

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we draw closer to Christmas, I want to encourage you again to take advantage of our Advent Penance Service this Wednesday night at 7:00pm in the church. We will have a large number of visiting priests with us and this is a great chance to unburden your hearts from the sins you may be carrying around. Please join us for this special time of grace, especially if it has been some time since your last confession. Remember that this sacrament comes to us from Jesus himself – it is His desire that we experience the freedom that comes from confessing our sins to Him. Just as we believe that the Eucharist comes from Him, so too do we believe that this Sacrament of Reconciliation comes from Him, that it is not just a human invention.

I am excited to announce that our parish is now working with Faith Direct to provide our parishioners with the convenience and security of making offerings and contributions electronically. Many of you have been asking about this for some time and those of you who use envelopes have already received a letter from me explaining this new opportunity. Through Faith Direct you can make all of your contributions to OLPH via automatic payment from your checking account or credit card – just as many of you do now with your mortgage payments and cable and phone bills. To sign up, just visit www.faithdirect.net with our parish code **MD115** and your parish envelope number. They will guide you through the secure process, or you can use one of the enrollment forms that are available in the church. Please consider taking advantage of this convenient and safe way of supporting the work of our parish.

Finally, I want to give you an update on the surveys and feedback we requested this past summer regarding our Sunday Mass schedule. As you know, there were many factors that led to our examining the Mass schedule and the feedback you provided was extremely helpful in guiding the discussions we had with the Parish Staff and Pastoral Council. In particular, there was great interest in a Sunday evening Mass that would allow our families to keep Mass central in the midst of a busy weekend, while also giving our high school and middle school youth a chance to come to Mass and then take part in different activities with friends. Please visit our parish website (www.olphparish.org) beginning on Monday to view the new Mass schedule, which will go into effect the first Sunday of Lent. We will also provide more information in next weekend's bulletin. I pray you have a very blessed new week!

Fr. Arnold



Masses For The Week

Mon., December 15	6:30 am	Felicita DeLaRosa †
	8:15 am	The Kim Family †
Tues., December 16	6:30 am	Amy DeSantis †
	8:15 am	Barbara Ritchie †
Wed., December 17	6:30 am	Mary Cordeiro †
	8:15 am	Raymond Gick †
Thurs., December 18	6:30 am	Doug & Amy Martin †
	9:00 am	Robert E. Smith †
Fri., December 19	6:30 am	Eileen Krause †
	8:15 am	Sr. MaryAnn †
Sat., December 20	8:15 am	Denis DeCraene †
	4:30 pm	Barbara Keller †
Sun., December 21	7:30 am	Connie Hooper †
	9:00 am	For the People
	10:30 am	Caroline Herrmann †
	12:00 noon	John S. Lane †

At the December Anniversary Mass the following celebrated their anniversaries with us.

- Jennifer and Tino Cervantes—2 years
- Dale and Rosa Callender—8 years
- Caressa and Marcus Marcinelli—16 years
- Julius and Ajoke Akintade—19 years
- Robert and Donna Schwab—19 years
- Nancy and Pat McBride—39 years

Congratulations to all the couples. Our next Anniversary Mass is Sunday January 4th at 10:30. Plan now to attend and celebrate with your fellow parishioners.

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

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|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Carol Beall | Eugene Huget | Ann Shively |
| Clyde Bradley | MaryAnn Humm | Mary Ellen Shotting |
| Diane Buckley | Jack Kelly | Billy Simpson |
| Helene Cadman | Fred Lourenso | Jack Simpson |
| David Clark | Lois Malarkey | Ardelia Smith |
| Daniel Couvillion | Joyce Mathias | Julia Smith |
| Patricia Donadio | Lucy McKenna | Bill Snyder |
| Mike Doshim | Joseph Murray | Joanne Strock |
| Warren Drell Jr. | Nathan Niessner | Edna Walker |
| Doris Eustis | Mary Joyce O'Neill | Laura Wall |
| Jayne Fleischer | Larry Putgenter, Sr. | Libby Weller |
| Richard Flynn | Mary Reichel | Kyla Zeilinger |
| Mary Grace Howard | Rosemarie Rippel | |
| Francis Hubbard | Mary Ann Sharp | |

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



Offering for 12-7-08	
Envelopes 454	\$18,284.00
Loose	\$1,904.00
Children	\$99.17
Total	\$20,287.17
Poor Box	\$475.06
Utility	\$3,857.08

Honoring Our Past, Preserving Our Future The Campaign for Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Our thanks to Kristen Fisher and to the other speakers at Mass last weekend – Patrick Massari, Bill Sharp, and Chuck Steele - for sharing their faith and how it has moved them to make a sacrificial gift to our parish campaign.

