

July 28, 2019

"I HAVE CALLED YOU BY NAME: YOU ARE MINE!"
(Isaiah 43:1)

"THUS SAYS THE LORD, who created you, O Jacob, and formed you, O Israel: FEAR NOT, FOR I HAVE REDEEMED YOU; I HAVE CALLED YOU BY NAME: YOU ARE MINE ". Has GOD called you by name? "Did you hear HIM calling you through the whisper of a mild wind? Or did you hear God call you by your name of baptism or confirmation?"

WHY ARE NAMES IMPORTANT? I recall in my former country France, when a baby or a child was baptized, first it had to be registered by the mayor of the village or town, and his name at birth had to be an official name taken from the national calendar of saints. Yes, we were encouraged to always give Christians names at Baptism and Confirmation. Tradition for Confirmation has remained still today. Praise the LORD! But the one for Christian names at baptism is more and more rarely applied.

I am always surprised by some of the names chosen by parents at baptism. These names are more and more secular or pagan and less and less Christian. I invite every future parent in our parish community to do their utmost to choose for their children a Christian name at birth.

The entire Chapter 43 of the prophet Isaiah entitled "Promises of Redemption and Restoration", is a testimony of how God chooses to help us, totally without cost to us. It is a great example of how the Lord acts in our lives. We just have to cooperate, the Lord says: "When you pass through the water, I will be with You; in the rivers you shall not drown. When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned;"

He is the one who invites us to come and meet Him at Mass.

At the end of each Mass, the priest or the deacon says, "GO and ANNOUNCE THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD!" Or he can say, "GO IN PEACE GLORIFYING THE LORD BY YOUR LIFE!" What do I need to change in my life to glorify God? How can I do everything for the glory of God as opposed to do things for my own glory, my own satisfaction, my own pleasure?

NAMES are very important. They are an integral part of our character and personality. As Christians, our names can us define our personal relationship with Our Lord Jesus Christ. I told our new Parochial Vicar, Father Philip that he is blessed to have the name of one of the twelve Apostles. Philip is mentioned several times in the New Testament.

Many of you have already met Father Philip and have appreciated his New Jersey accent. Clearly he does not have any German accent (several generations separate him from his European ancestors). I thank you for having already displayed strong support to Fr. Philip. Our parish is truly blessed to have

a young (33-year old, 3 years of priesthood) energetic and spiritual parochial vicar. I can see the deep love he has for Our Lord Jesus Christ, which translates in a strong desire to evangelize and bring people closer to Christ. A great influence on him has been his own father, a widower like me, who has just been ordained a transitional deacon for the Archdiocese of Newark. God willing his father is expected to be ordained a priest for Newark on May 23, 2020, and will be then known as Fr. Edmond II, or simply Fr. Edmond (another great Christian name).

I plan to attend Fr. Edmond's Ordination in May. It will happen just the day before our new Archbishop Gregory will honor our parish by coming to celebrate the 11:30 am Mass on Sunday May 24. Can you imagine the JOY of Fr. Philip assisting at the priestly ordination of his father and the next day being a concelebrant at his father's first Mass! All our parishioners will be able to share such Joy with Fr. Philip.

As I am writing this column, I am getting ready to get on an Air France plane to spend some quality time with my family in Southern France, near Lourdes. As I mentioned to many of you, this will be my first true vacation since becoming a priest 10 years ago. For once, I have displayed some willingness to slow down. In past, my vacations were usually in leading pilgrimages for our own parishioners, which I very much enjoy. I had planned to go to the Holy Land this month...and for once, I was wise in postponing six months ago that pilgrimage to 2020. It will be from June 21st 2020, to July 1st 2020, many of you have already expressed interest in joining us and be an integrated part of our celebrating all our past pilgrimages in the context of the 40 YEARS ANNIVERSARY OF OLHOC!

May all future parents at OLHOC pray before choosing a beautiful Christian name for their children yet to be born!

Be assured that when I visit the grotto of Lourdes in a few days and am fully immersed in the waters of Lourdes, I will pray for all of you that are in need of physical, emotional, and/or spiritual healing!

