

Solemnity of

# Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

JUNE 29, 2025

The angel of the Lord  
will rescue those  
who fear him.

— Psalm 34:5

OUR  
LADY OF  
VICTORY  
CHURCH

1559 Roxbury Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43212  
Parish Office 614-488-2428  
Fax 614-488-0507

Email: [office@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:office@ourladyofvictory.cc)  
[www.ourladyofvictory.cc](http://www.ourladyofvictory.cc)

## MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	5:00 P.M. (Confessions 4:00-4:30 P.M.)
Sunday	8:00 A.M. • 10:00 A.M. 11:30 A.M. (Maronite Rite)
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri	8:30 A.M.
Wednesday	12:00 P.M. ( followed by Confessions)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS • Monday-Friday, 9:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

**PARISH STAFF****CLERGY**

**Rev. Jacques Kik, Pastor,**  
[jkik@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:jkik@ourladyofvictory.cc), 614-488-2428

**Msgr. Anthony Missimi, Retired,**  
 614-481-4459

**Deacon Richard Baumann, Retired,**  
 614-783-5542

**Deacon Rob Joseph, Deacon,** [rob@catholicdeacon.cc](mailto:rob@catholicdeacon.cc),  
 614-486-0777

**OFFICE STAFF – 614-488-2428**

**Marisa Mentel, Administrative Assistant**  
[office@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:office@ourladyofvictory.cc)

**Kim Gutheil, Bookkeeper**  
[businessmgr@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:businessmgr@ourladyofvictory.cc)

**Jesse Oddi, Facilities Manager**  
[facilitiesmgr@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:facilitiesmgr@ourladyofvictory.cc)

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION,  
 PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 8**

614-486-7678 [religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc)

**Krista Joseph, Director**

**Pat Fulcher, Administrative Assistant**

**MUSIC**

**Mark Voris, Music Director,**  
[mvoris@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:mvoris@ourladyofvictory.cc)

**GIFTS FOR GOD**

June 17, 2025 to June 23, 2025

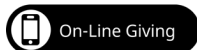
Envelopes.....	\$ 4,153.00
Loose Checks .....	\$ 7,008.00
Loose Cash.....	\$ 1,256.00
Online Giving .....	\$ 2,824.47
Total.....	\$ 15,241.47
Less Diocese 9% Assessment.....	\$ 1,371.73
Net Parish Collection .....	\$ 13,869.74
St. Vincent de Paul.....	\$ 25.00
Ascension of the Lord.....	\$ 25.00
Holy Father - Peter's Pence .....	\$ 1,372.00

**Mass Attendance**

June 21 / June 22 – 639

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – 174

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 147; 10:00 a.m. – 224; 11:30 a.m. – 94



**Thank you for your contributions.** Please consider online giving. This is a safe, secure, and flexible way to manage your giving. To sign up go to the **Church website**, [www.ourladyofvictory.cc](http://www.ourladyofvictory.cc), Our Sunday Visitor at <https://www.osvhub.com/ourladyofvictory/funds>, or use the QR Scan Code shown here.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, June 28 – The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**5:00 p.m.** + Francis & +Rose Sliemers  
 (The Sliemers Family)

