

OLQP MISSION STATEMENT

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

Welcome to OLQP Catholic Church!

¡Bienvenidos a OLQP iglesia católica!

Contact / Contacto:

2700 19th St S, Arlington VA 22204

703-979-5580, office@olqpva.org

Office Hours

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:

November 29-30 5:30pm and 1pm in Spanish

29-30 Noviembre 5:30pm 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 CATHOLIC CHURCH

November 30, 2025



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Monday, December 8

Masses: 8am, 12noon & 7pm Bilingual

Solemnidad de la Inmaculada Concepción de la Santísima Virgen María

Lunes, 8 de diciembre

Misas: 8am, 12 del mediodía y 7pm bilingüe

"Therefore, stay awake!
For you do not know
on which day your
Lord will come."

Matthew 24:42



Velen, pues,
y estén preparados,
porque no saben qué día
va a venir su Señor.

Mateo 24,42

Iglesia Católica Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz
30 de noviembre de 2025
Primer Domingo de Adviento

A Consistent Ethic of Life Catholic Community

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

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS / COLECTAS DEL DOMINGO

Sunday Collections / Colectas del domingo: \$5,866
Campaign for Human Development /
Campaña para el Desarrollo Humano: \$5,303
ParishSoft Giving - weekly avg.: \$13,985

Word & Eucharist Missalette/

Misal Palabra y Eucaristía

Today's readings can be found on page 108
Las lecturas de hoy se encuentran en la página 109

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: Christiana Achebe, Suri Barahona, Grace Bialecki, Cindy Bianga, Francis Bilgera, Joseph Leopold Bissonnette, Precious Bowens, April Brassard, Dave Brassard, Evie Brown, Lynne Burgh, Chris Bruns, Mary Callow, Brody Carroll, Antonio Fernandez Castillo, Louise Chambers, Fred Clarke, Carmen Rosa Claire, Chris Comer, Jeff Cory, Adele Crump, Mary DaLuca, Cheryl Darby, Donna Davis, 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, Jo Marie Griesgraber, Melanie Guitreaux, Joe Harrington, Harris Family, Linda Hawkins, Clare Hayden, Dee Hickey, Pamela Hoefft, Jan Hyland, Patrick Hynes, Pat Johnson, Sharon Jourdan, William Kahl, Gus Karns, Ruth Klarman, Carmen Andrea Lara, Alexa LaRue, Patrick Lawrey, John Lawyer, 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 Morrisey, Luis R. Muñoz, Zoe A. Muñoz, Chelsea Murray, Connie 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, Hazel Pulliam, Paul Ramirez, Santos Ramirez, 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, Suzie Snedgen Warner, Eva Souza, Grace Starbird, George Stewart, Michael Arthur Sweat, Nancy Urquizo, Alma Reyes Valentin, Carina Vaquez, Robin Vogel, Robert & Maureen Wallace, Jim Webster, Al Williams, Kate Witkowski, Lauren Wolfe, Mary Woods

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PRIMER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Isaiah 2:1-5 (1A); Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44
Isaías 2,1-5 (1A); Romanos 13,11-14; Mateo 24,37-44

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Isaiah 11:1-10 (4A); Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12
Isaías 11,1-10 (4A); Romanos 15,4-9; Mateo 3,1-12

MASS INTENTIONS, NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 5

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

INTENCIONES DE LAS MISAS, 29 NOVIEMBRE – 5 DICIEMBRE

PRIMER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Saturday, November 29th

5:30 pm Joseph & Verna Gregos (D) by Kris Gregos

Sunday, November 30th

8:00 am Mary & Charles Gerhardtstein (Birthday) (D)

by Martha & Larry Romans

9:30 am Barbara Schwarz Osborne (D) by Patrice Tighe

11:15 am Eduardo Lagasca (D) by Judith Francia-Reyes & family

1:00 pm Gilberth Silva Camaño (Anniversary) (D)

by Doris & Gilberth Silva, Jr.

6:00 pm Eve Ann Lawler (D) by the Leahy family

Monday, December 1st

12:00 pm Virginia Lucrezi (Birthday)(D) by Lisa Lucrezi-Bond

Tuesday, December 2nd

12:00 pm Zoila Esperanza Bernabé (D) by the parish

Wednesday, December 3rd

12:00 pm Selbin Vasquez (D) by María Margarita Cabrera

Thursday, December 4th

12:00 pm Anje Berger (L) by Dignity Northern Virginia

Friday, December 5th

11:00 am Memorial Mass—Joseph F. O'Connor

IN MEMORIAM

JOSEPH FRANCES O'CONNOR

DIED IN THE LORD NOVEMBER 19, 2025

Joe had been a faithful member for 25 years, serving with the music ministry for both the 8am Choir and the Homegoing Choir. Please remember his family and friends in your thoughts and prayers. A Funeral Mass is scheduled for Friday, December 5, 11am.



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...

Happy New Year! ...no, I've not lost it...I say it every year as we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent...which is the beginning of a new church liturgical year.

Advent is truly a "wonder-filled" season. We look to the deep blue night sky...shimmering with a million stars, each one a reminder of the dawn of creation...and of the promise of the long-awaited savior.

For me there is something sacred about staring up at the night sky...something awe inspiring and spiritual in nature. It calls us to look beyond ourselves...to look more deeply into the miracle of creation, to look more deeply into the miracle of human life and of this planet we live on, and the awe inspiring, ever expanding universe that this little blue planet spins within.

Advent is a time to "make time"...in the midst of all the commercialism, in the midst of all of the chaos that we call "the holiday rush," a time to slow down, to stand back and to reflect...to take time to allow the wonder of the Great Christmas Event to settle into our souls...to shake us loose from the ordinariness of our daily lives and allow ourselves to be wrapped up in the awe and wonder of the Incarnation.

