

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.

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE CHURCH

July 16, 2023

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

Horas de oficina

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:

July 15-16— 9:30 am and 1pm Bilingual
15-16 de julio— 9:30 am y 1pm en bilingüe

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.

“A sower went out to sow.”

- *Matthew 13:3*



“Salió un sembrador a sembrar.”

- *Mateo 13,3*

NEXT WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION:

**MISSION COOPERATIVE APPEAL-
ASSUMPTION SISTERS OF NAIROBI**

COLECTA DEL FIN DE SEMANA PRÓXIMO:

**COLECTA PARA LAS MISIONES:
HERMANAS DE LA ASUNCIÓN DE NAIROBI**



NUESTRA SEÑORA REINA DE LA PAZ

16 de julio de 2023

Decimotercero del Tiempo Ordinario

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION / PREPARACIÓN SACRAMENTAL

Baptism / Bautizo:

Please email Baptism Coordinator Juderica Dias,
baptism@olqpva.org.

Por favor mande un correo electrónico a la coordinadora de los bautizos, Juderica Dias, baptism@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

Sat, 4:45-5:15 pm, & by appointment.

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

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS / COLECTAS DEL DOMINGO

Sunday Collection / Colecta del pasado domingo: \$7,359

Pastoral Solidarity Fund - Africa /

Fondo de Solidaridad pastoral - África: \$2,190

Faith Direct (June Average /

promedio del mes de junio): \$14,421

WORD & EUCHARIST MISSALETTE/

MISAL PALABRA Y EUCARISTÍA

Today's readings can be found on page 342

Las lecturas de hoy se encuentran en la página 343

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: Suri Barahona, Gene Bétit, Grace Bialecki, Cindy Bianga, Francis Bilgera, Joseph Leopold Bissonnette, Precious Bowens, April Brassard, Dave Brassard, Evie Brown, Lynne Burgh, Brody Carroll, Louise Chambers, Carmen Rosa Claire, Chris Comer, Jeff Cory, Mary DaLuca, Cheryl Darby, Jim Davis, John Demajo, Adrienne DiCerbo, Ernest Donatto, Patricia "Pat" Dowd, Calista Downey, Debbie Dumas-Hand, Tim Felker, Irene Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth (Bunny) Foster, Yvette Francois, Anne Fullerton, Iva Futrell, Karen Gammache, Trishann Ganley, Francine Gemmill, Fred Gladbach, Nancy Gormley, Yolanda Gregorio, Melanie Guitreaux, Harris Family, Sally Harrs, Linda Hawkins, Clare Hayden, Dee Hickey, Margaret Howe, Patrick Hynes, Lillian Jay, Pat Johnson, Sharon Jourdan, Cindy Kernick, Ruth Klarman, Sally Krahn, Carmen Andrea Lara, Patrick Lawrey, John Lawyer, Kathleen Love, 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 Morrisey, Luis R. Muñoz, Chelsea Murray, Dorothy Myrtle, Mario Amel Najarro, Bruyce Niligis, Julie O'Brien, Peggy O'Brien, Patrick Ogden, Carol Pacello, Delfima Pacheco-Choque, Roy Paco, Neil Parent, Catherine Parr, Mary Pasquarella, Mark Pazich, Minnie Pazich, Paul Ramirez, Jeanna Reynolds, Jacob and Jaxson Rivera, Maritza Roldan, Marco Cristiaan Rufolo-Roger, Josefina Salgado, Carolyn Santos, Jane Shepard, Mary Shookhoff, Jeffrey Smith, Mary E. Smith, Lora Smolenski, Eva Souza, Nina Stewart, Michael Arthur Sweat, Carmelita and Roy Tucker, Nancy Urquizo, Stephen Utley, Carina Vaquez, Robin Vogel, Robert & Maureen Wallace, Bob Wilson, Kate Witkowski, Mary Woods, Claudia Zapata, Kate Zopp.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME DECIMOQUINTO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Isiah 55:10-11 (103A); Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-9
Isaías 55,10-11 (103A); Romanos 8,18-23; Mateo 13,1-9

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME DECIMOSEXTO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 (106A); Romans 8:26-27; Matthew 13:24-30
Sabiduría 12,13, 16-19 (106A); Romanos 8,26-27; Mateo 13,24-30

