

FROM THE FIELDS



Our Lady of the Fields Church

December, 2017

Evangelization & Faith Formation Newsletter

Advent Issue

faithformation@olfparish.com

www.ourladyofthefields.org

410 923 6953

First Reconciliation

This is a reminder for all children who have been preparing for First Reconciliation:

Workshop: Walk Through the Rite of Reconciliation

Monday, Nov. 27th
6:30-7:30pm
in the church

Please remember to return the Reconciliation and Eucharist application form and a record of baptism if needed.

Bring your completed workbook and have an Act of Contrition prepared. Take this opportunity to ask questions.

Celebration of 1st Reconciliation

& Retreat:
Communal Penance Service with individual confession and Retreat activities.

Monday, Dec 4th
6:30pm
in the church

A note from Dr Tom Little... "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom, a light has shone." Our Christmas scripture invites us to rejoice and "inform our faces" that we have turned the corner and are on the good (God) side of things. This has been a tough year for many and now God calls us to pay attention and to surrender our problems, fears and pain into God's hands and to walk out of the land of gloom into the new light of Christmas, where God's "Sun" calls and shines brightly every day. This is no time to be afraid! Instead, we are to seek "where God may be found" in our family's love and in caring for those who need us, especially for those who are disappointed or lonely or those who have been overcome by fear. Give up the darkness! Open the doors of your soul and accept the loving message of Christmas. Rejoice! Do not turn away, follow the light of God and seek the baby of Bethlehem who is here seeking You. We have much to rejoice about. If you don't see it, come with us and find Him here for He lives among us! **TEL**

Keep Christ in Christmas!

Did you know lighting an Advent wreath is a tradition that dates back to the Middle Ages? On December 3rd, the first Sunday of Advent, our parish families will gather to create these festive and fragrant symbols of the Season.



Advent Begins on Sunday, December 3rd

A Community activity: All ages are welcome to our

Advent Wreath Making

Sunday, December 3rd from 1:00 to 3:00pm

In the **Parish Hall**.

Only 50 wreath kits will be sold! Featuring crafts for children of all ages, music and refreshments. Purchase a wreath kit for \$25. Each kit includes a base, four tapered candles (3 purple, 1 rose), ribbon and fresh greens.

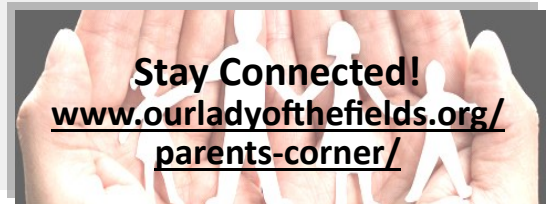
Msgr. Jay will bless the wreaths at 2pm!

Register in the parish office by Nov. 26th.



Join Us for Breakfast with Santa!

...With a Cake Walk and Crafts!
Sunday, Dec. 10th from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
Tickets for breakfast and a visit with Saint Nick will be available in the main office! Prices: For those aged 14 + up, pay \$8 each; aged 3 through 13, pay \$5 each.; or \$25 for families (2 and under free). (Parents: Bring your cameras!)
To Volunteer, email Kath@olfparish.com.



Stay Connected!

www.ourladyofthefields.org/parents-corner/

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Each year we have a **Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve!** The pageant begins at 3:30pm in the Parish Hall, December 24th. First Graders have preference for the main parts, but all Pre-K and Kindergarten children will be considered for the parts as angels and shepherds.

Main parts will be chosen by a drawing.

The main parts include, Mary, Joseph, the Angel Most High, and three Wise Men. All children (ages 5 and older) are most welcome and needed in the choir!

Pageant practice will be on **Monday, December 18th at 4:30pm in the Parish Hall.** (Snow date: Thursday, December 21st, at 4:30PM.) Please return the form on the reverse side of this page if you would like your children to participate. Please do not call the office. We must have the form in order to have their names placed in the drawing for main parts. **Deadline: December 10th.**

♥If you interested in helping with the pageant, please email Andrea@olfparish.com.♥

Christmas Pageant Registration Form

Yes, I would like my child/children to take part in the Christmas Pageant

E-mail: _____

Family Name: _____ Phone number: _____

Name: _____ Age/Grade: _____ Choices: _____

Name: _____ Age/Grade: _____ Choices: _____

Name: _____ Age/Grade: _____ Choices: _____

Please indicate 1, 2, 3 for order of choice –

Choices are: 1 – Mary 2 – Joseph 3 – Wise Men 4 – Angel 5 – Shepherd 6 – Children's Choir

(1st graders will be selected for Mary, Joseph, Wise Men, & Angel Most High; PK – K will be considered for angels and shepherds where space allows. All grades welcome for Children's choir.)

