

**A Letter from Our Pastor**

I write this final bulletin letter as pastor of Lourdes on June 29, the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. This day commemorates the role these Apostles played in founding and fostering faith in Jesus Christ in the city of Rome. Peter, a simple fisherman from Galilee and the educated Paul from Greek-speaking Tarsus, were sent to serve the Church where they were called. It may not have made sense at the time. But it is a reminder that priests have been assigned and reassigned for a long time.

It is difficult to leave Lourdes, my home of eleven years. I have been reflecting on the deep bond of affection and connection I feel for you, even if only as a frequent and friendly face in the pew. For this decade plus, I am heartily grateful to God and to you the people of Lourdes for your goodness to me, and your role in my own personal and spiritual growth.

In 2009, I came following Fr. Jim Meyers, who himself had been here 11 years, preceded by Msgr. Thomas Wells, also here about the same. I first moved into the rectory with Fr. Marco Schad and the retired Msgr. Louis Quinn. What a privilege to have had a year with him. Later we would know the blessing of seven years with Msgr. Jim Beattie. Along the way we have had a succession of other wonderful assistant priests, Fr. Michal Sajnog, Fr. Alejandro Diaz, Fr. Rafael Barbieri, and now our beloved Fr. Jorge Ubau, who leaves to serve at the Shrine of Saint Jude.

Let me acknowledge our small but dedicated staff who always made me look more efficient than I really am: Sheri Golden in the front office, "the Voice of Lourdes" and the woman who pulls it all together, Claire Toms, who puts together our bulletin, and edits these letters, Jessica Coan, who has run our religious education program for almost thirty years, Lourdes Baeza who coordinates our thriving Hispanic religious education program, Tony Ayala, who serves as security in the parking lot during the week but perhaps more importantly is the first friendly face and happy greeting for those visiting, and our custodial staff so faithful and dependable, Luis, Oscar, and Mario.

Next, a word of gratitude that I cannot sufficiently express here to our school principal, Ms. Amy Moore, vice-principal David Long, and the wonderful teachers and staff that make Lourdes the most wonderful parochial school that I have ever been associated with. Not only do they effectively teach the three Rs and just as importantly the fourth R, Religion, but it is a joyful place where you can see that our children learn to truly pray, to trust and to encourage each other. There have been few more powerful spiritual experiences for me then when praying the Mass with our students.

Finally, and above all, I am grateful for each of you. Lourdes parish has long had a reputation for prayerfulness and devotion. I cannot tell you what an inspirations it has been to be at a parish where each day so many come to the church in prayer and worship. I urge you to continue to build on this practice under the leadership of Fr. Rob Walsh, who I think will be a wonderful successor.

**Masses for the Week**

<b>Monday, July 6</b> (Gospel reading: Mt. 9: 18-26)		
7:00 AM	+ Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Luby	Fr. Ubau
8:00 AM	Thanksgiving	Fr. Ubau
12 NOON	+ Rose Magnetti Lio	Msgr. Filardi
<b>Tuesday, July 7</b> (Gospel reading: Mt. 9: 32-38)		
7:00 AM	+ The Asuku Family	Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM	Int. Anne Marie Monte	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	+ Jo Ann Shea	Fr. Ubau
<b>Wednesday, July 8</b> (Gospel reading: Mt. 10: 1-7)		
7:00 AM	+ Ruth Ryan	Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM	Holy Souls in Purgatory	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	+ Paul Nugent, Jr.	Fr. Walsh
<b>Thursday, July 9</b> (G. reading: Mt. 10: 7-15)		
7:00 AM	+ Leah Dunn	
8:00AM	+ Danny Redding	
12NOON	+ James Potts	
<b>Friday, July 10</b> (Gospel reading: Mt. 10: 16-23)		
7:00 AM	+ Katherine Everard	
8:00 AM	Int. John Peter	
12 NOON	+ Martha Kikendall	
<b>Saturday, July 11</b> (Gospel reading: Mt. 10: 24-33)		
8:00AM	+ Thomas O'Malley	
11:00-11:55 AM	Confessions	
12 NOON	+ Giuseppe Gagliardi	
4:00-4:45 PM	Confessions	
5:00PM	+ Joseph Can Ngoc Pham	
<b>Sunday, July 12</b> (Gospel reading: Mt. 13: 1-23)		
7:30 AM	Priest's Intentions	
9:00 AM	Priest's Intentions	
10:30 AM	Priest's Intentions	
12 NOON	People of the Parish	
1:30 PM	Priest's Intentions	

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.

