

OLQP MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church is dedicated to witnessing the teachings of Jesus Christ, especially the Gospel of Saint Matthew, Chapter 25:31-46. Our mission is to nurture the spirit and to encourage the potential of those we serve through liturgical celebration, educational endeavors and social ministries. The parish will continue to identify with its origin as a Black parish. As a multi-ethnic congregation we will seek to promote racial harmony and social justice. While our primary focus is within the immediate community, we will also work to provide for the well-being of the downtrodden everywhere. In this we strive for our parish community to be a caring, sharing, and loving family.

Welcome to OLQP Catholic Church!
¡Bienvenidos a OLQP Iglesia Católica!

Contact / Contacto:

2700 19th St S, Arlington VA 22204
703-979-5580, office@olqpva.org

Office Hours (mask required)

Horas de oficina (se requiere el uso de mascarillas)
Monday-Friday — 8:30am to 4:30pm
Lunes a viernes — 8:30am a 4:30pm

Website / sitioweb:

www.ourladyqueenofpeace.org

Live Stream Mass Schedule:

Horario de Misas de transmisión en directo:
8-9 January — 5:30pm and 1pm in Spanish
8-9 de enero — 5:30pm y 1pm

Masses / Misas:

Weekdays / Días laborables:

Mon-Fri, 12pm / lunes a viernes 12pm

Weekend Mass Schedule /

Horario de misas de fin de semana:

Saturday Vigil — 5:30pm

Misa de vigilia sábados - 5:30 pm

Sundays — 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am,

1:00pm (Spanish) & 6:00pm (Young Adult)

Domingos — 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:15 am,

1:00 pm (español) y 6:00 pm (Misa de jóvenes adultos)

DECLARACIÓN DE MISIÓN DE OLQP

La parroquia de la iglesia católica Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz se dedica a dar testimonio de las enseñanzas de Jesucristo, especialmente el Evangelio de San Mateo, Capítulo 25:21-46. Nuestra misión es nutrir el espíritu y alentar el potencial de aquellos a quienes servimos a través de la celebración litúrgica, labores educativas y ministerios sociales. La parroquia continuará identificándose con su origen como una comunidad afro-americana, pero reflejando una congregación multi-étnica y continuará promoviendo la armonía racial y la justicia social. Si bien es cierto que nuestro enfoque principal es la vecindad comunitaria, continuaremos trabajando para proveer por el bienestar de los más necesitados en general. Es así como nos esforzamos para hacer de nuestra comunidad parroquial una familia que comparte y se preocupa por sus miembros.

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE CHURCH

January 9, 2022

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

You will be baptized with
The Holy Spirit and Fire.

Luke 3:16



Él los bautizará con el Espíritu
Santo y con fuego.

Lucas 3,16



NUESTRA SEÑORA REINA DE LA PAZ

9 de enero de 2022

EL BAUTISMO DEL SEÑOR

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION / PREPARACIÓN SACRAMENTAL

Baptism / Bautizo:

Please email Baptism Coordinator Sandra Rivera,
srivera@olqpva.org.

Por favor mande un correo electrónico a la coordinadora de los
bautizos, Sandra Rivera, srivera@olqpva.org.

Marriage Preparation/ Preparación para el matrimonio:

Please contact the parish office at least six months before wedding
date to complete requirements.

Por favor llame a la oficina de la parroquia seis meses antes
de su matrimonio para completar todos los requisitos.

Reconciliation / Reconciliación—Confesión:

Fr. Ray Hall Library

Biblioteca Fr. Ray Hall

Saturdays 4:45-5:15pm & by appointment

Los sábados: 4:45-5:15pm y por cita previa.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS / COLECTAS DEL DOMINGO

Sunday Collection / Colecta del pasado domingo: \$1,894

Faith Direct (December Average /
promedio del mes de diciembre): \$14,255

WORD & EUCHARIST MISSALETTE/ MISAL PALABRA Y EUCHARISTÍA

Today's readings can be found on page 726
Las lecturas de hoy se encuentran en la página 727

BULLETIN DEADLINE / PLAZO PARA EL BOLETÍN

Wednesdays 9am — office@olqpva.org

OUR SICK AND HOMEBOUND STRENGTHEN US / NUESTROS ENFERMOS Y CONFINADOS NOS FORTALECEN

PLEASE PRAY FOR / POR FAVOR OREMOS POR:

