

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

March 30, 2025

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU LENTEN RECONCILIATION PROGRAM:

The Sacrament of Penance is offered each Wednesday evening during Lent from 6:30 to 8:30pm (except April 16).

Our Lenten Wednesday evening program also includes Reconciliation Service or Sung Stations of the Cross. See schedule below:

Sung Stations of the Cross: 7:00pm – April 9

Reconciliation Services: 6:30pm – April 2 Family Service (open to all)

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

El Sacramento de la Penitencia se ofrece todos los miércoles por la noche durante la Cuaresma de 6:30 a 8:30pm (excepto el 16 de abril). El programa de los miércoles también incluye el servicio de reconciliación o el Vía Crucis cantado.

El Vía Crucis cantado: 7:00pm - 9 de abril

Servicios de reconciliación: 6:30pm – 2 de abril Servicio de reconciliación para familias (abierto a todos)

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:

March 29-30 8am and 1pm Spanish

29-30 marzo 8am y 1pm en español

Masses / Misas:

Weekdays / *Días laborables:*

Mon-Thu 12pm / *lunes a jueves 12pm*

Fri. 6pm / *Viernes 6pm*

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)

His father was
filled with
Compassion.

Luke 15:20



Su padre lo vio y
se enterneció
profundamente.

Lucas 15,20

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.

THIS WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION: CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

SEGUNDA COLECTA DE ESTE FIN DE SEMANA:
SERVICIOS CATÓLICOS DE AYUDA (CRS)



NUESTRA SEÑORA REINA DE LA PAZ

30 de marzo de 2025

Cuarto Domingo de Cuaresma

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, Wed, 6:30-8 pm during Lent in the church,
& by appointment.
Los sábados: 4:45-5:15 pm, Los miércoles: 6:30-8 pm durante
la Cuaresma en la Iglesia, y por cita previa.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS / COLECTAS DEL DOMINGO

Sunday Collection / Colecta del pasado domingo: \$6,344
Faith Direct - March Average /
promedio del mes de marzo: \$13,116

WORD & EUCHARIST MISSALETTE/ MISAL PALABRA Y EUCARISTÍA

Today's readings can be found on page 750
Las lecturas de hoy se encuentran en la página 751

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, Marta Benites, Grace Bialecki, Cindy Bianga, Francis Bilgera, Joseph Leopold Bissonnette, Precious Bowens, April Brassard, Dave Brassard, Evie Brown, Lynne Burgh, Mary Callow, 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, 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, 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, Nancy Urquiza, Alma Reyes Valentin, Carina Vaquez, Robin Vogel, Robert & Maureen Wallace, Jim Webster, Kate Witkowski, Lauren Wolfe, Mary Woods

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

CUARTO DOMINGO DE CUARESMA

Joshua 5:9°, 10-12 (33C); 1 Corinthians 5:17-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
Joshué 5,9°, 10-12 (33C); 1 Corintios 5,17-21; Lucas 15,1-3, 11-32

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

QUINTO DOMINGO DE CUARESMA

Isaiah 43:16-21 (36C); Philippians 3:8-14; John 8:1-11
Isaías 43:16-21 (36C); Filipenses 3:8-14; Juan 8,1-11

MASS INTENTIONS, MARCH 29 – April 4

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

INTENCIONES DE LAS MISAS, 29 MARZO – 4 ABRIL

CUARTO DOMINGO DE CUARESMA

Saturday, March 29th

5:30 pm For The Parish

Sunday, March 30th

8:00 am Suzanne Mokwue (L) by Regina Okomkwo

9:30 am Jason Jenkins (D) by Carol & Chuck Moran

11:15 am Henry J. Hunt (D) by Judith Francia-Reyes

1:00 pm Vicente Figarella (Anniversary) (D) by Odalis Barrios

6:00 pm For The Parish

Monday, March 31st

12:00 pm - Funeral Mass - Ophelia Mariano

Tuesday, April 1st

12:00 pm Gerri Noble-Martocci (Birthday) (D) by Joe Martocci

Wednesday, April 2nd

12:00 pm Nieves Primitiva de Barrios (Anniversary) (D) by Odalis Barrios

Thursday, April 3rd

11:00 am - Funeral Mass - Anthony Harris

Friday, April 4th

6:00 pm María Teresa & María Margarita Laguna (Birthday) (L)
by their family

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

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: **Carly Onopa**, conopa@olqpva.org

