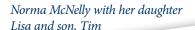
Our Lady of Extensive Assisted Living Nursing Care Perpetual Help

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celebrate their moms!



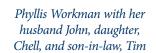


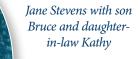


Joyce Gordon and her daughter Donna

Joan Hastings with her sons Patrick (left) and Paul









and her son Jim

Navigating Life's Final Chapter

By Rev. Dave Kleffman, M.Ed. Chaplain and Director of Pastoral Care





As I write these words today, a profound sense of sadness fills my heart. I just finished preparing three sympathy cards for families of residents who recently passed away. Our community has already mourned the loss of 20 residents this year and we are only in the month of April. After nearly six years at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, it does not get easier. However, in the intersection of faith and life, a profound truth emerges—death is not the end but a transition. King Solomon, known for his wisdom, once said:

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die..." ~ Ecclesiastes 3:1-2a

God's plan grants us a full life (see John 10:10) but also asks us to face the end of our earthly journey and look forward to what lies beyond.

If you are coping with the death of a friend or loved one, I want to recommend a meaningful book to you that has made an impact in my life. It is called, "The Four Things that Matter Most" by Ira Byock, M.D. In his book, Byock highlights four impactful phrases—"Please forgive me," "I forgive you," "Thank you," and "I love you"—that have proven to heal and nurture relationships as well as our inner selves. By applying these key phrases, especially as one is nearing the end of life, we can find emotional comfort even during times of family conflicts, personal losses, separations, or grief.

Here's the truth—what we say matters—especially in situations of death and dying. Perhaps there is someone in your life that needs to hear one or more of those four phrases?

Don't wait to express love, forgiveness, and gratitude. Let's work together to create a legacy of emotional richness and happiness with our family and friends and let's begin today.



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Tall Oaks Assisted Living

Assisted Living, Memory Care Reston, Virginia • 703-834-9800

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Team Member Spotlight

In April, Our Lady celebrated these two special employees! Business Office Manager Mae has been with OLPH for 20 years and our Administrative Assistant Rebecca has been here for 21 years. Talk about the backbone of Our Lady! Our days run smoother because of these two amazing women and the knowledge and experience they bring to the team. Mae and Rebecca, thank you for all you do for our residents, families, and most of all, the OLPH team!



Administrative Assistant Rebecca Lindner (the knower of all things!), left, and Business Office Manager Mae Cappis, right.



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