



**Third Sunday of
Advent**

© LPI

**Welcome to
Our Lady of the Chesapeake
A Christian Community in the Roman Catholic Tradition
8325 Ventnor Road, Pasadena, MD 21122**

Phone: 410-255-3677

Fax: 410-437-7527 www.olchesapeake.org

Weekday Masses: Tuesday—Friday, 9:00am

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 5:00pm,

Sunday 8:30am, & 10:30am, Rosary: Sundays 8:00am

Holiday Schedule

December 23rd : 5:00 pm Mass

**Since Christmas Eve is on Sunday the 8:30 am and 10:30 am Masses will
not be celebrated. The schedule is as follows:**

December 24th: 3:30 pm Mass - Church, 3:30 pm Mass - Hall

5:30 pm Mass - Church, 7:30 pm Mass - Church, 10:00 pm Mass - Church

December 25th 10:00 am Mass - Church

January 1st 9:30 am Mass - Church

Welcome

Rev. Brian "Raff" Rafferty, STL

Pastor

Rick Clemens	Deacon
Tim Janiszewski	Pastoral Associate/Youth Minister
Judy Glinka	Adm. Assistant/Business Manager
Stacey Beres	Dir. of Religious Ed./Admin. Assist.
Sr. Sally Russell	Dir. of Adult Faith Formation
Donna Moran	Hall Manager/Development
Macey Glinka	Facilities Manager
Rodney Armero	Director of Worship Music
Charles Alexander	Assist. Director of Worship Music

Parish Support

Jerry Mulcahy	Pastoral Council Chair
Judy Glinka	Altar Society
Janet Cogliano	Lectors
Joseph Borchetti	Eucharistic Ministers
Daria Breslin, daria.breslin@verizon.net	Altar Server Ministry
Luke Hogue	Ushers
Mary Laber	Social Justice Ministry
Mary Mulcahy	Bereavement Ministry
Mary Helen Gurney	Evangelization Ministry
Kathy Clifford, Sr. Sally Russell	R.C.I.A.
John Donnelly	Knights of Columbus
Susan Israel	Prayer Line
Paula Gentile	Respect Life
Angie Stull	Associate Accompanist
Joyce Heid	Wellness Ministry, Bulletin Web Editor

Sacraments

Baptisms: Baptisms are usually held every month on selected Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Please call to schedule.

Reconciliation: Saturday after the 5:00PM Mass; anytime by appointment.

Sacraments: Please contact the Pastoral Office for information, 410-255-3677.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: All those interested in living the faith in our Roman Catholic tradition are welcome. The program begins in September and culminates in May.

FREE nursery program for OLC children age 5 and under

10:30 am Mass in the Lauer wing of the Gathering Place.
If interested please visit the OLC Website for Tips for Parents
and a Registration Form or contact Suzanne Keys at
suzannembryant@yahoo.com

December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday:

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50,
53-54 [Is 61:10b]/
1 Thes 5:16-24/
Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday:

Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19
[cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday:

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-
6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/
Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday:

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab,
5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/
Lk 1:26-38

Thursday:

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/
Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/
Lk 1:39-45

Friday:

1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7,
8abcd [cf. 1a]/
Lk 1:46-56

Saturday:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9,
10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/
Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday:

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-
3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/
Lk 1:26-38

Bulletin Correction.

Last week I gave you the impression that Father Steve would be here on New Year's Day. I made a boo-boo. You will have to wait till January 7th to see Fr. Steve because of a scheduling blunder. I promise this is my last faux pas in the Bulletin. Happy New Year!

Raff

SVDP Update: Thanksgiving we were able to provide 47 families with a Thanksgiving dinner. We also thank the PBA for the donation of can goods for our pantry. I would like to thank the SVDP members and the families from OLC who helped to prepare our boxes and deliver to the families.

