

**A Letter from Our Pastor**

“Born in Britain shortly before the 5th century, St. Patrick was taken captive to Ireland by raiders at the age of 16. He lived there for six years as a shepherd under harsh conditions and became intensely devoted to God in prayer, as he puts it, “because the spirit was then fervent within me.” Tradition has it that divine dreams inspired both his escape from captivity in Ireland and his return there later in his life as a bishop.

St. Patrick's prayer for the faithful captures the wonderful spirit that made him Ireland's patron saint and one of the Church's most beloved missionaries:

**May the Strength of God pilot us.  
May the Power of God preserve us.  
May the Wisdom of God instruct us.  
May the Hand of God protect us.  
May the Way of God direct us.  
May the Shield of God defend us.  
May the Host of God guard us.  
Against the snares of the evil ones.  
Against temptations of the world  
May Christ be with us!  
May Christ be before us!  
May Christ be in us,  
Christ be over all!  
May Thy Salvation, Lord,  
Always be ours,  
This day, O Lord, and evermore. Amen.”**

(Source: <https://www.ourcatholicprayers.com/st-patricks-prayer.html>)

- Msgr. Edward Filardi

**Masses for the Week**

**Monday, March 18th** (Gospel reading: Lk. 6: 36-38)  
7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Fr. Barbieri  
8:00 AM + Carol Gatfield Fr. Barbieri  
12 NOON + Herman Wissmann Msgr. Filardi  
**Tuesday, March 19th** (G. reading: Mt. 1: 16, 18-21, 24a)  
7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Msgr. Filardi  
8:00 AM + Kevin Berry Msgr. Filardi  
12 NOON + Carol Gatfield Fr. Barbieri  
**Wednesday, March 20th** (G. reading: Mt. 20: 17-28)  
7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Fr. Barbieri  
8:00 AM + Gerald Ryan Msgr. Filardi  
12 NOON + Buenaventurada Laranjo Fr. MacFarlane  
**Thursday, March 21st** (Gospel reading: Lk. 16: 19-31)  
7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Msgr. Filardi  
8:00 AM + Anne Boniface Msgr. Filardi  
12 NOON + Gerald Ryan Fr. Barbieri  
**Friday, March 22nd** (G. reading: Mt. 21: 33-43, 45-46)  
7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Msgr. Filardi  
8:00 AM + Josephine Flynn Fr. Barbieri  
12 NOON + Fr. Thomas Pollard Fr. Barbieri  
**Saturday, March 23rd** (G. reading: Lk. 15: 1-3, 11-32)  
8:00 AM + Kathleen Oliverio Fr. Barbieri  
11:00-11:55 AM Confessions Msgr. Filardi  
12 NOON + Maria Yolanda Ascui Fr. Barbieri  
4:00-4:45 PM Confessions Fr. Barbieri  
5:00 PM + Ellen Wycoski Msgr. Filardi  
**Sunday, March 24th** (Gospel reading: Lk. 13: 1-9)  
7:30 AM Priest's Intentions Fr. Barbieri  
9:00 AM Priest's Intentions Msgr. Filardi  
10:30 AM People of the Parish Fr. Barbieri  
12 NOON Priest's Intentions Msgr. Filardi  
1:30 PM Priest's Intentions Fr. Barbieri  
The Priests' schedule is subject to change without notice. Because of printing deadlines, Mass intentions requested less than two weeks ahead might not appear in the bulletin. Masses are offered for the names/intentions written in the parish intention book. The graces of each Mass are applied to the persons listed in the book regardless of whether they appear in the bulletin or are mentioned during the Mass.

**Happy Saint Patrick's Day!**



**Collection for the Church in the Developing World:**

**On the weekend of March 16th - 17th**, the Archdiocese of Washington will take up a second collection for the Church in the Developing World. This collection is directed toward the Church in Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, and Africa. It supports evangelization, the education of clergy and laity, youth ministry, catechesis, social service programs, and church construction and renovation. The faithful in these areas are often limited in what they can contribute, so your generosity will provide support for areas of ministry we often take for granted in our archdiocese.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

### **Office of Religious Education** **301-654-5954** *Second Sunday of Lent*

The late Father Richard John Neuhaus in his book *“Death On A Friday Afternoon,”* tells us that meditating on the Seventh Last Word from the Cross, Saint Luke is the only evangelist that tells us that in the last word God is once again “Father.” Father Neuhaus tells us that when he goes to bed at night, the last thing he does is sign himself with the cross by which he was assigned in baptism and says, ***In manus tuas commendo spiritum meum,*** *“Into your hands I commend my spirit.”* Yet, before these last words he also says the little prayer that Christian children have been praying at least since the twelfth century:

*Now I lay me down to sleep. I pray thee Lord my soul to keep; If I should die before I wake, I pray thee Lord my soul to take.*

Into your hands is a statement of trust, of entrusting, of trusting in another. The “*other*” for Jesus was always “*the Father,*” except for that once, just once, on the Cross when it was “My God, My God.” A key part in memorizing the Act of Contrition is to remind the students to say this prayer each night before retiring to bed. Seriously, it could be habit forming for life.

