

Our Lady of Victories Church

(serving Harrington Park, River Vale, and the Pascack/Northern Valley)

150 Harriot Avenue, Harrington Park, New Jersey

www.ourchurch.com/member/o/olvparish

Rev. Bryan F.J. Adamcik SFO, KHS Pastor

Rev. Duverney Bermudez

Rev. Christopher M. Ciccarino KHS

Rev. Brian Muzás

Weekend Assistants

Br. Innocent CFR

Charles Niece

Parish Seminarians

Sr. Kristen Gawlik FMA Novice

Parish Vocation

Mr. Thomas Lagatol Mr. Albert McLaughlin

Deacons

Susan Evarella Betty Ann Niece

Religious Education

Selena Piazza

Lesa Rossmann

Ministers of Music

Curtiss & Katie Stella

High School Ministry

Jorden Pedersen Esq.

President Parish Council

Rev. Anthony Mastroeni

Rev. John O'Connor

Latin Mass Assistants

Sr. Mary Corrigan, SC

Sr. Elizabeth Holler, SC

In Residence-Convent

Deacon Al McLaughlin

Parish Catechetical Leader

Elizabeth Ulisse

Martin Coyne II

Parish Trustees

Maria Hellrigel

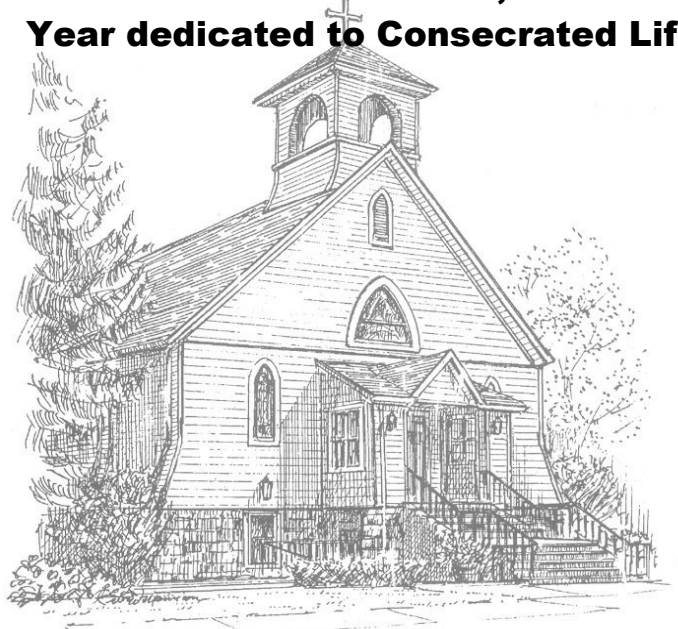
Parish Secretary

Jon Fischer CFA

Chairman Finance Committee

October 25, 2015 A.D.

Year dedicated to Consecrated Life



WELCOME

**To the Parish Family of
OUR LADY OF VICTORIES
(THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART)**

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00pm & 5:00pm

**Sunday: 7:30am, 9:30am, 10:45am,
12:00pm, 6:00pm & 7:00pm**

Latin Mass: Every Sunday at 8:15am

Weekdays: M-Sat 8:00am & 12:00noon

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

All are welcome to become members of OLV Parish because we're the little Church with the BIG HEART. Please register in the Rectory. Every Catholic family or individuals living within the parish boundaries are encouraged to register.

SPECIAL MASSES OR DEVOTIONS:

First Friday: 7:30pm, Mass of Sacred Heart & Devotions

First Saturday: 8:00am, Mass of Immaculate Heart of Mary

First Saturday: 12:00pm Mass for Souls in Purgatory

Novenas prayed after 8:00 a.m. Mass:

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal: Monday

St. Jude and St. Anthony: Wednesday

Infant of Prague: 25th of the month

Rosary: Recited M - Sat after 8:00am & 12Noon Mass.

