

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@olqpv.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:

December 16-17 — 6pm and 1pm Spanish
16-17 diciembre 6pm y 1pm en español

Missses / 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

December 17, 2023

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

UPCOMING HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR MASSES AND SERVICES

4th Sunday of Advent, December 23-24, Special Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Masses: 5:00pm & 7:00pm in Spanish (*livestreamed*)
Sunday morning: 8:00am (*livestreamed*) & 9:45am

Christmas Eve

Sunday, December 24
4:00pm (*livestreamed*), 4:15pm (Hall), 6:00pm,
8:00pm (*in Spanish & livestreamed*)
10:30pm Lessons & Carols, 11:00pm Midnight Mass (*livestreamed*)

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25, 11:00am (*livestreamed*)

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, December 30-31

Regular Weekend Masses: 5:30 Vigil, 8am, 9:30am,
11:15am, 1pm (in Spanish) & 6pm

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Monday, January 1, 11am Bilingual

The Epiphany of the Lord Special Sunday Mass schedule

Saturday, January 6, 5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday, January 7, 8:00am, 9:30am,
12noon (*bilingual & livestreamed*) & 6:00pm

Prayer Service honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Monday, January 15, 11:00am

HORARIO PARA LAS MISAS Y SERVICIOS PARA LOS DÍAS FESTIVOS

Cuarto domingo de Adviento - Horario especial de Misas

Misas de vigilia del sábado: 5:00pm & 7:00pm en español
Domingo por la mañana: 8:00am & 9:45am

Vigilia de Navidad (Nochebuena)

Domingo, 24 de diciembre
4:00pm, 4:15pm (Hall), 6:00pm, 8:00pm (en español)
10:30pm Lecciones y villancicos, 11:00pm Misa de medianoche

Navidad

Lunes, 25 de diciembre, 11:00am

Fiesta de la Sagrada Familia de Jesús, María y José, 31 de diciembre

Misas regulares de los fines de semana: 5:30 vigilia, 8am, 9:30am,
11:15am, 1pm (en español) y 6pm

Solemnidad de María, Madre de Dios

Lunes, 1 de enero, 11:00am, bilingüe

La Epifanía del Señor horario especial de Misa dominical

Sábado, 6 de enero — 5:30pm (Misa de vigilia)
Domingo, 7 de enero — 8:00am, 9:30am,
12 del mediodía (bilingüe) y 6:00pm

Servicio de oración para honrar al Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Lunes, 15 de enero, 11:00am

Make ready the
way of the Lord.

John 1:23



Enderecen el camino
del Señor.

Juan 1,23



NUESTRA SEÑORA REINA DE LA PAZ

17 de diciembre de 2023

Tercer domingo de adviento

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 your 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, 4:45-5:15 pm and by appointment.

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

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS / COLECTAS DEL DOMINGO

Sunday Collection / Colecta del pasado domingo: \$9,765

Catholic Charities Annual Christmas Collection / Colecta Anual Navideña de la Parroquia para las Caridades Católicas: \$7,826

