



# Pine Times



OUR LADY OF THE PINES  
ST. KATHARINE DREXEL PARISH

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018  
VOLUME 23, ISSUE 4

## WHAT IF?

An editorial by Connie Wright

***'I love Our Lady of the Pines!'*** Have you ever said that? Or heard someone else say it? Well, there's certainly a lot to love about our upcountry church! The location, the atmosphere, the people, the activities, the history, and of course the worship. But what if the continuation of our Sunday Mass was threatened? I think most of us would be pretty devastated to 'lose' our church.

### Losses

Over the last several years, we have lost a number of regular OLOP parishioners – to moving away, to going home to the Lord, to changing churches and/or parishes, and to just natural aging. Those of us who remain have felt these losses deeply, in personal ways and in more 'functional' ways. Our once-vibrant group of volunteers who help out in so many ways has been on the wane for awhile now. We're often in need of liturgical ministers during Mass. Our very-important Mercy Ministry is in need of a leader. The OLOP Society has managed to stay afloat with a dedicated group of volunteers, but most of our ministries are stretched thin.

*... these activities ...  
will simply fade away,  
one by one.*

Many of us are well acquainted with the community and charitable activities carried out each year. The Respect Life Tea, the rummage sale, the brunches and dinners, the Lenten soup suppers, the scholarship program. Without the good souls to help run these activities, they will simply fade away, one by one.

Every Catholic church in the county has felt the effects of the unification of the three parishes in some way. While there have been many positive results in the parish and growth at St. Katharine, the drop-off of Mass attendance at OLOP is startling and disheartening.

**Connecting the dots:** With the loss of participation in church ministries and Society activities, as well as the decrease in Mass attendance, it may not be long before attendance at our one Sunday Mass drops off to a point that could be only a few steps away from losing that one Sunday Mass completely. Yikes! So what can we do about this?

### Seeking Solutions – A Call To Action

Solving the problem requires collective, positive, and constructive thinking. Suggestion: Perhaps a meeting of parishioners to brainstorm solutions would be a good start. Where we can pinpoint the specific challenges we're facing and come up with ideas to turn things around here at OLOP. Together we can return Our Lady of the Pines to the thriving faith community that it once was. We owe this legacy to those who will follow us.

Second, staying (or becoming) involved in our church is a great way to show our love for the Lord. Out of that love can spring forth the growth that we seek. Suggestions: If you feel called to try something new—whether it's becoming a lector, an usher, a Eucharistic Minister, a sacristan, or a singer in the choir—do it. If you want to keep our church looking beautiful for each Mass and are more of a behind-the-scenes volunteer, consider helping with church environment, flower ministry, church cleaning, or maintenance tasks.

*... try something new ...*

SEE EDITORIAL, BACK PAGE

## KNOW YOUR PARISHIONERS



CATHY and JOHN PETTINICHIO

**Cathy and John Pettinichio** were both born and raised in Hayward, California, on opposite sides of town. Cathy attended and graduated from Hayward High School, and John attended and graduated from Mt. Eden High School. They met in 1975 through Cathy's brother Tim, whom John rode motorcycles with. They married in April of 1977 and have been married for 41 years. They have two sons, both married, John (39) and Dan (34), who were raised in the same neighborhood that Cathy grew up in and attended the same elementary and junior high school that Cathy attended. They have two grandsons Austin (10) and Jake (8) and two 'grand dogs' Henry and Rocky.

Cathy has been in the nursing field since she was 14 years old starting out as a Candy-striper at St. Rose Hospital in Hayward. She continued her education through nursing school and obtained her LVN License. She has worked almost the entire spectrum of the nursing field with the last 11 years as an oncology nurse before retiring in 2017. John worked 11 years in the automotive field where he leased and owned shops around the area. He then pursued a career in the Wastewater Field where he continued his education through the Wastewater Operations Program, Cal State University Sacramento. John worked in the Water/Wastewater field for 31 years prior to retiring in 2017.

