

A Letter from Our Pastor

Thanks. It is a word we use so often, or maybe not often enough. It can be heartfelt or careless, but I would like to sincerely thank the many people who have shown such great generosity to Fr. James and myself during this Christmas season. We received so many great gifts (yes, I got golf balls and yes, Fr. James got some much needed crayons) but also the great gift of your presence here at Lourdes.

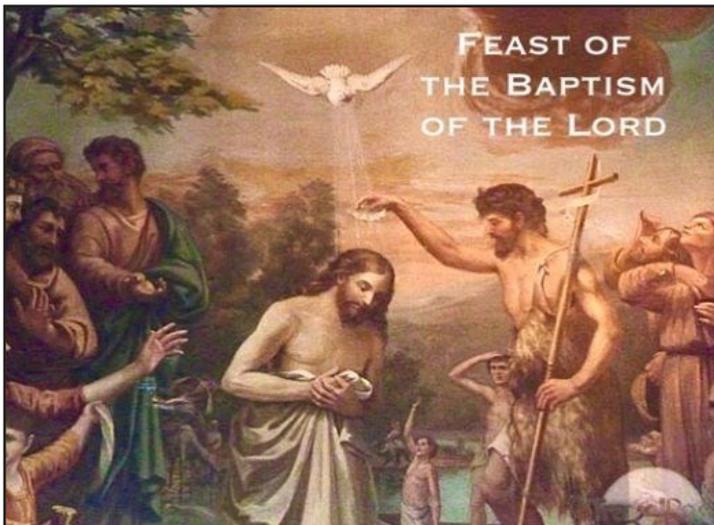
Christmas was somewhat stressful for us both. We did not know how many people would attend Mass on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and we did not want to turn anyone away, so we resorted to sign-ups for Mass. Honestly, neither of us knew what to expect. But it was a great celebration for the parish and for us as new priests at Lourdes. I was so thankful to see so many people both at Mass and participating online as we streamed Mass on our YouTube site. Many of our brothers and sisters are separated from us because of the ongoing pandemic and I wanted to include them somehow in our parish celebration. I am thankful that over 100 people joined us online for Mass.

I suppose though, what I'm most thankful for is the overwhelming generosity of the parish and the Bethesda community. You have all been so generous to Fr. James and I with your presence here, with your gifts, and even more importantly with your willingness to serve at this parish. I've had so many people ask me - how can we serve at the parish these days? When the pandemic subsides, we will ask for much, but right now, just knowing you want to participate has encouraged me so much.

We also were the beneficiaries of a literal room full of gifts from the Bethesda Fire Department a day before Christmas - and when Fr. James asked for help in distributing these items, we were overwhelmed by people stepping up to help. Friends - this is the generosity that will continue to make this parish such a vibrant and incredible community. I'm only six months here, and I cannot wait to see what the Lord has for us in the next six months. And for that I'm grateful. So I simply want to say to you all, from the depths of my heart - *Thanks.*

In Him,

Fr. Rob



Masses for the Week

Monday, January 11 (Gospel reading: Mk. 1: 14-20)

7:00 AM + Paul Nugent, Jr.

12 NOON Int. Betty Quinn Cooke

Tuesday, January 12 (Gospel reading: Mk. 1: 21-28)

7:00 AM + Chris Hawes

12 NOON + Dario Marchesan

Wednesday, January 13 (G reading: Mk. 1: 29-39)

7:00 AM + Javier Salazar

12 NOON + Ken Wyble

Thursday, January 14 (Gospel reading: Mk. 1: 40-45)

7:00 AM + Asuku Family

12 NOON Int. Elena Salazar

Friday, January 15 (Gospel reading: Mk. 2: 1-12)

7:00 AM + Paul Nugent, Jr.

12 NOON + John Tvelia

Saturday, January 16 (Gospel reading: Mk. 2: 13-17)

8:00AM Int. Clare Gervase Monte

11:00-11:55 AM Confessions

12 NOON + Betty Quinn Cooke

4:00-4:45 PM Confessions

5:00PM + Tiara Adams

Sunday, January 17 (Gospel reading: Jn. 1: 35-42)

7:30 AM + Frances & Tyler Williams

9:00 AM + Robert J. Hoffman

10:30 AM Int. Gene DeLaCroix

12 NOON People of the Parish

1:30 PM + Msgr. James Beattie

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.

Welcome to Our Lady of Lourdes!

To register, please either fill out the form in this bulletin 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.

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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 through 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/>.

Stay Connected in 2021 with Flocknote!

