

A Letter from Our Pastor

A parishioner approached me last Sunday after my second Mass with a joyless expression, "Did you hear what happened in Sri Lanka?" I had not. He mentioned the bombing of churches and over a hundred lost. (Now we know over 300.) And for a moment I wished I had not heard. At the time I did not realize that three Catholic churches were the main focus, but who they were was not the point. What a grievous evil to target death to any group of people, but it seems especially sinister to do so to any people at prayer. This Sunday, sometimes called Divine Mercy Sunday, let us offer prayer for God's mercy on our world. Mercy has been described as divine medicine, the means to not only spiritual cleansing, but also mending. May his gracious mercy heal our hearts and from us flow to hurting humanity.

- Msgr. Edward Filardi

Masses for the Week

Monday, April 29th (Gospel reading: Jn. 3: 1-8)		
7:00 AM	+ Onyioza Maris Asuku	Fr. Barbieri
8:00 AM	+ Florence Crisafulli	Fr. Barbieri
12 NOON	Int. Kate Cox	Msgr. Filardi
Tuesday, April 30th (Gospel reading: Jn. 3: 7b-15)		
7:00 AM	+ Onyioza Maris Asuku	Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM	+ Dario Marchesan	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	Int. James O'Connell, Jr.	Fr. Barbieri
Wednesday, May 1st (Gospel reading: Jn. 3: 16-21)		
7:00 AM	+ Joseph Can Ngoc Pham	Fr. Barbieri
8:00 AM	+ Onyioza Maris Asuku	Fr. Barbieri
12 NOON	+ Peter Rudnicki	Msgr. Filardi
Thursday, May 2nd (Gospel reading: Jn. 3: 31-36)		
7:00 AM	+ Onyioza Maris Asuku	Msgr. Filardi
8:00AM	+ Jack Delaney	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	Souls in Purgatory	Fr. Barbieri
Friday, May 3rd (Gospel reading: Jn. 14: 6-14)		
7:00 AM	+ Onyioza Maris Asuku	Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM	+ Margaret Dunnington	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	Int. Charles Carroll	Msgr. Filardi
Saturday, May 4th (Gospel reading: Jn. 6: 16-21)		
8:00 AM	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Msgr. Filardi
11:00-11:55 AM	Confessions	Fr. MacFarlane
12 NOON	+ Andrew & Mildred Sheridan	Fr. MacFarlane
4:00-4:45 PM	Confessions	Msgr. Filardi
5:00 PM	+ Dezider Kosecka & Son	Msgr. Filardi
Sunday, May 5th (Gospel reading: Jn. 21: 1-19)		
7:30 AM	Priest's Intentions	Msgr. Filardi
9:00 AM	Priest's Intentions	Msgr. Filardi
10:30 AM	People of the Parish	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	Priest's Intentions	Fr. MacFarlane
1:30 PM	Priest's Intentions	Fr. Sass

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.

Divine Mercy Sunday

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION **Second Sunday of Easter/ Divine Mercy Sunday**

Priests are not just "hosts" to the parish community; they are really fathers and consequently the heads of their parish families. They must make an effort to be accessible as father figures within their parishes. Christ explicitly said, "If you have seen me, you have seen the Father," and every priest is himself called to be and alter Christus.

It is also vital that priests themselves develop a strong identity as father. One of the primary functions of a father is to defend his family, and this is how priests must understand their role as well. This identity has been too often neglected of late in our culture, in our family life, and even within the life of the Church—that is, fathers are not just one of two equivalent or interchangeable parents, they have a unique role as men and as heads of their families. Similarly, priests are not just "hosts" to the parish community, they are really fathers and consequently the heads of their parish families. This means that their identity is not simply that of the "nice guy," but that of an upright man with a family that depends on him, perhaps more now than ever in the past. The manner in which they carry themselves, maintain discipline and deal with their parish families (especially the children) is more important than it has ever been before, because so many young people—and even many adults—are watching them intently, looking at them not only for spiritual leadership but also as fathers in the most essential and foundational sense of the word.

(Taken from: homiletic & pastoral review © Ignatius Press Dec 2008; *Priests and the Importance of Fatherhood* by Dr. Paul Vitz, PH.D. Psychology at the Institute for Psychological Sciences and Father Daniel C. Vitz, Institute of the Incarnate Word; pg. 22)

On Good Friday, April 19 2019 Father Daniel C. Vitz went into eternity as we now commend him to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Many years ago, Father Vitz came with his other brother seminarians of the Incarnate Word to teach and attend Mass with the children of the Hispanic Community. While attending the Mass, the children would be dismissed to break open the Word with the seminarians and then return for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. *Requiescat in pace; may he rest in peace.*

Sat. May 4: At 10:00 AM, approximately 41 children will receive their First Holy Communion.

Sat. May 11: At the 5:00 PM Mass, the Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on approximately 50 confirmands by His Excellency Mario E. Dorsonville Auxiliary Bishop of Washington.

