



# Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church



**8968 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037 † 504-394-0314 † Fax: 504-394-0376**  
Web: [www.olphbc.org](http://www.olphbc.org) † Email: [churchoffice@olphbc.org](mailto:churchoffice@olphbc.org)

**OFFICE HOURS—Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.**  
Please call between these times for routine parish business.

## PASTORAL TEAM

**Rev. Kyle V. Dave, Pastor**  
[kdave@arch-no.org](mailto:kdave@arch-no.org)  
**Rev. William F. Maestri,**  
*Ministry of Sacraments & Education*  
**George "Ed" Merritt, Jr., Deacon**  
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**Angel Boyd, Receptionist**  
**Debbie Fagnano, Director of Music Ministry**  
**TJ Lejeune & Kenneth Pouwels,**  
*Maintenance Supervisors*

## OLPH SCHOOL

8970 Highway 23 † 504-394-0757

## PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

8968 Highway 23 † 504-394-0314

## K.C. HALL

9016 Highway 23, Belle Chasse, LA 70037

## MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday** 7:30 a.m. & Vigil 4:00 p.m.  
**Sunday** 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
**Monday** 7:30 a.m.  
**Tuesday** 7:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday** 8:30 a.m. During the school year  
(7:30 a.m. when school is not  
in session)  
**Thursday** 7:30 a.m.  
**Friday** 7:30 a.m.  
**First Friday Adoration:** 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  
**Holy Days:** Consult the bulletin.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

5:30 p.m.—6:15 p.m.  
2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m. or by appointment.

## SACRAMENT OF THE SICK (ANOIDING)

By appointment only

## MISSION STATEMENT

*We, the Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, are a living and growing Catholic community of faith, striving to follow and serve Christ. We are an evangelizing community, and we welcome others to fullness of life in Christ. With Mary we say "Yes" to God's call to pray together, worship consciously, and serve joyfully.*

To visit our church website scan the QR code below:





## NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you to a very friendly and enthusiastic community. Please fill out the information in the Binder on the Welcome Table located in the back of church or register at the Church Office. A Census Form can also be found on our website at [www.olphbc.org](http://www.olphbc.org).

### Sacraments



**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** Baptisms are usually celebrated on the fourth Sunday of the month during the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Due to demand, some months may be eliminated or another day or time may be chosen by the family if it is available on the church schedule of events." To begin the process, parents are encouraged to go to our website at [www.olphbc.org](http://www.olphbc.org) to access the forms under Sacraments and return the forms by email or drop off at the Church Office. Parents and godparents are required to attend a seminar prior to the Baptism. The Baptismal Seminar is held on the third Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Day Chapel. If you need more information or have questions, call the Rectory at (504) 394-0314 or email [cre@olphbc.org](mailto:cre@olphbc.org).

**SACRAMENT OF FIRST COMMUNION:** First Eucharist is celebrated the first Saturday of May for students in the 2nd grade or above. Children older than 2nd grade will be prepared on individual situations. The Sacrament of Reconciliation must be celebrated prior to Communion.

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:** Confirmation is celebrated in the Fall of 11th grade. Candidates who attend Catholic high school or are enrolled in the High School of Religion program come together for Sacramental preparation. All candidates are asked to pre-register in their freshmen year and no later than December of their 10th grade year. Information and registration can be found on our website: [www.olphbc.org](http://www.olphbc.org).

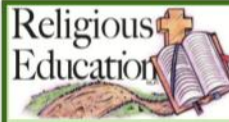
**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** Contact the Church Office at least nine months prior to the planned date. No other arrangements should be made before contacting the Church Office.

**For more information on any of our Sacraments, contact the Church Office or email [cre@olphbc.org](mailto:cre@olphbc.org).**



**VISITATION OF THE SICK:** Inform the Church Office when someone is sick, shut-in or hospitalized and unable to attend Mass.

**FUNERALS:** Inform the Church Office as soon as possible when someone in the family dies, preferably before contacting the funeral home.