With now six assignments in 26 years I have learned that a priest never really "leaves" a parish, he just adds a new one. Friendships and bonds built will continue. On the other hand, change can be good for a parish and a priest. A chance to learn from successes and mistakes, a chance to reassess and to improve, a chance to start again. I know for some I was a stronger cup of tea than you might have preferred. If I have hurt you by my words or attitude I offer my sincere apologies. Souls, I know, can be fragile. My aim and hope has always been to help each to know Christ in His fullness. And while Jesus is always "gentle and humble of heart" Matt 11:29, He was also very clear that "the road to life is narrow and difficult." Matt 7:14 Aware of both truths, we persevere in the promise and power of His Presence, given to us in the Holy Eucharist. And in that same Body of Christ let us always be one in the Faith. I will love each of you, and Lourdes, always.

- Msgr. Edward Filardi

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

Catholics should show admiration and devotion to SAINT JOHN FISHER, Bishop and Martyr, and SAINT THOMAS MORE, Martyr. John Fisher (1469-1535) was the lone bishop of England who refused to compromise belief in the Pope as Head on earth of the Lord's Church. Thomas More (1477-1535) was the devout layman and lawyer, former chancellor of King Henry VIII, whose faith and conscience made him refuse to accept the King of England as Head on earth of the Church. Both John Fisher and Thomas More exemplify the well-educated Christian humanist who combined learning, sense of humor and profound spirituality. Both were decapitated in the Tower of London. John Fisher, made a Cardinal when in the Tower, was killed in 1535.

(Source: *The Vatican II Weekday Missal*; copyright © 1975, Daughters of Saint Paul; page 1692)

June 22 Feast Day for Saint John Fisher and Saint Thomas More

*"The Church has the right, indeed the duty, to proclaim justice on the social, national and international level, and to denounce instances of injustice, when the fundamental rights of man and his very salvation demand it"* (Justice in the World, Synods of Bishops, 1971).

**Yesterday, Saturday, July 4:**  
**Independence Day USA!**

*On this day the United States of America celebrated its anniversary of independence. It is in the best Christian and American tradition to pray for the nation every day—to exercise the virtue of patriotism and pray that this may be a nation under God, humble and law-abiding and charitable.*

(The Vatican II Sunday Missal Copyright © 1974, Daughters of St. Paul)

*God Bless America!*



**Virtual Spiritual Retreats With Spiritual Direction:**

During this time of physical separation, Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center is providing virtual retreats so that you can connect with others and feed your soul. Currently, these programs are being offered at no cost, and a suggested donation of only \$75 per person is greatly appreciated.

To find more information and upcoming dates visit:  
<https://ourladyofbethesda.org/programs/retreats/what-are-spiritual-exercises/virtual-spiritual-exercises-promo>.

**Our Normal Mass Schedule has Resumed with Restrictions:**

- \* **Please use hand sanitizer upon entry**
- \* **Montgomery County requires face masks inside**
- \* **Please keep a safe distance of 6 feet**
- \* **Capacity is limited per pew section to an individual or members of a shared household**

**Please Help the Little Sisters of the Poor:**

The Little Sisters of the Poor need support as they provide care for the elderly at their Jeanne Jugan Residence during these challenging times. Since the Little Sisters are unable to go to the local parishes and collect donations for the needs of their residents, please consider donating any of the following items:

