

May 14, 2017

Loving Our Mother in Heaven

I like to ask children what they plan to do on Mother's Day. They always come up with good answers: "I will make breakfast for Mom", "I will make a beautiful drawing just for Mom", "the whole family will go to church together and then we will take Mom to a nice restaurant", "I will give her a big kiss", or "I will tell her , **I love you Mom!**". This year, what do **you** plan today on **Mother's Day**?

Whether children or adults, we all remember beautiful moments with our mothers and we all appreciate their tender love. As we have grown up, we may regret that we did not thank our mothers enough for their unconditional love. As Christians, we all have a Mother in heaven and today, we are all invited to remember **Our Mother in Heaven!** What can we do? Some of you have already participated this Saturday, May 13 on the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the first apparition of Fatima (May 13, 1917). This was a wonderful way to enter into this celebration of Mother's Day. Some of you may have sought a Plenary Indulgence for the soul of your own mother who may have still been in Purgatory: what a **joy** to think that you may have helped your Mom to enter into **heaven!** When praying the **Rosary**, you may have prayed for a special intention for your Mom. As you know that Mary remains so close to her Son, Jesus in Heaven, you may have asked her to **intercede for you:** Mary, Holy Mother of God, pray for me, ask God to help me face an especially difficult situation! On this Mother's Day, you may meditate on three of Jesus' Last Words while dying on the Cross and telling His beloved disciple John: "**Behold, your Mother**". When looking at a Crucifix, imagine yourself at the Foot of the Cross, and hearing Jesus tell you personally that you have a **new Mother...**and thank God for such a beautiful **gift!**

In this month of **May, the month of Mary**, we still have many opportunities to honor Our Mother in Heaven. If you have never prayed the **Rosary** in a group at church, join our prayer warriors who gather every morning Monday through Saturday at 8:30 am in front of the Exposed Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel, or at 7:30 am every Sunday morning in the main church. One of the important messages of Our Lady at **Fatima** was: **Pray for Peace! Pray the Rosary Daily!** The world has not changed much: today, the need to pray for **peace** is as important as ever! The Rosary is one of the most powerful prayers, especially if prayed in common with others! Think of your Rosary as a **spiritual weapon!**

Also, think of joining us in our annual celebration of the **Feast Day of Our Lady Help of Christians.** The official Feast Day is May 24 and this year, we will celebrate it on Sunday, May 21 (next Sunday!). We will have our **traditional outdoor Mass** at 11:30 am (with our **youth** in charge of music, lectors, ushers, etc.). Before we begin the outdoor Mass, our children will participate in the traditional **Crowning of Mary**, which marks the end of our annual (2016-17) Religious Education Program (CCD). I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers (teachers and aides), who give so generously of their time week after week. Special thanks go

Mass Intention

Saturday, May 13, 9:00 AM: Hernan Trochez Villanueva
Saturday, May 13, 5:00 PM: Rita Czina +
Sunday , May 14, 8:30 AM: Mary Anne Sessa Murry +
Sunday, May 14, 10:00 AM: Segundina Padinit +
Sunday, May 14, 11:30 AM: Jose & Anna Marie Gonzales & Family +
Sunday, May 14, 7:00 PM: OLHOC Parishioners
Tuesday, May 16, 9:00 AM: Joseph Fitzpatrick +
Wednesday, May 17 , 9:00 AM: Andrew Boyle +
Thursday, May 18, 9:00 AM: Jeiner Lazo
Friday, May 19, 9:00 AM: Lydia B. Gacosta

Prayer Requests

We are asked to pray for: **Andy Green, Judee Parkinson, Tanya A. Viola, Dolores Proctor, April Sheffield, Dr. Suresh Verghese, Marisa Costas Pena, Marino Gadea, Monica Myers, Theresa Beinert, Mike Connolly, Jessica Curry Miller, LaShay Barnes, Samuel Lopez, Robin Dwars, Julieta Bool, Wilbur Etbauer, Zach White, Lisa Rullo, Susan Walker, Doris Conover, Elijah Larson, Sunni Park, Mireille Obas, Joan Etbauer, Joseph Cheseldine, Sr., Consuela Velasquez, John Lohman, Wilhelmina Franck, Tabitha Barton, Isabel Smith, Elinore Fortney, Errol Randall, Dorothea Johnson, Vanessa Barrett, Jean Erick Joassaint, Graham Baldwin, Jane Watson, Ollie Johnson, Kathy Baumgaertner, Baby Kaden, Dennis Archible Jr., Phillip Green, Doris Chesley, Patricia & James Robey, Dick White, Ada Johnson, James Thompson, Sean Guido, Marcus Williams, and all our military and civilians serving in harm's way.**

