

# 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

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

Sunday, August 3, 2025  
Jubilee Year of Hope



## ADORATIONS

Wednesday

8:30AM-11:50AM

First Thursday

NO HOLY HOUR in summer

### 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

OLV Rectory  
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

We just finished the month of July dedicated to the Precious Blood of our Lord. Now we start August, the month dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. May Her Heart teach our hearts.

This weekend in Rome one million young people are expected for the Youth Jubilee. This will be the first meeting of the new Pope Leo XIV with the youth.

Last Sunday, Pope Leo XIV gave a nice address at the Angelus commenting on the prayer of Our Father. You can find the entire address at [zenit.org](http://zenit.org) or [Vatican.va](http://Vatican.va) which are great websites for Holy See. Here is the excerpt: The Catechism of the Catholic Church expresses this very well: "Thus the Lord's Prayer at the same time that it reveals the Father to us" (ibid., 2783). Indeed, (cf. 8:14-17) reveals us to ourselves how true this is, for the more we pray with confidence to our heavenly Father, the more we discover that we are beloved children and the more we come to know the greatness of his love (cf. Rm 8,14-17).

This Wednesday we will celebrate the Solemnity of Transfiguration of Our Lord. May His Divinity transform us every day.

As some students prepare to leave for college for the first time we wish them Godspeed.

Enjoy the last month of vacation.

### Say a Hail Mary

Fr. Gabriel Amorth, Chief Exorcist of the Vatican writes: One day a colleague of mine heard the devil say during an exorcism: "Every Hail Mary is like a blow on my head. If Christians knew how powerful the Rosary was, it would be my end." The secret that makes this prayer so effective is that the Rosary is both Prayer and meditation. It is addressed to the Father, to the Blessed Virgin, and to the Holy Trinity, and is a meditation centered on Christ.

### Holy Name Society Meeting - Sunday, August 10th

**Are you looking for a community of men to share your faith with?** The OLV Holy Name Society is a community of men of all ages who attend 9:30am Mass on the second Sunday of the month, say the Divine Mercy Chaplet right after, then gather downstairs till 11:45am for friendship, reflection, and refreshment. Our next Mass / meeting is Sunday, August 10. If you need to attend a different Mass time, that's fine, just come for the Chaplet & meeting. **Our reflection topic will be "Why We Still Need Catholic Schools"** and our guest speaker will be Mrs. Ann Mitchell, principal of St. John's Academy in Hillsdale.

### 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.

### Prayer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary



*O Immaculate Heart of Mary*, Heavenly beauty and splendor of the Father, You are the most valued Heavenly treasure. New Eve, immaculate in soul, spirit and body, Created of the godly seed by the Spirit of God, You are the spiritual Mother of mankind. Pure Virgin, full of grace then and now, Your whole being was raised Heavenly in full glory, To be elevated above all the hosts within the Kingdom of God.

*O Heavenly Mother*, Queen of Heaven and earth, I recognize the glory of your highest title, The Immaculate Heart of Mary!

*Loving Mother*, dispenser of endless blessings, You who continuously intercedes on our behalf, Please present my need before your loving Son Jesus. (make your special request here).

*O Immaculate Heart of Mary*, I know that you are now presenting my need before Jesus, For you have never turned away those in dire need.

*Mother dearest*, I await your favorable answer, Submitting myself to the Divine will of the Lord, For all glories are His forever and ever.

Lord,

I do not know what any day holds,

I cannot take for granted

any of the gifts you have given.

Help me to use them, then,

as you would have me.

Help me to live according to Your invitations.

Amen.

### 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**

**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 Kovaleski, 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 Pommert, 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 Shedden, 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, Mary, Margaret, Melinda, Michelle, Patrick, Peter, Robert, Samantha, Sarah, Scott, Sean, Sharon, Steven, Tom.

**Mass Intentions**

**Sunday, August 3 - St. Lydia – Patroness of Dyers**

7:00 Jack Corrigan R/b the Barrett Family  
8:00 Intentions of Alysia and Ed Kelly Family  
9:30 Robert Morosky R/b Michael and Mary Jane Ferro  
10:45 Joseph Tucci R/b Cathy Ryan  
12:00 Pat McNamara R/b Rita McNamara  
1:00 People of the Parish  
6:00 Florence Wisniewski R/b Marlene Thornton

**Monday, August 4 - St. John Mary Vianney, priest**

8:00 Margaret Sweeney R/b the Romano Family  
12:00 Donald M. Ulisse Sr. R/b Don Ulisse

**Tuesday, August 5 - Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major**

8:00 Selena Piazza R/b the Evanelia Family  
12:00 Johanna and James Harrison R/b the Gill Family