**Sunday, June 29 – Sts. Peter & Paul, Apostles**

**8:00 a.m.** + Gilbert Williams, Jr.  
 (Henrietta Beighley & Chuck Elliott)

**10:00 a.m.** + Bambina Lombardi  
 (Fred Lombardi)

**11:30 a.m.** People of the Parish

**Monday, June 30 – The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church**

**8:30 a.m.** + Fanchon Ewing (Angie Abood)

**Tuesday, July 1 – St. Junipero Serra**

**8:30 a.m.** + Lela Lalli (Mafalda Rotolo)

**Wednesday, July 2 – St. Otto, Bishop**

**12:00 p.m.** + Patricia Rossetti (Connie Leach)

**Thursday, July 3 – St. Thomas, Apostle**

**8:30 a.m.** + Kerry Sheets (Mafalda Rotolo)

**Friday, July 4 – Independence Day**

**8:30 a.m.** + Giovanna Policaro (Marino Milano)

**Saturday, July 5 – St. Anthony Zaccaria/  
 St. Elizabeth of Portugal**

**5:00 p.m.** + Elaine Oddi  
 (Radomir & Geri Radivich)

**Sunday, July 6 – St. Maria Goretti**

**8:00 a.m.** + John & +Isabella Subler  
 (Jennifer Huber)

**10:00 a.m.** + Sully Caradonna  
 (Eliana Caradonna)

**11:30 a.m.** People of the Parish

**PLEASE NOTE:** The church parking lot paving is scheduled for Monday, July 14-Saturday, July 19, 2025. Please park on the surrounding streets during this time.

**The Parish Office will  
 be closed on Friday,  
 July 4th for the holiday.**



**Knights of Columbus  
 2025 Measure Up Campaign**

The Knights of Columbus of Our Lady of Victory parish will be **collecting donations after each Mass on June 28 & 29**. All donations will be given to The Misericordia Home (Fr. Missimi's mission) and the Heinzerling Foundation. We thank you for your generosity!



Do good things. Get cool sunglasses.  
**GIVE BLOOD.**



### Blood Drive Our Lady of Victory Church

Parish Hall 1559 Roxbury Rd  
Columbus, OH 43212

**Monday, July 7, 2025**  
**12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: [ourladyofvictory.org](https://ourladyofvictory.org) to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) and [RapidPass](https://RedCrossBlood.org) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Come give blood July 1-14 for an exclusive pair of American Red Cross x [goodr](https://goodr.com) sunglasses, while supplies last! Help save lives. Give back. Get [goodr](https://goodr.com) sunglasses. Feel (and look) good.



1-800-RED CROSS | [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

Offer applicable to presenting donors 07/12/2025-07/14/2025, while supplies last. One per donor. Subject to availability of donation opportunities in presenting donor's area. No substitutions and not transferable by presenting donor. Not redeemable for cash. © 2025 The American National Red Cross. Image and GOODR trademarks used under license from GOODR LLC. 02/25/25 goodr | 15/08/25-01-AS

### OUR LADY OF VICTORY OUTREACH MINISTRY

The Stella Maris Society is excited to announce a new ministry to help our homebound parishioners feel more connected to our parish. We will be making phone calls to enjoy conversations, share current parish events, and simply offer connections. If you know of anyone who could use a phone call, please send their name and number to the parish office at [office@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:office@ourladyofvictory.cc).



### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL – PACKING LUNCHES FOR THE HOLY FAMILY SOUP KITCHEN

The St. Vincent de Paul Society of OLV will be packing 250 lunches for the homeless on Monday, July 7, 2025 at 5:00 p.m., in Victory Hall. The lunches are appreciated by all who receive them. They are also in need of cookies (2-3 cookies per baggie). If you can bring in cookies or help pack lunches, please join us on July 7. Cookies can be dropped off in the PLC between 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. on Monday, July 7. Your generous donations (5th Sunday Pink envelopes) have enabled SVDP to continue their mission of feeding the hungry. **Thank you for your generosity.**



The Stella Maris Society is celebrating the end of our first year together with an outdoor Mass on the patio beside the PLC on Tuesday, July 8th, followed by hors d'oeuvres and wine in the PLC. Mass will begin at 7:00 p.m. with appetizers and drinks to follow. We invite all women of OLV and OLOL to join in our celebration!



### MONTHLY ADORATION

Come spend time in quiet prayer at our July Monthly Adoration on Wednesday, July 2nd from 12:30-6:30 p.m.



Please join as your schedule permits, but we are asking for two people to be present at all times. Please use the QR code to sign up.

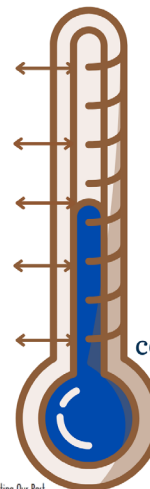
\$ 67,250

\$ 50,000

\$ 32,795

\$ 20,000

\$ 10,000



**The Appeal**  
*Together in Mission*  
—2025—

**Our Goal: \$ 67,250**

Thank you for your gifts!

