

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 Evanelła Denise Coulter (LSEC)
201-768-1400

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

Lesa 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: 12:30-7pm Adoration, 6pm Confessions,
7pm 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, September 7, 2025 A.D.
Jubilee Year of Hope



ADORATIONS

We are back to our regular schedule
Tuesdays and Thursdays

8:30AM-11:50AM

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 ...

All of us were shocked and in dismay at what happened recently in Minneapolis. Minneapolis Police Chief Brian O'Hara described the shooting at Annunciation Catholic School as an act of "sheer cruelty and cowardice". One of the brave 8th graders said: "... I prayed, and I said my few prayers. And then I realized I can't just sit here and focus on myself, knowing that with God on my side, I would be fine. So I tried to just go and help out my classmates, to try to keep them calm and safe, and let them know that they'll be okay." Let us pray for all the victims and their families.

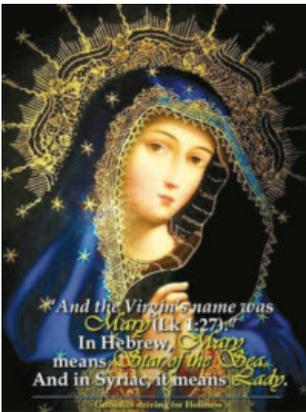
This week we remember the tragic event of 9/11. We remember and pray for all and especially our parishioners who lost their lives to the terrorist attack. We thank all who served those days for others and for our country.

Monday, September 8, the Archdiocese of Newark will have a new bishop ordained. His Holiness Pope Leo XIV has appointed **Rev. Pedro Bismarck Chau** as an Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Newark. He will be the first Nicaraguan-born bishop in the US. Cardinal Tobin will be the principal celebrant of the Mass of Episcopal Ordination for Bishop-elect Chau at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark.

Sunday, **September 28**, we will **begin Family Mass** at 9:30AM in the OLV Gym and we will **start our CCD** program that day. Let us remember to attend Mass regularly. Let us always be grateful **to our teachers who volunteer** their time for us. **I strongly appeal to all Catholic coaches and parents** to make their schedules keeping in mind that **Sunday is the Day of the Lord**. *God first and everything will fall in... order* as the saying goes. We would never have this day free if the Lord would not make it a day of rest. Sunday then belongs first to the Lord. Thank you in advance to all who put God first in everything we do.

The Most Holy Name of Mary-September 12

The Most Holy Name of Mary said Devoutly is a Prayer



"Blessed is the man who loves thy name, O Mary," exclaims St. Bonaventure. "Yes, truly blessed is he who loves thy sweet name, O Mother of God! for," he continues, "thy name is so glorious and admirable, that no one who remembers it has any fears at the hour of death." Such is its power, that none of those who invoke it at the hour of death fear the assaults of their enemies. St. Camillus de Lellis urged the members of his community to remind the dying often to utter the holy names of Jesus and Mary. Such was his custom when assisting people in their last hour. Oh, that we may end our lives as did the Capuchin Father, Fulgentius of Ascoli, who

expired singing, "O Mary, O Mary, the most beautiful of creatures! let us depart together."

I ask thee, O Mary, for the glory of thy name, to come and meet my soul when it is departing from this world, and to take it in thine arms.

-St. Bonaventure

St. Vincent de Paul / Social Concerns Meeting

Tuesday, September 9 at 7PM - Lower Church

New members are welcome!

Holy Name Society Meeting - September 14

Men of all ages are invited: 9:30am Mass, Divine Mercy Chaplet and refreshments/discussion in the lower church. *Our reflection topic will be "Archbishop Bernard Hebda: 'It really is our task now to try to connect people with the hope that's within us'."*