Catherine Algeri, Suri Barahona, Gene Bétit, Grace Bialecki, Cindy Bianga, Francis Bilgera, Joseph Leopold Bissonnette, Precious Bowens, April Brassard, Dave Brassard, Evie Brown, Lynne Burgh, Marty Butner Covington, Brody Carroll, Reggie Carter, Pat Carty, Louise Chambers, Carmen Rosa Claire, Jeff Cory, Mary DaLuca, Cheryl Darby, Jim Davis, John Demajo, Adrienne DiCerbo, Ernest Donatto, Patricia "Pat" Dowd, Irene Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth (Bunny) Foster, Yvette Francois, Anne Fullerton, Iva Futrell, Karen Gammache, Trishann Ganley, Francine Gemmill, Fred Gladbach, Yolanda Gregorio, Harris Family, Sally Hars, Linda Hawkins, Clare Hayden, Dee Hickey, Margaret Hodges, Margaret Howe, Patrick Hynes, Beatriz Uribe Jaramillo, Lillian Jay, Pat Johnson, Sharon Jourdan, Cindy Kernick, Sally Krahn, Carmen Andrea Lara, Patrick Lawrey, Bertie Leahy, Lidia Montero Lopez, Olga MacKenzie, Wil McBride, Stefan McGuigan, Martha Gladys Medina, Maria Magdalena Medrano de Ventura, Eileen Melia, Frances Mierzwa, Arthur Miller, Mary Miller, Yvonne Mockler, Carmen Montijo, Dorothy Moran, Rosemary Morrissey, Chelsea Murray, Dorothy Myrtle, Mario Amel Najarro, Bruyce Niligis, Julie O'Brien, Peggy O'Brien, Patrick Ogden, Janet O'Neil, Carol Pacello, Delfima Pacheco-Choque, Roy Paco, Catherine Parr, Mary Pasquarella, Mark Pazich, Minnie Pazich, Paul Ramirez, Maddie Respicio-Cabatic, Wally Reyes, Michael Rodgers, Maritza Roldan, Marco Cristiaan Rufolo-Roger, Josefina Salgado, Carolyn Santos, Jane Shepard, Janet Shirvanian, Mary Shookhoff, Jeffrey Smith, Mary E. Smith, Eva Souza, Nina Stewart, Michael Arthur Sweat, Nancy Urquizo, Stephen Utley, Robin Vogel, Kate Witkowski, Midge Wholey, Mary Woods, Claudia Zapata, Kate Zopp.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

EL BAUTISMO DEL SEÑOR

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7 (21C); Acts 10:34-38; Luke 3:15-16, 21-22
Isaías 42,1-4, 6-7 (21C); Hechos 10,34-38; Lucas 3,15-16, 21-22

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEGUNDO DOMINGO EN EL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Isaiah 62:1-5 (66C); 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; John 2:1-11
Isaías 62,1-5 (66C); 1 Corintinos 12,4-11; Juan 2,1-11

MASS INTENTIONS, JANUARY 8-14

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

INTENCIONES DE LAS MISAS, 8-14 ENERO

EL BAUTISMO DEL SEÑOR

Saturday January 8th

5:30 pm the Parish

Sunday January 9th

8:00 am James Keightley (D) by Bill & Kris Casey

9:30 am the Parish

11:15 am Caecilie Jones (D) by Peter Jones

1:00 pm María Linares (D) by Milagros Lovo

6:00 pm the Parish

Monday January 10th

12:00 pm William "Billy" Svirsky (D) by Francesca Kearney

Tuesday January 11th

12:00 pm William H. Trueheart (D) by Dignity Northern Virginia

Wednesday January 12th

12:00 pm Judy M. Hanrahan (D) by Dignity Northern Virginia

Thursday January 13th

12:00 pm Maria Yu (D) by George Chang & family

SACRAMENTAL LIFE OF THE PARISH /

VIDA SACRAMENTAL DE LA PARROQUIA

This weekend we welcome one new Christian. Este fin de
semana le damos la bienvenida a una nueva cristiana.