God Bless,
Mary

OLC Winter Relief

Our Lady of Chesapeake will be hosting 35 men from the House of Hope for the week of 1/15 to 1/22/2018. We set up the shelter in our Gathering Space and provide hot meals, warm beds, clothing and many other services during the week. We still have opportunities available for OLC parishioners to join us. You can view our schedule for the week and sign up for volunteer spots at signup.com/go/WYzakOU or by contacting Mary Cooley at marydcooley@gmail.com or 410 353 0079.

We are also in need of some donations for our guests and shelter. At the request of the House of Hope we are asked to limit our collection to the following items:

Men's blue jeans and t-shirts

Men's coats

Men's socks (tube and wool)

Men's long underwear

Twin size blankets and sheets

Zippered pillow covers

New pillows

Travel sized deodorant and toiletries

Disposable razors

Small denomination gift cards (McDonalds, Burger King, Food Lion, Dollar Tree, Cell phone cards)

You may bring items to OLC after January 1st. Thank you in advance for you help with this much needed ministry.

Our Lady of the Chesapeake Prayer Line

Available 24/7 by emailing info@olchesapeake.org

Pray for: Tina A. and Family, Stephen, Cory H., Janeen N., Shannon, Alex R., Gloria L, and Carmelina D., Malcolm, Jane, Nicole, Shawn, Samantha and Pat H., Maryanne J., Danny J., Caitlyn K., Phyllis H., Bill P. and family, Richard S., Ty P., David S. and family, Pat D., Sam, Oliver Family, Jake C., Barb, Bonnie, Jim C., Cheryl A., Dorothy P., Jim, Jeffrey S., Sharon P., Marcy P., Scott H., James C., Tom K., Carol H., Dorothy W., Frank C., JoAnn C., Bob K., Katie S., Ed & Ruth S., Beth V., Joe C., Elizabeth H., Zachary H., Mary Ann R., Michael E., Joseph D., Stan, Shelley, Diane B., Beth V., John H., Kay J., Jennifer, Ryan, Michael E., Ken S., Peter W., Janice H., Phyllis C., Mary Anna A., Iris A., Michael, Mark A., Barbara L., Nick B., Steve and Phyllis L., Sharon R., Ashley H., Marsha S., Helen D., Betty Y., Brian G., Lilly, the Cicero Family, Deter Family and the Matassa Families, Dave, Michael P, Ollie, Tanner C., Dave, Denise, Jim C., Carlson Family, Kevin & Janie N., Lynn C., Anita R., Kathy H., Katrina S., Ron C., Jeff A., Vernie E., Michele T., John M., Vernie E., Joanna, Betsy, Lou, Jodi, Paul R., Barb K., Ella J., Kelani W., Caleb W., Mikky, Sherry, Bonnie M., Carlos T. and family, Walter G., Kate R., Julio, Sebastian S., Michael, Nick, Leonard S. and family, Marie, Lisa W., Judy L. Pam D., August L., Rose B., Jason N., Dick C. Jenni, Matt, Jason R., Jeannie, Bob L., Bill H.

Usually only first names are listed to ensure privacy—don't worry, when you pray God knows who you are talking about!

To become a Prayer Partner contact Susan Israel at suisrael9@comcast.net or Stacey or Judy at info@olchesapeake.org

New Parishioners may register online or at our Pastoral Office any Weekday from 8:00AM - 3:00PM

From the Desk of Sister Sally: Join us for Contemplative Prayer!
Still your thoughts and emotions and focus on God's presence.
Next session: Tuesday, January 9th at 9:45am and 7:00pm.
There will be no Contemplative Prayer in Church on Tuesday, December 26th.

**Anyone interested in Spiritual Direction or walking the Labyrinth, please contact Sister Sally:
 srussell@olchesapeake.org or 410-255-3677 EXT. 104**

The Mystical Body

I am done with great things and big plans, great institutions and big success. I am for those tiny, invisible loving human forces that work from individual to individual, creeping through the crannies of the world like so many rootlets, or like the capillary oozing of water, which, if given time, will rend the hardest monument of pride.

This is wisdom from William James: The deep, important things that most affect us are usually not big and showy, but tiny, perhaps even imperceptible.

