

September 18, 2022: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

IN FIVE HOURS I WILL SEE JESUS

"In five hours I will see Jesus! May the will of God be done in all things! I have confidence in the love of Jesus. I know that He will order his angels to bear me in their hands."

These are the amazing words JACQUES FESCH wrote five hours before his death. Unlike all of us, Jacques knew the specific hour and day of his death. His lawyer had told him that his public execution (beheading by the guillotine) would take place at 4 am the next day.

Jacques had total TRUST in the MERCY OF GOD. Although Jacques had been found guilty of robbery and murder, he had repented and reconciled with God while in jail. He knew in his heart that he would enter into Heaven. "IN FIVE HOURS I WILL SEE JESUS" is the title of a book containing many of the letters Jacques wrote while he was in solitary confinement in jail.

In connection with the PARABLE OF THE PRODIGAL SON, I spoke briefly about Jacques Fesch in one of my homilies last Sunday. His life is a great example of God's Love and Mercy. I am pretty sure that you have never heard before the name of Jacques Fesch. The Church has now recognized him as a "SERVANT OF GOD", the first step in the canonization process. Maybe one day, if two miracles are attributed to him, we may pray through the intercession of Saint Jacques Fesch...

Jacques' conversion story shocked many people in France. He was a "playboy", the son of a rich man in Paris (President of a bank). At the young age of 24, he killed a policeman following a botched robbery. HE NEEDED MONEY! He wanted to buy a boat so that he could go and live a new life by traveling toward faraway islands of the South Pacific. But his father (contrary to the father of the Prodigal Son) refused his request for money. Jacques was found guilty of murder and condemned to death. He was among the last people to be "guillotined" in France. It was October 1st, 1957, the Feast Day of St Therese of Lisieux, Little Flower!

One of my greatest joys as a priest has been to visit prisoners at the La Plata Jail. I have known prisoners to have major conversions, though not as dramatic as Jacques Fesch. Time in jail, including solitary confinement, can cause much despair. However, time in jail can also be used to seek God and turn to Him for change, for conversion!

We do not need to spend time in jail to convert and become saints. But we do need all of us to spend time in the confessional. We should recognize that we are all sinners. We believe that Jesus came on earth to save sinners. Jesus wants each of us to be saved. He

pours upon each of us His grace, His mercy, and His love. We need to ask for His mercy. We need to open our hearts to His mercy and to His call for conversion. We need to believe in JESUS OUR SAVIOR. We also need to believe in the CHURCH AS SACRAMENT OF SALVATION. We need the Church Sacraments to be saved. We cannot be saved alone... We need to go to regular Confession. We need to keep Holy the Sabbath, the Day of the Lord (our Sunday) and go to Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC RENEWAL BEGINS WITH RECONCILIATION WITH GOD. Yes, we should continue to emphasize the need for reverence when coming forward to receiving Jesus really present in the Eucharist. (bowing before receiving and making the sign of the Cross after receiving). Our reverence begins in our hearts. One of the gravest sins is to receive Jesus while in a state of major sin (including missing Mass on Sundays). WE NEED TO GO TO CONFESSION. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is an encounter with Jesus, bringing many graces.

Jacques Fesch was blessed to have a good prison chaplain, a priest whom he initially rejected but to whom he eventually turned for the great sacrament of Reconciliation. All of us are prisoners, prisoners of our sins. We all need to turn to priests to seek God's forgiveness and enter the confessionals with contrite and humble hearts. This is where we truly receive God's Mercy and keep converting, turning toward God.

May God keep blessing all of us in this "new", 42nd year of our parish!

May Our Patroness Saint, Mary Help of Christians keep guiding us to Reconciliation with her Son, Jesus!

One in Christ,
Fr. Alain



***We are asked to pray for:**
Josephina Knapp
David Mesler
Tiffany Brianna Chase
Wendell Thomas
Derrick Webster

Theresa Ambol
Barbara Bowser
George A Gallagher III
Kenneth Taylor
Tess Franch

Julianna Hayden
Genevieve Van Gordon

Names will be removed after 3 months.



Mass Intentions this Week

Saturday, September 17,
9:00 AM: Jesus Morales (+)
5:00 PM: OLHOC Parishioners
Sunday, September 18,
8:30 AM: Gabriel Auza (+)
10:00AM: Jose & Anna Marie Gonzales & family
11:30 AM: Helen Malm (+)
7:00PM: Juan Antonio Mendez Hernandez (+)
Monday, September 19,
7:00 AM: Miss Ethel
9:00AM: Maria Lam

Tuesday, September 20,
9:00AM: Ligia Lam
Wednesday, September 21,
9:00 AM: Chrisian Singson
7:00PM: Ramon Veras (Jose Echeverria)
Thursday, September 22,
9:00AM: William Gonzales
Friday, September 23,
7:00 AM: Anne Macos
9:00AM: Patricia Trabanino

Healing Mass
Today, September 18,
Healing following the
7 pm Mass at OLHOC.