Faith Direct (November Average /

promedio del mes de Noviembre): \$14,948

WORD & EUCHARIST MISSALETTE/

MISAL PALABRA Y EUCARISTÍA

Today's readings can be found on page 436

Las lecturas de hoy se encuentran en la página 437

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, Javier Fernandez Castillo, 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, Tim Felker, Irene Fitzpatrick, Elizabeth (Bunny) Foster, Yvette Francois, Susan Fratus, Anne Fullerton, Iva Futrell, Karen Gammache, Trishann Ganley, Francine Gemmill, Jean Giambalvo, Fred Gladbach, Nancy Gormley, Yolanda Gregorio, Melanie Guitreaux, Joe Harrington, Harris Family, Sally Hars, Linda Hawkins, Clare Hayden, Dee Hickey, Margaret Howe, Patrick Hynes, Lillian Jay, Pat Johnson, Sharon Jourdan, William Kahl, 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 Morrissey, Luis R. Muñoz, Chelsea Murray, Dorothy Myrtle, Mario Amel Najarro, Julie O'Brien, Peggy O'Brien, Patrick Ogden, Carol Pacello, Roy Paco, Neil Parent, Catherine Parr, Mary Pasquarella, Mark Pazich, Minnie Pazich, Paul Ramirez, Santos 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, Grace Starbird, Nina Stewart, Michael Arthur Sweat, Carmelita and Roy Tucker, Nancy Urquigo, Stephen Utey, Alma Reyes Valentin, Carina Vaquez, Robin Vogel, Robert & Maureen Wallace, Bob Wilson, Kate Witkowski, Lauren Wolfe, Mary Woods, Malcolm Young, Claudia Zapata, Kate Zopp.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Isaiah 61:1-2°, 10-11 (8B); 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28
Isaías 61,1-2°, 10-11 (8B); 1 Tesalonicenses 5,16-24; Juan 1,6-8, 19-28

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CUARTO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 (11B); Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38
2 Samuel 7,1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 (11B); Romanos 16,25-27; Lucas 1,26-38

MASS INTENTIONS, DECEMBER 16-22

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

INTENCIONES DE LAS MISAS, 16-22 DICIEMBRE

TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Saturday December 16th

5:30 pm Oscar Zapata, Rodrigo & Beatriz Jaramillo (D)

by Celina "Blanca" Zapata & family

Sunday December 17th

8:00 am the parish

9:30 am the parish

11:15 am Mary J. O'Connell (D) by Francesca Kearney

1:00 pm Francisco Portillo & Tomasa Portillo (D) by Ysabel Lovo

6:00 pm Cecilia L. & Alexander L. Kostka (D) by their children

Monday December 18th

12:00 pm Robert Gillanders (D) by Ann Johnson

Tuesday December 19th

12:00 pm Memorial Mass - Bernice Zedalis

Wednesday December 20th

12:00 pm María Reyes Zarate (D) by Jazmin Albarrán

Thursday December 21st

12:00 pm Laura Shely (L) by Allison Shely

Friday December 22nd

12:00 pm Marion McGann (D) by Martin McGann

In Memoriam

Dr. Eugene "Gene" DeFrist Bétit

Died in the Lord, December 15, 2023

It is with great sadness we share the news of Gene's passing. Gene was a former Deacon and Social Justice Outreach Minister here at OLQP. Please keep the Betit family in your prayers during this difficult time — his wife Sheila, daughter Christie and granddaughter, Lisa. Arrangements have not yet been announced. Expressions of sympathy can be sent in care of the parish.

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

JUST A THOUGHT...OR TWO...

Today we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath as we celebrate Gaudete Sunday – Gaudete from the Greek: to rejoice. And so we add a new dimension to our Advent waiting -- joyfulness!

And from the prophet Isiah we hear an early version of Mary’s message, “My spirit rejoices in God my savior” because the One Who was, Who is and Who is yet to come, is on His way! In Mary’s case she was carrying the long awaited One for his first appearance amongst us, as one of us!

But for us, our spirits rejoice in God our savior for Christ has come and will come again! But how can we rejoice in the midst of all the problems of our own lives, not to mention the immense suffering and tragedies unfolding in the world around us in the midst of wars and threats of more wars that are ravaging and destroying so many people’s lives?

Joy, in the midst of the sorrow and suffering of those grieving the loss of their loved ones? It all seems a bit much! Yet that is precisely what scripture is

calling us to -- be joyful in the midst of our anger, in the midst of our fear and trembling, to trust in God understanding that in the midst of all of our fear and worries, God is present with us. Present with us in the midst of our suffering and loss, and loving us through it all! For we are God’s beloved! That is our core identity: the beloved of God!

John the Baptist proclaims the coming of the Messiah. But, in truth the messiah he was proclaiming was not the messiah that all the people and religious leaders of the day thought was coming – no, One much greater was coming. God’s very self, in the flesh; Emmanuel...God with us! And for that we rejoice because in the midst of all of our brokenness and suffering and grief and fear, we are deeply and passionately loved by God, just as we are!