MASS INTENTIONS, JULY 15-21

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME INTENCIONES DE LAS MISAS, 15-21 JULIO DECIMOQUINTO DOMINGO DEL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Saturday July 15th

5:30 pm the parish

Sunday July 16th

8:00 am Anne Martone (D) by Tom and Judee Rooney

9:30 am Winston Hill (D) by Minkisi Ministry

11:15 am Mark Sanidad (D) by Judy Francia Reyes

1:00 pm María Linares García (D) by María Cabrera

6:00 pm Anne Martone (D) by Kathleen Foster

Monday July 17th

12:00 pm Julienne Saint-Preux (D) by Venise Darisme & family

Tuesday July 18th

12:00 pm Valerie Foti (Birthday) (D) by Laura Bandini

Wednesday July 19th

12:00 pm In Thanksgiving for Amit Khetarpaul (L) by Jude Dias

Thursday July 20th

12:00 pm Genoveva Mundo (D) by the Francia Reyes family

Friday July 21st

12:00 pm Chiqui Alvir (D) by Judy Francia Reyes

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

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

Faith Formation Assistant: **Tom Parisi**, tparisi@olqpva.org

Receptionist (bilingüe): **Thelma Molina**, tmolina@olqpva.org

Administrative Support:

Jeannette Gantz Daly, jgantzdaly@olqpva.org

Mike Leahy, mleahy@olqpva.org

Maintenance Department Support (bilingüe):

Mel Cabrera, mlvncabrera@gmail.com

Michael Hill, mgdvet53155@yahoo.com

Zulema Ramallo

JUST A THOUGHT...OR TWO...

In today's Gospel Jesus once again instructs the crowds with a parable, a parable about a sower and the seed. But this parable raises as many questions as it seems to have answers. One such question might be: who sows costly seeds among the weeds and the thorns, and why?

The good farmer -- the successful farmer -- sows seeds on good rich soil that has been prepared, fertilized and tilled and yields a rich and abundant harvest! So why does Jesus tell the parable of a farmer who scatters seeds on bad soil, indiscriminately throwing it among the weeds and the thorns and the rocky soil...why sow it in these places? What is his point?

Parables are meant to get us thinking -- just when we think we understand the point of the story, upon further reflection another layer is revealed. I like to compare parables to finely cut and polished gemstones. As we mull over a parable and turn it around in our minds, we discover more and more facets of the story that at first glance may not have been so obvious. That is the amazing quality of the parable.

In this parable, some interpret the sower as God and the indiscriminate sowing of the seeds as an example of God's all-inclusive love for all peoples. They understand the seed sown is "the Word" offered to everyone, regardless of the potential that they will accept it and allow it to grow within them, or not.

Perhaps God sees possibilities of growth and abundant harvest amongst the thorns and rocky soil that we cannot even yet imagine! It seems to me that "the Word" being sown is "the Word of Justice" sown in the thorns and rocky ground of racism and bigotry. And "the Word" is crying out for racial justice in the midst of unjust structures that systematically favor one race over another -- white privilege. And God's "Word" will take root and grow, as we have seen it do in the hundreds of thousands of the Black Lives Matter protesters across this country and around the globe.

For Isaiah told us that God said "so shall my word be that goes forth from my mouth; my word shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it." That "end" is justice and equality for all God's children!

What are the "thorny or rocky" parts of my life where the seeds of the Gospel have yet to yield an abundant harvest? Where in the world is the rocky soil on which God has sown seed from which is springing new growth at this moment that both surprises and delights? Where am I being called "to tend to the Word" that needs to be cultivated and nurtured in the rocky and thorny world around me?

The Word is offered equally to all, as is God's love, lavished on all peoples!

And in today's parable, maybe Jesus sees possibilities for growth, where we don't yet see them.

Blessings, Fr Tim

MATTHEW 25 IS ACCEPTING DONATIONS AGAIN!

Please know that we are at 100% capacity for winter items storage. Please donate your new and gently used **spring/summer items only**. Donations accepted every day but Friday. The bin is located in front of the Ministry center from 9am until noon; until 7pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. Thank you for your continued support.

