

A Letter from Our Pastor

It occurred to me that I started my formal education fifty years ago, 1970, in Maryland public schools. In those heady days I recall the emphasis placed on the principle of dignity of all people and the responsibility of each to respect and defend human life. It was made clear in class that false distinctions degrade and can lead to terrible evil. Discrimination against one group diminished us all. And these lessons needed to be heeded, even at an early age, so that terrible injustices would occur 'never again.' The examples used to rightly teach these principles were the Holocaust in Europe, and the Civil Rights struggles in our own country. And perhaps above all, I took to heart the lesson that we must remain vigilant lest such dehumanizing practices happen again. So it was with shock a few years later when I was introduced to the sad reality that our nation allowed the destruction of the growing infant in the womb. Could this really be true in a country, and a culture, that so clearly trained me to reject and abhor injustice against the innocent? What we had studied seemed so far away and long ago. But this was here and now. How could this be? Did adults not see the contradiction? This has never left me.

Next Friday, January 24, the March for Life will occur downtown and I invite you to join me, other parishioners, and in fact thousands from across the country in taking a public stand in favor of the innate dignity of life at all stages, and to show support for women in their sacred capacity.

The March for Life Rally kicks off at noon on 12th St. on the National Mall. This includes a line-up of inspiring speakers. Immediately following the Rally - usually around 1pm - we march peacefully up Constitution Avenue, toward the Capitol and the U.S. Supreme Court. For more information please see marchforlife.org.

I will lead a group from Lourdes after the noon Mass, at about 12:30pm. A quick lunch of sandwiches and drinks will be provided in the front porch before taking the Bethesda Metro to Metro Center then walking to the Mall. Please bring a pre-charged Metro card for each person to save time for all. This peaceful and joyful journey is only a few hours and we are often back to the parish by 4:30pm. Of course anyone is free to stay longer or go off on their own. Please consider taking the day off from work and taking part. Together let us strive to be citizens in a country where every person is properly defended, upheld, and loved according to our highest principles.

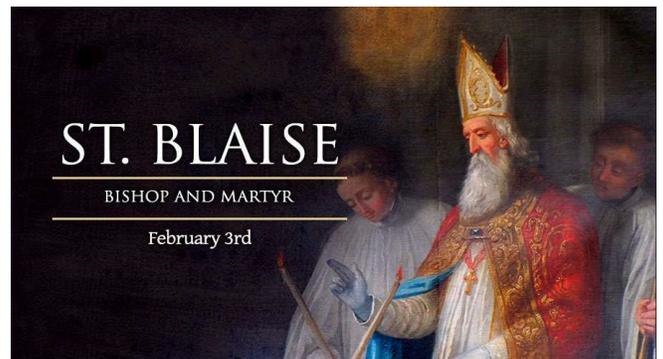
- Msgr. Edward Filardi

Masses for the Week

Monday, January 20th (G. reading: Mk. 2: 18-22)		
7:00 AM	NO MASS	
8:00 AM	+ Mr. & Mrs. Albert Schuelke	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	Int. Judy DeSzily	Fr. Ubau
Tuesday, January 21st (G. reading: Mk. 2: 23-28)		
7:00 AM	Int. Tony Ayala	Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM	+ Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Luby	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	+ Tim Daly	Fr. Ubau
Wednesday, January 22nd (G. reading: Mk. 3: 1-6)		
7:00 AM	+ Fr. Paul-Stephen Holt	Fr. Ubau
8:00 AM	Int. Tiffany O'Toole	Fr. Ubau
12 NOON	+ Michael Cellini	Msgr. Filardi
Thursday, January 23rd (Gospel reading: Mk. 3: 7-12)		
7:00 AM	+ Kris Ayala	Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM	Int. Jim & Nancy Flarhety	Msgr. Filardi
12:00 AM	+ Florence Crisafulli	Fr. Ubau
Friday, January 24th (Gospel reading: Mk. 3: 13-19)		
7:00 AM	+ Joseph Can Ngoc Pham	Fr. Ubau
8:00 AM	Souls in Purgatory	Fr. Ubau
12 NOON	+ Leah Dunn	Msgr. Filardi
Saturday, January 25th (Gospel reading: Mk. 16: 15-18)		
8:00 AM	Int. Mary Rose Kelly	Fr. Ubau
11:00-11:55 AM	Confessions	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	+ Bill Ryan	Fr. Ubau
4:00-4:45 PM	Confessions	Fr. Ubau
5:00 PM	+ Deacon John Shewmaker	Msgr. Filardi
Sunday, January 26th (Gospel reading: Mt. 4: 12-23)		
7:30 AM	People of the Parish	Msgr. Filardi
9:00 AM	Priest's Intentions	Fr. Ubau
10:30 AM	Priest's Intentions	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	Priest's Intentions	Fr. Ubau
1:30 PM	Priest's Intentions	Fr. Ubau

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.