And so on this Gaudete Sunday we rejoice in being perfectly loved and perfectly forgiven! How can I share this amazing “good news” with others this Advent season, and throughout the year?

Advent blessings, Fr. Tim



WELCOME LIGIA LOZA

It is with great pleasure we welcome Ligia Loza who will be OLQP’s new Office Manager. Ligia brings to this position the requisite skill set, but more importantly, she is a genuinely kind, gifted and joyful person. The Muñoz Loza family have been faithful members of the parish for nearly twenty-five years. Please join us in welcoming Ligia who will be starting full-time later this month!

BIENVENIDA, LIGIA LOZA

Nos place mucho darle la bienvenida a Ligia Loza quien va a ser la nueva Gerente de la oficina. Ligia trae el conjunto de habilidades requerido para la posición, pero lo que es más importante, ella verdaderamente es una persona amable, talentosa y alegre. Los miembros de la familia Muñoz Loza han sido miembros fieles de la parroquia por casi veinticinco años. ¡Por favor únense a nosotros en darle la bienvenida a Ligia que va a empezar a tiempo completo más tarde este mes!

HAITI CHRISTMAS DRIVE: FOSTERS SUCCESS

Our twinning with St Joseph parish is helping people improve their lives:

- ◇ 3,200 students are attending school, k-13th grade.
- ◇ 1,000 farmers are participating in the agroforester program, planting trees and earning training, crop seeds and agricultural hand tools, allowing them to increase their incomes. Over 1 million tree seedlings have been transplanted from the nurseries since 2010!

Here is how we can continue making a difference in Medor:

Checks can be made out to OLQP with “Haiti” on the memo line and placed in the Haiti box at the church entrance or mailed to the parish office.

Online gifts can be made through faith direct to <https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/VA271/6766>

The Haiti Christmas Card Alternative Gift

Program offers both printed and electronic cards.

◆ How to get Haiti printed cards:

Pick up cards at the self-serve table at the church entrance.

◆ How to get the Haiti E-card:

Download [here](#) and attach the card in an email to your loved ones.

Podcast on the Twinning of OLQP and St. Joseph Parish

Sue Carlson, chair of our Haiti Ministry, was interviewed for a podcast on parish twinning. She speaks about our twinning with the people of Medor, If you would like to listen, here is the link:

<https://uscatholicmission.org/news/dr-sue-carlson-st-joseph-parish-medor-haiti>

LA CAMPAÑA NAVIDEÑA PARA HAITÍ: FOMENTA EL TRIUNFO

Nuestro hermanamiento con la parroquia St. Joseph está ayudando a mejorar la vida de las personas:

- ◇ 3,200 estudiantes asisten a la escuela, de Kindergarten al grado 13.
- ◇ 1,000 agricultores participan en el programa agroforestal, sembrando árboles y recibiendo entrenamiento, semillas para las cosechas y herramientas agrícolas, lo que les permite aumentar sus ganancias. ¡Se han trasplantado más de 1 millón de arbolitos de los viveros desde el 2010!

Aquí vemos cómo podemos continuar marcando la diferencia.

Puede hacer el cheque a nombre de OLQP con “Haiti” en la línea del asunto y ponerlo en la caja de Haití en la entrada de la iglesia. También puede mandarlo por correo a la oficina parroquial. Puede donar en línea por medio de faith direct:

<https://membership.faithdirect.net/givenow/VA271/6766>

El programa de tarjetas navideñas de Haití para regalos alternativos ofrece tarjetas impresas y electrónicas.

📄 ¿Cómo obtener las tarjetas impresas de Haití?

Recoja las tarjetas en la mesa de autoservicio en la entrada de la iglesia.

📄 ¿Cómo obtener las tarjetas electrónicas de Haití?

Descargue [aquí](#) y fije la tarjeta en un correo electrónico dirigido a sus seres queridos.

