

### A Letter from Our Pastor

**“The tent, which was called the meeting tent, Moses pitched some distance away, outside the camp. Anyone who wished to consult the Lord would go to his meeting tent.”** Exodus 33:7 So began the first reading in the breviary today. It describes a bit of the Israelite’s own wandering in the desert. Despite their uncertain situation, there was a place they could go to “consult the Lord.” It is also a reminder that our own *tent*, our parish church, is still open every day as place to pray. Despite the ongoing suspension of public liturgies, I invite you to stop in if you are able. We are making an extra effort to keep the church germ-free and we have plenty of room for cautious “social distancing”. Worry without prayer can turn to despair. It’s only been a week since communal confinement, and like no other recent Lent, a real “desert experience.” But this can be good if it can lead to quiet, fuller prayer, spiritually rich reading, and closer communion with family. Today I came upon this quote, “All of humanity’s problems stem from man’s inability to sit quietly in a room alone.” Blaise Pascal, 17<sup>th</sup> century scientist/philosopher. Maybe he is on to something. In the meantime, below is some information regarding the parish:

As a result of the State of Emergency regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, Archbishop Gregory directed ALL Archdiocesan parishes, missions, and campus ministries to not celebrate public Masses, beginning March 14, until further notice. **There will be no public Masses at Our Lady of Lourdes (daily or Sunday) until further notice.** Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory has **dispensed** all Catholics in the Archdiocese of Washington from the obligation to attend Mass during this period. The clergy and staff at Our Lady of Lourdes are saddened by the decision to cancel Mass and to suspend liturgies and ministries. Nonetheless, we ask for your support and fervent prayer on behalf of the sick. Information about watching Mass on TV during this time and making an Act of Spiritual Communion is available **here**: <https://adw.org/coronavirus-dispensation-and-prayers/>.

Confessions will **still** be heard at our usual times: 11:30am daily, 11:00am and 4:00-5:00pm Saturdays. The “Light is on for You” confessions are from 6:00-7:00pm on Wednesdays.

The church will be open for private prayer during normal parish office hours. We hope parishioners come in for private prayer while respecting the need for public social distancing.

The parish office will be open during normal hours (Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm.) Our office staff will assist you or be available via phone or email during those hours.

Public Stations of the Cross on Fridays are suspended until further notice. The faithful are invited to pray this devotion privately in the church during normal hours.

### Masses for the Week

**Monday, March 23** (Gospel reading: Jn. 4: 43-54)  
7:00 AM Holy Souls in Purgatory  
8:00 AM + Ellen Wycoski  
12 NOON Int. Charles Carroll  
**Tuesday, March 24** (Gospel reading: Jn. 5: 1-16)  
7:00 AM + Robert Murfitt  
8:00 AM + MaryAnne McInerny  
12 NOON + Ruth Ryan  
**Wednesday, March 25** (Gospel reading: Lk. 1: 26-38)  
7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku  
8:00 AM + Roger N. Fortier  
12 NOON + Margaret Nolan  
**Thursday, March 26** (Gospel reading: Jn. 5: 31-47)  
7:00 AM + Onyioza Maris Asuku  
8:00AM + Joseph McPherson  
12NOON + Stephen Stevenson  
**Friday, March 27** (Gospel reading: Jn. 7: 1-2, 1-, 25-30)  
7:00 AM + Joseph Can Ngoc Pham  
8:00 AM Int. Howard Walsh  
12 NOON + Magnetti Family  
**Saturday, March 28** (Gospel reading: Jn. 7: 40-53)  
8:00AM + Robert Baran  
11:00-11:55 AM Confessions  
12 NOON + Peter Rudnicki  
4:00-4:45 PM Confessions  
5:00PM + Thomas O'Malley  
**Sunday, March 29** (Gospel reading: Jn. 11: 1-45)  
7:30 AM Priest's Intentions  
9:00 AM Priest's Intentions  
10:30 AM Priest's Intentions  
12 NOON Priests Intentions  
1:30 PM People of the Parish  
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.

