

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:

January 17-18 9:30am and 1pm in Spanish
17-18 enero 9:30am y 1pm en español

MASSES / MISAS:

Weekdays / *Días laborables:*

Mon-Fri. 12pm / *lunes a viernes 12pm*

Weekend Mass Schedule /

Horario de Misas de fin de semana:

Saturday Vigil — 5:30pm

Misa de vigilia sábados - 5:30 pm

**Sundays — 8:00am, 9:30am, 11:15am,
1:00pm (Spanish) & 6:00pm (Young Adult)**

*Domingos — 8:00 am, 9:30 am, 11:15 am,
1:00 pm (español) y 6:00 pm (Misa de
jóvenes adultos)*

DECLARACIÓN DE MISIÓN DE OLQP

La parroquia de la iglesia católica Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz se dedica a dar testimonio de las enseñanzas de Jesucristo, especialmente el Evangelio de San Mateo, Capítulo 25:31-46. 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

January 18, 2026



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Mass Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Monday, January 19, 11:00am

Misa para honrar al Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Lunes, 19 de enero, 11:00am

This weekend we welcome Most Reverend Bishop Michael Burbidge who will preside at the 9:30am Mass on Sunday morning. The Mass is being offered in recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Our Lady Queen of Peace parish offers a warm welcome to Bishop Burbidge.

Este fin de semana le damos la bienvenida al Monseñor Obispo Michael Burbidge, quien presidirá la Misa de las 9:30am. La Misa se celebra en conmemoración del Día de Martin Luther King, Jr. La parroquia Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz le da una calurosa bienvenida al Obispo Burbidge.

Behold!
The Lamb of
God who
takes away the
sin of the
world.

John 1:29



Aquí tienen al
Cordero de
Dios,
que quita el
pecado del
mundo!
Juan 1,29

NEXT WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION:
CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

COLECTA DEL PRÓXIMO FIN DE SEMANA:
LA IGLESIA EN AMÉRICA LATINA

Iglesia Católica Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz

18 de enero de 2026

Segundo domingo en el tiempo ordinario

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: \$6,287

ParishSoft Giving - weekly avg.: \$20,920

Word & Eucharist Missalette/

Misal Palabra y Eucaristía

Today's readings can be found on page 292

Las lecturas de hoy se encuentran en la página 293

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 Hoeft, Jan Hyland, Patrick Hynes, Pat Johnson, Sharon Jourdan, William Kahl, Gus Karns, Janie J. Key, Ruth Klarman, Carmen Andrea Lara, Alexa LaRue, Patrick Lawrey, John Lawyer, Linda Lipari, Lidia Montero Lopez, Olga MacKenzie, Wil McBride, Stefan McGuigan, Martha Gladys Medina, Maria Magdalena Medrano de Ventura, Dick Melia, 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, 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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEGUNDO DOMINGO EN EL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 (64A); 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34

Isaías 49,3, 5-6 (64A); 1 Corintios 1,1-3; Juan 1,29-34

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TERCER DOMINGO EN EL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Isaiah 8:23-9:3 (67A); 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17;

Matthew 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

Isaías 8,23-9,3 (67A); 1 Corintios 1,10-13, 17; Mateo 4,12-23 or 4,12-17

MASS INTENTIONS, JANUARY 17-23

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

INTENCIONES DE LAS MISAS, 17-23 ENERO

SEGUNDO DOMINGO EN EL TIEMPO ORDINARIO

Saturday, January 17th

5:30 pm Joseph Fratus, Jr. (Birthday) (D) by Ann Flack

Sunday, January 18th

8:00 am Dr. Carlos Alvarado (D) by Raquel Bishop

9:30 am For The Parish

11:15 am Robert Byrnes (D) by DeeDee Tostanoski

1:00 pm The Black Christ of Esquipulas (Feast Day) by the parish

6:00 pm Denny Scott (D) by daughter, Susan Scott

Monday, January 19th

11:00 am - Martin Luther King Jr.

