

**A Letter from Our Pastor**

I write this letter early, on a Sunday afternoon. Why? After one of our Masses today, a young mom stood waiting to speak with me. With tears in her eyes she asked me if her young child was too loud at Mass the Sunday before. She explained that when her son became a bit rambunctious, a parishioner had approached and told her that she should leave the nave as “everyone was complaining.” I asked her where they were sitting in the church and she replied, “In the back.” I share this account knowing there is another side of the story, but I ask you, as individual parishioners and as one parish, what is best to do?

I suspect throughout our two-thousand year history parish worship has always been a scene of some chaos and crying, noise and annoyance. We should not expect Sunday Mass to ever have the calm of the Kennedy Center, or the quiet of a monastery. Quite honestly, in an age of plunging birthrates the occasional squeal of an infant should be a cause for rejoicing, and moms and dads honored and given every encouragement.

Too often I meet parents who say they avoid coming to Mass because their children are so young. To me this is a tragedy. In my experience most parents with little ones tend to sit towards the back of the church and know that when their child/children hit that glass shattering pitch that they can find some refuge in the vestibule. On the other hand, when someone complains to me, which is rare, I will often ask them where they were sitting. Almost always it is also towards the rear of the church. May I suggest that if you find the fidgeting of children a distraction that you move up to “First-Class”, the front section of the church? I can assure you that there is always room. If that is still a problem please let me know, and I will see what more I can do to address it. In the meantime, let’s try to encourage our families at all stages to be with us on Sunday, and try to appreciate that sometimes crazy cacophony as the beautiful sound and song of the church continuing through the ages.

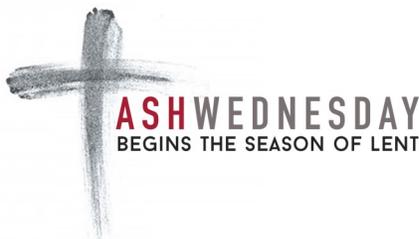
- Msgr. Edward Filardi

**Masses for the Week**

<b>Monday, February 24th</b> (Gospel reading: Mk. 9: 14-29)		
7:00 AM	+ Msgr. Thomas Olszyck	Fr. Ubau
8:00 AM	+ Frank Black, Sr.	Fr. Ubau
12 NOON	+ Martha Lewis	Msgr. Filardi
<b>Tuesday, February 25th</b> (Gospel reading: Mk. 9: 30-37)		
7:00 AM	Int. David Malpass	Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM	Int. President Trump	Fr. Ubau
12 NOON	+ Msgr. James Beattie	Msgr. Filardi
<b>Wednesday, February 26th</b> (G. reading: Mt. 6:1-6,16-18)		
7:00 AM	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Fr. Ubau
8:00 AM	+ Don Bowe, Sr.	Msgr. Filardi
9:00 AM	Priest's Intentions	Fr. Ubau
12 NOON	+ John Kilbane	Msgr. Filardi
5:30 PM	Priest's Intentions	Fr. Ubau
7:00 PM	Priest's Intentions	Msgr. Filardi
<b>Thursday, February 27th</b> (Gospel reading: Lk. 9: 22-25)		
7:00 AM	+ Steven Kay	Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM	+ Richard Stone	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	Int. Kolinda Grabar Kitarovitz	Fr. Ubau
<b>Friday, February 28th</b> (Gospel reading: Mt. 9: 14-15)		
7:00 AM	+ Joseph Can Ngoc Pham	Fr. Ubau
8:00 AM	+ Peter Rudnicki	Fr. Ubau
12 NOON	+ Fernando Baeza	Msgr. Filardi
<b>Saturday, February 29th</b> (G. reading: Lk. 5: 27-32)		
8:00 AM	+ Margaret O'Connor	Fr. Ubau
11:00-11:55 AM	Confessions	Fr. Ubau
12 NOON	Int. The Tundo Family	Msgr. Filardi
4:00-4:45 PM	Confessions	Msgr. Filardi
5:00 PM	+ Roger Laffly	Fr. Ubau
<b>Sunday, March 1</b> (Gospel reading: Mt. 4: 1-11)		
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	Msgr. Filardi
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.

