O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a Fountain of Mercy for us,

## I Trust In You!

# DIVINE MERCY



### 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 † Email: 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

Rev. William F. Maestri, Ministry of Sacraments & Education

George "Ed" Merritt, Jr., Deacon emerritt@arch-no.org

**Brittany Breaux, School Principal** bbreaux@olphbcschool.org

**Dawn Bassett, Administrative Assistant** 

Suzette Perrin, Coordinator of Religious **Education and Adult Formation** cre@olphbc.org

Angel Boyd, Receptionist

**Debbie Fagnano, Director of Music Ministry** 

**TJ Leieune & 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**

7:30 a.m. & Vigil 4:00 p.m. Saturday **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) 7:30 a.m.

**Thursday** 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. **Tuesday** Saturday

2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. or by appointment.

#### **SACRAMENT OF THE SICK (ANOINTING)**

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 OR 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 <a href="https://www.olphbc.org">www.olphbc.org</a>.

#### **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 <a href="https://www.olphbc.org">www.olphbc.org</a> 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 <a href="mailto:cre@olphbc.org">cre@olphbc.org</a>.

**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: <a href="https://www.olphbc.org">www.olphbc.org</a>.

**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 <a href="mailto:cre@olphbc.org">cre@olphbc.org</a>.



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

#### **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** 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.

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



#### Saturday, April 26, Acts 4:13-21; Ps 118:1 and 14-15ab, 16-18, 19-21; Mk 16:9-15

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)

First Communion Retreat, Church—8:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

Confessions, Church—2:30 p.m.—3:30 p.m. (CANCELLED)

Vigil Mass, Church—4:00 p.m. (Fr. K)

#### Sunday, April 27, Sunday of Divine Mercy; Acts 5:12-16; Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24; Rev 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19; Jn 20:19-31

Masses, Church—8:00 a.m. (Fr. M) & 10:30 a.m. (Fr. K)

Children's Dismissal—10:30 a.m. Mass

St. Vincent de Paul Quarterly Mass—10:30 a.m.

2nd Collection—Catholic Home Missions (All Masses)

HSR Class, Church—5:00 p.m.—6:30 p.m.

#### Monday, April 28, Acts 4:23-31; Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9; Jn 3:1-8

Daily Mass, Day Chapel—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)

Church Office Closed

#### Tuesday, April 29, Memorial of Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church; Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15

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.

Novena—Mother of Perpetual Help, Church—6:50 p.m.

Daily Mass, Church—7:00 p.m. (Fr. K)

#### Wednesday, April 30, Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 3:16-21

Daily Mass, Church—8:30 a.m. (Fr. K)

Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment

### Thursday, May 1, Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20; Jn

Daily Mass, Church—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, Church—7:00 p.m.

#### Friday, May 2, Memorial of Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. M)

1st Friday Adoration, Day Chapel—8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment

Riverbend Mass—10:00 a.m. (Fr. K)

#### Saturday, May 3, Feast of Saints Philip and James, Apostles 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Jn 14:6-14

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)

May Crowning (All Masses)

#### Sunday, May 4, Third Sunday of Easter

Masses, Church—8:00 a.m. (Fr. K) & 10:30 a.m. (Fr. K)

First Eucharist Ceremony—10:30 a.m. Mass

Outdoor Mass & Picnic—10:30 a.m. Mass

May Crowning (All Masses)

2nd Collection—Building & Maintenance Fund (All Masses)



Join us this weekend for our St. Vincent De Paul Quarterly Mass with hospitality after the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, April 27, 2025.

## ass Intentions

4/26, Saturday, 4:00 p.m.— Alexandra "Allie" Boteler, Sandra Longley, Donna Pobrica, Wade & Barbara Bolotte, Jacqueline Cain, Irwin Cooper, III, Larry Avist, Sr., Trena Avist, Avist & Wilson Families, Ferdinand Von Behren, Darrell Roy, David & Pam DeJean, Fay Dudenhefer, Ellis Robeaux, Arturo Yap, Francis Gainey, Cindy Darce', Rene' Bowers, Archie & Josie Lyles

4/27, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.— For the Parishioners

4/27, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.— Esther Belsom, Wayne Perrin, Lucille Bernard, Darlene Boudet, Blaze St. Marie, Brigid Dufrene, Donna Pobrica, Marija Tesvich, Kuzma Tesvich, Sr., Anthony Tesvich, Judith "Judy" Ponson

4/28, Monday, 7:30 a.m.— For the intentions of the Priest

4/29, Tuesday, 7:30 a.m.— For the intentions of the Priest

4/29, Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.— Blaze St. Marie

4/30, Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.— Ellis Robeaux

5/1, Thursday, 7:30 a.m.— For the intentions of the Priest

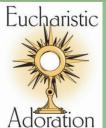
5/2, Friday, 7:30 a.m. — For the intentions of the Priest

5/3. Saturday, 7:30 a.m.— For the intentions of the Priest

5/3, Saturday, 4:00 p.m.— For the Parishioners

5/4, Sunday, 8:00 a.m. — Amanda Luneau, Louise & Joseph Johnson, Richard & Anne Fowler, Rennie Coludrovich, Jr., Johnny Pennison

5/4, Sunday, 10:30 a.m. Wayne Perrin, Debbie Buras, Blaze St. Marie, Jacqueline Bubrig Cain, Theresa L. Bossier, Rosebud L. Dumesnil, Sandra Longley, Francis Gainey, Marija Tesvich, Kuzma Tesvich, Sr., Anthony Tesvich, Judith "Judy" Ponson



#### **Adoration of** the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, May 2, 2025

(First Friday of the Month)

8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. (Day Chapel)

For questions or to sign up, please call the Adoration Church Office at 504-394-0314.