Support the Appeal at  
[columbuscatholicgiving.org/appeal](https://columbuscatholicgiving.org/appeal)

/appeal  
or scan the QR code.



OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH  
1922-2024 Celebrating Our Past — Embracing Our Future

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026

Our Lady of Victory welcomes new children to our Program!  
Important Dates & Information for the 2025-26 School Year!

### 2025

- August 25th **Protecting God's Children Session (PGC)** 6:00 p.m. in PLC  
**Fingerprinting will be available at 5:00 p.m.**
- August 27th Catechist Meeting in PLC, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- September 21st **First Day of Class** for PreK – 5th Grades at 8:55 a.m.  
**Parents' Welcome Back Gathering at 9:00 a.m.**
- September 28th **First Day of Class** for 6th – 8th Grade at 8:55 a.m.
- September 28th Online Students Begin – **Pick up Materials at 9:15 a.m.**
- September 28th **First Communion REQUIRED Parent Meeting** – 4:30 p.m.
- September 28th **Confirmation REQUIRED Parent Meeting** – 5:15 p.m.
- November 8th **First Reconciliation (2nd Graders)** 10:00 a.m. in the Church
- November 9th 8th Grade **REQUIRED** Speaker, Pam Heil, at 6:00-7:30 p.m. in Church
- December 7th **Christmas Play** for PreK through 5th Grades – 9:10 a.m. in the PLC

### 2026

- January 10th **First Communion Retreat** - 9:00-11:00 a.m. in PLC
- February 28th **Confirmation Retreat** – 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
- April 25th **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION at 11:00 a.m. in the Church**
- April/May **TBD – CONFIRMATION – TBD from the Bishop's office**
- April 26th **Last Day of Class** Pre-K through 8th Grade

**RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION** – Registration will begin online August 11th. The Registration Link and information will be emailed to you as well as posted on the OLV Website. **PLEASE** register ASAP so you can reserve your child's spot in their class. **If you are new to the parish, you need to be a REGISTERED** member of OLV for your children to attend Religious Education. Contact Krista Joseph to begin the registration process.

**Please remember** that our **First Communion Program is a 2-YEAR program** with preparation **beginning in 1st Grade** – It is required that your child attend 1st Grade in order to make their First Communion in 2nd Grade. Our **Confirmation Program is also a 2-YEAR program** with preparation **beginning in 7th Grade** and Confirmation in 8th Grade.

**\*\*If your child did not attend class last year in 1st or 7th Grade, please contact Krista ASAP so she can arrange for your child to get caught up to receive their Sacraments on time.**

Our PreK Class is limited to 16 Children and those spots fill up Fast! Please see our website for information describing all the programs at OLV.

We also offer a Special Needs program that is individually created for your special needs child. Please contact Krista Joseph in the Religious Ed office to schedule a meeting.

**Krista Joseph, Director of Religious Education** [religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc).

### Join the Parish Choir!



Now is the perfect opportunity to become part of our cherished musical community. Whether you are an experienced singer or new to choral singing, we invite you to lend your voice in enhancing our worship experience.

**From Director Mark Voris: "Our choir plays a vital role in our spiritual community, bringing reverence and joy through music. If you have a passion for singing and wish to serve, we welcome you to join us."**

For more information or to express your interest, please contact Mark Voris at: [mvoris56@gmail.com](mailto:mvoris56@gmail.com).

**Come and share your talent as we raise our voices together in harmony and praise.**



## MISSION APPEAL JUNE 28/29 AT OUR LADY OF VICTORY PARISH

**This weekend, at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, and the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Masses on Sunday, we will have Fr. Sunder Ery from the Diocese Missionary office here at OLV to speak about the Diocese of Cuddapah, located in India. It is made up of 66 parishes catering to over 80,000 Catholics.**

The Mission Appeal for the Diocese of Cuddapah serves a critical and urgent need, reflecting the essence of compassion, faith, and community support. Its purpose is multifaceted, addressing the unique challenges faced by the local Dalith community, predominantly comprising the Catholic population.