**MISSION COOPERATIVE PLAN APPEAL 2023
ASSUMPTION SISTERS OF NAIROBI**

Next weekend, our second collection supports the annual Mission Cooperative Plan Appeal for our diocese. Our parish mission organization is Assumption Sisters of Nairobi. This appeal helps our brothers and sisters who do not have access to basic pastoral services that support and grow their faith, like Mass, the sacraments, religious education as well as basic needs -- like food, shelter, and healthcare. You can support these organizations through this week's 2nd Collection. If donating by check, please make your check payable to our parish and put "MCP" in the memo line. Through your support, the MCP Appeal helps these mission organizations form vibrant faith communities and strengthens the global Church. Please be generous.

**¡MATEO 25 ESTÁ ACEPTANDO
DONACIONES DE NUEVO!**

Por favor, sepa que estamos a 100% de capacidad de ropa de invierno. Por favor done su ropa nueva y de poco uso **solo de primavera/verano**. Se aceptan donaciones todos los días excepto los viernes. El contenedor está frente al Ministry center de 9am hasta las doce del mediodía y hasta las 7pm los lunes y los miércoles. Gracias por su continuo apoyo.

**APELACIÓN DEL PLAN COOPERATIVO
DE MISIONES 2023**

HERMANAS DE LA ASUNCIÓN DE NAIROBI (ASN)

El próximo fin de semana, nuestra segunda colecta apoya la Apelación del plan cooperativo de la misión para nuestra diócesis. Nuestra misión parroquial es las Hermanas de la Asunción de Nairobi. Esta apelación ayuda a nuestras hermanas y hermanos que no tienen acceso a los servicios pastorales básicos que apoyan y crecen su fe, como la Misa, los sacramentos, la educación religiosa, y las necesidades básicas como la comida, la vivienda y la atención médica. Usted puede apoyar estas organizaciones por medio de la segunda colecta esta semana. Si dona con un cheque, por favor hágalo a nombre de nuestra parroquia y escriba "MCP" en la línea del asunto. Gracias a su apoyo, la Apelación del MCP ayuda a estas organizaciones de misiones de comunidades dinámicas de fe y fortalece a la Iglesia global. Por favor, sea generosa/o.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION FOR 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR IS NOW OPEN

Please enroll your children if you want them to attend religious education classes next year. Remember that sacramental preparation is a two-year program. If you need more information, please visit our website (www.ourladyqueenofpeace.org) or write Faith Formation Director, Cecilia Lopez at clopez@olqpva.org, or FF Assistant, Tom Parisi at tparisi@olqpva.org.



To register use: rb.gy/168a1

LA MATRÍCULA PARA LA FORMACIÓN DE FE PARA EL AÑO ESCOLAR 2023-2024 YA HA EMPEZADO

Por favor matricule a sus hijas e hijos si quiere que asistan a las clases de educación religiosa el próximo año. Recuerde que la preparación sacramental es un programa de dos años. Si necesita más información, por favor visite nuestro sitio web (www.ourladyqueenofpeace.org) o escríbale a la Directora de la Formación de fe, Cecilia López, clopez@olqpva.org o al asistente de Formación de fe, Tom Parisi, tparisi@olqpva.org.

Para matricularse use: rb.gy/168a1

YOUTH MINISTRY TEEN NIGHTS SUMMER HIATUS

With Catholic Heart Work Camp and the World Youth Day Pilgrimage in the coming weeks, Youth Ministry Teen Nights are on hiatus until further notice.

OLPQ YOUTH OFF TO WORK CAMP!

Please keep our Catholic Heart Work Campers in your prayers this week. Pray that their encounters with their fellow campers and the communities they will serve are formed, strengthened, and renewed in Jesus Christ. Pray for patience, flexibility, and safety on their journey. Thank you!

CARPENTER'S SHELTER DINNER – Thursday, July 20

Carpenter's now has all families, 20 adults and 34 children. This month's dinner will be baked or fried chicken, potato salad, baked beans, green salad, cornbread, birthday cake & lemonade. Food can be delivered to the parish office kitchen Monday through Friday, during their office hours **8:30-4:30**, or to Fr. Ray Hall kitchen on the day of dinner, **4:30-5:00PM**. Please label your food with date and description and place it in the refrigerator, freezer or counter. Note, if you're delivering directly to the Shelter (930 N. Henry Street in Alexandria), label food the same and **add our church name & "dinner"**. Regulars, look for the sign-up email; new contributors, please contact Mary Resnick to add your name or offer your choice, 703-462-4841, mary.resnick@gmail.com. Thank you!