Pray as you like. Reading and meditation lead to communion with the Lord or just bask in the light of the Eucharist. Allow Christ to work on you and through you. Come before Christ in His entirety; His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity to contemplate His awesomeness and to lovingly adore Him. Please join us in prayer!



#### **Pope Francis**' **Prayer Intentions for 2025**

April—For the Use of New Technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crisis of our times.

### **OLPH School News**





**Divine Mercy Sunday** is celebrated on the second Sunday of Easter and is a religious observance celebrated mostly among Catholics. This year, it takes place on April 27. It is a significant time for reflection on the Christian faith. As Pope John Paul II stated, "It is a time where we are blessed with divine mercy as it reaches us through the heart of Christ crucified." Divine Mercy Sunday focuses on the gifts that flowed from Christ's death, burial, and resurrection — his mercy and love that were so freely given to humanity after such a betrayal. Divine Mercy Sunday concludes

the Easter celebrations and welcomes the ultimate gift that Christ gave after his crucifixion.

### **History of Divine Mercy Sunday**

The story of Divine Mercy Sunday, also known as "the Feast of the Divine Mercy," is thousands of years old. However, the official recognition of the day was only authenticated by the Vatican in 2000. Pope John Paul II declared the Sunday after Easter to be called "Divine Mercy Sunday." Since that declaration, it has been marked in the General Roman Calendar as a religious observance celebrated by Catholics worldwide.

The significance of the day can be attributed to St. Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun who experienced visions from Christ himself. Born in 1905, she served her parish well and communed with Jesus on several occasions where he communicated with her that he wished to be "a refuge and a shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners." St. Faustina, also known as the 'Secretary of Divine Mercy,' died in 1938 in Kraknow at age 33 after suffering from Tuberculosis.

Divine Mercy Sunday is a space specifically designated for those who feel unworthy of God's love and Jesus's acceptance. In a vision, he told St. Faustina, "I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy." Divine Mercy Sunday, from its advent, has been a source of reconciliation with faith and God's mercy. It provides a specific day on which people from all walks of life can be humble themselves before God, and ask for his mercy, love, and forgiveness, which he grants to all those who are willing to ask for it. It is also about forgiveness and mercy, how Jesus offered his to us, and how we should act in kindness throughout our lives.

### Divine Mercy Sunday Activities

Attend Divine Mercy Sunday mass - You don't have to be Catholic to attend mass. You don't even have to be particularly religious either! This is the place where the day is celebrated with the most passion.

Show mercy and love - It's hard to show mercy and love to those who may have wronged or hurt us. On Divine Mercy Sunday, however, make an effort to let go and forgive those who may not even deserve your forgiveness. You will feel better.

**Be kind -** Mercy and love also mean kindness. If you're having trouble forgiving and showing mercy, be kind to those who need it. Mercy is not just about forgiveness — it's also about using your power or influence to help those you otherwise wouldn't have to.

https://nationaltoday.com/divine-mercy-sunday/#how-to

## Our 10:3 show

## OLPH First Communion Ceremony and Outdoor Mass and Picnic Next Sunday, May 4, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.

Our OLPH PSR and school children will be receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist during the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the Church. Since the Archdiocese has recommended that all Sacraments should be celebrated with the entire church community, we are excited to celebrate with our parish and school families by also simultaneously having our annual Outdoor Mass at 10:30 a.m. on the front lawn.

After Mass, the KC's are hosting a Parish picnic and will be serving Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and drinks. Please join us for Mass, food and fellowship. You are welcome to come to Mass dressed for the picnic. Bring your family, lawn

chairs, and blankets. Everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite snacks & desserts to share.

**NOTE**: We will be doing a procession of flowers to honor Mary for May Crowning. Please consider participating by bringing Spring flowers to place by the statue of Mary. Flowers from your garden are encouraged.



## Next Sunday is the Third Sunday of Easter (Year C)

Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41. We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.

**Revelation 5:11-14.** The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power, wealth, glory, and blessing.

**John 21:1-19.** Jesus stepped forward, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.



The flowers in church this week were donated in loving memory of: **Nanette Carpenter**, 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.



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: Wade & Barbara Bolotte, requested by Dolly Roy; Fay Dudenhefer, requested by Dolly Roy; and

Rene' Bowers, 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.

#### **Sponsor of the Week:**



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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.



