

Parish Life

Pastor's Letter

July 25, 2010

This spring the media greeted with some fanfare and much praise the 50th anniversary of FDA approval of "the Pill" in June of 1960. This daily dose of synthetic hormones could be highly effective (though not 100%) in suppressing the cycle of feminine fertility. Though it can have significant side-effects, including as an abortifacient when occasionally life is conceived but unable to implant in the uterine wall, these are usually downplayed. Not only was it heralded as the "liberator" of women from their life-creating potential, but it promised to diminish many social ills. Eight years later on this very date, July 25th 1968, Pope Paul VI issued an encyclical letter, *Humanae Vitae*, (Of Human Life). Only about 15 pages, it was years in the making as the Pope sought in study, consultation, and prayer to consider the moral implications of this new development. But in the end, he reiterated the consistent Christian understanding that human sexual love is created by God and ordered toward the "unitive", in the bonding and self-giving of a couple, as well as the "procreative", in its purpose and possibility. Jesus speaking of marriage taught, "What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate." Matt.19:6. Likewise, to unnaturally separate the "unitive" and "procreative" meanings of conjugal love, whether by chemical, barrier, or surgical interruption, violates the integrity of this most intimate relationship. To do so can never be morally acceptable. Indeed, to intentionally do so, a couple excludes themselves from the grace of God.

The Pope went on to predict that "the employment of anticonceptive practices" would open up, "towards conjugal infidelity and the general lowering of morals" as well as a loss of respect for women. As for the social ills the Pill hoped to address, such as family distress, divorce, child abuse and out-of-wedlock pregnancy, these have increased dramatically since 1960. Perhaps it is time to reconsider the Pill, and the Pope who predicted its perils.

Ministry to the Elderly & Homebound: If a parishioner is ill or unable to attend church and would like to receive the Eucharist, please call our coordinator, Margaret Carroll at 301-325-6398.

Deceased in Our Parish: Please pray for our deceased brothers and sisters, especially Maria Velasquez (grandmother of Renata and Antonio Gutierrez).

Sick in Our Parish: Please pray our sick brothers and sisters especially, Joseph Burke, Bill Wagner, Loretta Meyers, Fr. Thomas Kalita, Raymond Anselmo, Kaitlin Kelly, Peter DeSanto, Gladys Archer, Bill Bray, Sandy Kuldinow, Sheila Felock, Diego Guevera and Mireya Devaraj.

The OLOL Young Adult Group meets a few times a month for religious and social activities. Contact ololyam@gmail.com for more details.

Masses for the Week

Monday, July 26th (Gospel reading: Mt. 13:31-35)		
7:00 AM		Fr. Schad
8:00 AM		Fr. Schad
12 NOON	Intention—Ann Schmid	Msgr. Filardi
Tuesday, July 27th (Gospel reading: Mt. 13:36-43)		
7:00 AM		Fr. Schad
8:00 AM	Bill Wagner	Fr. Schad
12 NOON	+Linda Morin	Msgr. Filardi
Wednesday, July 28th (Gospel reading: Mt. 13:44-46)		
7:00 AM		Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM	+Maria Cristina Sanchez	Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	+Blanca Arias	Fr. Schad
Thursday, July 29th (Gospel reading: Jn. 11:19-27)		
7:00 AM		Msgr. Filardi
8:00 AM		Msgr. Filardi
12 NOON	+Charles Meyer	Fr. Schad
Friday, July 30th (Gospel reading: Mt. 13:54-58)		
7:00 AM		Fr. Schad
8:00 AM		Fr. Schad
12 NOON	+Monica Shewmaker	Msgr. Filardi
Saturday, July 31st (Gospel Reading: Mt. 14:1-12)		
8:00 AM		Msgr. Filardi
11:00-11:55 AM	Confessions	Fr. Schad
12 NOON		Msgr. Filardi
4:00-4:45 PM	Confessions	Fr. Schad
5:00 PM		Msgr. Filardi
Sunday, Aug. 1st (Gospel Reading: Lk. 12:13-21)		
7:30 AM	Intention of Frank Black, III	Msgr. Filardi
9:00 AM	People of the Parish	Msgr. Filardi
10:30 AM	+Monica Shewmaker	Fr. Schad
12 NOON		Msgr. Filardi
1:30 PM	+Luis & Susana Ramos	Fr. Schad
The Priests' schedule is subject to change without notice.		