Office Manager (bilingüe): **Ligia Loza**, lloza@olqpva.org

Administrative Support: **Jeannette Gantz Daly**, jgantz@olqpva.org

Mike Leahy, mleahy@olqpva.org

Maintenance Department Support (bilingüe):

Mel Cabrera, mlvncabrera@gmail.com

Michael Hill, mgdvet53155@yahoo.com

Zulema Ramallo and Henry Nguyen

A Consistent Ethic of Life Catholic Community

JUST A THOUGHT... or two...

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them! What an accusation leveled against Jesus ...tax collectors...they worked for the “oppressors”...they worked for Caesar and as if it wasn't enough that they worked for “the Empire”....on top of that, they cheated their own people, collecting more tax than was required by Caesar who was squeezing the very life blood out of their own people. Let's be clear, the accusation was not wrong -- the people Jesus was in fact welcoming and eating with were sinners. That was not a misrepresentation or a twisting of the facts.

This is the context of the story of the “Prodigal Son” or perhaps better name: the story of the “Lavish Parent.” It is about the magnanimous and unrestrained nature of God's forgiveness! And to be honest, it's all a bit absurd! Who could seriously be convinced to forgive those who have abused them, cheated them and caused them more misery than anyone else could imagine?

But there it is! That is precisely what Jesus is suggesting! Jesus is claiming that no matter how great our sin...no matter how far we have strayed from goodness and kindness we are all redeemable, all forgivable and all loved by God.

But, make no mistake about it, it is in no way giving us “a pass” on reprehensible and sinful behavior! It is really speaking of the possibility of transformation and redemption through the power of forgiveness!

We've seen it in South Africa... we've seen it in Kosovo...and we've seen it in the lives of thousands of nameless victims who have chosen to forgive their perpetrators of unspeakable atrocities and crimes!

How is it possible to forgive those who have raped, murdered and destroyed the lives of innocent people?

Forgiveness does not in any way imply a lack of guilt. Forgiveness does not say the injury, the abuse or the sin did not happen. But rather, it is about refusing to allow the perpetrator to continue to inflict pain and suffering upon those they have abused. As long as our anger and rage control our emotions we are not free of our bondage to them! The violent need to be brought to “justice” and to pay for their sins, but true justice is not revenge!

Forgiveness ultimately frees the victim from the clutches of the perpetrator...it in no way says “it didn't happen”...it in no way says “it didn't matter”...it in no way says “they are not guilty”.

So what does this all mean for us as disciples of Jesus Christ? Jesus is the model of kindness and forgiveness...but how are we to forgive those who are guilty of unspeakable sin? How do we forgive those who wound us and hurt us, and the ones we love?

Jesus clearly states that it is “Godly” to forgive. But that in no way means that we do not stand up against violence! It does not mean that we fall silent in the face of violence, nor turn our back on those seeking justice in the wake of violence... but, we do not do it in a spirit of vengeance...but rather in the *spirit of true justice*.

How do we forgive those who are guilty of violence, especially when it impacts us personally...when it is done in our name or in the name of our church, or in the name of our country? As you can see, it is not so easy. Do we really believe in the transformative reality of forgiveness? How can we contemplate forgiveness in the midst of hideous wars being waged against the people of Ukraine and Gaza, as we see each evening on the news the unbelievable level of devastation of their lives, their land and forcing them into fleeing their country?

Let us continue to hold the people of war torn countries in our thoughts and prayers. Let us pray for an end to the wars being waged against the peoples of Ukraine and Gaza and pray that the U.S. and other countries of the world combine efforts and intercede to bring about a peaceful end to these wars, and all wars being waged around the world.

As we reflect this week on the Gospel story of “The Prodigal Son,” we must remember that the forgiveness of which Jesus speaks of holds the power to transform the hearts and lives of the both the victim and the perpetrator. God's forgiveness is boundless and is freely lavished upon us because we are the beloved of God.

And so, this week let us reflect on...who am I called to forgive? What might I personally -- and we as a nation -- need to be forgiven for? How do we forgive and at the same time demand true justice for crimes against individuals and against other nations?