Come, receive the
healing power of the
Holy Spirit! 3rd Sunday
each month

Mass Intention for 2023

The Mass Intentions schedule is ready for 2023. If you have a date that you would like a Mass said (Birthdays, Anniversaries, “special dates”), please come to the office as soon as possible. \$10 donation is suggested, but not necessary.

Good things come to those who pray.

Baby Bottles are back in October

To support the Catherine Foundation, we will be distributing baby bottles in October. Please take one, and fill with coins or dollars. The Catherine Foundation is a non-profit organization. Their mission is to help men and women make informed decisions regarding pregnancy, sexual health, and family. Their services are given out of love, with no judgement and provided to our clients confidentially and free of charge.

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 in Latin 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 office@alhoc.org.

Mass Readings for September 25, 2022

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time



***First Reading**
Amos 6:1a, 4-7
***Second Reading**
1 Timothy 6:11-16
***Gospel**
Luke 16:19-31

Please be leery of emails from Father Alain requesting gift cards or any financial assistance.

Father will not email parishioners asking for donations in any form.

From: Fr. Alain Colliou  <revfrparish2022@gmail.com> (This is not Father Alain's email, it is pastor@olhoc.org)

To: anyparishioner@olhoc.com
Sent: Mon, Sep 12, 2022 9:31 am
Subject: Parishioner

Hello Jeannie,

Are you free at the moment?

Please I do have a request for you to manage. I will see the value in a quick reaction through email..

 Blessings and Peace (Father signs his messages "One in Christ")

Fr. Alain Colliou

Pastor

Grieving with Great Hope

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one or friend, **St. Mary's Church in Bryantown will offer**, a six-week Catholic-based grief support workshop, on Saturdays, Sept. 24 – Oct. 29 from 9-11 am. Guided by the Holy Spirit, Grieving with Great Hope is presented in a DVD format that offers prayerful reflection, practical learning and personal fellowship. To register or for more information, please contact Gemma Nelson (240-216-7845; gemmanelson@gmail.com) or Wendy Slay (301-653-0111; wendymslay1@gmail.com).

Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz

All are invited to attend a special Mass to commemorate the Feast of San Lorenzo Ruiz (First Filipino Canonized Saint) on Saturday, September 24, 2022, at 5:30 pm at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle (1725 Rhode Island Ave NW, Washington, DC 20036). The Most Reverend Mario E. Dorsonville, Auxiliary Bishop of Washington, will be the principal celebrant and homilist.

The program will start at 4:30 pm with the recitation of the Most Holy Rosary and a solemn procession of San

Lorenzo Ruiz before the Mass. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available from 4:00 to 5:00 pm.

This celebration is sponsored and organized by the archdiocesan Office of Cultural Diversity and Outreach in collaboration with the DC Filipino Catholic Community under its chaplain, Fr. Patrick Agustin, parochial vicar of

St. Martin of Tours Catholic Church, Gaithersburg. For more information, contact culturaldiversity@adw.org.

OLHOC Holiday CRAFT FAIR

October 22, 2022 from 8:00 am-2:00 pm

OLHOC's Craft Fair is back! Vendors selling household items, jewelry, gifts, and miscellaneous items are all

welcome. There will also be an Attic Treasures section for flea market items.

If you are interested in a table (\$25 each), please call Maria Lam in the office (301)645-7112, or submit an application online.

If you are able to assist in setting up Friday evening (starting at 6 pm), or Saturday (anytime between 7 am until 4 pm) please call or email the office.

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CCD Classes begin!



Registration is still open (www.olhoc.com/re) for the 2022/2023 Religious Education. The program encourages the children to learn Catholic doctrines, prayers, scripture stories, traditions, and practices in order to become disciples of Jesus Christ. The program strives to connect the teachings of Christ and the Church with the students' life experience in living out the Christian life.

SESSION TIMES: SUNDAYS 9:45-11:05 AM, or MONDAYS 6:45-8:05 PM



Annual Children's Coat Drive

September 4 - November 6, 2022

Requesting all gently used, clean children's winter coats, gloves, mittens and socks in all sizes.

Outreach

The next Outreach meeting will be on October 5, 2022 at 7 p.m. in the Fr. Martin Hall. All are welcome to the first meeting of the Fall season.

The next Shepherd's Table is on October 20, 2022. "Sharing Sunday" food collection continues in the Fr. Martin Hall. All donations of non-perishable foods go to the Food Bank and Children's Aid Society.

Stewards of the Earth

**Saturday, October 8 after the 9 am Mass
clean up of OLHOC and St. Thomas Drive**



Please come help make the Church grounds as beautiful of the outside as it is on the inside. We will also clean the street in front of the church, St. Thomas drive. All supplies will be provided, just come to help. Bring your friends, the more the merrier!