



OLPH VOICE

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



From the Pastor's Desk

Beloved OLPH family members,

On September 22, 2019, ground was broken at our Church site and we waited in prayer and anticipation for our Church building construction to begin. With the intercession of our Blessed Mother, on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes last year, the building construction commenced. At each and every step of the way, I have experienced the hand of God leading us towards this dream being fulfilled.

With the pandemic, there were so many uncertainties, but God saw us through it all. As a community of faith, we stayed strong in prayer with Daily Mass, fasting, Rosary, prayers, Confession, and the Word of God. And we saw the wonders of God every day, and we continue to see them today.

Now we are close to completing the external steel structure – the roof is done, the walls will be completed soon, and the cross has been installed. On Sunday March 7th, we will be laying down the building stone into the foundation of our Church (See Page 2). In the weeks that follow, the concrete floor of the building will be laid.

I urge every family to persevere in prayer and fasting, as we need more prayers to see us to the finish line. Every family should sign up for a day of fasting and prayer dedicated to the building of the Church (see Page 8).

With love,
Royachan

Rev. Fr. Roy Moolachalil
OLPH Mission Director

ALL ARE WELCOME

**LAYING OF
THE BUILDING STONE BY**



Rev. Fr. George Maliekal
(Procurator, St. Thomas Syro Malabar
Catholic Diocese of Chicago)



At the ground-breaking ceremony in 2019, a block of building stone was blessed. This stone will now be ceremoniously laid in the foundation of the building, below the Holy Altar.

WHEN: Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 11:30 AM

WHERE: OLPH Church Site

20533 Zion Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20882

Congratulations to all participants for prayerfully reading the entire Bible



My Bible Reading Experience

-Anilla Jeffy Mattathil

My Bible reading experience was transformative, purifying, life-changing, and it gave me more self-discipline. I used to read the Bible, but reading the Bible from the beginning to the very end was a very special spiritual experience. I was able to understand the New Testament in the light of the Old Testament. It helped me to understand many things which I could not fully understand before.

During this pandemic, I focused on daily Mass, adoration and Bible reading. It protected me from all kinds of worries. I felt as if living under God's invisible protective shield. As it says in Phil 4:6-7, "Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus".

I pray that all who finished this Bible reading journey, experience the power of the Word of God in their life. I thank God for this opportunity to read the entire Bible and I thank Roy Achan for organizing this.

A grace-filled experience

-Tessie Alapatt

I truly understood the meaning of St. Augustine's words, "The New Testament is hidden in the Old; and the Old Testament is revealed in the New". At one point I felt it was too overwhelming, but with the encouragement of my friends in the Community, I resumed the journey. It was a great experience to read the entire Bible with the Community. Jesus always encourages us to be united and share our faith. Nobody can live as an island, and I am blessed to be part of this Community that is growing in faith. We are united in Christ as one family. Thank you Jesus. Thank you Royacha!

testimonies

LENTEN RETREATS

St. Thomas Syro Malabar Catholic Diocese of Chicago is
organizing **TWO VIRTUAL LENTEN RETREATS**



FIRST RETREAT: MARCH 12 - 14

LED BY: HIS EXCELLENCY MAR PRINCE PANENGADEN (Bishop of Adilabad)

You Tube LINKS FOR THE FIRST RETREAT:

DAY 1 - March 12: <https://youtu.be/vfP924KsiT8>

DAY 2 - March 13: <https://youtu.be/fNSqcsD4rOE>

DAY 3 - March 14: <https://youtu.be/O1bHnBckS4w>

SECOND RETREAT: MARCH 26 - 28

LED BY: Rev. Fr. Roy Palatty, CMI

You Tube LINKS TO THE RETREAT: Will be announced shortly

UNITED IN PRAYER WITH THE DIOCESE

LENTEN

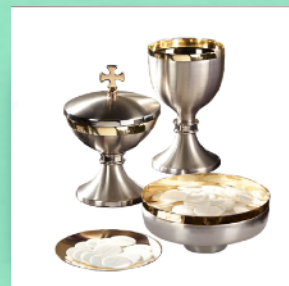
Sacrifices

Let us make our Lenten sacrifices meaningful this year!