### Religious Education

The mission of OLPH's Religious Education program is to bring the "Good News" of God's love to all children and their families and to call them to commit their lives to Christ. Religious Education is available for children in Kindergarten through adults. We encourage parents to be parishioners of OLPH when registering students for Religious Education classes. Census forms can be obtained from the Parish Office during regular business hours, on the Welcome Table located in the back of church or you can register online. Call the Church Office at (504) 394-0314, or email [cre@olphbc.org](mailto:cre@olphbc.org) for more information.

**SUNDAY LITURGY OF THE WORD:** Children in grades K-2nd are invited with a catechist during 10:30 a.m. Mass to the Day Chapel for the Liturgy of the Word for Children (September-May). A summary of the readings of the day is discussed on their level.

**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION:** Our PSR program is divided in two parts. Family Faith Formation is the "academic" part with the textbook discussed at home as a family. Our Encountering Engaging Events are a chance to come together as a community to worship together, do crafts, or engage in traditional events like our Nativity Play and Living Way of the Cross.

**HIGH SCHOOL OF RELIGION:** Students in 9th through 12th grade not attending a Catholic High School are offered Faith Formation with academics at home, working at their own pace, but also some time to get together to discuss what they have learned with their peers about three times a year. It is intended to be an informal study with honest Catholic answers.

**RCIA:** Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic or completing Sacraments? Please join our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). We have a Year-Round RCIA process that you can enter into whenever you are ready. This is for you if you have never been baptized, if you have been baptized into another denomination and now want to become Catholic, or if you are an adult Catholic but have never been confirmed. Sessions will be held in person with day and time to be adjusted to personal schedules. For additional information and to register, contact the Church Office or email [cre@olphbc.org](mailto:cre@olphbc.org).

**Archdiocese of New Orleans Safe Environment—** Refer to the Web Site: <http://www.nolacatholic.org/safe-environment> for policies and procedures concerning safe environment and child protection.



## Scripture Readings & Events this Week

**Saturday, February 22, 1 Pet 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6; Mt 16:13-19**

Daily Mass, **Day Chapel**—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)  
Confessions, **Day Chapel**—2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m.  
Vigil Mass, **Cafeteria**—4:00 p.m. (Fr. K)  
2nd Collection—Archdiocesan Catholic Charities—All Masses

**Sunday, February 23, Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time; 1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; Ps 103: 1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38**

Mass, **Cafeteria**—8:00 a.m. (Fr. K)  
Masses, **Cafeteria** (Fr. M) and **KC Hall** (Fr. K)—10:30 a.m.  
Children's Dismissal—10:30 a.m. Mass **CANCELLED**  
2nd Collection—Archdiocesan Catholic Charities—All Masses

**Monday, February 24, Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29**

Daily Mass, **Day Chapel**—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)  
Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment

**Tuesday, February 25, Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mk 9:30-37**

Daily Mass, **Day Chapel**—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)  
Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment  
Confessions, Church—5:30 p.m.-6:15 p.m. **CANCELLED**  
Novena—Mother of Perpetual Help, **Day Chapel**—6:50 p.m.  
Daily Mass, **Day Chapel**—7:00 p.m. (Fr. K)

**Wednesday, February 26, Sir 4:11-19; Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175; Mk 9:38-40**

Daily Mass, **Cafeteria**—8:30 a.m. (Fr. K)  
Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment  
Riverbend Mass—10:00 a.m.

**Thursday, February 27, Sir 5:1-8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mk 9:41-50**

Daily Mass, **Day Chapel**—7:30 a.m. (Fr. K)  
Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment  
Catholicism Class, KC Hall—7:00 p.m. (Fr. M)  
Choir Rehearsal, **Day Chapel**—7:00 p.m.