Tuesday-Novena Prayer and Adoration: 2:00-3:00pm

Thursday-Holy Hour with Adoration & Benediction: 7:00pm

Friday-Exposition & Adoration: 12:30PM-3:00pm

Nocturnal Adoration: First Friday evening 8pm to Saturday 8am

THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE/CONFESSION:

Monday - Friday 7:30am - 7:50am. First Friday at 7:00pm

Saturday at 11:00a.m.-Noon; 3:00pm - 3:25pm

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

To register for Baptismal preparation and Baptism, call the rectory.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:

Call the Religious Ed Office for requirements/class schedule.

THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:

Please call the rectory for an appointment.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/LAST RITES:

Sick calls at any time in emergency.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS AND VOCATIONS:

Anyone contemplating a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life should contact the Vocations Office at 973.497.4365.

Phone: 201-768-1706
Email: olvrectory.hp@gmail.com

OLV Rectory
OLV Fax
201-768-3962

Religious Education
201-768-1400
olvhpccd@gmail.com

OLV Convent
201-768-1705

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Please **PRAY** in the name of **JESUS**, the Healer, that the **SICK** of **OLV PARISH** may be restored to health and all those who **ASSIST** and **CARE** for the sick will be given the **STRENGTH** to continue **GOD'S GOOD WILL**: Baby Luca, Br. Pius, Sr. Matthew Cola OSF, Isabella Ruggiero, Maria Aleman, Elizabeth Clark, Kathleen Dolan, Rebecca Fastiggi, Thomas Haring, Arnold Kemner, Ken Mosier, Kathleen Musante, Suzanne Rothschild, Wendy Ruggiero, Cookie Rush, Mildred Speck, Elizabeth Torre, Therese Vaglio, Darien Wesler, Al Wiese, Roy Wurtz, Marion Zanetti, Elaine Zito.

SPIRITUAL EXCERPT

"It is increasingly intolerable that financial markets are shaping the destiny of people rather serving their needs, or that the few derive immense wealth from financial speculation while the many are deeply burdened by the consequences." **Pope Francis**

WISDOM

One Saint, when confronted with the problems in his life, would say, "What is this compared to eternity?" This puts everything into perspective. To make this point more clear, is it better to die at ten or at ninety? Ten, if you believe that heaven is everything that God says it is. If you say ninety, you are looking at the world through the eyes of man. If you are looking through the eyes of God, the ten year old is the one more blessed. We must look at life through the perspective of eternity. When we start to stumble off the path of wisdom, we ought to look at Proverbs 9:10, which tells us where wisdom begins. It says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." Live to please Him. The only thing that should make us afraid is displeasing our Father. If we want to walk in wisdom, we must first ask for the fear of God. Live not for what the world thinks of you, but for what God thinks of you. When we stop looking at the world and start looking at God, then we'll be on the road to wisdom.

NEW HOPE

Your Bergen County alternative-to-abortion outreach program for single moms and their babies. Be part of the solution! Newcomers are welcome. For info, email newhopeinc@verizon.net.

CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION

Our Lord told St. Margaret Mary Alacoque that individuals should go to confession **at a minimum once a month**. This sacrament is offered EVERY Saturday from 11:00AM to Noon and 3-3:25PM. Monday thru Friday at 7:30AM, as well as every First Friday at 7:00PM. A Priest is also available to hear Confessions daily by appointment.

"Either you believe that all human beings – no matter how small, weak, or handicapped – have a right to be protected, or you adopt a doctrine of 'a life unworthy to be lived' and recognize the need to eliminate the 'unfit'." **Rev. Richard Newhaus**

OLV MUSIC MINISTRY

OLV Adult Choir—9:30AM Mass (Rehearsal: Tues, 7:00-8:00PM)
OLV Children's Choir—10:45AM Family Mass (Rehearsal: Mon, 5:15-5:45PM)
OLV Youth Choir—2nd Saturdays at 5:00PM Mass (Rehearsal Sat at 4:00PM)

CONSIDER JOINING ONE OF OUR THREE CHOIRS!

One of the most profoundly human things you can do is to talk to someone instead of about them.

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Attention all High School teens—OLV High School Ministry meets the second Saturday of each month—starts with 5:00PM Mass and ends 7:30PM.

ALTAR SERVERS WANTED

Boys and Girls (in 4th grade and up) interested in serving Mass should contact the rectory ASAP.