What Can I do? – Matthew 25:45:

The Bible commands us to help "the least of these, my brothers and sisters..." Matthew 25:45. In our culture of death, no doubt the "least of these our brothers and sisters" are the defenseless, innocent children in the womb who are so incredibly vulnerable. So, here are some ideas of what we can do to make a real difference:

- ◆ Join or Support the Respect Life Committee in your Parish
 - ◆ Support a Gabriel Project in Your Parish
 - ◆ Meet with and write to your Legislators as a Constituent, Communicating the Catholic Church Position on Life Issues
- ◆ Support Local Pregnancy Centers by donating Your Time, Talents, and Treasure
- ◆ Tell Others about Project Rachel, a Post- Abortion Reconciliation/Counseling
 - ◆ Pray for Those Who Have Been Involved in an Abortion
 - ◆ Pray for the life of all, particularly giving witness outside our local abortion clinics

"From the first moment of existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person—among which is the inviolable right of every innocent human being to life."

Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Art of Prayer:

Taking place on Sunday evenings from 6:00 - 7:00pm at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, DC (3900 Harewood Rd., NE), The Art of Prayer includes a presentation on interior prayer, time for silent meditation, and a sung Sunday Vespers service. For more information, visit: jp2shrine.org or email pastoral.programs@jp2shrine.org.



National Parks of the West Trip:

Msgr. Jack MacFarlane will join us for this adventure trip to some of our most beautiful National Parks, including the Grand Canyon, Bryce, Zion, Grand Teton, Yellowstone and Mount Rushmore. The dates are **September 9th - 20th** and registrations are being taken now. For further details and a registration flyer, please contact Kathy Swartz at k2000swartz@hotmail.com or 240-506-6016.

Evenings with the Merciful Jesus:

On the 22nd of every month from 7:00-10:00pm, the Saint John Paul II National Shrine in Washington, DC (3900 Harewood Rd., NE) hosts a gathering for young adults and the young at heart, featuring a talk, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with praise and worship music, Confession, refreshments, and a time for fellowship. Please contact events@jp2shrine.org or visit jp2shrine.org for more information.

The Ark Encounter & Creation Museum:

The Ark Encounter & Creation Museum is being presented by The Daughters of Isabella. The price is \$604 for 5 days and nights, from **May 6th-10th, 2019**. Includes meals and admission to three museums, lodging, a visit to a casino and much more. For more information and reservations contact Janice Williams at 202-263-9098 or Debbie Baker at 202-584-1130.



Easter Octave Concert:

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception invites you to attend the annual Easter Octave Organ Recital on **Sunday, April 28th at 6:00pm** in the Great Upper Church. The organist for this recital will be Clay Christiansen of Salt Lake City, Utah. This event is free and open to the public and no tickets or reservations are required. The Basilica offers free parking and is conveniently located within walking distance of the Brookland-CUA Station of Metro's Red Line. For more information, please call the Basilica at 202-526-8300.

The 17th Annual Asian and Pacific Island Catholics Marian Pilgrimage:

On Saturday, May 4th, the 17th Annual Asian and Pacific Island Catholics Marian Pilgrimage will be held at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. This annual event brings together many Asian and Pacific Island Catholic communities to celebrate their heritage and Marian devotions. His Excellency Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, will be the main celebrant and homilist. Confession begins at 12:00pm, with the Procession and Call to Prayer at 1:00pm, Rosary at 2:00pm, and Holy Mass at 2:30pm. For more information, please contact Sr. Myrna Tordillo at 202-541-3384 or mtordillo@usccb.org or Dr. Fred Semendy at 703-472-2032 or apcnmail@gmail.com.

Clases de Planificación Familiar en Español:

La Oficina de Vida Familiar está auspiciando clase de Planificación Familiar en español para parejas en el 2019 (Ver volante adjunto). Las clases se dan en la Misión San Andres localizada en el 12247 de la Avenida Georgia, Silver Spring, MD 20902- Salón 301. Las clases serán el sábado el sábado **4 de mayo y sábado 1ro de junio**. La pareja debe de asistir ambos sábados para aprender el método. El costo es de \$40 por el pago de materiales. Para inscribirse por favor envíe un correo electrónico a la Oficina de Vida Familiar: signovisible@adw.org o llámenos al 301-853-4546.



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 or call Tricia at 301-460-9195.

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**.

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 began **Wednesday, April 10th and will 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.

**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 wpfreetoroam@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.srnsmid.org or call 301-762-2143. Tell your friends!