Tuesday, January 20th

12:00 pm Judy Francia-Reyes (L) by Carol Pintor

Wednesday, January 21st

12:00 pm Kenneth Daniels (D) by the Lovo family

Thursday, January 22nd

12:00 pm Hugo Cabrera (L) by Lilia Koechlin

Friday, January 23rd

12:00 pm For The Parish

OLQP PARISH STAFF / PERSONAL DE LA PARROQUIA

Pastor / Párroco: **Fr. Tim Hickey, CSSp**, thickey@olqpva.org

Parochial Vicar / Párroco Asociado: **Fr. Martin Vu, CSSp**, mvu@olqpva.org

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, jgantzdaly@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

JUST A THOUGHT... or two... Will return next weekend.

PARISH ADVISORY BOARD – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS!

Did you know OLQP has elected lay leadership that supports Fr. Tim and parish activities? Parish Advisory Board (PAB) members commit to attend bimonthly meetings (currently 2nd Thursday of the month), serve on committees as needed, and listen to and present parishioners' views. The PAB strives to represent the many backgrounds, ages, mass cohorts, and ministry groups of the parish. Six (6) seats are up for election, with new members serving a two-year term. Registered parishioners who have been active for at least two years are eligible and encouraged to consider the PAB – nominate yourself or a fellow parishioner. Nomination slips are available in the sanctuary, or you may submit nominations via email to olqpelection@gmail.com. (Please include the nominee's full name, phone number, and email address). The nomination period closes at the end of the day on Sunday, February 8.

CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE to Fátima, Lourdes, Zaragoza, Madrid with Fr. Pontien Kenfack ZOOM Meeting or In-person – Please mark your calendars for Tuesday, February 17, 6-8pm. Contact Fr. Pontien for the zoom link if that's your preference: penfack@olqpva.org. All pilgrims preparing for the trip to Fátima, Lourdes, Madrid, and Zaragoza with Fr. Pontien this year are invited to a meeting either in person in the Ministry Center, Founders Room or via Zoom. All who are interested and who would like to learn more are encouraged to attend. Please contact Fr. Pontien for the zoom link or come in person.

STEPHEN MINISTRY -- ENVIRONMENTAL DEPRESSION

We are all aware of depression, causes and effects. We think of the devastating consequences of depression, growing out of profound loss, trauma, or other psychological injuries experienced within families or individual lives. It seems like a private event.

Sometimes we can be depressed by external events that are not related personally to ourselves or close family but to the broader society. We can experience community/social trauma in a way never experienced before. The list can include massive firings of dedicated federal employees, fear because of attempts to exclude specific groups from our community or neighborhood, infringements of the free speech of ourselves or others in the community or infringements of our right to assembly. If you are feeling overwhelmed and powerless by external events in the wider society, we have trained Stephen Ministers who can listen to you compassionately and confidentially.

Need help? Contact Louise Drucker: Smolqp@gmail.com or (703) 635-0569.

JUNTA CONSULTORA DE LA PARROQUIA – ¡SOLICITANDO NOMINACIONES!

¿Sabía que OLQP ha elegido un liderazgo laico que apoya al Padre Tim y las actividades de la parroquia? Las personas que forman parte de la Junta Consultora de la parroquia (PAB por sus siglas en inglés) se comprometen a asistir a reuniones bimestrales (actualmente el segundo jueves del mes), a servir en comités según sea necesario y escuchar las opiniones de los feligreses actuales. La PAB se esmera por representar los diversos orígenes, edades, cohortes de Misas y grupos ministeriales. Hay 6 plazas para esta elección y las personas nuevas servirán un mandato de dos años. Personas inscritas en la parroquia que han estado activas por un mínimo de dos años son elegibles y se les anima a considerar la PAB. Puede nominarse o nominar a otra persona que pertenece a la parroquia. Las papeletas de nominación están disponibles en el santuario o puede someter nominaciones por correo electrónico a olqpelection@gmail.com. (Por favor incluya el nombre completo de la persona nominada, su número de teléfono y dirección del correo electrónico). El período de nominación termina al final del día el domingo, 8 de febrero.