We see the truth of this just by looking at the human body. How little of it we see from the outside. Inside a human body are countless hidden, silent processes, all going on at once. Cells are growing and dividing, enzymes are fighting viruses, nerves are carrying messages to and fro, cancerous cells are being attacked by the immune system, even while the hair are greying, the body is digesting food, and is imperceptibly aging. Whether we are healthy or sick at a given moment depends largely on countless, silent, hidden processes.

Moreover, inside all this, there is an even more-complex web of hidden connections between these various processes. Everything is interconnected, no part does anything that doesn't affect everything else.

This is true too of any social body. Every community or society has a certain visible life that can be seen and whose overt interconnections, to an extent, can be grasped, charted, and written up into textbooks. But, just as with the human body, most of the deep things in a community are under the surface, invisible, silent, available only through another kind of instrument, the intuitive gaze of the mystic, novelist, poet, or artist.

And all of this is even more true of the body of Christ, the community of the baptized, the sincere. Most of the important processes there are also invisible.

The union among ourselves in the "communion of saints" is also a presence to each other beyond distance.

Like any other body, partly this body is visible—physical, historical, something that can be observed from the outside. Historical Christianity, the churches, in their concrete history, are the visible body of Christ—people, institutions, buildings, virtue and sin enfolded in history. But the body of Christ is more than meets the physical eye, a billion times more. As in every body, countless, silent, invisible processes are going on beneath. Inside the body of Christ, as in all bodies, there are deadly viruses, an immune system, cancer-cells, and health-carrying enzymes. What's deepest inside of life is not visible to the naked eye. Thus, for example, Therese of Lisieux, with her highly-tuned mystical sense, understood her hidden life in a monastery as a part of the immune-system inside the body of Christ. Without ever leaving the small town of Lisieux she touched the lives of millions of people. That shouldn't be surprising, given that the invisible interconnections inside of a body.

It is this background too that can help give us a sense of the mystical union we have with each other inside "the communion of saints." What precisely is this? It's the belief that there exists among us, among all of us who have been baptized, at a level too deep for words, a union that is as real, intimate, and physical as is a sexual union. Wild as this sounds, it is clearly taught in scripture (1 Corinthians, for example, is most explicit) and lies at the root of the Christian understanding of the Eucharist. For the early Christians, celebrating Eucharist together was an act of intimacy akin to sexual union. That was one of the reasons they surrounded the Eucharist with the kind reverence and discretion that judicious lovers employ.

Beyond this radical intimacy, the union among ourselves in the "communion of saints" is also a presence to each other beyond distance. Inside the body of Christ, we are present to each other and carry each other across the miles. Everything we do, good or bad, affects all the others. For this reason the church teaches that there is no such thing as a private act—of sin, virtue, or anything else. Nothing is private inside a body, everything affects everything. Moreover our union with each other links us, even beyond death. Inside the "communion of saints," we believe that our loved ones who have died are alive, still with us, and able to communicate with us and we with them.

To believe this is to be both consoled and challenged. Consoled, in knowing that we carry each other in love and union, across all distance, even through death. But challenged too in knowing that everything we do, be it ever so private, is either a bad virus or a healthy enzyme affecting the overall health of the body of Christ and the family of humanity.

Ron Rolheiser

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) meets Wednesdays at 7pm in the Maryland Suite in the Church.

Each one is a missionary disciple by inviting persons who are not Catholic, or who have not received the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation to consider the RCIA process of becoming Catholic or completing the sacraments of initiation. Many persons observe your kindness and faithfulness. You have the grace to invite others to join us in our journey of faith. If you know of anyone who might consider the RCIA, please have a conversation with them about our faith.

Contact Sister Sally: srussell@olchesapeake.org; 410-255-3677 Ext. 104

RESPECT LIFE.....Building A Culture of Life

Respecting the Dignity of All God's People

"How beautiful is the encouragement an elderly person manages to pass onto a young person who is seeking the meaning of faith and of life. It is truly the mission of grandparents... The words of grandparents have special value for the young. And the young know it."

