

A Letter from Our Pastor

I received this letter this week from the Archdiocese and would like to share it in part with you:

In light of the Holy See's recent global summit on abuse, I feel this is an opportune moment to highlight the Archdiocese of Washington's longstanding policies and practices with respect to these most serious matters. As well, it is an opportunity to present additional steps we have taken recently during our regular, periodic review of these practices by our independent Child Protection and Safe Environment Advisory and Case Review Board, as it is now known.

The Archdiocese of Washington is committed to a safe parish, school, workplace and seminary environment for all persons, with special concern for the most vulnerable individuals we are called to serve. Since 1986 the Archdiocese has had comprehensive child protection and safe environment policies and accompanying procedures. Recent updates codify the process of review for allegations against bishops, and reinforce the policies we have had in place for more than 30 years.

The Archdiocese has also had in place its independent review board, made up almost entirely of lay professionals, including at least one survivor of abuse, which monitors the archdiocese's outreach and compliance with the archdiocesan Child Protection and Safe Environment policies. To ensure that our church environments are safe, under the archdiocesan policy, seminarians, clergy, teachers, and other employees and volunteers who work with children are required to undergo comprehensive criminal background checks.

In September 2018 Cardinal Donald Wuerl called for a "Season of Healing" to pray for the survivors of sexual abuse and their families and loved ones. As part of that on-going endeavor, the archdiocese has continued its outreach to survivors and also created new opportunities to provide meaningful assistance through retreats for men and women. We are pleased to report that a retreat for women will be held on April 12th -14th, 2019. More information on these retreats can be found on our website:

adw.org.

Sincerely in Christ,

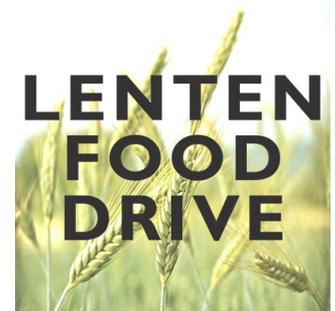
Reverend Monsignor Charles V. Antonicelli
Moderator of the Curia

Masses for the Week

Monday, March 25th (Gospel reading: Lk. 1: 26-38)
 7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Fr. Barbieri
 8:00 AM + Chester & Anabella Hogentogler Fr. Barbieri
 12 NOON Int. Liliana Shirvanian Msgr. Filardi
Tuesday, March 26th (Gospel reading: Mt. 18: 21-35)
 7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Msgr. Filardi
 8:00 AM + Dorothy Delacroix Msgr. Filardi
 12 NOON + Julie Scott Shashy Fr. Barbieri
Wednesday, March 27th (Gospel reading: Mt. 5: 17-19)
 7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Fr. Barbieri
 8:00 AM + Thomas R. Flynn Fr. Barbieri
 12 NOON Special Intention Msgr. Filardi
Thursday, March 28th (Gospel reading: Lk. 11: 14-23)
 7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Msgr. Filardi
 8:00AM + Thomas R. Flynn Msgr. Filardi
 12 NOON Int. Eleanor Walsh Fr. Barbieri
Friday, March 29th (Gospel reading: Mk. 12: 28-34)
 7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Fr. Barbieri
 8:00 AM + Thomas R. Flynn Fr. Barbieri
 12 NOON Int. Howard Walsh Msgr. Filardi
Saturday, March 30th (Gospel reading: Lk. 18: 9-14)
 8:00 AM Int. Mary Scott de Acevedo Msgr. Filardi
 11:00-11:55 AM Confessions Fr. Barbieri
 12 NOON Int. Thomas O. Magnetti Msgr. Filardi
 4:00-4:45 PM Confessions Msgr. Filardi
 5:00 PM + Pasquale Marinucci Fr. Barbieri
Sunday, March 31st (Gospel reading: Lk. 15: 1-3, 11-32)
 7:30 AM Priest's Intentions Msgr. Filardi
 9:00 AM Priest's Intentions Fr. Barbieri
 10:30 AM Priest's Intentions Msgr. Filardi
 12 NOON People of the Parish 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.

The bags for your Lenten Food Drive 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. 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.



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Office of Religious Education **301-654-5954** *Third Sunday of Lent*

In the Tenth Station Jesus is stripped of his garments. Clothing shows a person's social position; it shows a person's place in society, it makes that person someone. His public stripping means that Jesus is no longer anything at all, he is simply an outcast, despised by all alike. The moment of stripping reminds us of the expulsion from Paradise: God's splendor has fallen away from humanity, who now stands naked and exposed, unclad and ashamed. And so Jesus once more takes on the condition of fallen humanity.