**Ash Wednesday is February 26th, 2020.**  
**It is not a holy day of obligation. The Mass**  
**schedule is as follows: 7:00am, 8:00am,**  
**9:00am, 12:00 Noon, 5:30pm, and 7:00pm.**  
**All Masses will be in English.**



Please note that Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onward.

## SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** **301-654-5954**

“Unless a grain of wheat falls to the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit (Gospel of Saint John 12: 24). . . .the Lord compares the course of his whole earthly existence to that of a grain of wheat, which only by dying can produce fruit. Jesus interprets His earthly Life, His Death, and His Resurrection from the standpoint of the Most Holy Eucharist, which recapitulates His entire Mystery. He had experienced His death as an act of self-oblation, an act of love, and His Body was then transfigured in the new life of the resurrection. He, the Incarnate Word, now becomes our food, food that leads to true life, life eternal. The Eternal Word—the power that creates life—comes down from heaven as the true manna, the bread bestowed upon man in faith and in sacrament. The Way of the Cross is the path leading to the heart of the Eucharist Mystery: popular piety and sacramental piety of the Church blend together and become one. The prayer of the Way of the Cross is a path leading to a deep spiritual communion with Jesus; lacking this, our sacramental communion would remain empty. The Way of the Cross is a “*mystagogical*” way.

In the Way of the Cross we see a God who shares in human sufferings, a God whose love does not remain aloof and distant, but comes into our midst, even enduring death on a Cross (Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians 2:8). The God Who shares our sufferings wants to transform our hearts of stone; He invites us to share in the sufferings of others. He wants to give us a “*heart of flesh*” that will not remain stony before the suffering of others. . .

On this path He has gone before us; on it He teaches us how to pray the Way of the Cross. Once again we come back to the grain of wheat, to the Most Holy Eucharist, in which the fruits of Christ's death and Resurrection are continually made present in our midst. In the Eucharist Jesus walks at our side, as He did with the disciples of Emmaus, making Himself ever anew a part of our history.

(Source: BENEDICT XVI, Way of the Cross; Published by Pauline Books & Media, Boston; copyright © 2005, Libreria Editrice Vaticana, Citta Del Vaticano)

**Wed. Feb. 26: Ash Wednesday – LENT BEGINS**

### **Adult Bible Study:**

#### **Jesus The Way, The Truth, and the Life:**



Is a 10-week video study program and book beginning at Our Lady of Lourdes on **Monday, March 16, 2020**. Anchored in the life of Christ as presented in the Gospels, this study explores the entirety of Jesus' life—Who He is, what He is really like, what He taught, what He did for our salvation, and what all of this means for us as Catholics today.

Presented by Dr. Marcellion D'Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Dr. Edward Sri, this study was filmed in the Holy Land so Catholics can experience the extraordinary world in which Jesus lived and taught—the historical context, the politics, the clashing cultures, the history, and the ancient land—and see where the most significant events of His life took place, from His Infancy to His Ascension. Fliers to come.

### **2020 Lenten Schedule:**

#### **Fridays in Lent starting February 28:**

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.

#### **Wednesdays in Lent, starting March 4:**

*The Light is On for You* (Confessions) will be from 6:00 - 7:00pm.

### **Save the Date: February 25: Bethesda 40 Days for Life Kick Off Event:**

The Bethesda 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign runs Wednesday, February 26 - April 5, 2020. Join us for our Kick Off event on **Tuesday, February 25, from 7:00-8:00pm** at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Bethesda.

Our keynote speaker will be Sr. Lucy of the Sisters of Life. The goal of the campaign is to pray and fast for the end of abortion. We will be praying at the Bethesda vigil site, Carhart's late term abortion facility, located at 10401 Old Georgetown Road from 7:00am - 7:00pm every day. You can sign up at: [40daysforlife.com/bethesda](http://40daysforlife.com/bethesda). For additional information, email Jill Gadwood at [jill.gadwood@gmail.com](mailto:jill.gadwood@gmail.com).

### **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend:**

"So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." Encourage the Holy Spirit to perfect your marriage by taking part in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on **February 28 – March 1, 2020**.

The weekend is in College Park, MD. Give your marriage a Valentine's gift you won't forget! Apply at: [moments4marriage.org](http://moments4marriage.org). Seats are still available. Please apply as soon as possible. For more information leave a message at 301-541-7007.