Meet and Greet After Mass: Coffee and doughnuts are offered on the church portico on Sundays after the 7:30 AM and 9 AM Masses. Please join Msgr. Filardi and fellow parishioners for coffee and doughnuts.

Worship & Spirituality

Eucharistic Adoration: The worship of the Eucharist outside of the Mass is of inestimable value for the life of the Church. Hours of Adoration at Our Lady of Lourdes are Monday through Saturday 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM (except during Mass). "Could You Not, Then, Watch One Hour With Me?"

Sacrament of Matrimony: Please contact a parish priest to arrange a meeting and to begin six months of preparation. Anyone living in the parish is eligible. One must be a Catholic. Living together before marriage is sinful, a cause of scandal, and corresponds with a greater likelihood of divorce. Those cohabitating will be asked to live separately before marriage, and to return to the regular practice of their faith.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

What Does It Mean To Be An Active Catholic?

Frequently, those seeking to marry, have children baptized, or serve as sponsors for Confirmation or Baptism request a letter stating they are parishioners and active, practicing Catholics. To receive such a letter, one must be registered in the parish, attend Mass regularly, and be committed to a stewardship of time, talent and treasure. We encourage all parishioners to become active in one of the parish organizations. In a community as large as ours, one means of verifying participation is through the regular use of parish offertory envelopes. If you are unable to contribute at this time, please at least note your prayerful support on your envelope and place it in the weekly offertory. We will then be aware of your continued participation, and you will not be noted as "inactive" on our parish roster.

Social Responsibility

Sunday Evening Meal for the Homeless & Poor is always in need of volunteers during the summer months when adults & students are away on vacation. Help is needed both on the food line and in the clothing closet. Not much time is asked, only 2 hours one Sunday every other month. If you can donate a little of your time, please call Alex Novak at 301-693-9890 or Dan Keen at 301-564-0077. Light weight MEN'S clothing is also very much in need. Please bring your donations to OLOL cafeteria Sundays from 4:30 to 5:30. For further information, please call Pat Mertens at 301-718-4342. Thank you for your concern.

The Workcenter is a nonprofit association of friends who volunteer to support people who are currently unemployed and under-employed. Workcenter meetings occur every 1st Saturday of every month at Our Lady of Lourdes, at 7500 Pearl Street, in Bethesda, MD, at 9:30 AM. If you are interested in participating -- either as a job seeker or someone who can help mentoring other job seekers -- please e-mail Monica (gianolinim@niaid.nih.gov). Note: the meetings are in the Convent room, please enter from the driveway on East-West (looking at the front of the Church, the entrance is immediately on the LEFT side); the Convent room is off of the small internal parking lot.

The ESOL Program is searching for a new program director. As you know, Teresa Harwood retired after faithfully serving in that capacity for 10 years. This English program is a big help to the immigrant community. The requirements for the position are, a person who speaks grammatically correct and clear English, free time to give attention to details such as ordering text books, expertise with PC's, keeping records to account for registration funds, book sales and expenditures. The person should be creative and have some administrative skills. This is a perfect part-time volunteer position for a retiree who would like to stay active. Time commitment is every Sunday from 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM, from September to May. Training will be provided. Contact the Rectory Office at 301-654-1287 for more information.