**Wednesday, August 6 - Transfiguration of the Lord**

8:00 Arthur "Bud" Hardwick-1st Anniversary R/b Tom & Jeanne Hennessey  
12:00 Kathleen Falotico R/b New Hope

**Thursday, August 7 - St. Cajetan and St. Sixtus II - Martyrs**

8:00 Intentions of Sandra Ramirez Guzman R/b the Giron Family  
12:00 Carole Stonitsch R/b Pete Stonitsch

**Friday, August 8 - St. Dominic of Calaroga, Spain-Priest**

8:00 Joseph Campana R/b Lisa Unanue  
12:00 Selena Piazza R/b Sonny and Anita Garzino

**Saturday, August 9 - St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)**

8:00 Intentions of Hilda Baumeister R/b Joan Crowley  
12:00 Elaine Lamendola R/b Jinnie Moran  
4:00 Frances and Richard Ziemkiewicz R/b Barbara Sita  
5:00 Angela Caserta R/b Robin Janell

**Sunday, August 10 - Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr**

7:00 Selena Piazza  
8:00 Kathleen Falotico R/b Linda Maliani  
9:30 Andrew Oakes R/b Fred and Jane Wiseman  
10:45 Silvio and Mary Burderi R/b the Burderi Family  
12:00 Craig Parrella R/b Jon and Jen Fischer  
1:00 People of the Parish  
6:00 Edwin Barber R/b David and Donna Hansen

**Sanctuary Memorials (this week)**

**The Sanctuary Lamp** will burn for the intentions of students leaving for college.

**The Bl. Virgin Mary Votive Lamp** will burn for the repose of the soul of Lydia Mohsenin, r/b the Dunn Family.

**The St. Joseph Votive Lamp** will burn for the souls in Purgatory.

**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.

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## St. John Vianney - Patron of Parish Priests

Jean-Baptiste-Marie Vianney was born May 8, 1786 in Dardilly, France and was baptized the same day. He was the fourth of six children born to Matthieu and Marie Vianney. John was raised in a Catholic home, and the family often helped the poor and housed St. Benedict Joseph Labre when he made his pilgrimage to Rome. In 1790, when the anticlerical Terror phase of the French Revolution forced priests to work in secrecy or face execution, young Vianney believed the priests were heroes. He continued to believe in the bravery of priests and received his First Communion catechism instructions in private by two nuns who lost their convents to the Revolution. At 13-years-old, John made his first communion and prepared for his confirmation in secrecy. When he was 20-years-old, John was allowed to leave the family farm to learn at a "presbytery-school" in Écully. There he learned math, history, geography and Latin. As his education had been disrupted by the French Revolution, he struggled in his studies, particularly with Latin, but worked hard to learn. He joined his heroes as a priest August 12, 1815. Three years later he was made a parish priest of Ars, a remote French hamlet, where his reputation as a confessor and director of souls made him known throughout the Christian world. He is often referred to as the "Curé d'Ars" (i.e. the parish priest of Ars), internationally known for his priestly and pastoral work in Ars because of the radical spiritual transformation of the community and its surroundings. Catholics attribute this to his saintly life, mortification, persevering ministry in the sacrament of confession, and ardent devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. His fame spread until people began to travel to him in 1827. Within thirty years, it is said he received up to 20,000 pilgrims each year. It is reported that the staunchest of sinners were converted at his mere word. His life was filled with works of charity and love. With help from Catherine Lassagne and Benedicta Lerdet, La Providence, a home for girls, was established in Ars. He was deeply devoted to St. Philomena and erected a chapel and shrine in her honor. When he later became deathly ill but miraculously recovered, he attributed his health to St. Philomena's intercession. He died on August 4, 1859, and was canonized on May 31, 1925 by Pope Pius XI. -Catholic.org

St. John Vianney-pray for all our priests

## St. John Marie Vianney's advice to a couple

**Spend three minutes praising and thanking God for all you have. Spend three minutes asking God's pardon for your sins and presenting your needs before Him. Spend three minutes reading the Bible and listening to God in silence. And do this every day.**

## KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

1. August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.
2. The fourth Luminous Mystery of the Rosary is the Transfiguration of the Lord.
3. Jesus' appearance changed and became glorious.
4. Peter, James, and John witnessed the Transfiguration.
5. Moses and Elijah appeared with Jesus at the Transfiguration.

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.

**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' contact 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.

## CLOTHING BINS

Please help Catholic Charities continue its mission by donating your unwanted clothing, small appliances, shoes, sheets, towels, stuffed animals, and books (no reference books) to the donation bin located on our property. May the spirit of the Risen Christ resound through your generosity. Thank you.



