

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

February 16, 2025

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Blessed are you who are poor,
for the kingdom of
God is yours.

Luke 6:20



Dichosos ustedes los pobres,
porque de ustedes es el
Reino de Dios.

Lucas 6,20

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:

Feb 15-16— 5:30pm and 1pm Spanish

15-16 febrero 5:30pm y 1pm en español

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.

NUESTRA SEÑORA REINA DE LA PAZ

16 de febrero de 2025

Sexto Domingo en el Tiempo Ordinario

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION / PREPARACIÓN SACRAMENTAL

Baptism / Bautizo:

Please email Baptism Coordinator Mary Ann Suhocki,
baptism@olqpva.org.

Por favor mande un correo electrónico a la coordinadora de los bautizos, Mary Ann Suhocki, 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

Sat, 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: \$7,495

L.A. Wildfire Disaster Relief /

Ayuda Con Los Incendios Forestales en los Ángeles: \$4,001

Faith Direct (January Average /

promedio del mes de enero): \$13,610

WORD & EUCHARIST MISSALETTE/

MISAL PALABRA Y EUCHARISTÍA

Today's readings can be found on page 860

Las lecturas de hoy se encuentran en la página 861

BULLETIN DEADLINE / PLAZO PARA EL BOLETÍN

Wednesday 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, 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, Adele Crump, Mary DaLuca, Cheryl Darby, Jim Davis, Adrienne DiCerbo, Calista Downey, Tim Felker, Elizabeth (Bunny) Foster, Yvette Francois, Anne Fullerton, Joseph Funk, Iva Futrell, Trishann Ganley, Francine Gemmill, Fred Gladbach, Nancy Gormley, Yolanda Gregorio, Jo Marie Griesgraber, Fr. Tuck Grinnell, Melanie Guitreaux, Joe Harrington, Harris Family, Sally Harrs, Linda Hawkins, Clare Hayden, Dee Hickey, Pamela Hoeft, Patrick Hynes, Pat Johnson, Sharon Jourdan, William Kahl, Ruth Klarman, 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, Betty Mills, Yvonne Mockler, Carmen Montijo, Dorothy Moran, Dan Morrissey, Rosemary Morrissey, Luis R. Muñoz, Zoe A. Muñoz, Chelsea Murray, Connie Murray, Ellen Murray, Paul Murray, Dorothy Myrtle, Mario Amel Najarro, Karen Newman, Stephen Nutter, 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, Donna Smith, Jeffrey Smith, Mary E. Smith, Lora Smolenski, Eva Souza, Grace Starbird, Nina Stewart, Michael Arthur Sweat, Carmelita and Roy Tucker, Nancy Urquizo, Stephen Utley, Alma Reyes Valentin, Carina Vaquez, Robin Vogel, Robert & Maureen Wallace, Jim Webster, Kate Witkowski, Lauren Wolfe, Mary Woods 2/8

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEXTO DOMINGO EN EL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Jeremiah 17:5-8 (78C); 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20; Luke 6:17, 20-26
Jeremías 17,5-8 (78C); 1 Corintios 15:12, 16-20; Lucas 6,17, 20-26

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SÉPTIMO DOMINGO EN EL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 (81C); 1 Corinthians 15:45-49;
Luke 6:27-38

1 Samuel 26,2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 (81C); 1 Corintios 15,45-49;
Lucas 6,27-38

MASS INTENTIONS, FEBRUARY 15-21

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

INTENCIONES DE LAS MISAS, 15-21 FEBRERO

SEXTO DOMINGO EN EL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Saturday, February 15th

