



Our Lady of Victories

Autumn 2021

Tel: 01 8420346 info@olv.ie www.olv.ie

follow us on Twitter @olvtweets and also on Facebook @OLV Church

Weekday Masses

10.00 a.m.

Monday - Thursday

&

Saturday

followed by

the Rosary

(unless there is
a funeral)

Sunday 10am

& 12 noon

Adoration Mon:

7.00 – 8.00pm,

Tues & Weds:

7.00 – 7.30pm.

**KEEP UP
TO DATE**

If you would like to be kept up to date with any upcoming events or information, contact Grainne in the parish office and we can email you the information or send it by post. It would be great to have as many email addresses as possible to save on paper, postage etc.

All our information will be updated on our website
www.olv.ie
tel: 01 8420346

Welcome to the 2nd edition of our Parish Newsletter. It is hard to believe that we are heading towards November. November is traditionally known as the month of the Holy Souls. One of the more important traditions is the November Altar List of the Dead. It is the time when we focus on and remember our deceased loved ones in prayer. This tradition reminds us that our community is connected to those who have died and reinforces our hope in the Resurrection.

“We believe in the communion of all the faithful of Christ, those who are pilgrims on earth, the dead who are being purified, and the blessed in heaven, all together forming one Church; and we believe that in this communion, the merciful love of God and his saints are always attentive to our prayers.” (Paul VI)

If you would like to have your deceased loved ones included in the Altar List of Dead, then write their names on the insert included with this newsletter along with the Special envelope and return it to the parish office. The people you remember may be your own family members, or friends of your family, or others you know who may have no one to pray for them. They will be prayed for at all Masses during November and at all Masses on the first Sunday of each month for the coming year.

A lot has happened in the past year. For us all the big plus was the successful rolling out of the vaccine. It was a job very well done. This time last year we were wondering if our churches would be open for Christmas. Thankfully they were and all of our five Christmas Masses were very well attended. You may recall it was a ticket system which was very successful. A lot of hard work went into ensuring everyone's safety. The team in the sacristy and the generosity of volunteers made it all possible. I wonder what will happen this Christmas. Looking at the government website for the safe reopening of our country, things are looking very positive. I have taken the liberty of including the Public health measures that will come into place in October.

“From 22 October onwards, final restrictions will be lifted including:

requirements for physical distancing

requirements for mask wearing outdoors and in indoor private settings

limits on numbers at indoor and outdoor events and activities

restrictions on religious or civil ceremonies

Whatever happens we will keep you informed. Don't forget you can always check the latest details on our website. You can follow us on Twitter @olvtweets and also on Facebook @OLV Church





Pope Francis proclaims “Year of St Joseph”

With the Apostolic Letter “*Patris corde*” (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis recalls the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To mark the occasion, the Holy Father has proclaimed a “Year of Saint Joseph” which began on the 8th December 2020, and will conclude on the 8th December 2021.

A daily prayer to St Joseph... and a challenge In his letter, Pope Francis notes how, “Every day, for over forty years, following Lauds [Morning Prayer]” he has “recited a prayer to Saint Joseph taken from a nineteenth-century French prayer book of the Congregation of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary.” This prayer, he says, expresses devotion and trust, and even poses a certain challenge to Saint Joseph,” on account of its closing words: “My beloved father, all my

trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power.”

In this Apostolic Letter Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

A beloved, tender, obedient father

Saint Joseph, in fact, “concretely expressed his fatherhood” by making an offering of himself in love “a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home,” writes Pope Francis, quoting his predecessor St Paul VI.

Because of his role St Joseph has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people. In him, “Jesus saw the tender love of God,” the one that helps us accept our weakness, because “it is through” and despite “our fears, our frailties, and our weakness” that most divine designs are realized. “Only tender love will save us from the snares of the accuser,” emphasizes the Pope, and it is by encountering God’s mercy especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation that we “experience His truth and tenderness.”

Joseph is also a father in obedience to God: with his ‘fiat’ he protects Mary and Jesus and teaches his Son to “do the will of the Father.” Called by God to serve the mission of Jesus, he cooperated in the great mystery of Redemption.

Welcoming the will of God

At the same time, Joseph is “an accepting Father,” because he “accepted Mary unconditionally” — an important gesture even today, says Pope Francis, “in our world where psychological, verbal and physical violence towards women is so evident.” But the Bridegroom of Mary is also the one who, trusting in the Lord, accepts in his life even the events that he does not understand.

Full of hope, Joseph is able “to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments.” In practice, through St. Joseph, it is as if God were to repeat to us: “Do not be afraid!” because “faith gives meaning to every event, however happy or sad. Joseph “did not look for shortcuts but confronted reality with open eyes and accepted personal responsibility for it.” For this reason, “he encourages us to accept and welcome others as they are, without exception, and to show special concern for the weak.”