Oliver Nicholas Padilla

Baptized January 8 / Bautizada el 8 de enero

OLQP PARISH STAFF / PERSONAL DE LA PARROQUIA

Pastor / Párroco: **Fr. Tim Hickey, CSSp**, thickey@olqpva.org

Parochial Vicar / Párroco Asociado: **Fr. Martin Vu, CSSp**,
mvu@olqpva.org

Ministerio Latino: **Fr. Joseph Nangle, OFM**,
j.nangleofm@yahoo.com

Deacon / Diácono: **Dcn. Tony Remedios**, tremedios@olqpva.org
(@ajremedios) on Twitter

Parish Office / Oficina parroquial

Business Manager / Gerente de Negocios: **Christina Kozyn**,
ckozyn@olqpva.org

Social Justice & Outreach Minister / Ministro de Justicia Social y

Acercamiento (bilingüe): **Sally Díaz-Wells**, sdiazwells@olqpva.org

Youth & Young Adult Minister / Ministro de Adolescentes y Jóvenes Adultos:

Rebecca Grant Jenkins, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org

Faith Formation Director / Director de Formación de Fe (bilingüe):

Cecilia López Oetgen, clopez@olqpva.org

A Consistent Ethic of Life Catholic Community

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MESSAGE FROM FATHER FRANTZ, PASTOR OF ST. JOSEPH PARISH IN MEDOR, HAITI

MENSAJE DE NAVIDAD Y AÑO NUEVO DEL PADRE FRANTZ, PÁRROCO DE LA PARROQUIA ST. JOSEPH EN MEDOR, HAITÍ

On behalf of the people of Saint Joseph of Médor church and on my own behalf, I wish Reverend Father Tim Hickey, the other priests, the members of the Haiti committee, and all the people of Our Lady Queen of the Peace a wonderful Christmas.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

"I announce to you a great joy: Today a Savior was born to us: he is the Messiah, the Christ and the Lord!" Hallelujah! (cf Lk 2, 10-11).

May the presence of the Savior, the Messiah, Christ the Lord bring us great joy, peace, comfort and healing in a world today marked by trials of all kinds!

Through his humanity may the Savior, the Messiah, Christ the Lord, son of God allow us to contemplate His divinity and holiness, giving us a taste of the joy and the glory that awaits us with Him.

I pray daily that the Savior, Messiah, Christ the Lord never stop sending His blessings on the relationship between Saint-Joseph of Médor parish and Our Lady Queen of Peace so that we continue to work mutually in love and in service.

I am very grateful to work with you! And I pray that the Savior, Messiah, Christ the Lord, He who is, Who was at Christmas and Who is coming, bless you abundantly, bless your plans and your family. Merry Christmas!

And I send you my best wishes for the New Year! It is God who is the source of all blessing: may He surround you with His grace and keep you in it throughout 2022. I wish you peace, happiness, health, protection and prosperity at the start and throughout this year!

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Father Frantz Aimé

Pastor Saint Joseph of Médor

CARPENTER'S SHELTER DINNER is Thursday, January 20...Our dinner this month will be: meatloaf and vegetarian entrees, mashed potatoes & gravy, salad and, of course, brownies and lemonade. Regular contributors will receive the link to sign-up, new folks can email mary.resnick@gmail.com or call at 703-462-4841 to sign-up. Delivery to the parish is via the office kitchen M-F during their office hours 8:30-4:30, Fr. Ray Hall kitchen on the day of dinner 12-5PM (use labels on the counter to indicate "Carpenter's Shelter", what item is and the date of dinner) or to the Shelter at 930 N. Henry Street in Alexandria, labeled the same adding our church name & "dinner". See protocol for delivery at carpentersshelter.org. Please let us know if dropping off food is a hardship and we'll figure out another way. Thank you!

De parte de las personas de la iglesia St. Joseph en Medor y de mi parte, quiero desearle al Reverendo Padre Tim Hickey, a los otros sacerdotes, a los miembros de comité de Haití y a todas las personas de Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz una Navidad maravillosa.

¡Aleluya, Aleluya!

"Vengo a comunicarles una buena nueva ... Hoy ha nacido para ustedes ... un Salvador que es Cristo Señor" ¡Aleluya! (Lucas 2, 10-11).

