

## August 15, 2021: The Assumption of Mary

### REVERENCE IN GOD'S HOUSE!

Some parishioners have asked me to use the weekly column to talk about MAINTAINING REVERENCE IN OUR CHURCH. I am happy to do so for two reasons: 1. REVERENCE is an integral part of our on-going parish focus on EUCHARISTIC RENEWAL and 2. in my 11 years at OLHOC, at different times we have tried different ways to encourage such REVERENCE IN OUR CHURCH and clearly the TIME HAS COME TO RENEW OUR PAST EFFORTS !

How can we KEEP SILENCE BEFORE MASS? How can we provide an environment allowing everyone to pray in silence in preparation for the great MIRACLE OF EVERY MASS: a personal encounter with JESUS HIMSELF? I am considering to put once again signs on the glass doors leading to the church (nave) reminding people that they are ENTERING HOLY GROUND: GOD IS ALWAYS PRESENT IN THE TABERNACLE . However as shown in past, such signs have failed to have a long-lasting impact. What else can we do?

What are the current problems we need to address? Our parish is blessed with a spacious NARTHEX, which facilitates to welcome and greet people coming to Mass and also serves to foster a sense of community as people are leaving church after Mass and enjoy FELLOWSHIP. However, if you sit in the back of the NAVE, you can be distracted by sounds coming from the Narthex.

We need to address two separate issues : 1. How to maintain SACRED SILENCE within the NAVE itself and 2. How to MINIMIZE background NOISES in the NARTHEX BEFORE MASS BEGINS (and then also DURING MASS). Significant changes can happen only if EVERYONE is committed individually to BE REVERENT while entering the HOUSE OF GOD.

I believe that the HOLY SPIRIT and HIS SPOUSE THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY will assist us as a Parish Community sharing the same spiritual goals .We pray that they will guide us individually in being REVERENT by:

1. blessing ourselves with Holy Water and making the sign of the Cross before we enter the Nave through the glass doors

- 2 . genuflecting to adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament reposed in the Tabernacle before we sit in our pew (if like me you have difficulty in genuflecting, make a deep bow before you enter a pew)

- 3 maintaining silence before the Mass begins

As a follow-up to our "little" Eucharistic miracle, we have already written and spoken extensively about the importance of REVERENCE throughout the Mass: first the Liturgy of the Word and then the Liturgy of the Eucharist, so that we can have a personal encounter with Our Lord Jesus Christ . REVERENCE includes the utmost RESPECT of the EUCHARIST during the Consecration and the Holy Communion.

I value your feedback/suggestions on how to continue promoting REVERENCE IN OUR CHURCH.

The ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN (August 15) happens to fall on a Sunday this year. As we have done in past celebrations of this great Solemnity honoring our Blessed Mother, we will all together renew our CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY at the end of each Mass (simple prayer will be distributed at each Mass). Many of us, including myself, will have by then completed the 33 days of preparation for this Total Consecration according to St Louis de Montfort. If you have not yet done those 33 days of preparation we encourage you to do so next time we promote it in our parish.

Let us pray that Mary, our Mother and Queen in Heaven, will always guide us to her Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us pray with St Louis de Montfort: "*O HOLY SPIRIT plant in my soul the Tree of true Life, which is MARY...O HOLY SPIRIT, give me great DEVOTION TO MARY, Thy Faithful Spouse. Give me great confidence in her maternal heart and an abiding refuge in her mercy so that by her THOU may truly form in me JESUS CHRIST...*"

*"O Holy Spirit and Mary, help all of us to maintain a deep sense of Reverence at every Mass we attend."*

One in Christ,

Fr. Alain

## Parish Registration

We know summer is the time of year when families are moving around.

If you are moving into our parish, welcome!

If you are moving out of the parish, we have enjoyed worshiping with you and hope you will come back and visit.

Forms to register are on our website: <https://olhoc.com/parish-registration>

Please notify the office if you are moving out of the parish  
(301)645-7112

## Community Outreach

As we enjoy these warm days of August it is also time to think ahead about the cooler months to come and those who will be in need of warm coats, hats, gloves, etc.

The OLHOC Outreach will again be collecting new and “gently used” outerwear. All donations will be given to Children’s Aid Society of Waldorf. A box will be in the Fr. Martin Hall starting in September for your donations. Thank you all in advance!

“Sharing Sunday” remains the same. Our next Shepherd’s Table will be on August 19, 2021. The next Outreach meeting will be September 15 at 7 pm in the Father Martin Hall.