A creatively courageous father, example of love

Patris corde highlights “the creative courage” of St. Joseph, which “emerges especially in the way we deal with difficulties.” “The carpenter of Nazareth,” explains the Pope, was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting in divine providence.” He had to deal with “the concrete problems” his Family faced, problems faced by other families in the world, and especially those of migrants. In this sense, St. Joseph is “the special patron of all those forced to leave their native lands because of war, hatred, persecution and poverty.” As the guardian of Jesus and Mary, Joseph cannot “be other than the guardian of the Church,” of her motherhood, and of the Body of Christ. “Consequently, every poor, needy, suffering or dying person, every stranger, every prisoner, every infirm person is ‘the child’ whom Joseph continues to protect.” From St Joseph, writes Pope Francis, “we must learn... to love the Church and the poor.”

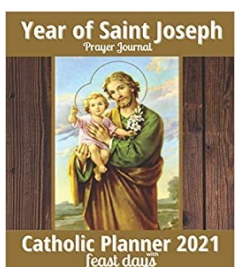
Year of St. Joseph Indulgences

Granted by the Holy See from December 8, 2020 to December 8, 2021

Below is a summary of how you can receive the special indulgences granted by the Holy See for the Year of St. Joseph.

The plenary indulgence is granted under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer according to the intentions of the Holy Father) to the faithful who, with a spirit detached from any sin, participate in the Year of Saint Joseph on the occasions and in the manner indicated by this Apostolic Penitentiary:

- Meditate for at least 30 minutes on the Our Father
- Participate in a spiritual retreat of at least one day that includes a meditation on Saint Joseph
- Perform a corporal or spiritual work of mercy
- Recite the Holy Rosary in families and between the husband and wife
- Entrust their work daily to the protection of Saint Joseph and to all believers who invoke with their prayers the intercession of the worker of Nazareth
- Pray the litany of Saint Joseph (for the persecuted Church and for the relief of all persecuted Christians)
- Pray any lawfully approved prayer or act of piety in honor of Saint Joseph, for example “To you oh blessed Joseph,” especially on:
 - The 19th day of every month
 - Every Wednesday (a day dedicated to the memory of the Saint according to the Latin tradition)
- The gift of plenary indulgence extends particularly to —
 - The elderly, The sick, The dying
 - All those who for legitimate reasons cannot leave their home
- who, with the spirit detached from any sin and with the intention of fulfilling, as soon as possible, the three usual conditions, in your own home or wherever the impediment holds you, pray an act of piety in honor of Saint Joseph, consolation of the sick and patron of good death, confidently offering God the pains and difficulties of his life.



In the Presence of the Bridegroom.



"The Mass is the very breath of our spiritual life. There we are face to face with the Lord of Hosts. There we become one with him. Then refreshed and strengthened beyond our understanding, we once more can face whatever the day may bring. In the Mass we find Bread and Wine for the soul. We find Love bending down to us, Love lifting us, ever higher, to himself, until all things are right and well with us. The Mass is a mighty bridge which brings the entire church-those living on earth now and those going on to eternal life-together in an unbreakable unity." *Servant of God Catherine De Hueck Doherty.*

Catherine De Hueck Doherty (± 1985) was born in Russia and was the foundress of the Madonna House Apostolate in Combermere, Canada. The Madonna House Apostolate is a Catholic Christian community of lay men, women, and priests dedicated to loving and serving Jesus Christ in all aspects of everyday life.

Parish Accounts

We hope to publish a breakdown of our parish accounts for the last three years. With everything that was happening we never managed to publish our accounts for 2018, 2019 and 2020. The good news is that we are now operating in the black. Four years ago the parish was in the Red, operating at a loss but thanks to the generosity and loyalty of so many, the financial situation has improved. Very soon new Planned Giving boxes (Family Offering) and recently launched envelopes for the 1st and 2nd collections will be delivered. I would however make a strong appeal to consider switching to Standing Order if you are not already doing so. It is very simple, it can be cancelled at any time, it reduces costs for the parish, it makes things much easier for us. If you have switched your method of payment to the parish, and no longer require any of these boxes could you please let us know as soon as possible, as they are very expensive to produce. It is becoming more and more difficult to lodge cash with the banks.



How to return your donations

- By dropping it into special floor safe at Albert College door or in the letter box at the sacristy door at the rear car park

Important Notice:

If you are making a donation to the parish by cheque, please make it payable to Our Lady of Victories Parish, Ballymun Road. Otherwise the bank will reject it. Please do not write in my name. Thank you, Fr. Frank.

Summer Dues

Thank you for your generous contribution to our Summer Dues. To date we have received €6669.

First Friday Calls.

If you wish to receive communion on the first Friday of the month, please contact the parish office 01 8420346 to give your name and address and a Minister of the Eucharist will call to you.



Getting Married

The celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage is a wonderful occasion for a couple, their families, friends and the wider Christian community who gather to witness this public declaration of love and commitment. Now that you have decided to get married we would like to help you as much as we possibly can. Before you begin we would like to point out that because of the very large volume of work in our parish it is not possible to celebrate a wedding ceremony for a couple who live outside of the parish. All couples are encouraged to get married in their own parish church. However we do make exceptions for someone who is actively involved in our parish as a volunteer. *Also to please note that in order to facilitate staff time off, we do not celebrate weddings on any Friday.* Please contact us here in the parish, and we will help you with the necessary preparation required to plan your wedding.