As an update to what was shared, we have now raised a total of **\$2,048,119** in gifts and pledges from **254** parish households. Of that total, **\$657,900** has been raised in the second phase which began in September of this year. That figure is almost exactly one-third of what we believe we still need to make or pay for the capital improvements which are so much in evidence on our parish campus. **37** parishioners have increased their gift from phase one, some by substantial margins. We are grateful to all who have made this sacrificial commitment to our beloved parish.

(More details on the specifics relating to the campaign and the funds needed can be found on our parish website www.olphparish.org.)

Our Leadership Team articulated two goals for the second phase of the campaign: (1) that we reach our target of \$2 million in addition to the amount raised in phase one of almost \$1.4 million, and (2) that we have wide participation throughout the parish in the campaign so that the burden (and the joy!) of giving might be spread equitably throughout our community. **Equal sacrifices, not equal gifts!**

As you might expect, the economic environment has not proved to be friendly to our efforts. Nevertheless, we challenge each household to re-visit and reflect on how they can participate. We offer three possibilities:

1. For those who feel they cannot give at all – We ask you to consider placing a jar in the kitchen of your home and as you pray before taking your evening meal, drop one dollar into the jar. At the end of the year, give the \$365 to the campaign. Over the five-year pledge period, that dollar a day amounts to \$1,825. Can you put aside one dollar?
2. For those very uncertain about their present situation – Consider making a pledge that you believe you can fulfill at a sacrificial level, but structure the payments whereby you are able to give yourself some breathing room. For example, you may wish to begin payments in the summer of 2009 and continue through 2013.
3. For those who are older – If you are concerned about your day-to-day needs and are simply unable to make an outright gift at this time, consider adding our parish capital campaign in your will. You will not worry about lacking the necessary funds to cover your daily expenses, but you will be able to share in the joy of the gift you have made, knowing you have helped to make our vision of the parish a reality.

We are one family. As we continue our journey through this Advent season, we are a people filled with gratitude and hope. We are grateful for our priests, for the gifts that each of us brings to one another, for our faith, and for our families. We are grateful for all those who have given so generously and we remain filled with hope that Our Lord will allow us to reach our goal and provide for the needs of our parish family. May the Lord bless us as we draw near to the joy of Christmas!

Crissy Reid
Campaign Co-Chair

Bill Glover
Campaign Co-Chair

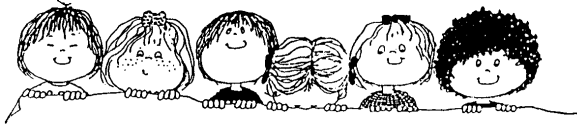


Our Sympathy

Please remember in your prayers:
Caroline Herrmann
†
Daughter of Cam and Carol Herrmann
Sister of
Matthew and Patrick

GATHOLIC FORMATION MINISTRIES

Office Phone Numbers: 410-747-0131, 410-455-0399
Office Hours are Monday—Friday 9am—4pm



God bless all the children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Saturday. May they always remember how much God loves them, and that He is waiting with open arms to forgive them.

OLPH Nursery: Our Nursery is available to all parishioners on Sundays during the 9:00 and 10:30 Masses. Children who can sit up, up to age three are welcomed to join us! The Nursery is located in the Kindergarten Room, on the first floor of the School. There is no cost for Nursery services. Space is limited to two toddlers per high school volunteer. **The Nursery will be open on Dec. 14, 21, and Jan. 4 and 18.**

**NO CLASS—
PLEASE READ THIS**

Elementary Religious Education: There are **NO Rel. Ed. classes on Dec. 22 and Dec. 23** due to Howard County Schools being closed for Christmas break. Classes will resume on Monday, Jan. 5 and Tuesday, Jan. 6. The CFM Staff wishes all families a very blessed and Merry Christmas. Our monthly Children's Liturgy will take place at the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass. Please join us!