On Saturday, March 2nd, the students of Lourdes School and Religious Education received the Sacrament of Penance for the first time. This outpouring of grace truly energizes the life of the entire Church. Our gratitude to the priests: Monsignor Filardi, Father Barbieri, Father Kuchinsky, Father Lewis and to the families and the catechists: Ms. Carliner, Mrs. Wasp, Mrs. Interlandi, Ms. Addison, and Ms. Moore. Continue to pray for these students and their families.

*By the Blood of His Cross,* Christ Jesus cures our sick souls, even raises dead souls to life. Jesus offering Himself as a sacrifice on the Cross “paid the price” for our sins and reconciled us to His Father “in His Blood.” Penance offers us a new possibility to convert and to recover the grace of justification.

(Source: A Guide to Confession by Rev. Frederick Miller)



### ***In No Greater Love*** ***A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion:***

Filmed on location in the Holy Land is a five-part video series with Dr. Edward Sri, Fr. Mike Schmitz, Jeff Cavins, Jennifer Fulwiler, Curtis Martin, Teresa Tomeo, Fr. Josh Johnson, and Elizabeth Sri.

#### **In this study, you will discover:**

- \*The Biblical background to each scene in Christ's passion.
- \*What was Jesus going through at each moment?
- \*How did the Old Testament foretell of Christ's death.
- \*Why did Christ die for us? What did it accomplish?
- \*What was the meaning behind of the tearing of the temple veil, the crowning with thorns, and other events during Christ's Passion.
- \*In this study you will **encounter God's love** to the fullest. In the cross we see God fully revealed as “a lover with all the passion of love”.

Jesus doesn't want our applause. He wants our hearts. Are you ready to draw closer to Jesus in his passion than you ever have before?

**The series will begin on Monday, March 18th at 7:00pm** in the Office of Religious Education. A Book and a Workbook will be available for \$24.95. To register, you may contact the Office of Religious Education at 301-654-5954.

### ***Bethesda 40 Days for Life*** ***March 6th - April 14th:***

Join our local 40 Days for Life Campaign this Lent as we pray and witness for an end to abortion outside LeRoy Carhart's late-term abortion clinic at the Wildwood Medical Center, 10401 Old Georgetown Rd.

Vigil hours are 7:00am-7:00pm daily. Please try to join your fellow parishioners during the Our Lady of Lourdes Vigil Hours: **Sundays from 1:00-2:00pm and Thursdays from 6:00-7:00pm.**

For more information contact Christa at cc65012@gmail.com.

### **2019 Lenten Schedule:**

#### **Wednesdays in Lent:**

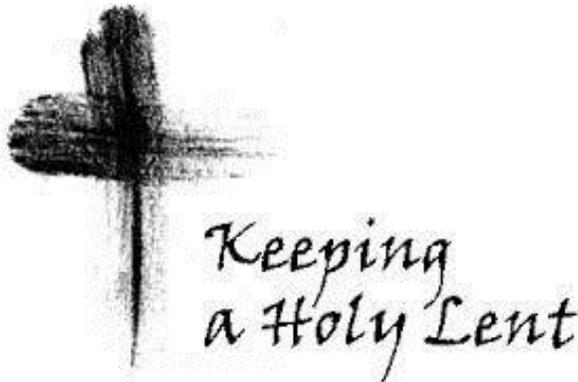
*The Light is On for You* (Confessions) will be from 6:00 - 7:00pm and the *Into the Desert* Prayer Series will be at 7:15pm in the Library Media Center.

#### **Thursdays in Lent:**

The Our Lady of Lourdes Young Adult Fellowship will meet in the new room in the vestibule from 7:00 - 8:15pm.

#### **Fridays in Lent:**

There will be Stations of the Cross at 11:00am and 6:30pm and Lenten Movie Night at 7:15pm in the Library Media Center.



