

Dear Brothers and Sisters,


This weekend our parish celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Calling upon the intercession of Mary under this title reminds us of the motherly care she showed Jesus throughout his life, and how that motherly care is extended to each of us. We see this in Scripture in the clearest way in the Gospel of John when Jesus, on the cross, entrusts his mother to John, the beloved disciple. John is representative of the entire Church, who receives Mary as Mother of the Church. As our parish celebrates its feast day we call upon the prayers and intercession of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, asking that she come to help us in our great need through her loving intercession before Christ our Savior. We remember early in the Gospel of John the special place Mary had at the wedding feast in Cana, interceding with Christ on behalf of the newly married couple when they had no wine. So with confidence we turn to her in our great need, asking that she help us with her prayers.



This weekend we also say goodbye to Fr. Larry as he prepares to move to St. Ursula in Parkville. I am grateful for Fr. Larry's dedicated and generous service to our parish. I know that he has a great love for our parish family and would have chosen to remain if possible. Archbishop O'Brien, however, saw that he would better serve the needs of the Archdiocese at St. Ursula, and so Fr. Larry has more than willingly said yes. Please keep him in your prayers during this time of transition. His email address will remain the same: ladamczyk@archbalt.org but his new mailing address will be: St. Ursula Church, 8801 Harford Rd Baltimore, MD 21234.

Finally, I want to thank you again for your patience with the large potholes at the north exit of the parish. We have scheduled with contractors to repair the paving and address the water issues that have given rise to the damage. Hopefully in a few weeks we will begin to see the work repaired and the traffic can begin to flow more smoothly again. Thank you for your patience and for your generosity to our Parish Capital Campaign that makes this repair possible!

Rev. Erik Anderson

 PARISH SUPPORT	
Offering for June 22, 2009	
Envelopes #382	\$13,041.00
Loose	\$1,538.00
Children	\$64.50
Total	\$14,643.50
Poor Box	\$157.00
Peace Sunday	\$920.80



Masses For The Week

Mon., June 29th	8:15 am	Mary Head †
Tues., June 30th	8:15 am	Charlotte Harrigan †
Wed., July 1st	8:15 am	Bulletin Sponsors
Thurs., July 2nd	8:15 am	Paul Adenni †
Fri., July 3rd	8:15 am	Pearl DeSelm †
Sat., July 4th	9:00 am	Rose Centineo
	4:30 pm	Anna Panceszyn †
Sun., July 5th	7:30 am	June Affeldt †
	9:00 am	Ann Marie Dressel †
	11:00 am	Kathleen Small †
	5:00 pm	For the People

**The Flowers on the Altar today are given
In loving memory of
Karen Ludwick**

Please include the sick of our parish in your prayers that they may experience Christ's comfort and healing.

Paul Bagley	Warren Drell Jr.	Rose Paternostro
John L Baker	Doris Eustis	Larry Putgenter, Sr.
Mary Barber	Janet Feldman	Rosemarie Rippel
Carol Beall	Jayne Fleischer	Maureen Roche
Michael Blom	Carrie Flanagan	Mary Ann Sharp
Clyde Bradley	Richard Flynn	Debbie Shipley
Lucy Bodner	Mary Grace Howard	Billy Simpson
Charlotte Bowers	Francis Hubbard	Jack Simpson
Diane Buckley	Eugene Huget	Christopher Sliker
James Bus	MaryAnn Humm	Ardelia Smith
Helene Cadman	Jack Kelly	Julia Smith
Jennifer Campbell	John F. Klosek	Bill Snyder
Rose Centineo	Fred Lourenso	Rosemary Snyder
David Clark	Lucy McKenna	Joanne Strock
Mary E. Clarke	Sandy Miller	Jessica Tupis and
Betty Clausen	Joseph Murray	Tupis Babies
Daniel Couvillion	Nathan Niessner	Edna Walker
Patricia Donadio	Mary Joyce O'Neill	Libby Weller
Mike Doshim		Kyla Zeilinger
Lauren Dunaway		

If you or your loved one is on the mend, please notify the Rectory!

Are you traveling this summer?
Don't forget to check out
www.masstimes.org
to locate a Church near your destination.