5:30 pm Kate Karns (L) by Susan Bruns

Sunday, February 16th

8:00 am For The Parish

9:30 am Bernard Brown (D) by the Minkisi ministry

11:15 am Tom O'Connor (D) by Shari & John Zamarrá

1:00 pm José Roberto Cabrera (Anniversary) (D)

by the Cabrera family

6:00 pm Guillermo Vargas González (D)

by Hamilton Vargas & family

Monday, February 17th

12:00 pm John Alford (D) by Francesca "Fran" Kearney

Tuesday, February 18th

12:00 pm Melchor López (Birthday) (D) by the Oetgen family

Wednesday, February 19th

12:00 pm Gerri Noble-Martocci (Anniversary) (D)

by the Martocci family

Thursday, February 20th

12:00 pm Evelyn H. Alvir (D) by Judith Francia-Reyes & friends

Friday, February 21st

12:00 pm For The Parish

IN MEMORIAM

JASON JENKINS

Died in the Lord February 7, 2025

Jason is the beloved son of longtime, devoted members Dianne and Carleton "CC" Jenkins. Jason's formation took place at OLQP with many of his former classmates still connected to the parish; many of his catechists still around — he was loved dearly and will be missed. Jason was kind, gentle and funny; always thinking of others and always quick with a smile. Please keep the Jenkins family and friends in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Condolences may be sent to the family at 1727 S Nelson St, Arlington VA 22204.

Arrangements for Thursday, February 27:

10am Viewing

11am Mass of Christian Burial

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

Parochial Vicar / Párroco Asociado: **Fr. Pontien Kenfack, CSSp,**
pkenfack@olqpva.org

Deacon / Diácono: **Dcn. Tony Remedios,** tremedios@olqpva.org

JUST A THOUGHT... or two...

This weekend's Gospel presents to us Luke's presentation of the beatitudes. In Luke, the sermon takes place not on a mountain side as in Matthew's Gospel, but rather on level ground. So we have the Sermon on the Plane instead of the Sermon on the Mount.

But the differences go far deeper than simply the place in which Jesus gives his sermon on the beatitudes. In Luke, besides the blessings, there are "the woes to you who..." are rich, are full, laugh, whom all speak well of, "for their ancestors treated the false prophets this way." It is a warning that good things are not coming their way even though things are going well for them right now.

So, in Luke's Gospel Jesus names those who are blessed and those whom woe will come upon if they don't change their lives. We normally focus on the blessings and not on the woes but the "woes" are there for a reason -- to warn us! To get us to reflect on our lives and how we are living with the poor and the hungry, how we are comforting the weeping and how we treat those ostracized on account of their discipleship of Jesus.

In Matthew's account of the sermon of the beatitudes he says "blessed are the poor in *spirit*" while Luke writes of Jesus' sermon as, "blessed are the *poor*", a very different message. In Jesus' socio-religious reality, his contemporaries believed the poor were poor because they had done something that angered God. And that the wealthy were rich because they had gained the favor of God, and were blessed by God.

In this Gospel, Jesus is preaching the exact opposite of this understanding of how God relates to human beings. Jesus is disconnecting poverty from sinfulness and curse. Luke's Gospel is often referred to as the Gospel of the poor, or the Gospel of women, or the Gospel of the marginalized. It is so referred to because these are the categories of persons who are raised up in Luke's Gospel, to a greater extent than in the other two synoptic gospels.

In both Matthew and in Luke, Jesus calls blessed all those who are hated, excluded, insulted or denounced on account of him. It is an important proclamation that Jesus

utters, as in fact many of his disciples and the apostles will eventually be denounced, some imprisoned and others even martyred for their faith in Jesus.

Jesus promises them that in spite of what they suffer on account of their allegiance to him, they will not be abandoned by Jesus and that they are "the blessed ones".

I think ultimately that the beatitudes and the woes we encounter in Luke's Gospel challenge us and call us to holiness through reaching out to the poor and to all who are excluded and marginalized, to all who suffer in this world. And we are promised that to the extent that we reach out to the suffering, to the extent that we "do justice," we will become more fully "the blessed of God" and find fulfillment and happiness in our lives through helping to build up the Reign of God!