PEREGRINACIÓN CATÓLICA a Fátima, Lourdes, Zaragoza y Madrid con el Padre Pontien Kenfack. Reunión por ZOOM o en persona – Por favor marquen sus calendarios para el martes, 17 de febrero, de 6 a 8pm. Contacte al Padre Pontien para obtener el enlace para el zoom si eso es lo que prefiere: penfack@olqpva.org. Se invita a todas las personas peregrinas que se preparan para el viaje este año a Fátima, Lourdes, Zaragoza y Madrid con el Padre Pontien a una reunión en persona en el Founders Room del Ministry Center o por Zoom. Se anima a todas las personas interesadas y las que quisieran saber más a asistir. Por favor contacte al Padre Pontien para obtener el enlace para el zoom o venga a la reunión.

MINISTERIO ESTEBAN -- DEPRESIÓN POR EL MEDIO AMBIENTE

Todos somos conscientes de la depresión, sus causas y efectos. Pensamos en las devastadoras consecuencias de la depresión, producto de profundas pérdidas, traumas u otras lesiones psicológicas experimentadas a nivel familiar o individual. Parece un evento privado.

A veces podemos sentirnos deprimidas/os por eventos externos con los que no estamos relacionados a nivel personal o familiar sino a nivel de la sociedad en general. Podemos experimentar un trauma comunitario/social de una manera nunca antes experimentada. La lista puede incluir despidos masivos de dedicados empleados federales, miedo debido a los intentos de excluir a grupos específicos de nuestra comunidad o vecindario, violación a la libertad de expresión tanto de nosotros como de otras personas de nuestra comunidad, o la transgresión a nuestro derecho a reunirnos.

Si se siente abrumada/o e impotente frente a eventos externos de la sociedad en general, contamos con Ministros Esteban capacitados que pueden escucharle con compasión y confidencialidad. ¿Necesita ayuda? Contacte a Alejandra González vía email Smolqp@gmail.com o al (202) 492-5052.

NEW! Prayer Ministry at OLQP

THE ROSARY: Meditations on the Mysteries of Christ

Join us Wednesdays in the church at 12:45pm for a weekly rotation of the meditations on the mysteries of Christ: The Joyful Mysteries, The Luminous Mysteries, The Sorrowful Mysteries, The Glorious Mysteries. Come weekly or when convenient. As our guide, we will be using: The Rosary with Bishop Robert Barron.

YOUTH MINISTRY:

- Catholic Heart Work Camp is scheduled for July 19 - 24, 2026, for rising 8th - 12th graders. There will be an information meeting, Sunday, January 25th, at 5:00pm in Casa Guadalupe. Applications are now open: <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPVACHWC2026>. Please see the flyer in the back of church for details. Adult Volunteers - Get involved with Work Camp! This week-long service program relies on parishes making a community effort. Join us!
- Got some time on your hands? Adult volunteers needed to accompany our youth at our weekly gatherings, retreats, and work camps. No experience is necessary! Virtus training and background checks are required. If interested, please complete the interested form here, <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPVAYMVOL>. For more information, please contact Rebecca Grant Jenkins, Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org.

MATTHEW 25 is looking for sorters. They work to get the store restocked and sort and store items. The days are Monday through Thursday from 9am until 12noon in the Ministry Center. Volunteer one day a week or four; we just need help. Interested, please contact Sally Diaz-Wells at sdiazwells@olqpva.org

MATTHEW 25 NEEDS COATS

Please review your coat closet — Matt 25 is in need of car length coats or jackets. We are now open to accepting donations at the Ministry Center: Saturdays—Tuesdays, 9-12noon; Wednesdays, 9-7pm; Closed to accepting donations on Thursdays and Fridays. Please consider donating a coat.

GABRIEL PROJECT has a wonderful dilemma! We are overwhelmed with baby donations! We ask that other than size 4 or 5 diapers, strollers, walkers or highchairs you hold onto baby donations until February. We appreciate your support; we just need to distribute the inventory; that way we know what we have and/or need. Thanks so much!

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM YOUR PARISH FAMILY!

2026 Josephite Calendars are available at the back of church while supplies last. Please take one for you family's use at home.