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Mass Readings for May 21, 2017

Sixth Sunday of Easter

First Reading- Acts of the Apostles 8: vs. 5-8,14-17

Second Reading- 1 Peter 3: vs. 15-18

Gospel- John 14: vs. 15-21

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(cont.) to Mrs. Thiedeman for her leadership for this growing program: a total of about 350 children participated this year!! Words of appreciation also go to the children and their parents who demonstrate week after week that they can give priority to **God** despite a more and more secular environment !

May God bless all our **Mothers** on this Mother's Day! May our **Mother in Heaven** continue to protect all of us and keep interceding for us!

*One in Christ,
Fr. Alain*

Fifth Sunday of Easter

CCD Class Schedule

Our Lady Help of Christians 2016-2017 CCD Registration is open online: www.olhoc.org.

May 14/15- CCD Class

May 21- 11:10 am- Crowning of Mary, 11:30 am- Outdoor Mass, (bring lawn chairs) , end of CCD year (2016-17).

Contact **Therese Thiedeman** at 301-645-7112 or dre@olhoc.org

Parish Youth Night !

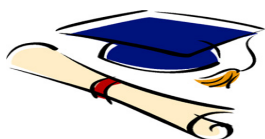
Life Teen: high school youth ministry (Sun., 5-6:30 pm- check website)

Edge: middle school youth ministry (meets monthly)

FIAT: elementary school Faith in Action Team (meets monthly)

Attention Families!!

The next **All-Youth Night (FIAT, Edge and Life Teen)** will be **on June 11** and will begin with 4:00 PM Mass followed by pizza, fellowship and FIAT, Edge, and Life Teen meetings. Bring your friends ! See the website at: olhoc.org/ym.



Attention High School & College Graduates

Please join us on **Sunday, June 4** at the **11:30 am Mass** for a special blessing. We ask that you wear your graduation robes. Please sign up after Mass or online www.olhoc.org/ym . If you have any questions, contact Marlen at: marlen@olhoc.org.

Save the Dates! Summer All Youth Nights

June 11, July 4, and August 20 beginning with Mass at 4 pm followed by a fun event. Visit the www.olhoc.org/ym or sign up on flock note to stay updated on all the upcoming youth events.

Upcoming Child Protection Classes

Upcoming sessions of "Protecting God's Children for Adults" for those who need to become Virtus Compliant (Adults wishing to volunteer in any capacity while children are present).

- **May 18 @7 pm- St. John Vianney, Prince Frederick**
- **June 15 @7pm- St. John Vianney, Prince Frederick**

Go to VIRTUS.org to register. Call Nieda or Therese with questions at 301-645-7112 with questions or if you need assistance with this process.

OUR LADY'S LITTLE CHRISTIANS

<http://www.olhoc.org/preschool.html>

- Fall registration continues for all new students.
- Please call 301-645-7112 or email : preschool@olhoc.org for information.

Community Outreach

All are welcome! The next **Shepherds' Table Dinner** will be held on **Thursday, May 18, 2017** . The next Outreach Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, **June 7** at **7 pm**.

**Volunteers go to: www.olhoc.org and click on the Community Outreach link. or sign-up at: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/60B044FABAD2DAA8-olhc **

Sharing Sunday

The first Sunday of the month you are invited to donate non-perishable foods for those in need. Place your items in the wooden box in the Social Hall. During the summer months when school is out, there is a greater need for peanut butter, jelly, and cold cereals for families with children. Your donations are sent directly to the Southern Maryland Food Bank located in Waldorf. Thank you!



2017 Jubilee of Fatima Schedule

Celebrate the joy of the **100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima** right here in Charles County! The Pilgrimage that began at Our Lady Help of Christians on **May 13** continues!

- **Tuesday, June 13** at **St. Catherine of Alexandria** , Port Tobacco, MD at **7:30 pm**.
- **Thursday, July 13, St. Mary's (Newport)**, Charlotte Hall, MD at **6:30 pm**.
- **Sunday, August 13, St. Frances de Sales**, Benedict, MD at **11:00 am**.
- **Wednesday, September 13, St. Joseph**, Pomfret,, MD at **9:00 am** (after Mass).
- **Friday, October 13, Sacred Heart**, La Plata, MD at **6:00 pm**. (Procession/Closing Mass)