

Dear brothers and sisters,

Praised be Jesus Christ! As Fr. Arnold and the pilgrims are experiencing Assisi, Siena, and Rome, I'm stepping in for the weekly letter. We pray that their pilgrimage will bear great spiritual fruit for them, our parish, and for the Church and the world!

The Church! This blessed family given to us by Jesus 2,000 years ago is the same one that you and I call our spiritual home. In today's first reading, we continue to hear about the life of the early church: the prayer and fasting, the perseverance in times of difficulty, temptation, and persecution, the hierarchy and structure, the proclamation of Gospel, and the love that the disciples had in imitation of Christ.

This should all sound very familiar! We need to look to the Acts of the Apostles as the model of how we are called to live our lives as Catholic Christians, in this very same church founded by Christ and His Apostles. The way of this life is all summed up in the challenge of Jesus: "This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." This is who we are, and we need to be courageous in love and bold in our faith.

Next week, we rejoice as we celebrate the First Communion of many of our youngest parishioners. The same Eucharist that fueled the faith of the early church is given to these boys and girls for the first time this Saturday! Let us pray for them with fervor, and let us pray for ourselves, that we receive Jesus in the Eucharist, we can better love as He has commanded.

In Jesus,
Fr. John

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

May 5, 2013

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29

Psalms 67: 2-3, 5-6, 8

Revelation 21: 10-14, 22-23

John 14: 23-29



**MAY CROWNING,
MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 12 2012**
*Please join us on May 12th,
after the 9am Mass.*



All are welcome and encouraged to join us as we process out of church to crown Mary. Please bring bouquets of flowers from home. Vases will be provided. Any girl may put her name in the drawing to crown Mary and any boy may enter his name in the drawing to be the one to carry the pillow by emailing Jennifer Schuberth at praiseGod8@gmail.com or calling 410-925-6804. Please include full name, age, and phone number.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

SALLY DELLA BOVI

AND

PHILLIP PETE FIACKOS



*Husband of Denise Fiackos and Father of Kristen,
Jaclyn and Alexandra Fiackos*

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, April 27

8:15am Florence Grzeskiewicz ✠

4:30pm Louis Frusciane ✠

Sunday, April 28 (Fifth Sunday of Easter)

7:30am Chesley Wilkens ✠

9:00am For the People of the Parish

11:00am Elizabeth Weller ✠

5:00pm Javier Ortiz ✠

Monday, April 29 (St. Catherine of Siena)

8:15am William J. McCarthy, Sr. ✠

Tuesday, April 30 (St. Pius V, Pope)

8:15am Jeanne Kathleen Sokas ✠

Wednesday, May 1 (St. Joseph the Worker)

8:15am Warren Drell, Jr ✠

Thursday, May 2 (St. Athanasius)

8:15am Agnes Adeniyi ✠

9:30am William Lansinger ✠

Friday, May 3 (Saints Philip and James, Apostles)

8:15am Bud Breidenstein ✠

Saturday, May 4

8:15am Phyllis Brandt ✠

4:30pm Mary Springer ✠

Sunday, May 5 (Sixth Sunday of Easter)

7:30am Virginia "Ginger" Baer ✠

9:00am Intention of Dayo Taiwo

11:00am Genevieve Palko ✠

5:00pm For the People of the Parish ✠

If you are what you should be, you will set the world ablaze - "St. Catherine of Siena"



5th Sunday of Easter



OLPH PARISH MISSION MAY 13, 14, 15 SPIRITUAL FREEDOM: GOD'S LIFE CHANGING GIFT

No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, God wants you to be freer. There is always more freedom, more grace, more forgiveness, more mercy, more God.

Our Parish Mission will be led by Fr. Dave Pivonka (from Franciscan University in Steubenville), known for his dynamic preaching, writing and other spiritual work. He will be leading us into greater freedom:

Monday, May 13 - **"The God of Freedom"** with confessions offered afterward.