SEE PETTINICHIO, PAGE 2

## OUR LADY OF THE PINES SOCIETY

Ron Burns, President

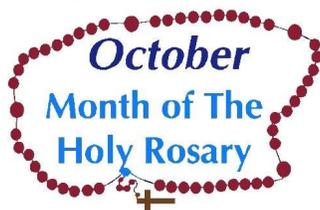
Well, I don't know about you but I'm ready for some cooler weather. The heat this summer has taken its toll on many of us, not to mention our air conditioners. Having said that, we have been very fortunate not to have had any major wild fires (knock on wood). Now it's time to buckle down to business and prepare for our next event at OLOP, that being the Respect Life Tea on October 13<sup>th</sup>. At present, we are in need of two chair persons to coordinate the fund raiser. **Carole Sooy** has volunteered to handle the baskets for the raffle and we have also heard from others to help with the decorations. If you have the time and would like to help with a very worthwhile cause, please call one of the board members and offer to assist with this charitable function.

A great big "welcome" to our newest board member, **Gary Sims**. Gary has stepped forward and offered to take our Treasurer's position, left vacant by the passing of our beloved **Dan Sooy**. Thank you Gary. In other news we are recognizing **Larry** and **Joanne Fitzpatrick** for their 34 years as church cleaners. The Fitzpatricks have had to step down for health reasons, but I'm told they will remain as active OLOP regulars at the meetings. Joanne is also our Sunshine chair and we thank you for that, Joanne.

Bids are in for the resealing and striping of our parking lot. In addition, the septic repairs have been completed leaving us with the need for a new asphalt strip near Haran Hall. These jobs will be completed prior to winter.

As a reminder, if you notice any new faces at Mass on Sunday, please extend a welcome to them on behalf of the OLOP Society and point them out to our New Parishioner chair, **Blanche Rueda**, so we can properly welcome them into the flock.

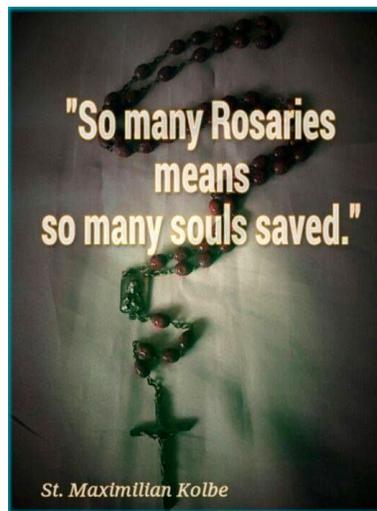
As always, we are looking for more involvement in our Society by new, active members and would love to see you at our meetings on the first Wednesday of each month (potluck dinner at 6:00, meeting at 7:00).



## OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. According to an account by fifteenth-century Dominican, Alan de la Roch, Mary appeared to St. Dominic in 1206 after he had been praying and doing severe penances because of his lack of success in combating the Albigensian heresy. Mary praised him for his valiant fight against the heretics and then gave him the Rosary as a mighty weapon, explained its uses and efficacy, and told him to preach it to others.

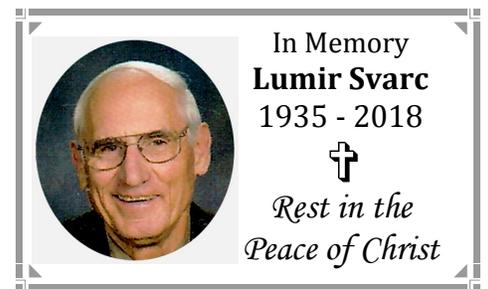
Since the prayers of the Rosary come from such excellent sources -- from Our Lord Himself, from inspired Scripture, and from the Church -- it is not surprising that the Rosary is so dear to our Blessed Mother and so powerful with heaven.



It may not be obvious how dedicating the month of October to the Holy Rosary fits into the liturgical year. But the rosary -- and, more specifically, Our Lady of the Rosary -- is credited with victory in a number of the battles that those feasts celebrate. Chief among these is the Battle of Lepanto (October 7, 1571), in which a Christian fleet defeated a superior Ottoman Muslim fleet and stopped the westward expansion of Islam in the Mediterranean.