DESCANSO ESTE VERANO DE LAS NOCHES PARA ADOLESCENTES DEL MINISTERIO PARA ADOLESCENTES

Debido al Catholic Heart Work Camp y la Peregrinación de la Jornada mundial de la juventud en las próximas semanas, las Noches para los adolescentes van a tener un descanso hasta nuevo aviso.

¡LOS JÓVENES DE OLQP HAN IDO AL CAMPAMENTO!

Por favor, rece esta semana por los jóvenes que han ido al Catholic Heart Work Camp. Rece para que en sus encuentros con las otras personas en el campamento y las comunidades que van a servir se formen, se fortalezcan y se renueven en Jesucristo. Rece por paciencia, flexibilidad y seguridad en su viaje. ¡Gracias!

LA CENA REFUGIO DEL CARPINTERO— 20 de julio de 2023

El Refugio tiene ahora familias, 20 personas adultas y 34 niñas y niños. El menú este mes va a ser pollo frito, ensalada de papas, frijoles cocidos (baked beans), ensalada verde, pan de maíz, pastel de cumpleaños y limonada. Puede traer la comida a la cocina de la oficina de lunes a viernes durante sus horas de trabajo **8:30am a 4:30pm** o a la cocina de Fr. Ray Hall el día de la comida de **4:30 a 5:00PM**. Por favor identifique la comida con la fecha y la descripción y póngala en el refrigerador, congelador o mostrador. Por favor, si lleva la comida directamente al Refugio (930 N. Henry Street in Alexandria) identifique la comida de la misma manera y **añada el nombre de nuestra iglesia y "dinner"**. Las personas que han donado antes, por favor busquen el correo electrónico para apuntarse. Las persona que donan por primera vez, por favor contacten a Mary Resnick, 703-462-4841, mary.resnick@gmail.com. ¡Gracias!

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION Monthly Vigil

Join fellow parishioners on Friday, July 14, at 10am for the monthly gun violence prevention vigil held at the NRA headquarters in Fairfax (11250 Waples Mill Road). This vigil is held on the 14th of each month.

SCHOOL'S OUT! SUMMER IS IN! Our Lady Queen of Peace asks that before you begin your vacations, travels and other summer plans, consider eGiving to ensure your support for our parish remains consistent even when you're away. Your recurring gifts will not only sustain our parish throughout the summer months, but you will help ensure good stewardship practices by reducing our costs for envelopes, paper and spending less staff time processing cash and checks, allowing more time for missions and ministries.

Getting started with eGiving is easy. Here are the ways to sign up:

- Visit faith.direct/VA271

Vigilia mensual por la PREVENCIÓN DE LA VIOLENCIA causada por armas de fuego

Únase a otras personas de la parroquia el viernes, 14 de julio, a las 10am para celebrar la vigilia mensual por la prevención de la violencia causada por armas de fuego que se lleva a cabo en la sede de la NRA en Fairfax (11250 Waples Mill Road). Esta vigilia se lleva a cabo todos los días 14 del mes.

¡LA ESCUELA ESTÁ FUERA! ¡EL VERANO HA LLEGADO!

Our Lady Queen of Peace pide que antes de comenzar sus vacaciones, viajes y otros planes de verano, considere eGiving para garantizar que su apoyo a nuestra parroquia permanezca constante incluso cuando esté fuera. Sus donaciones recurrentes no solo sostendrán a nuestra parroquia durante los meses de verano, sino que ayudarán a nuestro personal a administrar bien los recursos de Dios al reducir nuestros costos de sobres y papel y pasar menos tiempo del personal procesando efectivo y cheques, permitiendo más tiempo para misiones y ministerios.

Comenzar con eGiving es fácil. Estas son las formas de registrarse:

- Visite faith.direct/VA271
- Llame al Servicio al Cliente de Faith Direct al 866-507-8757

OLQP Annual Backpack & School Supply Drive Campaña anual para recoger mochilas y materiales escolares

It's that time again, and we need your help to send **750** local children (including Afghan & recently arrived Ukrainian children) back to school ready to learn!

When: Collections start now, with distributions of supplies in mid-August (right before school starts)

What we need: Sturdy backpacks and supplies to include the following:

- ◆ pencils,
- ◆ markers,
- ◆ erasers,
- ◆ wide and college ruled notebooks, etc.
- ◆ binders,
- ◆ glue sticks, and
- ◆ crayons



Please check the [Signup Genius](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4ca5ae29abfb6-olqp7#/) for the specific list.

