

WE HAVE A POPE!

# HABEMUS PAPAM

POPE LEO XIV



## 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*  
[emerritt@arch-no.org](mailto:emerritt@arch-no.org)

Brittany Breaux, *School Principal*  
[bbreaux@olphbcschool.org](mailto:bbreaux@olphbcschool.org)

Dawn Bassett, *Administrative Assistant*

Suzette Perrin, *Coordinator of Religious  
Education and Adult Formation*  
[cre@olphbc.org](mailto:cre@olphbc.org)

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

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

### SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK 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



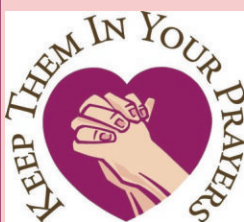
**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** Baptisms are usually celebrated on the fourth Sunday of the month during the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Due to demand, some months may be eliminated or another day or time may be chosen by the family if it is available on the church schedule of events." To begin the process, parents are 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).

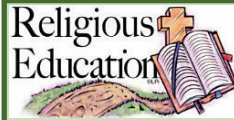
**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** Contact the Church Office at least nine months prior to the planned date. No other arrangements should be made before contacting the Church Office.

**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, May 17, Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 14:7-14**

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)

**Sunday, May 18, Fifth Sunday of Easter, Acts 14:21-27; Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13; Rev 21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35**

Masses, Church—8:00 a.m. (Fr. K) & 10:30 a.m. (Fr. K)  
**2nd Collection—Capital Campaign (All Masses)**

**Monday, May 19, Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26**

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

**Tuesday, May 20, Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a**

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.  
KC Meeting, KC Hall—6:30 p.m.  
Novena—Mother of Perpetual Help, Church—6:50 p.m.  
Daily Mass, Church—7:00 p.m. (Fr. K)

**Wednesday, May 21, Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5; Jn 15:1-8**

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 22, Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11**

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. K)  
Church Office Hours—9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. or by Appointment  
Choir Rehearsal, Church—7:00 p.m.

**Friday, May 23, Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-9, 10 and 12; Jn 15:12-17**

Daily Mass, Church—7:30 a.m. (Fr. 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 24, Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5; Jn 15:18-21**

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)  
Blessing for Graduates—All Masses

**Sunday, May 25, Sixth Sunday of Easter**

Masses, Church—8:00 a.m. (Fr. M) & 10:30 a.m. (Fr. K)  
Baptisms during Mass—10:30 a.m.  
Blessing for Graduates—All Masses

## Mass Intentions

**5/17, Saturday, 4:00 p.m.**— For the Parishioners (living & deceased)

**5/18, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.**— Sally Allan, Richard & Anne Fowler, Rennie Coludrovich, Jr., Leander Sanders, Sanders & Dobard Families

**5/18, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.**— Donald Kennair, Rosemary (Schaubhut) Hebert, Pat & Dolly Stakelum, Blaze St. Marie, Jacqueline Bubrig Cain, Sandra Longley, Francis Gainey, Marija Tesvich, Kuzma Tesvich, Sr., Anthony Tesvich, Audrey Creppel Treme', Geraldine Arnold, Samuel Tague, Amy Pignoli Armstrong

**5/19, Monday, 7:30 a.m.**— For the intentions of the Priest

**5/20, Tuesday, 7:30 a.m.**— For the intentions of the Priest

**5/20, Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.**— Blaze St. Marie

**5/21, Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.**— Mervin "Buddy" Burlette

**5/22, Thursday, 7:30 a.m.**— For the intentions of the Priest

**5/23, Friday, 7:30 a.m.**— For the intentions of the Priest

**5/24, Saturday, 7:30 a.m.**— For the intentions of the Priest

**5/24, Saturday, 4:00 p.m.**— Joyce C. Ehrhard, Sandra Longley, Donna Pobrca, Jacqueline Cain, Irwin Cooper, III, Ferdinand Von Behren, Darrell Roy, Lyle & Lana Stockstill, Francis Gainey, Cindy Darce', Alexandra "Allie" Boteler, Audrey Creppel Treme', Geraldine Arnold, Rene' Bowers, Archie & Josie Lyles, Amy Pignoli Armstrong, Butch Burlette, Randy Lemoine, Ronnie Lemoine, Samuel Tague

