

**A Letter from Our Pastor**

I had the opportunity on Monday to attend the consecration of two new bishops for the Archdiocese of the Military Service USA at the National Shrine. One of the candidates, Father Joe Coffey, was a chaplain at the naval base in Japan where my brother was stationed. They became good friends and I got to know Fr. Joe during my own visit there three years ago. He is a great choice.

The Shrine was full, including almost 200 priests. During the Mass I sat towards the back next to a nice young priest from out of the area. And for the next two plus hours I had the experience of his regular recourse to an ever available smartphone. At times he held it above the sea of heads for a quick photo, at others he caught up on reading (spiritual no doubt), or attended to incoming texts, responding in kind. And while trying to ignore it, I strained to refrain from glancing over. There is something about a glowing screen that has a powerful pull. At one point in the solemn ceremony the silence was interrupted by a soft ringtone nearby, reminiscent of phones in my youth. This is how things are nowadays and I suspect for him an effective and even dutiful use of time.

In our own church I have long posted a sign asking for the disarmament of devices. I am sure it is roundly ignored. After all they can be used for so many good and even holy purposes. Last Sunday we heard of Moses's encounter in the desert with the Burning Bush. As Moses approached "this remarkable sight" none other than God Himself spoke, "the place where you stand is holy ground." Our churches are sacred territory in which we come before the same, if more subtle, Presence.

In His Presence we called to be present. This can be difficult and requires some self-discipline. But by our own posture and prayer we can help others do the same.

- Msgr. Edward Filardi

**Masses for the Week**

<b>Monday, April 1st</b> (Gospel reading: Jn. 4: 43-54)		
7:00 AM	+ Onyioza Maris Asuku	Fr. Barbieri
8:00 AM	+ Thomas R. Flynn	Fr. Barbieri
12 NOON	Int. Tiffany O'Toole	Msgr. Filardi
<b>Tuesday, April 2nd</b> (Gospel reading: Jn. 5: 1-16)		
7:00 AM	+ Onyioza Maris Asuku	Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM	+ Thomas R. Flynn	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	+ Laffly Ledentu Family	Fr. Barbieri
<b>Wednesday, April 3rd</b> (Gospel reading: Jn. 5: 17-30)		
7:00 AM	+ Onyioza Maris Asuku	Fr. Barbieri
8:00 AM	+ Thomas R. Flynn	Fr. Barbieri
12 NOON	+ Canses Smith	Msgr. Filardi
<b>Thursday, April 4th</b> (Gospel reading: Jn. 5: 31-47)		
7:00 AM	+ Onyioza Maris Asuku	Msgr. Filardi
8:00AM	+ Mary Sheehan	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	+ Ellen Wycoski	Fr. Barbieri
<b>Friday, April 5th</b> (Gospel reading: Jn. 7: 1-2, 10, 25-30)		
7:00 AM	+ Kathleen T. Royals	Fr. Barbieri
8:00 AM	+ Kathleen T. Royals	Fr. Barbieri
12 NOON	Int. Sr. Maureen O'Keeffe	Msgr. Filardi
<b>Saturday, April 6th</b> (Gospel reading: Jn. 7: 40-53)		
8:00 AM	Int. Jane Monte	Fr. Barbieri
11:00-11:55 AM	Confessions	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	+ George Bridge	Fr. Barbieri
4:00-4:45 PM	Confessions	Fr. Barbieri
5:00 PM	+ Joseph Can Ngoc Pham	Msgr. Filardi
<b>Sunday, April 7th</b> (Gospel reading: Jn. 8: 1-11)		
7:30 AM	Priest's Intentions	Fr. Barbieri
9:00 AM	Priest's Intentions	Msgr. Filardi
10:30 AM	Priest's Intentions	Fr. Barbieri
12 NOON	Priest's Intentions	Msgr. Filardi
1:30 PM	People of the Parish	Fr. Barbieri

***The collection for the Lenten 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.

***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.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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

The Third Word: *Woman, Behold Your Son*  
The Angel of light went out from the great white Throne of Light and descended past the daughters of the great kingdoms and empires, and came to where a humble virgin of Nazareth knelt in prayer, and said, *"Hail, full of grace!"* These were not words; they were the Word. *"And the Word became flesh."* This was the first Annunciation. Nine months passed and once more an angel from the great white Throne of Light came down to the shepherds on Judean hills, teaching them the joy of a *"Gloria in excelsis,"* and bidding them to worship Him Whom the world could not contain, Eternity became time, Divinity incarnate, God a man; Omnipotence was discovered in bonds.