Please tear off and return to the Faith Formation Office by December 7th. 1070 Cecil Avenue, Millersville, MD 21108



Christmas Shoeboxes for the Forgotten

Our Faith Formation Classes will be collecting gift items* and wrapping them in empty shoeboxes for the residents at Spring Grove

Hospital Center. **December 17th** is the deadline for the gift items and the materials for assembling the boxes in class. All shoeboxes must be wrapped in such a way that the boxes can be opened for inspection. *The list of suggested gift items will be available in the Evangelization and Faith Formation Office.

<http://www.ourladyofthefields.org/#/outreach-ministries/gifts-for-the-forgotten>

Faith Formation Announcements:

Join Flocknote by texting olf to 84676

Class Cancellation Policy - . Our **weekday classes** are cancelled whenever Anne Arundel County Public Schools cancel after school activities, close early or for the day, because of bad weather. We are not affected by other school holidays. For **Sunday class** cancellations, call **410 923 6953** for a recorded message and visit our website homepage.

WINTER RELIEF: HELPING OTHERS **GET INVOLVED!**

Our Lady of the Fields will be supporting the **Winter Relief** shelter for the homeless sponsored by the Arundel House of Hope. This year, we'll be providing food, shelter and hospitality for about 30 homeless guests during the week of January 2 – January 7. For volunteer opportunities, please click on "Help with Winter Relief" on the rolling ticker of the parish website www.ourladyofthefields.org. Or go directly to <http://www.ourladyofthefields.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Winter-Relief-Jan-2018-landscape.jpg>. In past years, our homeless guests have been overwhelmed by the love and fellowship shown by our parishioners. They can clearly see by our actions what our faith in Jesus and his teachings really mean. Our wish list needs are as follows: Travel size: deodorant, shaving cream, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, lotion, shampoo, cracker snack packs, bottled water, large socks, and thermal underwear. **Items may be left in the atrium marked "Winter Relief."**

HOLIDAY MASS and Confession SCHEDULES

Thanksgiving: 8:30am – Mass Thanksgiving Day

The Immaculate Conception: Holy Day of Obligation Masses 12/7- Vigil @ 7:00PM; Thursday 12/8 @ 8:30am and 7:00PM

Voices of Angels (Music Program) – 12/16 @7:30 p.m. in the Church

Reconciliation at OLF: Saturdays from 4:00PM-4:45PM; Monday, 12/18 thru Friday, 12/22 from 9:15AM – 10:15AM.

Christmas Eve:

3:30 pm – Christmas Pageant with Children's Choir in Hall

4:00pm – Mass in the Hall

4:00 pm – Mass in the Church

4:30 pm – Mass at **Archbishop Spalding HS, Severn, MD (Teen Choir)**

6:00 pm – Mass in the Church

8:00 pm – Mass in the Church (Folk Group)

10:30PM – Mass in the Church / 10 pm – Carols (Adult Choir)

Christmas Day:

8:00, 9:30 and 11:00am – Mass in the Church

No 9:30 Children's Liturgy of the Word:

Dec. 25th; and Jan.1

Feast of the Holy Family, Sunday 12/31

Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

New Year's Day, 1/1 -Solemnity of Mary

8:30 am in the Church

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES Grades (PK-8)

Thanksgiving Holiday: Grades PreK-8 will not have Faith Formation Classes at the Parish Center on Tues., 11/21, Wed., 11/22, or Sun., 11/26.

Christmas Holiday: Grades Pre-K through Gr. 8 will not have Faith Formation Classes at the Parish Center on:

Sundays, 12/24, 12/31 and 1/7; Tuesdays, 12/26, and 1/2; Wednesdays, 12/27, and 1/3;.

Classes for Grades PreK-8 resume on: Tues., 1/9; Wed., 1/10 and Sunday, 1/14. (**Confirmation** — separate schedule.)



BASKET BINGO



Save the Date: Friday 2/9/18.

First Game at 7:00pm Tickets must be reserved in advance!

Contact Millie DeSimone at milanndee@aol.com or 410-672-6790 or Kathleen Jauschnegg at kath@olfparish.com or 410-923-7024.