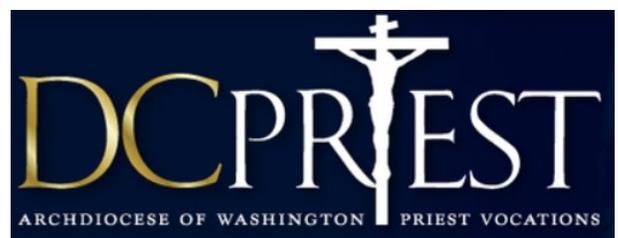
Christmas Markets on the Rhine:

If you've thought about visiting some European Christmas Markets but haven't gotten around to it yet, now's your chance! **November 30th - December 8th**, join fellow Catholics (and anyone else interested) in a river cruise along the Rhine to check out some of these lovely markets. We'll begin in Basel, Switzerland and travel to Strasbourg, France, Rudesheim, Germany, Cologne, Germany and finish in Amsterdam – all with only having to unpack once on our luxury riverboat. For further details and a registration flyer, please contact Kathy Swartz at k2000swartz@hotmail.com or 240-506-6016).

Men's Discernment Dinner:

Sunday, May 19th, 2019 from 5:00pm - 8:30pm:

All single men, college age and up, who are practicing Catholics are invited to attend a Men's Discernment Dinner held at Saint John Paul II Seminary. The evening will include Mass, dinner, and a chance to discuss the priesthood with priests, seminarians, and other young men from the Washington D.C. area. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Mark Ivany, Director of Priest Vocations, at 202-636-9020 or vocations@adw.org. Register online at: www.DCpriest.org.



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.

Deceased in Our Parish:

Please pray for our deceased brothers and sisters, especially: **Kristrinah Ayala.**

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.

Bulletin Deadline:

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

Give the Gift of Service:

Catholic Charities DC encourages you to give back by taking advantage of a variety of volunteer opportunities available in Washington, DC and southern Maryland. For more information on volunteering with Catholic Charities, or to register to volunteer, visit: catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer.

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)



Fifth Sunday in Lent 2019 Offertory: \$10,992

Palm Sunday 2019 Offertory: \$12,122

Second Collection for May 5th, 2019: School Support

Our April Poor Box will be going to Gabriel's Project, a Christian ministry of loving service to women and families challenged with a crisis pregnancy. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sign of Peace During Flu Season:

Due to the lingering flu season, the priest may exercise the option of withholding the "Sign of Peace" after the Lord's Prayer.



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: _____

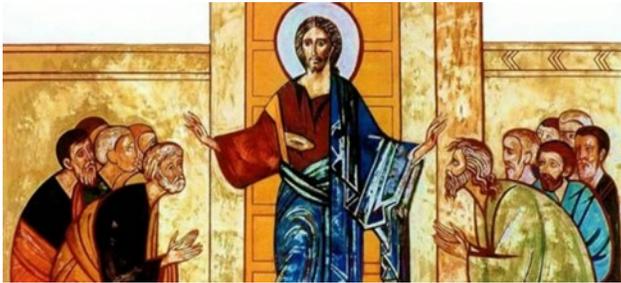
_____ I/we am/are new to the parish. Welcome!

_____ 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 Domingo de Pascua – Abril 28, 2019

"La Paz este con ustedes"



Es el bello saludo con que Jesús, después de resucitar, se les presenta a los discípulos, como dice el evangelio de hoy, cuando acababan de regresar los discípulos de Emaús, que lo reconocieron al partir el pan.

San Juan Pablo II quiso dedicar a la Divina Misericordia: están las llagas gloriosas de Cristo Resucitado... las llagas de Jesús son un escándalo para la fe, pero son también la comprobación de la fe. Por eso, en el cuerpo de Cristo resucitado las llagas no desaparecen, permanecen, porque aquellas llagas son el signo permanente del amor de Dios por nosotros, y son indispensables

para creer en Dios. No para creer que Dios existe, sino para creer que Dios es amor, misericordia, fidelidad. San Pedro, citando a Isaías, escribe a los cristianos: "Sus heridas nos han curado".

El Papa San Juan Pablo II, el 7 de abril de 2002, también comentaba este pasaje evangélico:

"¡La Paz este con ustedes! Es un saludo que se encuentra en nuestro corazón, en estas horas, un eco particularmente profundo... La Paz es don de Dios... La liturgia de hoy nos invita a encontrar en la Misericordia divina el manantial de la auténtica paz que nos ofrece Cristo Resucitado. Las llagas del Señor resucitado y glorioso constituyen el signo permanente del amor misericordioso de Dios a la humanidad. De ellas se irradia una luz espiritual, que ilumina las conciencias e infunde en los corazones consuelo y esperanza.

Jesús, ¡en ti confío!, repetimos en esta hora complicada y difícil, sabiendo que necesitamos esa Misericordia divina que hace medio siglo el Señor manifestó con tanta generosidad a santa Faustina Kowalska.

Allí donde son más arduas las pruebas y las dificultades, más insistente ha de ser la invocación al Señor resucitado y más ferviente la imploración del don de su Espíritu, manantial de amor y de paz."

Avisos:

- **El domingo 5 de Mayo, será la clausura del curso de Catequesis, los esperamos en la cafetería a las 11:15 am.**
- **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: _____