SUNDAYS

Aug 10-Oct 12

10AM-2PM

## The Transfiguration

Take a moment to reflect on the Fourth Luminous Mystery.

You were transfigured on the mountain, and your disciples, as much as they were capable of it, beheld your glory, O Christ our God, so that when they should see you crucified they would understand that your Passion was voluntary, and proclaim to the world that you truly are the splendor of the Father. —*Byzantine Liturgy, Feast of the Transfiguration, Kontakion*. The Rosary contains such power because it is a template for the spiritual life. Each time Our Lady leads us through the mysteries we are united to Christ and led to encounter our own frailty. And the mystery of the Transfiguration is the spiritual life in miniature. After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; then from the cloud came a voice, “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” (Mark 9:2-7) In this mystery Christ draws three apostles very near to himself. As in days of old, the mountaintop becomes a place of closeness with God. Like Abraham and Isaac ascending Mt. Moriah, Moses who ascended Mt. Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments, or Elijah’s experience in the cave on Mt. Horeb, the disciples have gone up with Christ. The mountaintop is a place to see clearly. In purely natural terms, climbing a mountain allows the landscape below to be seen for what it is. It’s from the mountaintop that the terrain becomes clear. Pope Benedict XVI says, “The mountain is the place of ascent – not only outward, but also inward ascent; it is a liberation from the burden of everyday life, a breathing in of the pure air of creation; it offers a view of the broad expanse of creation and its beauty; it gives one an inner peak to stand on and an intuitive sense of the creator.” Christ does not reveal himself in a valley, but on a higher place. We must pour forth our own strength, even as we are moved by Christ’s, to see him at the summit. What was revealed to the disciples? Christ in all his glory. The Lord’s humanity, during his earthly life, cloaked his divinity. But in this moment the veil was pulled back, and the radiant splendor of his face shown forth. For the disciples, it was a vision as terrible as it was astonishing. It aroused fear, even as Peter voiced the desire to remain in that place. But the spiritual life cannot be spent on peaks. We must descend. We embark on travels through the valleys. We are sustained by the mountaintop experience. As we face the valleys we know the glory that awaits. The disciples never forgot that vision. Seeing the glory of Christ, they were able to hope in the Resurrection. In the darkest moments of the Passion, they knew because of the Transfiguration the true nature of the Lord of Glory.



## Why do white petals fall from the ceiling of St. Mary Major every year?

A beautiful legend surrounds the founding of one of the most important churches in the world.

St. Mary Major, or, in Italian, *Santa Maria Maggiore*, is one of the four major, or papal, basilicas. These are all found in Rome and include St. Peter’s, St. John Lateran, and St. Paul Outside the Walls.

St. Mary Major is sometimes called St. Mary of the Snows or Our Lady of the Snows. Its alternate titles trace their origin to the incredible legend of its founding in the 4th century, which tells of the Roman patrician John and his wife who were without heirs. They prayed to Our Lady to show them how they might use their riches for her honor. Our Lady then designated the place of the Basilica through a snowfall on the crest of the Esquiline Hill—a miraculous occurrence, since it was summer! Both John and Pope Liberius received visions informing them of the event and, upon finding the snowfall, the Holy Father marked out the place of the future church. Hence another of its titles: the Liberian Basilica.

The current structure was dedicated by Sixtus III on the 5th of August, 434. Built during the time directly after the Council of Ephesus, which confirmed Our Lady’s title as *Theotokos*, the God-bearer, the Basilica stands as a monument to the Church’s ancient and undying devotion to the Mother of God.

Every year on the feast of its dedication, a “snowfall” of white petals is released from the ceiling of the Basilica during Mass to commemorate its founding.

In addition to its magnificent 5th century mosaics, the Basilica also houses a far greater treasure. A relic of Our Lord’s crib is kept under the high altar: several slats of wood in which He rested the night of His Nativity. This crypt is also the final resting place of the great St. Jerome, who translated the Bible into Latin and spent his last days in Bethlehem.

St. Mary Major also contains the miraculous Marian icon *Salus Populi Romani* which, according to legend, was painted from life by St. Luke, using wood from the table of the Holy Family. Its title translates to “Health (or Salvation) of the Roman People,” and it has been venerated by popes and pilgrims for centuries.

## KIDZ KORNER

1. What month is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary?
2. What is the fourth Luminous Mystery of the Rosary?
3. What happened to Jesus in the Transfiguration?
4. Who witnessed the Transfiguration?
5. Which two Old Testament prophets appeared with Jesus during the Transfiguration?

Answers on page four.

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