**5/25, Sunday, 8:00 a.m.**— For the Parishioners

**5/25, Sunday, 10:30 a.m.**— Blaze St. Marie, Byron Basco, Wade J. Bolotte, Brigid Dufrene, Mae Rita Plaisance, Marija Tesvich, Kuzma Tesvich, Sr., Anthony Tesvich, Maria Marroquin, Leonora Adames, Samuel Tague



### CALLING ALL 2025 GRADUATES

Fr. Kyle will be doing a blessing of all *Middle School, High School and College Graduates* the week-end of **May 24/25** at all Masses.



### Confirmation Preparation Classes

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 on **Sunday, June 8, 2025 at 5:00 PM** in the church to go over all requirements for preparation for the sacrament. High school students in both Catholic and non-Catholic schools should attend and register for Confirmation as soon as possible. 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 church office at (504) 394-0314.

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

**Acts 15:1-2, 22-29.** It seemed right to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you beyond what is essential.

**Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23.** He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.

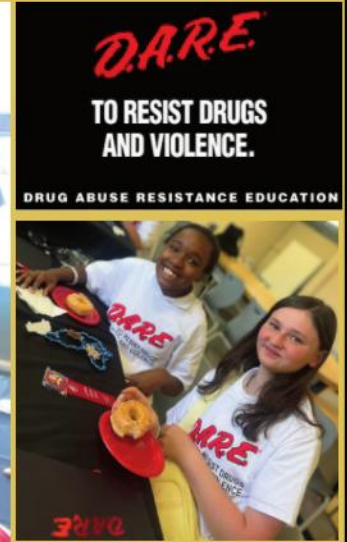
**John 14:23-29.** The Holy Spirit will teach you everything and remind you of all I have said to you.



## OLPH School News



Congratulations to our amazing 6th and 7th grade students on completing the **D.A.R.E. Program**! Also, a huge THANK YOU to the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office for their dedication and support in guiding our students. Together, we're building a brighter, safer future!



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## Newly Baptized In Christ

OLPH would like to welcome our new parishioner that was Baptized in April: **Reese Patrick Fleming**, child of Jennifer and Adam Fleming.



## St. Vincent dePaul Society Fundraiser

Would you like to take a chance on winning Fine Dining for a Year at local restaurants (see list of restaurants below)? If so, members of OLPH SVDP will be selling Raffle Tickets after all Masses this weekend and next weekend (May 24/25) at the back of church. Tickets are \$20 each and the total value of the Raffle is \$1,990.00. **Note: Half of the cost of the raffle ticket will benefit our local St. Vincent de Paul Conference here at OLPH.**

*Please consider supporting St. Vincent de Paul by purchasing Raffle Tickets!*



### PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS

Total Value: \$1,990.00  
 Bonefish Grill, All Locations  
 BRG Hospitality, New Orleans  
 Brigsten's Restaurant, New Orleans  
 Clancy's Restaurant, New Orleans  
 Dickie Brennan Group, New Orleans  
 Dooky Chase, New Orleans (*plus cookbook*)  
 Flemings, Metairie  
 Gallagher's Grill, Covington  
 La Petite Grocery, New Orleans  
 Mosca's, Avondale  
 Oak Oven, Harahan  
 Pizza Domenica, New Orleans  
 Rizzuto's Ristorante & Chophouse, New Orleans  
 Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, New Orleans, Metairie



**Congratulations to those who received the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time at the First Holy Communion Mass on May 4, 2025. May God bless them and their families as they continue to grow in their faith.**