As part of our Lenten journey, let us all reflect on how does the lavishness of God's forgiveness fit into today's political landscape and “the intentional chaos” being created not just here and around our country but in places like Ukraine, Gaza and South Sudan? How does the pull back of USAID's funds - - that save millions of lives from famine and disease around the world -- deserve forgiveness, yet, our theology says it does...but perhaps not without impunity? And not without moral outrage and certainly not without public outcry that demands for a reversing of the cruel and unjust policy changes being enacted without any care or concern for the horrific toll on human lives they are having. Let us continue to make our voices heard, emboldened by and guided by the Holy Spirit, as we continue to live out our discipleship of Jesus Christ, faithful to His call to love our neighbor as ourselves!

Lenten blessings,
Fr. Tim

Una comunidad católica con una ética consistente con la vida

**OLQP STATIONS OF THE CROSS
FRIDAYS DURING LENT IN THE CHURCH**

5:15—5:45pm

Alternating each week
between English and Spanish:
April 4 — English
April 11 — Spanish



**VIACRUCIS EN LA IGLESIA DE OLQP
LOS VIERNES DURANTE LA CUARESMA**

5:15 a 5:45pm

Alternando cada semana entre inglés y español:
4 de abril – inglés
11 de abril – español

**SUNG STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Wednesdays – April 9 at 7pm**

Come refresh your soul during Lent with the Sung Stations of the Cross. In the musical style of Taize, these unique stations invite you to pray along with thoughtful reflections on the Via Crucis and join in a meditative refrain. The Sung Stations will be offered on three Wednesdays - April 9 at 7 pm in the church and live streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/OLQPArlington>. Reconciliation will be offered from 6:30-8 pm. For more information, contact Monica Perz-Waddington at monica.perz@verizon.net.

Here's a link to an article that was written in 2018: https://www.catholicerald.com/news/arts/sung_stations_of_the_cross_at_our_lady_queen_of_peace/

CRS RICE BOWL -- Too many Rice Bowls and not enough tables! Do you have one? It's not too late. You can be connected with farmers in Bangladesh who are struggling with their crops and being helped by Catholic Relief Services. There is a Story of Hope at crsricebowl.org/week-org. Don't miss out on this opportunity for Lenten learning. Thank you.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)

This weekend, our parish will celebrate the Second Scrutiny with our Elect who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter. These Rites are meant to uncover, then heal, the weaknesses that lead to personal and societal failing and sin. As the Elect prepare for the Easter sacraments, we pray that, like the one born blind, God will enable them to live always as children of the light. May we be united with our Elect and all of our OCIA participants in the Lenten journey of self-searching and repentance, evaluating our lives and the need for conversion. The Second Scrutiny will be celebrated at the 6 pm Mass.

**VIACRUCIS CANTADO
los miércoles – el 9 de abril a las 7pm**

Venga a refrescar su alma durante la Cuaresma con el Viacrucis cantado. Al estilo musical de Taize, este Viacrucis le invita a orar y reflexionar seriamente sobre el Viacrucis y a unirse en el estribillo de meditación. El Viacrucis cantado se va a ofrecer tres miércoles – el 9 de abril a las 7pm en la iglesia y retransmitido en directo en <https://www.facebook.com/OLQPArlington>. La reconciliación se va a ofrecer de 6:30 a 8 pm. Para obtener más información, contacte a Monica Perz-Waddington, monica.perz@verizon.net. Aquí tiene un enlace a un artículo que se escribió en el 2018: https://www.catholicerald.com/news/arts/sung_stations_of_the_cross_at_our_lady_queen_of_peace/

PLATO DE ARROZ CRS – ¡Demasiados Platos de arroz e insuficientes mesas! ¿Tiene uno? Todavía hay tiempo. Usted puede conectarse con agricultores en Bangladesh que tienen problemas con sus cosechas y quienes reciben ayuda de los Servicios católicos de ayuda. Hay una Historia de esperanza en crsricebowl.org/week-org. No se pierda esta oportunidad de aprender durante la Cuaresma. Gracias.