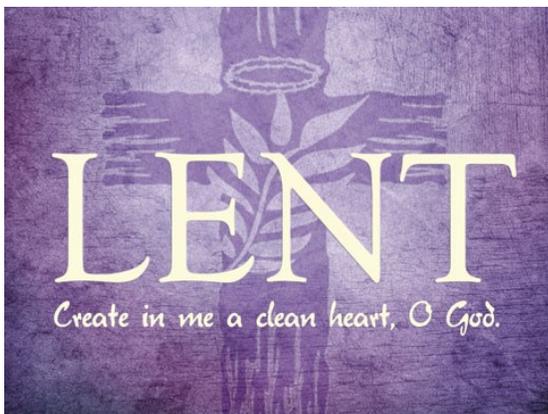
Lord Jesus, You were stripped of your garments, exposed to shame, cast out of society. You took upon yourself the shame of Adam, and You healed it. You also take upon yourself the sufferings and the needs of the poor, the outcasts of our world. And in this very way you fulfill the words of the prophets. This is how You bring meaning into apparent meaninglessness. This is how You make us realize that your Father holds You, us and the whole world in his hands. Give us a profound respect for humanity at every stage of existence and in all the situations in which we encounter people. *Clothe us in the light of your grace.*

(Source: Way of the Cross at the Colosseum; Good Friday 2005; Benedict XVI; copyright © 2005, Libreria Editrice Vaticana, Citta Del Vaticano)

The Maryland House passed 74-66 the *End of Life Options Act* on 08 March 2019. *It is gravely contrary to the dignity of the human person and to the respect due to the living God, his Creator.*
(CCC-Catechism of the Catholic Church 2324)

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.



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 began on Monday, March 18th at 7:00pm and takes place 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.catholicsinglesofgreaterwashington.org or call Tricia at 301-460-9195.

Into the Desert Prayer Series:

Is a 6-week video-based study on 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.

Into the Desert A Lenten Study on Prayer



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 Three - Lectio and Meditatio

In reading and meditating on Sacred Scripture, we begin to ascend the ladder of *lectio divina*, as open our hearts and minds to hear and understand God's words to us.

The Ladies of Lourdes:

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 9th starting at 7:30pm in the Library Media Center. Our presenter will be Deacon Anthony Federico who will speak on "*Everything I Learned About Praying While in Seminary*". Please join us as we continue on our Lenten journey. For further information please contact Barbara Black at fsbbob@verizon.net or 301-652-0749.

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**.

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.

Lenten Fish Fry:

The Monsignor Thomas Wells Society will be hosting a Lenten Fish Fry at Sacred Heart Church in Bowie on **Friday, March 29th, from 5:00-8:30pm**. Proceeds will be directed to the Sacred Heart Youth Group and the Msgr. Wells Society, which for 18 years has financially and prayerfully supported seminarians. Please join us up on the hill for mouth-watering fish, fries and cole slaw. If you have any questions, please call Kevin Wells at 240-381-3533 or Kari Flynn at 301-448-8618.



Did You or Your Child Attend St. Raphael Nursery School?

St. Raphael Nursery School in Rockville is celebrating its 50th anniversary and is looking for photos and memorabilia—and wants to spread the word about its



celebration for all on June 1st.

Details at: www.srnsm.org or call 301-762-2143. Tell your friends!

Parental and Spousal Bereavement Support Group:

St. Elizabeth Bereavement Ministry will offer an eight-week bereavement support group series for adults who have experienced the death of a parent, spouse or significant other. The Spring series will begin

Wednesday, April 10th and continue for eight consecutive Wednesdays through May 29th. This

will be an evening series running from 7:00 - 8:30pm. There is no fee but REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. To register contact Deacon Kevin Byrne at kevin_byrne@verizon.net or Claudia McAuliffe at 301-881-1457. Located at 917 Montrose Road, Rockville, MD 20852.

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.JMJ Tours.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 or ctoms@lourdesbethesda.net. The donation for the flowers is \$150.00.

Sick in Our Parish:

Please pray for our sick brothers and sisters, especially: **Alice McGurty and Sue Graham.**

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. 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: \$8,233**

First Sunday in Lent 2019 Offertory: \$11,466

Second Collection for March 31st, 2019: Easter Flowers

Our March Poor Box will be going to the Lenten Food Drive.