**Ella Grace Alphonso**

**Dani Gail Babin**

**Juliet Morgan Bordelon**

**Isabel Ann Carpenter**

**Jane Marie Dandry**

**Faith Genevieve Dowden**

**Tatum Ann Dufriend**

**Easton Jackson Fisher**

**Luke Michael Glass**

**Kelly Louise Golden-Smales**

**Cormielle Alijah Jones**

**Frank Joseph Jurisich III**

**Mackenzie Miller Jurisich**

**Alexander Vo Keelen**

**Milania Pilar Lott**

**Harper Marie Martin**

**Madison Lynn Martin**

**Luca Cruz Mayfield**

**Mia Maddison Meinhardt**

**Olivia Ann Munsterman**

**Colin Minh-Quang Nguyen**

**Elijah Robert Perry**

**Nash Joseph Perry**

**Brooke Allison Pino**

**Emmi Claire Pouwels**

**Olivia Marie Scalf**

**Esmeralda Ines Tejada**

**Isabella Ruby Tejada**

**Ismael Enrique Tejada**

**Talyn Lane Turlich**

**Lennon Ryan Vujnovich**



The recent Outdoor Mass & Picnic was an enjoyable event. Thank you to all the amazing people who helped out for the Parish Picnic. We hope everyone that came out had a great time. A special thank you to our Knights of Columbus members for hosting the picnic and for supplying the hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks, etc. Thanks also to everyone who brought desserts to share and to TJ Lejeune who supplied the music for the picnic. We are a wonderful and blessed Parish!



The flowers in church this week were donated in loving memory of: **Donald Kennair**, requested by The Kennair Family.

*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: **Donald Kennair**, requested by The Kennair Family; and **George & Rosemary Sartis**, 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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Dr. A. Page  
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8566 HWY. 23

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.

*“I give you a new commandment: love one another.”*



## No Stunt Man for Jesus

Today's first and second readings seem to contradict each other. In the Acts of the Apostles, Paul and Barnabas remind the other disciples that they would “undergo many hardships to enter the kingdom of God” (Acts 14:22). But in the second reading from Revelation, John says there will be “no more . . . mourning, wailing or pain” (Revelation 21:4). These two sides of the Kingdom show how real our faith is. Life is frequently contradictory. A woman in labor moves from pain to joy in seconds after her child is born. She doesn't forget the pain, but knows it is necessary for the joy of new birth. Only the artist knows how much effort and pain went into the creation of a painting, sculpture, or symphony. Married couples know that their love is measured as much by the sacrifices they make as by the joy they receive.

This also explains how difficult it is for the wealthy to get into the kingdom of God. If everything comes easily to you, if you never have to work for anything, you may not be capable of the sacrifices that true love entails. Some may have had life so easy, they don't know how to make the effort it takes to love God or people. And some who worked hard to acquire wealth don't understand the deeper joy that comes from sharing with others. That's why Jesus in the Gospel talks of his coming death on the cross as the way that God will glorify him. Even God does not do things the easy way. Jesus didn't send a stunt man to take his place on the cross. The cushy jobs went to the angels who announced the birth of the Savior (Luke 1:26–32), or told the women at the tomb that he was risen (Luke 24:4–7). It was God who was born in poverty, in a time of high infant mortality (even higher when Herod tried to kill the Child). It was God who suffered, from the Agony in the Garden through the Crucifixion.

So when Jesus tells us to love one another as he has loved us, he knows what it cost. And he also knew that his death on the cross would be the beginning of a way of love that will eventually lead to “no more death or mourning, wailing or pain.” We're not there yet, but we know we are not alone in our suffering for “God himself will always be with them” (Revelation 21:3). Tom Schmidt

## Stewardship

*All things are possible with God.*



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

	Operating	Maintenance	Cap. Campaign	Total
Income before Fair, Maint. & Capital	423,266			423,266
Fair Proceeds	91,000			91,000
Maintenance Monthly Collections		48,229		48,229
Capital Campaign Collections			44,010	44,010
Expenses	(516,809)	(52,674)	(230,462)	(799,945)
<b>Total YTD Actuals</b>	<b>\$ (2,543)</b>	<b>\$ (4,445)</b>	<b>\$ (186,452)</b>	<b>\$ (193,440)</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.







