

December 27, 2020

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NEWPORT NEWS, VA

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THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH

DECEMBER 27, 2020



100 Harpersville Road, Newport News, VA 23601

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Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 9 am - 5 pm; Friday: 9 am - 3 pm

Outreach Office Phone: 757-596-1727

Outreach Office Hours: M, W, Th: 12 noon - 2 pm; T, F: 9 am - 11 am

Pregnancy Helpline: 757-870-3131

Pharmacy Outreach: ext. 125

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

On this feast of the Holy Family, we want to offer all families blessings. “Family” may have a lot of different connotations these days. In the United States, the “father, mother, child” family is less common now, and large Catholic families are not as common as they once were. The concept of family is more fluid with many forms of blended families due to second marriages, multigenerational households, and other living arrangements. In a recent survey by the Pew research center, four in ten babies are born to single mothers. Other children are being raised by grandparents or foster parents. In today’s Genesis story, Abraham was ready to concede to another form of family, making the child of one of his servants his heir. The reading from Hebrews reiterates the story of Genesis, and “your descendants will be more numerous than the stars.” The Gospel relates the story of the presentation in the temple.



POWER IN PRESCRIBED RITUALS

Joseph and Mary presented Jesus in the temple at eight days old, as was prescribed by Mosaic law. For many Catholic families, baptismal gowns were handed down through generations, and a baptism was a time of great celebration. Sadly, in our culture, baptisms continue to decline. There are many reasons for this: fewer practicing Catholics, more interfaith marriages, more secular weddings, fewer weddings by clergy, and problems or misunderstandings that turn people away. Many have left the church altogether because of the way they were treated. For some the parish is not a welcoming place. For others baptism has become just a ritual they go through for the sake of the grandparents.

EXAMPLES IN OUR ELDERS

When someone does present a child for baptism, it can become too easy for others to pass judgment because the parents don’t know the rubrics well, or aren’t dressed better, or “why is that single mother having her baby baptized during Mass?” Notice that the Gospel says nothing about the priests of the temple and how they received Jesus. Rather it talks about Simeon and Anna. They are worth a study in themselves. Simeon is a devout man who is there waiting for a particular sign, and it is fulfilled when he sees the Christ Child. Anna is just in the temple praying, as is her custom. After the presentation of Jesus, she does what she does best—she goes back to praying in the temple. Perhaps these readings teach us how we as a faith community can see the sacredness in those families presenting their children for baptism, and welcome them as did Anna and Simeon. May we all learn from their wisdom!

Today's Readings: Gn 15:1–6; 21:1–3; Ps 105:1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 8–9; Heb 11:8, 11–12, 17–19; Lk 2:22–40 [22, 39–40]

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After Christmas Office Schedule



Parish Offices will be closed Monday, December 28 and Thursday, December 31 through January 3. Offices will reopen on Monday, January 4.

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Friday, January 1, is the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m..

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

Social Ministry

*Transformed by The Eucharist...
Reaching Out into community*

Contact Tina Wandersee at twandersee@olmc.org or ext. 118

Christmas Angel, Star, and Tree Tags

Thank you so very much to all who participated in our Christmas Tag program in partnership with Catholic Charities Eastern Va. You made quick speed of picking up the tags and returning the items. They have been delivered to the families along with all the food (to include hams). May you and your families have a blessed and Merry Christmas!

Food Pantry

Macaroni n' Cheese, Canned Fruit, Tuna/Chicken Helper, Canned Pastas, Soup

Personal Care Items: Shampoo, Lotion, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deodorant (men/women) - all family sized items needed at this time.

Thank you so very much for your continued support!

Initiation Programs and Adult Formation

Becoming Catholic

Is Christ calling you into the Catholic Church? What does the Catholic Church actually believe? What does it mean to be a disciple of Christ? If you are interested in exploring the answers to these questions, we'd like to help.