¡Que la presencia del Salvador, el Mesías, Cristo el Señor, nos traiga gran alegría, paz, consuelo y sanación en un mundo actual marcado por tribulaciones de todo tipo! Por su humanidad que el Salvador, el Mesías, Cristo el Señor, hijo de Dios nos permita contemplar su divinidad y santidad, dándonos una muestra de la alegría y la gloria que nos aguarda con él.

Rezo a diario para que el Salvador, el Mesías, Cristo el Señor nunca deje de bendecir la relación entre la parroquia de St. Joseph de Medor y Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz para que continuemos trabajando en amor y servicio. ¡Estoy muy agradecido de trabajar con ustedes! Y rezo para que el Salvador, Mesías, Cristo el Señor, quien es y quien fue en Navidad y quien vendrá, bendiga a todos abundantemente, bendiga sus planes y a su familia. ¡Feliz Navidad!

¡Y le mando mis mejores deseos para el Año Nuevo! Dios es la fuente de toda bendición: que los rodee de su gracia y los proteja durante el 2022. ¡Les deseo paz, alegría, salud, protección y prosperidad al comienzo y durante todo el año!

En Cristo Jesús,

Padre Frantz Aimé

Párroco de St. Joseph de Medor

LA CENA REFUGIO DEL CARPINTERO es el jueves, 20 de enero. Nuestra cena este mes va a ser rollo de carne y platos fuertes vegetarianos, papas majadas y salsa, ensalada y, por supuesto, brownies y limonada. Las personas que normalmente contribuyen van a recibir el enlace para apuntarse. Los nuevos contribuyentes pueden mandarle un correo electrónico a mary.resnick@gmail.com o llamar al 703-462-4841 para apuntarse. Las entregas a la parroquia son a la cocina de la oficina de lunes a viernes durante las horas de trabajo (8:30-4:30), a la cocina de Fr. Ray Hall el día de la comida de 12-5PM (use las etiquetas en el mostrador para indicar "Carpenter's Shelter", lo que contribuye y la fecha de la comida) o al Refugio en 930 N. Henry Street en Alexandria, identificada de la misma manera, añadiendo el nombre de nuestra iglesia y "dinner". Vaya al sitio web del Carpenter Shelter, carpentersshelter.org, para ver el protocolo de entrega. Por favor déjenos saber si se le dificulta traer la comida y buscaremos otra manera de hacerlo. ¡Gracias!

**PARISH ADVISORY BOARD –
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!**

Did you know OLQP has elected lay leadership that supports Fr. Tim and parish activities? The Parish Advisory Board members commit to attend bimonthly meetings (currently 2nd Thursday of the month), serve on committees as needed, and listen to and present parishioners' views and perspectives. The PAB strives to be a body that represents the many backgrounds, ages, mass cohorts and ministry groups of the parish. Six seats are up for election, each for a two-year term. Registered members who have been active for at least two years are eligible and encouraged to consider the PAB – nominate yourself or a fellow member. Nomination slips are now available in the sanctuary, or you may submit nominations via e-mail to patjulius@verizon.net (Please include the nominee's full name, phone number and e-mail address). The nomination period closes at the end of the day Sunday, January 23rd.

FOOD COLLECTION WEEKEND is January 8 and 9, to stock our Food Pantry – groceries gladly accepted throughout the month. Please pick up some or all of these items: Instant Yellow Corn Tortilla flour (NOT cornmeal), 24 oz. Canola or Corn Oil, Cereal (low sugar), Canned Tuna, and Canned Fruit and Pasta Sauce, Canned Vegetables, Rice, Dried Beans, and Macaroni and Cheese. Thank you for your donations!

MATTHEW 25 – We are in need of winter clothing, especially children's and men's clothing. Please review your closets and offer some of your gently worn winter clothing. Thank you very much for your continued support.

WEEKLY OLQP MOMENT

Join the parish community on Friday at 3:15pm to reflect on the topic of Promise. There is no time requirement for your reflection and no virtual meeting to join. Wherever you are, whatever you are doing, please pause for your reflection knowing you are with others from the OLQP community. Anyone wishing to add the OLQP moment to their calendar can email "OLQP Moment" to Patrick Julius at patjulius@verizon.net to receive the information in a calendar request. Please specify if you want the reminder in Spanish.