The Incarnation, the fact that our God so deeply loves us and that God's very self became human to manifest that love to us. That love is **for you**...just as you are! This amazing love is for all of God's creation, **for all peoples of the earth and for the very earth itself!**

This Advent we find ourselves in the midst of enormous multiple humanitarian crises, as our sisters and brothers flee war and terror around the globe they wander the earth in search of a home. As we reflect on the wonder and awe of God's amazing love for the earth and all humanity, let us raise our voices and work to make sure that these immigrants and refugees, and all who wander the earth in search of finding safety and finding "home," that they will be taken in.

Let us not allow fear to rule our lives but rather let the love of Christ rule our lives! Let us together make our Advent preparation time a time of work and prayer for peace, for an

end to all forms of violence and assaults on human dignity, that are all around us.

Let us commit ourselves to not rush into Christmas but to "live Advent" and allow ourselves to become the gift that others most need, to become people of peace with open hearts for all those who suffer and are in need, called and able, by Christ's grace, to love them as our sisters and brothers. Then we will truly be ready to celebrate Christmas when at last it arrives, with hearts full of love for Christ and hearts full of love for all our sisters and brothers.

Just as the Holy Family was made refugee by the tyrant Herod, so too, people of Palestine and Israel, Venezuela, Ethiopia, Eritrea, South Sudan and Ukraine, all sisters and brothers of ours, fleeing violence and war...let us work to make sure they find peace and a free homeland! How can I make sure my voice is heard amidst all the vitriolic anti-immigrant hyperbole?

Let us not allow the immensity of the current political crisis to paralyze us and convince us we can do nothing, for in Christ we can do all things. Let us ask ourselves, what can I do this Advent to help those most in need?

As I open my heart to the love of God this Advent season can I also open it to the hungry and the unhoused and speak up on their behalf? How can I reach out to the lonely and those who are forgotten and who have no one to care for them or help them?

This year let our Advent gift to the world be a promise to work for and pray for peace. What could be of greater value for a world plagued by religious and political divisions and torn apart by terrorism and war. Through prayer and action on behalf of the poor, the suffering and the least among us, let us "prepare the way of the Lord"! And in this Advent season let us pray for the grace of Christ to become a more loving, kind and generous nation, seeking to accept others as they are, just as God accepts them. And let us seek to become instruments of healing in our families, our community, our schools and our nation and our world.

Advent Blessings!
Fr. Tim

E-GIVING PEW STICKERS TAKE YOU TO ParishSOFT GIVING

The e-giving stickers on the backside of the pews will take you to the new online giving portal: ParishSOFT Giving. If you have an established account, click on sign in. If you are making a one-time gift use "give now," enter the donation amount and click on one-time gift then make your fund selection (Sunday Collection, Food Pantry, General Donation, etc.) and continue to complete the form.

If you are having problems accessing your account (formerly Faith Direct), please contact donor support: 866-930-4774 option 6 or donorsupport@parishsoft.com.

Remember to use the email address you originally used when you created the account with Faith Direct. ParishSOFT Giving: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/FD-271>

LAS PEGATINAS DE E-GIVING LE LLEVAN A ParishSOFT GIVING

Las pegatinas de e-giving en la parte de atrás de las bancas le llevarán al nuevo portal de donaciones en línea: ParishSOFT Giving. Si tiene una cuenta establecida, haga clic en *sign in*. Si hace una donación única, use "give now," ponga la cantidad de la donación y haga clic en "one time gift" y entonces selecciones su fondo (Sunday Collection, Food Pantry, General Donation, etc.) y continúe para completar el formulario.

Si tiene problemas accediendo a su cuenta (anteriormente Faith Direct), por favor contacte apoyo para donantes; 866-930-4774 opción 6 o donorsupport@parishsoft.com.

Recuerde usar la dirección de correo electrónico que usó originalmente cuando creó la cuenta con Faith Direct. ParishSOFT Giving: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/App/Giving/FD-271>

YOUTH MINISTRY:

No Teen Nite this Sunday due to the holiday. We will gather again December 7th.

OLQP 80th Anniversary Christmas Ornaments are available for purchase after the Masses November 22nd - December 14, while supplies last. The double-sided acrylic ornaments, with English and Spanish, are \$12 each. You may also order and pick up after Mass. When pre-ordering through our ParishSoft Giving page, choose "Christmas Ornament" in the drop-down box. Proceeds go to the Youth & Young Adult Ministries World Youth Day 2027 pilgrimage. See flyers in the back of the church for pictures of the ornament. To pre-order, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPOrnament> or scan the QR code:



MINISTERIO DE ADOLESCENTES:

No vamos a tener la Noche para adolescentes el domingo debido al día festivo. Nos reuniremos otra vez el 7 de diciembre.

LOS ADORNOS NAVIDEÑOS DE OLQP CELEBRAN SU 80 ANIVERSARIO y van a estar disponibles para la compra por adelantado después de las Misas del 22 de noviembre al 14 de diciembre hasta que se agoten. Los ornamentos acrílicos, de doble cara, con inglés y español, cuestan \$12 cada uno. También puede ordenar por anticipado y recoger después de Misa. Cuando ordene por anticipado por la página ParishSoft, escoja *Christmas Ornament* en el cuadro de lista desplegable. Lo que se recaude va a apoyar la peregrinación del Día mundial de Adolescentes y Jóvenes Adultos 2027. Vea los volantes en la parte trasera de la iglesia para ver fotos de los ornamentos. Para ordenar por anticipado, vaya a: <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPOrnament> o escanee el código QR:

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY:

All are welcome to join **The TAU Young Adult Ministry** for its annual **Advent Morning of Reflection** on Saturday, December 6th in Casa Guadalupe. The morning will begin with breakfast at 8:00am, then program at 9:00am. This parish-wide event will be a walk through Advent with John the Baptist, Mary, and Joseph led by Sister Liz Sjoberg of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. Sister Liz is the Vocational Director for the Sisters of Charity and co-hosts the "In the Company of Charity" podcast on the Spotify and Apple platforms. To reserve your spot, please email Rebecca Grant Jenkins, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org.

