Ann's Shrine in Scranton, PA
the grandmother of Jesus came to the rescue.**

The Passionist monastery in Scranton was in trouble. The first several years of their new ministry in the Pennsylvanian coal-mining city had gone splendidly. They had only come, at first, to conduct their usual ministry of retreats and missions, but Scranton had taken such a shine to them that they were invited to found a permanent community there. They named it after St. Ann, the mother of Our Lady.

But now the entire enterprise was about to collapse. Literally, collapse. The problem with coal mining areas is that the earth beneath them—compromised by the subterranean coal tunnels—is subject to dangerous slides and shifts. These can be fatal to the integrity of the buildings above ground.

This problem arose for St. Ann's, which sat upon a 10-acre plateau known as the "Round Woods." On August 15th, 1911, great cracks suddenly tore the ground beneath the building. The monastery had survived, but was badly damaged. And then, two years later, another terrestrial shift forced the Passionists to leave.

A major collapse was imminent, experts said. But the Passionists and the laity who loved St. Ann's weren't giving up. On the night of July 28th, 1913, two days after the feast of St. Ann, they prayed together through the night. And then, at dawn... *BOOM! Rumble, roll...* what was that noise? Could it be the building collapsing?

No! It was two giant boulders rolling into place to fill the dangerous cracks that had threatened the beloved monastery! The foundations were sturdy again. St. Ann's was saved!

See it for yourself. St. Ann's Monastery and Shrine Basilica (it was named a minor basilica by Pope John Paul II in 1997) remains an active community to this day. Each Monday they say a weekly novena to St. Ann and the Passionist saints, and every July 17th–26th, they hold a Solemn Novena in honor of their patroness—a major event attended by thousands of people every year.

Saints Joachim and Anne - July 26th

Joachim and Anne were the parents of Jesus' mother, Mary. We don't know many details about their lives because they are never mentioned in the New Testament. Everything we know about them comes down through tradition - the stories people told about them. We believe that they were respected members of the Jewish community and that they wanted to become parents so much that Joachim went into the desert to fast and pray that God would hear their prayer. It is said that an angel told them that they would soon have a daughter who would become famous throughout the world. Months later, Mary, our Blessed Mother, was born. Tradition tells us that when Mary was three years old, Anne and Joachim took her to the temple in Jerusalem to consecrate her for special service to the Lord. We call this celebration the "Presentation of the Virgin Mary." It means that Mary was to play an important part in God's loving plan for the world. We honor Mary's parents, Joachim and Anne, as saints. We celebrate their joint feast day on July 26. Their love for one another and for Mary is an example to us of how God calls us to live. They also remind us to honor our own grandparents and to thank them for the blessings they have passed down to us in love. In the Middle Ages numerous churches, chapels, and confraternities were dedicated to St. Anne. The church of St. Anne in Jerusalem is believed to be built on the site of the home of Saints Joachim and Anne when they lived in Jerusalem. St. Anne and her husband St. Joachim are the patron saints of grandparents and couples suffering from infertility. They are also inspiring models of a holy marriage and a holy family, and they're known for their intercessory prayers for healing and helping people find their future spouses.

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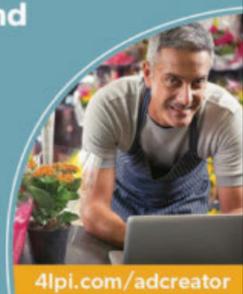
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