**JUNTA CONSULTORA DE LA PARROQUIA --
¡CONVOCATORIA DE NOMINACIONES!**

¿Sabía que OLQP ha elegido un liderazgo laico que apoya al Padre Tim y las actividades parroquiales? Los miembros de la Junta Consultora de la Parroquia (PAB, por sus siglas en inglés) se comprometen a asistir a reuniones bimensuales (actualmente el segundo jueves del mes), a servir en comités según sea necesario y a escuchar y presentar las opiniones y perspectivas de los feligreses. La PAB se esfuerza por ser un grupo que representa los muchos orígenes, edades, grupos de misas y grupos de ministerio de la parroquia. Hay seis plazas sujetas a reelección, cada una por un período de dos años. Personas inscritas en la parroquia que han estado activas durante al menos dos años son elegibles y se les anima a considerar la PAB. Se puede usted o nominar a otra persona miembro de la iglesia. Los formularios de nominación están disponibles ahora en el santuario o puede enviar las nominaciones por correo electrónico a patjulius@verizon.net (Por favor incluya el nombre completo, número de teléfono y dirección de correo electrónico de la persona nominada). El período de nominación termina al final del día domingo, 23 de enero.

FIN DE SEMANA DE RECOGIDA DE ALIMENTOS es el 8 y 9 de enero para abastecer nuestra despensa de alimentos y se acepta comida durante el mes. Por favor traigan cualquiera de estas cosas o todas: harina instantánea amarilla de maíz para tortillas (NO cornmeal), 24 oz. aceite canola o de maíz, cereal (bajo en azúcar), tuna en latas, frutas en latas, salsa para pasta, vegetales en latas, arroz, frijoles/habichuelas en grano y macarrones y queso. ¡Gracias por sus donaciones!

MATEO 25 – Necesitamos ropa de invierno, especialmente para niñas/os y hombres. Por favor revisen sus armarios y ofrezcan alguna de su ropa de poco uso de invierno. Muchas gracias por su apoyo continuo.

MOMENTO SEMANAL DE OLQP

Únase a la comunidad parroquial el viernes a las 3:15pm para reflexionar sobre el tema de la Promesa. No se requiere que se reflexione por un tiempo específico y no hay que asistir a una reunión virtual. Dondequiera que esté, sin importar lo que está haciendo, por favor pare para reflexionar sabiendo que está unida/o a otras personas de la comunidad de OLQP. Cualquier persona que desea añadir el momento a su calendario puede mandarle un correo electrónico "Momento de OLQP" a Patrick Julius – patjulius@verizon.net para recibir la información en una solicitud para el calendario. Por favor especifique si quiere el recordatorio en español.

Just a thought...or two...

Today as we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan by John the Baptist, we call to mind the transforming power of discipleship. As we struggle to faithfully follow Jesus in our lives, our lives are transformed by the very struggle to be the presence of Christ in the world.

Think for a moment about the baptismal ritual itself; first the calling out of the name in the midst of the assembly for all to hear...the sign of the cross traced on a forehead, a profession of faith, holy water poured and the sacred words are uttered..."I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of Son and of the Holy Spirit"...then an anointing with Sacred oil...the passing of the "Light of Christ" and a white garment, symbol of a new life born of this ancient ritual.

But with this new life comes great responsibility: to live a life as a Christian, as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

It is no easy task; to be a follower of Jesus Christ and live our baptism in concrete ways in our everyday lives. Our baptism calls us to put Christ at the center of our lives and to try and be a healing presence in a wounded world by doing good works, being compassionate, and actively working for justice and peace in the world around us that is at war in so many ways.

We are called to be healers of the wounds of divisions that separate us and cause us to be blind to the fact that we are all sisters and brothers — all of us! The children of God.

And so we ask ourselves...is it outwardly evident that I am a disciple of Jesus by the way I live my life? What could I do in my life to follow Jesus even more closely than I already do, to better live my call to discipleship received in my baptism?

Christ's Blessings,

Fr. Tim

BAPTISM of the LORD



*Programs that are open to the entire community, but offered in English only.
Programas que le dan la bienvenida a toda la comunidad, pero que solo se ofrecen en inglés.*

YOUTH MINISTRY: Lock-In retreat has been postponed until February 18th -19th. It will be virtual. Stay tuned for more information.

YOUNG ADULT: The International Christmas potluck has been postponed until a later date.