MINISTERIO DE JÓVENES ADULTOS:

Todos los jóvenes son bienvenidas y bienvenidos a unirse al **Ministerio TAU de jóvenes adultos para su Mañana de Reflexión de Adviento anual** el sábado, 6 de diciembre en Casa Guadalupe. La mañana va a empezar con un desayuno a las 8:00am y el programa a las 9:00am. Este evento parroquial va a ser un recorrido por el Adviento con Juan Bautista, María y José. La hermana Liz Sjoberg de las Hermanas de la Caridad de San Vicente de Paul va a dirigir el evento. La Hermana Liz es la directora de vocaciones de las Hermanas de la Caridad y copatrocinadora el podcast "In the Company of Charity" en las plataformas Spotify y Apple. Para reservar tu lugar, por favor envíale un correo electrónico a Rebecca Grant Jenkins, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS, 16-35, there will be a World Youth Day 2027 information meeting, December 2nd, at 7pm in the Founders Room. Youth & Young Adults 16-35 are the focus of this Diocesan pilgrimage to Asia. This meeting is just informational, no commitment is required. Contact Rebecca Grant Jenkins for details, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org.

ADOLESCENTES Y JÓVENES ADULTOS, de 16 a 35 años, vamos a tener una reunión informativa el 2 de diciembre, a las 7pm en el Founders Room. Los adolescentes y los jóvenes adultos de 16 a 35 años son el enfoque de esta peregrinación diocesana a Asia y no se requiere que se comprometan. Contacta a Rebecca Grant Jenkins para obtener detalles, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org.

YOU BUY, WE FRY FELLOWSHIP FISH FRY -- Join us Friday, December 12th at 6:00pm in Father Ray Hall for Fr. Martin's fish, shrimp, or combo dinner with fries and coleslaw. \$15.00 per order. Proceeds go to support the Youth & Young Adult Ministries work camp mission and pilgrimage trips. Please see the flyers at the back of church to place your order, today! Or for more details, contact Rebecca Grant Jenkins, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org. To pay in advance, please go to: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-271?tab=home>.

USTED COMPRA, NOSOTROS FREÍMOS —COMPAÑERISMO CON PESCADO FRITO—Únase a nosotros el viernes, 12 de diciembre a las 6:00pm en Fr. Ray Hall para disfrutar del pescado, los camarones o cena de combinación con papas fritas y ensalada de col del Padre Martin. \$15.00 por orden. Lo recaudado va a apoyar el campamento de trabajo y viajes de peregrinación de los ministerios de adolescentes y jóvenes adultos. ¡Por favor vea los volantes en la parte trasera de la iglesia para hacer su pedido hoy! Para obtener más detalles, contacte a Rebecca Grant Jenkins, directora de los ministerios para adolescentes y jóvenes adultos, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org. Para pagar por adelantado, por favor vaya a: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-271?tab=home>



**ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY SHELTER DINNER –
Wed, Dec 10th**

Join us on Wednesday, December 10, for our dinner service at the Alexandria Community Shelter as we come together to support our unhoused neighbors and show them we care. This month, we will be serving a warm and comforting meal that includes Turkey Tetrazzini, a Vegetable Tetrazzini for our vegetarian guests, a fresh green salad, and roasted cauliflower, all complemented by lemonade. Your participation truly makes a difference in sharing love and compassion within our community! If you can lend a hand, please add your name to the sign-up sheet: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054BABA2BA7F49-60757143-acDecember>

For assistance, reach out to Emily Porterfield at bellefontebarbelle@gmail.com.

DINNER & FAITH SHARING - ALL ARE WELCOME!

Are you looking for community? Looking to share your faith with new friends? Join the Arlington Cursillo community and fellow parishioners on Saturday, Dec 13 at 6:45pm (after the 5:30pm mass) in the Founders Room of the Ministry Center. Together we will pray, eat, and share personal stories of God's Grace. Dinner is a potluck, so bring food or drinks to share. Questions - contact Jennifer & Linda at OLQP.Ultreya@gmail.com.

MATTHEW 25

Matthew 25 is looking for STORAGE HELPERS. If you can lift 20 lbs and are available to come during the week (Monday – Thursday) from 9am until 12noon, we can use your help. Volunteer on the day/days that work best for you -- you do not have to sign up for all four days, just one would be great. Interested? Please contact Sally Diaz-Wells, sdiazwells@olqpva.org

**JOIN FR. PONTIEN ON A CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE
Fatima, Lourdes, Zaragoza, Madrid**

Fr. Pontien will lead a nine-day Marian Shrines pilgrimage to Portugal, France and Spain. The guided tour will be in English. Cost is \$3,900 for double occupancy and includes flight, hotel, motorcoach travel, breakfast and dinner. Those interested in single occupancy are encouraged to register now to guarantee space. (Cost does not include lunch, beverages at dinner, optional travel insurance or tips.)

Use this link for *online registration*:

<https://www.unitours.com/OnlineBooking.aspx?url=UAB1110DO>

Use this link for pilgrimage details and to submit *paper registration* directly to Fr. Pontien:

<https://bit.ly/KenfackMarianShrines>

Brochures in both English and Spanish are available at the back of church this weekend.

**CENA DEL REFUGIO COMUNITARIO DE ALEXANDRIA –
miércoles, 10 de diciembre**

Únase a nosotros el miércoles, 10 de diciembre, para nuestra cena en el Refugio comunitario de Alexandria al reunirnos para apoyar a nuestras hermanas y hermanos que no tienen hogar y demostrarles que nos importan. Este mes vamos a servir una cena cálida y reconfortante que incluye tetrazzini de pavo, un tetrazzini vegetariano para nuestras invitadas e invitados vegetarianos, una ensalada verde y coliflor horneada y todo acompañado por limonada. ¡Su participación verdaderamente marca una diferencia en el compartir cariño y compasión en nuestra comunidad! Si pueden ayudar, por favor añadan sus nombres a la hoja de inscripción: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054BABA2BA7F49-60757143-acDecember>

Si necesitan ayuda, contacten a Emily Porterfield: bellefontebarbelle@gmail.com.