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
September 8**

THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN

MARY-The ladder

Today a virginal gateway draws near: through her the God who is above all creatures will "come into the world" "bodily", according to St Paul's expression (Heb 1,6; Col 2,9). Today, from the stump of Jesse a shoot has sprouted (Is 11.1) from which will grow a flower for the world, united in its nature to the divinity. Today, from earthly nature a heaven has been created on earth by him who, in former times, made the firmament solid by separating it from the waters and setting it in the heights. But this heaven is more astonishing than the former, since



he who in the first case created the sun has now himself arisen from this new heaven like a sun of justice (Mal 3,20) ... Eternal light, begotten before the ages from eternal light, immaterial and incorporeal being, takes his body from this woman and, like a bridegroom, comes forth from his bridal chamber (Ps 18,6)... Today, the "son of a carpenter" (Mt 13,55), the ever-active Word of the one who made all things through him, strong arm of God Most High... has made for himself a living ladder whose base is set on the earth and whose summit reaches the sky. Upon it God rests; this is what Jacob beheld in dream (Gn 28,12); by it God descended from his immovability or, rather, bent down in condescension and thus "appeared on earth and moved among men" (Bar 3,38). For these symbols represent his coming here below, his descent through pure grace, his earthly existence, the true knowledge he gave of himself to those on earth. The spiritual ladder, the Virgin, has been set on earth since she takes her origin from the earth, but her head has been raised to heaven... It is through her and the holy Spirit that "the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (Jn 1,14). It is through her and the holy Spirit that the union of God with men is accomplished.

-*Saint John Damascene* (c.675-749), monk, theologian, Doctor of the Church Homily on the Nativity of the Virgin (trans.SC 80)

**Men do not fear a powerful hostile army
as the powers of hell fear
the name and protection of Mary.**

-St. Bonaventure

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, 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 Viantes, 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.

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

- 1. The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- 2. The Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- 3. Blessed Carlo Acutis & Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati.
- 4. Saint Peter Claver.

Mass Intentions

Sunday, September 7 - St. Regina of Alise, France-Virgin-Martyr

7:00 John J. Roache
8:00 Silvio Mattessich R/b Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Mattessich
9:30 Ken Berlinghieri R/b the Berlinghieri Family
10:45 Chris and Mary Schwindel R/b Joan Gaffney
12:00 Gladys Heyliger R/b the McElroy Family
1:00 People of the Parish
6:00 Lucille Mary Schmidt

Monday, September 8 - The Birth of Mary

8:00 Kathleen Falotico R/b the Giron Family
12:00 Selena Piazza R/b the Dunn Family

Tuesday, September 9 - St. Peter Claver of Catalonia, Spain-Priest

8:00 Margaret Mary Oates R/b Wayne and Chris Hall
12:00 William and Irene O'Neill R/b the Reeves Family

Wednesday, September 10 - St. Nicholas of Tolentine

8:00 William A. Duby Sr. R/b the Duby Family
12:00 Ralph Stutzer R/b Rae Rinaldi

Thursday, September 11 - St. Adelphus-Bishop of Metz, Germany

8:00 Peter Biefeld R/b John and Marion Barrett
12:00 Victims of 9/11 and their families

Friday, September 12 – Most Holy Name of Mary

8:00 Elena Giordano R/b the Galloway Family
12:00 George McNamara R/b Rita McNamara

Saturday, September 13 – St. John Chrysostom-bishop, doctor

8:00 Kathleen Ragusa and Karen Mullé R/b the Carey Family
12:00 John Lavelle R/b Patricia Meehan
4:00 Michelle Paparella R/b loving parents
5:00 James Millar - Anniversary R/b the Millar Family

Sunday, September 14 - Exaltation of the Holy Cross

7:00 Thomas Weir R/b Michael Weir
8:00 Howard and Deirdre Walsh Family R/b Alysia Kelly
9:30 Selena Piazza R/b OLV Social Concerns
10:45 Anna and Joe Bonomolo R/b the Burderi Family
12:00 Beverly Juliano R/b Michael and Tish Oates
1:00 People of the Parish
6:00 Brian McElroy Sr. R/b the McElroy Family

Sanctuary Memorials (this week)

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in loving memory of Chris Vialonga, r/b Kaye Vialonga.

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.

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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Saint Peter Claver - September 9



A native of Spain, young Jesuit Peter Claver left his homeland forever in 1610 to be a missionary in the colonies of the New World. He sailed into Cartagena, a rich port city washed by the Caribbean. He was ordained there in 1615.