Gianna Center for Women

St. Peter's University Hospital, New Brunswick, has announced the opening of the Gianna Center, a medical practice dedicated to helping women with reproductive issues, especially infertility and various gynecologic disorders. This Center works within the moral tenets of the Catholic Church's teaching on reproductive healthcare. Visit www.saintpetershcs.com/giannacenter.

THE STETHOSCOPE

A nurse in the pediatric ward, before listening to the little ones' chests, would plug the stethoscope into their ears and let them listen to their own hearts. Their eyes would always light up with awe, but she never got a response equal to four year old David's comment. Gently she tucked the stethoscope into his ears and placed the disk over his heart. "Listen" she said ... "What do you suppose that is?" He drew his eyebrows together in a puzzled line and looked up as if lost in the mystery of the strange tap - tap - tapping deep in his chest. Then his face broke out in a wondrous grin and he asked, "Is that Jesus knocking?"

MISSIONARY FRANCISCAN SISTERS GARAGE & BAKE SALE

Sunday, October 25, and Monday, October 26, from 10AM to 4PM at 253 Knickerbocker Road in Tenafly. Many new and used quality items including housewares, clothing, collectibles and home-baked goods—something for everyone! For information or to donate items in good condition call Sr. Trinity 201-568-0478.

ALL SOULS INTENTIONS

We are asking that your ALL SOULS INTENTION ENVELOPES be returned to the rectory as soon as possible in order that we may place the intentions and names on the altar on ALL SOULS DAY and for the following nine days for the ALL SOULS NOVENA. The envelope intentions will remain on the altar for the entire month of November, which is dedicated to the POOR SOULS IN PURGATORY.

BOAT

A man wanted a boat more than anything. His wife kept saying no, but he bought one anyway. "I'll tell you what," he told her. "In the spirit of compromise, why don't you name the boat?" Being a good sport, she accepted. When her husband went to the dock for the boat's maiden voyage, he saw painted on the side, "For Sale".

Paradoxical Quote of The Day

"Fathom the hypocrisy of a government that requires every citizen to prove they are insured... but not everyone must prove they are a citizen." Now add this, "Many of those who refuse, or are unable, to prove they are citizens will receive free insurance paid for by those who are forced to buy insurance because they are citizens." **Ben Stein**

If people evolved from apes, why are there still apes?

Well done is better than well said.

Upcoming OLV Parish Events

- Oct 25 & 26 – Sun/Mon—CCD
- Oct 26—Mon—Zumba 6:00PM OLV Gym
- Oct 26—Mon—Women of Grace 7:30PM
- Oct 27 -Tue – Marian Novena Prayer 2:00-3:00PM
- Oct 28—Wed—OLV Bible Group 10:00AM
- Oct 28—Wed—OLV Needlers 6:30PM
- Oct 29—Thu—Zumba 7:00PM School Parish Center
- Oct 30—Fri– Adoration from 12:30PM-3:00PM
- Oct 31- Sat—Confessions 11:00-12:00Noon 3:00/3:25PM
- Oct 31/Nov 1-Sat/Sun—Coat and Sweater Drive
- Nov 7 / 8-Sat/Sun—Coat and Sweater Drive
- Nov 21/22-Sat/Sun— CDA Christmas Gift Sale
- Nov 22—Sun—Frozen Turkey Collection
- Dec 13-Sun-Advent Evensong Concert/Prayer Service 3:00pm
- Jan 23—Sat—K of C Beef Steak
- May 14—Sat- FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
- May 22—Sun—Confirmation 2PM
- May 30—Mon—Fr. Innocent CFR First Mass and Reception at OLV 1PM

LIFE SOURCE HOSPICE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

Life Source Hospice is seeking volunteers to be part of our elderly patients' end-of-life care. Volunteers serve as friendly bedside visitors to patients throughout Bergen County and provide them with much appreciated companionship by sitting, listening and praying with them. Volunteers also provide support to family members. Volunteers determine their own schedules and can visit on evenings and weekends. Most volunteers donate 2 hours a week of their time for a minimum of one year. Volunteers receive ongoing hospice training and support. For more information, please contact Life Source Hospice at 201-967-4313 or kiplifefsourcehospice@yahoo.com.