CENA Y COMPARTIR LA FE –

¡TODAS LAS PERSONAS SON BIENVENIDAS!

¿Busca una comunidad? ¿Busca compartir su fe con nuevas amistades? Únase a la comunidad del Cursillo de Arlington y a otros feligreses de OLQP el sábado, 13 de diciembre a las 6:45pm (después de la Misa de las 5:30pm) en el Founders Room del Ministry Center. Juntas y juntos rezaremos, comeremos y compartiremos historias personales de la gracia de Dios. La cena es comida compartida, así que traiga comida o bebidas para compartir. Si tiene preguntas contacte a Jennifer y Linda: OLQP.Ultreya@gmail.com.

MATEO 25

Mateo 25 también está buscando a personas para ayudar con EL ALMACENAMIENTO. Si usted puede levantar 20 lbs y está disponible para venir durante la semana (lunes a jueves) de 9am a 12 del mediodía, podemos usar su ayuda. Ofrézcase de voluntaria o voluntario los días que son mejores para usted. No tiene que apuntarse los 4 días – uno sería genial. ¿Está interesada o interesado? Por favor contacte a Sally Díaz-Wells, sdiazwells@olqpva.org

**ÚNASE AL PADRE PONTIEN PARA UNA
PEREGRINACIÓN CATÓLICA**

Fátima, Lourdes, Zaragoza, Madrid

Del 10 al 18 de noviembre 2026 el Padre Pontien va a ser el guía de una peregrinación mariana de nueve días a Portugal, Francia y España. La excursión guiada va a ser en inglés. El costo es de \$3,900 por habitación doble e incluye el vuelo, hotel, viajes por autocar, desayuno y cena. Las personas interesadas en una habitación sencilla deben inscribirse ahora para garantizar la disponibilidad. (El costo no incluye el almuerzo, bebidas en la cena, viajes opcionales o propinas.)

Use este enlace para inscribirse **en línea**:

<https://www.unitours.com/OnlineBooking.aspx?url=UAB1110DO>

Use este enlace para obtener detalles de la peregrinación y para someter los **papeles para la inscripción** directamente al Padre Pontien: <https://bit.ly/KenfackMarianShrines>

Hay folletos disponibles en inglés y español en la parte de atrás de la

iglesia este fin de semana.

HAITI CHRISTMAS DRIVE:

Season of Thanksgiving and Compassion

The Haiti Christmas Drive is underway. We are grateful for our twinning relationship with St. Joseph parish and the impact it has on the education, agro-forestry, clean water, and sanitation initiatives that empower our Medor family. We are also grateful for how the twinning relationship transforms lives at OLQP.

How you can make a difference in Medor:

1. Donate online at:

<https://www.ourladyqueenofpeace.org/donate.html>



2. Write a check made out to OLQP-Haiti and mail it to the parish office or place checks or cash in the Haiti box on the table at the church entry.

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 entry.

How to get the Haiti E-card:

Download from the parish website at:

https://www.ourladyqueenofpeace.org/uploads/1/0/2/8/102893408/haiti_ecard.pdf

and attach the card in an email to your loved ones.

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 in the sanctuary during Christmastime 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.

LA CAMPAÑA NAVIDEÑA PARA HAITÍ: Temporada de acción de gracias y compasión

La Campaña navideña para Haití ha empezado. Agradecemos nuestra relación de hermanamiento con la parroquia St. Joseph y el impacto que ha tenido en la educación, el programa de agroforestería, el agua limpia y las iniciativas sanitarias que empoderan a nuestra familia de Medor. También agradecemos como la relación de hermanamiento transforma las vidas en OLQP.

1. Done en línea en:

<https://www.ourladyqueenofpeace.org/donate.html>



2. Escriba un cheque a nombre de OLQP-Haiti y mándelo por correo a la oficina parroquial o ponga los cheques o efectivo en la caja para Haití en la mesa en la entrada de la iglesia.

El programa de la Campaña navideña para Haití de regalo alternativo ofrece tarjetas impresas y electrónicas.

¿Cómo obtener tarjetas impresas de Haití?

Lleve tarjetas de la mesa de auto-servicio en la entrada de la iglesia.

¿Cómo obtener tarjetas electrónicas de Haití?: Descargue tarjetas del sitio web de la parroquia en: https://www.ourladyqueenofpeace.org/uploads/1/0/2/8/102893408/haiti_ecard.pdf

y añada la tarjeta a un correo electrónico para sus seres queridos.

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 empacan almuerzos para los jornaleros de Shirlington. El Giving Tree en el santuario durante la temporada de Navidad 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.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

We invite you to remember deceased loved ones – one intention per family, please -- with a Christmas Flower Memorial. Memorials will be published in the Sunday bulletin on the weekend of December 20-21.

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 Sunday, December 14th.

We must have all the information by Monday, December 15! Donations can also be made through [ParishSoft Giving](#) (click on Offertory and Donation Funds, use the dropdown option to select Flower Memorials) **and** be sure to send an email with names of those you are honoring to office@olqpva.org by 12/15.

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 20-21 de diciembre.

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 14 de diciembre. **¡Necesitamos su información para la fecha límite del lunes, 15 de diciembre!**

También puede mandar su donación por [ParishSoft Giving](#) (haga click en “Fondos de ofertorio y donación” (Offertory and Donation Funds), utilice la opción desplegable para seleccionar memoriales de flores (Flower Memorials) y asegúrese de mandar un correo electrónico con los nombres de las personas a quien usted está honrando a office@olqpva.org en o antes del 15 de diciembre.

