When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, They took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

LUKE 2:22

DECEMBER 31, 2017
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
New Parishioners
We welcome and encourage you to register as soon as possible after moving into the parish. Please contact the rectory to register. 610-857-3510

Confessions
Saturday after 5:00 pm Mass

Religious Education
Please contact Janice Dagney-610-857-0511
Early Learning Center-610-857-1163

Rite of Christian initiation (RCIA)
The process through which adults and children join or complete their initiation into the Catholic Church. For additional information please contact the rectory.

Marriages
Couples planning to be married are required to notify the rectory no less than six months prior to the marriage.

Baptism Meetings
Required for first time parents on the 1st Sunday of the month. Register by calling Janice Dagney –610-857-0511

Baptisms
To schedule a baptism and for available dates and times, please call the rectory.

Anointing of the sick
If you foresee a surgery or procedure, contact the rectory to make arrangements to receive the Sacraments of the Anointing of the sick and Holy Communion before your hospital visit.

Communion to the homebound
For those unable to attend Mass due to illness or disability, arrangements can be made to receive Holy Communion weekly by an Extra Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion. Please contact the rectory.

Emergencies
In the event of an emergency, which requires the attention of a priest, please contact the rectory at any time. Follow the instructions on how to contact a priest. Please notify the rectory, so that the priests are aware of the situation and can assist as appropriate.
MASS INTENTIONS
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30
5:00 pm  Pat Nolan req. by Joanne, Dean & family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31
8:00 am  Jacob Shaver req. by Mom & Dad
9:30 am  Robert Weyhmuller req. by Bud Wilde
11:00 am Lois & Mark Holl req. by Norman & Jean Moulder
6:30 pm  Spanish Mass

DAILY MASS 8:30 AM

Not a Holy Day of Obligation
Monday  Gary Nielson req. Michelle Wilson
6:30 pm  Spanish Mass
Tuesday  In Thanksgiving req. by Norman and Jean Moulder
Wednesday August Loeble req. by Your girls
Thursday Josita Cusack req. by Elizabeth and Rodney Lukens
Friday  Special Intention req. by George and Sue Havey

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6
5:00 pm  Sam Smith req. by David and Angie Raabe and family

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7
8:00 am  James & Kathleen Keegan req. by Marty and Marie Carbonell
9:30 am  Renee Halfacre req. by Anita O’Meara and family
11:00 am Thomas Logan req. by Frank & Anna Burkey
6:30 pm  Spanish Mass

If you would like a Mass card or would like to schedule a Mass, please contact the rectory at 610-857-3510

Due to an early bulletin submission the 500 Club winners and the Weekly Offertory will be posted in the next bulletin.
WEEKLY EVENTS

Weekday Mass at 8:30 am-OLC

Sunday–December 31
8:00 am Mass (OLC)
9:30 am Mass (St. Malachy)
11:00 am Mass (SPC)

Monday–January 1
Not a Holy Day of Obligation
8:30 am (OLC)
6:30 pm Spanish (OLC)
7:00 pm AA Meeting (SPC)

Tuesday–January 2

Wednesday–January 3

Thursday–January 4
7:00 pm-AA Meeting (OLC-hall)

Friday–January 5

Saturday–January 6
5:00 pm- Mass (OLC)
6:00 pm- Confessions (OLC)

VISION 2020

Last weekend, we officially kicked off our Vision 2020 campaign for 2018 and what a kickoff it was! To date, we have received over $36,500 in commitments. Our current debt to the Archdiocese is $89,000, and with these commitments over the past three weeks, we have reached 40% of our goal to be debt-free!

Over the last four years, your annual commitments to the campaigns have averaged $129,000.

Your generous contributions towards the campaigns have set the bar high, but our parish always loves a challenge. We need your help to end our long journey of indebtedness.

Please take a minute to prayerfully consider making your commitment today. How exciting it will be for our parish to be debt-free. To paraphrase Dr. Seuss, OH!

THE PLACES WE’LL GO!
We’ll be on our way up!
We’ll be seeing great sights!
We’ll join the high fliers
Who soar to high heights.

If you still would like to fulfill your commitment For 2017, it’s not too late! Simply drop your check in the collection basket in an envelope marked “Vision 2020 for 2017” or mail it to the rectory.

Thank you to all and God Bless!

WEATHER ADVISORY

Other parishes in Chester County have instituted a policy, that if the local school district is closed or on a delay due to inclement weather, the daily morning Mass is cancelled.

In conformity with these parishes, if the Octorara School District is closed or delayed due to inclement weather, the daily Mass at OLC will be cancelled. We want our parishioners to be safe.

Rest in Peace

Please pray for the souls of Robert Oberholzer and Margaret Ngo. Pray for the souls of all the faithful departed.

May they rest in peace in the kingdom of God.
SIGNOS DE LA ÉPoca II: The statistics and information given are from THE NATIONAL STUDY OF CATHOLIC PARISHES AND HISPANIC MINISTRY, sponsored by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops:

A majority of U.S. Catholics under 18 are Hispanic. The median age of Hispanics is 28, significantly younger than white (43), Asian (36), and black (33) populations. About half of Hispanics are younger than 30. About 60% of all U.S. Catholics younger than 18 are Hispanic. Of that population, 93% were born in the United States. Most young Hispanics remain significantly influenced by their immigrant families, retaining their faith, culture, and language. More than half of all U.S.-born Hispanics older than 5—an about 20 million—speak Spanish at home.