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, Youth & Children) process is one of conversion and spiritual formation for individuals interested in living the Christian life in the Catholic tradition. It is a time of prayer, reflection, study, faith sharing, discernment and participation in the life of the parish. This process is for those who have never been baptized, those who were baptized in another faith tradition, or those who were baptized Catholic and seek full initiation.

RCIA Sponsors

Parish sponsors accompany those in the RCIA process of conversation and faith formation as companions on the journey. Sponsors support those in RCIA with prayers and their own witness to the Christian way of life. Serving as a sponsor fulfills the necessary ministry envisioned by the RCIA process, but it is also an incredibly enriching experience.

Awakening Faith

Have you been away from the active practice of your Catholic faith? Would you like to feel more connected with your childhood faith or learn more about it as an adult? Consider attending the Awakening Faith Series. We can assist you return to the active practice of your faith and welcome you back to the Lord's Table.

Adult Confirmation

Are you an active practicing Catholic adult who "missed" participating in the Sacrament of Confirmation? We invite you to enter the process of preparation at the parish.

Virtual Women's Bible Study – New Study begins in January!

Begins January 11 – The Activated Disciple Challenge - A 10 week video study + intro session – Mondays from 7pm - 8:30pm - 1/11 - 3/15. This study will meet via Zoom. Registration information is available at olmc.org.

Are you a fan or a follower? As Catholics, we practice our faith, and we study what it means to truly be a disciple of Jesus Christ. We often find that we're not fully living out the bold, abundant, Christ-life life we're called to live.

The Activated Disciple 40-Day Challenge is a clear, step-by-step transformative process that helps you put what you've been studying into action. To become the activated disciple you are called to be.

An activated disciple is someone who strives every moment of every day to imitate Jesus. It's someone who desires such a close relationship with God that every area of his or her life is fully transformed. It's someone who actively proclaims the Gospel in their daily life.

You are invited to take the challenge. As you reorient your life toward Jesus, you will notice the profound transformation a close relationship with him brings each day. Registration information is available at olmc.org.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

That Man Is You – New Sessions begin in January!

That Man Is You is an interactive, multimedia men's program focused on the development of authentic male leadership. That Man Is You! is successful at attracting large numbers of men, including younger men still actively parenting, and then transforming their spiritual lives. TMIY will meet on Saturday mornings at OLMC. Join the men of the parish for breakfast, a short video presentation and small group discussion designed especially for men. Registration information is available at olmc.org.

Discipleship Small Groups: Faith and Fellowship

Life is better CONNECTED. Join a Small Group in 2021!

Life is all about relationships. Small groups deepen our relationships with Christ and one another. The New Year is a great time to consider trying a small group! These small groups are a place to grow spiritually, find support and encouragement, face challenges together and share fellowship.

There are no teachers in small groups. Trained parishioners facilitate conversations. The groups will discuss life and faith, reflect on God's Word together, seek God together and pray for and with one another

If you have not participated in the past, give it a try this season! Groups are forming for men, women, couples and young adults.

Jesus was in a small group with the twelve; let's do what he did!

Interested? Fill out the short interest form on our website at olmc.org.

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matthew 18:20

NEW! Pathways: Delivered Catechist Certification is here!

Pathways: Delivered is a self-paced, online learning process that forms parish catechists within the Diocese of Richmond. The formation offers practical training, flexible solutions, and ongoing support. The formation is available to all who hand on the faith to adults, youth and children in the parish.

If you are discerning serving as a catechist at our parish, contact us to learn more about the role of catechist and to how to access the Tier-One Catechist Training. The parish covers all fees for Pathways: Delivered.

If you are currently serving as a catechist and have completed Pathways, we will notify you when Tier-Two and Tier-Three Catechist Training become available.

To learn more, visit olmc.org or contact Christa at the parish office at extension 107 or email cblomstrom@olmc.org.



Our Lady of Mount Carmel

PRE-K THROUGH 8TH GRADE CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Happy Feast of the Holy Family!

