

**A Letter from Our Pastor**

It has been a year sadly full of scandal, so the latest news from Visitation Preparatory School is like another searing dagger to the heart. Sister Mary Berchmans, the school's president emerita recently sent out a letter saying that the alumnae magazine will publish announcements of same-sex unions. Before I comment further, let me say that there are few, if any, Catholic figures in our area more widely known and revered than Sister Berchmans. In my mind she has always been an inspiring figure of presence and dignity. But this only adds to the concern that this compromise will more widely sow confusion and endanger souls. According to a news article this decision was prefaced by a "chat group" campaign formed to "urge the school to change its policy." Sister, to justify this capitulation in your letter you rightly state Church teaching, but then wrongly set-up a false dichotomy. You write, "The Church is clear in its teaching on same-sex marriages. But it is equally clear in its teaching that we are all children of God, that we each have dignity and are worthy of respect and love." You then claim to "have prayed over this contradiction." There is no contradiction in these two statements. And with due respect, I find it hard to believe that you do not know better. Love is not an excuse for license, nor does love require one to condone or comply with any and all behavior. Actually, real love does just the opposite, seeking above all the greater good of the other. Sister you said, "We know from history – including recent history – that the Church, in its humanity, makes mistakes." But are not the abuses that have done so much damage due precisely to this same deceptive thinking which divides "law" from "love", flouts facts for feelings?

The physical logic to man and woman underlies the very meaning of marriage. Biology matters. Furthermore from our Christian perspective "*in the image of God He created him; male and female he created them.*" Gen. 1:27 This match shows forth the image of God like no other. To treat any other arrangement as "marriage", belittles what God has created, and mocks God, and causes great confusion.

**Masses for the Week**

**Monday, May 20th** (Gospel reading: Jn. 14: 21-26)  
 7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Fr. Barbieri  
 8:00 AM + Hertha Vanaria Fr. Barbieri  
 12 NOON + Lillian Augenstein Msgr. Filardi  
**Tuesday, May 21st** (Gospel reading: Jn. 14: 27-31a)  
 7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Msgr. Filardi  
 8:00 AM + Florence Crisafulli Msgr. Filardi  
 12 NOON + Chester & Anabella Hogentogler Fr. M  
**Wednesday, May 22nd** (Gospel reading: Jn. 15: 1-8)  
 7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Fr. Barbieri  
 8:00 AM + Dorothy Delacroix Fr. Barbieri  
 12 NOON + Victor Landa Msgr. Filardi  
**Thursday, May 23rd** (Gospel reading: Jn. 15: 9-11)  
 7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Msgr. Filardi  
 8:00AM + Charles Meyer Msgr. Filardi  
 12 NOON + George & Cecilia Baldwin Fr. Barbieri  
**Friday, May 24th** (Gospel reading: Jn. 15: 12-17)  
 7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku Fr. Barbieri  
 8:00 AM + Linda Silberg Fr. Barbieri  
 12 NOON Int. Gerry Brodnitzki Msgr. Filardi  
**Saturday, May 25th** (Gospel reading: Jn. 15: 18-21)  
 8:00 AM + Louise Fox Msgr. Filardi  
 11:00-11:55 AM Confessions Fr. Barbieri  
 12 NOON + Patrick & Daniel Curtin Msgr. Filardi  
 4:00-4:45 PM Confessions Msgr. Filardi  
 5:00 PM + Jack Townsend Fr. Barbieri  
**Sunday, May 26th** (Gospel reading: Jn. 14: 23-29)  
 7:30 AM People of the Parish Msgr. Filardi  
 9:00 AM Priest's Intentions Fr. Barbieri  
 10:30 AM Priest's Intentions Msgr. Filardi  
 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.

Sister, I am sure this decision takes a lot of pressure off of you, secures the financial fortune of your 220 year-old academy, and will make you the toast of the town. But is it worth becoming toast? And worse leading others to the same? Sister, you have beautifully given yourself to God and our Church in consecrated life for 70 years and have done so much good. For this I offer my highest admiration. Why betray it now?

- Msgr. Edward Filardi

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

*Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age,* (Matthew 28: 19-20). The command of Jesus Christ to his apostles sets the course from the very beginning for the Church's fundamental mission to make disciples of all nations.

Catechesis from the Greek word meaning "to echo the teaching" is the Church's ministry of teaching and forming people in faith. Catechists assist the pastors and bishops in guiding people to a living faith. In blessed gratitude we wish to thank all the catechists at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish. They are: Ms Christa Childs and Mrs. Alejandra Flores-Kindergarten; Ms. Malevis Molina & High School Assistant, Erika Reed-First Grade; Ms. Kathleen Carliner-First Penance & First Holy Communion; Dr. Ellen Sarnecky-Third Grade & Adult Bible Study; Mrs. Isabelle Buchanan-Fourth Grade; Mr. Jack Buchanan-Fifth and Sixth Grade; Mr. Joseph Monte-Seventh Grade; Mr. Daniel Gannon-Confirmation; Mrs. Anne Hoover-Special Needs Catechetical Preparation; Ms. Mary Bird, Ms. Charlotte Hanstad, Mrs. Jacqueline McCloskey, and Mrs. Erin Prangley-Substitute Catechists; and Mrs. Grace Gilmore -Administrative Secretary.