INCORRUPTIBLES

St. Catherine Laboure (1806-1876) is well-known among Catholics for being chosen by God to be the recipient of heavenly visits. Hers came from our Lord himself; from St. Vincent de Paul, the founder of her religious order; from her guardian angel; and most famously, from our Blessed Mother, who gave the Miraculous Medal to the world through Catherine in 1830. This great gift to the Church has been the instrument of numerous miracles and blessing over the years.

Fifty-six years after her death, when her beatification was announced by the Vatican, her body was exhumed and discovered by the medical and ecclesiastical team assigned to the task to be perfectly intact. Two fingers on her left hand appeared to be blackened, but upon further investigation the cause was found to be the disintegration of the sleeve of her habit, not from any decay of her skin. Her arms and legs were found to be supple, and even her bones had not suffered decay. They were still elastic and cartilaginous. Her eyes were intact, the irises containing the blue-gray color Catherine was born with. Her hair remained attached to her scalp, and her fingernails and toenails were perfectly preserved. As in St. Bernadette's case, the preservation of St. Catherine's body could not be explained naturally.

FIGHT

Walking into the bar, Mike said to Charlie the bartender, "Pour me a stiff one - just had another fight with the little woman." "Oh yeah?" said Charlie, "And how did this one end?" "When it was over," Mike replied, "she came to me on her hands and knees." "Really," said Charles, "Now that's a switch! What did she say?" She said, "Come out from under the bed, you little chicken."

COAT DRIVE

OLV Social Concerns Committee will be collecting **Winter Jackets, Coats and Sweaters**. If you have any of these items that you wish to donate we are having a **coat drive** during the weekends of **October 31st/November 1st and November 7th/8th**.

Women's Dance Class—ZUMBA

Women's Zumba exercise classes are held on Mondays 6:00PM in the gym and Thursdays 7:00PM in the Parish Center.

FOOD DRIVE

During the months of **October and November** we have been asked to help restock the area food banks. So please bring your donation to the church vestibule or leave them at the rectory garage.

PRAYER for PEACE in IRAQ & the MIDDLE EAST

By the Chaldean Catholic Patriarch of Iraq
His Beatitude Louis Rafael Sako

Lord, the plight of our country is deep and the suffering of Christians is severe and frightening. Therefore, we ask you Lord to spare our lives, to grant us patience, and the courage to continue our witness of Christian values with trust and hope. Lord, peace is the foundation of life; Grant us the peace and stability that will enable us to live with each other without fear and anxiety, and with dignity and joy. Glory be to you forever. Amen.

DID YOU KNOW???

Emperor Charles V (1500-1558) of the Holy Roman Empire, (the father of the great King Philip II of Spain) left nearly his entire fortune to the work of the Catholic Church. With one provision: the priests of the realm would offer thirty thousand Masses for the repose of his soul.

QUESTION?

Why do Catholics believe in a place between Heaven and Hell called Purgatory? The main body of Christians have always believed in the existence of a place between Heaven and Hell where souls go to be punished for lesser sins and to repay the debt of temporal punishment for sins which have been forgiven. Even after Moses was forgiven by God, he was still punished for his sin. (2 Samuel 12:13-14). The primitive Church Fathers regarded the doctrine of Purgatory as one of the basic tenets of the Christian faith. St. Augustine, one of the greatest doctors of the Church, said the doctrine of Purgatory "has been received from the Fathers and is observed by the Universal Church."

CCD CORNER

Once again, before our classes begin, the teachers and children have been praying a decade of the Rosary, in honor of Mary. Throughout the year as one of our **Four Learning Corners of Faith**, the students will be taught various prayer forms from the "basic Ones" (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be) to devotional prayers and Mass responses. As Catholics we are called to pray and so I encourage you to not only speak to your children about the prayers they are learning but to find time each day to pray as a family.

FORMER CATHOLICS

Know of any former Catholics or Catholics who no longer come to Mass, have them check out this website- CatholicsComeHome.org.