#### **Believe It or Not**

In today's Gospel we hear Jesus say three times, "Peace be with you." This was a common greeting, but the disciples were hiding in fear so they needed reassurance. Jesus gives them that reassurance in three ways: his resurrection, forgiveness of sins, and a blessing for future disciples. The disciples had seen Jesus crucified and were afraid any of his followers would be treated the same way. So when Je-

sus appeared to them, he showed them his wounds and let them touch him. He wanted to show them that he was not a ghost; he had risen from death and death has no more power over him. They can now take courage because they will share in the Resurrection themselves. Breathing on them, he bestows the Holy Spirit, source of our courage.

That leads to the second reassurance, forgiveness of sins. Jesus died to take away our sins; now he shares that with his disciples. Anyone troubled by guilt can be forgiven. The disciples themselves probably felt that need, since they had deserted Jesus and one even denied knowing him. He now sends his apostles with the mission to free others from sin. We too can forgive others (and ourselves) knowing that God has forgiven them and us.

Finally, the story of Thomas and his doubts about Jesus' resurrection gives us some hope. Jesus blesses those who "have not seen and have believed" (John 20:29). We usually think the apostles were "more" blessed for having seen and heard Jesus. But Jesus reverses that expectation; we are blessed, even two thousand years after the Resurrection.



#### Church Financials Year to Date through January 31, 2025

	Operating	Maintenance	Cap. Campaign	Total
Income before Fair, Maint. & Capital	310,391			310,391
Fair Proceeds	91,000			91,000
Maintenance Monthly Collections		36,213		36,213
Capital Campaign Collections			11,131	11,131
Expenses	(420,770)	(94,246)	(86,116)	(601,132)
Total YTD Actuals	\$ (19,379)	\$ (58,033)	\$ (74,985)	\$ (152,397)

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 <a href="www.olphbc.org">www.olphbc.org</a> (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.



#### **Sunday of Divine Mercy**



**Straight Talk** by: Father William Maestri The Merciful Heart

Each society, civilization, and INDIVIDUAL faces a time of CRISIS. The word 'crisis' comes from the Greek word krises denoting a moment when a path diverges to reveal a fork in the road (baseball great Yogi Berra advised, "Take it!").

A crisis is a time (karios, a crucial, momentous time unlike charios, mathematical time) in which the true character, soul of a people or individual is revealed. Such a time requires a decision. When confronted with a crisis there is no later nor more convenient hour. Avoidance is not an option. For not to act, to move into the

unknown, is itself a decision. To stand still, turn inward and freeze, is a decision to stagnate and die. (Pt 30:19).

The Catholic Church holds up for the world the Merciful Heart of Jesus. This Sacred, Merciful Heart is offered in the midst of our global and personal crises. It is for our time, on the stage of history, for being tested, and revealing by our decisions the condition of our heart/soul.

Pope Francis in his beautiful and challenging book, Let Us Dream, writes: "To enter into crisis is to be sifted [like Peter in Lk 22:31]. Your categories and ways of thinking get shaken up; your priorities and lifestyles are challenged. Your cross a threshold, either by your own choice or by necessity... In the trials of life, you reveal your own heart; how solid it is, how merciful, how big or small." (p. 1).

Jesus' Father (Our Father too) sent his Beloved Son on a mission to forgive, heal and transform wounded humanity (Jn 3:16). But the Father did not send Jesus insulated from the human condition Gnosticism). Rather, the Word (Logos) became fully flesh and took upon himself the full weight of sin and guilt, while himself not sinning (Jn 1:14; 2Cor 5:21).

Jesus' crises, his time of testing and revealing, himself as Son and the Father as LOVE, came during Holy Week. Specifically, with his agony in the garden of Gethsemane (Lk 22:39-46), and on the Good Friday Cross (Lk 23:24). In this double drama, Jesus is revealed as faithful Son and our Savior.

In the garden where Gethsemane transcends Eden, Jesus' sweat becomes drops of blood, for the full horror of sins' effects on humanity is present in Jesus.

He prays that the cup of suffering will pass, however, he freely surrenders to the will of the Father. The Original Sin of prideful disobedience is overcome by the humble obedience of the New Adam. (Rom 5:12-21).

As Jesus nears death on the Friday Cross, with the crowd and one of the thieves tempting him to reveal himself as the Messiah by coming OFF the cross, Jesus reveals himself as Savior by STAYING ON THE CROSS! It is from the cross that Jesus forgives Dismas, and prays that his tormentors and executioners will be pardoned.

Pope Francis unites the merciful heart of Jesus with the gift of HOPE. Fittingly in this Jubilee Year of Hope, the Pope offers, for our meditation, a poem by Alexis Valdes entitled, "ESPERANZA" ("Hope").

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In closing a few stanzas:

When the storm has passed and the roads are tamed and we are the survivors of a collective shipwreck.

And we'll envy no one for all of us have suffered and we'll not be idle but more compassionate.

We'll value more what belongs to all than what was earned. We'll be more generous and much more committed.

And all will become a miracle. And all will become a legacy. And we'll respect the life, the life we have gained.

When the storm passes I ask the Lord, in shame that you return us better, as you once dreamed us.

\*(Pope Francis. Let Us Dream. Full text, pp.139-40).

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