In addition, we are ever grateful to all the staff of Our Lady of Lourdes Church who have been exceptionally gracious with their time and good works: Ms. Sheri Golden & Mrs. Claire Toms-Parish Staff; Mr. Luis Argueta, Mr. Mario Garcia, Mr. Oscar Rodriguez, Mrs. Sonia Castillo, & Mrs. Jessica Contreras-all maintenance/set ups; Mrs. Linda Hardin-rectory; Mr. Tony Ayala-security; Mrs. Eleanor Brennan-Coffee & Donuts; Choir, Mr. Paul Newport-Director, Mrs. Mary Gresock-Soprano Cantor; Mr. Gregory Gannon & Mrs. Patricia Severinsen-organists.

To the most important persons in the life of the child, their parents who continue to proclaim the faith in the home; to the children who are reminded to share their Catholic faith with others, **the great commission**, and to know and love God and one another, **the great commandment**. To Monsignor Edward Filardi and Father Rafael Barbieri for their kind support, prayers, daily Mass and Confession throughout the years. We are truly blessed.

Jessica Seixas Coan, Director of Religious Education.

### **The Catholic Business Network of Washington D.C.**

Dear Friends,

Please join the Catholic Business Network of Washington D.C. for our monthly breakfast and networking reception on **Thursday, May 30th from 8:00-9:30am** at the Great Hall in Saint Matthew's Cathedral. Our guest speaker will be Nathan Scott, CEO of Queen Consulting and Technologies.

The Catholic Business Network of Washington D.C. (CBN-D.C.) is an independent nonprofit organization bringing together businesses and individual professionals to create valuable business and networking opportunities through monthly networking receptions and an annual gala.

All fundraising efforts from CBN-D.C.'s events and sponsorships go to support students in need at Catholic schools in Washington D.C. in the form of scholarship and grant opportunities.

For additional information or to register, please visit our website at: [www.cbndc.org](http://www.cbndc.org) or contact Justin Silvers at (202) 957-5188 or [jsilvers@cbndc.org](mailto:jsilvers@cbndc.org).



### **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](mailto:events@jp2shrine.org) or visit [jp2shrine.org](http://jp2shrine.org) for more information.

### **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](http://jp2shrine.org) or email [pastoral.programs@jp2shrine.org](mailto: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 9<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>** and registrations are being taken now. For further details and a registration flyer, please contact Kathy Swartz at [k2000swartz@hotmail.com](mailto:k2000swartz@hotmail.com) or 240-506-6016.



### ***Father Foley 40th Anniversary:***

The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament cordially invites you to a reception celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ordination of Fr. Bill Foley. Father is our current pastor and was previously assigned to Our Lady of Lourdes. The reception is being held in the school auditorium on **Sunday, May 19th after the 12:30pm mass**. The church is located at 3630 Quesada Street, Washington, DC 20015 just off of Chevy Chase Circle.

### ***Day of Recollection:***

St. Michael the Archangel Parish invites you to a wonderful one-day retreat/Day of Recollection devoted to our Blessed Mother and Daily Living the Joy of the Gospels, open to both men and women of the Archdiocese, at the Washington Retreat House, 4000 Harewood Road, NE, Washington, DC 20017, on **Saturday, May 25th, 2019, from 9:00am - 3:00pm**. Retreat Director is Fr. Paul Dressler, OFM Cap, director of seminary formation for the Capuchin-Franciscans at Capuchin College (Washington, D.C.); he also serves as chaplain at Archbishop Carroll High School; and on many Sundays he can be found celebrating mass at St. Augustine's Parish, where he has assisted for over seven years. Cost is \$40. Please make your check out to Washington Retreat House.) For registration and information, call Cecelia Flores ASAP at 240-793-4117 and leave your name and telephone number indicating you are calling about the One-Day Retreat/Day of Recollection.

### ***Quo Vadis Camp:***

The Office of Priest Vocations annual Quo Vadis Camp for high school aged young men will be held at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary from **July 28th - 31st, 2019**. For four days, high school aged young men who desire to grow in holiness will have an opportunity for Mass, prayer, and Eucharistic adoration, as well time for fraternity, sports, and reflection. Bus transportation is available. More information is available and registration is open at: [www.DCpriest.org](http://www.DCpriest.org). Please contact the Office of Priest Vocations at [vocations@adw.org](mailto:vocations@adw.org) or 202-636-9020 with any questions.