Bulletin Deadline:

Please have your printed notices at the Rectory office or emailed to 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 – Tercer Domingo de Cuaresma – Marzo 24, 2019

"La conversión del corazón "



Reflexionar es una conversión que no debe ser solamente una conversión exterior, sino que debe ir sobre todo hacia la conversión del corazón. La conversión del corazón que viene a ser el núcleo de toda la Cuaresma, es vista por la Escritura, como un momento de elección por parte del hombre que debe dirigir a Alguien. La pregunta es: ¿A quién dirigimos el corazón? ¿Hacia quién me estoy dirigiendo yo? En este período en el cual la Iglesia nos invita a reflexionar más profundamente tenemos que preguntarnos: ¿Hacia dónde voy yo?

Dios pone delante del pueblo de Israel el bien y el mal, diciéndole que puede elegir, decir a quién quiere servir, qué quiere hacer de su vida. Tú también vas a decidir si quieres vivir tu vida amando al Señor tu Dios, escuchando su voz, adhiriéndote a Él, o vas a tener un corazón que se resiste. Es en lo profundo de nuestra intimidad donde acabamos descubriendo hacia quién estamos orientando nuestra vida. La Escritura nos habla por un lado de un corazón que se resiste a Dios y por otro lado de un corazón que se adhiere a Dios. Mi corazón se resiste a Dios cuando no quiero ver su gracia, cuando no quiero ver su obra en mi vida, cuando no quiero ver su camino sobre mi existencia. Mi corazón se adhiere a Dios, cuando en medio de mil inquietudes, vicisitudes, en medio de mil circunstancias yo voy siendo capaz de descubrir, de encontrar, de amar, de ponerme de delante de Él y decirle: "aquí estoy, cuenta conmigo".

Jesús en el Evangelio nos presenta esta elección, entre resistencia del corazón y la adhesión del corazón como una adhesión por Él o contra Él: "El que quiera seguirme que se niegue a sí mismo, cargue su cruz cada día y se venga conmigo." Una conversión que no es solamente el cambiar el comportamiento; una conversión que no es simplemente el tener una doctrina diferente; una conversión que no es buscarse a sí mismo, sino seguir a Jesucristo. Esta es la auténtica conversión del corazón.

Jesús pone como polo opuesto, como manifestación de la resistencia del corazón el querer ganar todo el mundo. ¿Qué prefieres tú? ¿Cuál es la opción de tu vida, cuál es el camino por el cual tu vida se orienta, ganar todo el mundo si no te ganas a ti mismo?, pero si has perdido a base de la resistencia de tu corazón lo más importante que eres tú mismo, ¿cómo te puedes encontrar? Solamente te vas a encontrar adhiriéndote a Dios.

Deberíamos entrar en nuestra alma y ver que estamos ganando o qué estamos perdiendo, a qué nos estamos resistiendo y a quién nos estamos adhiriendo. Este es el doble juego que tenemos que hacer y no lo podemos evitar. Nuestra alma, de una forma u otra, se va a orientar hacia adherirse a Dios, automáticamente está construyendo en su interior la resistencia a Dios. El alma que no busca ganarse a sí misma dándose a Dios, está automáticamente perdiéndose a sí misma.

Son dos caminos. A nosotros nos toca elegir: "Dichoso el hombre que confía en el Señor, éste será dichoso; en cambio los malvados serán como paja barrida por el viento. El Señor protege el camino del justo y al malo sus caminos acaban por perderlo": ¿Qué camino llevo en este inicio de Cuaresma? ¿Es un camino de seguimiento? Me dice Nuestro Señor: ¿Eres de los que quieren estar conmigo, de los que quieren adherirse a Mí? ¿O eres de los que se resisten?

Avisos:

- **Dios sigue llamando hoy a más hermanos cristianos para encomendarles la tarea de catequizar, es decir, anunciar con su vida a Cristo. Nuestra Comunidad Hispana abre las inscripciones para todos los que sientan el llamado a catequizar y compartir su experiencia de Fe. Mayor información: Lourdes Baeza 301-4125259 y María Virginia Rodríguez 301-6024626.**
- **Todos los domingos de 11:45am a 1:15pm en la cafetería de la escuela: tenemos charlas, temas diversos, oración, Adoración al Santísimo Sacramento y confesiones el 1er y 3er domingo del mes. Mayor información con el Padre Rafael Barbieri, José Miguel Mejía y Margarita Rodezno.**

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: _____