**Friday, February 28, Sir 6:5-17; Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35; Mk 10:1-12**

Daily Mass, **Day Chapel**—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)  
Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment

**Saturday, March 1, Sir 17:1-15; Ps 103:13-14, 15-16, 17-18; Mk 10:13-16**

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)  
Confessions, Church—2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m.  
Vigil Mass, Church—4:00 p.m. (Fr. M)  
2nd Collection—Building & Maintenance Fund

**Sunday, March 2, Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Masses, Church—8:00 a.m. (Fr. K) & 10:30 a.m. (Fr. K)  
Children's Dismissal—10:30 a.m. Mass  
2nd Collection—Building & Maintenance Fund

## Mass Intentions

**2/22, Saturday, 4:00 p.m.**— For the Parishioners

**2/23, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.**— Sally Allan

**2/23, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.**— Eva Vujnovich, Eugene D. Fagnano, Lucille Bernard, Darlene Boudet, Wilfred & Rita Caro, Maria Marroquin, Leonora Adames, Blaze St. Marie, Donna Probrica, Stipo & Anka Cibilic, Steven Cibilich, Debbie Buras, Allyson Kirby, Irwin Cooper III, Sandy Longley

**2/24, Monday, 7:30 a.m.**— Florence "Flo" Gravolet

**2/25, Tuesday, 7:30 a.m.**— For the intentions of the Priest

**2/25, Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.**— Blaze St. Marie

**2/26, Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.**— Marcella Flanagan

**2/27, Thursday, 7:30 a.m.**— Nazimova Fleming

**2/28, Friday, 7:30 a.m.**— Hazel Gautreaux

**3/1, Saturday, 7:30 a.m.**— For the intentions of the Priest

**3/1, Saturday, 4:00 p.m.**— Dominick J. Sciortino, Alexandra "Allie" Boteler, Sandra Longley, Donna Pobrica, Wade & Barbara Bolotte, Irwin Cooper, III, Jacqueline Cain, Larry Avist, Sr., Trena Avist, Avist & Wilson Families, Mildred Benoit, Josie Lisotta, Ferdinand Von Behren, Ruth & Robert Bostick, Mabel & Bernard Becnel, Margaret Laughlin

**3/2, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.**— For the Parishioners

**3/2, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.**— Eva Vujnovich, Eugene D. Fagnano, Wayne Perrin, Lucille Bernard, Darlene Boudet, Debbie Buras, Blaze St. Marie, Stipo & Anka Cibilic, Allyson Kirby, Sandy Longley

## LOOKING AHEAD...

**March 5, 2025—Ash Wednesday Masses—7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., Noon & 7:00 p.m.**

**Reminder:** During Lent, Confessions will be held on Tuesdays from 5:30 p.m.—6:15p.m. AND on Saturdays from 2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m. in Church.

**Fridays during Lent (except Good Friday)—beginning Friday, March 7th:**

**6:00 p.m. Mass in Church, followed by 6:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross**

**KC Lenten Fish Fry: 5:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m. (Behind KC Hall)**

**NOTE, during LENT, Fr. Maestri will pause his regular classes on Catholicism held on Thursday evenings in the KC Hall. For Six Thursdays during LENT (3/6/25, 3/13/25, 3/20/25, 3/27/25, 4/3/25 and 4/10/25), Fr. Maestri will hold a Lenten series that will begin on March 6, 2025. More information to follow.**



### Attention Parishioners!

We are beginning the second week of having the floors of the church refinished, which work began February 17th and will end on February 28th. During this time we will not have access to the main body of the church. All weekday Masses will be held in the Day Chapel, with the exception of Wednesday's School Mass, which will take place in the cafeteria. Confessions will be cancelled on Tuesday, 2/25. \*\*See changes in red to above calendar \*\*



## OLPH School News



As part of Catholic Schools Week, we focused on vocations. The students dressed as to whom they aspire to be when they grow up.



Marvel Studio recently celebrated the Lunar New Year!





## BORN TO RUN NEW ORLEANS

### 5K RUN/WALK & 1/2 MILE FUN RUN

Register Online at [womansnewlife.com/borntorun](http://womansnewlife.com/borntorun), or click on the QR Code to the right.



**Woman's New Life Clinic** is a life-affirming counseling and medical clinic that serves women facing unplanned pregnancies in the New Orleans and Baton Rouge communities.

**SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 2025**  
Lafreniere Park, Metairie

7:30 a.m.—On-site registration begins  
8:30 a.m.—1/2 mile Fun Run/Walk begins  
9:00 a.m.—5K begins  
Post-race "Birth"day Party to follow  
\$45 Adult; \$25 Student; \$20 Child (12 or under) \*Register by Monday, February 24 to receive a race t-shirt

"Be merciful,  
just as your  
Father is  
merciful."

