

*A Word from Deacon Rich Dubicki*

**Jesus Ascends and is with Us Always**

On this special day it's good for us to take time to remember and pray for our mothers, grandmothers, mothers-to-be and those special women who are like mothers to us. May the *Lord bless all mothers* for their hard work, many sacrifices and unconditional love. May he bless them especially for saying "Yes" to the gift of life.



We also celebrate the Ascension of the Lord as we recall Jesus' departure from this world and His returning home to his Father. Departures and separations are a fact of life and can be difficult.

For one weekend each summer my wife, Regina, and I host our family reunion. Our relatives come from across the country. We enjoy seeing our loved ones again, telling stories and sharing the joy of their accomplishments in the past year. It's a great time; all too soon, it seems, the weekend is over. It's time for our loved ones to depart and return home.

What was going through the minds of the disciples as they watched their friend Jesus depart from them? They had known Jesus and followed him for so many years and had been through so much with him. As we hear in Acts, when Jesus leaves this world it is no ordinary departure. First Jesus promised the disciples they would receive power when the Holy Spirit came upon them. Seeming to defy the laws of gravity, Jesus "was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight." (Acts of the Apostles 1:9) Then men in white garments appeared and promised them that Jesus will return. It must have been an awesome and glorious event!



What does Jesus' Ascension mean for us? It's cause for us to rejoice and have hope. Jesus' Ascension is a sign of God's great love for us. It was out of love that God sent his only Son into the world. It was out of love that Jesus did the will of his Father, even to the point of dying on the cross for our salvation. Having completed His mission in this world and finding favor with His Father, Jesus took his rightful place in heaven at the right hand of the Father where He intercedes for us.

Although He departed from us, we are not left on our own because we have the Church. As Paul tells us, Christ is its head. Christ is its guide and its source of inspiration and teachings. He gave the Church its mission to evangelize and fulfills it in the power of the Holy Spirit.

It is the Church that gives us not only hope but the means to eternal life. Like a good and loving mother, the Church gives us new life through Baptism, feeds us with the Eucharist and instructs us how to be true disciples of the Lord.

Yes, departures and separations can be difficult. Our faith tells us that we are only temporarily separated from our Lord. In hope we look forward to one day being with him in the heavenly kingdom.

Have a happy Mother's Day and happy Ascension Day!

Deacon Rich

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**Prayer Requests \***

**We are asked to pray for:** Leslie, Miriam Chagolla, Lauren Lohman, Fr. Alain, Grace Emmanuella, Dennis Forgash, Robert Brooks, Angel Morgan, William Graham, Fred Kowaleski, Kaylie Fowler, Ernest Mack, Derrick Webster, Brandon Mack, Johnné Webster, Dionne Gause, Dorian Webster, Alfred Brown, Doris Chesley, James Thompson, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Dunham, Tom Casey, Connie Miller, Windsor Family, Fr. Robert Pittman, and all our military and civilians serving in harm's way.

*\*Names will remain on our list for 3 months. Please call the parish office to re-request a name after 3 months or to remove a name when the person has regained health.*



**Mass Intentions this Week**

- Saturday, May 12, 9:00 AM: Dolly Fitzpatrick**
- Saturday, May 12, 5:00 PM: John Lohman (+)**
- Sunday, May 13, 8:30 AM: OLHOC Parishioners**
- Sunday, May 13, 10:00 AM: Helen Wilson (+)**
- Sunday, May 13, 11:30 AM: Nancy P. Gallegos (+)**
- Sunday, May 13, 1:00 PM: Ouedraogo Family**
- Sunday, May 13, 7:00 PM: Elvira Guerrero (+)**
- Monday, May 14, 9:00 AM: Joseph Fitzpatrick (+)**
- Tuesday, May 15, 9:00 AM: Isidora Torres (+)**
- Wednesday, May 16, 9:00 AM: Veronica De la Peña (+)**
- Wednesday, May 16, 7:00 PM: Ouedraogo Family**
- Thursday, May 17, 9:00 AM: Grace Emmanuella**
- Friday, May 18, 9:00 AM: Grace Emmanuella**



# Weekend of the Ascension of the Lord

## CCD Class Schedule

May 13/14: CCD Class

May 20: All CCD Classes at 11:10 AM-Crowning of Mary (see insert page of this bulletin for details).