Assumption Outreach Program continues to deliver a large amount of food each Sunday to the Assumption food pantry; however, it is distributed very quickly and is usually gone by the middle of the week. Last week about 200 people were helped, and the numbers are increasing regularly. The need is so very great these days, and although all of us are affected by the current poor economy, those who have so little to begin with are hurt the most. Perhaps each of us could increase his/her donation by one or two items to try to keep up with the demand. All kinds of food are needed, but most especially cereal, tuna fish, pasta, soup, peanut butter & jelly (no glass). Donations may be brought before all the weekend Masses, and checks payable to Assumption Outreach Program as well as gift cards to Giant or Safeway are also appreciated. God bless all of you for your donations of any kind, and for your prayers.

Faith Formation

Office of Religious Education 301-654-5954

“COULD NONE OF YOU STAY AWAKE WITH ME ONE HOUR?” (Matthew 26:41)

Many will refer to Fulton Sheen as America's Bishop, for indeed, he was the most well-known of America's Catholic bishops in the twentieth century. Few will deny that his notoriety grew from his speaking abilities. Yet, when asked of the "secret" of his ability to touch minds and hearts, he always responded "*the Holy Hour*." I have found that it takes some time to catch fire in prayer. This has been one of the advantages of the daily Hour. It is not so brief as to prevent the soul from collecting itself and shaking off the multitudinous distractions of the world. Sitting in the Presence is like a body exposing itself before the sun to absorb its rays. Silence in the Hour is a tete-a-tete with the Lord. In those moments, one does not so much pour out written prayers, but listening takes it place. We do not say: "Listen, Lord, for Thy servant speaks," but "Speak, Lord, for Thy servant heareth." We are meant to know Christ, rather than know about Him.

Toward the end of his many years, Fulton Sheen expressed a longing to pass on to the next life, referring to the Holy Hour as the means which created that desire. "It is not that I do not love life; I do. It is just that I want to see the Lord. I have spent hours before Him in the Blessed Sacrament. I have spoken to Him in prayer, and about Him to everyone who would listen, and now I want to see Him face to face." (Source: Archbishop Sheen and his devotion to Christ by Sister Madeleine Grace, Congregation of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word & Blessed Sacrament; homiletic & pastoral review February © Ignatius Press 2010; page 30)

The Religious Education Office is closed for the summer recess. However, if you wish to reach the Director of Religion, Jessica Coan, you may leave a message on Jessica's voice mail at 301-946-3773.

Education

Don Bosco Cristo Rey High School: Think you cannot afford a private co-ed Catholic school, think again! We are looking for students who display the following characteristics:

- Cannot otherwise afford Catholic education;
- Are open to Catholic religious values;
- Have successfully finished 8th grade;
- Are employable and hardworking;
- Are at least 14 years old by the start of the school year;
- Are highly motivated and mature;
- Would like to work for a Corporation one day a week.

Still Accepting Applications for Fall 2010!

For more information on applying please call us
1010 Larch Ave. Takoma Park, MD 20912
at 301-891-4750 Ext. 114

Noticias en Espanol

Don Bosco Cristo Rey High School: ¡Piensa que usted no puede pagar la educación privada Católica, piénselo otra vez! Estamos buscando estudiantes que tengan las siguientes características:

- No pueden de otra manera pagar por una educación Católica
- Estén abiertos a los valores religiosos Católicos
- Han terminado con éxito el octavo grado
- Sean trabajadores
- Tengan por lo menos 14 años de edad al comienzo del año escolar
- Sean altamente motivados y maduros
- Le gustaría trabajar para una corporación un día a la semana

Ahora Aceptando Aplicaciones para el Otoño de 2010!

Para información de como aplicarse por favor llámanos:
1010 Larch Ave. Takoma Park, MD 20912
www.donboscocristorey.org

Sacramento de Matrimonio: De acuerdo con los reglamentos de la Arquidiócesis de Washington, las parejas deben contactar a un sacerdote y empezar su preparación por lo menos seis meses antes de la boda. Además se requiere inscripción oficial en la parroquia y un mínimo de tres meses de participación activa **antes** de que pueda empezar la preparación. El vivir juntos antes del matrimonio es pecaminoso y causa daños al futuro matrimonio. Se les pedirá a las parejas que están viviendo juntos que vivan separados durante el periodo de preparación.