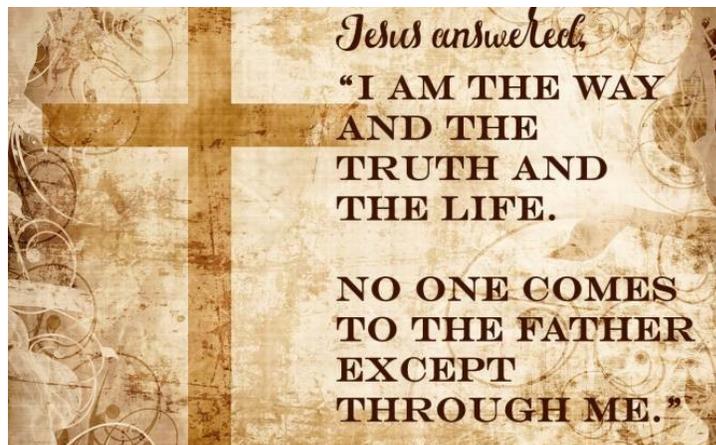
### ***Study of Saints (SoS) Book Club:***

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. Meets on the fifth Sundays of the month from 3:00-4:00pm in the Delacroix Conference Room in the narthex.

**The next meeting will be June 30th on the book "Divine Mercy in My Soul -Diary of Saint M. Faustina Kowalska", Marian Press.**

### ***Pro-Life Event:***

Rosary Tour on **Memorial Day, Monday, May 27th, 2019** at four abortion facilities. Contact Bill Luksic at 301-461-9282 or [bluksic1@verizon.net](mailto:bluksic1@verizon.net).



***Our Lady of Lourdes School  
Alumni Corner:***

**Class of 1969 50th Reunion** - Plans are getting underway for the 50th reunion of the Class of 1969 to be held this Fall. Interested in helping plan the event? Please contact Mrs. Nan Kiyonaga at [nkiyonaga@bethesda-lourdes.org](mailto:nkiyonaga@bethesda-lourdes.org). Looking forward to hearing from the Class of '69!

**Our Lady of Lourdes School Alumni Database Update Underway** - We are looking for updated contact information from all our alumni so we can let you know about upcoming reunions, important school events, etc. Please visit the school website [bethesda-lourdes.org](http://bethesda-lourdes.org) and fill out the alumni contact information form in order to be included in the updated alumni database. We want to make sure we have your correct address and e-mail information so we can send you school and alumni announcements. Please spread the word to fellow classmates!

**Spots are still available in our 3 year old Little Group Program! For more information contact Ms. Winters at (301) 654-5376.**

**On Sunday, May 19th,** the Our Lady of Lourdes eighth graders will be hosting a bake sale following the 5:00pm, 7:30am, 9:00am, 10:30am and 12 Noon Masses. Proceeds will go towards their legacy gift.



***Funeral Volunteers Needed:***

Please consider assisting families in their time of grief as a Funeral Mass volunteer. Duties include lecturing, handing out programs, and Mass set up. Please contact the parish office for more information.

***Altar Group Volunteers Needed:***

Volunteers needed for the altar group, which takes care of keeping our church's altar and other areas beautiful. Each team works about one hour one time each month - usually Friday or Saturday, depending on the team's schedules. Please call Veronica Shaffer Yeatman at 301-215-7128 or email her at [vyeatmean@comcast.net](mailto:vyeatmean@comcast.net) for more information.

***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](mailto:vocations@adw.org). Register online at: [www.DCpriest.org](http://www.DCpriest.org).

***Holy Hour for Vocations:***

*"The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest."  
Mt 9:37-38*



Join your fellow parishioners in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament at the "Holy Hour for the intentions of the Ordinandi" and an increase in Vocations to the priesthood and Consecrated Life at Our Lady of Lourdes on **Friday, June 14th, 2019 from 12:30 - 3:00pm.**

Unite with parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Washington as we anticipate the Ordination of our Priests on June 15th! Please visit: [adw.org/dcpriest](http://adw.org/dcpriest) for a complete listing of Parish Holy Hours throughout the Archdiocese. This year's Ordinandi:

**Deacon John Benson  
Deacon Joseph Cwik  
Deacon Brendan Glasgow  
Deacon Christian Huebner  
Deacon Ebuka Mbanude  
Deacon Stefan Megyery  
Deacon Patrick Mullan  
Deacon Benjamin Petty  
Deacon Jan Pietryga  
Deacon Michael Russo**

*"Every vocation, every path to which Christ calls us, ultimately leads to fulfillment and happiness, because it leads to God, to sharing in God's own life."  
- Pope John Paul II*

**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.

**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](http://catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer).

