

Our Lady of the Sierra

Jan 2021 Bulletin



The Marian Way - The OLS Way

On the first day of the year, our liturgy celebrates the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. It is the oldest of all Marian feasts in the liturgy. It is very appropriate to begin the year with the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God who is also our Heavenly Mother, our spiritual mother in our spiritual journey.

The title "Mother of God" is from the Greek "Theotokos" (God-bearer). The church reminds us of the unique role of Mary in the plan of God. This solemnity can be traced back to the Council of Ephesus in 431. The Catechism of the Catholic Church No. 721 declares: "Mary, the all-holy and ever-virgin Mother of God, is the masterwork of the mission of the Son and the Spirit in the fullness of time....For the first time, in the plan of salvation, and because his Spirit had prepared her, the Father found the dwelling place where his Son and his Spirit could dwell among men."

As the New Year offers us new opportunities, new ideas, and new resolutions, we resolve to strengthen our relationship with God, through the maternal care of Mary. The Blessed Mother did not simply conceive and nurture Jesus, but equally accompanied Him through every stage and step of his Life, even till his death on the cross. So, as we continue our walk

with God this year, let us continuously ask for the intercession of Mary, Mother of God.

As our patroness, the Our Lady of the Sierra Parish family is enjoined to be on the maternal care of the Blessed Mother. We must understand that a church is named after a saint, for our founding fathers wanted us to be associated with Mary. Our patroness (patron means, sponsor or guarantor) serves as our role model in the faith who would inspire our lives and whom we seek intercession.

Mary becomes our important guide on how to be a good Christian. For this reason, we should develop a **MARIAN SPIRITUALITY**. Spirituality means adopting a set of values, attitudes and activities that help us respond to the plan of God and to insert us into the relationship with Mary that Christ wants for us.

We need to develop a set of principles, norms and methods that we follow to live our vocation. We imitate her. We want to experience in our lives the mystery of the Annunciation so Jesus can be incarnated in our own lives and community.

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Thank you for your generous response!

In December 2020, our Pastor Fr. Victor Hernando mailed a "Christmas Love Letter" to OLS parishioners appealing to them to help turn the balance sheet of our general fund "from red to black" and to enable us to purchase live streaming equipment. Fr. is overwhelmed by OLS parishioners' response. SEE THE FIGURE ON THE RIGHT! (as of 12-31-2020). He promises a full financial report in a forthcoming newsletter.



OUR LADY OF THE SIERRA

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To do this, we need to know who Mary is as found in the Bible, as taught by our Catholic Church, as experienced by the saints, and as a praying community. We plan to do the following: a) There are 19 Marian feast days, solemnities, and memorials on the liturgical calendar. We see to it that they are celebrated with mass/devotions/activities. b) We continue with our devotions to Our Lady of Guadalupe and Our Lady of Perpetual Help. c) We continue to pray the Rosary before the mass. d) We have revived the First Saturday devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary at St. Dominic Savio, Bass Lake. e) I further envision the first Saturday as a venue for ongoing formation. Finally, f) we will try to celebrate an annual feast day in honor of our Lady of the Sierra, our Thanksgiving Day. May I invite you to consider these as part of our community journey starting January 2021. Let us make this happen!

Please join me to be constantly be praying for our parish family: *Oh, Holy Mother of God, despise not our prayers for our necessities, but deliver us from all dangers, oh glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen*

Fr. Victor

Mass Readings for the Week

Jan 3 Sun	The Epiphany of the Lord <i>Is 6:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a,5-6; Mt 2:1-12</i>
Jan 4 Mon	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious <i>1 Cor 13:4-13; Lk 0:38-42</i>
Jan 5 Tue	St. John Neumann, Bishop <i>1Jn 4:7-10; Mk 6:34-44</i>
Jan 6 Wed	Christmas Weekday <i>1Jn 4:11-18; Mk 6:45-52</i>
Jan 7 Thu	Christmas Weekday <i>1Jn 4:19-5:4; Lk 4:14-22a</i>
Jan 8 Fri	Christmas Weekday <i>1Jn 5:5-13; Lk 5:12-16</i>
Jan 9 Sat	Christmas Weekday <i>1Jn 5:14-21; Jn 3:22-30</i>
Jan 10	The Baptism of the Lord <i>Is 42:1-4,6-7; Acts 1:34-38; Mk 1:7-11</i>

Week-at-a-Glance

Date	Time	Activity
Jan 1	08:00 - 08:30 AM	Rosary
Fri	08:30 - 09:00 AM	Mass
	09:00 - 12:00 PM	1st Friday Adoration
Jan 2 Sat	09:00 - 10:15 AM	Mass & 1st Sat Dev.
	03:00 - 04:30 PM	Confessions
	03:30 - 04:00 PM	Rosary
Jan 3 Sun	04:00 - 04:00 PM	Vigil Mass, OLS
	08:00 - 08:45 AM	Mass, St Joseph
	09:30 - 10:15 AM	Mass, St Dominic
Jan 4	11:30 - 12:30 AM	Mass, OLS
	Priest's Day Off	
	07:00 - 08:15 PM	RCIA Class on Zoom
Jan 5 Tue	08:00 - 08:30 AM	Rosary
	08:30 - 09:00 AM	Mass
	11:00 - 12:30 PM	Staff Meeting
	06:00 - 07:00 PM	CCD Parent Meeting
Jan 6 Wed	08:00 - 08:30 AM	Rosary
	08:30 - 09:00 AM	Mass
Jan 7 Thu	08:00 - 08:30 AM	Rosary
	08:30 - 09:00 AM	Mass
	07:00 - 08:15 PM	RCIA Class on Zoom
	06:00 - 07:00 PM	CCD Parent Meeting
Jan 8 Fri	08:00 - 08:30 AM	Rosary
	08:30 - 09:00 AM	Mass
	09:00 - 10:00 AM	Adoration BL Sacram.
Jan 9 Sat	03:00 - 03:30 PM	Confessions
	03:30 - 04:00 PM	Rosary
	04:00 - 05:00 PM	Vigil Mass, OLS
Jan 10 Sun	08:00 - 08:45 AM	Mass, St Joseph
	09:30 - 10:15 AM	Mass, St Dominic
	11:30 - 12:30 AM	Mass, OLS





Mass Intentions for the Week

Date	Day		Intentions for	Requested by
01/05	Tue	RM	Roy Oldham	Mary Oldham
01/06	Wed	RM	Dan Francoeur	The McMechan's
01/07	Thu	RM	Albert Gardini	Albert Gardini
01/08	Fri	RM	Marilyn Bieneman	Debrah Graham
01/09	Sat	Sp Int	Frs. Joel & Roger	The McMechans
01/10	Sun 8:00 AM	RM	Nancy Garcia	M/M Agustin Capuchino
	Sun 9:30 AM	RM	Juan & Gloria Muzquiz	M/M Agustin Capuchino
	Sun 11:30 AM		ALL Parishioners	
RM - Dead		TM - Thanksgiving	Sp. Int - Special Intentions	B - Birthday



Evangelize by inviting someone you know to consider becoming Catholic or becoming more fully Catholic!

-] RCIA classes held on Zoom Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 PM. In addition to RCIA candidates, any interested parishioners are welcome to join!
-] Fantastic new RCIA curriculum called "Credo," a ground-breaking video-based program created by Dominican Friars and the Tomistic Institute.
-] Instruction provided by an RCIA Team of dedicated and highly qualified Catechists led by our Pastor himself.



Contact:

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