



# ADVENT 2018

ELLICOTT CITY, MD

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH

OLPHPARISH.ORG

**T**he season of Advent is God's gift to us, a special time to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. A little extra quiet, a little slower pace, and a readiness to hear the voice of the Lord are all part of our Advent preparations. This Advent don't be afraid to slow down and set some healthy limits so that you can spend time

with the Lord. Too often we let the busyness take over and we regret that the season comes and goes without having grown closer to the Lord. This Advent can be different. Don't be afraid to give the Lord a little more room to work in your heart, a little more time for prayer and a little more quiet to hear Him.

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## Receive God's Mercy

### in the Sacrament of Reconciliation

The Lord loves you and wants to forgive you all of your sins. Don't miss these opportunities to receive God's mercy:

#### Regular Weekly Confessions:

- Wednesdays 6:00-7:00pm
- Fridays 4:30-6:00pm (except Dec. 14)
- Saturdays 3:00-4:15pm

#### Howard County Regional Advent

##### Reconciliation Services:

- **Monday, December 10, 2018** at 7:00pm at the Church of the Resurrection, Ellicott City
- **Tuesday, December 11, 2018** at 7:00pm at St. Louis, Clarksville

If you haven't been to confession for a while, don't worry, you can find a helpful guide on our parish website that walks you through how to go to confession step by step. You can find the guide at [www.olphparish.org/sacraments](http://www.olphparish.org/sacraments). And when you go to Confession, just let the priest know it's been a while since your last confession and he'll be ready to help you through each step.

## Daily Mass

Join us for daily Mass (Monday-Wednesday, Friday-Saturday at 8:15am and Thursdays at 9:30am) to enter more deeply into the season

by reflecting on the Scripture readings that foretell the coming of Christ, and then receive Him in the Eucharist. This is a great way to build-in time with the Lord this Advent.

## Spend Quiet Time with Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration

Every Wednesday from 9:00am until Saturday at 8:00am we have the opportunity to pray before Jesus truly present in the Blessed Sacrament during Eucharistic Adoration. With faith in His words "This is my Body", we come before Him and spend time in His presence. In the midst of the holiday rush, stop into the Chapel, slow down, and spend some quiet time with Jesus and speak with Him in prayer or simply enjoy sitting in His presence.

## Christmas Giving Tree Program

You are invited to select from 850 gift tags as we do our small part to bring joy in the form of a gift to children at St. Wenceslaus in East Baltimore, St. Veronica's in South Baltimore, the Franciscan Center, Sarah's Hope shelter for mothers and children, and Grassroots Shelter here in Howard County. Just take a gift tag or two from the trees in the Narthex on the weekend of Nov. 24/25 and follow the instructions found in the bulletin and return your gifts (with the tag and yarn you took from the tree) to the Narthex no later than the 11:00am Mass on Sunday, Dec. 9!

**Boxes for Baltimore**  
***Bringing Christmas to our Brothers***  
***and Sisters in Baltimore City***

On any given night in Baltimore City at least 3000 people will suffer from homelessness, that adds up to 30,000 people each year. Join us in a Christmas Project sponsored by OLPH-SALT to provide 600 care packages to those we serve in Baltimore City. Would you please help us? Please visit our website at [www.olphparish.org/salt](http://www.olphparish.org/salt) to donate anything from an empty shoe box, to a note of encouragement, to prayer card or gift card. Donations accepted in the Parish Office through Dec. 8. Our goal is to ensure every person that we serve receives the love of Christ and a gift on Christmas.

**Saint Nicholas Celebration!**  
**Saturday, December 2**  
**10:00am-12:30pm**

Join our OLPH Junior Legion of Mary in Harrison Hall as Saint Nicholas visits with goody bags for all of the children. There will be singing and fun activities to remind us of the life of Saint Nicholas and his ministry to poor children and those in need of all ages. Delicious European treats and light breakfast will be served. All are welcome! Please bring your friends and family. For more information, call Erika Lucas at 443-285-1960

**Solemnity of the**  
**Immaculate Conception**  
**Saturday, December 8**  
*A Holy Day of Obligation*

*Two Masses will be celebrated:*

- **Friday, December 7 at 7:00pm**
- **Saturday, December 8 at 8:15am**

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is celebrated each year on December 8 and is a holy day of obligation. This beautiful feast celebrates one of God's greatest works: the conception of Mary without sin in the womb of her mother, St. Anne. In preserving Mary from the stain of sin, the Lord prepared her for the special role she would have as the mother of Christ our Savior. This feast is a wonderful prelude to our Christmas celebrations.

