

December 17, 2017

Do you C.A.R.E.?

Do you C.A.R.E.? Last Tuesday, in our Narthex, we could purchase tee shirts with this question in BIG print. Can you figure out what each of these four letters stand for? I can give you row cues: first, two sisters and two brothers from "The Alliance of the Two Hearts" were selling these tee shirts to promote their special devotions to Our Lady of Fatima – They brought to us the beautiful, original statue of Our Lady of Fatima that had been blessed by Pope Francis in January 2017 before being sent on a one-year tour of North America. A second cue is the acronym I had made up last October about the key messages of Fatima: P.R.A.E.R.S. (Pra-yers); pray for **Peace** (daily), **Rosary** (daily), in **Adoration** of the **Eucharist** (Blessed Sacrament), go to **Reconciliation** (monthly, Devotion of First Saturdays), in **Sacrifice**. Can you now guess what C.A.R. and E. stand for? **Confession, Adoration, Rosary, and Eucharist!** This is an easy reminder of what we are encouraged to do during this joyful Season of Advent in helping us to receive in our hearts the Full Joy of baby Jesus at Christmas (just one week away!). While the Eucharist is the most important celebration of our Faith every day of our life, let us make use of the remaining days before Christmas in receiving Jesus, his Body and Blood, at Christmas!

Last Week we gave everyone two of three Christmas cards with information about the schedule of our Advent and Christmas activities at OLHOC. These cards are to be shared with family members and friends as an invitation to join us as Mass at Christmas! We are all invited to **share** our Love of Christ and Joy of Christmas! JOY is contagious! Maybe your personal invitation will help someone to return to attend Mass not only at Christmas, but also every Sunday (or Saturday vigil), throughout the year! God is commanding all of us to **keep holy the Sabbath!** We are all invited to be **intentional disciples of Christ!** We are all invited to be **witnesses of Christ!** We are all invited to share the **Good News of the Gospel!** We are all invited to be **evangelizers!**

In this **Gaudete Sunday** (Third Sunday of Advent), we are all invited to **Rejoice** (Gaudete in Latin means Rejoice), to **rejoice always, to rejoice in the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ!** May the Holy Spirit open our hearts to receiving the **Joy of Christ!** May Mary accompany us in this wonderful journey with Jesus! May we all **walk with Mary on the road of intentional disciples!**

May we all and our families have a most blessed Gaudete Sunday on the way to our best ever Christmas!



*One in Christ,
Fr. Alain*

Mass Intention

- Saturday, Dec. 16, 9:00 AM: Emiro Bulzo Escorcja (+)
- Saturday, Dec. 16, 5:00 PM: Don Lawson (+)
- Sunday, Dec. 17, 8:30 AM: Windsor Family (+)
- Sunday, Dec. 17, 10:00 AM: José & Annamarie Gonzales (+) and family
- Sunday, Dec. 17, 11:30 AM: OLHOC Parishioners
- Tuesday, Dec. 19, 9:00 AM: Zophia Galvan
- Thursday, Dec. 20, 9:00 AM: Liz & Sid Marcus
- Friday, Dec. 22, 9:00 AM: John Lohman, Jr. (+) and John Lohman III (+)

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Mass Readings for December 24, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Advent

First Reading- 2 Samuel 7:vs. 1-5,8b-12. 14a 16

Second Reading- Romans 16: vs. 25-27

Gospel-Luke 1: vs. 26-38

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Prayer Requests

We are asked to pray for: Chantelle Angelini, Sonia Knapp, Lynn & Ronald Henrion, Liz Marcus, Ebony Jenkins, Tina Gallagher-Detwiler, Judy Studds, Vincent Argiro, Sr., Pearl Green, Ghram Waldon, Linda Kelly, Barbara Tice, James Thompson, Doris Chesley, Joseph Albrittain, Ester Baraquio, Chris Goldhammer, Audrey Proctor, Fr. Robert Pittman, Denise Zois, Dolores Settler, Yolanda Brenoes, Elsie & Rodalin Canare, Brenda Dodson, Sarah Parker, Elaine Townley, Juliann Leginze, Randy Howells, Connie Miller, Josephine Manalo, Aaron Morgan, Pat Gray, Paulette Savoy, Kelvin Young, Annie Rope, Jim Ritchie, Bonnie Castro, Andy Green, Judee Parkinson, Tanya A. Viola, Dolores Proctor, April Sheffield, Dr. Suresh Verghese, Marisa Costas Pena, Marino Gadea, Monica Myers, Mike Connolly, Samuel Lopez, Julieta Bool, Wilbur Etbauer, Susan Walker, Doris Conover, Elijah Larson, Sunni Park, Mireille Obas, Joan Etbauer, Joseph Cheseldine, Sr., Consuela Velasquez, Wilhelmina Franck, Tabitha Barton, Isabel Smith, Elinore Fortney, and all our military and civilians serving in harm's way.