As we take time this week to reflect on ramifications of this central Gospel message of Jesus Christ in light of all that is happening in our nation at this very moment, as we reflect on all of the lives that are being torn apart and forever changed by the new administration's callous and unjust actions, let us focus on one or two of the beatitudes and ask ourselves: in what concrete ways might I live them out today? Who is grieving that I might comfort them, hungry that I might feed them, poor that I might reach out to them and offer a hand?

Am I willing to live out my discipleship by writing to and calling my local and national governmental officials to speak up on behalf of the millions of lives that are being put at risk by the cruel and thoughtless actions of those relatively few individuals who clearly care nothing for the future of our country nor the needs of its people? Will I call for Congress to stand up and protect the poor and the marginalized, and to defend our civil rights, and to safeguard our institutions and the federal financial safety nets that keep our vulnerable sisters and brothers from utter ruin? Let us live the beatitudes!

Our discipleship of Jesus Christ calls us to act now!

Blessings,
Fr. Tim

FAITH DIRECT e-Giving

This is a time of year when many of us focus on getting organized and "decluttering" our surroundings – why not streamline your offertory and simplify your support for the ministries that mean so much to you? Now is a great time to stop using checks and envelopes, by switching to eGiving – you can sign up from your computer, smartphone or tablet, and set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/VA271 or call their Customer Service team at 866-507-8757.

FAITH DIRECT e-Giving

Esta es una época del año en la que muchos de nosotros nos concentramos en organizarnos y "ordenar" nuestro entorno. ¿Por qué no simplificar su ofertorio y su apoyo a los ministerios que tanto significan para usted? Ahora es un buen momento para dejar de usar cheques y sobres al cambiar a eGiving. Puede inscribirse desde su computadora, teléfono inteligente o tableta y establecer una donación recurrente o una donación única. Puede inscribirse en línea en faith.direct/VA271 o llamar al servicio al cliente de Faith Direct al 866-507-8757.

Una comunidad católica con una ética consistente con la vida

YOUNG DISCIPLES WORK CAMP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

YDWC will be on the OLQP campus July 7-11 and is for rising 7th, 8th, and 9th graders. This camp is a week of service to OLQP ministries and in partnership with Phoenix Bikes that fosters faith, fellowship and fun in service.

SAVE THE DATE: Friday, March 7th

You Buy, We Fry Take-Out Fish & Shrimp Fundraiser

The first Friday of Lent, March 7th. Father Martin will be frying up fish and shrimp options that will include coleslaw, French fries, and sauces. \$12 per order. Proceeds go to support the Youth & Young Adult work camp mission and pilgrimage trips. For more details, contact Rebecca Grant Jenkins, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, rgrantjenkins@olqpv.org.

Watch for details on reserving your take-out meal!

NEWS FROM MEDOR

In 2024 Medor's Agroforestry Program conducted 41 training sessions on topics such as soil and water conservation, climate change, improved tree and crop planting techniques, and organic compost and pesticide preparation. An average of 67 male and female farmers attended each session. Many topics were presented in both formal classroom training sessions as well as in on-site, hands-on sessions. Training is one of the reasons why the tree survival rate in Medor is high in comparison to many other tree planting programs. Medor farmers learn the importance of trees as well as how to prune them in a manner that preserves the trees and still provides them with the firewood they need to cook their meals. Thank you for your support of this vital program in our sister parish. Please pray for peace and security in Haiti.

GABRIEL'S PROJECT

Thanks to everyone who provided newspaper sleeves for diaper and clothes packaging. We now have enough to last for the rest of the year. We don't need more. We are now in need of LARGE shopping bags, preferably reusable one, to distribute things for the babies to their moms....And of course we can always use diapers, especially newborn and size 5. Thank you in advance for taking care of our youngest parishioners!

CURSILLO WEEKEND RETREAT

The Cursillo Weekend is a retreat, but also so much more. It is an opportunity to examine and celebrate yourself, deepen your relationship with Christ, and continue – or begin – your faith journey with the love and support of the Christian community. You will: grow spiritually, make new friends and experience Christ's unlimited love. For more information, or to register to attend the retreat, contact Jennifer Pence at OLQP.Ultreya@gmail.com or visit the website: arlingtoncursillo.org.