¿Es un adulto que le falta completar sus sacramentos de iniciación (Bautizo, Confirmación y Primera Comunión)? ¡No es demasiado tarde! El proceso de preparación para adultos empieza a finales de agosto, pero puede inscribirse desde ya. Las charlas son los domingos de 11:45 am hasta 1:15 pm. Para más información contacte a Marilú Musalem al 301-896-0043 o por correo electrónico a marilumusalem@hotmail.com.

Los Bautismos de niños menores de 7 años se celebran el SEGUNDO domingo del mes a las 2:30 p.m., terminando la Misa de la 1:15 p.m. **La CHARLA** requerida para los padres y padrinos se imparte el PRIMER domingo de cada mes a las 3:00 p.m. **Antes** de escoger padrinos, los padres deben leer el panfleto *Para Escoger Padrinos en la Iglesia Católica*, disponible en los mostradores de la entrada principal de la iglesia. Los padrinos deben presentar un certificado de su parroquia confirmando que son católicos activos y calificados para ser padrinos. Para más información y para inscribirse, llamar a Eufemia León al 301-681-0966.

¿Qué Significa Ser Catolico Activo? Frecuentemente, los que buscan celebrar el Matrimonio, bautizar sus hijo, o servir como padrinos para Confirmación o Bautismo piden una carta verificando que son parroquianos y católicos activos y practicantes. Para recibir tal carta, se debe de estar inscrito en la parroquia, asistir a Misa regularmente, y estar comprometido a la corresponsabilidad de tiempo, talento y tesoro (contribuir de manera regular a la misión de la parroquia). Les animamos a todos los parroquianos a ser miembros activos de algunas de las organizaciones parroquiales. En una comunidad tan grande como Nuestra Señora de Lourdes, una manera de verificar participación es a través del uso regular de los sobres de ofertorio. Si escoge no participar en el sustento de la parroquia, o no puede contribuir por el momento, por favor note su auxilio espiritual en su sobre y colóquelo en el ofertorio semanal. De esa manera, podremos estar al tanto de su participación continua, y no será marcado como "inactivo" en nuestro registro parroquial.

¿Esta Usted Recien Llegado, Es Nuevo en El Area, O Se Va A Otra Parte?

Ayúdenos a mantener al dia la lista de miembros de la Parroquia. Por favor, ponga aqui sus datos y deje este impreso en la canasta de la limosna o en la Sacristia.

NOMBRE: _____

DIRECCION: _____

TELEFONO: Casa: _____ Cel: _____

Trabajo: _____

EMAIL: _____

____ Soy Nuevo en la Parroquia. ¡Bienvenido!

____ Mi dirección ha cambiado. ¡Gracias!

____ Me voy del área. ¡Que el Señor lo acompañe!

Es **importante** inscribirse para recibir información y participar en los programas y servicios de la Parroquia. Se requiere estar en la lista de la Parroquia para solicitar bautizos, matrimonios y otros servicios.

Community Announcements

Separated and Divorced Catholics (SDC) of the Archdiocese of Washington will present "Separation, Divorce, and Beyond" which are facilitated sessions taken from the book, "Divorce and Beyond" by Brother James Greteman, CSC

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

and Leon Haverkamp, MSW The meeting will take place at St. John the Evangelist School 10201 Woodland Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20902 at **7:30 on Sunday, July 25**. For information on this event, call Greg at 301-906-9422 or visit the SDC website: www.rc.net/washington/sdc. **(CORRECTION: Last week's bulletin listed the date incorrectly as June 27. We apologize.)**

Tuesday, August 17th Golf – Swim – Eat at Hawthorne Country Club in La Plata - Open House Charity Day To benefit Loyola on the Potomac, a Jesuit Retreat House in Faulkner, MD. \$40 per person to play golf, \$5 a person to swim - half will be donated to Loyola! Call (301) 934-2433 for a Tee Time – Up to a week in advance. Eat at Cindy's Restaurant in the Hawthorne Club House and 10% goes to Loyola. Call Lisa White at (301) 392-3343 or email lisa.white@loyolaretreat.org if you have any questions.