## \*\*\*Mass Intentions\*\*\*

OLHOC offers Mass intentions for the deceased, the sick, to give thanks, in celebration of a special event, or for someone who may need extra prayer. Dates and times of Masses are on a first come, first served request. A stipend for clergy is usually offered with a Mass intention. The Archdiocese recommends that it be \$10.00. However, the decision is left to the requester of the intention. To request a Mass intention, please come by the office or call.

## COME BACK TO CHURCH— SAFELY

The dispensation of the Sunday and Holy Day obligation has been lifted. The reinstatement of the obligation to attend Mass at church began at the end of June.

This does not apply to those who are ill, have reason to believe they have been exposed recently to the coronavirus, or any other serious or contagious illness. Anyone confined to a hospital, home or nursing facility or anyone having a serious underlying health condition will continue to have dispensation.

Please consult with Father Alain if you have questions regarding your obligation to attend Mass.

We implemented and have regularly adjusted a conservative COVID protocol for OLHOC constantly referencing guidance from CDC, MD state government, Charles County, and Archdiocese of Washington.\*

- Masks are required inside our church and building for everyone over the age of five. This applies if you are vaccinated or unvaccinated.
- Maintain 3’ social distance between household families.
- Wash hands frequently and use sanitizer when coming to Church.

Stay home if you feel ill or vulnerable to Covid transmission.

\*These may change as situation dictates

*The office will be closed on Monday, August 16 for a Staff Retreat*



## Part-time TUTOR Needed- First grade at OLHOC-based “Home Schooling Program”.

Experience preferred, skilled at curriculum implementation, love of children, ability to work/communicate with parents, staff and pastor are essential skills. OLHOC is partnering with Seton Home School Program, a faithfully Catholic Homeschool Program for the 2021-2022 school year. The Seton Home Program is Middle States Accredited and academically proven. If interested in the part-time position please submit a cover letter and resume to include three references emailed to [pastor@olhoc.org](mailto:pastor@olhoc.org) or leave at the OLHOC Church office.

**\*We are asked to pray for:**

Brandon Mack  
Nestor Ermelindo Molina  
James Thompson  
Joseph Albrittain  
Sid and Suzanna Marcus  
Aleli Puzon  
Patricia Delgado  
Ann Marie Hobart  
Larry McGraw  
Hele Custer  
Derrick Webster  
Julie Davis  
David DeMarr  
Dunnie Proctor  
Amelia Vinceguerra  
Lorraine Celijewski  
Cren Wolden  
Tabitha Barton  
Maria Townsend

Sheryl Carter  
Alex Leon  
Sharketer Butler  
Steven Bowling  
Edna Yarngo  
Kathly Grimes  
Sheny Padilla  
David Mesler  
Victor Cordero  
Georgiana Norgren  
Marie Bottorf  
Dorian Webster  
Dionne Gause  
Billy Dexter  
Trenia Price  
Eric M. Knapp  
Norm Green  
Sarah Dixon  
Grace Albrittain  
Elaine Moses

Yvonne Buford  
Karen Zimmerman  
Terri Elizabeth McAllister  
Burnette  
Joanne Johnson  
Mike Spurgeon  
Mary A. Dyson  
Kevin Viel Sr.  
Ligia Lam  
David Stanley  
Drew Shuda  
Wilma Cruz  
Fr. Eamon Dignan  
Dr. Michael St. Thomas  
Bessie Davis  
Brandon Mack  
Dionne Gause  
Thomas Keim  
Jack Lyons  
Margaret Clark  
Joan Johnson

Tess Franch  
Francesc Franch

and all our military and civilians  
serving in harm's way.

*\*Names will be removed after 3  
months unless you notify the office*



**Mass Intentions this Week**

**Saturday, August 14**

9:00AM: Cristinas Victorino (+)  
5:00 PM: Joanna Oudraogo (+)

**Sunday, August 15,**

8:30 AM: James McMahan (+)  
10:00AM: Christopher Idedevo  
11:30 AM: Fr. Ben Garcia  
1:00 PM: Kelly Andrews  
7:00 PM: OLHOC Parishioners

**Monday, August 16,**

7:00 AM: Michael LeSesne (+)  
9:00AM: Andrews family

**Tuesday, August 17,**

9:00AM: Regina Yates

**Wednesday, August 18,**

9:00 AM: Henry & Toya Ballesteros  
7:00 PM: Delia Lagman (+)

**Thursday, August 19,**

9:00 AM: Jose Galván

**Friday, August 20,**

7:00 AM: Soledad Viduya  
Ambuyoc

9:00 AM: Fr. Santiago Martin

*Please remember to pray for the  
Souls in Purgatory*

***The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary***

Catholics and many other Christian religions celebrate the feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The body and soul of our Heavenly Mother were taken into the presence of God and is celebrated on this, her feast day. Do you know when this dogma formally became part our faith?