Memorial de flores de Navidad:

En honor de: _____

A petición de: _____

Donativo: \$ _____

ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY MASS OF FR. JOE NANGLE'S PASSING

Join us for Mass on Saturday, December 13, at 12noon to honor, celebrate and give thanks for Fr. Joe and his amazing ministry to OLQP for 35 years. A reception will follow in Fr. Ray Hall from 1:00pm-3:00pm. Please join us.

MISA DEL PRIMER ANIVERSARIO DEL FALLECIMIENTO DEL PADRE JOSÉ NANGLE

Únase a nosotros para celebrar una Misa el sábado, 13 de diciembre, a las 12 del mediodía para honrar, celebrar y dar gracias por el Padre José y su asombroso ministerio a OLQP por 35 años. Habrá una recepción después en Fr. Ray Hall de 1:00pm a 3:00pm. Por favor, únense a nosotros.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS NEEDED

The Food Pantry is seeking donations of children's new and gently used books (nursery rhymes, ABC's, early readers, children's education, etc.) for preschoolers through early grade levels. Books in both English and Spanish are welcome. Please leave clearly marked donations in the back of the church during your weekend masses, deliver to the ministry center, or leave in the Matthew 25 donation bin (which will be available after Thanksgiving). These books bring smiles of delight to children accompanying their parents to the Food Pantry!

SE NECESITAN LIBROS PARA NIÑAS Y NIÑOS

La Despensa de alimentos busca donaciones de libros para niñas y niños, nuevos y de poco uso (canciones infantiles, ABC, libros de lectura para principiantes, educación infantil, etc.) para prescolares hasta niveles de primeros grados. Se aprecian libros en inglés y en español. Por favor deje donaciones bien identificadas en la parte trasera de la iglesia durante las Misas de los fines de semana, llévelos al Ministry Center o déjelos en el contenedor de Mateo 25 (va a estar disponible después del Día de acción de gracias). ¡Estos libros les dan mucha alegría a las niñas y niños que acompañan a sus padres cuando van a la Despensa de alimentos!

CALLING ALL KNITTERS

SCARVES and HATS are due by Dec 10

We will be sorting scarves and hats on December 11th and kindly ask that all knitted and crocheted items be dropped off at Fr. Ray Hall no later than Wednesday, December 10th to be included in this year's distribution. Men and women at Path Forward, Shirlington Day Laborers and Feast on the Streets will be gifted with these warm creations, along with a Shoebox. We have already distributed over 75 blankets, and about as many hats and scarves to Comfort Cases (children in foster care), and Project Gabriel. If you are a knitter, please drop off your creations by Dec 10. All donations go in the basket in the front entrance of Fr. Ray Hall if the Library door is locked. If it is open, leave your donations inside our closet on the left, inside the Library. Many thanks for the generous time and talents of our volunteers. If you are interested in joining our knitting group, please contact Marilena: mamoni530@gmail.com.

UNA LLAMADA A LAS PERSONAS QUE TEJEN NECESITAMOS LAS BUFANDAS Y LOS GORROS para la fecha límite del 10 de diciembre

Vamos a organizar las bufandas y los gorros el 11 de diciembre y les pedimos que por favor traigan todos los artículos tejidos y tejidos a ganchillo a Fr. Ray Hall no más tarde del miércoles, 10 de diciembre para que se incluyan en la distribución este año. Hombres y mujeres en *Path Forward*, los *Day Laborers* y Fiesta en las calles van a recibir estas creaciones, junto con una caja de zapatos con artículos. Ya hemos distribuido más de 75 frazadas y casi el mismo número de gorros y bufandas a *Comfort Cases* (niñas y niños en cuidado tutelar) y el Proyecto Gabriel. Si usted es una persona que teje, por favor traiga sus creaciones para el 10 de diciembre. Si la puerta de la biblioteca está cerrada, ponga todas las donaciones en la cesta en la entrada de Fr. Ray Hall. Si está abierta, dejen sus donaciones dentro de nuestro ropero a la izquierda, dentro de la biblioteca. Muchas gracias por las personas voluntarias que donan su tiempo y talentos. Si está interesada/o en unirse a nuestro grupo de tejedoras/es, por favor contacte a Marilena: mamoni530@gmail.com.

A COUPLE OF HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS...

Should I wear a mask if exposed to COVID-19? The CDC is still recommending that a mask be worn around others if one has been exposed to COVID-19. This helps protect others from potential infection, especially if awaiting test results or one is within the recommended 10-day period after exposure. This is so even if you are not showing any symptoms. A supply of masks is always available at the back of church.

Please be mindful of our neighbors when parking on the street. Allow for plenty of space between the front or rear of your car and driveway aprons – do not block driveways. Allow 30 feet of space between your car and a stop sign – do not park within the intersection of streets.

In the OLQP lot, only use parking spots designated as such – a clear route through the parking lot is required as a fire lane so no parking along buildings or curbs that are not designed for parking.

UN PAR DE ASUNTOS DE MANTENIMIENTO...

¿Debo usar una mascarilla si he sido expuesta/to al COVID-19?

La CDC todavía recomienda usar una mascarilla cuando una persona ha estado expuesta al COVID-19. Esto ayuda a proteger a otras personas de una posible infección, especialmente si está esperando los resultados de una prueba o si está en medio de los 10 días que se recomiendan después de estar expuesta/o. Esto es así, aunque la persona no muestra ningún síntoma. En la parte trasera de la iglesia siempre hay mascarillas disponibles.

Por favor sea consciente de nuestras vecinas/os cuando estacione en la calle. Deje suficiente espacio entre el frente y la parte de atrás de su auto y entradas de garajes – no bloquee entradas. Deje 30 pies entre su auto y una señal de pare – no estacione en la intersección de las calles.

En el estacionamiento de OLQP, solo use los espacios designados. Se necesita una ruta despejada por el estacionamiento como un carril de emergencia, así que no estacione al lado de edificios o aceras, lugares no designados para estacionamiento.