LA INSCRIPCIÓN PARA EL CATHOLIC HEART WORK CAMP PARA JÓVENES DISCÍPULOS está abierta ahora

Este campamento de trabajo va a ser en el campus de OLQP, del 7 al 11 de julio, para futuros estudiantes de los grados 7, 8 y 9. Este campamento es una semana de servicio a los ministerios OLQP y es en asociación con Phoenix Bikes que fomenta la fe, el compañerismo y la diversión en el servicio.

RESERVE LA FECHA: el viernes 7 de marzo

Recaudador de fondos: Usted compra, nosotros freímos pescado y camarones y los lleva a casa

El primer viernes de Cuaresma, 7 de marzo, el Padre Martin va a freír pescado y camarones que van a incluir ensalada de col, papas fritas y salsas, \$12 por pedido. Los ingresos van a beneficiar el campamento de trabajo de los adolescentes y los jóvenes adultos y los viajes de peregrinación. Para obtener más detalles, contacte a Rebecca Grant Jenkins, directora de los Ministerios para los adolescentes y jóvenes adultos. Su información está en el boletín y en el sitio web. Esté al tanto para reservar su comida para llevar a casa.

NOTICIAS DE MEDOR

En el 2024 el programa agroforestal de Medor condujo 41 sesiones de entrenamiento sobre temas como la conservación de la tierra y el agua, el cambio climático, la mejoría de las técnicas del sembrado de árboles y cosechas y la preparación de abono orgánico y la preparación de pesticidas. Un promedio de 67 mujeres y hombres agricultores asistieron a cada sesión. Se presentaron muchos temas en aulas de clases como también en sesiones prácticas en el terreno. El entrenamiento es una de las razones por las cuales el índice de supervivencia de árboles en Medor es alto en comparación con muchos otros programas de siembra de árboles. Los agricultores de Medor aprenden sobre la importancia de los árboles como también cómo podarlos de manera que se conserven los árboles y que también provean la leña que necesitan para cocinar su comida. Agradecemos su apoyo de este vital programa en nuestra parroquia hermana. Por favor rece por la paz y la seguridad en Haití.

EL PROYECTO GABRIEL

Gracias a todas las personas que donaron fundas de periódico para empacar pañales y ropa. Ahora tenemos suficientes para el resto del año. No necesitamos más. Ahora lo que necesitamos son bolsas de mercado GRANDES, preferiblemente las que se pueden reutilizar, para distribuir artículos para los bebés. Y, por supuesto, siempre podemos usar pañales, especialmente para recién nacidos y talla 5. ¡Gracias por adelantado por cuidar de nuestros feligreses más pequeños!

RETIRO DE FIN DE SEMANA DE CURSILLO

El Fin de semana de Cursillo es un retiro, pero también mucho más. Es una oportunidad de examinar y celebrarse, profundizar en su relación con Cristo y continuar, o empezar, su jornada de fe con el amor y apoyo de la comunidad cristiana. Usted va a: crecer espiritualmente, entablar nuevas amistades y experimentar el amor ilimitado de Cristo. Para obtener más información o para inscribirse para asistir al retiro, contacte a Jennifer Pence: OLQP.Ultreya@gmail.com o visite el sitio web: arlingtoncursillo.org.

2025 BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL (BLA) BEGINS!

The 2025 BLA mailing was recently sent to parishioners. This year's theme is: "Abounding in Hope." After reflecting upon the blessings God has given you, please prayerfully consider a pledge. Sharing your gifts with the 40+ ministries and programs funded by the BLA truly impacts the lives of thousands across our diocese. You can make a gift at: www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR code here:



SCAN ME

¡COMIENZA LA PETICIÓN CUARESMA DEL OBISPO DE 2025!