Looking forward to returning to Waldorf on August I fully rested and refreshed! May you all have a most blessed summer!



*One in Christ,
Father Alain*

Virtus training

Adult Volunteers (ages 18+) who have substantial contact with minors (under 18) or vulnerable adults are required to undergo Child Protection Training and get finger printed. The next Archdiocesan class for Child Protection taking place locally is **Monday, August 5 at 6:30 pm at Our Lady Help of Christians**. Spaces are "first registered, first served". To register, establish an account at VIRTUS.org and select that particular class for training. Please see Niede or Nerieda in the office for more information or visit. www.olhoc.com/safety

We are currently recruiting adult volunteers (ages 18+) to work with our parish programs for children and youth for the 2019-20 Year (chaperones, catechists, assistants, mentors, substitutes, office helpers, Youth Core Team members, All Youth Night helpers, OLLC Preschool volunteers, childcare providers during parish programs, etc.). If you are interested in volunteering, or are a parent of a child/youth in any of these programs, you are NEEDED!

Outreach news

Our next Shepherd's Table will be on August 15, 2019 at Good Shepherd Church.

Non-perishable foods donated to "Sharing Sunday" may be left in the designated box near the door to Fr. Martin Hall. All donations go to the Southern Maryland Food Bank. Cereal and peanut butter and jelly are especially needed. Thank you all!

Below is the final count from the school supply drive.

- 84 composition books
- 12 spiral notebook
- 500 pencils and pens
- 24 highlighters
- 50 binders
- 100 crayons
- Cleaning wipes
- 8 packs loose leaf paper
- 36 glue sticks and bottles
- 25 dividers
- 5 folders
- 2 rulers
- Pencil box

OLLC Preschool

OLLC Preschool fall 2019 registration is open! Parishioners, please share this information with families you know who may be looking for Catholic Preschool for their child or grandchild, and be sure you have registered your child for fall. For info or to register: email the preschool director, Niede, at preschool@olhoc.org or call the church/preschool office at 301-645-7112 during office hours.

Adult Faith Formation

Come join us in a fascinating study of our first Pope - Peter! The story of St. Peter begins with an ordinary act of trust, which changes the course of Peter's life. By deciding to follow Jesus Christ, an unknown fisherman becomes a key player in God's plan of salvation for humanity. Videos presented by Dr. Tim Gray; facilitators, Mike and Diane Spurgeon. This insightful, 10-session course will be held Sunday mornings after the **8:30 am** Mass in Room B of the FMH. All are welcome.

Tuesday Scripture Study - Join us on Tuesday mornings after the 9 am Mass to study the readings for the next Sunday.

Wednesday Scripture Study - The Friday night scripture study has been changed to Wednesdays. They will be begin at 7:30, following the 7 pm Mass.

Divine Mercy - Join us on the first Saturday of each month as we pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet as a community at 3 PM.



Pray the Rosary daily

We are asked to pray for:

Sandra Barrientos
Dennis Hook
Ana Maria Delmira Sibrian Escobar
Nestor Ermelindo Molina
Doris Chesley
James Thompson
Rebecca (Tess) Franch
Vicky Welch
Naomi Lilly
Sterling Greene
Aleli Puzon
Patricia Delgado
Rosano Wheeler
Larry McGraw
Vivian Truxon
Kenny Lindsay

Pat Fisher
Christ Goldhammer
Adele Alvey
Dorothy Neal
Dunnie Proctor
Shirley Ehman
K.D. Dillard
Josephina Knapp
Maria Townsend
Chrystal Beauregard
Sheryl Carter
Alex Leon
Sharketer Butler
Steven Bowling
Edna Yarngo
Kathly Grimes
Damien Price

Sheny Padilla
Richard White
Mary Dooley
Victor Cordero
Georgiana Norgren
Marie Marie Bottorf
Angela Fenwick
Joy Cooper
Johnné Webster
William Graham
and all our military and civilians serving in
harm's way.