"The elderly pass on history, doctrine, faith, and they leave them to us as an inheritance."

---Pope Francis, "Grandparents are a treasure"

WHEN IN NEED

Pregnant Need Help?

Call the Gabriel Network 1-800-Angel-OK

Material Assistance for Babies?

Call Mary's Center 410-761-8082

Suffering Abortion Post Stress?

Call Project Rachel Baltimore 410-625-8491 or projectrachel@archbalt.org

End of Life Issues Need Advice?

Contact the National Catholic Bioethics Center at www.ncbcenter.org/consultation/submit-request/ or call 215-877-2660

**Stewardship
December 3, 2017 Offertory**

Envelopes	\$14,831
Loose	\$4,700
Total Offertory	<u>19,531</u>

Deferred Maintenance Fund	1,765
Poor Box	210
Total Weekly	\$21,506

Mass Attendance 650

YTD Offertory (23 Week)	
Envelopes	\$237,866
Loose	42,436
Total Offertory	<u>280,302</u>

Deferred Maintenance Fund	26,329
Poor Box	5,984
Total YTD	<u>\$312,614</u>

Average Weekly Offertory	\$13,332
Average Weekly Budget	14,000
Avg. Weekly Surplus (Deficit)	(\$668)

Oplatki, the Christmas Wafer available this year once again thanks to parishioner Kathy Clifford. Anyone who wants Oplatki can contact Kathy at 410-437-1504 or 443-618-8572.

Many Polish, Slovak, Lithuanian and other Eastern European families observe the centuries-old Oplatki Christmas Tradition. The word Oplatki means "Angel Bread". The word Bethlehem means "House of Bread." The breaking of the bread is a sign of charity, unity, and friendship. Religious family traditions and customs bring the truths of Faith into the home. One of these beautiful Christmas customs is the Christmas Wafer. A Wafer bearing a simple design commemorative of Christ's birth is broken by the head of the family and distributed to each member. With a simple prayer for God's grace and the welfare of the present and absent members of the family, the head family member breaks the Wafer and distributes it, a piece to each one at the table. While doing so each member of the family is kissed and is wished a joyful feast.

FREE TRAIN GARDEN DISPLAY—FINAL YEAR!

Address: 836 Turf Valley Drive, Pasadena

(Please park on Hunt Ridge Rd. which intersects Turf Valley Dr. Then walk to the house. Look for the flashing rail road crossing sign in the back yard)

John and June Sturgeon welcome the public to see the Train Garden that runs 11 trains through an Amusement Park, Football Stadium, Hot Dog Stand and a Winter Wonderland that includes decorated houses, skaters and skiers.
*Santa will be there so don't forget your wish lists and cameras!

Fri. 12/15 THROUGH Saturday, 12/23.

Closed Xmas Eve & Xmas Day.
Will be open Tues. 12/26 & Weds. 12/27.

Hours are 6 to 8:30pm. Questions? Call 410- 349-6627.



The Knights of Columbus of Our Lady of the Chesapeake will meet the first Wednesday of the month, December 6th at 7:30 P.M. in the Lauer building. All Knights are invited. There will be no second meeting in December. For more information contact John Donnelly at 410-437-0116, or sandysue@cablespeed.com.

Youth Ministry

Middle School Youth Ministry

We have begun our second Session of the year on Prayer. Last Monday, Dec. 11th, the students had the opportunity to use the Bible in their prayers by practicing the ancient prayer called Lectio Divinia ("Holy Reading"). This is an advanced form of prayer that requires focus and imagination while reading, reflecting, responding, and resting...believe it or not, the resting is the most difficult part, but also the most rewarding.

Next Monday, Dec. 18th, we will conclude our session on Prayer, and the students will have an opportunity to investigate and pray the Rosary. When practiced properly, which it often is not, the rosary can be an extremely effective form of meditative prayer...come find out! We will also have our Christmas Party at the end. Many parents have volunteered to make treats...if you didn't volunteer for treats, but would like to make some and send them in, no one will complain. All 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are welcome and encouraged to join us this Monday from 4:30pm to 6:30pm (extended for our Christmas Party).