Monday, February 3, is the Feast of Saint Blaise. There will be the blessing of throats at all of the daily masses.



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
301-654-5954

God's love does not differentiate between the newly conceived human infant still in his mother's womb and the child or young person, or the adult and the elderly person. God does not distinguish between them because He sees an impression of His own image and likeness in each one (Genesis 1: 26). (Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI's address to the 12th General Assembly of the Pontifical Academy for Life, 27 February 2006).

Man is created with a need for others, so that he may pass beyond his own limits. He needs to be completed. He is not made to be alone. . . In Genesis follows the prophetic declaration that the man will on this account leave his father and his mother and will become flesh with the woman. They will be one flesh with each other: one united human being. They are there in order to give themselves each to the other, so as to make the gift of new life in doing so, and then finally to devote themselves to this new life. In this sense, the mystery of marriage is contained within it and basically the family is likewise envisaged.

(Source: © Benedictus. Day by Day with Pope Benedict XVI; Magnificat/Ignatius Press)

Man's innate desire is to love because God has made us into His own image and likeness. And God is Love. *"Every child. . . brings us God's smile and invites us to recognize that life is His gift, a gift to be welcomed with love and preserved with care always and at every moment."* Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

"Look into the eyes of a three month old baby and see the astonishment he/she has in his/her eyes of the world around him/her. That is the only thing that we should be astonished about LIFE!" Gilbert Keith Chesterton

Wed. Jan. 22: Day of Prayer for the legal protection of unborn children.

Fri. Jan. 24: 47th March For Life

Please note that on Monday, January 20, Martin Luther King Jr Day, the rectory office will be closed and there will be no 7:00am Mass.

Weekly Rosary with Meditations by Saint John Paul II
Saturdays at 12:45pm:

Location:
Saint John Paul
National Shrine
3900 Harewood Rd NE
Washington, DC 20017



For more information visit: www.jp2shrine.org.

Free Unplanned Movie Screening with Dinner, Popcorn & Expert Discussion:

This record-breaking film tells the striking true story of Planned Parenthood Director turned pro-life advocate Abby Johnson. Watch it with us March for Life weekend on **Saturday, January 25 at 6:00pm** at St. Ann Catholic Church (4001 Yuma St. NW). Pasta dinner, popcorn and drinks are provided. We will also hear from an expert in the pro-life field, and pray a decade of the Rosary for LIFE! We want everyone to see the film, so this event is free. For those who can, we suggest a \$15 donation per adult to help cover our dinner and movie licensing expenses. Come and be inspired! RSVP required for food purposes. Please RSVP at: stanndc.org/unplanned.

Save the Date for the March for Life: Friday, January 24, 2020 on the National Mall, Washington DC.

MARCH FOR LIFE 2020



FertilityCare for Natural Family Planning and Women's Health:

Please join us for a free introductory lecture on FertilityCare. Therese Rodriguez, RN, FCP, FertilityCare Practitioner will present a lecture on the basics of FertilityCare for natural women's health and family planning. FertilityCare is a method of holistic fertility awareness that can benefit women from teens through the menopausal years. Couples are encouraged to attend together. Information will be provided about private follow up sessions and materials for purchase.

The next lecture will take place on **Wednesday, February 12, 2020 from 7:00 - 9:00pm.**

To register, call 301-754-8800 or visit:
HolyCrossHealth.org.

***January Ignatian Weekend Retreats:
"Lord teach us to Pray:"***

**January 24 - 26: Men and Women
February 28 - March 1: Men**

Fee: \$245, First-time retreatants and Young adults (under 30) \$195.
For more information contact Angel Restrepo at 301-392-0801.



***Please Join Us at a
Loyola Retreat House Day of Prayer:***

**February 24, 2020: The Greatest of these is Love
March 9 and April 6, 2020: Our Hope is in the Cross
May 4, 2020: Behold the Handmaid of the Lord**

Each Day of Prayer begins at 9:00am and includes:
Continental Breakfast, Lunch and Mass. Fee: \$40.
To register visit: <https://loyolaontheopotomac.com/registration-3/other-registration-form-10/>.