RITO DE INICIACIÓN CRISTIANA PARA ADULTOS (RICA)

Este fin de semana, nuestra parroquia va a celebrar el Segundo escrutinio con nuestras personas Electas que se preparan para recibir los sacramentos de iniciación en la Pascua. El propósito de estos ritos es descubrir y entonces sanar, las debilidades que llevan a las fallas y al pecado personal y social. Mientras las personas electas se preparan para los sacramentos de la Pascua, rezamos para que, como la persona ciega de nacimiento, Dios les permita vivir siempre como hijas e hijos de la luz. Que nos unamos a las personas Electas y con todas las que participan en el RICA en la jornada de Cuaresma de la búsqueda de uno mismo y arrepentimiento, evaluando nuestras vidas y la necesidad de la conversión. El Segundo escrutinio se va a celebrar durante la Misa de las 6 pm.

EASTER FLOWER MEMORIALS

We invite you to remember deceased loved ones – one intention per family, please -- with an Easter Flower Memorial. Memorials will be published in the bulletin on Easter Sunday April 19-20.

Complete the form below, 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 Monday, April 14th. Please be sure to meet the deadline of 4/14! 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 4/14.

Hnooring / En honor de: _____

Requested by / A petición de: _____

Donation / Donativo: \$ _____

MEMORIALES DE FLORES DE PASCUA

Le invitamos a recordar a seres queridos – por favor, una intención por familia – con un Memorial de flores de Pascua. Los memoriales se publicarán en el boletín del domingo de Pascua, el 19-20 de abril. Complete el formulario abajo, haga su donación a nombre de Our Lady Queen of Peace (usted determina la cantidad) y mándelo a la oficina parroquial (atención de Christina) o póngalo en la colecta para la fecha límite del lunes, 14 de abril. ¡Por favor, asegúrese de que llegue para el 14 de abril! También puede donar por FaithDirect.net (código de OLQP: VA271) pero asegúrese de mandar un correo electrónico a office@olqpva.org con "Flower Memorial" en la línea del asunto, para la fecha límite del 14 de abril.

2025 PALM SUNDAY & EASTER MASS SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday Weekend—April 12-13

Special Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5:30pm Vigil Mass, Saturday

Sunday: 8:00am

9:45am *Outdoor Procession*

12noon *live-streamed*

2:00pm in Spanish *live-streamed*

6:00pm

Holy Thursday — April 17

7:00pm Mass *live-streamed*

Good Friday — April 18

3:00pm Passion of the Lord, Communion Service
live-streamed

6:00pm Stations of the Cross in Spanish

8:00pm Tenebrae (Service in darkness)

Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil — April 19

8:30pm *live-streamed*

Easter Sunday—April 20

Special Mass Schedule

Church: 8:00am, 9:45am, 12noon *live-streamed*

2:00pm in Spanish *live-streamed*, 6:00pm

Fr. Ray Hall: 10:00am and 12:15pm

HORARIO DE LAS MISAS Y SERVICIOS DEL DOMINGO DE RAMOS Y LA PASCUA 2025

Fin de semana del Domingo de ramos – 12 y 13 de abril

Horario especial de Misas

Sábado: 5:30 pm Misa de vigilia

Domingo: 8:00 am

9:45 *procesión al aire libre*

12 del mediodía *transmisión en vivo*

2:00 pm en español *transmisión en vivo*

6:00 pm

Jueves Santo – 17 de abril

7:00 pm, Misa *transmisión en vivo*

Viernes Santo – 18 de abril

3:00 pm Pasión del Señor, Servicio de comunión,
transmisión en vivo

6:00 pm Viacrucis en español

8:00 pm Servicio en tinieblas

Sábado Santo, Vigilia de la Pascua – 19 de abril

8:30 pm *transmisión en vivo*

Domingo de Pascua – 20 de abril

Horario especial de Misas

Iglesia: 8:00 am, 9:45 am, 12:00 del mediodía
transmisión en vivo

2:00 pm en español *transmisión en vivo*, 6:00 pm

Fr. Ray Hall: 10:00 am y 12:15 pm

Attention: FEDERAL WORKERS -- Join us for community building on Tuesday, April 1, from 7 - 9 pm. This evening gathering will be held in the Library, Father Ray Hall. Please RSVP to Sally Diaz-Wells: sdiazwells@olqpva.org

Atención: TRABAJADORES FEDERALES – Únanse a nosotros para fomentar comunidad el martes, 1ro de abril, de 7 a 9 pm. Nos vamos a reunir en la biblioteca de Father Ray Hall. Por favor confírmeme su asistencia a Sally Díaz-Wells: sdiazwells@olqpva.org

FISH & SHRIMP FRY FUNDRAISER!