Thank you to all the students who were able to bring in Christmas gifts for other students in our community. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

Our MSYM will be sponsoring a church Clean and Shine event on Sunday, December 17th from 1-4pm. The students will be helping to make the inside of OLC look beautiful for Christmas. It's their gift to the parish! We need Archdiocesan Child Protection trained parents to help PLEASE!

High School Youth Ministry

Last Sunday, Dec. 10th, we continued Session 2 - Advent! The students shared what they thought a typical teenager is like, and then what makes them different from a typical teenager...how they stand out...and whether or not other people notice. We then investigated the Gospel reading for next Sunday (John 1: 6-8, 19-28) and learned more about John the Baptist. John was just being who God made him to be...people saw that in him and said, "Hey, that guy's different. What does that guy got that I don't? I want some of that...I better go check him out," and they came to him. What did John have?...JOY! His solid faith in Jesus radiated from him for others to see and experience through his natural joy! Joy is attractive and contagious...joy is the best way for us Christians to evangelize about the love that God has for us through Jesus. Joy is a gift from God, but it has to be cultivated by us. If we focus on all life's pains and sorrows, our joy can't grow. But if we remind ourselves that God is madly in love with us, and all life's pains and sorrows do NOT have the last word, but God's love for us does, then our joy can overwhelm us, just like it did for John the Baptist. Do people ever see the joy in you and wonder, "What does she/he have that makes her/him different...special? I want some of that"? If not...what's holding you back? God loves you...nothing is greater than his love for you, and nothing can defeat it...you got it made! Let your joy shine! Advent is an amazing time for us to recommit ourselves to get back in tune with God...or to get in tune with God if you've never been there. Make the most of Christmas this year by making the most of Advent...what will you DO?! And...consider doing it as a family!

This Sunday, Dec. 17th from 6:30-8:30pm, we will continue our journey through Advent as we focus on LOVE. All high school students are welcome and encouraged to join us! We will also end our meeting with a small Christmas Party...please consider bringing in holiday snacks to share! If you have any questions, please contact Tim Janiszewski (410-255-3677).

We have a few ACTIVITIES on the near horizon...

-Laser Tag and Movie Lock-in - Fri./Sat., Dec. 15th/16th from 8pm to 8am – We're going to see Star Wars: The Last Jedi, and we've rented out the laser tag place just for OLC!!!

-Making Blankets for our January Winter Relief Guests – Sun., Dec. 17th from 2pm-4pm.

-HSYM Christmas Eve Mass – Sat., Dec. 24th at 3:30pm in the Hall (we need students to serve!).

-Flyers and permission forms can be found in the box on the Business Office door in the church lobby and have been e-mailed to parents.

Wednesday Night Group

Our Wednesday Night Group is a voluntary faith formation group for high school students. If you are in 9th-12th grade and you're interested in pursuing your faith beyond what we do Sunday evening, AND in a relaxed setting, come join us please! (Note: Our Sunday evening meetings are wonderful with great content; the WNG is more relaxed, and yet deeper discussions.) While we have evenings of deep discussion on matters of faith, current events, and prayer, we also include evenings of community building, such as games, fun field trips, and service. And we've got some GREAT EATS! The schedule for the entire Fall (Sept. - Dec.) has been e-mailed to parents, and we will post here in the bulletin the upcoming month's schedule. So...if you are in 9th-12th grade, come join us please Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Here's our schedule for the next month...

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>
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Dec. 20	Annual Christmas Party – Chinese Style! Tonight is our annual Christmas Party with fantastic Chinese Food. Bring your appetites...we'll supply the food AND the presents!
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Dec. 27	What's Going on with You? w/Baked Ziti and Garlic Bread It's important we stay in touch with one another personally, so we're doing this again...catching up with one another's lives. And we'll enjoy fresh baked ziti with garlic bread.
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If you have any questions about Youth Ministry, please contact Tim Janiszewski (410-255-3677 or timjolc@verizon.net).