Tuesday, May 14 - **"The Cross and Hope - God and Our Suffering"** and Eucharistic Adoration and worship.

Wednesday, May 15 - **"Living in Freedom Life Abundantly"** - Mass with Extended Homily and reception to follow.

What is a Parish Mission? A mission is an opportunity to experience faith, prayer and the sacraments in a heightened and more intense way that gives new meaning and purpose to life and our relationship with God.

Join us each night at 7:00pm in the church!



SAVE THE DATE: OLPH PARISH PICNIC!

Please mark your calendars! OLPH Parish Picnic, **Sunday, June 9, after the 5pm Mass.** Plan on bringing the whole family for a relaxing and fun evening!



The Evangelization committee is looking for people interested in donating goodies to the parish Mission reception to be held on Wednesday evening, May 15th after the Mission. If you would like to send in baked goods or snacks, please email Jennifer Schuberth at praiseGod8@gmail.com.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP



Bereavement Support meets the last Monday of the month at 7pm in the parish office living room. Our next meeting is Monday, April 29th at 7pm. Questions? Please Call Sr. Lorraine at 410-747-4334.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE



Join us for our Spring Dance on Friday, May 3rd from 7:30 to 10:00 pm in Harrison Hall! Tickets are \$5.00 at the door, drinks are \$1.00 inside. STAND certified adult chaperones are needed.

Please include these people and their families in your prayers that they may experience Christ's comfort and healing.

Rob Baldwin
Lucy Bodner
Joe Botkin
Wayne Buckley
Graham Burrell
Kaelynn Collazo
Sean Cunningham
Anna Curry
MaryJo DeFillipo
Robert Dovalovsky
William Dovalovsky
John Duvall
Janet Feldman
Jayne Fleischer
Richard Flynn
Carol Freese
Thomas French
Julie Gallagher

Ray Gallagher
Lewis Goode
Antoinette Haigley
Joe Haupt
Gail Higgins
Mary Grace Howard
Chuck Hutzell
Meghan Jaecksch
Ally Jarkiewicz
Marian Kubic
Anne Labagh
Phil Lewellen
Fred Lourenso
Josephine Lucas
Jim McKelvey
Lucy McKenna
Herb Michael
Bob Moan

Peggy Moan
Caroline Mohler
Joseph Murray
Nathan Niessner
Sara Ann Ring
Rosemarie Rippel
June Rosemary
Sally Ross
Ephel Sandford
Hugh Sandford
Pearline Sandford
Bill Schone
Sheila Schone
Victor Shellhorse
Jack Simpson
Ardellia Smith
Julia Smith
Bill Snyder

Rose Sorbello
Crystal Spicer
Mary Stevens
Linda Uliana
Lauretta Vaccarino
Ed Ward
Jon Web
Richard Weinroth
Robert Welsh, Jr.
Robert Welsh, Sr.
Clyde Wenzel
Kyla Zeilinger

We need your help! We are trying to keep this prayer list updated.

If you or your loved one is on the mend, please notify the Parish Office at 410-747-4334.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION IS FULL!



All registration forms received will be put on a waiting list. Parents will be notified if space becomes available.

Adult and high school volunteers still needed!

Many hands are needed to safely manage the groups at the various stations throughout our campus. Please consider taking part in this uplifting and spiritual endeavor! Forms are still available in the narthex of the church, or email Judy Gruel, jgruel@archbalt.org if you can help. A few spots have been left open for those adults who wish to volunteer and haven't registered their children.

WE NEED YOU PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS
Nominations currently being accepted.

We are looking for a few good men and women to serve as members of the Pastoral Council.

Elections will be held on May 18th and 19th at all Masses.

If you are at least 16 years of age, are a baptized and confirmed Catholic and are a registered parishioner of OLPH, please consider this worthwhile opportunity.