Although most are English-speaking and grow up embracing many of the values of the larger U.S. culture, they are also influenced by the Spanish language and a faith mediated through Hispanic cultural narratives and symbols.

About half of all Catholic millennials are Hispanic. They are choosing careers, deciding on family life, and re-evaluating their faith. They question how much to draw from their Hispanic background when integrating into the larger U.S. culture. Whether the Gospel and the best of the Catholic tradition will inform these decisions will largely depend on adequate pastoral accompaniment.

Therefore the engagement of Hispanic youth and young adult Catholics may be the single most significant factor that will determine the vitality of Catholic parishes during the next 30 years. That is why this must be one of the most urgent priorities of VISION 2020 here in Our Lady of Consolation Parish.

YOUR PASTORAL COUNCIL

Bill Mann - Chairman-Bmann3@earthlink.net
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Brian Appolloni-Ab5adventure@verizon.net
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Larry Woolley-ljwxi@comcast.net

Council meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm in the Conference room at the Schneider Parish Center. Please feel free to contact any member to offer suggestions or feedback and to propose issues for consideration by the Council.

OLC-ELC

The staff at OLC-ELC would like to wish all of our preschool and parish families a very Happy New Year! We hope you enjoy time spent with loved ones and we pray for Peace on Earth!

Many blessings to all in 2018!

January 1, OLC-ELC will begin registration for the 2018-19 school year. All current preschool and parish families will have the opportunity to register early in January to secure a spot for their child. Registration will be open to the general public on February 1. Please visit our school website at www.olcelc.com to download a registration form. Please email us at olcelc1163@gmail.com with any questions or for more information.

Our classes will resume on Tuesday, January 2, and Wednesday, January 3.
Overheard on the gossip line: “Father X said “Go to hell’ from the altar last Sunday.” Many of the hearers of this juicy tidbit mix shock with dismay as this so-called “news” reaches them. What the original caller and others never mentioned, however, was the all-important context of the words. It turns out that the pastor was referring to almighty God’s verdict on the disobedient angels who forfeited heaven by their decision.

Context makes all the difference.

In his tender telling of the presentation of the Child Jesus at the Temple of Jerusalem, St. Luke provides the context of this Jewish ceremonial event. By law, every male baby was to be consecrated to the Lord. Obviously a divine child had no such obligation. But Mary and Joseph as the humble parents they were, obey the law. Consequently, we learn about their virtues and their respect for religious rules. We also learn of Simeon’s and Anna’s senior fidelity and patience with God’s timetable. Above all, we are reminded that when God chose to visit us in person, He chose to do so in the context of a family. The possibilities are as limitless as God’s divine imagination as to some other way He could have come among us. But His beautiful decision to come as a member of a family, indeed a holy family, made that institution itself holy.

As a parish family, we come to the Eucharist to be fed with the strength to make us one as He was with Mary and Joseph and thus to be a holy people. It doesn’t do us much good to itemize the assaults on the family prevalent in our culture today. We all could name them. We may sadly know of some from personal experience. There is even a TV commercial around to remind us of the damage our cell phone usage can do to the importance of a family dinner. What we have to remember are those building blocks we call virtues that we read of in this weekend’s selection of Paul’s letter to the Colossians. The family gatherings at this holiday time make for a real proving ground of how well we’re doing in the various virtues that make family life possible. It’s an unusual amount of “togetherness” that’s not around most of the year. Here’s a case that could happen anytime.

This tale of “togetherness” appeared in the Chicago Daily News. It was written by a woman who was struggling with her own special “me and my shadow” problem. She wrote:

I’ve heard of the problems newly retired men and their wives face when confronted by too much togetherness, and I was always amused at the way they so often get on each other’s nerves. I never thought I’d face such a problem, but it’s been two months now, and matters around here are pretty bad. I ran out of patience that first Monday. There we were, the two of us. Dave busied himself by following me around, inquiring into my household routines. I tried to be pleasant, but my surly nature surfaced when he asked, “Why don’t you vacuum all the way under the bed?” I’ve tried to interest him in any number of activities, with little success. I’ve even shouted the merits of daytime TV. “What you really need is a job,” I told him, knowing he’d never be able to find one at his age. Yesterday was typical. Dave and I spent the morning together, as always now. He sat looking out the window for a while, sighing intermittently. Then he came into the kitchen, “When are we having lunch?” he wanted to know. This at 8:30! We went, lockstep, to the bedrooms, where he watched me make the beds. To his query, “What should we do now?” I snarled, “How about a duel with sabers?” A lengthy discussion followed of my system of sorting wash. I don’t like to sort wash–much less talk about it!

The situation is getting to me. You’d think that someone with so much intelligence, someone I truly love, would not be so totally annoying when faced with a change in routine.

Ah, well, my problem won’t last forever. Next fall, Dave will be in kindergarten.

**First Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14**

True religion always involves one’s duties to honor one’s parents. This is the cornerstone of biblical ethics.

**Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21**

These virtues comprise a popular household of the time among the Hellenistic peoples. St. Paul adds a Christian ethical perspective.


The story of the presentation of the baby Jesus includes Simeon’s canticle of praise, now included in the official Night Prayer of the Church. He also makes his pronouncement of the meaning of the child for all of Israel.
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