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4ca5ae29abfb6-olqp7#/
olqp7#/#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4ca5ae29abfb6-olqp7#/)

Where: Place donations in the food pantry collection bins by August 8th.

- **Shopping online?** Ship directly to parish, by noting "school supply drive" in the address.
- **Prefer to make a monetary donation?** Donations labelled "Backpack drive" can be dropped in the Sunday collection, dropped off in the parish office, or made online through Faith Direct.

Want to Volunteer? If you would like to help pack backpacks and/or help distribute backpacks, please contact DeeDee.Tostanoski@gmail.com.

Questions? please contact Patvinkenes@yahoo.com

¡Es el momento otra vez y necesitamos su ayuda para ayudar a mandar a **750** niñas y niños locales (inclusive a niñas y niños afganos y ucranianos recién llegados) a la escuela, listos para aprender!

¿Cuándo?: La colecta empieza ahora, con la distribución de materiales a mediados de agosto (justo antes de que empiecen las clases)

Lo que necesitamos: Mochilas resistentes y materiales que incluyen los siguientes:

- ◆ lápices
- ◆ marcadores
- ◆ libretas "wide y college ruled"
- ◆ gomitas de borrar
- ◆ carpetas
- ◆ barras de pegamento y crayolas, etc.

Por favor chequee el [Signup Genius](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4ca5ae29abfb6-olqp7#/) para ver la lista específica. **Haga clic aquí para apuntarse**

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4ca5ae29abfb6-olqp7#/
olqp7#/#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4ca5ae29abfb6-olqp7#/)

Dónde?: Ponga sus donaciones en los contenedores de la despensa de alimentos para el 8 de agosto (fecha límite).

- **¿Compra en línea?** Envíenla directamente a la parroquia, poniendo "school supply drive" en la dirección.
- **¿Prefiere hacer una donación monetaria?** Las donaciones marcadas con "Backpack drive" se pueden poner en la colecta del domingo, se pueden llevar a la oficina parroquial o se pueden hacer en línea por Faith Direct.

¿Quiere ser voluntaria o voluntario? Si quisiera ayudar a empacar las mochilas y/o ayudar a distribuir las, por favor contacte a DeeDee.Tostanoski@gmail.com.

¿Tiene preguntas? Por favor contacte a Patvinkenes@yahoo.com

*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.*

GABRIEL PROJECT NEEDS BABY BOY CLOTHING

The Gabriel Project is in dire need of summer baby boy clothing. We have none at this time. We also need diapers size NB-5. Leave items in Matt 25 donation bin or call Rosie at 703-966-4675.

NEWS FROM MEDOR:

Fifty-eight Medor students will take Haiti's 9th Grade National Exam this Monday through Wednesday, July 17-19. The exam is important! It must be passed for a student to proceed to the 10th grade. Those who fail the exam must either retake the 9th grade or drop out of school. This year the exam will be held in a different location than in previous years because gangs control areas of the town where the exam was previously administered. Please pray for safe travels for these students. Please pray that they do well on the exam! Please pray for peace and security in Haiti.

JustFAITH is designed for people who want a deeper faith, a greater sense of purpose, and a practical understanding of how to make a difference in the world. Participants engage in reading, prayer, and thought-provoking dialogue. They encounter the world, each other, the Gospel, and build lasting relationships. Interested in joining the group that will begin in the fall, contact Sally Diaz-Wells: sdiazwells@olqpva.org

ISIDORE'S GARDEN –

Join in the Joy of Gardening!

At Isidore's Garden, our parish community garden located on our OLQP campus, we grow fresh vegetables for our OLQP Food Pantry, along with some pollinator-friendly and native plants. All are welcome to join in the joy of gardening! Connect with nature, enter the soothing rhythm of gardening routines such as watering and weeding plants, bond with fellow parishioners and members of the community, enjoy a little exercise, and care for the earth and for others. Join us on Saturday mornings from 8 - 10 AM and/or Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 8 PM. No experience is required. Weather permitting. Bring your water bottle if you wish and the tools will be provided. No need to sign-up. Email Julene at julenejarnot@gmail.com with any questions.