Contact **Therese Thiedeman** at 301-645-7112 or [dre@olhoc.org](mailto:dre@olhoc.org)  
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**FIAT: Elementary school** Faith in Action Team (meets monthly)

**Edge: Middle school** youth ministry (meets monthly)

**Life Teen: High school** youth ministry

### **\*\* Youth Summer Retreat \*\***



**Youth Worship**

Rising 9th graders-seniors, join us for **Camp Veritas** August 12th-18th at Camp Lakota in Wurtsboro, NY. It will be an amazing week of outdoor fun, prayer, time with friends, and growing in your faith.

For more information and youth opportunities, please visit [www.olhoc.com/ym](http://www.olhoc.com/ym) or contact **Marlen Coles** at [marlen@olhoc.org](mailto:marlen@olhoc.org).

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## The Vocations Tree

*God, our Father, please send us holy priests. All for the Sacred and Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, all for the Sorrowful and Immaculate Heart of Mary, in union with St. Joseph.*

The **Vocations Tree** project invites our parish community (English and Spanish) to offer prayers for our Seminarians. Each year the Archdiocesan Vocation Office generously prints out Seminarian cards. Each card has the photo of a seminarian and a bit of information about him along with a suggested prayer on the back. We ask parishioners to pick a card from the "tree-wall" in the Narthex, and commit to praying for that seminarian every day until Pentecost Sunday, May 20.



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## Trial Subscription for You!

Our Lady Help of Christians has been given a trial subscription to FORMED.org for the month of May to provide parishioners with access to Fr. Michael Gaitley's program "33 Days to Morning Glory" in video format as we strive for Marian Consecration. To access this subscription throughout the month, simply

Go to [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)

Login: [trial@formed.org](mailto:trial@formed.org)

Password: **Presence#18** (case sensitive)

Contact **Therese Thiedeman** at [dre@olhoc.org](mailto:dre@olhoc.org) with questions.

## OUR LADY'S LITTLE CHRISTIANS

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

**Now Open – Registration for Fall 2018**

For more information, send an email to [preschool@olhoc.org](mailto:preschool@olhoc.org) or call the office and ask for **Nieda**, Preschool Director.

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## Community Outreach

Many thanks to Einstein Bagels for their generous donation of bagels to our "take-home" table at Shepherd's Table.

The next **Shepherd's Table Dinner** will be held on **Thursday, May 17, 2018 at Good Shepherd Church.**



Our next Outreach Committee Meeting before summer break is **June 6** at 7:00 PM in the Social Hall.

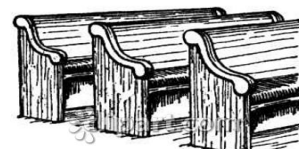
**All are welcome!**

**Sharing Sunday** – Non-perishable food donations are always welcome and can be left in the Social Hall. All donations will go to the local food bank, managed by Catholic Charities, on Irongate Drive in Waldorf.

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## Your Church; the Lord's House

Continue to please respect your church, the Lord's house, and refrain from taking any food or beverage in the Sanctuary or Nave. If children need food or beverages, please use the cry room or Social Hall.



We have incurred some recent pew damage. Please care for your building investment by not walking on kneelers or using them as a foot rest.



*Kick-off to the Year of the Holy Spirit!*

Our CCD Year culminates next Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, at 11:10 am, as all our parishioners join in the crowning of Mary outdoors; the outdoor celebration of Mass for our Parish Feast Day (actual date being May 24), Pentecost Sunday, and the kick-off to our **YEAR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!** **All children** are encouraged to bring cut flowers to honor Mary. **First Communicants** are encouraged to wear First Communion attire; the **Newly Confirmed** are encouraged to wear the red Confirmation gowns on this PENTECOST Sunday; and **all other parishioners** are encouraged to wear either red clothing or clothing representative of your heritage as we celebrate the birth of the Church and the spread of Christianity to **ALL NATIONS!**



Being **PENTECOST SUNDAY** and the kickoff to our **YEAR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**, this year's celebration goes a step beyond our annual Rita's Ice social... instead it will be an **ALL-PARISH INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK!** The Knights of Columbus will grill hamburgers and hotdogs. Parishioners are asked to please bring a dish to share that represents part of your family heritage! Also, print the recipe so we can tape it to the table by the dish. Any cooks among us can take photos of the recipes to make at home.

PLEASE sign-up either online at [www.olhoc.org/Pentecost](http://www.olhoc.org/Pentecost) or in the Narthex by this Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, so we can best estimate the quantity of hamburgers/hotdogs and paper goods to purchase. Please remember to bring lawn chairs or blankets for seating purposes at Mass and dining. This is also our final **ALL YOUTH NIGHT** (Day, in this case) of the year, so we hope to see all Life Teen, Edge, and FIAT attendees at this celebration as well!