Fill your **PIGGY BANK** with money that you save from your Lenten Sacrifices. The money collected will be used for purchasing offerings of **BREAD, WINE, FLOWERS & CANDLES** at the **FIRST HOLY MASS** offered at our new Church.

Willingly I will sacrifice to You; I will praise Your name, Lord, for it is good, (Psalm 54:6)

START
HERE



**FIRST HOLY MASS
OFFERINGS AT THE
NEW CHURCH**

Holy Mass & Services

FOR LIVE STREAMING OF DAILY MASS CLICK HERE

SUNDAY MASS is also open to the public at

Mother of God Community Gym

20501 Goshen Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20879.



DAY	TIME	WORSHIP SERVICE	READINGS
Saturday, March 6, 2021	9:25 AM	Way of the Cross in Malayalam	Reading 1: 1Eph 4:25-32 The evils that is to be renounced Gospel: Mt 21:28-32 The parable of the two sons
	10:00 AM	Holy Mass in Malayalam	
	10:45 AM	OLPH Novena	
Sunday, March 7, 2021	8:55 AM	Way of the Cross in Malayalam	Reading 1: Gen 11:1-9 Tower of Babel and the punishment Reading 2: Josh 7:10-15 Punishment for the transgression. Reading 3: Rom 8:12-17 Heirs of God Gospel: Mt 21:33-44 They are those who reject Son of Man
	9:30 AM	Holy Mass in Malayalam	
Monday - Friday	6:25 PM	Way of the Cross in Malayalam	Click here to see readings
	7:00 PM	Holy Mass in Malayalam	

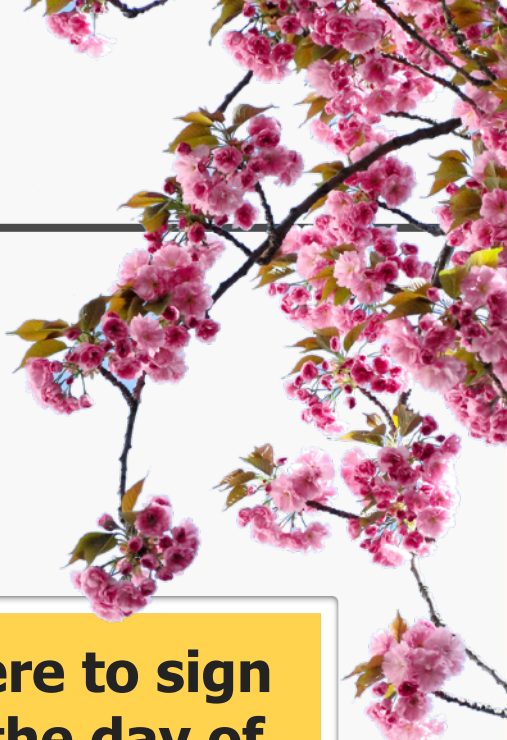
Weekday Mass Readings

DATE	DAILY MASS READINGS
MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021	Reading 1: Rom 9:1-13 Election of Israel. Gospel: Jn 5:1-18 Miracle at Bethsaida.
TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 2021	Reading 1: Rom 9:14-18 Mercy of God. Gospel: Jn 5:19-23 All may honor the Son.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021	Reading 1: Rom 10:1-13 Salvation to those who believe Gospel: Jn 6:60-69 Words of eternal life are with you.
THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021	Reading 1: Rom 11:1-10 The remnant part which is elected by the grace. Gospel: Jn 7:1-13 Feast of the Tent
FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021	Reading 1: Rom 11:25-36 Renovation of Israel. Gospel: Jn 7:25-31 Christ sent by God

March 8 - 12

Prayer & fasting for success of the Church construction

Day	Family
Monday	Shankar & Reny
Tuesday	Shankar & Reny
Wednesday	Jeffy & Anila
Thursday	Thomas Antony & Gitty
Friday	Augustine & Gladis