### **The Order of Malta Invites you to Attend Lourdes Anointing Mass:**

**For the Sick, Disabled, Elderly  
and their Companions:**

**Taking place on Saturday, March 7, 2020 at 10:00am**  
at Our Lady of Mercy Church, 9200 Kentsdale Drive  
Potomac, MD.

Our Lady of Mercy is completely accessible and there is plenty of free parking. Members of the Order of Malta will be present to help people throughout the morning.

Complimentary lunch to follow in the Parish Hall.  
For more information please contact Joan Glasgow at  
301-807-7500 or [glasgow778@gmail.com](mailto:glasgow778@gmail.com).

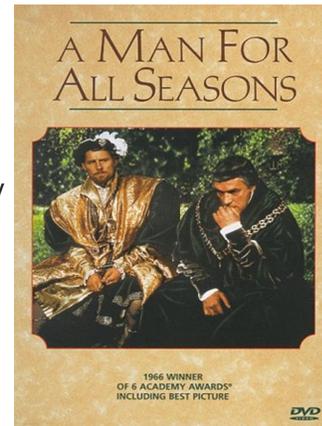
### **Lenten Mission: Two Keys to Conversion: "The Eucharist and Mary:"**

With Fr. Matthew Allman, a Redemptorist, at St. John Neumann Church, Gaithersburg, MD, **March 2-3, 2020 at 7:30pm** preceded by the Holy Rosary at 7:00pm. The March 2 talk will be on the Eucharist and the March 3 talk on Mary and the Image of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Information at: [www.saintjohnneumann.org](http://www.saintjohnneumann.org).



### **OLOL Lenten Friday Meal and Religious Movie:**

**Beginning on Friday, February 28 at 7:00pm**, following the Stations of the Cross, we will gather in the OLOL School Library Media Center for a simple meatless Lenten meal with a religiously themed movie. The first movie will be "A Man for All Seasons". This highly acclaimed and beautifully filmed movie tells the dramatic story of Saint Thomas More (played by Paul Scofield) and his principled stand against the policies of King Henry VIII. The film won six Academy Awards including Best Picture and Best Actor. Please join us and bring a meatless meal contribution. The series will continue with "Pope John Paul II" (March 6 and 13), "Bella" (March 20), "Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler" (March 27), and "The Passion of the Christ" (April 3). For questions, contact Phil Sheridan at 301-654-4255.



### **Save the Date for the Lenten Food Drive:**

To benefit families in need, local parish food pantries and food banks. Bags will be distributed the weekend of **March 14 -15**. The Lenten Food Drive will take place **the weekend of March 21 - 22**.

### **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.

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](mailto:hoffmanlpc@gmail.com) or 202-577- 2213.

### **Catholic Charities Gala: April 4:**



Join your friends in supporting Catholic Charities' work inspiring hope in the community by attending the 2020 Catholic Charities Gala on April 4. The annual gala is spring's premier social event. Chaired by young professional supporters of Catholic Charities, this year's gala features drinks, dinner and

dancing at a new location, the Washington Hilton. Festivities start at 6:30pm. Music by The Source.

To reserve your seat or table, visit:

[catholiccharitiesdc.org/gala](https://catholiccharitiesdc.org/gala). Special pricing for young professionals. RSVP today. By attending, you support your community and a legacy of service.

### **Study of Saints:**

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 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 club meets on the fifth Sundays from 3:00-4:00pm in the Delacroix Conference Room at Our Lady of Lourdes. Enter through the glass doors on the driveway at the front of the church.

**The next meeting is March 29, 2020,**  
on *The Confessions of St Augustine of Hippo*, Ignatius Press 2012. Also free online at:  
<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/3296/3296-h/3296-h.htm>.

### **The Upcoming Academy of the Holy Cross Gala & Auction on March 21, 2020 is the Biggest Fundraiser of the Year for the AHC School.**

The funds raised will directly benefit all of our girls. Each year we include Parish advertisements in the Gala Catalog that feature both current students and alumni. It is a simple and inexpensive way for Tartan families to show support for both Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, and the Academy of the Holy Cross.

**Register for your parish ad HERE:** <https://academyoftheholycross.ejoinme.org/2020ParishAd>.

Please remember to include NAME and AHC GRADUATION YEAR for all family members you want included.