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

Visit:
[lourdesbethesda.flocknote](http://lourdesbethesda.flocknote.com),
Text FNOLOL to 84576 or Email Claire Toms at ctoms@ololrcc.org.

Mission in Action:

Every baptized person is a missionary. We are all called to be witnesses of the love and mercy of God found in the person of Jesus Christ. The Office of Missions promotes this universal missionary spirit in the hearts and minds of the people of God including children through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, Missionary Childhood Association (MCA), the Society of St. Peter Apostle, Missionary Cooperative Plan (MCP) and Missionary Union of Priest and Religious.

The faithful plays a vital role in the worldwide evangelistic mission of the Church. Your prayers and support ensures that people around the world will experience the joy and hope of the encounter with Christ through the missions.

For more information, please review the Mission's webpage: <https://adw.org/about-us/who-we-are/missions/>.

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.

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



Altar Flowers:



The altar flowers this week have been generously donated by **Theresa Price** in loving memory of **Stanley J. Sienicki, Jr.**

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@ololrcc.org or ctoms@ololrcc.org. 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)



December 2020 Offertory: \$33,864
Christmas 2020: \$21,932

Our January Poor Box will be going to the Father McKenna Center. It serves as a food pantry, hypothermia center, and a safe and drug-free environment for the poor. The center is primarily funded by private donations in order to continue to offer its many services. We sincerely appreciate your generosity and support.

January 9-10 Second Collection:

The Second collection the weekend of January 9-10 will be going to the **Church Missions within the United States.**

This collection supports home mission dioceses in this country that are unable to offer their people basic liturgical, pastoral, and service ministries without outside help. It also supports vulnerable Black and Native American communities with funds for parish support and evangelization needs. Thank you 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/.

Welcome to Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church

To help ensure the health of our community we ask you to observe the following requirements:



1
Wear a mask when inside the Church for private prayer or when attending Mass



2
Please observe social distancing between groups



3
After receiving communion in the hand, step aside before taking down your mask and consuming the Eucharist



4
If you wish to receive communion on the tongue, please come at the end of the line in order that the priest may purify his fingers.

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!

Somos hijos en el Hijo



Cerramos el tiempo de Navidad celebrando el Bautismo del Señor. A recibir el Bautismo de Juan acudían de toda la región. De esta manera, escuchaban su predicación y, tras someterse a este rito de purificación, se disponían a acoger con sinceridad el Reino de Dios, que estaba a punto de llegar. El Evangelio de hoy presenta a Jesús siendo bautizado por Juan en el río Jordán. Este bautismo consiste en una inmersión, a través de la cual nos muestra que ha venido a sumergirse en nuestra realidad para hacernos participar de la suya, que es ante todo VIDA. No solo se encarna, nace y crece, como cualquiera de nosotros, sino que, sin tener pecado alguno, quiso ser contado entre los pecadores.

Al salir Jesús del agua «se abrieron los cielos y vio que el Espíritu de Dios bajaba». Una voz de los cielos decía: «Este es mi Hijo amado, en quien me complazco». Estamos, ante una nueva manifestación de Cristo. Adorado por los pastores el día de Navidad y por las naciones, representadas en los Magos, el día de la Epifanía, Jesús se revela ahora como Cristo-ungido. De esta manera Jesús toma consigo una misión: transmitir la vida divina en abundancia a través de la presencia y la acción del Espíritu Santo. De esta manera, Jesús cambia para siempre el sentido del Bautismo. De ser un signo de conversión y penitencia, se convertirá ahora en un sacramento que transmite LA VIDA NUEVA EN EL ESPÍRITU a quien lo recibe. Gracias a Jesús nos Podemos llamar hijos de Dios. Por eso, es muy recomendable llevar a los niños a bautizar cuanto antes. Para introducirlos desde pequeños en la vida del Espíritu dentro de la gran familia que es la Iglesia. Bautizar a los niños significa no solo cumplir con el mandato del Señor, sino que es participar de la vida de Dios por medio del Espíritu de Cristo. Al no bautizarlos, les estamos negando esa gracia. Además hemos de recordar que no caminamos aisladamente, sino que somos parte de un pueblo escogido por Dios, una comunidad viva que es la Iglesia. Y todos los que participamos en las celebraciones litúrgicas nos une la gracia bautismal, que hemos recibido como don. Si sientes en tu corazón el impulso para recibir el Sacramento del Bautismo, no dudes en acercarte. Con gusto estaremos para asesorarte y buscar la mejor forma de ayudarte para que no te sigas privando de este regalo que Jesús nos ha alcanzado gracias a su entrega por amor.

**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: _____