In honor of the victory, Pope Pius V instituted the Feast of Our Lady of Victory, which is still celebrated today as the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (October 7). And, in 1883, when Pope Leo XIII officially dedicated the month of October to the Holy Rosary, he made reference to the battle and the feast.

The best way to celebrate the Month of the Holy Rosary is, of course, to pray the rosary daily.



### FAREWELL TO LOU SVARC

On August 15, 2018, **Lumir (Lou) Svarc** went home to God. He was born in rural Nebraska and raised on a family farm. He was part of a rapidly vanishing number of men who knew that a Model H was a Farmall tractor and a Model B was a John Deere. Lou was in the Army from 1954 through 1956 and was stationed in Germany. He met **Del Rae** in Nebraska, where they were married on January 16, 1958. They recently celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

After he graduated from diesel school, he and Del Rae and their 3-month-old son moved to California. He worked for 30 years at P.I.E. trucking. In 1979 they retired to Volcano. In 1982, he was one of the men who helped to build OLOP -- see the article by Blanche elsewhere in this issue. He also sang in the first OLOP choir, as did Del Rae. Lou was a member of our local council of the Knights of Columbus.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his son and two daughters and a number of grandchildren.



### FROM PAGE 1 PETTINICHIO

While camping at their usual yearly place in Pinecrest they decided to look for a retirement home, and ended up in Amador County. They purchased their home in Pioneer in 2012 and became full time residents in May of 2017. They both enjoy doing volunteer work, DIY projects, outdoor activities, camping, fishing, hiking, live music and dancing. They have a trip to Hawaii planned for fall of 2019 and would love to travel to Italy and Ireland someday.

## YMI NEWS

Phil Fondale

### YMI EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

YOUNG MEN'S  
INSTITUTE



One of the two sub-organizations that comes under the umbrella of the Young Men's Institute is the **Educational Foundation**. The foundation was incorporated on March 12, 1958, for the express purpose of receiving donations to support the education of our fellow deceased members' children. In addition, a Matching Fund Program was added as a way to help YMI Councils in the offering of college scholarships and tuition assistance for Catholic children. Our Council takes part in the Matching Fund Program. Since its inception the foundation has helped over 591 children with spending to date of over \$547,920.

Why is the YMI Education Foundation important for members and prospective members? For the cost of \$40 (OLOP Council's dues) regardless of age a YMI Brother knows that upon his death EACH of his DEPENDENT children will receive educational benefits from kindergarten through college which are currently set as follows: Kindergarten to Eighth Grade \$1,000 per year per child. High School \$1,500 per year per child. College \$1,500 per year per child. Frankly, it's cheap insurance for the cost of joining a YMI Council and becoming part of the "Brotherhood." You don't even have to make the meetings. Our Council has a number of members who reside out of Amador County and even out of state.

In addition, anyone who joins the YMI before the age of forty is entitled to a \$1,500 death benefit and is classified as a "Benefit Member."

Next issue I'll review the Seminarian Foundation which is the second sub-organization.

Our meeting night is the fourth Wednesday of the month at 5:30 PM in Haran Hall. All men of the parish are welcome to come and enjoy the fellowship of our monthly dinner and short business meeting.

The main purpose of our council is to give the Catholic men of OLOP and the surrounding area the opportunity to get together, strengthen their faith, have fellowship, and help our parish and community. We hope to see our fellow Catholic men and future brothers at our next meeting.

The Young Men's Institute was founded in 1883, and Our Lady of the Pines Council #137 is proud to be a part of this national organization.

## REFRESHING OUR PRAYER LIFE

Joan Nikolai

I remember growing up in the Midwest, fall meant fall house cleaning. A time to shake off the summer dust and refresh the house before winter. Remembering this yearly activity, it occurred to me this might also be a time to look at our prayer life and see if it needs refreshing.

How do we define prayer? The catechism devotes all of chapter 4 to prayer. In #2565 it states: "Prayer is the living relationship of the children of God with their father, who is good beyond measure, with his Son Jesus Christ and with the Holy Spirit." What does a living relationship look like? A description, by Greta Schrumm, offers these thoughts: "To pray is to laugh, whistle, dance on happy feet, sing, shout, and jump higher than ever before. But it is also to whisper, wonder, stumble in dark places, cry, scream or just hold a tired head in tired hands and wait. Prayer is our tired reaching out to the one who holds us closer and loves us more than we would dare imagine." Prayer is choosing to be with God in an intentional way. It is opening the door and inviting God into our life. Is your door open?