**Breakfast with Santa**  
**Sunday, December 9**  
**8:00am – 12:00pm**

Join us for a delicious breakfast buffet, the Secret Santa Shop, kid's crafts, raffle trees and photos with Santa. Tickets are \$11 for adults, \$6 for children ages 3-12, \$8 for seniors, and FREE for children under 3. Visit [olphschool.org](http://olphschool.org) for more info!

**Blue Christmas Service**  
***Hope for the Holidays***  
**December 9 at 7:00pm**

Christmas can be a painful time for many. The season may bring the first Christmas without a loved one who has recently died, or a painful reminder of the loved ones that we have been without for some time. It is important to acknowledge our sadness and pain during this time, and to know that we are not alone. Join us for a service of prayer and reflection where we will acknowledge that God's presence is in the midst of our pain, and remember that He shines a light in our deepest darkness. A time of light refreshments and fellowship will follow.

**Eucharistic Festival of Praise**  
**Saturday, December 15 at 7:30pm**

We experience God's joy, peace, love, healing, and mercy when we lift our hearts to Him in praise. Join us for our monthly Festival of Praise – an evening of prayer, praise, worship and adoration before Jesus in the gift of the Eucharistic. It's an easy way to enter deeply into prayer as our musicians lead worship and we connect with Jesus who is truly present in the gift of the Eucharist. Join us for a wonderful and powerful evening of prayer!

**Christmas Parish Family Dinner Night**  
**Friday, January 4**  
**4:30pm - 8:00pm**

Mark your calendars for our upcoming OLPH Family Dinner Night as we continue our Christmas celebrations. Our chefs have a wonderful meal planned so take time to relax with family and friends and join us for a great night. Don't let Christmas end too early – join us for our Christmas Parish Family Dinner Night!

# Coming this January

## CURIOUS ABOUT THE MEANING OF YOUR LIFE?

Seek answers at **Discovering Christ.**



Life can be overwhelming. Too many worries, too many places to be, too many items on the to-do list. Do you ever wish for some way - any way - to slow down and really consider what it's all about?

Where do you currently find your meaning?

Where do you want to find meaning?

Is it possible to be fulfilled?

These are questions worth asking.

Discovering Christ is for anyone who is curious. Over the course of seven weeks, you'll enjoy a delicious dinner and hear interesting and thought-provoking talks that are designed to explore the meaning and purpose of your life. After each talk, you have a chance to share your thoughts in a small group. You can talk as much or as little as you wish, and it's all done in a warm, friendly and judgement-free environment!

Discovering Christ is fun, relaxed, and free. Childcare is provided.

Thursday Evenings - January 10 to February 21

6:30 - 9:00pm

Register at [www.olphparish.org](http://www.olphparish.org)

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP  
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S  
MASS SCHEDULE

**Christmas Eve Masses**

Monday, December 24, 2018

**4:00pm in the Church and 4:00pm in the Parish Center**

**6:00pm - Church**

**8:00pm - Church**

**12:00am Midnight – Church**

- A musical prelude will take place before each of the Christmas Eve Masses
- The Children's Christmas Program will begin at 3:30pm in the Church

**Christmas Day Masses**

Tuesday, December 25, 2018

**9:00am – Church** Please Note: this is the only Christmas Day Mass!



**New Year's  
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

*A Holy Day of Obligation*

*New Year's Eve - Monday, December 31, 2018*

**5:00pm – Vigil Mass for the Solemnity**

**8:00pm to Midnight – Eucharistic Adoration**

**12:00am – Candlelit Midnight Mass**

*New Year's Day - Tuesday, January 1, 2019*

**9:00am – Mass for the Solemnity**