THE GIVING TREE – Support SEEC Day

Laborers! We invite you to support the parish in providing lunch for SEEC day laborers. Each week a group of volunteers shop, prepare and package lunches for Shirlington Day Laborers through the Brown Bag Lunch Program. The Giving Tree supports this effort: take a ‘brown bag angel’ ornament from the basket under the giving tree in the sanctuary, place your donation inside the ornament and hang it on the tree. The tree will be in the sanctuary through the Christmas season.



THE GIVING TREE -- ¡Apoye a los jornaleros de SEEC!

Los invitamos a apoyar a la parroquia al darle almuerzo a los jornaleros de SEEC. Cada semana un grupo de personas voluntarias que forman parte del *Brown Bag Lunch* van de compras, preparan y empaacan almuerzos para los jornaleros de Shirlington. El *Giving Tree* apoya este esfuerzo: tome un ornamento, “un ángel de papel”, de la canasta que está debajo del “*giving tree*” en el santuario, ponga su donación dentro del ornamento y cuélguelo en el árbol. El árbol va a estar en el santuario durante la temporada navideña.

CARPENTER'S SHELTER SUPPER --

Thursday, December 21

Our dinner this month is meatloaf, a veggie option, mashed potatoes, broccoli, salad, and brownies. Your 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 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". If you are a new contributor, or have a question, contact Mary Resnick, 703-462-4841, mary.resnick@gmail.com Thank you!

MATTHEW 25 is in need of warm jackets and car coats. Please clear your closets of gently used warm jackets and car coats that you no longer wear. Donations are accepted every day **except Fridays**. Please drop off donation between 9am and 12noon. Drop offs can be made through the evening Mondays and Wednesdays until 7pm. Thank you for your continued support.

LA CENA REFUGIO DEL CARPINTERO, --

el jueves, 21 de diciembre

Nuestra comida este mes es pastel de carne, un vegetal, papas majadas, brócoli, ensalada y brownies. Puede llevar su comida a la cocina de la oficina de lunes a viernes durante las horas de trabajo 8:30-4:30pm 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. Si va a llevar la comida directamente al Refugio, 930 N. Henry Street en Alexandria, identifíquela de la misma manera y añada el nombre de nuestra iglesia y "dinner". Si va a llevar comida por primera vez o tiene alguna pregunta, contacte a Mary Resnick, 703-462-4841, mary.resnick@gmail.com. ¡Gracias!

MATEO 25 necesita chaquetas y abrigos cálidos. Por favor deshágase de las chaquetas y abrigos cálidos en su closet que ya no usa. Se aceptan donaciones todos los días **excepto los viernes**. Por favor traiga sus donaciones ente las 9am y las 12 del mediodía. Puede traer las donaciones hasta las 7pm los lunes y los miércoles. Gracias por su continuo apoyo.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

We invite you to remember a deceased loved one with a Christmas Flower Memorial. Memorials will be published in the Sunday bulletin on the weekend of December 23-24. Please complete this form, make your donation payable to Our Lady Queen of Peace Church (donation amount is at your discretion) and send to the parish office (attention Christina) or drop in the collection basket by Sunday, December 17th. **Please be sure to meet the deadline of 12/17!** Donations can also be made through FaithDirect.net (OLQP code: VA271) but be sure to send an email with memorial information to office@olqpva.org with "Flower Memorial" in the subject line, again by 12/17.

Christmas Flower Memorial:

Honoring: _____

Requested by: _____

Donation: _____

MEMORIALES DE FLORES DE NAVIDAD

Invitamos a todos a recordar a un ser querido difunto con un Memorial de flores de Navidad. Los memoriales se publicarán en el boletín del domingo del fin de semana del 23-24 de diciembre. Por favor, complete esta información, pague a nombre de OLQP (el donativo se deja a su discreción) y mándela a la oficina parroquial (atención: Christina) o póngala en el cesto de la colecta en o antes del 17 de diciembre. **¡Por favor asegúrese de que llegue a tiempo para del 17 de diciembre!** También puede mandar su donación por FaithDirect.net (OLQP código: VA271), pero asegúrese de mandar un correo electrónico con la información del memorial a office@olqpva.org con "Christmas Flower Memorials" en la línea del asunto en el cheque para la fecha límite del 17 de diciembre.

