

A Letter from Our Parochial Vicar

Dear Friends,

This coming week the Church prepares to celebrate the feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe. In the winter of 1531 Our Lady appeared several times to Juan Diego. These apparitions culminated in the gift of her miraculous image on the tilma of the humble saint. Below are 5 cool facts about this miraculous image, an image which now stands on display in the Basilica dedicated to Our Lady in Mexico City:

1. Millions convert to Catholicism:

Our Lady's urgent message was one of faith, hope and comfort to the indigenous population. In the decade following her appearance, ten million native people converted to Catholicism!

2. The tilma still exists:

Juan Diego's tilma is made of a rough cactus fiber which normally disintegrates in 15 to 30 years. Nevertheless, the image has remained intact without fading or cracking. If that is not crazy enough, in 1921 a bomb was detonated immediately under the image. The marble altar rail and windows 150 feet away were shattered, a brass crucifix was twisted out of shape, but the image was left unharmed.

3. Our Lady's eyes tell a story:

Dr. Aste Tonsman, a Peruvian ophthalmologist, examined Mary's eyes at 2,500 times magnification. He was able to identify thirteen individuals in both eyes at different proportions, just as a human eye would reflect an image. The microscopic likeness of a bearded man was discovered in the pupils of the Virgin. The bearded man corresponds to contemporaneous pictures of Juan Diego.

4. The tilma is always body temperature:

No matter what the surrounding temperature, season, or weather, the image remains at an even 98.6°F, the normal temperature of the human body.

5. Image with a heartbeat:

Upon inspecting the image, Carlos Fernandez del Castillo, a gynecologist, found the image to have a heartbeat. Placing his stethoscope below the black band at the waist of our Lady, he discovered another heartbeat, one which beats 115 times per minute. This is the same pace as that of a baby in the womb.

As we continue to prepare for the coming of Christ, may our Lady lend her gracious hand as she has so many times in the past!

Know of my prayers,
Father James

Masses for the Week

Monday, December 7 (Gospel reading: Lk. 5: 17-26)
7:00 AM + Ruth Ryan
12 NOON + Grant Atwell
Tuesday, December 8 (Gospel reading: Lk. 1: 26-38)
7:00 AM + Leah Dunn
12 NOON + Msgr. James Beattie
5:30 PM + Mildred & Andrew Sheridan
Wednesday, December 9 (Gospel reading: Mt. 11: 28-30)
7:00 AM + Katherine Everard
12 NOON + Rosalia Hernandez
Thursday, December 10 (Gospel reading: Mt. 11: 11-15)
7:00 AM + Asuku Family
12 NOON + Ellen Wycoski
Friday, December 11 (Gospel reading: Mt. 11: 16-19)
7:00 AM Souls in Purgatory
12 NOON + Jerry Collins
Saturday, December 12 (Gospel reading: Lk. 1: 39-47)
8:00AM + Andrew Kotonias
11:00-11:55 AM Confessions
12 NOON + Mary Ann Kilbane
4:00-4:45 PM Confessions
5:00PM + Carol Ann McGroarty
Sunday, December 13 (Gospel reading: Jn. 1: 6-8, 19-28)
7:30 AM Int. Eleanor Monte
9:00 AM Int. Gene DeLaCroix
10:30 AM Int. Peterson Family
12 NOON People of the Parish
1:30 PM Int. The Holy Family

Due to the suspension of the Monday - Friday 8:00am Mass, the intentions scheduled for those Masses will be transferred to Sunday Masses.

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.

Second Sunday of Advent



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We encourage our online contribution program, Faith Direct.

Visit our website: lourdesbethesda.net to sign up or scan the QR code below:



Contact Claire Toms at ctoms@ololrcc.org with any questions.



Volunteers Needed on Christmas Day:

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception will provide meals for hundreds of poor, homeless, elderly and needy individuals living in the District of Columbia and surrounding areas on Christmas Day.

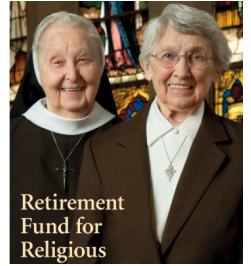
This year, all meals will be for delivery and take-out only.

Volunteers are needed to fill many different positions.

Those interested in signing up should visit: www.nationalshrine.org/christmasdinner.

Second Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, December 12-13:

Today, hundreds of religious communities lack enough savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious offers vital support for necessities, such as medications and nursing care. Thank you for your generosity.



Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Mass Schedule for December 8, The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception,



Masses will be at:

- 7:00am
12 Noon
5:30pm (Bilingual)

Angel Tree 2020:

Each year, Catholic Charities helps hundreds of families during the holiday season by providing each of their children, ages 16 and younger, with a Christmas gift. This holiday season, Angel Tree will continue to occur with COVID-19 precautions. Due to the pandemic, we are asking for community sponsors to make a monetary donation to purchase gift cards for these families.



Help make a family's Christmas wishes come true! It is more than giving presents, it is giving a family joyful holiday memory for years to come.

