

A Letter from Our Pastor

A lesson from the daily written meditation from the Office of Readings (required for all priests and nuns, and encouraged for all the faithful) struck me last week. It was from Saint Augustine (354-430 AD) and seemed particularly helpful for Lent. I share an abbreviated version of his words with you today:

“The entire life of a good Christian is in fact an exercise of holy desire. You do not see what you long for, but the very act of desiring prepares you. Suppose you are going to fill some holder or container, and you know you will be given a large amount. Then you set about stretching your sack. Why? By stretching it, therefore, you increase the capacity of the sack. This is how God deals with us. Simply by making us wait He increases our desire, which in turn enlarges the capacity of our soul.”

“So, my brethren, let us continue to desire, for we shall be filled. Such is our Christian life. By desiring heaven we exercise the powers of our soul. Now this exercise will be effective only to the extent that we free ourselves from desires leading to infatuation with this world. Let me return to the example I have already used, of filling an empty container. God means to fill each of you with what is good; so cast out what is bad! If He wishes to fill you with honey and you are full of sour wine, where is the honey to go? The vessel must be emptied of its contents and then be cleansed. Yes, it must be cleansed even if you have to work hard and scour it. It must be made fit for the new thing. The name of that reality is God.”

- Msgr. Edward Filardi

Masses for the Week

Monday, March 2 (Gospel reading: Mt. 25: 31-46)		
7:00 AM	+ Danny Evans	Fr. Ubau
8:00 AM	+ Frances & Tyler Williams	Fr. Ubau
12 NOON	+ Earl & Madaline Olund	Msgr. Filardi
Tuesday, March 3 (Gospel reading: Mt. 6: 7-15)		
7:00 AM	+ Deacon Alfredo Hidalgo	Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM	Int. Yasmin Soriano	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	Int. Anthony Kikendall	Fr. Ubau
Wednesday, March 4 (Gospel reading: Lk. 11: 29-32)		
7:00 AM	+ Mr. & Mrs. William Abell	Fr. Ubau
8:00 AM	+ Don & Patricia Bowe	Fr. Ubau
12 NOON	Souls in Purgatory	Msgr. Filardi
Thursday, March 5 (Gospel reading: Mt. 7: 7-12)		
7:00 AM	+ Mr. & Mrs. Albert Schuelke	Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM	+ Peter Reilly	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	+ Pat Conroy	Fr. Ubau
Friday, March 6 (Gospel reading: Mt. 5: 20-26)		
7:00 AM	+ Joseph Can Ngoc Pham	Fr. Ubau
8:00 AM	Int. Joe Monte	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	+ Lois Lewis	Msgr. Filardi
Saturday, March 7 (Gospel reading: Mt. 5: 43-48)		
8:00 AM	+ Msgr. James Beattie	Msgr. Filardi
11:00-11:55 AM	Confessions	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	+ Mr. & Mrs. Anton Petrak	Fr. Ubau
4:00-4:45 PM	Confessions	Fr. Ubau
5:00 PM	+ Deacon John Shewmaker	Msgr. Filardi
Sunday, March 8 (Gospel reading: Mt. 17: 1-9)		
7:30 AM	Priest's Intentions	Fr. Ubau
9:00 AM	People of the Parish	Msgr. Filardi
10:30 AM	Priest's Intentions	Fr. Ubau
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.

2020 Lenten Schedule:

Wednesdays in Lent:

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

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.



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION **301-654-5954** **First Sunday of Lent**

“Each year the Church invites us to ponder more seriously the purpose of our existence and the ultimate goal of our being . It is a journey that goes from **ashes**, *Ash Wednesday*, to **glory**, the *Solemn Easter Vigil*. It is our time of the year for intensive prayer and devotions, for alms giving and unselfish generosity.” (A Shepherd Speaks by Bishop Emeritus Fabian Bruskewitz).”

Traditionally, Lent has been a time dedicated to the remembering of the forty days that Jesus spent fasting and praying in the desert to prepare for His ministry. The word Lent comes from the Middle English *lente* and the German *lenz* which means “*spring*.” Lent is time for **metanoia** (*conversion or re-conversion to the Christian way*). It is a time for prayer, penance, and works of charity for others. It is also a time for Christians to turn away from sinfulness and evil—to have a change of heart—as they prepare for the joyous feast of Easter.

The Lenten season also gives us an opportunity to invite those that we know to come back to the Church; including others who are not of the Catholic Faith. Do not be afraid! Jesus waits for them as He waits for you and me.