SWISS HEALTH CARE

Last October, Swiss voters rejected a plan to get rid of the country's private health insurance system in favor of a state-run plan, the AFP reported. Some 64 percent of the electorate shot down a plan pushed by left-leaning parties who say the current system is busting the budgets of ordinary residents, figures from polling agency GFS Bern showed. The rejection of the plan by nearly two-thirds of voters is a major blow for pro-reform campaigners, given that recent polls had shown the No vote was likely to be 54 percent. In a 2007 referendum, 71 percent rejected similar reforms. The country's health care system has been lauded for its efficiency, and other countries have modeled their own systems after it. Costs have been on the rise in Switzerland, however, leading to the proposed change. "Over the past 20 years in Switzerland, health costs have grown 80 percent and insurance premiums 125 percent," ophthalmologist Michel Matter said. Matter heads the Geneva Physicians Association, which has called to get rid of the current system. "This is not possible anymore. It has to change," Matter said. But the current system is completely debt free, unlike the health service of France, Italy, and Britain. "We don't have a deficit in Switzerland. It's a healthy system. Of course we can criticize a lack of transparency by some insurers, but state control isn't going to solve such problems," said Ivan Slatkine, a senior party official from the rightist Liberal Radicals.

High School Open Houses

- Thursday, Oct 29-BergenCatholic HS, 6:30PM.
- Sunday, Nov 2-Don Bosco Prep, Ramsey, 1:00-3:00PM.
- Wednesday, Nov 5-Immaculate Heart Acad., 6:30-8:00PM.
- Wednesday, Nov 5-St. Joseph Regional HS, 6:30-9:00PM.

Jesus asked one thing from us!!!

On His last night of earth (Holy Thursday) Jesus asked His disciples one thing – to stay awake with Him for one hour. Every Thursday evening we at OLV try to fulfill this request by having a Holy Hour from 7-8PM. Join us in carrying out Jesus' request.

OLV K of C Council #14483

All men over the age of 18 are cordially invited to join the OLV Knights of Columbus Council. The Knights are the largest Catholic Fraternal Organization in the world. For info call Rich at 201-767-6689.

WE REMEMBER

To have the deceased members of your family remembered throughout November, please use the special envelope provided with your collection envelopes. These envelopes with the names of your loved ones will remain in the Sanctuary during the month of November as we pray for our faithful departed. **Extra envelopes** are available at the doors.

ARE YOU NEW TO THE AREA?

If you are, why not join our ever-growing Parish family. Stop by the Rectory any weekday and meet Maria and register to become a member of the OLV Family. Census forms are also located in the Church vestibule.

Mass Intentions

- Monday, October 26–St. Demetrius of Dalmatia-Martyr**
 - 8:00 Thomas F. Lagatol II R/b the Lagatol Family
 - 12:00 Special Intentions R/b the Coyne Family
- Tuesday, October 27-BI. Emilina of France-Lay Cistercian Sister**
 - 8:00 Patricia Murray R/b the Bolton Family
 - 12:00 Elaine Lamendola R/b Jinnie Moran
- Wednesday, October 28 – Saints Simon and Jude - Apostles**
 - 8:00 Pasquale Merola R/b Richard and Maureen Ferrara
 - 12:00 In Thanksgiving to St. Jude R/b Esty Parlanti
- Thursday, October 29–St. Narcissus – Bishop of Jerusalem**
 - 8:00 Francis Clawson R/b Richard and Maureen Ferrara
 - 12:00 Ralph Richetti R/b Rae Rinaldi
- Friday, October 30–St. Marcellus the Centurion, Martyr-Spain**
 - 8:00 Joseph Lucin R/b Michael and Barbara Fizulich
 - 12:00 Nair Lawlor R/b John McDonough
- Saturday, October 31 – St. Wolfgang, Bishop of Ratisbon**
 - 8:00 Robert O'Brien R/b Judy Pommett
 - 12:00 Marie Merola R/b Richard and Maureen Ferrara
 - 4:00 Joseph Wagner
 - 5:00 Margaret McGurk R/b Henry and Helen Bloomer
- Sunday, November 1–ALL SAINTS DAY**
 - 7:30 Modesto Ferrara R/b Richard and Maureen Ferrara
 - 8:15 People of the Parish
 - 9:30 Kevin Lagatol R/b the Lagatol Family
 - 10:45 Special Intentions R/b the Coyne Family
 - 12:00 John Zanetti R/b Sr. Elizabeth
 - 6:00 Gladys Heyliger R/b OLV CCD
 - 7:00 People of the Parish

Sanctuary Memorials

- The Church Sanctuary Lamp** burns this week for the repose of the soul of **Christine Cascone**, r/b the Duggan Family.
- The Blessed Virgin Mary Votive Lamp** burns this week for **the unemployed**.
- The St. Joseph Votive Lamp** burns this week for a **Special Intention**.