Visit our website at: catholiccharitiesdc.org or email christmas@cc-dc.org for more information.

Coat Drive 2020-2021:

Join Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of the Washington for our eighth annual Coats of Many Colors Coat Drive! Each year we provide coats, hats, gloves, and scarves to members of our local community. New and gently used coats that are clean and in good condition are being collected from November 2020 until January 2021. We are also seeking volunteers to help on the day of the event to help set up the Coat Drive and assist with the distribution to clients. For more information on how to donate and volunteer, please visit our event page at: <https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/coats/>.



**Winter Recruitment Campaign:
Volunteer for A Good New Year!**

Catholic Charities is recruiting 30 volunteers to take on a weekly, year-long commitment to service.

To volunteer: submit an application, have a conversation with program staff about expectations, and commit to at least 75 hours of service including orientation and training. Except for medical professionals, volunteering is done remotely via video chat, phone calls, email, and regular mail.

Visit our website at: catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer/ongoing/ to learn more and to apply.

Study of Saints (SoS):

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.

Meets on fifth Sundays 3:00-4:00pm.

Next will be a two part series on Saint Pope John Paul II with a biography in November followed by one of his encyclicals in January.

January 31, 2021 EVANGELIUM VITAE Encyclical:

http://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_jp-ii_enc_25031995_evangelium-vitae.html

Christmas Mass Schedule:

**DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS, SIGN UPS
WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ALL OF THE
CHRISTMAS MASSES:**

- * **Please look out for a Flocknote email this Sunday, December 6 with the sign up information**
- * **You can also find the sign up link at: lourdesbethesda.net**
- * **Or you may reserve your spaces by calling the rectory office at: 301-654-1287**

**Spaces are extremely limited so please be sure to sign up as soon as possible.
Thank you for your understanding.**

Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24:

5:00pm Vigil Mass
10:00pm Solemn Mass of Christmas

Christmas Day, Friday, December 25:

8:00am
10:00am
12:00 Noon (Spanish)

**Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God
Mass Schedule:**

Thursday, December 31:

5:30pm Vigil Mass

Friday, January 1:

8:00am
10:00am
12:00 Noon (Spanish)



**The rectory office will be closed
Thursday, December 24 through January 1.
We will reopen Monday, January 4.**

Email Sheri Golden at sgolden@ololrcc.org with any urgent matters.

Three to Get Married Marriage Prep
January 28-31 (In-Person Only)
Feb 11-14, 2021(Virtual Only)

The Three to Get Married Marriage Preparation Program is a Catholic Pre-Cana program for engaged couples.

This marriage preparation course is an intensive preparation experience true to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Convenient one-weekend schedule. FOCCUS administration is included. \$315 per couple. Space will be limited and these weekends fill up quickly, so reserve your spot today!

Find more information on the website:
<https://ourladyofbethesda.org/programs/marriage/virtual-marriage-prep>.

Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, Bethesda, MD.



Virtual Advent
Evening Retreat for
Married and Engaged
Couples:

“A Couple’s Advent Journey”
December 9, 2020

Married and Engaged couples! You are invited to an Evening of Reflection especially for you. Plan to join us for a special Virtual Advent Date Night that will help you grow spiritually in your relationship as you live Advent in a shared way as a couple. \$25 per couple.



Our Lady of Bethesda
Retreat Center,
7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20187.

Registration is required so that we can provide the online access. Visit us at www.ourladyofbethesda.org or call 301-365-0612.



Attend a Retreat From Wherever You Are!
Virtual Spiritual Retreats, with Spiritual Direction
Upcoming dates: Jan 22-24

As we move into the end of the year and uncertainty lingers, Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center is providing virtual retreats so that you can connect with others and feed your soul, all from the safety of wherever you are.

Detox from the noise of the media, work demands and Netflix and find new focus in your life through a personal encounter with Christ.

Find more information and more upcoming dates on the OLB website: www.ourladyofbethesda.org.

Experience the dynamics of the Spiritual Exercises from your own home and for only \$75 per person.
Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center,
A Virtual Place to Encounter Christ!

Men’s Advent Retreat:

Cost is \$250 per person. Registration is required. Find more retreats and links to register on the website www.ourladyofbethesda.org. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, A Place to Encounter Christ! 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817



Stay Connected with Flocknote!



Sign up to receive text and email updates from Our Lady of Lourdes.

Visit: lourdesbethesda.flocknote,
Text FNOLOL to 84576 or Email
Claire Toms at ctoms@ololrcc.org.

*Please send any bulletin requests by Friday
a week before the requested bulletin date to
Claire Toms at ctoms@ololrcc.org.*

Finance & Administration:

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



November 2020 Offertory: \$38,198

Our December Poor Box will be going to the DC Diaper Bank. This program empowers families in need throughout DC, Maryland, and Virginia, by providing a reliable source for basic baby needs and personal hygiene products. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

The dispensation issued by Archbishop Gregory from the obligation to attend Mass during this time remains in effect. All persons who are subjects of the Archbishop of Washington no matter where they may be, and all other persons who are actually present in the Archdiocese of Washington who are under the obligation, are dispensed from the obligation until further notice (cann. 87 §1, 91).