Then came Nazareth and the carpenter shop where one can imagine the Divine Boy, fashioning a little cross in anticipation of a great Cross that would one day be His on Calvary. . . . imagine His Mother seeing in each nail the prophecy and the telltale of a day when men would carpenter to a Cross the One who carpentered the universe.

Nazareth passed into Calvary. From the Cross He had committed His blood to the Church, His garments to His enemies, a thief to Paradise, and would soon commend His body to the grave and His soul to His Heavenly Father. Then to the two treasures which He love above all others, Mary and John? He would bequeath them to one another giving a son to His Mother and a Mother to His friend. **"Women!"** It was the second Annunciation! . . . an angel made the first Annunciation, but it is God's own sweet voice which makes the second.

**"Behold your son!"** It was the second Nativity! Mary brought forth her Firstborn without labor, now she brings forth her second-born, John, in the labors of the Cross. Divine condemnation against Eve is now renewed against the new Eve, Mary, for she is bringing forth her children by the Blood of her heart. It was by weakness and disobedience at the foot of the tree of Good and Evil that Eve lost the title, Mother of the Living; it is at the foot of the tree of the Cross that Mary, by sacrifice and obedience, regained for us the title, Mother of the Living. What a destiny to have the Mother of God as my Mother and Jesus as my brother!

(Source: Bishop Fulton J. Sheen *The Seven Last Words*; Alba House, New York; Society of Saint Paul, © copyright 1996, last 2000)

### **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.

### **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.



**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.



**2019 Holy Week Schedule:**

**Wednesday, April 17th:**

Eucharistic Adoration and Confessions available in English and Spanish from 6:00-7:00pm.

**Holy Thursday: April 18th:**

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7:30pm  
**(NO DAILY MASSES).**

**Good Friday: April 19th:**

11:00am confessions, 12:00pm Stations of the Cross, 5:00pm Lord's Passion, 7:00pm Stations of the Cross (Spanish), 8:00pm Lord's Passion (Spanish)  
**(NO DAILY MASSES).**

**Holy Saturday: April 20th:**

11:00am Confessions, 8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass  
**(NO DAILY MASSES AND NO 5:00PM MASS).**

**Easter Sunday: April 21st:**

Masses at: 7:30, 9:00, and 10:30am, 12:00 Noon, and 1:30pm (Spanish).



**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.

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



**The program is on Wednesday evenings at 7:15pm,** with an episode to watch each week.

**Week Four - Oratio**

**Using the example of St. Augustine and the Psalms, Dr. Gary teaches us how to make the most out of *oratio* and enjoy the fruits of an intimate conversation with Our Lord.**

**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.

***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.

***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 16th, 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**.

***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.

***Knights of Columbus  
CASH BINGO on Friday, May 3rd:***

Taking place at Mother Seton Parish Center. Doors open at 5:00pm, Bingo starts at 7:00pm. Over \$1500 in cash prizes! Admission is \$25/player with extra door prize ticket if paid by April 28th; \$30/player after April 28th (if not sold out again). Admission includes door prize raffle ticket, *double 3* by 20 game book since no dinner this time (eat before arrival, or bring your dinner), snacks *and fun*. Yummy desserts and soft drinks will be available for purchase. Must be 18 or older to attend and no alcohol is allowed. For more info and to register, including reserved seating for 8-10 paid player groups, contact Warren Pfister at wpfreetoam@gmail.com. If May 3rd does not fit your schedule or Bingo is not your thing, donations are also welcome.



***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](http://www.srnsm.org) or call 301-762-2143. Tell your friends!

***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](http://www.catholicsinglesofgreaterwashington.org) or call Tricia at 301-460-9195.