**Addressing Poverty and Daily Struggles:** The Diocese of Cuddapah is home to a significant Dalith population, who are mired in poverty. Around 90% of these Catholics struggle to make ends meet as unskilled daily laborers in the agricultural sector. Their hand-to-mouth existence is characterized by the inability to provide regular meals for themselves and their children. The Mission Appeal acknowledges their dire circumstances and seeks to alleviate their immediate suffering.

**Fostering Faith Formation and Empowering Through Education:** The Mission Appeal goes beyond immediate relief by offering free education to the first generation of children in these villages who are attending school. Education is a powerful tool for breaking the cycle of poverty.

**Building Community Spaces:** In addition to education and faith formation, the Mission Appeal recognizes the need for village chapels in certain mission stations. These chapels not only provide a sacred space for worship but also serve as a gathering place for various community activities and support networks. They strengthen the sense of unity and belonging among the local population, fostering a stronger community spirit.

In summary, the Mission Appeal for the Diocese of Cuddapah is driven by a deep sense of empathy and responsibility toward a marginalized and impoverished community. Its purpose is to provide essential support, education, and spiritual guidance to those who are struggling to make ends meet.

**Your assistance is not just a donation; it is a lifeline for these individuals, offering them hope, empowerment, and a path toward a brighter future.**

## SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

OLV continues to follow the Diocese of Columbus commitment to the protection and safety of children and the Safe Environment Program. The Safe Environment Program mandates that all Volunteers 18 years or older who would like to participate in parish programs or ministries who have been delegated care, custody, or control of children must complete this program. Information on the specific process and program registration can be found on the Our Lady of Victory website: [ourladyofvictory.cc](http://ourladyofvictory.cc) – located under the “Religious Ed” tab. You may also contact Pat Fulcher at [religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc) for this information.



## THE OLV FESTIVAL IS FAST APPROACHING!!

**August 1st and 2nd, 6:00-11:00 p.m.**

### HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- VOLUNTEER.** Volunteering is great fun and a fantastic way to meet other people in the parish! Please use the QR code to sign up.
- SILENT AUCTION DONATION.** Donate items, gift cards, vacation home stays, sports memorabilia, concert tickets, sporting event tickets, fine spirits, lottery ticket bundles, etc. No need to package items, we will make something spectacular out of anything!! Donations and completed donation agreements can be dropped off Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the parish office or call/text Kristina Mouser at 614-309-8130 to make other arrangements.
- FESTIVAL SPONSORSHIP.** We need Individual, Family, and Corporate Sponsors to help defray the costs of the Festival. Please choose from the levels listed below:



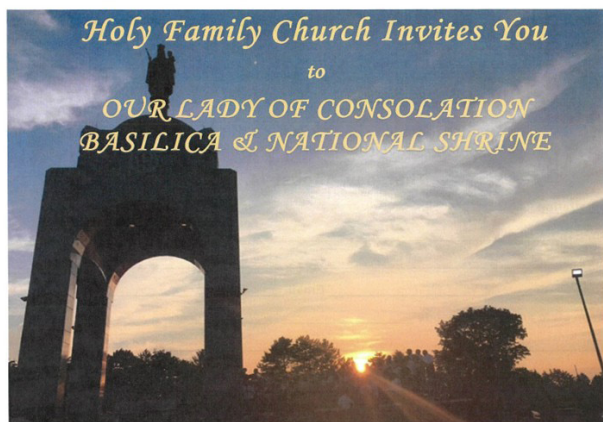
Premier: \$3,000.00	Gold: \$250.00
Diamond: \$1,000.00	Silver: \$150.00
Platinum: \$500.00	Bronze: \$100.00

All contributions received prior to Wednesday, July 30th will be included on a banner displayed at the Festival and in the parish bulletin. Please make checks payable to Our Lady of Victory Church and include “Festival Sponsorship” in the memo section. Checks may be mailed to the OLV parish office or dropped in the collection basket at Mass. You may also donate through the Festival Sponsorship link on the OLV website. Contact the OLV parish office with questions at 614-488-2428.