OLMC School unites with families and community to form our children - thank you for your prayers and support throughout 2021!

"one who has hope lives differently"
Spe Salvi 2



MINISTERIO HISPANO

La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José

Director - Diácono Francisco Anleu: Oficina - (757) 595-0385 Ext. 123, Celular - (757) 846-0628, Email - fanleu@olmc.org

Misas en Español: Domingos - 2:00 PM

Confesiones: Sábados, 3 PM, Miércoles, 5 PM

La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José

EL PODER DE LOS RITUALES PRESCRITOS

José y María presentaron a Jesús en el Templo a los ocho días, como prescribía la Ley de Moisés. Para muchas familias católicas, el ropón del bautismo pasaba de generación en generación y la celebración del Bautismo era esplendida. Lamentablemente, en nuestra cultura, los bautismos están disminuyendo. Hay muchas razones para que esto esté pasando, hay pocas personas que practican su catolicismo, más matrimonios interreligiosos, se realizan más matrimonios civiles y menos en la Iglesia también hay problemas o malentendidos que alejan a las personas.



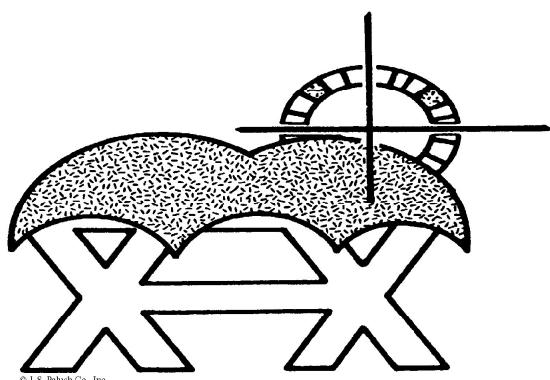
Muchos católicos han abandonado por completo a la Iglesia debido a la forma en cómo fueron tratados. Para algunos la parroquia no es un lugar donde son bienvenidos. Para otras personas, el Bautismo se ha convertido en solo un ritual que tienen que hacer por la ocasión del compadrazgo de los padrinos.

EL EJEMPLO EN NUESTROS MAYORES

Cuando alguien presenta a un bebé o niño para su bautismo, algunas personas podrían juzgar fácilmente esta situación ya sea porque los padres no conocen bien las respuestas o no están bien vestidos, o “¿por qué esa madre soltera pide el Bautismo para su bebé durante la Misa?” Pon atención que el Evangelio no dice nada acerca de la forma cómo los sacerdotes recibieron a Jesús; por el contrario, habla de Simeón y Ana. Ellos merecen una reflexión aparte. Simeón es un hombre devoto que está ahí esperando una señal especial, que él ve cumplida cuando ve al Niño Jesús. Ana solo está orando en el Templo, como acostumbraba. Después de la presentación de Jesús, ella hace lo mejor que sabe hacer, ella regresa a orar al Templo. Quizá estas lecturas nos enseñan cómo siendo una comunidad de fe puede ver lo sagrado en aquellas familias que piden el Bautismo para sus hijos, y los reciben como Ana y Simeón. ¡Qué todos aprendamos de su sabiduría!

Lecturas de hoy: Gn 15:1–6; 21:1–3; Sal 105 (104):1–2, 3–4, 5–6, 8–9; Heb 11:8, 11–12, 17–19; Lc 2:22–40 [22, 39–40]

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La Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José 27 de diciembre de 2020

Mis ojos han visto a tu Salvador,
al que has preparado para bien
de todos los pueblos.

—Lucas 2:30-31



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Patrick McFadden @ 593-0238

Bill Johnson @ 309-1135

Email: KofC5480@gmail.com

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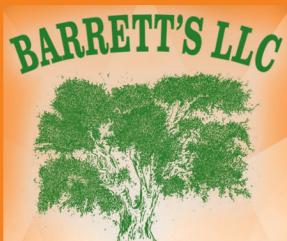
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