**ISSUE 8; JULY 26, 2020** 

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP SYRO MALABAR CATHOLIC MISSION OF GREATER WASHINGTON

#### Beloved OLPH family members,

We commemorate the feast of St. Alphonsa on July 28th. Alphonsa Muttathupadathu is the first canonized saint of the Syro-Malabar Catholic Church. Christened as Anna (Annakkutty), she was later known as Alphonsamma. From her childhood, she experienced great suffering and early loss. She joined the Franciscan Clarist Congregation in 1936 and taught in school for years, plagued by illness throughout most of her teaching career. As a nun, she experienced not only physical pain of great intensity, but also spiritual suffering of being misunderstood and misjudged by others. But, she accepted all her sufferings with serenity and trust in God, being firmly convinced that they would purify her, and unite her more closely with her divine Spouse. She learned to love the Cross through her love of the crucified Lord. She wrote to her spiritual director: "Dear Father, as my good Lord Jesus loves me so very much, I sincerely desire to remain on this sick bed and suffer not only this, but anything else besides, even to the end of the world. I feel now that God has intended my life to be an oblation, a sacrifice of suffering".

She was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1986 in Kottayam, and Pope Benedict XVI elevated her to sainthood on October 12, 2008. The Pope himself read out the biography of Alphonsa after the ceremony, and named her St. Alphonsa of the Immaculate Conception.

Our Syro Malabar Catholic Church is blessed indeed to have St. Alphonsa as an advocate in heaven. Let us intercede to this great Saint and follow her example of true discipleship, which is dying to oneself, taking up our daily crosses, and following Jesus with patience and perseverance.

With love, Royachan **Rev. Fr. Roy Moolechalil OLPH Mission Director** 



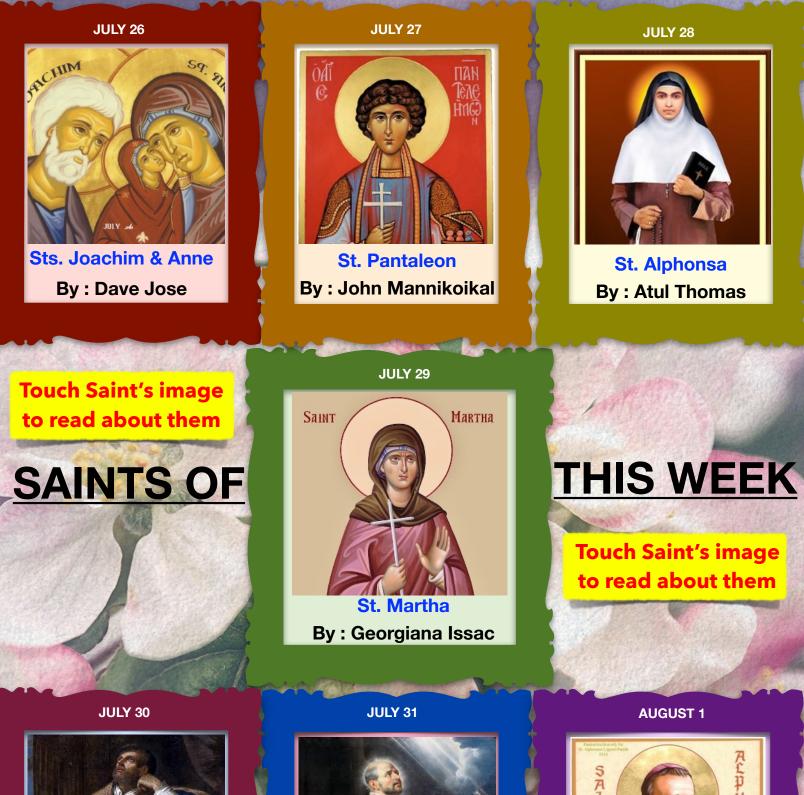
**TOUCH HERE to connect to OLPH YouTube channel.** Holy Mass & Services are streamed LIVE every day.

Day	Time	Worship Service	<b>Readings</b> (Click on boxes below to read online)
Saturday, July 25, 2020	9:30 AM	Adoration & Rosary	Reading 1: 2 Cor 6:14-18 Gospel: Mk 2:1-12
	10:00 AM	Holy Mass	
	10:45 AM	OLPH Novena	
Sunday, July 26, 2020	9:30 AM	Adoration & Rosary	Reading 1: Deut 4:32-40 Reading 2: Is 4:2-6
	10:00 AM	Holy Mass	Reading 3: 2 Cor 3:4-12 Gospel: Lk 15:11-32
Tuesday, July 28, 2020	6:30 PM	Adoration, Rosary & Lathinju	Reading 1: Deut 28:8-12 Reading 2: Is 53:10-12 Reading 3: Gal 2: 19-21 Gospel: Jn 12: 20-25
(St. Alphonsa Feast Day Mass)	7:00 PM	Holy Mass	
Monday to Friday	6:30 PM	Adoration & Rosary	Read Online
	7:00 PM	Holy Mass	