**FOLLOW OUR LADY OF VICTORY ON FACEBOOK FOR THE MOST CURRENT HAPPENINGS.**

[@OLVColumbus](https://www.facebook.com/OLVColumbus)



*Holy Family Church Invites You*  
to  
**OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION  
BASILICA & NATIONAL SHRINE**

**IN CAREY, OHIO—AUGUST 14, 2025**

5:45 pm Leave Holy Family Church  
9:00 pm Rosary Procession from Basilica to Shrine  
9:30 pm Outdoor Shrine Mass & Indoor Basilica Vigil Mass  
11:30 pm Leave Carey following Mass

Visit Upper & Lower Levels of the Basilica (see relics & remnants of people healed)  
\* Outdoor Shrine with Stations of the Cross \* Gift Shop \* Visit Original Church \*  
Go to outdoor Confession & Stations of the Cross \* *Allow Conversion*

Cost including bus seat and entire event is *only* \$26.00 before July 13<sup>th</sup>  
(\$30.00 July 13—August 8, 2025)

Register by email, phone, or complete reverse side of form.  
Parish Office: 614-221-4323 or office@holyfamilycolumbus.org

Make Checks payable to: HOLY FAMILY CHURCH  
(Carey Pilgrimage in notation)

ST. MARON  
**LEBANESE**

# fun fest

Food, Music & Spirits

**SATURDAY  
JULY 12**  
4pm - 11pm  
*Food Service till 10:00 pm*

**SUNDAY  
JULY 13**  
12 pm - 8pm  
*Food Service till 7:00 pm*

**FREE ADMISSION AND FREE PARKING**

**YOUNGSTOWN  
VEGAS BAND**

Saturday, July 12 • 6-10  
**The Vegas Band**

**RDNA**

Sunday, July 13 • 3-6  
**RDNA**

Bounce Houses, Carnival  
Games & Face Painting

**FULL  
PREMIUM BAR**  
Rare, Crafted Bourbons

**\$3,000  
RAFFLE**  
*2nd, 3rd & 4th Place Winners*

Prize Raffles & 50/50 Raffle  
**TICKET**

**Join us for Mass — Saturday 4:30 pm & Sunday 11:00 am**

**Great LEBANESE FOOD!**  
Lamb Kabobs, Kibbee, Grape  
Leaves, Hummus, Tabouli Salad,  
French Fries, Chicken Tenders,  
Chicken Shawarma, Kafta Kabobs,  
Baklava, Pastries & More!

**DINE IN, TAKE OUT OR DRIVE THRU!**

1555 S. Meridian Rd. Youngstown, OH | [LebaneseFunFest.com](http://LebaneseFunFest.com)

Wehrle High School Class of 1975 will hold a 50-year reunion on Friday, August 8, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Shamrock Club, 60 W. Castle Road, Columbus Ohio 43207. For more information, contact Sheri Baumann Bellmore at Sheri.bellmore@yahoo.com, cell number 614-701-7102.

## Summer Day with The Saints

**August 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, or 7<sup>th</sup>**

Choose a day: Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>,  
Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>  
or Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup>

**A FUN AFTERNOON OF SAINT-THEMED CRAFTS,  
PRAYERS, ACTIVITIES AND SNACKS!**

Register online: [mariasteinshrine.org](http://mariasteinshrine.org)  
Cost: \$10 per child Time: 1 pm - 4 pm

This event is for children entering 1st through 6th grades.  
The Shrine is located at 2291 St. Johns Rd, Maria Stein, OH

## MEN'S DAY OF REFLECTION

FOR MEN OF ALL AGES & VOCATIONS

**"Catholic Seminaries:  
The Antidote for What Ails Society"**  
Led by Father Thomas Blau, OP, STL

Saturday, August 2, 2025  
9 am - 4 pm at the Josephinum  
[pcj.edu/mensdayofreflection](http://pcj.edu/mensdayofreflection)

### PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN CLASS AT OLV

Our Lady of Victory will be hosting a Protecting God's Children Session on Monday, August 25, at 6:00 p.m., in the Father Romano Parish Life Center. We will also be offering BCI Fingerprinting by FastFingerprints. The Diocese of Columbus requires both fingerprinting and the PGC class to be fully compliant to volunteer with children. BCI Fingerprinting begins at 5:00 p.m. The PGC class begins at 6:00 p.m. Please be sure to come early to get your Fingerprinting done! To register for the Protecting God's Children program online, go to: <https://www.virtusonline.org>. Click on the GREEN button – "First-Time Registrant" – located on the left side of the page – Begin the registration process from there.



# Jubilee Year Pilgrimage Classic Italy

## November 7 - 20, 2025

**\$7,368 per person**  
from Columbus (CMH)

### Your Trip Includes:

- Round-trip airfare
- Airport taxes and fuel surcharges
- 12 nights accommodation at centrally located first class hotels
- Breakfast and Dinner daily
- Wine and mineral water with dinners
- Transportation by air-conditioned motor coach
- Whisper headsets
- Assistance of a professional local Guide
- Sightseeing and admissions fees as per itinerary
- Tips to Hotel Staff and Restaurants
- Mass daily & Spiritual activities
- And more!

### Book Now:

[www.206tours.com/frvalcin/italy](http://www.206tours.com/frvalcin/italy)

Booking code: FV110725



**Spiritual Director:**  
**Fr. Fritz Valcin**



[cara@206tours.com](mailto:cara@206tours.com)  
[silvia@206tours.com](mailto:silvia@206tours.com)  
[dominic@206tours.com](mailto:dominic@206tours.com)  
(800) 206-8687



**OUR LADY OF VICTORY ICONS** are available in the Parish Office! Please stop by to purchase between 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Monday-Friday. Due to popular demand, our resident iconographer, Claude Abssi, has agreed to reproduce the original "Our Lady of Victory" icon. A

limited number of 100 reproduced copies will be available. The price is \$100.00 each. We can accept cash or checks made payable to "Our Lady of Victory."

**FORMED.ORG** is a Catholic online platform that features Catholic video programs, audio talks, eBooks, and movies!

To sign up for FORMED:

1. Go to **FORMED.ORG**.
2. Click on **SIGN-UP**.
3. Select **"Sign Up as a Parishioner."**
4. Enter OLV Zip Code, **43212**.
5. Select **"Our Lady of Victory Parish."** Select **Next**.

**Enter your Name and Email address.** Select **"Sign Up."**

At initial sign-up, parishioners will receive a verification email, **READ CONTENT** – which includes a FORMED.org Link & confirmation for OLV Parish Access. After initial access, go to FORMED.ORG, click on SIGN-IN & enter the same email address that you used to sign up.

## BISHOP READY HIGH SCHOOL TRIVIA KNIGHT

**August 16, 2025**

The 2025 Bishop Ready Trivia "KNIGHT" will take place on Saturday, August 16, 2025, in the Joe Lang Gymnasium. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. with play beginning at 7:00 p.m. Proceeds from this event will support Silver Knight Athletics. Please register online at <https://www.mygiving.net/donate/Trivia-Night-2025>. The cost is \$25.00 per player and no more than eight players per team. For questions, contact [jhohenberger@cdeeducation.org](mailto:jhohenberger@cdeeducation.org).



***“Blessed are the eyes that see what you see!”***

*(Lk 10:23)*

**Divine Liturgy**

Sunday at 11:30 am

Our Lady of Victory

1559 Roxbury Rd.

Columbus, OH



**For donations &  
online giving, scan  
this code or visit  
our website:**



**venmo**

**[www.ololcolumbus.org](http://www.ololcolumbus.org)**



## New Testament Reading: 1Corinthians 2:11-16

For what human being knows what is truly human  
except the human spirit that is within?  
So also no one comprehends what is truly God's  
except the Spirit of God.  
Now we have received not the spirit of the world,  
but the Spirit that is from God,  
so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.  
And we speak of these things in words  
not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit,  
interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.  
Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit,  
for they are foolishness to them,  
and they are unable to understand them  
because they are spiritually discerned.  
Those who are spiritual discern all things,  
and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.  
"For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?"  
But we have the mind of Christ.