### Revolutionary Love

"And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love. Yes, they'll know-ow we are Christians by our love." The well-known song, written in the 1960's by Fr. Peter Scholtes, echoes today's Gospel. Sixty years later and two thousand years into Christianity, the song might seem trite or timid.

Sweet images of walking side-by-side, and hand-in hand; that's nice. In truth, though, it is so much more. It is, like today's Gospel, the call for a revolution.

Christ encourages his disciples to a revolutionary love, one unheard of in their time — a love that gives expecting nothing in return, a love that is neither earned nor deserved. Love those who hate you. Love those who hurt you. Forgive the unforgivable and have mercy on the merciless. There is nothing trite in this love. It is so unexpected, so counter-cultural, so revolutionary that it sets us apart. It is a generous, self-sacrificing, humbling love that makes the world wonder, "What is up with that?" There is nothing timid in this love. It is bold, strong, and steadfast. This love calls for the courage to stand in the wake of hate, cruelty, and injustice. This love calls for the fortitude to speak God's truth even when it's unpopular. No, not to judge or condemn, but to challenge and correct.

If I have run a wooded path and know that it opens to a cliff, what am I to say to another who is running headlong and full speed through the thicket? Does this powerful love step back and say, "Hey, you be you, friend. Who am I to judge?" Or does this steadfast love look the runner in the eye and urge him, "Hey, that path is dangerous. There's another way we can travel together." Of course it is the latter. What that runner does next and how he finishes is not mine to decide — that is between him and God — but the love of today's Gospel begs me to speak up in mercy.

This kind of love is downright supernatural; we are not capable of it on our own. Only with the strength of grace, only through Christ can we love like this, and when we do, He shines through. This love should set us apart so the troubled world might notice and long to know more.

Indeed, by the grace of God, they will know we are Christians by our love — by our humble, self-sacrificing, unexpected, bold, steadfast, merciful, revolutionary love. By Pamela Kavanaugh



## 2025 Archdiocese of New Orleans Men's Conference "I Trust in You"

**Saturday, March 15, 2025**  
**8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.**  
**St. Dominic Church,  
New Orleans**

**Cost: \$55; Students \$25 (High School Seniors or College Students (18 or older))**

The Men's Conference is the largest gathering of Catholic Men in the Archdiocese. There will be dynamic speakers, inspiring music with the Vigil Project, time for adoration, dozens of priests to hear confessions, Mass with Archbishop Aymond, and breakfast and lunch besides! This year's Conference theme, "I Trust in You", focuses on building greater trust with God and one another in order to take our faith to the next level.

To learn more go to [www.nolacatholicmen.com](http://www.nolacatholicmen.com). To register, click on the above QR code or visit the website.

### Confirmation Registration for 2025

The Sacrament of Confirmation is conferred in the Junior year of high school (11th grade) in the Archdiocese of New Orleans. OLPH celebrates this sacrament in the Fall each year. There will

be a Parent/Student Meeting in the early Spring. High school students currently in 10<sup>th</sup> grade in both Catholic and non-Catholic schools should register for Confirmation now. Registration can be done through our website at [www.olphbc.org/hsr-forms](http://www.olphbc.org/hsr-forms). For more information check our website or contact Suzette Perrin at the parish office at (504) 394-0314.



### St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry

We are in need of certain items for our food pantry. If you are able to donate, please place items in our bin in the back of Church. **Thank you for your help in feeding those in need.**

#### Our pantry currently needs the following items:

Tuna	Cake Mix	Jelly
Spam	Icing	Chef Boyardee
Cereal	Pancake Mix	Pork n Beans
Oat Meal	Syrup	Black eye peas
Chicken in can	Powder milk	Spaghetti Sauce
Canned Soup (Any kind)		