¡NUEVO! Ministerio de oración en OLQP

EL ROSARIO: Meditaciones sobre los misterios de Cristo

Únase a nosotros los miércoles en la iglesia a las 12:45pm para una rotación semanal de las meditaciones sobre los misterios de Cristo: los Misterios gozosos, los Misterios luminosos, los Misterios dolorosos, los Misterios gloriosos. Venga semanalmente o cuando le sea conveniente. Nuestra guía será: The Rosary with Bishop Robert Barron. (Solo en inglés.)

MINISTERIO PARA ADOLESCENTES:

- El Catholic Heart Work Camp se va a llevar a cabo del 19 al 24 de julio del 2026 para estudiantes que ascienden a los grados 8 al 12. Va a haber una reunión informativa el domingo, 25 de enero, a las 5:00pm en Casa Guadalupe. Ya puedes completar tu solicitud: <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPVACHWC2026>. Por favor mira el volante en la parte trasera de la iglesia para obtener detalles. Personas adultas para servir de voluntarias – ¡involúcrense con el Work Camp! Este programa de servicio de una semana depende de parroquias que se comprometen a hacer un esfuerzo comunitario. ¡Únase a nosotros!
- ¿Tiene tiempo extra? Se necesitan personas adultas para ser voluntarias y acompañar a nuestros jóvenes. ¡No necesita tener experiencia! Se requiere entrenamiento Virtus y una verificación de antecedentes. Si está interesada/o, por favor complete el formulario de interés aquí, <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPVAYMVOL>. Para obtener más información, por favor contacte a Rebecca Grant Jenkins, Ministra de los ministerios para adolescentes y jóvenes adultos, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org.

MATEO 25 busca personas para clasificar ropa. Trabajan para reponer ropa, clasificar y guardar los artículos. Los días son de lunes a jueves de 9am hasta las 12 del mediodía en el Ministry Center. Sea voluntaria/o un día o cuatro a la semana. Necesitamos ayuda. Si está interesada/o, por favor contacte a Sally Díaz-Wells: sdiazwells@olqpva.org

MATEO 25 NECESITA ABRIGOS

Por favor examine su armario porque Mateo 25 necesita abrigos largos o chaquetas. La tienda está abierta ahora para aceptar donaciones en el Ministry Center: de sábados a martes, 9-12 del mediodía, los miércoles de 9-7 pm. No aceptamos donaciones ni los jueves ni los viernes. Por favor considere donar un abrigo.

¡EL PROYECTO GABRIEL tiene un dilema maravilloso! ¡Estamos abrumadas/os con donaciones para bebés! Pedimos que guarde sus donaciones hasta febrero excepto pañales talla 4 ó 5, cochecitos, andadores o sillas altas. Apreciamos su apoyo, pero solo necesitamos distribuir el inventario y de esa manera sabemos lo que tenemos y/o necesitamos. ¡Muchas gracias!

¡SU FAMILIA PARROQUIAL LE DESEA FELIZ NAVIDAD!

Los calendarios josefitas para el 2026 están disponibles en la parte de atrás de la iglesia hasta que se agoten. Por favor lleve uno para que su familia lo use en casa.

**NEWS FROM OUR TWIN PARISH,
St. Joseph's in Medor, Haiti**

Haitians celebrate their Independence Day on January 1. We join our brothers and sisters in Medor in giving thanks to God for the courage, faith, and vision that led to Haiti's hard-won freedom more than two centuries ago, enabling the formation of the first independent Black republic in the modern world. In Medor, this spirit of freedom continues to flourish in the classrooms of five primary schools and one secondary school, where students, teachers, staff, and parents honor the legacy of Haiti's founders by seeking knowledge and working toward a more just and hopeful future. Through the shared support of Medor's education programs, our two parishes walk together in solidarity, nurturing leadership, opportunity, and faith, and trusting that God will bless these efforts as seeds of hope for Haiti's tomorrow.

Please pray for peace and security in Haiti.