PREPARE

**OLPH
Bull Roast
2-21-2009**

THE 2009 OLPH BULL ROAST is just around the corner!! Saturday February 21, 2009 7-11pm, Ten Oaks Ballroom. Only 400 tickets to be sold--guaranteed to sell out--NO RESERVATIONS- Please call Vince Florenzo for ticket purchase. \$50 per person; \$450 for table of ten We have ALWAYS sold over 600 tickets for this event so book your sitter, gather your friends and get ready for a good time!! Vince Florenzo (240) 464-3415 vcmaflo@verizon.net

FROM THE
ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S
DESK

THE MEANING OF THE MASS

In case you missed the recent presentation by Fr. Larry on the Meaning of the Mass: Making Present the Sacrifice of Calvary, it is now available on-line at our local Knights of Columbus website. Thanks to the technical skill of Dennis Bartko, the presentation is available in a live audio recording, or if you don't want to listen to Fr. Larry's voice for 50 minutes, you get read or download a textual version of the presentation. For the talk, the text, and more information about the Knights of Columbus go to <http://www.knightsofcolumbus9638.org/html/faith.html>

JESUS AND THE MYSTERY OF THE KINGDOM

Join us on Monday, 15 December, at 7PM for the next session of the Third Monday of the Month Bible Conference in the Parish Center. This session of The St. Vincent's Bible Study was a presentation by Dr. Brant Pitre covering Jesus and the Mystery of the Kingdom in the Synoptic Gospels. For more information, contact Fr. Larry.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE for December 20-21, 2008

Saturday	4:30 pm
Lectors	McAndrew, Nieberding
EMHC	Biagiotti, Brasauskas, Nieberding
Servers	McGuire, Miller, Nagle
Sunday	7:30 am
Lectors	Maltagliati, Massari
EMHC	Higgins, Horan, Maltagliati
Servers	O'Connor, Portieles, Rolando
Sunday	9:00 am
Lectors	Zahor, Zahor
EMHC.	Gates, Glover, Grauman, Holthaus, Hunter, Manley, Mulroy, Novotny, Novotny
Servers	Rowe, Russell, Sheffer
Sunday	10:30 am
Lectors	Couvillion, Gregorini
EMHC	Bach, J Baker, Blake, Brandt, Delaney, DeMelo, Lucas, Merl, Morse
Servers	Sobon, Solomon, Steiner
Sunday	12 Noon
Lectors	Snavely, Zeminsky
EMHC.	Plants, Procopio, Schroeder
Servers	Toback, Urban, Vane

*Subject to change when necessary.



OLPH Faith and Light Community Meeting

“Jesus come and live in our hearts”

The OLPH Knights of Columbus, Council 9638 is sponsoring a Festive Holiday Christmas Party on behalf of its members, young and old, and our Faith and Light Community, Wednesday, December 17, at 7:00-8:30 PM, in Harrison Hall, adjacent to the OLPH School. In these troubling times we should turn our thoughts away from the 'must have gifts' to the Spirit of Christmas when we honor the birth of our Savior and welcome Him into our hearts. We invite our developmentally disabled friends of all ages to join us for an evening of fun and fellowship - the program will feature a short roundtable discussion along with Christmas songs, a meeting with Old St. Nick and plenty of holiday refreshments. For information or transportation, please contact Dr. Robert Donadio, 301-596-5122 or Mr. John Hooper, 410-799-8897. At Resurrection contact, Chris Duck, 410-465-9240.



VOCATION CHALICE PROGRAM

You are invited to participate in a new program here at OLPH. It is called the Vocation Chalice Program. Every other Sunday, a family, couple, or individual will be called forward at the end of Mass to receive the Vocation Chalice and special prayer book and instructions written to accompany it. In taking the chalice, they will commit themselves to pray for vocations during the week in the name of our parish in thanksgiving for all those generously sharing in Church ministry and, in particular, for the gift of sisters and brothers, priests, and deacons. All of you are invited to participate in this program. There is a sign up sheet in the back of the church. We encourage you to sign up for one of the weeks then to attend that Mass and receive the Vocation Chalice. It is our hope that this experience will encourage each of us to take seriously our vocation as a member of the Body of Christ and encourage ALL of us to pray for the gift of vocations to priesthood and the consecrated life (not just the family with the chalice for the week). We believe that the Holy Spirit is calling forth men and women from our faith community to these roles of service. May our prayer help to inspire young women and men to be attentive to the movement of the Spirit with them and to step forward in faith and with generous hearts to wherever the Holy Spirit lead them. For more information contact Fr. Larry.