The Best Kept Secret of Southern Maryland! Loyola on the Potomac – A Jesuit Retreat House in Faulkner, MD. OPEN HOUSE – CRAB FEAST, In Memory of Father Frank J. Miles, S.J., Sunday, September 19, 2010 2:00 – 6:00 pm. Fun for the Whole Family. Crabs, Hamburgers & Hotdogs, Corn on the Cob, Cole Slaw, Ice Cream, Beer. Games/Prizes. Single Tickets \$50 – Two for \$85. Children under 8 eat free! For tickets email Lisa White at lisa.white@loyolaretreat.org or call (301) 392-0819. All tickets must be purchased prior to August 31st. No ticket sales at the door.

Education for Parish Service: Are you a parent struggling to answer your kids' questions about the faith? A young adult unable to answer friends who ask why you are Catholic? Are you grappling for the Catholic response to the moral and social problems of the day? If so, you are the right candidate for Education for Parish Service. EPS is a Scripture, theology and spiritual development certificate program for adult Catholics who want to understand, live and share their faith. Day and evening courses are held on the campus of Trinity Washington University, 125 Michigan Ave., NE, Washington, D.C. See upcoming courses at <http://eps.trinitydc.edu> or contact Ann Kitterman at kittermana@trinitydc.edu or 202.884.9030. EPS is an independent non-profit organization and relies solely on tax-deductible donations from its students, graduates, friends and the parishes and dioceses it serves.

Want to Make a Difference? Want to promote life? Consider joining the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center's Sonogram Program. They are a pro-life, non-profit, private charity, seeking ultrasonographers (prefer OB experience) to volunteer at our clinic. Clinic hours are Wednesday evenings. Looking for a commitment of 3 hours per month. Training may be provided. If interested, contact Robin Ross, Medical Manager, on Wednesdays at 301-963-6223.

Full Course Chicken Barbequed Dinner at St. Mary's in Barnesville, MD, July 31st from Noon—7 PM. \$12 for adults; dine-in children 12 and under are free. Carryout is available. There will be a Jousting Tournament from 1-3 PM, craft booth, children's games, baked goods stand,

white elephant stand, and more. St. Mary's Church is located at 18230 Barnesville Rd. in the sight of Sugarloaf Mountain in upper Montgomery County (I-270 to Route 109.) Follow signs to Barnesville. For more information call 301-972-8660. Proceeds to benefit St. Mary's Church & Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Barnesville.

Finance/Administration

Parish Finances: The collection figures for July 18, 2010: Offertory Collection: \$7,574; Daily Mass: \$366; Poor Box (Assumption Outreach): \$239. Thank you!

Second Collection Next Week: Repairs & Maintenance.

Faith Direct: What is the best way to ensure that our parish receives the support needed for our operating expenses and ministries during the busy summer months? Electronic giving through Faith Direct! Please enroll today by visiting www.faithdirect.net Our parish code is **MD33**. Increased enrollment with Faith Direct will help stabilize our parish finances during the coming summer months when many families are away on vacation. For information on enrolling, please contact Rose in the Rectory Office at 301-654-1287 or diazr@bethesdalourdes.org.

Our Website now includes a calendar of events, including dates, times, and meeting rooms. The website address is www.bethesdalourdes.org.

Bulletin Deadline: Please have your printed notices at the Rectory office by Monday at 3:00 PM. The email address is: mcgurtya@bethesdalourdes.org.

The Parish Council asked us to establish a Parish email list in order to keep members better informed in a more timely manner. If you wish to participate, please send a "Please include me" message to mcgurtya@bethesdalourdes.org. We will keep your email address confidential.

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!

It is important that you register in the parish since weddings, baptisms, and other parish services require registration.