***Cathedral Penance Service:***

The Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle invites you to experience the love of Christ through the Sacrament of Reconciliation at a **Lenten Communal Penance Service, "Come Home for Easter," on Tuesday, April 16th at 12:10pm**. More than 15 priests will be available for individual confessions, including Spanish-speaking and other foreign language confessors. The Cathedral is located at 1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, between Connecticut Ave. and 17th St., near the Red Line Farragut North Metro station. For more information, visit: <https://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/Lent2019>.

***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](mailto:kevin_byrne@verizon.net) or Claudia McAuliffe at 301-881-1457. Located at 917 Montrose Road, Rockville, MD 20852.

**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.

**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.

**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:ClaireToms@lourdesbethesda.net), or fill out the form in this bulletin.**

**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)*



**Second Sunday in Lent 2019 Offertory: Figures unavailable due to early deadline.**

**Second Collection for April 7th, 2019: None**

**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](mailto:office@lourdesbethesda.net) by **Monday at 3:00 PM.**

**Sign of Peace During Flu Season:**

Due to the severity of the flu season that is lingering longer, after the Lord's prayer the priest may exercise the option of withholding the "Sign of Peace." Please note you always have the option of expressing the Sign of Peace through a bow or a wave.



**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 – Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma – Marzo 31, 2019

**"Tu hermano estaba muerto y ha vuelto a la vida "**



Está escrito que el Señor es "compasivo" en el sentido que nos concede la gracia, tiene compasión y, en su grandeza, se inclina sobre quien es débil y pobre, siempre listo para acoger, comprender y perdonar. Es como el padre de la parábola del Evangelio de san Lucas: un padre que no se cierra en el resentimiento por el abandono del hijo menor, sino que al contrario continúa esperándolo —lo ha generado— y después corre a su encuentro y lo abraza, no lo deja ni siquiera terminar su confesión —como si le cubriera la boca—, qué grande es el amor y la alegría por haberlo reencontrado; y después va también a llamar al hijo mayor, que está indignado y no quiere hacer fiesta, el hijo que ha permanecido siempre en la casa, pero viviendo como un siervo más que como un hijo, y también sobre él el padre se inclina, lo invita a entrar, busca abrir su corazón al amor, para que ninguno quede excluido de la fiesta de la misericordia. ¡La

misericordia es una fiesta!

De este Dios misericordioso se dice también que es "lento a la ira", literalmente, "largo en su respiración", es decir, con la respiración amplia de paciencia y de la capacidad de soportar. Dios sabe esperar, sus tiempos no son aquellos impacientes de los hombres; Él es como un sabio agricultor que sabe esperar, deja tiempo a la buena semilla para que crezca, a pesar de la cizaña.

Sabiendo que somos hijos de Dios pensamos que lo merecemos todo. A veces no somos ni capaces de agradecer a nuestro Creador por el gran don de la vida. Y, mucho menos, nos esforzamos por corresponder a su amor infinito. ¿Cuánto hemos recibido de Dios? ¡Todo! Sin embargo, lo vemos como una obligación de parte de Él. Podríamos llegar a quejarnos cuando no recibimos lo que queremos y tal vez hasta hemos llegado al punto de exigirle.

Dios, en su infinita bondad, no cesa de colmarnos de sus gracias y hasta cumple con nuestros caprichos. No importa si le agradecemos o no.

Lo más hermoso es ver que Dios no se cansa y por mucho que nos alejemos de Él, cuando deseamos volver, ahí está con los brazos abiertos esperándonos con un corazón lleno de amor.

Dios es el Pastor que se alegra al encontrar la oveja perdida. Él es el Padre misericordioso que espera a su hijo perdido con grandes ansias, le perdona cualquier falta cuando ve un verdadero arrepentimiento y lo llena de su amor.

**Digamos a Cristo: "Señor Tú lo sabes todo tú sabes que te quiero".**

**Avisos:**

- **Invitamos a todos a asistir a la representación del Vía Crucis el 14 de Abril a las 11.30 am en la cafetería.**
- **Asimismo, el viernes 19 de Abril después de la misa en la Iglesia, tendremos el Vía Crucis en Español.**
- **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 301-412-5259 y María Virginia Rodríguez 301-602-4626.**
- **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: \_\_\_\_\_

DIRECCION: \_\_\_\_\_ APTO: \_\_\_\_\_ CIUDAD: \_\_\_\_\_

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