***The Twenty-First Annual Cardinal O'Connor
Conference on Life:
TICKETS ON SALE NOW:***

Georgetown University · January 25, 2020:

The largest collegiate pro-life conference in the nation.

Theme: "The Consistent Life Ethic and the Law: the Ethical Argument for Life." As pro-life issues emerge at the forefront of our legal system, particularly taking into consideration the recent passage of pro-life laws on the state level, we will consider the argument for life in both state and federal legislation. We will also consider how the consistent ethic of life informs our understanding of public morality.

Keynote speakers:

Dr. Jonathan Reyes, Assistant General Secretary for Integral Human Development for the United States Conference of Bishops and Executive Director for Justice Peace and Human Development

Sr. Bethany Madonna, Vocations Director, Sisters of Life

Find more information and purchase tickets here:
[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/twenty-first-annual-cardinal-oconnor-conference-on-life-tickets-63179334089?](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/twenty-first-annual-cardinal-oconnor-conference-on-life-tickets-63179334089?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&fbclid=IwAR3HiviE_jZAbfaRL70ivqRPWrpQc_m1UhFkQP-Z5pQkijcuj-NjWk5mUg)

[aff=ebdssbdestsearch&fbclid=IwAR3HiviE_jZAbfaRL70ivqRPWrpQc_m1UhFkQP-Z5pQkijcuj-NjWk5mUg](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/twenty-first-annual-cardinal-oconnor-conference-on-life-tickets-63179334089?aff=ebdssbdestsearch&fbclid=IwAR3HiviE_jZAbfaRL70ivqRPWrpQc_m1UhFkQP-Z5pQkijcuj-NjWk5mUg).

Intergenerational Convocation:

Please join us for an intergenerational convocation at the Montgomery County Executive Office Building Auditorium, 101 Monroe Street, Rockville on **March 21, 2020 from 8:15 am - 1:00pm.** All parishioners are invited as the Justice and Advocacy Commission and Catholic Charities welcome you to a discussion of how we can better address the needs of all members of the county, particularly through our parishes, schools, and senior living facilities to inform parishes about the benefits of engagement across generations. For more information or to RSVP, contact leah@empoweringtheages.org or call 301-476-0186.

Please note that 2019 tax letters will be mailed out the week of January 20, 2020. Please email Claire Toms at ctoms@lourdesbethesda.net with any questions.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend:

Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will. Jesus wants to be the head of your marriage. Learn how to do his will on the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on **February 28 – March 1, 2020**. The weekend is in College Park, MD.

Apply at: moments4marriage.org. Apply by January 25, 2020 to guarantee your seat. For more information leave a message at 301-541-7007.

Blessed Sacrament Bereavement Support Group:

The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 3630 Quesada Street, NW Washington, DC, 20015-2538, will offer an eight-week bereavement support group series for adults who have experienced the death of a parent, spouse, child, sibling or significant other.

Our program provides:

- † Confidential sharing in small groups
- † Support that brings to light the depth of our pain
- † Understanding how loss affects us emotionally, spiritually, physically, and mentally
- † Coping mechanisms for difficult times such as holidays or special days when our loss is more likely to affect us and our families
- † Suggestions for how to adapt to a life style without our loved one
- † Suggestions for how to take personal care of ourselves

The Spring series will begin **Tuesday, February 25**, and continue for eight consecutive Tuesdays through April 14, 2020 from 7:00-8:30 pm. There is no fee but **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**. For more information contact Jim Hoffman at hoffmanlpc@gmail.com or 202-577- 2213.

The RCIA Program is Looking for Volunteers to be Sponsors for Those Wishing to Join the Catholic Church:

A Sponsor must be a Catholic who has been baptized, received the Eucharist and Confirmation, and who is currently living a sacramental life and is not in an irregular marriage. In addition, the Sponsor must be (for our program) 18 years of age and lead a life of faith in harmony with the ministry that they are undertaking. If you have discerned that you would like to be a Sponsor, please reach out to Carl and Kariana Rios at crios@lourdesbethesda.net or call and leave a message at 202-360-9191.