La correspondencia sobre la Petición Cuaresma del Obispo (BLA por sus siglas en inglés) de 2025 se les envió recientemente a los feligreses. El tema de este año es "Abundando en la esperanza". Después de reflexionar sobre las bendiciones que Dios les ha dado, en espíritu de oración piensen en hacer una promesa de contribución. El compartir sus dones con los más de 40 ministerios y programas financiados por la BLA verdaderamente tiene un gran impacto en la vida de miles de personas en toda nuestra diócesis. Pueden enviar una donación a www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA o escanear el código QR que aparece aquí:



ESCANÉAME

CARPENTER'S SHELTER DINNER –

Thursday, February 20

Our dinner this month is lasagna, broccoli, salad, brownies & lemonade. Your food can be delivered to the parish office kitchen Monday through Thursday, 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". Susan Bruns is coordinating this month. If you have a question, please contact her at mumbruns@gmail.com. Thank you!

MATTHEW 25 -- Please review your outerwear closets and donate gently used or new jackets for men, women, and children. Car-coat lengths work best for our predominantly petit client base; longer length coats tend to linger in the store. Thank you for your continued support.

LA CENA REFUGIO DEL CARPINTERO

es el jueves, 20 de febrero

La cena este mes es lasaña, brócoli, ensalada, brownies y limonada. Puede llevar las contribuciones a la cocina de la oficina de la parroquia de lunes a jueves durante las horas de trabajo, 8:30 a 4:30 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. Atención, si va a llevar la comida directamente al refugio (930 N. Henry Street en Alexandria), identifique la comida de la misma manera y añada nuestro nombre y "dinner". Susan Bruns es la coordinadora este mes. Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor, su contacto es: mumbruns@gmail.com. ¡Gracias!

MATEO 25 – Por favor, revise sus **roperos/armarios** y done chaquetas nuevas o poco usadas para hombres, mujeres, niñas y niños. Las chaquetas menos largas son mejores para la clientela menudita porque las chaquetas y abrigos más largos suelen permanecer en la tienda. Gracias por su continuo apoyo.

MASSES AND SERVICES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY – MARCH 5

Outdoor Prayer Service with Distribution of Ashes: 8:00am and 5:00pm
Mass with Distribution of Ashes: 12noon
Bilingual Mass with Distribution of Ashes: 7:00pm
Prayer Service with Distribution of Ashes: 9:00pm
(Services outdoors only if weather permits; otherwise, in church.)

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU LENTEN RECONCILIATION PROGRAM:

The Sacrament of Penance is offered each Wednesday evening during Lent from 6:30 to 8pm (except April 16). At the same time, Reconciliation Service or Sung Stations of the Cross will be offered in the church beginning at 7pm. Sung Stations of the Cross (in English): 7 pm – March 12, 26 and April 9
Bilingual Reconciliation Service: 7 pm – March 19
Family Reconciliation service: 6:30 pm -- April 2

MISAS Y SERVICIOS EL MIÉRCOLES DE CENIZA – 5 de marzo

Servicio de oración al aire libre con distribución de las cenizas: 8:00am y 5:00pm
Misa con distribución de las cenizas: 12 del mediodía
Misa bilingüe con distribución de las cenizas: 7:00pm
Servicio de oración con distribución de las cenizas: 9:00pm
(El servicio al aire libre tendrá lugar en la iglesia si hay mal tiempo.)

LA LUZ ESTÁ ENCENDIDA PARA TI PROGRAMA DE RECONCILIACIÓN DE CUARESMA:

El Sacramento de la Penitencia se ofrece todos los miércoles por la noche durante la Cuaresma de 6:30 a 8pm (excepto el 16 de abril). Al mismo tiempo, se ofrecerá el Servicio de reconciliación o el Vía Crucis cantado en la iglesia empezando a las 7pm. El Vía Crucis cantado (en inglés): 7 pm — 12, 26 de marzo y el 9 de abril
Servicio de reconciliación bilingüe: 7 pm — 19 de marzo
Servicio de reconciliación para familias: 6:30 pm — 2 de abril

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.