**NOTICIAS DE NUESTRA PARROQUIA HERMANA,
St. Joseph en Medor, Haití**

Las personas haitianas celebran su independencia el 1° de enero. Nos unimos a nuestras hermanas y hermanos en Medor al darle gracias a Dios por el valor, la fe y la visión que llevó a Haití a su libertad ganada con esfuerzo hace más de dos siglos, lo que permitió la formación de la primera república negra independiente en el mundo actual. En Medor, este espíritu de libertad continúa prosperando en los salones de clases de cinco escuelas elementales y una secundaria, donde estudiantes, maestras/os, el personal y madres y padres honran la herencia de personas que fundaron Haití buscando el conocimiento y trabajando por un futuro más justo y lleno de esperanza. Por medio del apoyo compartido de los programas de educación de Medor, nuestras dos parroquias caminan juntas en solidaridad, apoyando el liderazgo, la oportunidad y la fe y confiando en que Dios bendecirá estos esfuerzos como semillas de esperanza para el futuro de Haití.

Por favor rece por la paz y la seguridad en Haití.

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.

MASS and HEALING PRAYER SERVICE

Tuesday, January 27, scheduled for 7:30pm at St. Ann Catholic Church (5300 North 10th St). Fr. John Melmer of St. John the Beloved Church of McLean will celebrate. Confessions will be available. This liturgy comes through the diocesan Catholic Healing Ministry. For more information, please contact Richard Schaad, 703-455-6131.

ADVOCATES for JUSTICE

The 2026 Virginia General Assembly convened on Wednesday, January 14 and the newly elected Governor was inaugurated on Saturday, January 17. This Assembly has been dubbed a breakneck 60-day legislative session that likely includes about 4000 bills, including legislation previously passed but vetoed by the governor. This Session also requires the development, wrangling and ultimately, passage of the state's biennial budget.

Remember to stay alert to the proceedings in Richmond. There will be many times during this Session when you will want to share your opinion (with gratitude that we still live in a democracy that encourages your expressions!) A recent comment that was attention-getting expressed an opinion: A curtain of darkness has fallen over our country and we have lost our moral bearings..."

Let our OLQP community prove that we have NOT lost our moral bearings — let us be in solidarity with all Virginians and let us be beacons of hope and light in our community.

Let us use the resources available to us and remind our legislators of their moral duty to work for the Common Good of all Virginians in this 2026 Session.

A few resources to use:

Find your legislators: <https://whosmy.virginiageneralassembly.gov/>

Virginia General Assembly: <https://vga.virginia.gov/>

Bills & Resolutions & Budget bill: <https://lis.virginia.gov/home/20261>

Virginia Catholic Bishops' advocacy information: VACATHOLIC.org

Interfaith Center for Public Policy: www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org

ENVIRONMENTAL BOOK DISCUSSION W/THE AUTHOR

Have you ever wondered what you can do to help solve the climate crisis? Join the Integrity of Creation ministry and author Lawrence MacDonald for a discussion of his book "Am I too old to save the planet? A boomer's guide to climate action" in the Parish library on February 11 at 7:00pm. All are welcome! For more information and a chance to win a free autographed copy of the book, email Dan Herrera (herrerawildlife@gmail.com).

COMPASSIONATE LISTENING TRAINING WORKSHOP

Sponsored by: OLQP Stephen Ministry

Presenter: Dr. Patrice Alvarado, Clinical Psychologist

Save the date: Sunday, March 8, 2026

Would you like to learn new communication skills in 2026?

Guided by Dr. Alvarez, in an inter-active workshop, we will learn and practice principles of compassionate listening. These skills can improve your communication with many who are close to you: spouses, children, friends, or co-workers. Better still: You will learn ways to communicate with that "difficult person" we dread meeting.

"Listening is a magnetic and strange thing, a creative force. The friends who listen to us are the ones we move toward. When we are listened to, it creates us, makes us unfold and expand."

Karl Menninger, from *Practicing the Art of Compassionate Listening* by Andrea S. Cohen. Details about registration to follow.

ECO-TIP: The VA. Assembly is now in Session.

This fast paced and busy law-making body will deal with important issues facing all of us such as promotion of renewable energy, clean air, regulation of data centers, lowering the cost of housing, minimum wage, and many more. Follow the news and contact your state senators and delegates to make your views known.