Our condolences to the family and friends of **Barbara Tice.**

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Christmas Novena Masses and Posadas

December 14-22

Both events are scheduled simultaneously for nine days:

The Novena Masses begin each evening at 7:00 pm.

To participate in the **Posada** processions, please meet up at 6:00 pm in the Social Hall. Directions to procession routes will be distributed at that time. **Processions on the nights of Dec. 17th and 22nd will take place on OLHOC grounds.**

A big celebration will follow after Mass on the 9th night: December 22.

Third Sunday of Advent

CCD Class Schedule

Our Lady Help of Christians 2017-2018 CCD Registration is open online: www.olhoc.org.

Dec. 17/18-CCD Class

Dec. 24/25 & Dec. 31/Jan. 1- No CCD Classes

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

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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 Jan. 28, 2018 and will begin with 4:00 PM Mass followed by fun! Bring your friends ! See the website at: olhoc.org/ym.

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Calling All Children!!

- **Attention School-Age Band/Orchestra Instrumentalists:** This weekend is the last chance to share your talents as members of a youth instrumental ensemble in the prelude to our Children's Mass on Christmas Eve. If you are available and want to participate, please come **today, Sunday, December 17**, to our **rehearsal at 1:15 pm** in the narthex. Bring your instrument and a portable music stand if you have one.
- **Attention Children** who want to serve as Angel or Shepherd Greeters for our Children's Christmas Eve Mass: Please come **today, Sunday, December 17, to our rehearsal at 3:00 pm** in the narthex. We will learn our roles and be fitted for costumes. If necessary, we will meet again on Dec. 23 at 10:30 am.

Upcoming Youth Events

We still have spots available for the March for Life , Mount 2000 in Emmitsburg, Steubenville Youth Conference and many more events! For more info, visit www.olhoc.com/ym or contact Marlen at : marlen@olhoc.org.

RCIA Invitation

We meet on Wednesdays from **7:00-9:00 PM**. Come and join us! If interested call the office (301-645-7112) or email deacon@olhoc.org. Classes in Spanish are on Sundays at **5:00 PM-** Domingo a las cinco de la tarde. Salon #105.

Upcoming Child Protection Classes

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

Go to VIRTUS.org to register. Call Nieda or Therese with questions at 301-645-7112.

OUR LADY'S LITTLE CHRISTIANS

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

- Please call 301-645-7112 or email : preschool@olhoc.org for information.
- The OLLC Christmas tree is up in the office lobby! We are collecting new: children's pajamas, slippers, socks, mittens gloves, hats, & scarves to place on the tree and later be donated to the Children's Aid Society.

Community Outreach

The next **Shepherds' Table Dinner** will be held on **Thursday, December 21, 2017 at Good Shepherd church**. The next Outreach Committee Meeting will be held on January 3 at 7 pm in our social hall. **New members and ideas are welcome!**

Volunteers go to: www.olhoc.org and click on the Community Outreach link.

Thank You

Sharing Sunday

Is the first Sunday of the month. **Yet, at this time, we are especially in need of canned vegetables (corn, green beans), sweet potatoes, stuffing and macaroni and cheese for the Christmas Baskets.** Items may be left in the Social Hall in boxes marked 'Food Donations'.

Volunteers Needed

Today, Sunday December 17

Christmas Basket Prep

- **9:30 am-** Final preparation of baskets in Social Hall
- **Following 10:00 am Mass** – Delivery of baskets



OLHOC Holiday House

The OLHOC Holiday House will be in the narthex through **December 17** to collect donations for the **Christmas Baskets**. Over 50 baskets will be prepared and delivered to those in need right here in our community by our OLHOC volunteers.

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