Click here to sign up for the day of Fasting & Prayer

The following are suggestions for each family on their the day of prayer and fasting for the success of our Church construction:

- Participate in Holy Mass (or Online Mass)
- Fast at least one full meal if possible
- Pray the Rosary (if possible full Rosary - Glorious, Joyful, Sorrowful and Luminous)
- 1 Divine Mercy chaplet
- Pray the "Apostles' Creed" 33 times
- Pray the "Flying Novena" (Memorare) 9 times
- Confession whenever possible



CHURCH CONSTRUCTION UPDATES



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GET TO KNOW AN OLPH FAMILY

Roy is from Kalamassery, Kerala and holds a degree in Engineering. He is currently working at Digital Infuzion as an IT Professional. Rashmi is from Chalakudy, Kerala and has a Master's degree in Computer Application. She is currently working for the State of Maryland as an IT Professional. They lived in Bangalore before moving to the US in 2005, and have lived in Maryland since then. They have three daughters, Riya is a High School Junior, Rona is a High School Sophomore, and Rita is in 4th grade

Something you love about the OLPH community:

- ★ The OLPH community is our second family. We cherish every moment we spend with our community

Favorite Bible verse or phrase:

- ★ "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23

Favorite family vacation spot:

- ★ Beaches, amusement parks, Great Smoky Mountains, TN, Dubai

Favorite family activity:

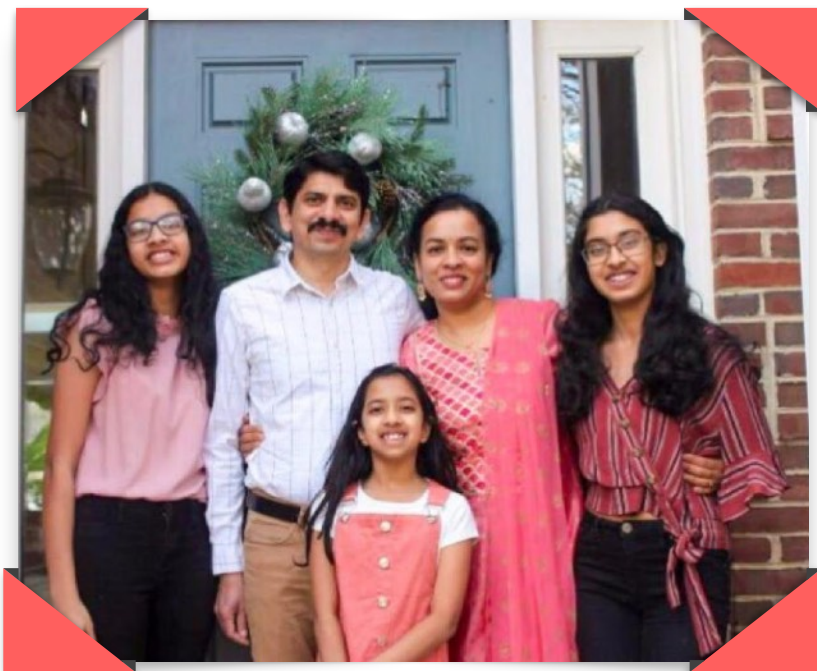
- ★ Spending time together, going on night drives, playing badminton and cards

Roy & Rashmi Ambalathingal

☆ Riya

☆ Rona

☆ Rita



Roy, Rashmi and family are very active OLPH Church members. In the past, Roy has been the Church Accountant. He is currently a member of the Knights of Columbus and Building Committee Member. Rashmi, in the past has been a CCD teacher. She is currently a member of the Parish Council, Marian Sangham and OLPH Voice editorial board. Riya and Rona are both members of the OLPH Voice editorial board.

Editorial Board



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Venassa Jijo

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Share your thoughts

E-mail: newsletter.olph@gmail.com

[Click here to see past issues of OLPH Voice](#)

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