### **Study of Saints (SoS) Book Club:**

Have you ever prayed for the intercession of a Saint? Often times when we do, we are invariably in need of something. Praying for the intercession of a Saint to ask Jesus/the Lord is like sending out an S.O.S. call for help. In this book club, we will read works by or about Saints. Through this Study of Saints (SoS), we will learn about the martyrs and religious who have dedicated their lives to God and learn what they are the Patron Saints of. By knowing our patron Saints, we can understand better whose constant intercession we can rely upon in sending our own SOS. **The group meets on the fifth Sunday of the month: March 31st, June 30th, September 29th, and December 29th from 3:00 - 4:00pm in the conference room in the new space.**

**The first meeting on Sunday, March 31st** will be on the book *A Holy Life: St. Bernadette of Lourdes* by Patricia McEachern.

### **Young Adult Fellowship Prayer Group:**

Please join the Our Lady of Lourdes Young Adult Fellowship prayer group on **Thursday evenings in Lent from 7:00 - 8:15pm** in the vestibule meeting space. The theme this Lenten season is prayer. If you wish, you may purchase the book, *Prayer for Beginners* by Dr. Peter Kreeft.

### **Catholic Singles of Greater Washington:**

An organization for single Catholics, ages 21 to 65+, enjoying each other's company in a wide variety of social, religious, and cultural settings. Most members are 45 and older. Please find out more about us at: [www.catholicssinglesofgreaterwashington.org](http://www.catholicssinglesofgreaterwashington.org) or call Tricia at 301-460-9195.

### **Into the Desert Prayer Series:**

Is a 6-week video-based study on [formed.org](http://formed.org) featuring Dr. Tim Gray. You will learn a powerful method of prayer, called *Lectio Divina*, and you will be able to put this prayer method into practice with daily meditations provided to you in a study guide.

**The program is on Wednesday evenings at 7:15pm**, with an episode to watch each week. As a parish family, our goal is to have every parishioner participant whether you are going through the study with your family in the home, or in a small group, or in a large group offered here in the parish.

### **Week Two - Guigo's Ladder:**

Prayer may not always be easy, but sometimes we make it more difficult than it needs to be. In this session, Dr. Gray demonstrates how, like climbing the rungs on a ladder, following a simple order of prayer carries us from the cares of this world to intimate conversation with God.

## **Into the Desert** **A Lenten Study on Prayer**



**2019 Annual Jubilarian Mass:**

The annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years will be held **Sunday, June 23rd, 2019** at 2:00pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Please use the sign-up forms in the back of the church to register. Names of jubilarians need to be turned in to the parish office at **Friday, April 26th**.

**Birthright Luncheon:**

Birthright of Frederick is celebrating its 41st year in Frederick with a luncheon at Dutch's Daughter on **Saturday, April 6th**. Doors open at 12:00pm. Tickets are \$35. To make reservations please call 301-663-0111.

**Saint Patrick's Parish Mission and Penance Service:**

**March 23rd - 27th: Consoling the Heart of Jesus:**

Fr. Jim McCormack will give a

series of talks on how to make your spiritual life come alive, how to overcome difficulties through prayer, and how to fill every area of our lives with energy and purpose. **He will speak at all of the Masses at Saint Patrick's on March 23rd and March 24th, and give talks at 10:00am and 7:00pm on March 25th, March 26th, (including a 7:00pm penance service) and March 27th.**

Please call Saint Patrick's at 301-924-2284 for more information.

**Ancient Order of Hibernians and Knights of Columbus St. Patrick's Day Celebration:**

The Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Knights of Columbus Council 2797 will host a St. Patrick's Day Celebration benefiting the Sisters Servants of the Lord on **Sunday, March 17th. The event will be held from 2:00pm to 7:00pm** at the Rock Creek Mansion at 5417 West Cedar Lane, Bethesda, Maryland. Irish food and beverages will be served and will be accompanied by games, whiskey tasting, Irish music and dancing, kids activities, and a silent auction. Tickets are required. The cost is \$35 for adults, \$15 for children, or \$100 for a family. Tickets at the door, if available, will cost more. For more information, contact Francis Moran at 301-412-4266 or fmoran.koc@gmail.com or Mike Horan at mike\_horanbros@yahoo.com.



**OUR LADY of BETHESDA**  
RETREAT CENTER

Need Some Time Away? Sometimes you just need a little personal time away from the world. Or, maybe a weekend retreat just won't fit your schedule.

**Well, we have the perfect thing for you!**

**Personal Retreat Day:  
Friday, March 22nd, 2019  
from 9:00am - 4:00pm.**

Cost: \$120 per person

For more information and to register please visit:  
<https://ourladyofbethesda.org/programs/retreats/personal-retreat-days>.