NATIONAL ADOPTION MONTH — One focus of the Building Forever Families ministry is children aging out of foster care. Can you imagine being 18 years old, and venturing into adulthood with no family support, guidance, or encouragement? No home to return to for Christmas? No one to help you with your resume or find and furnish your first apartment? The Building Forever Families ministry works to support youths aging out of the foster care system as they learn to navigate life as an adult. Find out how you can help — your involvement could change the course of their life! If you're interested in learning more, we invite you to join us at the annual BFF Christmas gathering on 12/7. For details, contact Rebecca.E.Carpenter@gmail.com or DebralphOLQP@gmail.com.

STEPHEN MINISTRY -- SEASON OF JOY

As we enter the holiday season we conjure up images of happy events, time with family and friends, lots of good food etc....a season of joy. If you dread this time of year, you may think there is something wrong with you, or this is a self inflicted problem you can easily fix.

Is it? Regrettably, this is all mythical thinking, but it is not uncommon.

Stephen Ministry at OLQP can help if you feel that loneliness impacts your ability to function. We provide one-on-one confidential care through compassionate listening. A Stephen Minister will not attempt to "fix your problem." We simply see Christ in those we work with and provide a safe space for you to talk, without judgement.

If you would like more information regarding Stephen Ministry, please contact smolqp@gmail.com or Louise Drucker: 703-635-0469.

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 LIBRARY REQUEST

As we approach the Advent season, if you have any Advent resources at home that you no longer use or that the kids have outgrown, please consider donating them to the OLQP Library. Your contributions (Advent meditations, Advent customs and practices, etc.) will make these resources available for others to use and enjoy during this special time of year. Donations can be left in the Library or at the Parish Office. The Library is in Fr. Ray Hall, second door on the right as you enter the main hall from the street entrance. Thank you so much for your consideration and support!

The **OLQP Library** offers an array of books for spiritual enrichment, including Advent resources. Stop by after Mass to peruse the collection on a variety of topics. Books may be checked out on the honor system. Sign out cards and instructions are available on the Library desk. Look for more updates on the Library in the New Year.

MES NACIONAL DE LA ADOPCIÓN — Uno de los enfoques del ministerio Creando familias para siempre son las niñas y los niños que salen del sistema de cuidado tutelar. ¿Se imagina tener 18 años y aventurarse en la edad adulta sin el apoyo, la guía o el estímulo de una familia? ¿No tener un hogar al que regresar para Navidad? ¿No tener a nadie que le ayude con su currículum o a encontrar y amueblar su primer apartamento? El ministerio Creando familias para siempre trabaja para apoyar a los jóvenes que salen del sistema de cuidado tutelar mientras aprenden a navegar por la vida como adultos. Descubra cómo puede ayudar: ¡su participación podría cambiar el curso de sus vidas! Si está interesada/o en obtener más información, le invitamos a unirse a nosotros en la reunión anual de Navidad de BFF el 7 de diciembre. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Rebecca.E.Carpenter@gmail.com o DebralphOLQP@gmail.com.

MINISTERIO ESTEBAN – TEMPORADA DE ALEGRÍA

Al entrar en la temporada navideña, una temporada de alegría, evocamos imágenes de eventos felices, tiempo con la familia y amigos, buena comida, etc. Si le teme a esta época del año, puede pensar que algo anda mal con usted o que es un problema que se ha impuesto y que puede solucionar fácilmente. ¿Es así? Lamentablemente, esto es solo un pensamiento mítico, pero frecuente.

El Ministerio Esteban en OLQP puede ayudarle si siente que la soledad afecta su capacidad de funcionar. Ofrecemos atención confidencial uno a uno a través de la escucha compasiva. Un ministro Esteban no intentará "arreglar su problema". Simplemente vemos a Cristo en las personas con quienes trabajamos y proporcionamos un espacio seguro para que usted hable, sin juzgar.

Si desea más información sobre el Ministerio Esteban, por favor contacte a smolqp@gmail.com o a Alejandra González: (202) 492-5052.

CARE FOR CREATION MEETING

No need to leave the comfort of your home! The OLQP Integrity of Creation Team will meet via Zoom for our monthly meeting on December 1 at 7pm. You are welcome to join us and help our parish care for our common home. For more information and for the Zoom link, please email michellem.knight@gmail.com

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

ECO-TIP: When planning holiday entertainment, consider making it really special by using china and glassware instead of disposables. Make the camaraderie of washing and drying dishes part of the enjoyment of the day and be grateful that you were able to help reduce holiday waste.

OLQP 80th Anniversary/80° aniversario
Christmas Ornament/Adorno navideño

Double-Sided with Gold-Foil hang cord
 De doble cara con cordón de lámina dorada para colg.

\$12 each—Limited Quantity!

\$12 cada uno. ¡Cantidad limitada!

Pre-order your ornament online/
 Reserve por anticipado su adorno en línea

<https://tinyurl.com/OLQPOrnament>

or scan here/o escanee aquí:



Front
Frente



Back
Reverso

Available after the Masses/Disponible después de las Misas
 November 22nd to December 14 / 22 de noviembre — 14 de diciembre

Proceeds benefit the Youth & Young Adult Ministries Pilgrimages & Work Camps

Las ganancias benefician los peregrinajes y
 los campamentos de trabajo del
 Ministerio de jóvenes y jóvenes adultos

Thank you for your support! / ¡Gracias por su apoyo!