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

Our Lady of Lourdes Registration:

**Please either fill out the form below or email
Claire Toms at ctoms@ololrcc.org
with your information.**

**You will then be emailed a link to a
registration form for you to fill out.**

**You can also go directly to lourdesbethesda.net
to access our parish registration form.**

**Thank you and we are happy to welcome you to
Our Lady of Lourdes.**

2021-2022 ADW Tuition Assistance Program:

The open application period for the 2021-2022 Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Program began on Thursday, October 1, 2020.

The deadline date for new families to apply is **Friday, February 19, 2021.**

Please visit www.adwcatholicsschools.org for information and instructions.

**ADW Programa de asistencia de matrícula
2021-2022:**

El período de solicitud abierto para el Programa Arquidiocesano de Asistencia para la Matrícula 2021-2022 comenzará el jueves 1 de octubre de 2020. La fecha límite para que las nuevas familias envíen solicitudes es el **viernes, 19 de febrero de 2021.**

Visite: www.adwcatholicsschools.org/es
para obtener información e instrucciones.

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!

Celebración de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

"No se entristezca tu corazón... ¿Acaso no estoy yo aquí, que soy tu Madre?", le dijo la **Virgen de Guadalupe al afligido Juan Diego** un 12 de diciembre de 1531. Ella, la Emperatriz de América quiso dejar su imagen como señal del Amor de Dios para nuestros pueblos.

Como preparación a esta gran fiesta, les invitamos este año a unirnos en oración con el rezo del Santo Rosario en familia y como comunidad parroquial. A partir de este domingo comenzaremos una semana de oración en la cual tendremos una intención para cada día. Acompañemos a la Santísima Virgen María en este Adviento y oremos por las necesidades de nuestras familias y del mundo entero.

DOMINGO 06 Por la salud de los enfermos, médicos y enfermeras

"Escucha, hijo mío, ponlo en tu corazón, que no es nada lo que te espanta, lo que te aflige, que no se turbe tu corazón". Estas mismas palabras hoy nos dirige nuestra Madre. Coloca en sus manos tus preocupaciones, angustias... y ella devolverá la paz a tu corazón.

Que mi corazón en amarte eternamente se ocupe, Y mi lengua en alabarte Madre Mía de Guadalupe.

LUNES 07 Por la paz en nuestro corazón, en nuestras familias y en el mundo entero

"María se hace cercana a sus hijos, acompaña como madre solícita su camino, comparte las alegrías y las esperanzas, los sufrimientos y las angustias del Pueblo de Dios, del que están llamados a formar parte todos los pueblos de la tierra".

Que mi corazón en amarte eternamente se ocupe, Y mi lengua en alabarte Madre Mía de Guadalupe.

Martes 08 Por los niños

Así- como se hizo presente al pequeño Juanito, de esa misma manera se sigue haciendo presente a todos nosotros; especialmente a aquellos que como él sienten que no valí-an nada.

Que mi corazón en amarte eternamente se ocupe, Y mi lengua en alabarte Madre Mía de Guadalupe.

Miércoles 09 Por los ancianos

Celebrar la memoria de María es afirmar que «en el corazón y en la vida de nuestros pueblos late un fuerte sentido de esperanza, a pesar de las condiciones difíciles de vida que a veces parecen apagar la esperanza.

Que mi corazón en amarte eternamente se ocupe, Y mi lengua en alabarte Madre Mía de Guadalupe.

Jueves 10 Por las familias de esta Parroquia

"Deseo vivamente que se me erija aquí un templo para en él mostrar y dar todo mi amor, compasión, auxilio y defensa". Presentemos a nuestra Madre esta comunidad parroquial, que ella lleve nuestras necesidades ante su Hijo muy amado.

Que mi corazón en amarte eternamente se ocupe, Y mi lengua en alabarte Madre Mía de Guadalupe.

Viernes 11 Por los adolescentes y jóvenes

"Hijo mío el más pequeño, esta diversidad de rosas es la prueba y señal que llevarás al obispo. Tú eres mi embajador, muy digno de confianza." María confía en cada joven que busca seguir las huellas de su Hijo Jesús.

Que mi corazón en amarte eternamente se ocupe, Y mi lengua en alabarte Madre Mía de Guadalupe.

Sábado 12 Por las necesidades de nuestros países de origen

"¿Qué siente por la Virgen de Guadalupe?", le preguntaron Al Papa Francisco, a lo que respondió "Siento seguridad, ternura. Cuando estoy con miedo de algún problema o que ha sucedido algo feo y uno no sabe cómo reaccionar, le rezo, me gusta repetirme a mí mismo: No tengas miedo, ¿acaso no estoy yo aquí que soy tu Madre? Son palabras de Ella: "No tengas miedo".

Que mi corazón en amarte eternamente se ocupe, Y mi lengua en alabarte Madre Mía de Guadalupe.

**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: _____