JOY TO THE WORLD:

AN INTERNATIONAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

All are welcome to the family event "Joy to the World: An International Christmas Pageant" at 5pm on Saturday, January 8, at Bishop Ireton Catholic High School in Alexandria. The event will showcase how cultures around the world celebrate Christmas. The pageant will take us through the journey of the Wise Men, as they take "the long way home", sharing the birth of Christ with all they meet! This is a spectacular event that you will not want to miss. The pageant is free to attend, but at-will donations will be graciously accepted at the performance. Please secure your seats in advance by emailing mcm@arlingtondiocese.org.

CONCERNED ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE and the impact it is having on the people, the environment and the things you love? Consider joining the Integrity of Creation (IOC) team at OLQP. The IOC works to help parishioners address and, wherever possible, alleviate the impact of global warming. The team meets monthly and is guided by Pope Francis' clarion call to action in his landmark encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. For information about the IOC team, its mission and operation, please contact IOC Chair, Bill Larme: blarme@msn.com

FAITH DIRECT eGIVING

Looking for a great stewardship habit? Try eGiving – it streamlines your generosity and lets you do even more to help OLQP grow our ministries that share the Good News of God's love. Signing up is easy from your computer, smartphone or tablet, and you can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. Sign up today by visiting Faith.Direct/VA271. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. Blessings, Fr. Tim and Fr. Martin

REGISTER WITH THE PARISH / UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION / LET US KNOW YOU'RE MOVING

If you have never officially registered with the parish, we invite you to do so. It is very helpful to us to have accurate information. Visit the parish website (www.olqpva.org) click on about us >> register >> register with us. If you need to update your record or would like a copy of the information we have on file for your family, please send a message to Jeannette Gantz Daly, jgantz Daly@olqpva.org.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLW) will resume this Sunday at 11:30am via zoom. Find the link under "Our Faith" on the parish website. Meanwhile, remember to use the MagnifiKid with your children during Mass. You can find copies of the MagnifiKid at the back of the church.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF SHOEBOX CAMPAIGN 2021

60 parishioners, supported by at least three employees spent 6.5 hours together in the Founders Room creating 355 gracious and dignified gifts for homeless men and women. Using recycled shoe boxes and a ton of lovingly donated personal care items, warm socks and seasonal sweets they send the message, "Our Lady Queen of Peace Cares About You Personally." The 355 gifts represents 85% of the number of gifts we used to provide before the world changed. That would definitely indicate that, even in the worst of times, the community of Our Lady Queen of Peace responds wholeheartedly to the message of Matthew 25. *Side note...*no plastic water bottles ever entered the room and everyone seemed intent on using less wrapping paper and on recycling scraps. These data and observations seem to say that OLQP is committed to social justice, the environment, and masked, multigenerational service activities. Gratitude in abundance from all the recipients of our upgraded and somehow, sanctified, shoeboxes.

SPIRITANS ELECT NEW INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP FOR GENERAL COUNCIL IN ROME

The General Chapter of the Spiritans in Bagamoyo, Tanzania elected as its new Superior General, Fr. Alain Mayama, C.S.Sp., a member of the province of Congo Brazzaville. Fr. Mayama is the first African Spiritan elected to serve in this role for the Spiritans. We offer our prayers and support to Fr. Mayama, who, along with his Council, will have the mission of animating over 2,500 Spiritan Missionaries working in more than 60 countries on five continents. He will also welcome the thousands of lay people who share the Spiritan spirituality and mission. Fr. Jeff Duaiame, former pastor of OLQP, was elected as First Assistant to the Superior General. And we offer our prayers for Fr. Jeff and the entire General Council as they take up their work

2022 VIRTUAL PRAYER SERVICE COMMEMORATING

The Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Please join the OLQP Prayer Service commemorating the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 17th at 11:00am via zoom. To receive the Zoom link, register to join the program at: vdabney@cox.net. Please use "MLK Prayer Service Zoom Link" in the subject line so we don't miss you. The link will also be available in next weekend's bulletin, Jan 15-16.

Creation Care Corner



"We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation."