If interested in running for a Council position or if you have any questions, please contact Pete Gobell at 410-465-9628 or the Parish Office at 410-747-4334.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2013-2014

Registration has begun! Forms for Pre-K through Middle School are available from the narthex of the church, from the Parish Office, in the lobby of the school during Religious Ed and can also be downloaded from our website, www.olphparish.org.

Now is the time to register to obtain your desired class time! Not sure of your fall schedule? REGISTER NOW and we will be happy to make changes where possible closer to September.

For further information, please call the Office of Faith Formation, 410-747-0131.

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED SUPPORT GROUP

Please join us in the parish office on Monday, May 6th at 7pm. All are welcome!

For more information, please call Sister Lorraine, 410-747-4334, ext. 314.

**SPRING ARTISAN SALE
SPONSORED BY LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR**

A preview evening will be held Friday, May 3, 2013 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. with a \$5.00 charge. Refreshments and door prizes! The sale will resume on Saturday, May 4, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The show will feature handcrafted jewelry by artist, Sister Joseph, lsp. There will be a Ravens "Everything Purple" table, homemade honey, handmade infant clothing with embellished smocking, along with representatives from Scentsy, Pampered Chef, 31 Gifts and Velata. Join us at St. Martin's Home, 601 Maiden Choice Lane, Baltimore, MD 21228. A wicker furniture raffle is featured both days. Proceeds benefit the Little Sisters of the Poor in their mission to provide care for the needy elderly.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Please help our school by collecting Box Tops for Education, Labels for Education and used ink cartridges.



The money/equipment raised by these programs helps our school. These items can be dropped off in the OLPH School box in the Narthex of the Church. We appreciate your help!

OLPH SCHOOL BOARD NEEDS NEW MEMBERS

The OLPH School Board is looking for new members for terms beginning the School Year September, 2013.

If you have experience in Accounting or Marketing, please consider this Volunteer Opportunity in helping continue the great progress our Parish School has made over the past few years. It is not a requirement to have one of your children attending the school.

If you are interested and want to receive a questionnaire or have additional questions, please contact Patrick King at kings04@verizon.net.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOLERS

All high schoolers are invited to our High School Youth Group Kickoff **Sunday, May 5th** after the 5:00 pm mass! We'll have a bonfire and cookout with tons of games and prizes. You don't want to miss the big kickoff of our weekly high school youth group meeting every Sunday night! Contact Matt at mattc.malone@gmail.com with any questions. See you there!



**GETTING TO KNOW OUR CATHOLIC SAINTS:
St. Catherine of Siena (1347-1380) Feast: April 29
*Doctor of the Church***



www.catholic.org

The 25th child of a wool dyer in northern Italy, St. Catherine started having mystical experiences when she was only 6, seeing guardian angels as clearly as the people they protected. She became a Dominican tertiary when she was 16, and continued to have visions of Christ, Mary, and the saints. St. Catherine was one of the most brilliant theological minds of her day, although she never had any formal education.

This mystical communion that was at the heart of St. Catherine's spirituality inspired her to reach out to the poor and suffering of Siena. When the Black Death swept through her city, she had no hesitation in caring for the victims. She worked as a nurse. She dug graves for those who died of the plague and then buried them properly herself. She accompanied prisoners who were condemned to death to the place of execution waiting with them and praying for them to the end.

A major church problem in the late fourteenth century was the Avignon Papacy. In the summer of 1376, Catherine traveled to Avignon to encourage Pope Gregory XI to return to Rome. In one of her letters she wrote; "No longer resist the will of God, for the starving sheep wait for you to return to the see of St. Peter." She persuaded the Pope to go back to Rome from Avignon, in 1377, and when she died she was endeavoring to heal the Great Western Schism.

Our Lord give her the Stigmata, which was visible only after her death. Her spiritual director was Blessed Raymond of Capua. St. Catherine's letters, and a treatise called "a dialogue" are considered among the most brilliant writings in the history of the Catholic Church. She died when she was only 33, and her body was found incorrupt in 1430.