By this time the slave trade had been established in the Americas for nearly 100 years, and Cartagena was a chief center for it. Ten thousand slaves poured into the port each year after crossing the Atlantic from West Africa under conditions so foul and inhuman that an estimated one-third of

the passengers died in transit. Although the practice of slave-trading was condemned by Pope Paul III and later labeled "supreme villainy" by Pope Pius IX, it continued to flourish.

Peter Claver's predecessor, Jesuit Father Alfonso de Sandoval, had devoted himself to the service of the slaves for 40 years before Claver arrived to continue his work, declaring himself "the slave of the Negroes forever."

As soon as a slave ship entered the port, Peter Claver moved into its infested hold to minister to the ill-treated and exhausted passengers. After the slaves were herded out of the ship like chained animals and shut up in nearby yards to be gazed at by the crowds, Claver plunged in among them with medicines, food, bread, brandy, lemons, and tobacco. With the help of interpreters he gave basic instructions and assured his brothers and sisters of their human dignity and God's love. During the 40 years of his ministry, Claver instructed and baptized an estimated 300,000 slaves.

Fr. Claver's apostolate extended beyond his care for slaves. He became a moral force, indeed, the apostle of Cartagena. He preached in the city square, gave missions to sailors and traders as well as country missions, during which he avoided, when possible, the hospitality of the planters and owners and lodged in the slave quarters instead.

After four years of sickness, which forced the saint to remain inactive and largely neglected, Claver died on September 8, 1654. The city magistrates, who had previously frowned at his solicitude for the black outcasts, ordered that he should be buried at public expense and with great pomp.

Peter Claver was canonized in 1888, and Pope Leo XIII declared him the worldwide patron of missionary work among black slaves.

KIDZ KORNER

1. Whose birthday does the Church celebrate on September 8th?
2. What feast day does the Church celebrate on September 12th?
3. Who will be canonized this Sunday (September 7)?
4. What saint is the patron of missionary work among black slaves?

Answers on page three.

GOING ON VACATION

Masstimes.org

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. (Canon Law 872-874)

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 Ctr. 908-353-0604*Catholic Community Svcs. 201-246-7379 *Lifecall 800-662-2678*Birthright: 201-845-4646*New Hope 201-722-4705.

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.

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

The L I T T L E Things

- As you might remember, the head of a company survived 9/11 because his son started kindergarten.
- Another fellow was alive because it was his turn to bring donuts.
- One woman was late because her alarm clock didn't go off on time.
- One was late because of being stuck on the NJ Turnpike because of an auto accident.
- One of them missed his bus.
- One spilled food on her clothes and had to take time to change.
- One's car wouldn't start.
- One couldn't get a taxi.
- The one that struck me was the man who put on a new pair of shoes that morning, took the various means to get to work, but before he got there, he developed a blister on his foot. He stopped at a drugstore to buy a Band-Aid. That is why he is alive today.

Now when I am stuck in traffic, miss an elevator, turn back to answer a ringing telephone ... All the little things that annoy me. I think to myself, This is exactly where God wants me to be at this very moment... Next time your morning seems to be going wrong, the children are slow getting dressed, you can't seem to find the car keys, you hit every traffic light, don't get mad or frustrated; it may be just that God is at work watching over you. May God continue to bless you with all those annoying little things, and may you remember their possible purpose.

Pope Leo XIV canonizes first new saints in his pontificate. Pier Giorgio Frassati & Carlo Acutis on September 7

Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati will be canonized together on September 7, 2025, during the Church's Holy Year - a moment that will mark the first time a millennial becomes a saint.

Why is this moment so significant? **Carlo Acutis**, born in London in 1991 and raised in Milan, embraced a deep love for the Eucharist from an early age. "To always be united to Jesus: This is my life plan," he once told his mother after receiving his First Communion, according to *Catholic News Agency (CNA)*. Carlo was not only devoted to daily Mass and acts of kindness - he was also a tech-savvy teenager who used his digital skills to evangelize. His Eucharistic Miracles website, which catalogued over 100 documented cases of Eucharistic phenomena, has since traveled to thousands of parishes worldwide.

His beatification in 2020 made him the first millennial to be declared "Blessed." Now, just 19 years after his death from leukemia at age 15, he will be canonized—a process that historically took centuries.