CATHOLIC HEART WORKCAMP 2026

BLESSED

- To be **BLESSED** isn't about comfort or everything falling into place. It's about belonging to God, His hand on our lives, His purpose in our story. It's what Jesus proclaimed on a mountainside to fishermen and outcasts, not a promise that life would be easy, but a promise it would matter.
- **This summer at Catholic HEART Workcamp, we'll explore what it really means to live BLESSED:** to see God's goodness in the small things, to receive His grace fully, to become a blessing through mercy and service, and to live that blessing out loud, wherever we go.



"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

— Acts 20:35

- Encounter Christ through transformational service, faith, fellowship & FUN!
- July 19-24, 2026
- North Haledon, NJ or Roanoke, VA
- Rising 9th-12th graders (bring a friend!)
- \$100* nonrefundable deposit to reserve spot due by February 11th
- \$425* (financial assistance available, if needed)
- Adult volunteers needed to accompany our teen disciples
- To apply, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPVACHWC2026> or click on the QR code:



For details, contact **Rebecca Grant Jenkins**, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org

*make payments via Parishsoft(w/CHWC and teen's full name in the comment section or by checks payable to OLQP w/CHWC and teen's name on memo line.

Cardinals leave consistory with a clear vision from pontiff:

‘A Church that cares’

By: [Paulina Guzik](#)

VATICAN CITY (OSV News) — After an intense day of roundtable discussions, the “low-battered” but “very pleased” cardinals wrapped the first historic extraordinary consistory convened by Pope Leo XIV in a spirit of fraternity, with a sense of knowing each other better and saying they “discovered” the pope, while he did “more listening than talking.” They left the consistory with a clear vision of the new pontiff for “a Church that cares.”

Pope Leo intends to continue consistory discussions once a year, with the next consistory planned for the end of June and following ones scheduled once a year, lasting 3-4 days, Matteo Bruni, director of the Holy See Press Office, confirmed during the evening press conference.

The pope, according to Bruni, told cardinals Jan. 8 that the consistory is designed as a “continuity with what was requested during the cardinals’ meetings before the conclave and also after the conclave,” and that the synodal

methodology used “was chosen to help them meet and get to know each other better.”

“The College of Cardinals has been strengthened”

Salesian Cardinal Cristóbal López Romero of Rabat, Morocco, told journalists waiting for the cardinals in front of the Paul VI Audience Hall that, with the level of fraternity reached during merely 15 hours of the consistory discussions, “the College of Cardinals has been strengthened.”

He said he is “very pleased,” as the meeting “has allowed us to get to know each other a little better, to share, and because it will also continue.”

“I believe it has been a way of reaffirming that there is continuity — not so much with Pope Francis, but with the Gospel, with the Second Vatican Council, and with all the magisterium that has emerged as a consequence of this Second Vatican Council. So in that sense, I am very pleased with the results,” he said.

Cardinal Stephen Brislin of Johannesburg, present at the evening press conference in the Vatican Press Office, told journalists, “The importance of this consistory was not solely in the discussion that took place,” but in the possibility “to listen to each other and to get to know each other” as the prelates “haven’t known each other very well.”

He stressed that the meeting “has been an assistance” to Pope Leo “as successor of St. Peter” and that it proved that synodality is “a way of being Church” — and a “disposition” of the Church.

Trying to reach harmony

The second day of the consistory reminded the cardinals of the Synod on Synodality, with three-minute interventions from participants in group discussions, sharing meals and thoughts — from “the treasure that the Gospel is for mission,” through necessity to approach people’s “broken lives with humility,” and to synodality as “a tool for growing relationships,” Bruni said.

Asked whether there were any tensions



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— especially upon scrapping liturgy and Church governance from the list of issues to discuss, and leaving “*Evangelii Gaudium*” and synodality on the table — the South African Cardinal Brislin said it was a “pleasant experience, friendly experience,” and that “the pope wants to be collegial” and learn from “the richness that comes from the experiences of people” coming from different parts of the world.

Cardinal Luis José Rueda Aparicio of Bogotá, Colombia, also present during the press conference, added that “sometimes there is criticism or different positions — but we try to reach harmony, which does not mean uniformity, but going back to the roots,” which he referred to as the Second Vatican Council.