**April Pilgrimage to Italy:**

Father Christopher Pollard, Pastor of St. John's in McLean, Va would like to invite the members of Our Lady of Lourdes on a pilgrim's journey through some of the beautiful and ancient cities in Italy this April! Experience the saints and sacred sites, the food and culture of Rome, Assisi, Florence, Venice and holy locales in between.

There are three options to attend this pilgrimage:

**Option One:** Full Trip: April 23rd-May 6th,  
**Option Two:** First Part of Trip: April 23rd-April 29th,  
**Option Three:** Second Part of Trip: April 29th - May 6th.

For more information please visit:  
[www.JMJTours.com/StJohns](http://www.JMJTours.com/StJohns).

**Altar Flowers:**



If you would like to donate the Altar Flowers for a special intention, a special occasion, or in memory of a loved one, please call the parish office or email: [sgolden@lourdesbethesda.net](mailto:sgolden@lourdesbethesda.net) or [ctoms@lourdesbethesda.net](mailto:ctoms@lourdesbethesda.net). The donation for the flowers is \$150.00.

**Deceased in Our Parish:**

Please pray for our recently deceased brothers and sisters, especially: **Margaret Arness, Therese Femia, and Maria Chavez.**

**Ministry to the Elderly and Homebound:**

If a parishioner is ill or unable to attend Mass and would like to receive the Eucharist, please call our coordinator, Margaret Carroll at 301-325-6398.

**Sign of Peace During Flu Season:**

Because of the increase in cases of the flu this season, the priest may choose to forego the Sign of Peace during Mass. Please note you always have the choice to express the Sign of Peace through a bow or a wave.



**The Our Lady of Lourdes Sunday Meal for the Poor and Homeless:**

Takes place every Sunday in the school cafeteria. If you would like to volunteer, please sign up at: <http://vols.pt/3XNY26> or send an email to [OLOLHomelessDinner@gmail.com](mailto:OLOLHomelessDinner@gmail.com). Please bring food to the cafeteria from 4:15-4:45 on Sundays (use the blue door to the left of the school's main entrance).

Volunteers also operate a "clothes closet" where our guests can obtain donated clothing. (Please note we are only accepting men's clothing at this time.) Bring donations from 4:30 to 5:30 on Sundays, or contact Dan Keen at 301-564-0077 to arrange a pick-up at your home. Please, nothing stained or torn.

**Finance & Administration:**

*"How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good He has done for me?" (Psalm 116:12)*



**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2019**  
**Offertory: Figures unavailable due to early deadline.**

**Second Collection for March 24th, 2019: Building Fund**

**Our March Poor Box will be going to the Lenten Food Drive. Bags for your donations will be provided the weekend of March 23rd - 24th and the collection for the food drive will take place the weekend of March 30th - 31st. Our collection will be donated to the Southern Maryland Foodbank. Please be generous with your contribution. You may also make a contribution to "Catholic Charities" with a note that it is for the food drive. Thank you for all you do to help the needy among us.**

**Bulletin Deadline:**

Please have your printed notices at the Rectory office or emailed to [office@lourdesbethesda.net](mailto:office@lourdesbethesda.net) by **Monday at 3:00 PM.**

**Please note that your regular financial contributions not only show that you are an active parishioner of Lourdes, but also are a crucial part of keeping the church up and running.**

**To register, please contact the rectory office at 301-654-1287, email [Claire Toms at ctoms@lourdesbethesda.net](mailto:ctoms@lourdesbethesda.net), or fill out the form below.**

**Moving In, Out or Within the Parish?**

Please help us keep our records up-to-date by filling out this form and dropping it in the collection basket or rectory mail slot. Thank you.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I/we am/are new to the parish. Welcome!

\_\_\_\_ Change of address within the parish. Thank you!

\_\_\_\_ I/we am/are moving out of the parish. God be with you!

Noticias en Español – Segundo de Cuaresma – Marzo 17, 2019

**"Éste es mi Hijo, el escogido, escuchadle"**



Jesús lleva tiempo avisando a sus amigos que su final, en Jerusalén, será previsiblemente una muerte violenta. Es realista: sabe que lo perseguirán y lo condenarán porque conoce a su gente y sabe que los grupos de poder no van a aceptarle a él, ni su persona ni su misión. Pero, por otro lado, Jesús no quiere hundir a sus discípulos en el miedo ni en la desesperanza. Jesús quiere que sus amigos tengan también otra certeza: que él es el Hijo de Dios, y que, como tal, su historia no terminará en la derrota ni en la muerte. Por eso se lleva a sus tres amigos más íntimos, Pedro, Santiago y Juan, a un monte alto. El monte es el lugar donde cielo y tierra se tocan, un lugar de oración, de contemplación silenciosa y de adoración. Y es allí donde los discípulos ven, claramente, quién es Jesús. El cielo se abre y lo acompañan dos grandes personajes de la historia de Israel, vivos en el más allá, Moisés y Elías. Ya no son necesarios más leyes ni anuncios, porque el reino de Dios ha llegado con él. El Shemá hebreo

se concreta: Israel, escucha... ¿a quién? **Dios mismo responde desde la nube celeste: a mi Hijo amado, predilecto, elegido.**