OLQP's Social Justice and UJAMAA Ministries

Presents:

BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN FILM

Thursday, Feb 20, 7pm

- *Barry Farm: Community, Land, and Justice in Washington, DC* - This documentary examines the history and impact of redevelopment on African American communities, looking at Barry Farm in Washington D.C. in particular. Thursday, February 20th, 7:00pm, Founder's Room. Light refreshments will be served. For questions or details, please contact Sally Diaz-Wells, sdiazwells@olqpva.org.

ADVOCATES for JUSTICE

Surely our attention has been focused across the Potomac River and around the globe to what is happening to our fragile U S government. Let us remember that while we are drawn to thinking nationally and globally, we must also be attentive to acting locally. The 2025 Virginia General Assembly is wrapping up the state's business as the Session is slated to conclude by Feb 22. Conferees were appointed this past week to resolve differences in the budget and the revenue bills. Remember, *follow the money* and be attentive to how tax revenue is used. Is it ensuring the dignity of all Virginians, including food, shelter, education and the necessities for daily living? A trusted resource for learning about the budget and revenue issues and the related processes in Virginia, including who serves on the conference committees, can be found on the website of The Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis (thecommonwealthinstitute.org).

The last day for legislators to act on remaining bills and appoint conferees to settle differences is this coming week. Now is the time to share with your elected Members, your thoughts, concerns, support and opposition for issues, bills and budget expenditures.

When the Session officially closes on the 22nd, legislation that has passed both chambers will be submitted to the Governor who has a limited time frame in which to sign the bills, suggest amendments, or veto the legislation that has been passed by the 140 Member General Assembly. The Governor will reconvene the General Assembly in early April to review his actions on the bills. Legislation that is signed into law by the Governor usually takes effect on July 1, 2025 unless otherwise noted in the bill.

Disciples in Action! Pilgrims of Hope! Advocates for Justice have been learning about state government, and together praying for the Members of the House of Delegates and State Senate and the Administration as they have worked diligently on our behalf. Now this is a final call to act locally by contacting your Members on issues of importance to us and to our sisters and brothers in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Your state delegate and senator will appreciate a note from you to thank them for their work during this session.

LIVE JESUS! 2025 The 20th Annual Live Jesus! Virginia will be held on March 29 at St. John Neumann Parish in Reston, from 9 am to 12:45 pm. This year's theme is "Bend Don't Break: The Art of Salesian Spirituality". Keynote speaker will be Rev. James Greenfield, OSFS, President of DeSales University. For more information and to register, visit Oblates.Org.

SHARED READING with DEACON TONY

If you're looking for an energy boost for your spirituality this Spring, some soul-stretching to loosen the stiffness in your spiritual joints, this experience may be just the ticket. Dcn Tony invites you to join him in a parallel reading of two books: "Cherished Belonging", by Greg Boyle, S.J., and "The Diary of Jesus Christ", by Bill Cain, S.J. Fr Boyle is the founder of Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, and the author of the highly acclaimed "Tattoos on the Heart", "Barking to the Choir", and "The Whole Language". Fr Cain is an author, playwright and screen-writer. His work often explores themes of faith, imagination, and storytelling. His book "The Diary of Jesus Christ" is a delightful imagining of back-stories for some key Gospel passages, telling them from Jesus's perspective.

We'll do a parallel reading of the two books, interleaving chapters here and there. And we'll meet to discuss and process. We'll gather here at the parish for those who can make it, and welcome fishbowl (non-speaking) participants to join over Zoom, for those who can't. Sessions will begin Thursday 2/27, 7pm, and continue every other week, ending Thursday 4/10. To register, and for questions or more info, please send your contact info to Dcn Tony at tremedios@olqpva.org Please register so we know how many to plan for, and to receive handouts, guides, Zoom, and up-to-date schedule info.