Thanks for a great year of Religious Education, and a special thanks to all the catechists and other Religious Education volunteers who sacrificed time, talent, and treasure to share their love of Jesus Christ with the children in our program. A special thanks to all parents who strive to raise their children in the Catholic Faith. Congratulations to our newly confirmed, our First Communicants, our new members of the Church, all children who successfully completed their online lessons on time, and to the families who helped establish our new Special Needs Program... a great success! **GOD IS GOOD ALL THE TIME!** Hope to see you at Vacation Bible School, July 23-27, 2018! Watch for more information!

**American Red Cross – Blood Drive**



VFW-AMVETS-AL

VFW Post 8810

2310 Old Washington Road,

Waldorf, MD

**Friday, May 25, 2018**

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

For more information, contact: David & Pat Viets 301-848-5902, [patricia1202@comcast.net](mailto:patricia1202@comcast.net) or James Wade, Sr. 240-401-7429, [jfwadesr@yahoo.com](mailto:jfwadesr@yahoo.com).

Sign up online at: [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)

**Mass Readings for May 20, 2018**

*Pentecost Sunday*

**First Reading \* Acts of the Apostles 2:1-11**

**Second Reading \* I Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13**

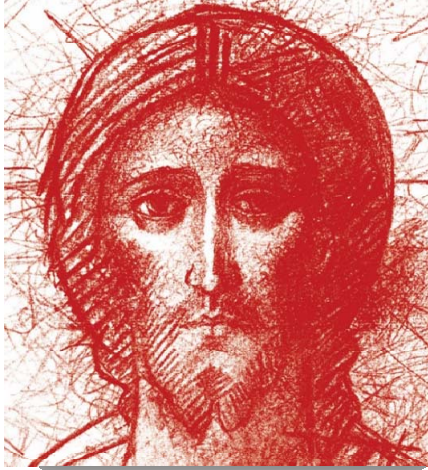
**Gospel \* John 20:19-23**

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Mark your calendar for Vacation Bible School (VBS). July 23-27. 9:00 am to 12:00 noon daily. More to come!

***OLHOC invites you to attend The Catechesis for Adults and Teenagers on Mondays and Thursdays at 7:00 PM, in the Social Hall.***



To be a Christian is to have an encounter with the person of Christ. Jesus himself affirms: “... *I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.*” (John 10:10)

The catechesis will be given by a team from the Neo-catechumenal Way composed of one priest (Fr. Santiago), two seminarians from the Archdiocese of Washington, one widow, and two married couples.

This catechesis is an announcement of the Good News of the Gospel aimed to introduce people to a journey of mature Faith. The catechesis will help you deepen your Faith, encounter Jesus Christ through the scriptures, and find in Christ the answer to your daily sufferings.

We also encourage you to pass on this invitation with family members, friends or anyone that may be in need of rediscovering Jesus Christ. Take one or two cards located in the narthex to pass out and evangelize.

**Come with an open heart - You won't be disappointed!**


**Adult Faith Formation Class:**

*Evangelization and the Acts of the Apostles*

**SUNDAYS at 9:30 AM**

**Seven more sessions - Come when you can!**

**SUNDAY  
MORNING!!**



As we approach Pentecost and our OLHOC “Year of the Holy Spirit” (Pentecost 2018-Pentecost 2019), there is no better place to look for guidance in the New Evangelization than the Acts of the Apostles. This chronicle of the Church in action gives us the blueprint for the life and mission of the Church today. In *Evangelization and the Acts of the Apostles*, Dr. Mary Healy combines Bible study with Church teaching and practical wisdom to show us how modern Catholics can effectively lead people to Jesus Christ.

**Join us for this exciting study facilitated by Mike and Diane Spurgeon!**

**Divine Mercy at OLHOC**



The Divine Mercy Ministry invites us all to come and pray the chaplet each **1st Saturday at 3:00 PM.**

**Healing Mass**

St. Mary Church, Newport's monthly Healing Masses are held the **first Thursday of each month, 6:30 PM** in honor of St. John Vianney. The next Healing Mass will be on Thursday, June 7. Fr. Michael Briese will offer prayers of healing for the body and soul. Confessions begin at 6:00 p.m.; Location: St. Mary Church, Newport, 11555 St. Mary's Church Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622. For additional information, please call the rectory office at [301-934-8825](tel:301-934-8825).