**ALL DONATIONS ARE WELCOMED AND APPRECIATED!!**

*Next Sunday is the  
Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)*

**Sirach 27:4-7.** Do not praise a man before he has spoken.

**1 Corinthians 15:54-58.** Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

**Luke 6:39-45.** A man speaks from what is in his heart.



*Do Something Beautiful for God*

**February 24—Let us always meet each other with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love.**



**Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for 2025**  
*February—For Vocations to the Priesthood and religious life.*

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

Sponsor of the Week:

**ROUBION'S TIRE & AUTO CENTER, INC.**  
Front End Alignment • AC Repair  
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**GOODYEAR**  
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Look to the back now! Look and remember to support these businesses when you need a product or service. Also, tell them "thank you" for their interest in Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Prayer to St. Dymphna

Lord, God, you graciously chose St. Dymphna as Patroness of those afflicted with mental and nervous disorders. Please grant, Lord, through the prayers of this pure youthful martyr, relief and consolation to all suffering such trials, and especially those for whom we pray (mention names). We beg you, Lord, to hear the prayers of St. Dymphna on our behalf. Grant all those for whom we pray, patience in their sufferings and resignation to your Divine will. Please fill them with hope, and grant them the relief and cure they so much desire. We ask this through Christ our Lord who suffered agony in the Garden. AMEN.



*The Sanctuary Light by the tabernacle burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. It is a mark of honor to remind the faithful of the presence of Christ, and is a profession of their love and affection.*

The Sanctuary Light will burn this week in loving memory of: **Christine Carpenter**, requested by Dolly Roy.

*If you would like to have the Sanctuary Light burn in memory of a loved one, call the Church Office. The donation for the Sanctuary Light is \$10.*



The flowers in church this week were donated in loving memory of:

**Jacqueline Cain**, requested by Dolly Roy.

*Church Flowers—Anyone who wishes to donate the flowers in church in memory of a loved one for a particular weekend may call the church office. The donation is \$50 payable to the Altar Society.*

**Stewardship**  
*All things are possible with God.*



**Church Financials**

**Year to Date through December 31, 2024**

	Operating	Maintenance	Cap. Campaign	Total
Income before Fair, Maint. & Capital	269,350			269,350
Fair Proceeds	91,000			91,000
Maintenance Monthly Collections		31,979		31,979
Capital Campaign Collections			7,500	7,500
Expenses	(374,030)	(57,075)	(50,916)	(482,021)
<b>Total YTD Actuals</b>	<b>\$ (13,680)</b>	<b>\$ (25,096)</b>	<b>\$ (43,416)</b>	<b>\$ (82,192)</b>

*Thank you to our parish family members who faithfully support our parish. May God bless you for your generosity!*



**Online Giving Is Available on Our Website at [www.olphbc.org](http://www.olphbc.org)** (click on Give Online), or simply scan the QR code with your phone. You can easily create your donation account online and make changes at any time.



## Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time



### Straight Talk by: Father William Maestri **Are YOU Lonesome?**

Admittedly, the title of this article can be a turn-off. Yet, from the beginning loneliness has been a challenge. After God speaks creation into existence, with all its adornments, it is pronounced "good" (Gen 1:25). It is with the creation of the human person; creation is declared to be "very good" (Gen 1:31). However, something was missing, the solitary human being needed a complementary partner, for "It is not good for the man to be alone." (Gen 2:18). Adam needed another one who was "bone of [his] bones and flesh of [his] flesh". Man needs woman "so that" the two of them become one body." (Gen 2:21-25). This mutual need for "the other", is built into our nature. To live for oneself alone is a deforming of our being, and a

denial of our being created in the image/likeness of God who is the Tri-unity of Persons - Three distinct Persons, united in Love, and one in Divine Being (Catechism of the Catholic Church, CCC, Nos. 232-267).

Tragically, sin enters and the Original Innocence of Eden becomes a place of alienation. The Primal Harmony of creation is torn asunder. Humanity becomes a stranger, an alien, in what was meant to be God's dwelling with the human race (Rev 21:3). But now humanity hides in fear and shame. The nuptial complementarity between the sexes is replaced by competition and division. Humanity and nature are at odds. Adam must work and survive by the sweat of his brow. Most of all, humanity is alienated from God. There are no more walks with God in the breeze (Spirit).