**Tuesday Scripture Study** - Join us on Tuesday mornings after the 9 am Mass to study the readings for the next Sunday.

**Friday Scripture Study** - The Friday night scripture study is now online. Please call the office for information on how to join us.

**First Friday** - The first Friday of each month the evening Mass is dedicated to promoting the Priesthood. Following evening Mass, devotion to the Alliance of the two Hearts.

**First Saturday** - Join members of the Marian Group on the first Saturday of the month after the 9 am Mass. Learn more about consecrating your life to Jesus through Mary.

**Divine Mercy** - Join us on the first Saturday of each month as we pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet as a community at 3 PM.

**OLHOC Prayer Chain**

If you have a prayer request, please call the parish office or send email to [office@alhoc.org](mailto:office@alhoc.org).

**Mass Readings for August 22, 2021**

***21st Sunday in Ordinary Time***

***\*First Reading***

**Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b**

***\*Second Reading***

**Ephesians 5:21-32**

***\*Gospel***

**John 6:63c,68c**

**www.usccb.org**



**Speak Lord, I'm listening!**

## ***CCD Registration for 2021-2022***

We are now accepting enrollment for the 2021-2022 Religious Education school year.

Pre-k/Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 7th & 8th grades will be in class every Sunday (9:45-11:15 am). Special needs classes are held Mondays (5:30-6:30), RCIC classes will be every Monday from 7-8 pm.

3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th grades will be blended/hybrid classes. Hybrid classes have the option of attending every other Sunday (9:30-11:15), or Monday (6:45-8:10 pm).

Please sign up online at: <https://olhoc.com/re> or call the office for guidance.

**Catechists needed!** If you hear the Lord calling you to share your faith, please speak to one of our Priests, Sister Rosario, Marlen Coles, or call the office.

### ***James– Pearls for Wise Living Course***

Our 10-session course has already begun is James – Pearls for Wise Living by Ascension Press. It is every Sunday from 13 Jun – 15 Aug 21, 0930 (between the 8:30 and 11:30 Masses), in the Father Martin Hall and via Zoom Presenter, Jeff Cavins, shows how James' teachings speak to us who feel torn between the competing demands of this world and our Faith. The Book of James helped a fledgling Church live out its Faith in the face of persecution and a worldview opposed to the gospel and you will discover wisdom you can apply to your own life, now.

To Register on Ascension Press:

<https://study.ascensionpress.com/studies/55902/registrations/new>

Get Workbook (optional):

<https://ascensionpress.com/products/james-pearls-for-wise-living-study-set-1?variant=7553718616100>

Zoom Meeting Link: [Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

### **RCIA**

Interested in joining and learning about the Catholic Church for the first time? Want to complete a Sacrament (Baptism, Eucharist, and/or Confirmation)? For more information, please contact Deacon Rich at [deacon@olhoc.org](mailto:deacon@olhoc.org) or Diane and Mike Spurgeon at [RCIA.olhoc@gmail.com](mailto:RCIA.olhoc@gmail.com)

### **Anointing of the Sick, Questions for the Clergy**

Clergy is available for calls to the sick—with all precautions observed. Urgent confessions can be said with a home visit. If you have a question for clergy, you can leave a message by phone (301-645-7112) or email ([office@olhoc.org](mailto:office@olhoc.org)) for Fr. Alain or Fr. Jan

### **Youth News**

#### **Camp Covecrest**

Praise God for an amazing Holy Spirit Filled Week! Many thanks for your continued prayers, support and financial generosity for the youth and chaperones who attended Life Teen Camp Covecrest in Tiger, Georgia this past week! We had a week full of lots of adventure, various talks, small group sharing, music, team building, Adoration, opportunities for Confessions and daily Mass! May the Holy Spirit continue to unleash a new fire within our hearts as we go out and allow ourselves to be instruments for our Lord and share the Good News!

#### **Volunteer for Youth Core Team**

If you are interested in joining our team and assist with the Youth Core team, be a Confirmation Mentor, or learn more about ways to volunteer with the youth, please visit [www.olhoc.org/ymteam](http://www.olhoc.org/ymteam) or talk to Marlen Coles [marlen@olhoc.org](mailto:marlen@olhoc.org)

**Youth Ministry: Questions, please contact Marlen** [marlen@olhoc.org](mailto:marlen@olhoc.org) For more info. and an updated list of our summer events please visit [www.olhoc.org/ymevents](http://www.olhoc.org/ymevents)