Pope Francis encourages us to keep a pocket Gospel with us and frequently read the Divine Scriptures. Saint Jerome reminds us that, “*Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ*”. Let us now go forth this Lent with our loving Blessed Mother Mary to spread and defend the Catholic Faith by word and action as true witnesses of her Beloved Son and His Church. *If loving Mary leads us to the Son, loving the Son will lead us to the Mother* (Mary of Nazareth by Igino Giordani; copyright, 1965 by the Daughters of Saint Paul).

Save the Date! Sunday, June 28, 2020: **Jubilarian Mass:**

The annual ADW Jubilarian Celebration of marriage, honors couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years. This year the Mass will be held on Sunday, June 28, 2020 at 2:00pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception with his Excellency, Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, as the celebrant. **To register, please contact your Parish Office by May 22, 2020.** For more information, please call the Office for Family Life at 301-853-4546 or email: visiblesign@adw.org.

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.

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.

Attention Parents of 8th grade Students **Attending Catholic High School Next Year:**

The Knights of Columbus Rock Creek Council #2797 in Bethesda is awarding scholarships to eligible students. Awards of up to \$1,500 per year, per student, are available. Applications are due by May 8th. More information can be found at: <https://www.kofc2797.org/ohara-scholarship> Any questions may be directed to Chris Ryan at ctrhoya@comcast.net.

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

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

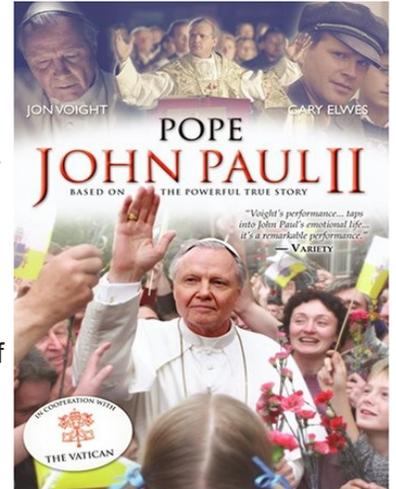
Taking place on Saturday, March 7, 2020 at 10:00am
at Our Lady of Mercy Church, 9200 Kentsdale Drive
Potomac, MD.

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.

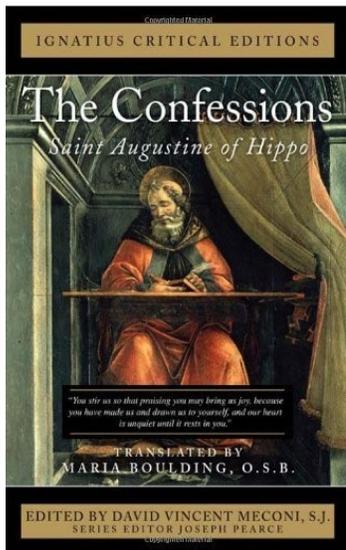
Complimentary lunch to follow in the Parish Hall.
For more information please contact Joan Glasgow at
301-807-7500 or glasgow778@gmail.com.

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

On Friday, March 6 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 next movie will be part one of "Pope John Paul II". This award-winning, epic movie, filmed on location in Poland and in the Vatican, follows the dramatic journey of Karol Wojtyla (played by Cary Elwes) from his danger-filled youth in Nazi-occupied Poland through the momentous events of his papacy as Pope John Paul II (played by Jon Voight). The series will continue with part two of "Pope John Paul II" (March 13), "Bella" (March 20), "The Courageous Heart of Irena Sendler" (March 27), and "The Passion of the Christ" (April 3). For questions, contact Phil Sheridan at 301-654-4255.



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>.

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 7, 2020 at 12:10pm**. More than 10 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.

You are most welcome to join us here at the Mother Church of the Archdiocese of Washington, the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle, for any of our Lenten and Holy Week offerings. Join us in worship and prayer at our liturgies, enjoy musical events, and find opportunities for study and deepening of your faith.
Visit our website at:

www.stmatthewscathedral.org/Lent2020.

***Come and join us! Schoenstatt Retreat:
"Woman Touched by God:"***

March 21, 9:00am - 2:00 pm:

St. Raphael's Catholic Church, Potomac, Md.
For women ages 25 and up. Cost is \$20 per person or \$25 for same day. The cost includes brunch, coffee and drinks. For more information contact Maria Elena at 240-274-7300 or mariaelenavzla00@hotmail.com.
To register visit: www.schoenstattDC.org/mothers.

Knights of Columbus Chess Tournament:

March 8, 12: Noon - 3:00pm:

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.

Catholic Charities Gala:

April 4, 2020:

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. Special pricing for young professionals. RSVP today. By attending, you support your community and a legacy of service.