The last *You Buy, We Fry Take-out Lenten Fish & Shrimp Fry Fundraiser*, will be Friday, April 4th.

Father Martin will work his magic one last time this Lenten season on Friday, April 4th. Fish & shrimp options include coleslaw, French fries, and sauces. \$12 per order. Please place your order by Wednesday, April 2nd. Proceeds go to support the Youth & Young Adult Ministries work camp and pilgrimage trips. For more details, contact Rebecca Grant Jenkins, Youth & Young Adult Minister, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org. **PLACE YOUR TODAY! GO TO:** <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPVAFISHFRY> or scan the QR Code:



¡RECAUDADOR DE FONDOS DE PESCADO Y CAMARONES!

El último recaudador de fondos, *Usted compra, Nosotros freímos para llevar a casa*, va a ser el viernes, 4 de abril.

El Padre Martin va a hacer su magia por última vez esta Cuaresma el viernes, 4 de abril. Opciones de pescado y camarones incluyen ensalada de col, papas fritas y salsas. El costo es de \$12 por pedido. Por favor haga su pedido para la fecha límite, el miércoles, 2 de abril. Lo recaudado apoya los campamentos de trabajo y los viajes de peregrinación del Ministerio para adolescentes y jóvenes adultos. Para obtener más detalles, contacte a Rebecca Grant Jenkins, Ministro de los ministerios para adolescentes y jóvenes adultos, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org. ¡HAGA SU PEDIDO HOY! VAYA A: <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPVAFISHFRY> o escanee el código QR.

BLACK CATHOLIC MINISTRY S.T.A.R., SHARE, TEACH AND REFLECT CORNER

Native Midwestern Barbara Harris came with her family to Arlington VA. As members of Church of Incarnation, Washington, DC, her children were baptized and she sang in the choir, before discovering OLQP in 1986. On her first visit to the 9:30 Mass, Mrs. Lena Alfred invited Barbara to come from the back pew to join the 9:30 Gospel Choir. With a passion for singing, Barbara felt that invitation was 'divinely inspired'! OLQP became her family's church home. Now widowed, retired and living with her daughter in Woodbridge, VA, Barbara participates in the 8:00 Choir, the Minkisi and the Ujamaa ministries, and cherishes the friends and bonds with the priests and people.

MINISTERIO CATÓLICO NEGRO S.T.A.R. ¡COMPARTA, ENSEÑE Y REFLEXIONE!

Barbara Harris, nativa del medio oeste, vino a Arlington, VA con su familia. Como miembros de Church of Incarnation, Washington, DC, sus hijas e hijos se bautizaron y ella cantaba en el coro antes de descubrir OLQP en 1986. Su primera visita fue a la Misa de las 9:30 y la Sra. Lena Alfred invitó a Barbara a venir de una banca al fondo de la iglesia para unirse al coro Gospel. ¡Barbara, con pasión por el canto, sintió que la invitación era de inspiración divina! OLQP se convirtió en la iglesia hogar para su familia. Ahora que es viuda, retirada y viviendo con su hija en Woodbridge, VA, Barbara participa en el coro de las 8:00, los ministerios Minkisi y Ujamaa y aprecia a las amistades y vínculos con los sacerdotes y los feligreses.

HELP PROVIDE A HOME-COOKED MEAL AT THE ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY SHELTER!

Our Lady Queen of Peace is excited to announce that we are now providing dinner at the Alexandria Community Shelter on the second Wednesday of every month! This residential shelter, staffed by Carpenter's Shelter, houses approximately 64 people, mostly adults. We invite you to join us in serving a warm, home-cooked meal to our neighbors in need.