*Please let us know if any names should be removed
from the list.*



Mass Intentions this Week

Saturday, July 27, 9:00AM: Elira Andrews (+)
Saturday, July 27, 5:00 PM: Richard Yates (+)
Sunday, July 28, 8:30 AM: Our Lady Help of Christians parishioners
Sunday, July 28, 10:00 AM: Doris Cozzens-Hall (+)
Sunday, July 28, 11:30 AM: Marcella Krevey (+)
Sunday, July 28, 7:00 PM: Maria Lam
Monday, July 29, 9:00 AM: Ronald Mercer (+)
Tuesday, July 30, 9:00 AM: Joseph Nikolai
Wednesday, July 31, 9:00 AM: Paridel Bandibas (+)
Wednesday, July 31, 7:00 PM: Henry Narcisco (+) & Lourdes Con-ui (+)
Thursday, August 1, 7:00 PM: Ramón Lam del Cid (+)
Friday, August 2, 9:00 AM: Wilber Etbauer (+)
Friday, August 2, 8:00 PM: O'Neil Hall (+)

Invitation to the Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA) — Registration Open House

Interested in learning about the Catholic Church for the first time? Want to complete your Sacraments of Initiation? RCIA is the group for you! We invite you to meet RCIA team members at the Registration Open House for 2019-2020 RCIA classes. The Open House is on Wednesday, August 28 at 7:00 to 8:30 PM in the Father Martin Hall. Classes start in September and will be held on Wednesdays, 7:15-9:00 PM.

**Pope Francis's monthly intention for
July:**

The Integrity of Justice
*That those who administer justice may
work with integrity, and that the
injustice which prevails in the world
may not have the last word.*

www.usccb.org

Mass Readings for August 4, 2019.
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

***First Reading**
Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23
***Second Reading**
Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11
***Gospel**
Luke 12: 13-21

www.usccb.org

YOUTH NEWS

Camp Covecrest - August 4-10, 2019 in Tiger, Georgia

Join us for Life Teen summer camp - Camp Covecrest, in the North Georgia Mountains, for an amazing and transformative week of fun, activities, time with friends, prayer and growing in your faith (i.e. high ropes, messy games, obstacle course, zip line, white water rafting, team building experiences, music, talks, reflections, Mass, Adoration

& personal growth). For more details, watch a video & to register visit www.olhoc.org/camp

Join Our Youth Support Team which is an integral part of our Youth ministry at OLHOC. It consists of different components utilizing diverse gifts and time commitments of parents and other interested volunteers from our parish. These volunteer opportunities can range from assisting with special events or joining the core team and work directly with the youth. All volunteers must be Virtus Compliant. Together we can help lead our youth closer to Christ! For more information please visit the website or talk to Marlen Coles.

For more Youth Events or questions contact Marlen Coles marlen@olhoc.org or visit: www.olhoc.org/ym

Pope Francis' Five Finger Prayer

Using the fingers on your hand, start with the thumb and pray these intentions in this order:

- 1.) The thumb is closest finger to you. So start praying for those who are closest to you. They are the persons easiest to remember. To pray for our dear ones is a "Sweet Obligation."
- 2.) The next finger is the index. Pray for those who teach you, instruct you and heal you. They need the support and wisdom to show direction to others. Always keep them in your prayers.
- 3.) The following finger is the tallest. It reminds us of our leaders, the governors and those who have authority. They need God's guidance.
- 4.) The fourth finger is the ring finger. Even though it may surprise you, it is our weakest finger. It should remind us to pray for the weakest, the sick or those plagued by problems. They need your prayers.
- 5.) And finally we have our smallest finger, the smallest of all. Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. When you are done praying for the other four groups, you will be able to see your own needs but in the proper perspective, and also you will be able to pray for your own needs in a better way.



Adult Volunteers are Always Needed at OLHOC!

Become Virtus-compliant now. Please don't wait!

Upcoming Child Protection Workshops in/near Southern MD:

Monday, August 5th at 6:30 pm - Our Lady Help of Christians
2 sessions: English & Spanish

Sign UP TODAY
Limited Spots LEFT!

Pre-Registration required at www.virtus.org

Your Church: The Lord's House

Please continue to respect your church, the Lord's house, and **refrain from taking any food or beverage into the Church.** If your children need food or beverages, please use the cry room. Please care for your building investment by not walking on kneelers or using them as footrests. Thank you!