BAPTISM

If you would like to explore the journey to baptism in our parish please contact Sacristy/Parish Office at (01) 842 0346 and we will be glad to journey with you.



Future Baptism Dates

30 October 2021

27 November 2021

18 December 2021



A little prayer to say each day in November

Eternal rest, grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

"Shed no more the bitter tear, nor give the heart to vain regret.
Tis but mere ashes that lie here. The gem that filled it sparkles yet."



In November We Remember

You are invited to join with us on **Monday 1 November** at **7.30pm** as we remember all our parishioners who died, and were buried from our parish church during the months of October 2020 to September 2021.

We are asking you to consider Becoming a Platelet donor

Platelets!!!!

Fr. Frank in the process of donating platelets

Be a platelet Donor?

You may already be a blood donor, or giving blood maybe something you always wanted to do. But there is an extra special gift you can give, to help save or improve the lives of Irish patients. The Irish Blood Transfusion Service would like you to consider becoming a platelet donor.

What are platelets?

- Platelets are a precious component of blood
- Produced in the Bone marrow and essential to enable blood to clot properly.
- Platelet donations needed frequently as these cells have a shelf life of just five days

Who needs platelets?

Children and adults with cancer or leukaemia need platelets after having chemotherapy and radiation treatment.

Platelets are also needed by:

- New born babies
- Bone Marrow and organ transplant patients
- Burns victims and patients undergoing extensive surgery

How are platelets collected?

The donation process is quite simple and takes from 60 to 90 minutes depending on the procedure. Your blood is processed through a cell separator where it is separated into the different components. The platelets are removed and collected in a bag, while the remaining components are returned to your body.

To be a platelet donor, you must:

- Be between 18 and 59 years of age (before 60th Birthday)
- Weigh 60 kg or more (9 stone 7 lbs.)
- All blood groups are needed O, A, B and AB

You cannot become a platelet donor if:

- You have ever received a blood transfusion
- You are female and had a pregnancy of any gestation
- You are required to take aspirin or anti-inflammatories regularly

Where can I give platelets:

Platelet donations can be made at our special platelet Centres in:

- IBTS, National Blood Centre, James's Street, Dublin 8
- IBTS, Munster Regional Transfusion centre, St Finbarr's Hospital, Douglas Road, Cork

When you give platelets you give someone:

- Another birthday
- Another school day
- Another summer day
- Another laugh
- Another chance

Over twenty years ago while donating blood I was approached by a nurse asking "If I would consider becoming a platelet donor?" It was the first time that I heard of such a thing. An appointment was set up for an interview in St. James Hospital and after my suitability was assessed, I agreed to give it a go. Ever since I have been donating platelets. Presently I have 265 donations under my belt. Once a month by appointment I arrive at the Platelet Clinic to make my donation. After completing the necessary form I hop on to the bed and settle in. My platelets are very high which means I can give 2/3 donations at each visit.

You can see in the photograph of me looking nice and relaxed.

People ask, 'Does it hurt?' The answer is 'No.' Sometimes I am asked, "Are you tired after donating?" Again the answer is 'No.' Depending on the weather, I will actually cycle over to James St. Hospital and cycle back after donating. Platelets really are a lifesaving gift. What I do is one small act but as we all know it can be life changing for somebody. During my ministry I have met many people whose lives have been saved because someone took the time to donate. I continue knowing that in some small way I am making a difference to someone's life, to someone's family. If you cannot donate maybe you might pass on this message.

'Just above my right shoulder the sign reads;'

'To the world you may be one person. But to one person you may be the world.'



Did you know!

We are always looking for donors, we just have 2,200 donors on the panel providing platelets for every Hospital in Ireland. The big difference in a whole blood donation verses a platelet donation is, platelets only survive outside the body for 7 days, whole blood last for 35 days.

How can I become a platelet donor? You can register your interest on

- www.giveblood.ie
- Text PLATELET to 53377 (to receive platelet donation information)
- Fill in the platelet application form (free post)
- Call to book an assessment 01 4322833



St Joseph's Young
Priests Society

In April 1991 the late Fr. Phillips held a parish meeting with a view to setting up a branch of the society in Our Lady of Victories. The decision was made to do so and it has continued in the 30 years since. Our numbers have greatly diminished in recent years and we are struggling to remain active and keep the branch alive. The objects of the Society are to pray for Priests and for vocations to the Priesthood. The Society also provides financial assistance in cases where there are difficulties, to enable the students to continue their studies. We hope to get back to our regular monthly meetings now that restrictions are being eased. We would welcome new members, our meetings take place on the 2nd Thursday of the month after 10 o'clock Mass at the statue of St. Joseph. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can still support the work by contributing to the Society. All benefactors, living and deceased are remembered in all Masses of the Society. *Mary Geraghty, President.*

Our very popular Christmas novena cards, are available through the parish office or sacristy at a cost of €5 each, all names will be included in our Masses from
Thursday 16th December to Friday 24th December

