

A Letter from Our Pastor

Thanksgiving - what does that mean to you?

Family, friends, football? Turkey, stuffing, pumpkin pie? Although this year Thanksgiving is bound to be different for us all, (like pretty much everything else in 2020) it really isn't any different from what we are called to do as Christians who are bound to give thanks to God each day. But do we?

Years ago I was speaking with my spiritual director and I shared with him some interesting insights that I'd had about God and His work in my life. As usual, I had it backwards. What I had considered insight was actually God at work in my life. It is never me who seeks God, but rather God who seeks me. We all tend to do this: putting ourselves first, and not God and his unearned gift of love. My director, sharp as always, pointed out the primacy of God and his grace - in other words, he told me to stop thinking I'm so great and realize it's God that is so great. He is the one who is chasing me down, he is the one who never gives up on pursuing me.

How amazing is this God who loves me so extravagantly even when I don't realize it. Yes - God is so very good to me and He is absolutely reckless with His love. What's your response to this? my director asked me. Well, you know I think it's pretty cool... Not a good response. The proper response, he reminded me, is to give thanks: To be THANKFUL.

How often in my own life I fail to notice how God is so amazing in His love and His mercy for me. I really do focus on myself so much - my own comfort, my own desires, my own worries and anxieties, my desire to control life and make it about me. All of this is so backwards and antithetical to who God really is and who I really am. HE is in charge, not me. I need to strive each day to give him the controls and stop trying to take away from Him what is not mine to take. He won't fight me, and He will patiently wait for me to beg Him back into my life (that's called Confession!). And then I start all over again - hopefully this time learning a bit more of my lesson - God is God and I am not!

This year let's give Thanks to God for all He has provided. Some may find it difficult to find reasons to be thankful this Thanksgiving. It's been a tough year, for sure. But perhaps consider the words of St. Padre Pio: "I complained about having no shoes until I met a man with no feet."

Friends - let us focus on God our Father and not ourselves. Let Him show us what we can be thankful for this Thanksgiving.

In Him,
Fr. Rob

Masses for the Week

Monday, November 23 (Gospel reading: Lk. 21: 1-4)
7:00 AM Holy Souls
12 NOON + Ellen Wycoski

Tuesday, November 24 (Gospel reading: Lk. 21: 5-11)
7:00 AM Holy Souls
12 NOON + Carmen Cainas

Wednesday, November 25 (G. reading: Lk. 21: 12-19)
7:00 AM + Asuku Family
12 NOON Holy Souls

Thursday, November 26 (Gospel reading: Lk. 21: 20-28)
7:00 AM Holy Souls
10:00 AM Holy Souls

Friday, November 27 (Gospel reading: Lk. 21: 29-33)
7:00 AM Holy Souls
12 NOON Holy Souls

Saturday, November 28 (Gospel reading: Lk. 21: 34-36)
8:00AM Holy Souls
11:00-11:55 AM Confessions
12 NOON + Gloria Bruce
4:00-4:45 PM Confessions
5:00PM + Gloria Bruce

Sunday, November 29 (Gospel reading: Mk. 13: 33-37)
7:30 AM Int. Mary Rose Walsh
9:00 AM + Ellen Wycoski
10:30 AM + Martha Lewis
12 NOON People of the Parish
1:30 PM Int. Deborah Townsend

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.



SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Religious Education Has Never Been Easier!

This year our religious education classes are virtual and video based. Each week our team of amazing teachers record videos of themselves teaching the week's lesson. These videos are uploaded to YouTube, and links are sent home to parents so their children can watch the videos anytime, anywhere, on any device.

Register your child today using our online registration form at: www.lourdesbethesda.net/faith.

Email Lacy Prebula at dre@ololrcc.org with any questions.

Thanksgiving 2020 Schedule:

Wednesday, November 25:

The rectory office will close at 12:30pm.
The office will remain closed until
Monday, November 30

Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 26:

Masses will be at 7:00am and 10:00am
**(PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE
OF THE EARLY MASS)**

Friday, November 27:

Masses will be at 7:00am and 12 Noon
and there will be no Exposition

Help support Our Lady of Lourdes on Giving Tuesday, December 1:

Please go to the following link to donate:

<https://washington.igivecatholic.org/organizations/our-lady-of-lourdes-catholic-church-bethesda>

You can also find this link
at our website:
lourdesbethesda.net.
Email Claire Toms at
ctoms@ololrcc.org
with any questions.

Thank you for your
consistent and generous
support of Our Lady of
Lourdes.



We would like to encourage our online contribution program, Faith Direct.

Use the following link to donate online:

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

Or scan the QR code below:



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

***Beginning with the Feast of All Souls on
November 2, and continuing throughout the
month, we will remember your beloved
deceased family members and friends
in our daily Masses and prayers.***

***Please list their names on the
envelopes provided by your monthly mailings
or on the envelopes on the tables in the church.
Please put these envelopes in the
collection baskets.***

Sock Drive:

The volunteers who help organize the Sunday Night Dinner for the Poor and Homeless (held at Our Lady of Lourdes every Sunday for more than 25 years) are collecting **new** underwear and socks to distribute on **Sunday, November 29** in celebration of Thanksgiving. Our goal is to provide each of our 25 + patrons with 2 pairs each of underwear and socks.

Our patrons are mostly men and range in size from small to 2X, with the majority wearing medium or large. Boxers or Briefs are appreciated. We do have 4 women, who wear S, M, L & XL. The ladies prefer men's socks in the winter because they are warmer!