**Escuchadle a él.**

Los discípulos quedan desconcertados, como toda persona que vive una experiencia mística y todavía no sabe muy bien cómo explicársela. Tendrán que guardarla en su corazón, meditarla largamente y asimilarla para poder, un día, contarla. Por eso dice el evangelio que, de momento, no contaron a nadie nada. Ciertas vivencias no pueden ser divulgadas de inmediato, hasta que no son interiorizadas y comprendidas. La reacción de Pedro es muy humana, pero tampoco es la que Dios quiere. Como siempre, Pedro es el hombre de acción. Propone levantar tres tiendas, una para Moisés, otra para Elías y otra para Jesús. Pedro se siente tan bien ahí arriba que quisiera quedarse para siempre en éxtasis. Y está tan aturdido que sólo piensa en poner unas tiendas para su Maestro y los ilustres invitados bajados del cielo. Pero esta propuesta de Pedro, según los teólogos más profundos, va más allá. La palabra "tienda" en la cultura judía significa algo más que un refugio para guarecerse. Tienda es la tienda de la alianza, el tabernáculo itinerante del éxodo, el lugar donde habita Dios, el templo portátil que se recordaba en la fiesta de los tabernáculos. En lenguaje moderno, diríamos que Pedro le dijo a Jesús: mira, vamos a construir tres capillas, o tres templos. Uno para ti, otro para Moisés y otro para Elías. Es decir: vamos a levantar tres edificios para glorificarlos. ¡La vanidad humana convertida en devoción!

¿No es esta la actitud de muchos creyentes? Queremos poner a Dios en un pedestal y, allí, bien colocado, adorarlo y rendirle culto. Queremos glorificarlo encasillándolo en templos y edificios, en estructuras y liturgias. Pero luego, cuando salimos de la iglesia, volvemos a nuestra vida cotidiana y nos olvidamos de él. Esta reacción de Pedro es la misma que la del rey David queriendo construir un templo al Señor del cielo y la tierra, o la de Salomón. El templo, en realidad, no da gloria a Dios, sino a los hombres; y termina siendo una prisión dorada que intenta atrapar a Dios en los esquemas humanos.

Dios quiere que escuchemos a su Hijo amado y que lo amemos, como él lo ama. Hacer caso a Jesús: ese es el verdadero culto y la verdadera adoración. Cuántas veces, pretendiendo adorar a Dios, lo único que hacemos es escucharnos a nosotros mismos y nuestras oraciones, y no sabemos escucharle a él. ¡Qué ruidosas y pretenciosas son nuestras devociones, a veces!

Jesús devuelve a sus amigos a la realidad, con sencillez. Y descienden del monte. Escuchad y guardad en vuestro corazón lo que habéis vivido. En este segundo de cuaresma la liturgia busquemos la presencia de Dios que no está en las alturas alejado de la humanidad sino en la historia cotidiana de las personas y de los pueblos encarnado como amor que da confianza para seguir adelante.

**Avisos:**

- **Invitamos a toda la comunidad a que participen en nuestro próximo Retiro de Cuaresma en Español el Sábado 23 de Marzo de 8:30am a 1:00pm en la Cafetería de la Escuela. ¡Nuestro Señor te estará esperando!**

**Por favor actualice su información - Recorte el siguiente formato de inscripción y entréguelo en la Misa junto con colecta. Recuerde que los datos que usted nos suministre son confidenciales.**

- Soy (somos) nuevo(s) en la Parroquia. **Queremos inscribirnos.**
- Llevo (tenemos) ya tiempo asistiendo a esta parroquia y **queremos inscribirnos.**
- Estoy (estamos) inscritos y **esta es la nueva dirección.**
- Ya no podré volver a esta parroquia. **Favor eliminar mi nombre de la lista.**

NOMBRE: \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECION: \_\_\_\_\_ APTO: \_\_\_\_\_ CIUDAD: \_\_\_\_\_

CODIGO POSTAL: \_\_\_\_\_ TELEFONO: \_\_\_\_\_ CORREO ELECTRONICO: \_\_\_\_\_