Two miracles have been approved as signs of Carlo's intercession. The first involved the healing of a Brazilian child with a malformed pancreas. The second, formally recognized in May 2024, was the recovery of 21-year-old Valeria Valverde from Costa Rica, who suffered a traumatic brain injury in a bicycle accident. Her mother had prayed for Acutis' intercession at his tomb in Assisi. According to CNA, Valeria's doctors had little hope - but she survived and recovered fully.

Carlo's influence doesn't stop with miracles. His witness has brought people to conversion, including his own family and his Hindu au pair, who converted to Catholicism. "People who place themselves before the sun get a tan; people who place themselves before the Eucharist become saints," he once said - a quote that continues to resonate with Catholic youth.

Joining Carlo in sainthood is **Pier Giorgio Frassati**. Born in 1901 in Turin, Italy, and beatified in 1990 by Pope John Paul II, Frassati was a mountaineer, student, and tireless servant of the poor. His motto, *Verso l'Alto* - "to the heights" - reflects both his love of mountain climbing and his spiritual aspiration toward heaven.

Frassati contracted polio at the age of 24, likely from his charitable work among the sick. He died on July 4, 1925, and his legacy has endured among Catholic youth movements and service organizations around the world. "Entirely immersed in the mystery of God and totally dedicated to the constant service of his neighbor," Pope John Paul II once said of him.

The decision to canonize both men on the same day, and during the Church's Jubilee of Youth, highlights the Vatican's desire to place young, relatable models of holiness before today's faithful. As Domenico Sorrentino, Archbishop of Assisi, noted, Carlo was "a boy full of life," whose brief time on earth offered "hope to younger generations who face a future that is not so easy to envisage" (*New York Times*). Together, Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati show that holiness is not reserved for the past, nor is it distant from ordinary life. It is alive and climbing—toward the heights.

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, x11.



Miracles attributed to Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati

Although many miracles may perhaps be attributed to the intercession of Blessed Frassati, the Church officially recognized the healing of Domenico Sellan in 1933. At the time, Domenico was 40 years old and suffering from a tubercular disease of the spine, paralyzed and nearing death. A priest visited him on December 28, 1933, and brought him a small prayer card of Pier Giorgio (whose cause for canonization was opened soon after his death.) Domenico was miraculously cured and lived another 35 years. It wasn't until 1989 that the documentation of this miracle received final approval. Pier Giorgio Frassati was declared "Blessed" the following year on May 20, 1990.

Pope Francis recognized the miraculous healing in a decree on Nov. 25, 2024, of a seminarian of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles who was ordained a priest in June 2023. Father Juan Gutierrez, 38, then a seminarian at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo, California, tore his Achilles tendon while playing basketball with other seminarians in 2017. Concerned about the long and painful recovery and expenses, Gutierrez headed for the seminary chapel the day after getting an MRI "with a heavy heart." As he prayed, Gutierrez felt inspired to make a novena to Frassati. A few days into the novena, Gutierrez went into the chapel to pray when nobody was there. As he prayed, he recalled feeling an unusual sensation around his injured foot.

"I was praying, and I started to feel a sensation of heat around the area of my injury. And I honestly thought that maybe something was catching on fire, underneath the pews," Gutierrez recalled at a press conference on Dec. 16, 2024, at St. John the Baptist Parish in Los Angeles County, where he now serves as an associate pastor.

The seminarian remembered from his experiences with the charismatic renewal movement that heat can be associated with healing from God. He found himself gazing at the tabernacle, weeping. He was not only touched spiritually, but he was also healed physically. When Gutierrez went to the orthopedic surgeon a week later, "the orthopedic surgeon, after seeing the MRI and conducting physical investigations, said to him, 'You must have someone in heaven who likes you.'" Gutierrez was able to immediately resume playing the sports that he loved without any difficulties. The healing was verified by a diocesan inquiry and the examination of the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints' medical board, theologians, and the cardinals and bishops.

Monsignor Robert Sarno, a former official of the Vatican Dicastery for the Causes of Saints who served as the archiepiscopal delegate in the diocesan process in Los Angeles that examined the healing, noted that it is fitting that a young man playing basketball received the healing given that Frassati was known for his love of sport and outdoor activities.

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