Please Join Us:

Loyola Retreat House Day of Prayer:

***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/>.

***Triduum Retreat
So That All might Live***

April 9 - 12, 2020:

Celebrate the Passion and Resurrection of our Savior with us.
Fee: \$295

For more information on retreats or to register go to:
www.loyolaontheopotomac.com
Or contact Angel Restrepo at 301-392-0801 or angel.restrepo@loyolaretreat.org.

Introductory Natural Family Planning Class:

March 7 from 10:00am – 12:00 Noon:

"Called to give life, spouses share in the creative power and fatherhood of God. Married couples should regard it as their proper mission to transmit human life and to educate their children; they should realize that they are thereby cooperating with the love of God the Creator and are, in a certain sense, its interpreters. They will fulfill this duty with a sense of human and Christian responsibility." (CCC2367). Couples will learn about the science behind Natural Family Planning and the different methods they can use in an introductory class which will be offered on: March 7 and June 27 from 10am – Noon at Catholic Charities, 12247 Georgia Ave., Room 301, Silver Spring MD 20902. You only need to attend one of these dates. To register visit:

<https://adwnfp101.eventbrite.com>. For more information contact the Office for Family Life at 301-853-4546 or visiblesign@adw.org.

Save the Date for the Lenten Food Drive:

Hunger is an ever-present reality in our community. Local food pantries are experiencing a great demand for food. To help replenish supplies, Catholic Charities and the Archdiocese of Washington together are sponsoring the Lenten Food Drive. Our parish collection for the food drive will take place the **weekend of March 21 - 22**. Bags will be distributed the **weekend of March 14 -15**.

Thank you for all you do to help the needy among us.

Sick in Our Parish:

Please pray for our sick brothers and sisters, especially **Edward McGroarty**.

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**.

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. 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)



**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2020
Offertory: Figures Unavailable.**

Our March Poor Box will be going to the Catholic Charities Lenten Food Drive. Donations will go to local Maryland food banks. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Bulletin Deadline:

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

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 – 01 de Marzo de 2020

MENSAJE DEL SANTO PADRE FRANCISCO PARA LA CUARESMA 2020

En nombre de Cristo os pedimos que os reconciliéis con Dios (2 Co 5, 20)

“El Señor nos vuelve a conceder este año un tiempo propicio para prepararnos a celebrar con el corazón renovado el gran Misterio de la muerte y resurrección de Jesús, fundamento de la vida cristiana personal y comunitaria. Debemos volver continuamente a este Misterio, con la mente y con el corazón. De hecho, este Misterio no deja de crecer en nosotros en la medida en que nos dejamos involucrar por su dinamismo espiritual y lo abrazamos, respondiendo de modo libre y generoso”.

“La alegría del cristiano brota de la escucha y de la aceptación de la Buena Noticia de la muerte y resurrección de Jesús: el *kerygma*. En este se resume el Misterio de un amor «tan real, tan verdadero, tan concreto, que nos ofrece una relación llena de diálogo sincero y fecundo» (Exhort. ap. *Christus vivit*, 117). Quien cree en este anuncio rechaza la mentira de pensar que somos nosotros quienes damos origen a nuestra vida, mientras que en realidad nace del amor de Dios Padre, de su voluntad de dar la vida en abundancia (cf. *Jn* 10,10). En cambio, si preferimos escuchar la voz persuasiva del «padre de la mentira» (cf. *Jn* 8,45) corremos el riesgo de hundirnos en el abismo del sinsentido, experimentando el infierno ya aquí en la tierra, como lamentablemente nos testimonian muchos hechos dramáticos de la experiencia humana personal y colectiva”.

“Por eso, en esta Cuaresma 2020 quisiera dirigir a todos y cada uno de los cristianos lo que ya escribí a los jóvenes en la Exhortación apostólica *Christus vivit*: «Mira los brazos abiertos de Cristo crucificado, déjate salvar una y otra vez. Y cuando te acerques a confesar tus pecados, cree firmemente en su misericordia que te libera de la culpa. Contempla su sangre derramada con tanto cariño y déjate purificar por ella. Así podrás renacer, una y otra vez» (n. 123). La Pascua de Jesús no es un acontecimiento del pasado: por el poder del Espíritu Santo es siempre actual y nos permite mirar y tocar con fe la carne de Cristo en tantas personas que sufren”. Fragmentos de la carta escrita en *Roma, junto a San Juan de Letrán, 7 de octubre de 2019. Memoria de Nuestra Señora, la Virgen del Rosario*

ANUNCIOS:

- ◇ 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:

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: _____