FEAST DAY OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

MINISTRY SCHEDULE for July 4-5, 2009

Saturday 4:30 pm
 EMHC Donahue, Schroeder **One Needed**
 Lectors Mulholland, Snavely
 Servers Asuncion, Davis, Schroeder
 Greeters Cicala, Jenkins

Sunday 7:30 am
 EMHC Brigoli, Maltagliati, Maltagliati
 Lectors Fox, Couvillion
 Servers Brigoli, Brown, Brown
 Greeters Kisak, Kisak

Sunday 9:00 am
 EMHC Biagiotti, Coffelt, Douglas, Hunter, Kallmyer, Mills, Minadeo, Roche
 Zahor, Zahor
 Lectors Kallmyer, Kallmyer, Roche
 Servers Dragin, Dragin
 Greeters

Sunday 11:00am
 EMHC Coelho, Crizer, Gettmann, Merl, Niehenke, Sarver, Smith, R. Weaver, Wesselman
 Lectors Rusnak Mathias
 Servers Coelho, Gettmann, **Need One**
 Greeters Pellegrino, Ward

Sunday 5:00pm
 EMHC Craumer, Marks, Novotny, Procopio, Saia
 Lectors Muldoon, Zeminsky
 Servers Rau, Saia, Sarnecki
 Greeters **Need 2 Greeters**

*Subject to change when necessary.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR TEACHING IN MARYLAND CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Maryland state scholarships worth up to \$4000 annually are available for current teachers and college students in exchange for teaching in the states catholic schools in a field with a critical teacher shortage. The deadline to apply for the Workforce Shortage Student Assistance Grants for the 2009-2010 academic year is Wednesday, **July 1**. Undergraduate and graduate student who receive the award, which is renewable for up to 5 years must become certified and agree to teach in Maryland's Catholic, nonpublic or public schools. Teacher shortage subject areas include special education, technology education, ESOL, and many middle and high school level foreign languages and sciences. For more information, please visit www.mdathcon.org or call 1-800-974-1024.

Flower Memorial before the Altar

If you wish to offer a floral donation, please obtain and fill out a flower memorial envelope located on the bulletin table in the back of church. Completed envelopes may be placed in the offertory baskets or returned to the Parish Office during business hours. Feel free to contact the Parish Office at 410 747 4334 for further details. Customary Donation is \$50.

Finance Committee is Seeking New Members

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Finance Committee is looking for new members. The Finance Committee serves as advisors to Father Arnold and exercises oversight over all investments and finances relating to the parish, school and any other parish programs. Candidates should have experience in general business management finance, banking, law or insurance. If you are you interested in joining or know of someone who you think would make an ideal member please provide those names to Lynne Jones in the Parish Office. You can call the Parish Office at (410) 747-4334 or send an e-mail to olphparish@archbalt.org

Religious Education Registration has begun!! Save \$25 by registering before July 30, 2009! Forms for Pre-K through High School are available in the narthex of the church and at the Ministry Center.



Do you feel called to share God's love with our parish children?? Volunteers are needed for Pre-K through 5th grade Religious Education classes this fall. **Please contact Judy Gruel, jgrue@archbalt.org, to see how you can begin preparing NOW for this important ministry.**



Donations for Vacation Bible School:

The following items are needed for VBS for crafts and snacks. If you can help donate any of these items, please bring them to our VBS display in the narthex and place

the items in the boxes below the table. Thanks so much for your support.

1. 80 Cardboard egg cartons
2. Quarter, Dime and Nickel size buttons
3. 20 bags of Polyfill
4. Snack and sandwich size baggies
5. Large size brown paper bags
6. Newspaper for stuffing
7. 10 Blue tarps (can be used if clean)
8. Beige and brown carpet squares



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Pray for Us



Our Lady of Perpetual Help—The Icon Message (Please reference the icon on the front of the bulletin)

This beloved picture may look strange to modern Western eyes. It doesn't portray Mary as a delicate maiden with downcast eyes. Her direct gaze and strong features command our attention. We are struck by the unrealistic qualities of the figures. Jesus is the size of a toddler, but his features are those of an older child. Mary and Jesus aren't set in a scene but float against a background of gold.

This picture was painted in the Byzantine style of the Eastern Church. The purpose of this style of art is not to show a beautiful scene or person but to convey a beautiful spiritual message. Because the artist is trying to communicate something more glorious than anything in this world, the picture isn't a realistic portrayal. A Byzantine painting is like a door. Seeing a beautiful door is nice, but who wants to just stand there looking at the door? We want to open the door and go beyond it. The door might be attractive or unattractive, but it is only a door, there to lead us into a new world.