We also could use new toiletries to include in the packages.

Please Drop your contributions in the box on the porch at 5903 Kirby Road, Bethesda MD 20817 (emptied daily) **by November 28.**

You may have items shipped – please include contact info if you would like confirmation they were received.

Thank you for your generosity.

LOLO 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 or call Dan Keen at 301-564-0077.

The “clothes closet” run in conjunction with the meal is in need of non-dressy cool weather women's clothing. Please drop off donations at OLOL between 4:45 and 5:15pm on Sundays. Contact Dan Keen if you have any questions. Thank you!

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.

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.



Want to become Catholic? Do you still need to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? Come to RCIA! The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, or RCIA, at Our Lady of Lourdes began September 30th, 2020. If you or someone you know is interested in RCIA or wants to volunteer as a sponsor, please contact Carl and Kariana Rios at crios@lolrcc.org. Please reach out if you are interested in helping the RCIA ministry as well.

For more information about RCIA, please visit: <https://lourdesbethesda.net/rite-of-christian-initiation-adults/>

or point your smartphone camera at the QR Code below:



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.

November 29, 2020 Title: *John Paul the Great*
By: Peggy Noonan, 2006 Penguin Random House

(Available by order at the John Paul II National Shrine bookstore. Email jasmine.kuzner@jp2shrine.org. Mention this book club to get 10% off!)

To join the meeting (no account needed) visit:
<https://join.skype.com/rlcWOSdiedca>

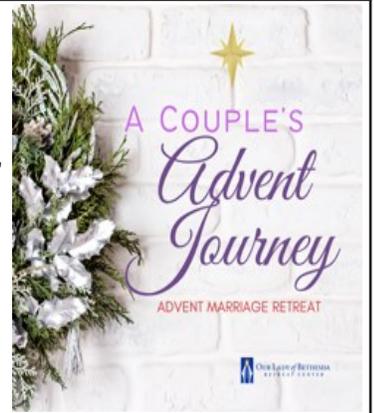
Virtual Advent Evening Retreat for Married and Engaged Couples:

"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.



Catholic Medical Association Meeting:

The Giuseppe Moscati Guild of the Catholic Medical Association will be having a virtual meeting for Catholic doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals on **Sunday, November 22 at 3:00pm**. The invited guest speaker will be Sister Dr. Deirdre (DeDe) Byrne who has served as an Army colonel/general surgeon and who is currently a doctor with the Catholic Charities Medical Clinic, a sister of the Little Workers of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, and a prominent prolific spokesperson. You do not have to be a current member of the CMA to attend. For further information or to register and obtain the link for the meeting, please send an email to dc.cma.guild@gmail.com.



December 4-6 (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. Determination about whether dates will proceed in-person or virtually will be made on a case by case basis and will reflect local mandates and guidance at the time. 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.

Save the Date for December 8, The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, A Holy Day of Obligation

Masses will be at:

**7:00am
12 Noon
5:30pm**



Altar Flowers:



The altar flowers this week have been generously donated by **Lulu Baeza in loving memory of Loreto Huerta de Arteaga.**

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)



Our November Poor Box is going to Gift of Peace House, a Missionaries of Charity convent and nursing home located in Washington, DC. Mother Teresa opened Gift of Peace House in 1986 with a focus on serving AIDS patients. Funds are always welcomed and appreciated. 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/.

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 returning families to apply is **Friday, December 4, 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 familias que regresan presenten su solicitud es el viernes **4 de diciembre 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!

Noticias en Español – 22 de Noviembre de 2020

¡Viva Cristo Rey!

El último domingo de cada año litúrgico, la Iglesia celebra la Solemnidad de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo, Rey del Universo. Mejor conocida como la fiesta de Cristo Rey. La fiesta de hoy nos recuerda que a pesar de que los gobiernos y las ideologías van y vienen, Cristo reina como Rey eterno. En medio de la confusión, las dudas y la desconfianza que pueden aparecer en nuestras vidas, en Jesús encontramos todas las respuestas porque El es el Camino, la Verdad y la Vida.

En estos momentos en que nuestro mundo se debilita y es atacado por la división, el miedo, la violencia y una pandemia. Pidamos a Jesús que venga a reinar sobre todos los pueblos y naciones. ¡Que viva Cristo Rey por siempre en nuestros corazones, en nuestras familias y en todas las naciones!

GRUPO DE JOVENES:

Invitamos a todos los jóvenes a formar parte del grupo de jóvenes de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes. Por el momento las reuniones serán por zoom los miércoles de 6:30 pm a 7:30 pm.

Si desea más información o tiene alguna pregunta, puede contactar por email a Ashlee De León en: ashmdleon2009@hotmail.com o a Mónica Benítez en: monikaybenitez21@gmail.com. El link para registrarse es: <https://forms.gle/5DtI3LAZrdVddbzx7>.

CATEQUESIS DE ADULTOS:

Las clases de RICA para adultos que les falte alguno o todos los sacramentos ya han comenzado. Si aun no se ha inscrito favor de comunicarse con la Señora Gilvar Morales al (301) 788 8651.

FLOCKNOTE:

Queremos comunicarnos más eficazmente con usted y estamos usando un servicio llamado Flocknote que le permitirá mantenerse actualizado con la información y los eventos de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes, todo por mensaje de texto o correo electrónico. Si aún no ha proporcionado su correo electrónico y número telefónico, envíe su información a Claire Toms a ctoms@lolrcc.org.

**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: _____