Prayer is not something to "put on" in order to look good before God. Each of us is known to God. As that unique individual we come to God in prayer. We must be our self, with all our strengths and weaknesses. How do you stand before God?

Prayer needs to be a habit, that simply means setting aside a certain time each day to spend with God and then to take the time even if all we do is sit with God for those 10 or 15 minutes. Do you have a planned God time?

Open the door, take the time and be yourself. God is waiting.

"God is like tears  
helping us get through  
rough times and joyful times  
in our life."

### SUNSHINE MINISTRY

We are all reminded to contact **Joanne Fitzpatrick** (209-295-7387) when and if we wish to have a card sent to someone who needs a touch of sunshine in his or her life. She would also like to know of any special birthday or anniversary.



## GET READY TO BBQ @ OUR LADY OF THE PINES!

If you haven't signed up to attend our 'End of Summer Barbecue' it's not too late! The 'Q' is set for **Sunday, September 16**, in Haran Hall, right after the 11:30 AM Mass.

The OLOP Society will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, condiments, and beverages. We ask that attendees bring potluck items to share:

- ◆ Last name A-L: side dish
- ◆ Last name M-Z: dessert

Sign up after Mass or call no later than September 9 so that we know how much to prepare: **Shirley Coombs** at 209-295-5175 or **Shirley Blancett** at 559-816-8334.



### EATING AT JOAN'S HOUSE

Joan Alimonti

You and/or your family deserve this treat for breakfast:

#### GRANDMA'S CHOCOLATE RAISIN BREAD PUDDING

serves 4

#### In a bowl:

- 4 eggs, beaten
- 1½ cups evaporated milk
- 1 packet chocolate-flavored milk beverage (e.g., Nesquik)

Beat with a whisk until smooth.

#### Add:

- 2 tsp cinnamon
- Dash of nutmeg
- 3 tsp butter or margarine, melted
- ½ tsp vanilla
- 2 Tbsp sugar
- 4 slices raisin bread, torn into small pieces

Mix thoroughly. Set aside for 10 minutes to allow bread to absorb mixture. Pour into 4 individual baking dishes. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes or until knife comes out clean.

FROM PAGE 1: **EDITORIAL**

Young people are invited to become altar servers or participate in the monthly Youth Mass as lectors, commentators, and ushers. If you enjoy socializing with fellow parishioners, come to a Society meeting as well as Hospitality Sunday; learn what goes on to make OLOP such a special place and where you can air your thoughts and suggest new ideas. Welcome people who are visiting or are new residents to the area. Invite someone to Mass—a fallen-away Catholic, someone of a different faith, or someone searching for answers. Or invite back someone who has left OLOP and let them know their return would be a welcome and joyful one.

**Leaving a Legacy**

So many of those who built and ‘launched’ Our Lady of the Pines 36 years ago are still in our hearts and memories. Let’s keep them alive with our love and our faith as we pave a new path for those who will follow!

*Note: Look for action by the OLOP Board and Society in this regard. Contact any Board member if you have thoughts or suggestions that can help us move forward.*



**2018-19 OLOP Board of Officers**

*Left to right:* **Ron Burns**, President; **Will Pearce**, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; **Barbara Garcia**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; **Connie Wright**, Secretary; **Gary Sims**, Treasurer



**A SHORT HISTORY OF THE BEGINNING OF OLOP**

Blanche Rueda

Groundbreaking for our mission church took place on May 8, 1982, thirty six years ago. There were many loyal parishioners ready to help. Some of them are shown in the photo above with **Father Haran**: From left to right are **Ed Quinnin**, **Lou Svarc**, **Joe Rueda** and **Dominic Canale**. Our Lady of the Pines was dedicated on October 24, 1982. We were, and continue to be, grateful for the help of these men as well as the many others who helped to build our church and have cared for it since.



**ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY**

Members of our parish’s St. Vincent de Paul Society beg for money after Mass from time to time. The money collected goes to support the needy. Please bring a bit of extra cash with you on Beggar’s Sunday, the last weekend of every other month, when volunteers beg for donations.

**OLOP SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President: Ron Burns  
1st Vice President: Will Pearce  
2nd Vice President: Barbara Garcia  
Secretary: Connie Wright  
Treasurer: Gary Sims

**OLOP MEETINGS**

Our Lady Of the Pines Society meets on the first Wednesday of every month. A potluck dinner begins at 6 PM and the meeting starts at 7 PM. All parishioners of OLOP are members of the Society. There are no dues. We welcome your participation and look forward to seeing some new faces at future meetings.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

If you need an announcement made from the altar, please contact the office at St. Katharine Drexel Parish Center at 223-2970. If you need an announcement placed in the church bulletin, please contact the Bulletin Editor, also at the Parish Center, at 223-2970 or bulletin@stkatharinedrexel.com.

**PINE TIMES STAFF**

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hengstrom@volcano.net or 209-295-6729  
*Submit comments, compliments, questions, or articles to Ray Waugh, Publisher. Material submitted via email is very much appreciated.*

**PARISH WEBSITE**

www.stkatharinedrexel.com  
webmaster@stkatharinedrexel.com

**OUR LADY OF THE PINES**  
**2018 – 2019 EVENTS CALENDAR** (Subject to last-minute changes)

<p><b>JULY 2018</b>  1 SUN Hospitality Sunday / Pine Times  13 WED OLOP Society Potluck 6pm, Mtg 7pm</p>	<p><b>AUGUST 2018</b>  1 WED OLOP Society Potluck 6 pm, Mtg 7pm  5 SUN Hospitality Sunday</p>	<p><b>SEPTEMBER 2018</b>  2 SUN Hospitality Sunday / Pine Times  5 WED OLOP Society Potluck 6pm, Mtg 7pm  16 SUN <b>B-B-Q 12:30</b></p>
<p><b>OCTOBER 2018</b>  3 WED OLOP Society Potluck 6pm, Mtg 7pm  7 SUN Hospitality Sunday  13 <b>SAT RESPECT LIFE TEA</b> (Tentative)  21 <b>SUN MINISTRY FAIR 12:30 HARAN HALL</b></p>	<p><b>NOVEMBER 2018</b>  3 <b>SAT 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL VARIETY SHOW</b>  4 SUN Hospitality Sunday / Pine Times  7 WED OLOP Society Potluck 6pm, Mtg pm  22 <b>THU THANKSGIVING</b></p>	<p><b>DECEMBER 2018</b>  3 SUN Hospitality Sunday  5 <b>WED OLOP SOCIETY CHRISTMAS DINNER</b>  25 <b>TUES MERRY CHRISTMAS</b></p>
<p><b>JANUARY 2019</b>  1 <b>TUES HAPPY NEW YEAR</b>  2 WED OLOP Society Potluck 6pm, Mtg 7pm  6 SUN Hospitality Sunday Pine Times</p>	<p><b>FEBRUARY 2019</b>  3 SUN Hospitality Sunday/ Pine Times Super Bowl Snack Sale (Tentative)  6 WED OLOP Society Potluck 6pm, Mtg 7pm</p>	<p><b>MARCH 2019</b>  3 SUN Hospitality Sunday  6 <b>WED ASH WEDNESDAY</b>  8 FRI Stations/Soup Supper  13 WED OLOP Society Potluck 6pm, Mtg 7pm  15 FRI Stations/Soup Supper  22 FRI Stations/Soup Supper  29 FRI Stations/Soup/Supper</p>
<p><b>APRIL 2019</b>  3 WED OLOP Society Potluck 6pm, Mtg 7pm  5 FRI Stations/Soup Supper  7 SUN Hospitality Sunday  12 FRI Stations/Soup Supper  14 <b>SUN PALM SUNDAY</b>  18/19/20 <b>T-F-S TRIDUUM at SKD</b>  21 <b>SUN EASTER</b>  27 SAT OLOP/YMI DINNER (tentative)</p>	<p><b>MAY 2019</b>  1 WED OLOP Society Potluck 6pm, Mtg 7pm  5 SUN Hospitality Sunday / Pine Times  12 SUN Mother's Day  13 <b>MON RUMMAGE SALE SETUP</b></p>	<p><b>JUNE 2019</b>  2 SUN Hospitality Sunday / Pine Times  5or12 WED OLOP Society Potluck 6pm, Mtg 7pm  <b>6-7-8 T-F-S RUMMAGE SALE</b>  16 SUN Father's Day</p>