FELLOWSHIP FISH FRY
YOU BUY, WE FRY
TAKE-OUT fish & SHRIMP
FUNDRAISER

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH | 6:00PM—8:00PM
 DINE-IN OR TAKE OUT AT OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE
 2700 S. 19TH STREET, ARLINGTON, VA 22204

OPTIONS:
 2 PIECES FRIED FISH
 OR 8 SHRIMP
 OR 1 PIECE FISH & 4 SHRIMP
 TO ORDER, GO TO:
<https://tinyurl.com/OLQPVAFISHFRY>

INCLUDES:
 FRENCH FRIES, COLE SLAW
 TARTAR SAUCE, KETCHUP
 & HOT SAUCE
 OR SCAN TO ORDER:

\$15 PER ORDER

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT REBECCA
 AT 703.979.5580 OR RGRANTJENKINS@OLQPVA.ORG

Compañerismo con Pescado Frito
USTED COMPRO, NOSOTROS FREIMOS
RECALIDADOR DE FONDOS:
PESCADO Y CAMARONES
PARA LLEVAR A CASA

VIERNES, 12 de diciembre | 6:00pm a 8:00pm
 EN EL PADRE RAY HALL. NUESTRA SEÑORA REINA DE LA PAZ
 2700 S. 19TH STREET, ARLINGTON, VA 22204

TRES OPCIONES:
 2 PEDAZOS DE PESCADO FRITO
 8 CAMARONES
 1 PEDAZO DE PESCADO Y 4 CAMARONES

INCLUYE:
 PAPAS FRITAS, ENSALADA DE COL,
 SALSA TARTADA, CATSUP Y
 SALSA PICANTE

\$15 POR PERDIDO

TO ORDER, GO TO:
<https://tinyurl.com/OLQPVAFISHFRY>
 O ESCANEE PARA ORDENAR

PARA LLEVAR TAMBIÉN DISPONIBLE
 PARA OBTENER MÁS INFORMACIÓN, POR FAVOR CONTACTE A REBECCA:
 703.979.5580 O RGRANTJENKINS@OLQPVA.ORG



Shoebox Project – Sunday, December 14, 2024 ***An OLQP Tradition for more than 20 years!***

Here at our parish, Our Lady Queen of Peace, we have a very special tradition that is more than two decades old. Looking back on that history of providing gifts to our unhoused sisters and brothers in Northern Virginia and Washington, our community can take pride not only in its generosity toward a lonely and isolated population, but also in its advocacy for full-time shelter for all. We will continue our hands-on tradition of filling a modest container, a shoebox, with items that say, “we care about you and your comfort”. The list of what to pack hasn’t changed much over the years, except that we have a team of expert knitters who work year-round to provide a scarf to every unhoused person in the area.

This year, we have about 250 gentlemen and 150 ladies in need of gifts. So, use your coupons, shop at the dollar store, watch the sales, shop with a friend to fill a box, or provide some of the items in a plastic bag, and a team of volunteers from our parish will provide packing and wrapping services on **Sunday, December 14, at 11:00 am**, in Father Ray Hall. ***Don't forget to bring your shoeboxes too!***

This year, we are extending the time for donations drop-off! From December 1 through December 12, you can drop off your donations at Father Ray Hall, near the back entrance, in a bin labeled "Shoebox Donations!" On **Saturday, December 13**, a group of volunteers will be in the back of Father Ray Hall (by the Ministry Center) collecting your donations from 12:00 pm – 6:30 pm. On this day, you can bring your donations and shoeboxes. We will also continue to receive donations and shoeboxes on Sunday, 12/14!



To sign up to volunteer on December 14, Shoebox Wrapping Day, click below or scan the QR code: <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPShoebox2025>



To sign up for donations, click below or scan the QR code: <https://tinyurl.com/ShoeboxDonations2025>



SHOEBOX Donations Ideas! Remember: “One size fits all” and *travel size are best!*

Mittens (gloves), hats, caps, socks, flashlight with batteries, shoelaces, combs, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, nail clippers, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, lotion, feminine hygiene products, wipes, hand sanitizer, candy, gum, stamped envelopes, note paper, pens, lip balm, nail files, and travel-size toiletries.

For questions, please email Monica Rivera at: monicariver@gmail.com



Office of Public Affairs

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

BALTIMORE – As the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) gathered for their Fall Plenary Assembly in Baltimore, the bishops issued a Special Message addressing their concern for the evolving situation impacting immigrants in the United States. It marked the first time in twelve years the USCCB invoked this particularly urgent way of speaking as a body of bishops. The last one issued in 2013 was in response to the federal government’s contraceptive mandate.

Under the regulations pertaining to statements and publications of the Conference, a “Special Message” may only be issued at plenary assemblies, and they are statements which the President of the Conference, the Administrative Committee, or the general membership consider to be appropriate in view of the circumstances at the time. To show the consensus of the body, a Special Message must receive two-thirds of the Conference members present and voting at the plenary in order to pass. In a vote of **216 votes in favor, 5 votes against, and 3 abstentions**, the bishops overwhelmingly approved the Special Message, with sustained applause of the body following the vote.

The full text of the bishops’ Special Pastoral Message follows:

As pastors, we the bishops of the United States are bound to our people by ties of communion and compassion in Our Lord Jesus Christ. We are disturbed when we see among our people a climate of fear and anxiety around questions of profiling and immigration enforcement. We are saddened by the state of contemporary debate and the vilification of immigrants. We are concerned about the conditions in detention centers and the lack of access to pastoral care. We lament that some immigrants in the United States have arbitrarily lost their legal status. We are troubled by threats against the sanctity of houses of worship and the special nature of hospitals and schools. We are grieved when we meet parents who fear being detained when taking their children to school and when we try to console family members who have already been separated from their loved ones.

Despite obstacles and prejudices, generations of immigrants have made enormous contributions to the well-being of our nation. We as Catholic bishops love our country and pray for its peace and prosperity. For this very reason, we feel compelled now in this environment to raise our voices in defense of God-given human dignity.

[Catholic teaching](#) exhorts nations to recognize the fundamental dignity of all persons, including immigrants. We bishops advocate for a meaningful reform of our nation’s immigration laws and procedures. Human dignity and national security are

U.S. Bishops Issue a “Special Message” on Immigration from Plenary Assembly in Baltimore

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November 12, 2025

www.usccb.org

not in conflict. Both are possible if people of good will work together.