Food can be delivered to the parish office kitchen Monday through Wednesday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, or directly to Fr. Ray Hall kitchen on the day of dinner from 4:30 PM to 5:00 PM. Please label your food with the date and description and place it in the refrigerator, freezer, or on the counter. If you are delivering directly to the shelter at 2355-B Mill Rd, Alexandria, VA, please deliver on the day of dinner and label it OLQP DINNER. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Emily Porterfield at bellefontebarbelle@gmail.com. Let's come together and make a difference! Please sign up using this link for Wednesday, April 9:

<https://forms.gle/FUeoZNwaHABiKasQ9>

¡AYUDE A PROPORCIONAR UNA COMIDA HECHA EN LA CASA EN EL ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY SHELTER!

¡Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz se entusiasma al anunciar que ahora estamos proveyendo comidas en el Alexandria Community Shelter el segundo miércoles de cada mes! Este refugio residencial, atendido por el Refugio del Carpintero, aloja a aproximadamente 64 personas, la mayoría adultas. Le invitamos a unirse a nosotros para servirles una comida caliente hecha en casa a nuestras vecinas y vecinos necesitados.

Puede llevar la comida a la cocina de la oficina parroquial de lunes a miércoles de 8:30 AM a 4:30 PM o directamente a la cocina de Fr. Ray el día de la cena de 4:30 PM a 5:00 PM. Por favor, identifique su comida con la fecha y la descripción y póngala en el refrigerador, congelador o el mostrador.

Si la lleva directamente al refugio en 2355-B Mill Rd. Alexandria, por favor identifíquela con OLQP y Dinner. Para obtener más información o para ofrecerse de voluntaria o voluntario, por favor contacte a Emily Porterfield:

bellefontebarbelle@gmail.com. Por favor, inscríbese para el miércoles, 9 de abril usando este enlace: <https://forms.gle/FUeoZNwaHABiKasQ9>



2025 BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL



LA CAMPAÑA
CUARESMA 2025 DEL OBISPO!

*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.*

STONE SOUP SUPPER SERIES

The annual series continues Friday, April 4, with 6 pm daily Mass followed by a modest meal with a speaker beginning promptly at 7 pm. Our speakers will be the ministry leaders of Feast on the Streets, Jack McHale and Katie Remedios. They will talk about living simply so that others can simply live. If you need a refresher or just want to hear a different take on what Lent has to offer, come join us for a wonderful evening. We gather in Father Ray Hall after Mass.



TAIZÉ SERVICE - You are invited to attend a Taizé Service of Prayer on Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 7:00 pm, in the Sacred Heart of Mary Chapel at Marymount University. Please feel free to bring friends and to invite students.

This meditative service of music, silence and prayer will be led by the Marymount University Chamber Singers and accompanied by violins.

Please join us for a beautiful way in which to unite our hearts in prayer as we journey together this Lenten Season.

ECO-QUOTE: *from the Integrity of Creation Ministry.* "When the natural world is understood as a gift instead of private property, there are ethical constraints on the accumulation of abundance that is not yours to own. Gifts are not meant to be hoarded, and thus made scarce for others, but given away, which generates sufficiency for all." Robin Wall Kimmerer, *The Serviceberry*.

REFLECTION ON MEDOR...

In today's gospel, we hear the **powerful story of the Prodigal Son—one of renewal, forgiveness, and joyful celebration.** Just as the son's return home brought renewal and abundant joy, OLQP's twinning partnership with St. Joseph parish in Medor, Haiti, renews hope by transforming lives and restoring the earth. Through your generosity, **3,300 students now receive life-changing education**, empowering them with opportunities for a brighter future. Similarly, over 2,000 farmers have participated in **planting nearly 1.5 million trees since 2010, renewing Haiti's degraded hillsides and reviving farmland.** Truly, through these initiatives, our community can "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord."

As the father in today's gospel joyfully celebrated his son's return, **let us joyfully share our blessings by contributing to the Haiti Easter Drive.** Checks may be made out to OLQP with "Haiti" on the memo line, or online donations can be made here: (Insert QR code. See attached).



ADDITIONAL LENTEN RESOURCES:

Explore the many online resources available for spiritual growth during Lent. Review programs from Ignatian Spirituality, weekly reflection guides from Maryknoll, Audio meditations, Lenten family resources, Stations of the Cross and many more. Go to: [2025 Lenten Resources](#).