## The Gospel: Luke 10:21-24

At that same hour Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said,  
"I thank you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and earth,  
because you have hidden these things  
from the wise and the intelligent  
and have revealed them to infants;  
yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.  
All things have been handed over to me by my Father;  
and no one knows who the Son is except the Father,  
or who the Father is except the Son  
and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."  
Then turning to the disciples,  
Jesus said to them privately,  
"Blessed are the eyes that see what you see!  
For I tell you that many prophets and kings  
desired to see what you see,  
but did not see it,  
and to hear what you hear,  
but did not hear it."

## St. Samson the Hospitable - Feast Day: June 27

On June 27, the Church commemorates St. Samson the Hospitable, a saint whose life shines as a beacon of Christian compassion, selflessness, and healing. Living in the 6th century, St. Samson devoted himself to caring for the sick, the poor, and the homeless, using both his medical skills and his unwavering faith in Christ.

St. Samson was born into a noble and wealthy Roman family, either in Rome or Constantinople. From a young age, he received an outstanding education in both the liberal arts and the medical sciences. Yet, rather than using his knowledge and wealth to pursue power or luxury, Samson chose a life of simplicity and service. He saw his talents not as tools for self-advancement, but as gifts to be shared in service to others. After giving away his inheritance, Samson dedicated his home to God's work.



He opened his doors to the poor and the sick, transforming his house into a place of refuge and healing. Those who were cast out, abandoned, or too poor to afford treatment found not only shelter under his roof but also dignity, compassion, and skilled medical care.

Samson's deep compassion and miraculous healing soon became known throughout the city. His most well-known encounter came when Emperor Justinian I himself fell gravely ill. None of the court physicians could cure him. Upon hearing of Samson's healing abilities, the emperor summoned him. With prayer and medicine, Samson healed the emperor. Grateful for this miraculous recovery, Justinian asked Samson what reward he would like. True to his selfless nature, Samson asked only that the emperor build a hospital for the poor and sick.

Justinian granted this request and built a large hospital near the Church of Hagia Sophia in Constantinople. Samson was placed in charge of this institution, and under his leadership, it became one of the greatest centers of Christian charity in the empire. The hospital offered free medical care to anyone in need, regardless of their status or wealth.

St. Samson's ministry was not limited to physical healing. His hospitality was rooted in Christ's command to love and serve the least among us. He ministered to the soul as well as the body, praying for his patients and comforting them with words of hope and salvation. His life is a living example of the Gospel in action.

St. Samson passed away peacefully in the 6th century, and his memory has been honored ever since. His life reminds us that every act of compassion, no matter how small, reflects the love of Christ. In a world that often overlooks the poor and sick, St. Samson challenges us to see Christ in those in need and to respond with love, generosity, and care.

As we commemorate his feast, may we be inspired by St. Samson's example to open the doors of our hearts and homes, offering healing, kindness, and hospitality to all who seek it.



St. Samson the Hospitable is considered the patron saint of hospitals, doctors and physicians, caregivers and nurses, hospice workers, the sick and infirm, homeless people and the poor, hospitality ministries.



Let us pray for persecuted Christians all over the world, especially in Syria after the bloody attack last Sunday which left 20 martyrs and dozens injured.

*"We are not a new philosophy but a divine revelation. That's why you can't just exterminate us; the more you kill the more we are. The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church."*

Tertullian (~155--~240 AD).



*The blood of martyrs decorating the walls of the church and the icons of St John of Damascus and St. Barbara.*

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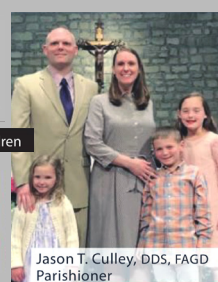
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