Sadly, the result is banishment. Sin has inflicted a wound which renders humanity homeless (Peter Berger, The Homeless Mind). There is no return to Eden. The entrance is blocked by "the cherubim and the fiery revolving sword". Humanity and history unfold east of Eden (Gen 3:14-24).

Throughout history and the unfolding of our all too human nature, loneliness has been a constant. Each age has its confrontation with loneliness. In the 1950's, it was captured by David Riesman's, The Lonely Crowd (1950), and more recently by Robert Putman's, Bowling Alone (2000). Since then, with the added presence of "social media" and techno-gadgets, there has been a dramatic increase in isolation, loneliness, depression, and thoughts of suicide especially among millennials and those of the "Z" Generation (Emile Durkheim, Suicide). The increased use of social media, the weakening of the traditional family bonds, the increased secularization of culture, and a lessening of participation in the life of one's local community have all contributed to increased loneliness and alienation. A growing number of relationships have become purely transactional and utilitarian (see the research by Yale Child Study Center and the American Psychological Association, both in 2024.)

The pathologies of loneliness, alienation, and rage have adversely affected the well-being of society and culture. Specifically, the horrific legacies of communism, Nazism and Fascism denied the existence of God, viewed the human person as a means only to be offered up as a sacrifice to the glory of the State or some ideology, and glorified the Leader to a divine status. Such dystopia is driven by the love of power and not the power of love.

These 'boot and bayonet' totalitarianisms have for the most part given way to a 'cat's paw' approach in which Big Brother (1984) is replaced by Big Data. The New Totalitarian's weapon of choice is the computer. Its ammunition is the logarithm and algorithm which collects our choices, in effect, we choose therefore we are! Our being is reduced to a puny, ever-changing collection of preferences. There is no innate sacred foundation or dignity proper to the human person.

This mercurial view of the person offers a "soft target" for those who seek power - economic and political. Our desires, values, and beliefs can be collected so as to yield a profile for the most effective way to achieve some goal(s). This ability to collect data also yields the power to DIRECT and produce NEW PREFERENCES. The power to direct behavior enhances propaganda and obliterates the truth which sets us free (Jn 8:31). The great political philosopher Hannah Arendt (1906-1975), wrote: "The truth is that the masses grew out of the FRAGMENTS OF A HIGHLY ATOMIZED society .... The chief characteristic of the mass man...[is] his ISOLATION and LACK OF NORMAL SOCIAL RELATIONSHIPS." (The Origins of Totalitarianism, 1951).

The socially isolated individual, filled with loneliness and rage, is attracted to extremist groups which advocate violence, even assassinations (Brett Kavanaugh and Donald Trump). The goal is destruction without construction.

What might we do? Confiscate all the computers and smartphones? Tear down the techno-corporate structure? NO! Unrealistic and undesirable.

An early Christian saint, Dymphna of Ireland (d. 650 AD), can rightly be called 'The Saint of the Lonely'. Dymphna's father suffered a severe mental illness after the death of his wife. He turned his affections, obsession, to Dymphna, even to the point of wanting to marry her. She fled to Belgium with her spiritual director. Her father tracked her down and had the director murdered in front of her. Horribly, her completely deranged father beheaded Dymphna with his sword!

St. Dymphna's care for the mentally ill was based on fostering communities of compassion, human contact, and true communication by listening.

During the Covid pandemic, we learned the importance of flesh pressing flesh. The story of salvation reaches its decisive point with "the Word becoming [our] flesh". Into the darkness of our loneliness shines the light of LOVE and is "not overcome" (Jn 1:4-5).

(See "Building a Culture of Community", Tommy Tighe, the WORD among us, June 2024, pp. 52-56). (See prayer to St. Dymphna on previous page.)



# 504-392-0554



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## Knights of Columbus

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For Membership Call Rodney Schaubhut, Sr., GK  
[RodSchaubhut@gmail.com](mailto:RodSchaubhut@gmail.com) • 504-376-3080  
**Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. Each Month 7:00 pm**  
**Council Home**

**1 Get this bulletin emailed to you every week.**

Simply go to  
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