Catholic Relief Services carries on after Elon Musk's takedown of USAID

By: [Kevin Clarke](#)

The U.S. Agency for International Development proved a uniquely vulnerable target for Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency. Established by President John Kennedy, the 84-year-old institution was decimated by the D.O.G.E. boys over a handful of days in late January.

That Musk-powered takedown produced significant collateral damage. Catholic Relief Services, the U.S. church's global humanitarian relief and development agency, had been U.S.A.I.D.'s biggest faith-based international partner.

Federal contract terminations have resulted in scores of shuttered programs and pink slips for hundreds of employees in the United States and around the world. Despite that institutional pain, William O'Keefe, C.R.S.'s executive vice president for Mission, Mobilization and Advocacy, insists that C.R.S. remains ready to carry on.

"I'm extremely sad to have to say goodbye to many colleagues whom we've been unable to keep on because of all these cuts," he said in a conversation with **America** on March 21. "But I think morale for those remaining is actually very high because the mission has never been more important."

In 2025, global hunger is on the rise, he reports. And "there's more conflict, more migration and governments all around the world are pulling back [from foreign assistance], so people are very committed to their mission and to the mission of the organization."

"It's been really difficult navigating all these waters," Mr. O'Keefe said, "but I honestly think people are all-in, trying to figure out: 'How do we move forward from here? How do we help this many people more efficiently and more effec-

tively with the resources we have?'"

According to the [World Food Program](#), hunger will threaten [more than 340 million people](#) in 74 countries this year. And acute humanitarian crises continue in Gaza, Sudan, Haiti and other nations where C.R.S. and local partners have been active for years.

In a [statement](#) released on March 17, C.R.S. reported halting "much of our U.S. government supported work due to the lack of payments: food in warehouses could not be distributed to the hungry and women and children could not get vital health and nutrition services."

According to the statement, the "termination of dozens of CRS' life-saving projects will permanently cut off critical aid to more than 20 million people worldwide."

"These programs do more than save lives," the statement continued. "They help lift communities and countries out of poverty. They support local faith-based and church partners that provide services and stability to their communities and to their countries."

Speaking at [a conference in Washington](#) on March 24 sponsored by [Jesuit Refugee Service/USA](#) and the [Center for Migration Studies of New York](#), Cardinal Robert W. McElroy, recently appointed from the Diocese of San Diego to lead the Archdiocese of Washington, criticized the abrupt termination of U.S.A.I.D. "Eliminating our government's meager but so crucial assistance to those who are in need for clinics, health, vaccines, and food services throughout the world," he said, is "utterly contrary" to "our life as disciples of Jesus Christ."

He called the suspension of U.S. humanitarian aid a "moral theft [from] the poorest and most desperate men, women and children in our world today" that

is "unconscionable through any prism of Catholic thought."

Mr. O'Keefe reports that after weeks of turmoil, C.R.S. has lost about half of its funding because of the termination of U.S.A.I.D. contracts. Final decisions will be made by April 19 and he hopes that some imperiled programs may yet survive.

Many life-saving programs have been funded, he said. But bearing the brunt of the dismantling of U.S.A.I.D. will be livelihood assistance programs and efforts aimed at addressing climate change and promoting agricultural innovation and adaptability—"support to vulnerable people in more chronic situations around the world."

At risk are decades of investments aimed at addressing global poverty and building up local economic viability, the kinds of programs that allow subsistence farmers, pressed by vast economic or climatological forces beyond their control, to remain rooted in the communities and nations of their birth—part of the reason, [critics say](#), that the wholesale termination of such programs will prove counterproductive to White House goals to reduce immigration.

"We are doing these programs and working with our church partners around the world because it's the right thing to do and because it helps people," Mr. O'Keefe said. Though "we also think that helping small farmers to grow more food productively in Central America allows them to make the choice not to take the dangerous journey north... Frankly, most people would prefer to stay where they are if they can raise their families, take care of their kids and see a future for themselves."

Among C.R.S.'s immediate concerns in the aftermath of the U.S.A.I.D. shutdown, he said, "is that we still have not



been consistently reimbursed for approved expenses.” Like other humanitarian agencies, C.R.S. has not been paid for work already performed under contracts and agreements that predate President Donald Trump’s inauguration.