OLQP MINKISI'S SUMMER SCRIPTURE PRAYER, "FEEL JOY!"

is on Monday, August 7, 6:45 pm (in Zoom) and open to all. With contemplative prayer, the featured speaker is Shannen Dee Williams, author of Subversive Habits: Black Catholic Nuns in the Long African American Freedom Struggle. For program questions, contact Cecilia Braveboy, Jisaac3@verizon.net and for tech questions, Julia Rocchi, rocchijulia@gmail.com. See the information and Eventbrite registration by Fri., August 4: <https://bit.ly/MinkisiAugust2023>.

COLLEGE NIGHT for Rising College Freshmen

All rising college freshmen are invited to attend an Associates of St. John Bosco College Night hosted at 5 parishes throughout the Diocese. Listen to a panel of current college students give testimony about living out their Catholic faith on their college campuses. This is a great opportunity for students to meet fellow Catholics from their colleges and to learn about how to be a faithful Catholic on campus. Free pizza dinner is provided! For location information and to register for free, visit ASJB.org.

THE ADVOCATE – OLQP's Newsletter

Check out OLQP's newsletter, The Advocate, on the parish website (About Us >>News and Bulletins). This issue includes a tribute to Tom Donahue, a legend in the labor movement and member of OLQP's Labor Team; OLQP's new ministry: Restorative Justice; much about Black History Month and the work of OLQP's UJAMAA Committee; a tribute to Fr. David Ray, CSSp.; the work of OLQP's Knitting Ministry; and news on Haitian Migrants and Haiti's Environment Program. If you would like The Advocate emailed to your inbox, please let our parish Administrative Assistant know, Jeannette Gantz Daly. Or let her know you'd prefer to have a hard copy sent to your home mailbox. Leave her a message at jgantzdaly@olqpva.org.

ECO-TIP: *How Birds Help Us.* 5% of our food supply is pollinated by birds and they help control insects. According to the Garden Club of America, a house wren feeds 500 insects to its young in an afternoon. A pair of flickers considers 5,000 ants a snack!

Solitary confinement is a form of torture

The use of solitary confinement, says Pope Francis, is a form of torture.

KEVIN CLARKE

On March 15, Brian Rodenas, a prison inmate in Rhode Island, wrote a note to his mom from “your favorite son.”

“I hope you’re doing good. I got in trouble so I’m in [segregated housing], get out of seg on April 18th. Don’t worry, I’m fine. I’m still coming home next year, that is my promise to you. 2024 will be my year.”

But Rodenas did not get out of “seg” in April, and he won’t keep his promise to his mother. He was returned to solitary confinement because of other minor prison infractions. On May 2 he took his own life, the third Rhode Island inmate—and the second in solitary confinement—to kill himself over a three-month period this spring.

On January 23, 300 inmates in Texas concluded a three-week hunger strike organized to protest the broad use of solitary confinement in the Texas system. Michele Deitch, director of the Prison and Jail Innovation Lab at the University of Texas at Austin, told the *Texas Tribune* that prisoners in Texas have been restricted to solitary for months, even years, with “their only human contact the occasional brush of a hand through their food slot while receiving a dinner tray.”

Solitary confinement as a tool of security, control, and punishment remains a “normal” aspect of life inside the nation’s criminal justice system—an expectation that is unique among industrialized peer states where rehabilitation and restoration remain primary objectives. Reliable figures are hard to come by—solitary confinement can be hidden behind euphemisms such as “involuntary protective

custody”—but each day in the United States there are at least 80,000 people sealed off behind concrete and steel in units designed to diminish or eliminate sensory stimuli.

Activists who hope to end the use of solitary argue that human beings are programmed for socialization, not isolation. Under long-term solitary confinement, inmates can begin to suffer paranoia, crushing anxiety, hallucinations, and violent mood swings. People predisposed to mental illness or who are already diagnosed can be especially affected. The psychological and physical impact of prolonged solitary confinement can be long-lasting, if not permanently debilitating. It is hard to argue that such confinement does not merit the description of cruel and unusual punishment.

South Africa’s Nelson Mandela served 18 years in solitary confinement while imprisoned by the apartheid regime. He famously said that “a nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens, but its lowest ones.” That standard would render a hard judgment on the United States, where the United Nations’ “Mandela Rules,” which prohibit solitary confinement beyond 15 consecutive days, have not been accepted in many jurisdictions.