REGISTER WITH THE PARISH //

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

LET US KNOW YOU'RE MOVING

If you have not officially registered with the parish, we invite you to do so. Updated, accurate information is very useful to us, especially in communicating important news like a weather-related closure. Visit the parish website (www.olqpva.org) click on About Us >> Register >> Register With Us.

If you have had an addition to your family, if you have had a change of address or if you would like to know what information we have on file for your family, please send a message to Jeannette Gantz Daly in the parish office: jgantzdaly@olqpva.org

Have any photos, historical documents or the like to share for our 80th anniversary celebration? We'd love to hear from you — scanned items work. Contact Rebecca Grant Jenkins: rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org

Stand together to resist the unconstitutional dismantling of our government

Over the past few days, we have watched in shock as members of the newly created Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) – which was formed by executive order and not affirmed by Congress – have taken unprecedented and unauthorized steps to control personnel and financial information at the Department of Treasury, and have shuttered the US Agency for International Development (USAID). They also intend to target the Department of Education.

These harsh and blunt actions, with the purported intention of limiting federal spending, are profoundly damaging: Social Security payments are at risk; layoffs are expected; social service programs expect to be defunded; humanitarian efforts funded through the USAID have been abruptly halted; and federal employees are being pressured to leave their jobs.

According to [policy analysts](#), what we are watching is a coup. [Historian Heather Richardson Cox](#) has said that this seizure of records from US departments by unauthorized persons is the biggest data breach in history.

Moved by our Catholic Christian moral principles, we urge you to act immediately and contact your elected representatives to tell them to:

- 1) Hold President Trump accountable for executive orders that undermine the established process and that overreach his authority.
- 2) Insist that, as a nation that provides significant aid (as well as most weapons, unfortunately), the United States has a moral responsibility to protect people around the world who are most vulnerable. USAID has been the program through which we have provided this assistance for decades. It is always worthwhile to review our policies and spending, but to simply stop cooperative programs in this impulsive manner is extraordinarily dangerous.

One of the [principles of Catholic social teaching](#) is the option for those who are poor and vulnerable; it reminds us that the moral test of a society is how it treats its most marginalized members. Those who are poor have the most urgent moral claim on the conscience of the nation, and our public policy decisions must always be considered with them in mind.

Our faith calls us to solidarity, the primacy of care, and the preferential option for those who are poor. As [Bishop John Stowe, Pax Christi USA's bishop president, wrote after the election in November](#), "Will someone who enjoys the company of brutal autocrats uphold the founding ideas of US American democracy? Not likely, at least not without our constant and loud protest."

We strongly encourage Pax Christi USA members to connect with activities on local and regional levels to address members of Congress and other political leaders.



February 6, 2025
Paxchristiusa.org



Black History Month 2025

African Americans and Labor: Public Service

By Veronica Dabney

African Americans have always gravitated toward public service professions.. Actually, the inclination seems almost predestined, when considering their history of service--voluntary and involuntary. Beyond that reality, many public service jobs offer opportunities to earn a fair, but perhaps modest, wage and possibilities for advancement.

Examples of public service jobs would be: government; education; healthcare; public safety; non-profit organizations; and, public utilities. It is any job meant to improve the lives of people and communities, help people find work and succeed in life, or help integrate young people into society. [1/](#)

Following are notes about occupations that have had positive impacts on lives, been most available, and preferred by Blacks and others here in the Washington metro area (DMV).

Government:

Black Americans are overrepresented in the federal government, making up about 19% of the workforce in 2023, while only being about 13% of the general population. In 2020, African American women made up 11.7% of the civilian federal workforce, higher than the percentage of African American men.