We recognize that nations have a responsibility to regulate their borders and establish a just and orderly immigration system for the sake of the common good. Without such processes, immigrants face the risk of trafficking and other forms of exploitation. Safe and legal pathways serve as an antidote to such risks.

The Church’s teaching rests on the foundational concern for the human person, as created in the image and likeness of God (*Genesis 1:27*). As pastors, we look to Sacred Scripture and the example of the Lord Himself, where we find the wisdom of God’s compassion. The priority of the Lord, as the Prophets remind us, is for those who are most vulnerable: the widow, the orphan, the poor, and the stranger (*Zechariah 7:10*). In the Lord Jesus, we see the One who became poor for our sake (*2 Corinthians 8:9*), we see the Good Samaritan who lifts us from the dust (*Luke 10:30–37*), and we see the One who is found in the least of these (*Matthew 25*). The Church’s concern for neighbor and our concern here for immigrants is a response to the Lord’s command to love as He has loved us (*John 13:34*).

To our immigrant brothers and sisters, we stand with you in your suffering, since, when one member suffers, all suffer (*cf. 1 Corinthians 12:26*). You are not alone!

We note with gratitude that so many of our clergy, consecrated religious, and lay faithful already [accompany and assist immigrants](#) in meeting their basic human needs. We urge all people of good will to continue and expand such efforts.

We oppose the indiscriminate mass deportation of people. We pray for an end to dehumanizing rhetoric and violence, whether directed at immigrants or at law enforcement. We pray that the Lord may guide the leaders of our nation, and we are grateful for past and present opportunities to dialogue with public and elected officials. In this dialogue, we will continue to advocate for meaningful immigration reform.

As disciples of the Lord, we remain [men and women of hope](#), and hope does not disappoint! (*cf. Romans 5:5*)

May the mantle of Our Lady of Guadalupe enfold us all in her maternal and loving care and draw us ever closer to the heart of Christ.



November 30, 2025 is the First Sunday of Advent and the last Sunday of Black Catholic History Month. A Sign of Hope, the patron of OLQP Minkisi is Servant of God Sr. Thea Bowman, FSPA. Minkisi offers an excerpt of a March 30, 2025, Black Catholic Messenger article written by Nate Tinner-Williams, an African American Catholic journalist and national leader. On our Advent journey, let us “stay awake” and prepare for the coming of the Lord.

Sister Thea Bowman Conference celebrates Black Catholic saint -to-be in Washington. WASHINGTON — More than 150 attendees from around the country gathered Saturday at the Catholic University of America for the inaugural [Thea Bowman](#) Conference, celebrating the life and legacy of the internationally known Black Catholic nun. The Mississippi-born preacher, teacher, and CUA alum is now on the path to sainthood.

The free event, held under the theme “I Bring My Whole Self,” was sponsored by the school as well as the [Black and Indian Mission Office](#) and a number of Black CUA alumni.

Fr [Maurice Nutt](#), a Redemptorist priest who serves as diocesan liaison for Bowman’s canonization cause, was the keynote speaker. In his remarks and a subsequent dialogue with CUA President Dr. [Peter K. Kilpatrick](#), Nutt shared his experience of being mentored by Bowman during her decades of national ministry.

“Describing Thea as faithful and free is by no means an oxymoron or incongruent,” he said, referencing his [2019 biography](#) of Bowman, which served as an official component in the early push for her sainthood.

“She was both all at the same time. She could love her friends and challenge her friends. She could love her Church and challenge her Church.”

Known as a vaunted evangelist, scholar, and musician in the African-American tradition, Bowman bucked various trends in

mid-20th-century Catholic religious life. These included her increasingly national platform, her embrace of African garb following the Second Vatican Council, and her unabashed public rejection of anti-Blackness in U.S. Catholicism.

Less known is her early decades as a teenager in the Wisconsin-based Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration, following her conversion to Catholicism from the Black Methodist tradition in elementary school. She was the first Black member of her order and gradually came to embrace her calling as a sign of Black Catholic contradiction. “The two didn’t always jibe,” said conference panelist Dr. Kathleen Dorsey Bellow, the director of [Xavier University of Louisiana’s Institute for Black Catholic Studies](#), where Bowman once taught as a professor.

“There were very many challenges for her because the spirituality that she brought was not appreciated in most places where she went.”

Bellow and Nutt were among various conference contributors and attendees who knew Bowman personally. One of the panels focused on this intersection, featuring a fellow Black religious sister, one of the nation’s Black monsignors, and a former student of Bowman’s when she taught at CUA.

“She had a sense of humor about her. She had a little Black itchiness for the Good News that she would seek out,” said Sr Barbara Spears of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, a fellow member with Bowman of the [National Black Sisters’ Conference](#).

“She taught us how to be family with our brothers, particularly our brother priests, and how to be sister, mother, and guide for our young seminarians... There were so many ways that she inspired us.”

Bowman’s ability to inspire has continued long after her death from cancer at age 52 in 1990, with Sunday [March 30] marking 35 years to the day. Her cause for canonization—opened by the Diocese of Jackson in 2018—was the theme of the conference’s final panel, on the mechanics of saint-making and the utility of Black models of holiness.

“I want to be a saint, just as we know that Sr Thea already is, amen?” said Fr Robert Boxie III, the chaplain of [HU Bison Catholic](#) at [Howard University](#), whose gospel choir also performed at the conference.

“This universal call to holiness, this perfection of charity... is living out the very life of Christ in us. Christ is perfect in charity and selflessness and generosity and humility, this radical inclusion, this radical welcome of everyone. And we have to live out in our own lives.”

Bowman’s sainthood cause is among the newest of the seven for African-American Catholic candidates, and the conference’s final Q&A session underscored that the waiting period therein can feel exclusionary or even racist. (To date, no African-American Catholic has been beatified or canonized.)

[Nate Tinner-Williams](#) is co-founder and editor of Black Catholic Messenger. ~ ~ [See the full article: [Thea Bowman Conference celebrates Black Catholic saint-to-be in Washington.](#)]