CONVALIDATION

Were you married civilly by a mayor or justice of the peace and would now like to be married in the Catholic Church? See Fr. Bryan for more details and to see if your marriage can be regularized with the Church.

SICK OR "HOMEBOUND"

If you are sick or "homebound" (or know someone who is), and would like to have Communion, please contact the Rectory at 201-768-1706.

SAVE USED EYEGLASSES

The OLV Knights of Columbus collects used and old eyeglasses for the less fortunate. Any old or "retired" glasses may be left at the rectory.

DID YOU KNOW???

S.M.O.M. The actual smallest sovereign entity in the world is the Sovereign Military Order of Malta (S.M.O.M). It is located in the city of Rome, Italy, and has an area of two tennis courts. And, as of 2001, has a population of 80 -- 20 less people than the Vatican. It is a sovereign entity under international law, just as the Vatican City State is.

KIDZ KORNER ANSWERS

- 1. Judas. 2. St. Peter. 3. St. James the Greater.
- 4. St. Bartholomew. 5. St. John the Beloved.

As we grow up, we realize it is less important to have lots of friends and more important to have real ones.

HELL

As we get ready to combat all those ghoulish creatures and satanic demons that will parade around and trick or treat next weekend on Halloween. The Apostles Creed says Jesus "descended into hell". So did Jesus literally dance with the Devil on Good Friday night? Did He destroy the gates of Hell and quench its eternal fires? Not exactly! We cannot impose our current understanding of things or places on biblical images or scriptural passages; by that I mean the Hell into which Jesus descended after He died on the cross is not the Hell of current imagery! What's the difference? First, let's review the earliest biblical images of Satan or the Devil.

One image the Old Testament gives of the Evil One is the cunning snake who tricked Eve into disobeying God; of that devil the Bible says, "...the LORD God said to the serpent: 'Because you have done this, you shall be banned from all the animals and from all the wild creatures; on your belly shall you crawl, and dirt shall you eat all the days of your life.'" (Genesis 3:14) So there's no pitchfork-wielding, pointy-eared and tailed, fire-breathing beast in the Book of Genesis!

Later on, the Bible gives this fiendish image: "One day, when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, Satan also came among them. And the LORD said to Satan, "Whence do you come?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "From roaming the earth and patrolling it." (Job 1:6-7) It then depicts Satan in his role as the Devil's Advocate, giving God every reason to condemn his servant, Job. The Catholic Catechism says the Hell into which Jesus descended was that place where all the dead had gone, from Adam and Eve until those who died before Jesus died. Since the gates of Heaven had been closed after Adam and Eve's sin, those who died before Christ died were deprived of the joy of seeing God's face, which is the ultimate definition of Hell. As the Scriptures imply Jesus went to Hell to preach to the dead, to offer them the opportunity to follow Him into Paradise, for as Saint Paul said, "At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in Heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." (Philippians 2:10-11) The Bible does not tell us who did – or did not- accept His invitation to Heaven, but it is a choice we must all make! The Catechism also says Christ's descent into Hell affirms that Jesus truly died on the Cross, and that like all people, His human life came to an end: He "suffered, died, and was buried." That He then freed the just spirits imprisoned in this Hell is attested to in Revelation 1:18: "Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever. I hold the keys to death and the netherworld." This abode of the dead is called the netherworld or Hell, and is called Sheol in Hebrew and Hades in Greek. Although Christ did "visit" this Hell - He did not free the damned, but only the righteous who were trapped there due to Heaven's closed gates; nor did He destroy the gates of Hell. Surprisingly, what we call Hell with its fearful fires, gruesome accommodations and never-ending horrors was clearly taught by none other than Jesus Himself. Finally, starting in the 300's AD, the Church's first fulltime Christian theologians, whom we call the "Church Fathers", taught that by saying "Christ descended into Hell", we affirm that Christ came to truly live as one of us, a human person, into what for so many is, indeed, a living Hell! For Jesus also endured rejection, prejudice, misunderstanding, malice, anger, vengeance, unfaithful friends, pain, and death. Thus Jesus knows what a living Hell our life can sometimes be! Hell as it is depicted in the Gospels: a horrific, wretched place of endless suffering for the eternally damned...not the kind of place you'd want to visit! In John the Baptist's fire and brimstone tirade to the arrogant Pharisees, he soberly told them (and us), "Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees; Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire...(Christ's) winnowing fan is in his hand; He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire..." Make no mistake about it: "all evildoers are doomed to be eternally destroyed!"