No activities will take place in the school during this time. Appropriately, a number of meetings and activities scheduled through March 27 are either postponed or moved to an online or offsite alternative.

While maintaining the necessary public health precautions, we remain available for sacramental emergencies and pastoral appointments.

We will continue to seek guidance from the Archdiocese of Washington and local health officials. May we pray for an end to this pandemic, healing for those effected, and courage for all care providers.

**Yours in Christ,**

**Msgr. Edward Filardi  
Rev. Jorge Ubau**

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** **301-654-5954** **Fourth Sunday of Lent**

LORD JESUS CHRIST, sole and supreme Comfort of sinners, I bless and thank you for the immeasurable kindness and infinite mercy You manifested to the thief hanging on the cross to your right—once a despicable man but now a sincere penitent and a disciple. At the very moment that he acknowledge his sinfulness and genuinely represented of his evil deeds, he was granted, in view of the promise that You had given him, remission of all his sins as well as access to paradise. Where there is wholehearted contrition and total conversion repentance, even if it be late in coming, does have its beneficent effects.

Endowed with such virtuous qualities, the thief, as he hung on his cross, saw his entire life pass before him and so with total confidence he turned to You, Lord Jesus, our caring Shepherd of souls, our true Priest, and the most faithful of Confessors, saying: *Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

Most kind Jesus, you answered him in return with the sweetest and most comforting of words: *Amen I say to you, this day you will be with me in paradise.* These words, flowing so graciously from God's lips are indeed sweet and endearing, but to the ears of a contrite sinner, as he undergoes his agony in his final hour, they are far more gracious for they bring immense comfort to an anxious and fearful heart. He who is privileged to hear such a promise can die in total confidence. The individual, for whom God agrees to be his defense, has nothing to fear on Judgment Day.

Before the hour of Christ's Passion had come, Peter had expressed his desire to follow Jesus wherever it would take him, but he was told: *You cannot follow me now, you will follow me later.* Peter was among the first to be called as an apostle, but the thief enters the kingdom before him.

If only Our Lord would speak those other heartwarming words to us His servants: *Well done, good servant, because you were faithful in small matters, enter the joy of your Lord.* Nothing would then be better or more gratifying than to have lived a good life and to have served the Lord faithfully until death.

(Source: *On the Passion of Christ according to the Four Evangelists* Prayers and Meditations by Thomas A Kempis; © 2004 Ignatius Press, San Francisco; all rights reserved; On the words spoken to the thief on the Cross pages 96, 97, 100; condensed)

**Adult Bible Study:**  
**Jesus The Way, The Truth, and the Life:**  
**Has been cancelled until further notice.**

**Schoenstatt Retreat: "Woman Touched by God"**  
**March 21, 9:00am - 2:00 pm:**  
**Has been cancelled.**

**Study of Saints:**  
**Has been postponed until further notice.**

**Msgr. Thomas Wells Society**  
**Lenten Morning of Reflection:**  
**Saturday, April 4, 2020 from 8:00am - 12:00pm**  
**Has been postponed until further notice.**

**The Ladies of Lourdes:**

The next meeting of the Ladies of Lourdes will take place Tuesday, April 14 in the Library Media Center of the School starting promptly at 7:30pm. Mary Ellen Bork will be returning to give another informative presentation. Her topic will be *Why Michelangelo Matters*. She will discuss the power of the beauty that he created, and will briefly include Leonardo da Vinci and Rafael in her talk. All women of the parish are welcome and to bring a friend. **If the Church and School are still closed because of CORVID 19 the meeting will be cancelled.** For information contact: Barbara Black at 301-652-0749 or fsbbob@verizon.net

### **Way of the Cross in Washington DC** **Good Friday, April 10, 2020:**



The ecclesial movement Communion and Liberation will sponsor the Way of the Cross through downtown Washington, DC. Participants will congregate for the first station at St. Stephen Martyr Catholic Church (2436 Pennsylvania Ave. NW) at 10:00am. The procession will follow the cross to stations at Farragut Square, Franklin Square, and Freedom Plaza and will end with a final station at St. Patrick's Catholic Church (619 10th St NW), which will begin around 1:00pm. At each station, there will be readings from the Passion, a meditation, a reflection and hymns. All are invited. For more information please visit: [www.wayofthecrossdc.com](http://www.wayofthecrossdc.com).