*To reserve Haran Hall, call the Parish Center, 223-2970*

August 26, 2018

# OUR LADY OF THE PINES ROSTER

*As of August 13, 2018*

<b>OUR LADY OF THE PINES CHURCH</b> <b>A Mission Church of St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Parish</b> <b>26750 Tiger Creek Road, Pioneer, CA 95666</b> <b>stkatharinedrexel.com</b> <b>(209) 295-4909</b>	
<b>ST. KATHARINE DREXEL PARISH CENTER, 11361 Prospect Drive, Martell – 223-2970</b>	
<b>ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY – 223-5865</b>	
Fr. Colin Wen, Parochial Administrator – 223-4463 (Rectory)	Deacon Ed Pogue – 267-0775
Fr. Thomas Relihan, Pastor Emeritus – 274-2158	Deacon Jaime Garcia – 296-6750

## OLOP 2017-18 Board of Officers

President:	Ron Burns – 295-6257
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President:	Will Pearce – 295-5042
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President:	Barbara Garcia – 296-6750
Secretary:	Connie Wright – 223-9525
Treasurer:	Gary Sims – 295-5772

## OLOP Contact Persons and Ministry Leaders

Altar Linens – Heather Engstrom	295-6729	Library – Margaret McLaughlin	295-5807
Altar Server Training & Scheduling – Ellen Waverly	296-2612	Liturgy – Viki Routt	296-4130
Altar Server Vestments – Ellen Waverly	296-2612	Maintenance – Ted Novelli / Mike Shoda	295-1302/ 295-4413
Announcements – Marge Vicari (SKD)	223-2970	Mercy (Funeral Receptions) – Vacant	---
Archives – Evelyn Burns	295-6257	New Parishioners – Blanche Rueda	295-4025
Bulletin – Bulletin Editors (SKD)	223-2970	Parishioner Assistance – Blanche Rueda	295-4025
Choir – Anne Pearce	295-5042	Photocopy Machine – Connie Wright	223-9525
Church Cleaning – Sue Perrine	295-4753	Pine Times: Publisher – Ray Waugh	295-1217
Church Environment – Shirley Blancett	559-816-8334	Production Editor – Connie Wright	223-9525
Eucharistic Ministers – Lesslie Corner	295-7024	Photographer – Heather Engstrom	295-6729
Eucharist for the Homebound – Marge Vicari (SKD)	223-2970	Prayer Box – Viki Routt	296-4130
Faith Formation – Dan Olenchuk (SKD)	223-2970	Readers (Lectors & Commentators) – Viki Routt	296-4130
Flowers: Jacqueline Henss (by phone)	419-0815	Sacristans – Joan Alimonti	295-5557
Cleanup – C. Sooy / D. Temple	257-1932/ 296-0945	Social Calendar – Joan Alimonti	295-5557
Haran Hall		Sound System (Church) – Connie Wright	223-9525
Cleaning – Irene Stapleton	296-1772	Sunshine – Joanne Fitzpatrick	295-7387
Rental & Scheduling – Marge Vicari (SKD)	223-2970	Ushers – Ted Novelli	295-1302
Rental Coordination – Will Pearce	295-5042	Water System Maintenance – Art Wright	223-9525
Hospitality Sunday – Viki & Steve Routt	296-4130	Website – Connie Wright	223-9525
Keys – Will Pearce	295-5042	YMI Council #137 – Phil Fondale	295-1618
Kitchen – Sue Perrine	295-4753	Youth & Young Adult Ministries – Jandi Pereida (SKD)	223-2970