The themes of the June consistory are yet to be named, and were not specified when OSV News asked during the news conference whether liturgy or other pressing themes that have emerged would be addressed in the next consistory.

Cardinals walking out of the Paul VI Hall confirmed to OSV News, however, that during the Jan. 7-8 consistory there was no time to discuss liturgy.

‘We are with you and we feel close to you’

The list of cardinals that participated in the extraordinary consistory has not been released, only the number — 170. But the Vatican said the pope met 93-year-old Cardinal Joseph Zen on Jan. 7, and on Jan. 8 the pontiff specifically thanked the senior cardinals for making the effort to come.

Cardinal Zen, bishop emeritus of Hong Kong, had to get permission from the judicial authorities in Hong Kong to attend the consistory.

Passing the pope’s words to journalists, Bruni said the pope emphasized: “‘Your witness is truly precious,’ reaffirming his closeness to the cardinals around the world who were unable to come.”

“We are with you and we feel close to you,” he said, repeating the pope’s words, as some cardinals, like Cardinal Baltazar Porras of Venezuela,

whose [diplomatic passport was confiscated](#) by the regime, were unable to come.

Cardinal [Pablo David](#) of Kalookan, Philippines, present at the press conference, said, “It was really refreshing to see the Holy Father was more listening than talking” during the consistory and added that while no concrete decisions have been made, “he was taking notes very, very seriously, so he must be up to something.”

A time to discover the pope’s personality

Dominican Cardinal Jean-Paul Vesco of Algiers, Algeria, speaking to journalists outside the Paul VI Hall, said that the consistory was “a wonderful time,” emphasizing that it was not only a time for the cardinals to know each other, but for them to discover the personality of Pope Leo.

“This Pope is ... a pope you want to love. He’s ... deeply kind. He loves. He was there, present, simply. It was beautiful,” the cardinal, who may see the [pope coming to his country](#) in the footsteps of St. Augustine, told journalists.

He described the pontiff as “consistent” and “straightforward” in his “simplicity.”

He said he leaves the consistory with a notion that the cardinals “feel loved” by their boss and “want to love him” with a certain level of fraternity being a clear fruit of the gathering.

“He completely succeeded in that from the very first time,” Cardinal Vesco said, chatting the longest of all cardinals with journalists, including OSV News.

A missionary Church, a Church that cares

Emphasizing the need for teamwork in the Church, the pope told the cardinals in his off-the-cuff remarks on Jan. 7: “I experience the need to be able to count on you: you are the ones who called this servant to this mission!” adding in his [introductory speech](#) that the consistory will “point the way for our path ahead.”

Cardinal Vesco said that even with such a short gathering, it is clear that Pope Leo “wants a Church ... that is both a

missionary Church that proclaims the Gospel, but also a Church that cares,” and “that is precisely in this form of communion and fraternity.”

“Before anything else, rather than just talking about things, he does them. And to me, that seems very solid,” Cardinal Vesco said, stressing “we can clearly feel that this reservoir of trust” the pope puts in the College of Cardinals “is a value, a value that will stand the test of time.”

“The emphasis is more on the relationship part than content,” Father Jordi Pujol, associate professor of the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome, told OSV News. While a day and a half is too short of a timeframe to deeply discuss any issue, let alone the four projected at the beginning of the meeting, Father Pujol stressed that the pope “wanted to show he is starting his pontificate as a good leader, and a good leader is making the cardinals know each other.”

A good leader, Father Pujol added, is one that says “don’t expect all coming from me — it’s the team that is going to move things forward. It shows that he is not personalistic, and it sets up his style” of listening first, the professor of media ethics and media law at the School of Church Communications said.

Cardinal Claudio Gugerotti, prefect of the Dicastery for the Eastern Churches, echoed this sentiment in his brief comments to journalists, including OSV News, saying the pope “was also very eager to exchange a few words, to connect with others in a very simple, informal way, and that was very pleasant.”

Joking about the Italian nature of the Vatican consistory, he added, “The lunch was excellent. Unfortunately, we missed the nap.”

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January 8, 2026

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