But there are signs of change. Nine states are currently contemplating broad criminal justice reforms. Other states have outlawed solitary confinement for teenagers or mentally ill inmates. In several states, notorious supermax facilities have been shut down. Pope Francis has been celebrated for his decision to declare capital

punishment “inadmissible.” Less noted has been the pope’s consistent unease with lifetime sentences, which he calls “a hidden death penalty,” and the use of solitary confinement, which he describes as a kind of torture.

But if his moral appeal for the humane treatment of people behind bars isn’t sufficient, let’s recall that the vast majority of the 2 million people locked up in America’s prisons and jails will eventually return to its streets and communities. They can return to those communities whole individuals with the best possible chance of reintegrating into society or they can return damaged and broken beyond repair because of excessively cruel treatment. In a merciful, rational society, the choice would be an easy one.

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FAITH IN REAL LIFE

Synod on Synodality recalls Pope Francis's visionary work at Aparecida

by Joseph Nangle, OFM
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"I give praise to you, Father, Lord of Heaven and Earth, for you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned, you have revealed them to the childlike." (Matthew 11:25, Gospel reading for Sunday, July 9, 2023, 14th week in Ordinary Time)

As we continue hearing about the far-reaching aims and hopes for Pope Francis's synod — its final step, the universal phase, begins this October — it becomes increasingly clear that he is relying on these words of Jesus as the basis for this revolutionary process. It is quite amazing to read, especially in the official *Instrumentum Laboris* (working document), about the pope's absolute confidence in the working of the Holy Spirit in and through "the childlike," that is, through the simple faith of the People of God.

A few of the topics which have emerged from the listening sessions which began at the local levels of Church life include issues that affect those hurt by the Church, such as divorced and remarried Catholics and LGBTQ+ Catholics. The listening sessions raised the importance of training candidates for ministry (seminarians, catechists, chaplains) in synodal style and mentality, with special attention given to seminary life. Listening session participants stated that the selection of bishops should have wider participation of the Church community. Other issues raised include priestly celibacy and the ordination of women to the priesthood.

As innovating as these issues may be, it is important not to "lose the forest for the trees" so to speak, much as the secular media often do. What is already beyond remarkable is Pope Francis's serene

conviction that the Holy Spirit is guiding this entire process, perhaps taking it where no one believed it could ever go. Once again, this attitude replicates that of Pope John XXIII nearly 70 years ago.

In this regard, those who are closest to the synodal processes in Rome have mentioned that this entire enterprise is being driven by the pope's desire to push the life of the Church outward from the clerical enclave which has enveloped it for too long.

One striking example of this mindset of the Holy Father came this week as he named Argentine Archbishop Victor Manuel Fernandez to lead the Dicastery (Office) for the Doctrine of the Faith. Formerly known as the Holy Office, it has had a reputation for stifling orthodoxy. Vatican watchers called the appointment "an earthquake." Some of what Francis said in naming Fernandez to this all-important ministry deserves mention. He said that this Dicastery has at times used immoral methods, pursuing "doctrinal errors over promoting theological knowledge." These words call to mind what Karl Rahner once said: There is always the possibility of "wrapping a shroud around Christ, obscuring the love of Christ in our world."

"Errors," the pope continued, "are not corrected by going after [the perceived heretics] but by making faith and wisdom grow." Then to Archbishop Fernandez, he said, "What I expect from you is certainly something very different. I ask you as prefect to dedicate your personal commitment in a more direct way to the main purpose of the Dicastery, which is 'guarding the faith.'"

Not especially prominent in the announcement of Archbishop Fernandez's important appointment is his role as a close collaborator with then-

Cardinal Bergoglio at the Fifth General Conference of the Bishops of Latin America and the Caribbean. Named the "Aparecida Conference," referring to the Marian shrine in the Brazilian city where the conference took place, it stands as another of those outstanding gatherings of the Church in that region following the Second Vatican Council.

At Aparecida, Bergoglio came to the attention of many in the Catholic world, especially as principal author of the conference's final document. It surely put him forward as "papable." The document is a reflection and call to all levels of the Catholic Church there — hierarchy, clergy, religious and laity — as bearers of Christ's liberating message, as missionaries. It appears that Archbishop Fernandez was at the right hand of Bergoglio helping him with this early synodal process.

We all need to stay tuned.

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