LOLO New Year Potluck Dinner Movie Night:

Friday, January 31, 7:00pm at the LOLO Library Media Center:

Please bring your favorite entrée or dessert to share for the potluck dinner. Then, enjoy the classic color movie musical "Meet Me in St. Louis". Start your new year by sharing a lively year in the life of the boisterous Smith family in 1903 St. Louis just before the World's Fair. Teenage Esther (Judy Garland), her spunky little sister Tootie (Mary O'Brien), and her other brothers and sisters encounter childhood pranks, young love, and other family events as they pass through the four seasons under the guidance of two loving parents, a spry grandfather, and a feisty Irish cook. A dozen memorable musical numbers, all in gorgeous period costumes, include "The Trolley Song", "The Boy Next Door", and "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas". For questions, call Phil Sheridan at 301-654-4255.



Altar Flowers:



The flowers this week have been generously donated by **Ehydel Castro dedicated to the Holy Mother of God.**

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.

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.

LOLO Sunday Meal For the Poor and Homeless:

Takes place every Sunday from 4:00-6:00pm in the school cafeteria. If you'd like to volunteer to help serve the meal, sign up at: <http://vols.pt/3XNY26>. **Please, only come to volunteer if you've signed up ahead of time** — otherwise we tend to have more volunteers than we need. If you'd like to donate food for the meal, please bring it to the cafeteria on Sunday from 4:15-4:45 (use the blue door to the left of the school's main entrance). Food should be pre-cooked if cooking is needed. If you have any questions about the meal, send an email to OLOLSundayMeal@gmail.com or call Dan Keen at 301-564-0077.

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 to arrange a pick-up at your home. Clothes to help keep our guests warm in the fall and winter are most needed now. We have very limited need for children's clothing or for formal clothing (suits, etc.) 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)



Epiphany 2019 Offertory: Figures Unavailable.

Our January Poor Box will be going to the Father McKenna Center. It serves as a food pantry, hypothermia center, and a safe and drug-free environment for the poor. The center is primarily funded by private donations in order to continue to offer its many services. We sincerely appreciate your generosity and support.

Por favor, para ser parroquiano registrado, usted debe llenar y regresar la aplicación de abajo. A partir de ese momento usted recibirá vía correo una registración más detallada la cual usted debe llenar y regresar. Esto nos da información importante, como su información personal, los sacramentos que usted haya o no recibido, métodos de cómo prefiere usted colaborar en la misa dominical, etc. Por favor comuníquese con Claire Toms at ctoms@lourdesbethesda.net si tiene alguna pregunta.

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 – 19 de Enero de 2020:



Con toda alegría Juan nos presenta a Jesús, el Elegido de Dios.

"He aquí el Cordero de Dios que quita el pecado", ¡pero quita el pecado con la raíz y todo! Esta es la salvación de Jesús, con su amor y su mansedumbre. Al oír esto que dice Juan el Bautista, que da testimonio de Jesús como Salvador, debemos crecer en la confianza en Jesús.

Muchas veces tenemos confianza en un médico: es bueno, porque el médico está para sanarnos; tenemos confianza en una persona: los hermanos, y las hermanas están para ayudarnos. Es bueno tener esta confianza humana entre nosotros. Pero nos olvidamos de la confianza en el Señor: esta es la clave del éxito en la vida. La confianza en el Señor: encomendémonos al Señor. "Pero, Señor, mira mi vida: estoy en la oscuridad, tengo esta dificultad, tengo este pecado...", todo lo que tenemos: "Mira esto: ¡yo confío en ti!" Y esta es una apuesta que tenemos que hacer: confiar en Él y nunca decepciona. Nunca, ¡Nunca! Escuchen bien, chicos y chicas, que comienzan la vida ahora: Jesús nunca decepciona. Nunca. Este es el testimonio de Juan: Jesús, el bueno, el manso, que terminará como un cordero: asesinado. Sin gritar. Él ha venido a salvarnos, para quitar el pecado. El mío, el tuyo y el del mundo: todo, todo.» (S.S. Francisco, 19 de enero de 2014).

Anuncios:

Todos los domingos a las 11:45am en la cafetería de la escuela tendremos actividades en español para todos los que gusten participar. Habrá charlas, confesiones y exposición del Santísimo Sacramento. Todos son bienvenidos.

Regístrese o mantenga Actualizada su información:

Recorte el siguiente formato de inscripción y entréguelo en la Misa junto con la colecta o llévelo a la Rectoría.

- 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.**

Por favor marque
con una según
corresponda

NOMBRE: _____

DIRECCION: _____ APTO: _____ CIUDAD: _____

CODIGO POSTAL: _____ TELEFONO: _____ CORREO ELECTRONICO: _____