- ◇ Disposable gloves
- ◇ Disposable head covers and shoe covers
- ◇ Isolation gowns
- ◇ Disposable masks
- ◇ Laundry detergent
- ◇ Disinfectant wipes and spray
- ◇ Nutri-Grain fruit bars, Fig Newtons
- ◇ Individual servings of applesauce
- ◇ Frito lay variety chips
- ◇ Nabisco variety pack cookies, mini cookie treats
- ◇ Individual serving juice boxes
- ◇ Bottles of juice (apple, cranberry, lemonade, etc)

**Please deliver items to:**

Jeanne Jugan Residence  
4200 Harewood Rd, NE  
Washington, DC 20017  
202-269-1831

**Thank you for your generosity!**

**Altar Flowers:**



The altar flowers this week have been generously donated by **Isabell Sesterhenn** for a **Special Intention.**

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.

**Finance & Administration:**

*“How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good He has done for me?” (Psalm 116:12)*



**Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time Offertory 2020: Unavailable due to early deadline.**

**Our July Poor Box will be going to the Assumption Outreach Program. It is a food pantry that provides food to struggling families year-round. Donations during the summer months are particularly important to families with children who would otherwise be receiving meals at their schools. We would prefer monetary or gift card donations. Thank you in advance your generosity.**

**For a complete list of Masses and updates during this time, please visit: [adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/](http://adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/).**

**Deceased in Our Parish:**

Please pray for our deceased brothers and sisters, especially **Kathleen Kelley.**

**A Million Rosaries:**

Every prayer counts! Please join the Little Sisters of the Poor in praying one million Rosaries to conquer the coronavirus pandemic. Sign up for the one million Rosary campaign at: <http://littlesistersofthepoor.org>.

**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:**

The Sunday meal for the poor and homeless, which traditionally has been held from 4:00-6:00 pm in the OLOL cafeteria, has been temporarily converted to a “carry-out” affair. If you are interested in helping to provide food for the meal, send an email to [OLOLSundayMeal@gmail.com](mailto:OLOLSundayMeal@gmail.com) or call **Dan Keen at 301-564-0077.**

**The “clothes closet” run in conjunction with the meal has been temporarily suspended. Please hold on to donations for the clothes closet until we can reopen. Contact Dan Keen if you have any questions. Thank you!**

We encourage you to upkeep your contributions to the parish during these difficult times. Please feel free to mail your contributions to the parish office at 7500 Pearl Street Bethesda, Maryland 20814 or drop them off in the rectory door slot. This includes all special collection envelopes or simply an envelope with your name clearly marked.

**We would also like to encourage our online contribution program, Faith Direct. Please use the following link to donate online:**

<https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/MD33>

**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 – 05 de Julio de 2020

La Comunidad Hispana de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes deseamos expresar nuestro eterno agradecimiento a Monseñor Edward J. Filardi y al Padre Jorge Ubau por guiarnos durante todos estos años por el camino de la fe. Pedimos a Dios que los bendiga y acompañe en sus nuevas Parroquias.



### Anuncios:

Volvemos a nuestro horario regular de misas diarias y del domingo

Sin embargo, las precauciones en contra del COVID se mantienen:

- Por favor use máscaras y alcohol desinfectante
- Por favor mantenga la distancia de 6 pies
- Capacidad es limitada por cada sección de banca por persona o miembros de la misma familia
- No se pasará la colecta, pero las cajas del ofertorio estarán disponibles

### Distribución de la Comunión

- Por el momento sólo el sacerdote distribuirá la Comunión
- En la línea mantenga seis pies de distancia
- Le pedimos que aquellos que reciban en la mano se aproximen primero, seguidos de aquellos que reciben en la lengua
- Vaya despacio, párese derecho con la mano plenamente extendida o extienda la lengua para evitar la ocasión de contacto
- Como siempre, si usted está estornudando o tosiendo, por favor auséntese
- Entre las misas nuestro equipo de trabajo estará limpiando las bancas y las superficies para su seguridad
- Gracias por su paciencia mientras seguimos adelante

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