### **Knights of Columbus Chess Tournament: Sunday, March 8:**

The Knights of Columbus, Rock Creek Council, is hosting a Scholastic Chess Tournament on Sunday, March 8, 2020. The tournament will be at the Rock Creek Mansion, 5417 West Cedar Lane, Bethesda MD. Players will play in one of three sections – Grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8. Tournament begins at 12 Noon and ends at 3:00pm, registration is at 11:30am. Fee is \$15 per player (proceeds go to local charity). Hot dogs and snacks will be available for purchase. To register, or for more Information, send player's name, grade, and school name to Mike Houlihan at: [mhoulihan.kofcrockcreekchess@gmail.com](mailto:mhoulihan.kofcrockcreekchess@gmail.com).

### **January Ignatian Weekend Retreat: "Lord teach us to Pray:"**

**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/>.

**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 **Edward McGroarty**.

**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**.

**OLOL 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](mailto: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. With spring on the horizon, we're starting to collect clothing for warmer weather. We have very limited need, or space, for children's clothing or for "dressy" clothing such as men's suits, so those types of clothing are best taken elsewhere. 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 Ordinary Time  
2020 Offertory: \$10,949**

**Our February Poor Box will be going to Maryland Right for Life. They are an organization that recognizes the fundamental value of every human life. MDRTL works to protect all human life by working to make abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, and the destruction of human embryos socially, legally, and morally unacceptable and by promoting positive alternatives to these acts. Thank you for your 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](mailto: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 – 23 de Febrero de 2020

### Miércoles de Ceniza: el inicio de la Cuaresma 2020

**La imposición de las cenizas nos recuerda que nuestra vida en la tierra es pasajera y que nuestra vida definitiva se encuentra en el Cielo.** La Cuaresma comienza con el Miércoles de Ceniza este 26 de febrero de 2020 y es un tiempo de oración, penitencia y ayuno. Cuarenta días que la Iglesia marca para la conversión del corazón. Antiguamente los judíos acostumbraban cubrirse de ceniza cuando hacían algún sacrificio y los ninivitas también usaban la ceniza como signo de su deseo de conversión de su mala vida a una vida con Dios. En los primeros siglos de la Iglesia, las personas que querían recibir el Sacramento de la Reconciliación el Jueves Santo, se ponían ceniza en la cabeza y se presentaban ante la comunidad vestidos con un "hábito penitencial". Esto representaba su voluntad de convertirse.

En el año 384 d.C., la Cuaresma adquirió un sentido penitencial para todos los cristianos y desde el siglo XI, la Iglesia de Roma acostumbra poner las cenizas al iniciar los 40 días de penitencia y conversión.

Las cenizas que se utilizan se obtienen quemando las palmas usadas el Domingo de Ramos de año anterior. Esto nos recuerda que lo que fue signo de gloria pronto se reduce a nada.

La imposición de ceniza es una costumbre que nos recuerda que algún día vamos a morir y que nuestro cuerpo se va a convertir en polvo. Nos enseña que todo lo material que tengamos aquí se acaba. En cambio, todo el bien que tengamos en nuestra alma nos lo vamos a llevar a la eternidad. Al final de nuestra vida, sólo nos llevaremos aquello que hayamos hecho por Dios y por nuestros hermanos los hombres.

Cuando el sacerdote nos pone la ceniza, debemos tener una actitud de querer mejorar, de querer tener amistad con Dios. La ceniza se le impone a los niños y a los adultos.

El miércoles de ceniza y el viernes santo son días de ayuno y abstinencia.

### ANUNCIOS

- ◇ Este miércoles 26 de Febrero es Miercoles de Ceniza. Las misas serán a las 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:00am, 12:00pm 5:30pm y 7:00pm. Todas las misas serán en Ingles.
- ◇ Los invitamos a participar en el Retiro de Cuaresma en español el Sábado 29 de Febrero de 8:30am a 3:15pm en la cafetería de la Escuela. Habrá reflexiones y confesiones. Favor de traer algo de comida para compartir en el almuerzo.
- ◇ El 14 y 15 de Marzo serán distribuidas bolsas en las cuales usted podrá donar alimentos para familias necesitadas. Deberá traer los alimentos el 21 y 22 de Marzo.
- ◇ 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:

- 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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