That's how we must approach this picture. The artist, realizing that no one on earth would ever know what Mary or Jesus really looked like, and that their holiness could never be depicted in purely human terms, has portrayed their beauty and their message in symbols.

What do you see when you look at this picture?

First of all you see Mary, because she dominates the picture and because she looks straight at you -- not at Jesus, not at heaven, not at the angels above her head. She looks at you as if to tell you something very important. Her eyes seem serious, even sad, but they command attention. This is an important woman, one of power and position. She is set on a gold background, a symbol of heaven in the middle ages. She is dressed in dark blue robes with a green lining and red tunic. Blue, green, and red were the colors of royalty. Only the Empress was allowed to wear those colors.

The eight-point star on her forehead was probably added by a later artist to represent the Eastern idea that Mary is the star that leads us to Jesus. To reinforce the symbolism, there is an ornamental four-point cross to the left of the star on her headdress. The letters above her head proclaim her the Mother of God (in Greek).

Looking at the painting, we know that she has the power to intercede for us in heaven. Mary's gaze is fixed on you, but her arms hold Jesus. In Byzantine icons, Mary is never shown without Jesus because Jesus is central to the faith. Jesus too is wearing the clothes of royalty. Only an Emperor could wear the green tunic, red sash, and gold brocade portrayed in the picture. The Greek initials to the right of the child and his halo decorated with a cross proclaim that he is "Jesus Christ."

Jesus isn't looking at us, or at Mary, or at the angels. Though he clings to his mother, he's looking away, at something we can't see -- something that made him run so fast to his mother that one of his sandals has almost fallen off, something that makes him cling to her for protection and love. What would frighten a little boy, even the Son of God, so much?

The figures that hover on either side of Jesus and Mary -- the Greek letters above them identify them as Archangels Gabriel and Michael -- provide us with the answer. Rather than carrying harps or trumpets of praise, they bear the instruments of Christ's Passion. On the left, Michael holds an urn filled with the gall that the soldiers offered to Jesus on the cross, the lance that pierced his side, and the reed with the sponge. To the right, Gabriel carries the cross and four nails.

Jesus has seen part of his destiny -- the suffering and death he will undergo. Though he is God, he is human as well and afraid of this terrifying future. He has run to his mother, who holds him close in this moment of panic, the same way she will be close by his side through his life and death. While she can't spare him his suffering, she can love and comfort him.

So why is Mary looking so intently at us instead of her child in need? Her gaze brings us into the story, makes us part of the painting and the pain. Her gaze tells us that just as Jesus ran to his mother and found refuge, so too may we run to Mary. Her hand does not clasp the hands of her frightened son in a protective grip, but remains open, inviting us to put our hands in hers and join with Jesus.

Mary knows there are many things in our lives that are dangerous and terrifying, and that we need someone to turn to in times of suffering and dread. She offers us the same comfort and love she gave to Jesus. She tells us to run to her as fast as Jesus did, so fast that we don't even think about what we wear or how we go, just so we get there. What are you waiting for?

FEAST DAY OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

GATHOLIC FORMATION MINISTRIES

Office Phone Numbers: 410-747-0131, 410-455-0399
Office Hours are Monday—Thursday 9am—1pm

SUMMER HOURS IN EFFECT

The Ministry Center/Rectory/ Parish Office Renovation continues!

We are seeking skilled labor for some of the work to be done in the evenings. Please contact Tom@gregorinicontracting.com - Tom Gregorini with questions.
tjlfernandes@yahoo.com—Theresa; for cleaning and organizing the move..
drpjb@juno.com—Patty: for help with painting.

Or call the Parish Office: Lynne Jones 410-747-4334

Interested in hiking? Then you might want to join the **John Paul II Hiking Club** Send a note of your interest to Greg Douglas at rgdouglas1@comcast.net or give him a call at 410-799-1527.

Attention!!

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School Alumni

Alumni Gathering to be held on Saturday, August 29, 2009 immediately following the 4:30 PM Mass.

For more information visit www.olphschool.org

or

call 410-744-4251 ext. 223 and leave a message.

FOR YOUR
MARRIAGE

What have you done for your marriage today?

ForYourMarriage.org



The Black n White Clean Team

We are currently seeking one more parent of an Altar Server for the Ministry of keeping our Altar Servers looking sharp. The job is once a year—a team of two cleans the surplices and cassocks and any miscellaneous mending that needs done. We need one more individual and then it can be done on a quarterly basis by a team of two.

Call Lynne at the Rectory 410-747-4334