## **Weekly Schedule**

DATE	<b>ROSARY LEADERS</b>	DAILY BIBLE READINGS
Sunday, July 26, 2020	Roy & Rashmi Family	Proverbs 1-3
Monday, July 27, 2020	Jijo & Saly Family	<u> Proverbs 4 - 6</u>
Tuesday, July 28, 2020	Roy & Rashmi Family	<u> Proverbs 7 - 9</u>
Wednesday, July 29, 2020	Thomas & Suncetha Family	<u>Proverbs 10 - 12</u>
Thursday, July 30, 2020	Joyal & Joice Family	<u>Proverbs 13 - 15</u>
Friday, July 31, 2020	Reji & Liji Family	<u>Proverbs 16 - 18</u>
Saturday, August 1, 2020	Jeffy & Anila Family	<u>Proverbs 19-21</u>

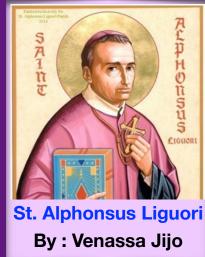




St. Peter Chrysologus By : Venassa Jijo



St. Ignatius of Loyola By : Joseph Jeffy



The importance of giving as a Christian

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~by Nikhil Justin (9th Grade)

"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for **God loves a cheerful giver**" (2 Corinthians 9:6-8).

Jesus Christ has always encouraged us to give. The Bible verses above demonstrate that those who give generously will also gain the rewards that come along with it. This is further expressed in Luke 6:38, as Jesus says "Give to others, and God will give to you. Indeed, you will receive a full measure, a generous helping, poured into your hands—all that you can hold. The measure you use for others is the one that God will use for you." This passage is talking about the universal principle; give and it will be given to you. Jesus asserts generous people will benefit from the generosity of others.

There are numerous instances in the Bible that promote giving to those who are in need. It doesn't matter how much you give, but how significant it is to the person. This is illustrated in Luke 20:45-21:4, when Jesus and his disciples were in a temple. The rich put in great amounts, while a poor widow only put in two copper coins. Jesus said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on." Although the rich people contributed a seemingly larger amount, it was only a small fraction of what they had. Jesus teaches that despite the widow contributing a small amount, she gave all she had, making her offering greater.

Christianity as a whole is based on faith, the commandments, and love. One of the greatest ways to show love is through acts of kindness. Giving is considered an act of kindness and is very important in Christian life. We as Christians have a duty to represent our faith and love for God and our brothers and sisters by giving.

So what can we do? We can make efforts to give to charities and provide people with necessities that they might not have. Another way to give is to give others your time and prayers. Find joy in the practice of giving rather than giving for the sake of t. As Pope John Paul II said, "God loves those who find joy in giving."





#### **Cartoonist: Jeslyn Joyal**



Beautiful testimonies from our children Before my brother was born the doctors said that my brother would have Down's Syndrome and my parents were worried. So we prayed to Velankanni Mathavu (Our Lady of good health) and through the intercession of Mother Mary, my brother was born healthy.

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-CCD Student

One time when I was in a swimming class, after a few minutes of swimming, I felt nauseous and I didn't feel good. I didn't know if I should just keep swimming and hope that it goes away or tell the instructor. So I prayed to God to make me feel better again so I could keep swimming. And almost immediately I felt perfectly fine as if nothing had happened.

-Serin Palathingal (8th grade)

#### GET TO KNOW AN OLPH FAMILY

Antony was born in Chalakudy, but is from Changanacherry in Kerala. Marilyn was born in Brunei, but was raised in Pune. Her family is from north Kuthiathode, near north Parur. In India, Antony worked with Federal Bank for 12.5 years while Marilyn worked with Catholic Syrian Bank for two years. After their wedding, Antony and Marilyn lived in Changanacherry for three years before moving to the USA in 1988, as permanent residents (with Green card). Their daughter, Priya was born here in Maryland.

Antony started his career with the State, at Bowie State University, as a full-time staff, in their Accounting Division and after finishing his MBA in 1991, he taught as Adjunct Faculty for four years, in the evenings, besides his full-time job at the University. He continued to teach even after he moved on to another full-time position at the MVA (Glen Burnie). He is currently working in a professional capacity at the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services at Jessup. He has been employed here for the past 32 years and is planning to retire as an employee of the State of MD by the end of December 2020.

Marilyn has a MS degree in MIS, and has been a US Federal employee for the past 31 years. She is currently working at the IRS, as an IT Project Manager. Their daughter, Priya is currently a 3rd year Pharmacy Student (Pharm D.) at the University of Maryland, School of Pharmacy, Baltimore. She is also working part-time at Sinai Hospital, Baltimore.

# Antoný & Marilyn Kavalam

#### `--&Priya Rita



Something you love about the OLPH community:

- The homely feeling we get from the OLPH Community.

Favorite Bible verse:

 Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28).

Favorite family vacation spot: - Hawaii.

Favorite family activity:

- Traveling

## Editorial Board

Rev. Fr. Roy Moolechalil Tessie Alapatt Manoj Mathew Thomas Abraham Binoy Mathews Rashmi Roy

Biju Issac

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Shellin Jose Boby Augustine Pooja Muttath Dignamartha Kakkanattu Venassa Jijo Riya Roy Rona Roy

Share your thoughts

E-mail: newsletter.olph@gmail.com