Memorial de flores de Navidad:

En honor de: _____

A petición de: _____

Donativo: \$ _____

A HUGE SHOEBOX THANK YOU!

The "Lightning Round" of our Matt 25 mission phrase (Whatever you do) produced 487 lovingly wrapped gifts for people who share our streets but not our prosperity. Already wrapped gifts came from FF Circle communities, CubScout Pack 855, some local school staff and people who take their gifting personally. Between 10:00am and 7:00pm last Sunday, 120 parishioners of all ages and Mass loyalties volunteered to gather and wrap "comfort and joy" into a recycled shoebox. The inventory of life basics was delivered throughout the day by another 75 smiling families who cornered the market on socks, toothpaste, and lotion. A team of industrious teens set up the *pop-up gift store* on the stage in Father Ray Hall. Younger children walked with their parents as they shopped, pleased to top off the contents with a candy cane and a personalized Christmas card (produced by our Faith Formation community). Arthritic, athletic and youthful hands worked together to pick the best wrapping paper. An ad-hoc team of helpers kept the system moving, greeting and orienting the next crew, recycling paper, stacking wrapped boxes.

Nine hours of grace-filled energy, an OLQP tradition of *Discipleship in Action 2023 style*, plus untold hours of planning in the background, (Monica Rivera, looking at you) will bring a package of health, dignity and respect to PathForward, SEEC, Feast on the Streets and our own benevolent Food Pantry. All participants in this early Advent event reflect on how it helps them talk about homelessness with their children, grandchildren and even themselves. Surely something sacramental there. Thank you!

¡MUCHÍSIMAS GRACIAS POR LAS CAJAS DE ZAPATOS!

La "frase relámpago" de la frase de la misión de Mateo 25 (Lo que hagan) produjo 487 regalos envueltos con cariño para las personas que comparten nuestras calles pero no nuestra prosperidad. Regalos ya envueltos vinieron de comunidades FF Circle, el grupo 855 de los Cub Scouts, personal escolar local y personas que toman seriamente sus donaciones. Entre las 10:00am y las 7:00pm el domingo pasado, 120 miembros de la parroquia de todas las edades y de diferentes Misas, se ofrecieron a reunirse y a envolver consuelo y alegría en una caja de zapatos reciclada.

Durante todo el día otras 75 familias sonrientes distribuyeron el inventario de cosas básicas para la vida – medias, pasta de dientes y loción. Un equipo de adolescentes industriosos instalaron la *tienda pop-up de regalos* en el escenario en Father Ray Hall. Niñas y niños más pequeños caminaron con sus padres al ellos comprar, contentas/os de completar las compras con un bastón de caramelo y una tarjeta de Navidad personalizada por (producida por la comunidad de Formación de fe). Manos artríticas, atléticas y jóvenes trabajaron juntas para escoger el mejor papel de regalo. Un grupo ad-hoc de ayudantes mantuvo el sistema en movimiento, saludando y orientando al próximo grupo de trabajadores, reciclando papeles y apilando las cajas ya envueltas.

Nueve horas de energía llenas de gracia al estilo de la tradición de *Discipulado en acción 2023* de OLQP, además de innumerables horas de planificación en segundo plano, (Monica Rivera te estoy mirando a ti) van a traer un regalo de salud, dignidad y respeto a PathForward, SEEC, Fiesta en las calles y nuestra benévola Despensa de alimentos. Todas las personas que participaron en este evento en los comienzos de Adviento reflexionan como les ayuda hablar del desamparo con sus hijas e hijos, nietas y nietos y entre ellas. De seguro hay algo sacramental en eso. ¡Gracias!