But didn't the kinder, gentler, more forgiving Jesus come to extinguish the Baptist's fiery fury? I'm afraid not! At least a dozen times Jesus sternly warned us to repent – or else! Jesus not only detailed Hell's repulsiveness; He gave explicit examples of what will land our sorry souls in Hell...if we do not repent! Eleven times Jesus used the name of a real place, Gehenna, to describe Hell's horrors. Gehenna was a valley south of Jerusalem with a wicked past. In ancient days, people went there to sacrifice their own children to the god Moloch. This accursed valley eventually became a garbage dump; its stench and never-ending smoldering, gaseous clouds became a potent sign of the wages of sin! What kind of things did Jesus say would land a person in this disgusting, hopeless place...for all eternity? Jesus said, "Anyone who says, 'You fool (to his brother) will be liable to fiery Gehenna.'" (Matthew 5:22) So not only do good intentions pave the way to Hell, so does getting angry with others and insulting them! So watch it!

Those who ignore Church teaching had better wise up, too! For Jesus said, "Whoever will not receive you or listen to your words, go outside that house or town and shake the dust from your feet; Amen, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town." (Matthew 10:14) So don't dare doze off during one of my homilies! And to those who preach their own word rather than God's word Jesus said, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, you hypocrites; you traverse sea and land to make one convert, and when that happens you make him a child of Gehenna twice as much as yourselves." (Matthew 23:15) You may not always like my message – and I may not always live by my words – but if I water down Christ's Gospel, I could wind up in really hot water...forever!

Jesus also said the road to Hell is a one-way street: it is eternal damnation. After radically calling us to cut off a hand or foot, or pluck out an eye if it causes us to sin, Jesus said, "Better for you to enter into the Kingdom of God (without them) than to be thrown into Gehenna, where their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched." (Mark 9:43-48) While the Church says His advice to cut off wayward body parts is a hyperbole or exaggeration, it believes He meant what He said: Hell has no end! While God, who is perfect mercy, wants no one to go to Hell and puts no one there – those who reject God's way – and God's forgiveness when they stray – damn themselves. But God, who is perfect justice, must be true to His word which HE often told us: be good...or else!

Many other Gospel passages describe Hell and tell us what gets us there, but the surest way to get damned forever: ignore the needs of the neediest! "They will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, '...what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.' These will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life." (Matthew 25:45-46) So you can't say you haven't been warned! *Continued Next week.*

OLV BIBLE STUDY

The OLV Bible Study Group meets on Wednesdays at 10:00a.m. in the OLV Rectory. All are welcome to join us.

KIDZ KORNER

1. Which disciple of Jesus committed suicide?
2. Which disciple of Jesus was crucified upside down?
3. Which disciple of Jesus was beheaded in Jerusalem?
4. Which disciple of Jesus was burned alive?
5. Which disciple of Jesus died of old age?

Answers on page four.

"Either you believe that all human beings – no matter how small, weak, or handicapped – have a right to be protected, or you adopt a doctrine of 'a life unworthy to be lived' and recognize the need to eliminate the 'unfit'." **Rev. Richard Newhaus**

COVER SHEET

BULLETIN #: 002323

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:
Phone Fr. Bryan or Maria at 201-768-1706 or email olvrectory.hp@gmail.com with questions.