## Straight Talk

by: Father William Maestri

### Plato: The Modern Cave

One of the most timeless and timely philosophers of the Western tradition is Plato (427 - 347BC). His many works continue to be studied, debated, and most relevant for we inhabitants of the twenty-first century. Of special importance is his classic Republic; specifically, the 'Allegory of the Cave' (VI-VII) as to our enslavement to computers and 'smart phones'.

The Cliff Notes version of the cave is as follows: From childhood a group of people have been chained by neck and leg, allowing them to only look at the wall of the cave in front of them. In back of them is a high-rise on which individuals walk with various objects. In back of them is a fire which projects the image of the object on to the cave wall, while a person calls out the name of the object ("tree"). Those who are chained assume the word is coming from the image. The prisoners come to accept the shadows as the real things.

One of the chained breaks free, turns away from the shadows (*metanoia*/conversion) and walks toward the light. Such a turning is painful to the eyes, nonetheless, the newly liberated continue the journey through the cave to its opening. Emerging from the cave into the sunlight (the Good) increases the pain. However, over time the eyes adjust and the mind moves from the image to the object; from the shadow to the thing as it is. While it is less painful to live in the cave and look at images, if one is to gain knowledge of the TRUE, BEAUTIFUL, and GOOD, one must be opened to a new birth. That is, one must journey through the birth canal (cave) into a knowledge deeper than shadows. This life long journey is our "getting real"!

Plato's Allegory screams with relevance for the current inmates, confined to shadows and images projected on to the colored screens of our computer caves. The endless parade of images, attractive to the eye, along with a Walter Cronkite (1916-2009) assurance, "that's the way it is", is losing traction. More people are beginning to question the "shadow side" (Carl Jung) of our techno-masters. Increasingly, our gadgets are tightening the chains effecting our judgement and influencing the choices we make. From the products we buy, to the votes we cast, and the values we profess, we are being influenced more and more by image-makers and virtual-reality creators. Nike may not make the best sneaker, but one of its early slogans - "Image is everything" - has proved as accurate as the prophecy of George Orwell (1903-1950).

Orwell in his books about a future dystopia, 1984 and Animal Farm, picture a time in which 'tele-screens' will be in every house and public space informing "Big Brother" about the behavior of those who deviate from the approved orthodoxy. The "Ministry of Truth" will oversee every level of instruction; especially history (subject matter and interpretation). The goal is to transform citizens into a mindless herd in which - "War is Peace", "Freedom is Slavery", and "Ignorance is Strength".

Orwell's future of surveillance, indoctrination, and correctness (conformity) is a far cry from the Republic born by those who pledged lives, fortunes, and sacred honor. The Republic over which a "grand old flag...a high-flying flag... [waves over] The home of the free and the brave", is in danger of being replaced by a drab grey flag of group-think.

The Bible contains numerous warnings about equating appearance (image-making) with reality (what is). Two examples for consideration:

1. Samuel was tasked with selecting a future king from Jesse's sons. The leading candidate checks all the boxes - looks kingly, physically attractive and imposing, and a good resume - except for one thing. And this one thing is the only thing that counts. Namely, God's evaluations: "Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." (1Sam 16:7).
2. Jesus warns against judging based on the outward appearance of piety, and those adorned in the symbols of holiness. He tells the scribes and Pharisees: "Woe to you, ...hypocrites...you are like whitewashed tombs...outwardly...appearing beautiful...within you are full of dead people's bones...outwardly appearing righteous...but within...full of hypocrisy and lawlessness". (Mt 23:27).

The First Letter of John offers sound guidance: "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God". (1Jn 4:1). This test is three-fold: confess that Jesus, the Son of God, came in the flesh (v 2); Jesus reveals God as Love (vs 8-9); and love one another (vs 20-21).

In the Holy Spirit, may we pass the test.



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