*Banns of Marriage*

**Second Time:** **Stephen James** of Mt. Airy, Maryland  
and **Megan Graves** of Bethesda, Maryland.



**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)*



**Second Sunday of Lent 2020**  
**Offertory:\$13,586**

**Our March Poor Box will be going to the Catholic Charities Lenten Food Drive. Donations will go to local Maryland food banks.**

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

**Please note that Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.**

**Lectors Needed:**

Lectors are needed for the 7:30 Sunday morning Mass. If you have a strong, clear voice, please consider participating in Mass by presenting the Word of God to your fellow parishioners. If interested, please contact Cecilia Magnetti or Walter Kikendall at: [lectorcoordinators@gmail.com](mailto:lectorcoordinators@gmail.com) or 301-943-2061.

**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 – 22 de Marzo de 2020**

Como resultado del estado de emergencia por la pandemia COVID-19, el arzobispo Gregory ordenó a TODAS las parroquias de la arquidiócesis que no celebren misas públicas, a partir del sábado 14 de marzo y hasta nuevo aviso. **No habrá Misas públicas en Nuestra Señora de Lourdes [todos los días o domingos] hasta nuevo aviso.** El arzobispo Wilton D. Gregory ha **dispensado** a todos los católicos de la Arquidiócesis de Washington de la obligación de asistir a misa durante este período. El clero y todo el personal de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes están triste por la decisión de cancelar las misas y suspender las liturgias y los ministerios. No obstante, le pedimos su apoyo y ferviente oración en nombre de todos los enfermos. Usted podrá encontrar información sobre los horarios y canales para participar de las misas por televisión durante este tiempo y recomendaciones para hacer una comunión espiritual en: <https://adw.org/coronavirus-dispensation-and-prayers/>.

Le pedimos que tome nota de lo siguiente:

- Las confesiones se seguirán escuchando en nuestro horario habitual: de lunes a viernes de 11:30am a 11:55am; y los sábados de 11:00am a 11:55am y los sábados de 4:00pm a 5:00pm.
- Las confesiones de “La luz está encendida para ti” son los miércoles de 6:00pm a 7:00pm.
- **En vista de la necesidad y la disponibilidad de los fieles católicos de habla hispana en Nuestra Señora de Lourdes para celebrar el sacramento de la Reconciliación, Padre Jorge asegura que las confesiones en español seguirán los domingos de 12-1pm EN LA IGLESIA.**
- La iglesia estará abierta para la oración privada durante el horario normal de 7:00am a 6:00pm. Esperamos que los feligreses vengan a orar en privado mientras respetan la necesidad de distanciamiento social público.
- La oficina parroquial estará abierta durante el horario normal de lunes a viernes de 8:00am a 4:00pm. Nuestro personal de oficina estará disponible para asistirlo en persona, por teléfono o por correo electrónico durante este horario.
- Las estaciones de la Cruz los viernes de cuaresma están suspendidas hasta nuevo aviso. Los fieles están invitados a rezar esta devoción en privado en la iglesia durante las horas normales.
- No se realizarán actividades en la escuela durante este tiempo. Las reuniones y actividades programadas se posponen hasta el 27 de marzo o se realizarán en línea o fuera de la escuela.
- Las clases de catequesis están suspendidas hasta nuevo aviso

Continuaremos buscando orientación de la Arquidiócesis de Washington y de las autoridades locales de salud. Mientras se mantienen estas medidas necesarias de salud pública, seguimos disponibles para emergencias sacramentales y citas pastorales. Oremos por el fin de esta pandemia, por la curación de los enfermos y por la fortaleza y valentía de todos los servidores del sector de Salud.

En Cristo:

Rev. Mons. Edward J. Filardi  
Pastor

Rev. Jorge E. Ubau  
Vicario Parroquial

**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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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