Though hundreds of Blacks work in D.C's main "industry", the story of their service is rarely told. That story unfolded for the most part, beginning during World War II, when it became clear that their services would be needed on the home front in order to win the war. The need for manpower at home, opened up an opportunity for Blacks to earn good wages in entry clerical and sub professional government jobs, even for those without high school diplomas or college degrees. [2/](#)

These opportunities did not come without problems, including subpar working conditions, poor treatment, and many times overt racism, especially in the early days. And, despite the advantages of government work, Black workers were often devalued, and

found themselves in grades far below their skill or educational levels. However, as E. Franklin Frazier wrote in 1957, due to the "large numbers of Negroes employed in the federal government, Negroes in the nation's capital had incomes far above those in other parts of the country," [3/](#)

Law Enforcement:

Progress in the hiring of Black police officers was slow over the years, but can be charted by the numbers.



The first record of the appointment of African-American officers was in 1867, 2 years after the end of the Civil War, to the police department in Selma, Alabama. That would be followed in 1868 by officers in Jacksonville, Florida, and in 1870 by officers in Houston and Galveston, Texas, and 177 officers in New Orleans, Louisiana.

In 1870: Officer William Johnson of Jacksonville, Florida became the first recognized African-American police officer killed in the line of duty. And in 1916: Georgia Ann Robinson became the first African-American woman police officer, serving in the Los Angeles Police Department.

Approximately 58,000 African American Officers work in U.S. Police Agencies today.* (Approximately 3,400 work in D.C.)

* BJS Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS), 2013. Other information provided by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Museum [4/](#)

Military:

Black Americans have served in the U.S. military in every war fought since the American Revolutionary War-- before the United States was a free nation.. They played an important role, but also faced discrimination and seg-

regation. Even in times of war, there were concerns about safety at bases and installations, limited mentorship, fewer role models and sponsors, and fewer people of color in senior leadership positions.

Full integration of the U.S. military was not established until the middle of the 20th century. Over time, the presence of Black soldiers, sailors, regiments, and squadrons would grow until the value and importance of African American servicemen and women could no longer be ignored by resisting leaders. Their resistance was often cloaked in dubious notions that Black soldiers were incapable of, not brave enough, not intelligent enough, or not patriotic enough to fight for their country.

Those notions persisted despite demonstrative evidence to the contrary: **Henry Ossian Flipper**, the first Black American to be commissioned in the military in 1877; **Frederick Hall**: A runaway enslaved Black American who served in the War of 1812; **Buffalo Soldiers**, a unit that protected the American West in the 1870s and 1880s; the Civil War, 175 United States Colored Troops (USCT) regiments, containing 178,000 enlisted soldiers, approximately 10% of the Union Army; World War I, The 369th Infantry Regiment ("Harlem Hellfighters") fought alongside the French Army for six months; WWII, 332nd Fighter Group (Tuskegee Airmen). In addition, the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion became the first entirely African-American female unit deployed overseas.

In 1946, in response to racial unrest erupting across the country, President Harry S. Truman formed a committee to study the problem which, in 1947, resulted in the Army replacing segregated training programs with integrated courses. In response to strong resistance, Truman issued Executive Order 9981, directing equal treatment for Black service members. Though discrimination persisted within the services, the Vietnam War was the first conflict in which White and Black soldiers were fully integrated.

Today there are: over 350,000 Black active duty and reserve members; Black service members are represented in all branches of the military, including the Air Force, Army, and Navy; Black service members include commissioned officers and those with doctorates. [5/](#)

[1/ https://www.google.com/search?q=public+service+definition](https://www.google.com/search?q=public+service+definition)
[2/ https://www.google.com/search?q=blacks+in+federal+government](https://www.google.com/search?q=blacks+in+federal+government)
[3/ https://www.google.com/search?q=blacks+in+federal+government](https://www.google.com/search?q=blacks+in+federal+government)
[4/ https://cops.usdoj.gov/html/dispatch/02-2017/african-americans-in-law-enforcement.html](https://cops.usdoj.gov/html/dispatch/02-2017/african-americans-in-law-enforcement.html)
[5/ https://www.army.mil/article/243604/african-american-service-and-racial-integration-in-the-u-s-military](https://www.army.mil/article/243604/african-american-service-and-racial-integration-in-the-u-s-military)