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.

LOOKING FOR RESOURCES TO ENRICH YOUR ADVENT?

Click [here](https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/resources/advent-resources-2023/) or go to <https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/resources/advent-resources-2023/>



SAY "YES!" to the Pope's call to Care for Creation. Sign the Creation Care Pledge. Go to: bit.ly/LDActionPledge for details.

ECO-TIPS: For a more sustainable holiday. Get creative with wrapping--use newspaper, cloth and natural materials. Avoid foil or plastic coatings. Re-think greeting cards, go electronic, or make your own. Give experiences rather than more "stuff". Avoid disposable cutlery and plates at holiday gatherings.



TALLERES DE ORACION Y VIDA

Una Nueva Evangelización

www.tovpil.org

INSCRIPCIONES ABIERTAS

Iglesia Nstra. Sra. Reina de la Paz
2700 South 19th Street
Arlington, VA 22204

Inicia el sábado 13 de enero, 2024
Horario: de 2-4 PM

Para información llame al
703-568-8849, o escriba a
jessipore@yahoo.com



Our Lady Of Guadalupe Is ‘Mother Of All Mothers,’ Bishop Says On Her Feast Day

WASHINGTON (OSV News) — Our Lady of Guadalupe is “the mother of all mothers — a loving bridge between worlds and peoples who unifies through her maternal embrace,” the U.S. bishops’ migration chairman said in a statement issued on the Dec. 12 Marian feast.

In choosing to appear to St. Juan Diego, an Indigenous man of a “modest station in life” in Mexico, “she reveals to us that the love of God transcends boundaries, natural and manmade, for the salvation of all” said Bishop Mark J. Seitz of El Paso, Texas, who chairs the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ Committee on Migration.



Our Lady of Guadalupe was first declared “Patroness of the Americas” by Pope Pius XII in 1946, a title later reaffirmed by St. John Paul II in 1999.

Canonized in 2002, Juan Diego is the first Catholic saint indigenous to the Americas.

“As Catholics, we affirm and defend an unconditional respect for human life and dignity, no matter the circumstance,” Bishop Seitz said in his statement. “Recent policy proposals that would undermine respect for the sanctity of human life, including that of the humble migrant seeking asylum at our border, remind us of the perils of our own culture, in which hope and unity collide with an abundance of fear and division, often yielding indifference to our shared humanity.”

Especially in Advent, the season “of preparing to welcome Christ and contemplating his own family’s journey,” the bishop continued, “we know that much remains to be done in our country to support families, especially the poor, and to more readily welcome new life and the stranger among us, in whom God reveals himself.”

In 1531, Mary appeared four times to St. Juan Diego on Tepeyac Hill near what is now Mexico City, asking for a church to be built in her honor on that site. The first time Mary appeared to Juan Diego he was on his way to Mass. He was stopped by the appearance of a brown-skinned woman bathed in light and speaking in his Indigenous tongue of Nahuatl. After her third appearance, and at her bidding, St. Juan Diego visited Bishop Juan de Zumarraga but he doubted the story of the apparitions.

St. Juan Diego saw Mary again Dec. 12, now the official feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe. She arranged roses in his tilma, or cloak, which he then took to the bishop. When he opened his cloak, the roses tumbled out. And the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe was miraculously traced on the cloak, which still exists today on display at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City.

In Mexico, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is a national holiday. One of the biggest U.S. celebrations takes place in the Archdiocese of Chicago at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Des Plaines, Illinois. Local news reports said that an estimated 200,000 were expected to gather at the shrine from Dec. 11 to Dec. 12.

In his statement, Bishop Seitz included a prayer: “Our Lady of Guadalupe, help us to walk with confidence, to imitate your unwavering trust in the will of God, to love beyond boundaries, and to accept the demands of solidarity. Intercede for us, your children, and guide us in our pursuit of peace and justice, that through our commitment to protecting human life on Earth we may find ourselves better prepared to inherit the gift of everlasting life in heaven.”

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