-U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO CARE FOR CREATION

- ◆ The Pope's encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, is a text of landmark significance in Catholic Social Teaching. He challenges us to rethink our relationship with nature.
- ◆ Pope Francis reframes the environmental dialogue from a political discussion into language of faith. Creation, the natural world around us, is recognized as a precious gift from God to be revered by all.
- ◆ The Holy Father invites us to become aware and reflect deeply on the unsustainable environmental degradation around us and its consequences.
- ◆ Francis extends an "urgent challenge to protect our common home... to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change."
- ◆ The Pope asks us to examine our lifestyles through sound ecological virtues, strive for greater simplicity and to focus less on material things.

What will you do in the New Year to demonstrate your care for creation and gratitude for this great gift from God?

Humility and trust:

Finding the keys to the synodal journey

by **Cindy Wooden**

Catholic News Service

VATICAN CITY — As many Catholics try to understand what Pope Francis might mean by a "synodal church," he highlighted some of the essential characteristics — especially humility and trust — in homilies and speeches over Christmas and early in the new year.

Preaching on the feast of the Epiphany, Jan. 6, for example, he told Catholics that they need to learn from the Magi not to be afraid to take a new path when the Holy Spirit inspires them to do so.

"This is also one of the tasks of the synod: to journey together and to listen to one another, so that the Spirit can suggest to us new ways and paths to bring the Gospel to the hearts of those who are distant, indifferent or without hope, yet continue to seek what the Magi found: 'a great joy.'"

Xavière Missionary Sister Nathalie Becquart, undersecretary of the Synod of Bishops, told Catholic News Service Jan. 5, "I see seeds of synodality already growing."

Her shorthand explanation of synodality is "coming from the 'I' to the 'us.'"

Synodality means recognizing that being a Christian is being part of a community with shared gifts and responsibilities, called to listen to the way the Holy Spirit is inspiring each of the baptized and collaborating to find more effective means of sharing the Gospel, she said. "It is to highlight that what we have in common through baptism is more important than all our differences of status, age, vocation or roles."

That recognition, though, is impossible without the virtue of humility, as Pope Francis emphasized in his speech to leaders of the Roman Curia Dec. 23.

"Humility alone can enable us to encounter and listen, to dialogue and discern, to pray together," the pope told them. "If we remain enclosed in our own convictions and experiences, the hard shell of our own thoughts and feelings, it will be difficult to be open to that experience of the Spirit, which, as the Apostle (Paul) says, is born of the conviction that we are all children of 'one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.'"

Pope Francis kicked off the process for the Synod of Bishops in October, and while dioceses around the world were asked to begin local listening sessions shortly thereafter, the process is expected to move into high gear in 2022.

While Catholic media in the United States, for example, have written much about the slow start of the process in many dioceses, "more than 50% of the dioceses in the U.S." have named coordinators and are beginning the listening sessions, Sister Becquart said.

Those sessions, she said, are the heart of the synod, which is no longer an "event" celebrated when a representative group of bishops meet for three weeks in Rome but is a process that begins with local groups of Catholics praying, sharing and discerning together.

While it may be uncomfortable, listening to each other cannot be fruitful without an acknowledgment of one's own limitations and biases — humility, she said.

Bishops, pastors and others with a leadership role in the church are called to have a broader vision, which requires even greater humility and patience in listening to all and being willing to consider other points of view and other experiences, Sister Becquart said.

"Christianity isn't about knowledge, it's about living like Christ," she said, which is why Pope Francis

insists so much on listening to the poor and to the people who are on the "periphery" of social, economic and even ecclesial power structures.

Another thing the pope said Jan. 1, the feast of Mary, Mother of God, was that the church needs "mothers, women who look at the world not to exploit it, but so that it can have life. Women who, seeing with the heart, can combine dreams and aspirations with concrete reality, without drifting into abstraction and sterile pragmatism."

Sister Becquart said she does not believe it is possible to say, "Women are like this; men are like that, so women can bring this to the church."

"The challenge is to be the church with men and women together," she said.

And, she said, it cannot be denied that in many parts of the world and the church, "the experience of women is mainly of being dominated by men," but despite or because of that, they also tend to have "a capacity of resilience."

In her personal experience and in her research, Sister Becquart said, "synodality is a path of reconciliation, of healing," including between men and women or between clergy and laypeople.

The Xavière Missionary knows the symbolic power of a woman having a vote at a Catholic Synod of Bishops, something she is expected to have as undersecretary of the synod, but she insisted "what is more important is to have the voices of women at every stage" of the process, and not just its final deliberations.

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