“That’s a big deal because these programs are very significant,” he said. “They’re expensive, and we don’t have the tens of millions of dollars to loan to the federal government.”

A bright spot among the U.S.A.I.D. gloom has been a spike in donations this Lenten season, Mr. O’Keefe said. The C.R.S. annual [Rice Bowl appeal](#) is observing its 50th anniversary this year.

Can more donations make up the abrupt shortfall in government support?

“There’s absolutely no doubt that the prayers and fasting and almsgiving of American Catholics this Lent is especially needed and meaningful,” he said. “Our donors have responded, but there’s no way that the contributions of our government can be made up for in the short term by anybody else.”

“There is no organization or group of people that can mobilize the kinds of resources our government can, but absolutely people can help and support the incredible needs out there.”

But while many Catholics have been reaching for their wallets to help, others have been taking to their keyboards to endorse culture warriors who have been celebrating hits to church humanitarian efforts like C.R.S. and Catholic Charities U.S.A. Both national efforts have endured sometimes wild accusations even from prominent U.S. Catholics, perhaps most notably [Vice President JD Vance](#), since Mr. Trump returned to Washington.

The church’s role in assisting legal immigrants like refugees and asylum seekers has provoked some of the most vicious attacks, but in a period of extreme suspicion of all institutions, fed by online conspiracy and rumor mongering, C.R.S.’s humanitarian efforts have also been targeted.

“It shouldn’t be political to help the poor around the world,” Mr. O’Keefe said.

According to Mr. O’Keefe, it has become increasingly difficult to manage the misinformation and invective directed at C.R.S., and, in a time of A.I. bots and social media server farms, to assess even the reality of the critics themselves.

“On social media, it is easier to break things down than build them up,” he said. “It is easier to attack institutions than to do the real work of understanding what they’re doing and really recognizing the incredible complications that they [face] in difficult situations.”

“The church has created institutions like Catholic Charities, like C.R.S., to do the work of the Gospel on behalf of the community. Those organizations were created by the bishops, are supported by the bishops, are run by the bishops—of course with strong lay involvement,” he said. “This is the church doing the work of the Gospel around the world.”

“These ad hominem attacks are attacks on the church. It’s an attack on the bishops and it’s an attack on us as Catholics, all of us,” he said.

“All I can say about C.R.S. is we’re a pro-life organization implementing the Gospel on behalf of the American Catholic community and the bishops, and we have been doing so for 80 years—hundreds of millions of people are alive as a result. We don’t have anything to apologize for about that.”

Another frequent avenue of attack has been the charge that accepting government money begins an inevitably corrupting cycle for church humanitarian workers. Mr. O’Keefe counters that American Catholics have an obligation to participate in stewardship of the national wealth.

“Catholics pay taxes,” he said, “and Catholic organizations have every right to compete fairly [for government humanitarian contracts]. Frankly, I have a lot more confidence in how Catholic

institutions and other faith-based institutions are going to help, over time, to create a better world than without them [allowed into the mix].”

Mr. O’Keefe directs critics of church collaboration with government to [“Populorum Progressio.”](#) In that 1967 encyclical, Pope Paul VI writes that just as wealthy individuals have the personal responsibility to assist the less fortunate, wealthy governments and societies have comparable obligations to assist the world’s vulnerable and impoverished nations.

“The hungry nations of the world cry out to the peoples blessed with abundance,” Paul writes. “And the Church, cut to the quick by this cry, asks each and every man to hear his brother’s plea and answer it lovingly.”

Pope Paul urges “wealthier nations” to accept three obligations: mutual solidarity, social justice and universal charity—“the effort to build a more humane world community, where all can give and receive, and where the progress of some is not bought at the expense of others.”

“Our country will be judged on how well we responded to the least of these,” Mr. O’Keefe concludes. “What’s the point of being the most powerful and wealthiest country in the world if you don’t use that power and that wealth for the betterment of others and for the advancement of the common good on a global scale?”

Kevin Clarke is America’s chief correspondent and the author of [Oscar Romero: Love Must Win Out](#) (Liturgical Press). [@ClarkeAtAmerica](#)

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