**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.**

**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.

**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. Bring donations from 4:30 to 5:15pm on Sundays (the room is down the long hallway from the cafeteria) or contact Dan Keen at 301-564-0077 to arrange a pick-up at your home. We are most in need of non-dressy spring and summer adult clothing. We have very limited need for children's clothing. 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)*



**Third Sunday of Easter 2019 Offertory: \$8,893**

**Second Collection for May 26th, 2019: None**

**Our May Poor Box will be going to Bethesda Cares. They are a community outreach program for people living unsheltered, and for people in homes, at severe risk of losing them. They seek to place people in permanent, supportive housing; to ease life on the street during that process; and to prevent low-income tenants in crisis from eviction and possible homelessness.**

***Please remember to pray for our brave parishioners, relatives and friends of our Parish family who are serving their country in the Armed Forces. We ask the Lord to keep them safe from harm, and we pray for their families while they are away from home.***

**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 – Quinto Domingo de Pascua – May 19, 2019**  
**"Ámense unos a otros como yo los he amado"**



Una vez un hombre preguntó: ¿Hay algo más hermoso en la vida que un muchacho y una muchacha, agarrados de la mano y de corazón puro, que caminan hacia el matrimonio?

Y una madre contestó: Sí, hay algo más hermoso. Es la visión de un hombre y una mujer ancianos haciendo su viaje final juntos. Sus manos débiles, pero todavía unidas, sus caras arrugadas, pero todavía radiantes, sus corazones cansados, pero todavía amándose. Los dos amores son muy bellos: el amor joven y el amor viejo, el amor de siempre.

Pero Jesús amplía esta belleza del amor. Y nos presenta no sólo el amor de pareja, sino el amor universal, que llega a todos, incluso hasta a los enemigos.

Esto es lo novedoso de Jesús. Jesús es el profeta del amor. Nadie ha predicado tanto el amor como Jesús. Es su distintivo. Por eso tiene tantos seguidores en todos los tiempos. Él supera a todos.

Algo de este tipo de amor se menciona en el Antiguo Testamento, pero muy pocas veces: "Ama al prójimo y al extranjero como a ti mismo" (Levítico 19:18, 19:34). Pero el amor cristiano va más allá:

Primero, Jesús nos manda amar aun a los enemigos (Mateo 5, 43-48).

Segundo, Jesús nos manda tener un amor de servicio humilde, hasta llegar a lavar los pies de los demás (13:1-20).

Lo nuevo es amar "como Yo os he amado", es decir, sin condiciones, sin reservas, sin fronteras, sin protección, hasta la muerte en cruz, con el corazón perforado, con las manos clavadas, en la cama de la cruz. "Nadie tiene mayor amor que el que da la vida por sus amigos." Una vez Pedro le preguntó a Jesús: "¿Cuántas veces tengo que perdonar: hasta siete veces?". Jesús le respondió: "Hasta 70 veces siete", es decir, siempre.

Tercero, este nuevo mandamiento inaugura una nueva Alianza con Dios (Jeremías 31:31-34). La antigua Alianza era obedecer al Torá. La nueva Alianza es amar a todos.

Cuarto, este nuevo mandamiento es positivo y abierto. Muchas leyes del Antiguo Testamento tenían una formulación negativa: "No matar, no robar", aunque en él predomina la afirmación de la vida y del fruto del trabajo, que es lo más positivo del mundo. **Jesús dice de frente: "Ama"**. Eso incluye lo que prescribía el Antiguo Testamento y lo lleva más allá. Hace del amor un amor sin límites. Y con una preferencia para los más necesitados. La identidad cristiana es amarnos.

Les invitamos siempre a la Misa, a la Eucaristía, sacramento del amor. Ahí aprenderemos lo que es el verdadero amor: el verdadero amor del que es fiel en el anuncio del Reino de Dios, de su bondad misericordiosa, hasta llegar a morir por nosotros en la cruz, y a quedarse con nosotros en la Eucaristía.

**Avisos:**

- **Seminario de curación de familias en Español: presentado por el conocido internacionalmente: padre Yozefu Semakula. El padre Yozefu, nos enseñará cómo orar eficazmente por problemas personales y familiares, incluyendo conversiones difíciles, adicción, violencia, falta de perdón, ruina económica, enfermedades crónicas y más. Teniendo lugar el 24, 25 y 26 de mayo de 8:00 a.m.-8pm en el centro parroquial de Corpus Christi en 297 North Second St. Chambersburg, PA 17201. Para más información, póngase en contacto con Rosy Gonzalez.**
- **Queremos agradecer a todos los catequistas que este año, nos apoyaron y entregaron su tiempo con amor y dedicación.**
- **Las inscripciones para la Catequesis 2019-2020 ya están abiertas, puede pedir o entregar su ficha de Inscripción a las Coordinadoras Lourdes Baeza o María Virginia Rodríguez.**
- **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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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