

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 CATHOLIC CHURCH

March 8, 2026

THIRD 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 8:00pm (except April 1).

This Lenten Wednesday evening program offers:

Sung Stations of the Cross: 7:00pm – March 11 and 25

Reconciliation Services:

6:30pm – March 18 Family Reconciliation Service (open to all)

Time Change during Lent for DAILY Mass on FRIDAYS: 6:00pm March 13, 20, & 27

LA LUZ ESTÁ ENCENDIDA PARA USTED 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 8:00pm (excepto el 1ro de abril).

Este programa los miércoles de Cuaresma también incluye:

El Vía Crucis cantado: 7:00pm – el 11 y el 25 de marzo

Servicios de reconciliación:

6:30pm – 18 de marzo servicio de reconciliación para familias (abierto a todos)

Cambio de horario durante la Cuaresma para la Misa DIARIA los viernes: 6:00pm 13, 20, y 27 de marzo

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 8 6pm and 1pm in Spanish

8 marzo 6pm 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)

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.

Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst.

John 4:14



Todos los que beban del agua que yo doy no tendrán sed jamás.

Juan 4,14

NEXT WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION:

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Colecta del próximo fin de semana

SERVICIOS CATÓLICOS DE AYUDA (CRS)

Iglesia Católica Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz

8 de marzo de 2026

Tercer Domingo de Cuaresma

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, 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 Collections / Colectas del domingo: \$12,924
ParishSoft Giving - weekly avg.: \$15,099

Word & Eucharist Missalette/ Misal Palabra y Eucaristía

Today's readings can be found on page 178
Las lecturas de hoy se encuentran en la página 179

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, 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, Judy Francia-Reyes, 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, 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 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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Exodus 17:3-7 (28A); Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-42
Éxodo 17,3-7 (28A); Romanos 5,1-2, 5-8; Juan 4,5-42

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

CUARTO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a (31A); Ephesians 5:8-14;
John 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38
1 Samuel 16,1b, 6-7, 10-13a (31A); Efesios 5,8-14;
Juan 9,1-41 or 9,1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

MASS INTENTIONS, MARCH 7-13

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

INTENCIONES DE LAS MISAS, 7-13 MARZO

TERCER DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

Saturday, March 7th

5:30 pm For The Parish

Sunday, March 8th

8:00 am Ruth Anne Wilson (Birthday) (D) by Raquel Bishop
9:30 am Edmundite Mission, Selma, AL (Special Intention)
by Susan Bruns

11:15 am For The Parish

1:00 pm Amalia Coreas & Oscar Coreas (Anniversary) (D)
by Rosario Coreas, family & friends

6:00 pm For The Parish

Monday, March 9th

12:00 pm For The Parish

Tuesday, March 10th

12:00 pm For The Parish

Wednesday, March 11th

12:00 pm Jorge Enrique Correa (Anniversary)(D) by Rosario Coreas

Thursday, March 12th

12:00 pm For The Parish

Friday, March 13th

6:00 pm José Gregorio Barrios (Birthday) (D) by Odalis Barrios

IN MEMORIAM: MICHAEL SAVAGE

Died in the Lord January 28, 2026

Mike was an active member of the social justice committee back in the 1990s. Many from that era will remember the good work he did along with Gene Betit.

Click here for [obituary](#).

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at OLQP on Thursday, March 19, at 11:00am.

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 Adul-
tos:* **Rebecca Grant Jenkins**, rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org

Faith Formation Director / Director de Formación de Fe (bilingüe):

Cecilia López Oetgen, clopez@olqpva.org

JUST A THOUGHT... or two...

Today's Gospel tells the story of a woman who goes to a well for a jug of water and has a life altering encounter with Jesus and is promised a special kind of water with properties far beyond her wildest imaginings.

In the socio-religious context of today's Gospel story, according to the cultural mores and religious laws, this woman is perhaps the last person to whom "living water" should be given. At least that is what we are supposed to think. After all, she is a woman who, in a male-preferred society, is undeserving of any special privileges. Furthermore, she is a Samaritan, a member of the group that observant Jews considered *fallen away* from the true religion of Israel, and therefore *apostates*, and no longer people of the covenant.

On top of that, she is a woman of questionable virtue, even within her own community.

Many scholars believe that is the reason she came all alone to the well, and in the heat of the day, to draw water, rather than in the company of the other women, in the cool of the morning. Because of this, many scholars surmise that she may well have been an outsider in her own village.

In the first reading along with the Israelites, we are told that God will quench our thirst. In the Gospel we discover that Jesus is the source of "living water." Thus, we may conclude that God's promise to quench our thirst, is fulfilled in Jesus Christ. It is interesting to note that in all of this, there is no talk of our meriting this life-giving water. The Israelites were undeserving, the Samaritan woman was undeserving, and we too, in our human sinfulness, are undeserving. This life-giving water is not earned or deserved but freely given by the grace and mercy of God.

It is from God's lavish love that this water flows and our thirst is slaked. What matters is whether we recognize that we are thirsty and know to seek Jesus Christ to have our thirst quenched through him.

I think it is very important to note that this woman at the center of today's Gospel encounter could easily, particularly through the lens of misogyny, be written off as a sinful person. But that would completely miss the

point and the trajectory of her encounter with Jesus. A hugely significant point of the story is not just that she is sinful but that she is a *Samaritan* woman! And Jesus is a Jewish man and he should know better than to have anything to do with her! So we have a man approaching a woman in an area where they are alone and they are unrelated to each other -- this is very problematic according to 1st Century Middle Eastern social codes of appropriate and acceptable behavior between women and men. Jesus should know better, but he has a plan and his plan is to offer her salvation, regardless of her "outsider religious status," regardless of her sin. Jesus is the Living Mercy of God.

The trajectory of this encounter that is so important, is that Jesus manifests that God's plan of salvation is not just for the House of Israel, it is for all people. *It is even open to Samaritans*, and this reality, while it may be lost on most Christians today, it was surely not lost on the early hearers of this Gospel encounter.

How does this Gospel's message of *the universal mercy of God for all people regardless of their social, political or religious status*, inform my review of the political agenda and policies of this administration in Washington D.C., being carried out throughout the nation and around the world?

And what is my response? Will I continue to write to and call members of Congress (both Republican and Democrat) expressing my outrage, shared by Pope Leo and the US Bishop's Conference, at the brutal and inhumane treatment of immigrants, refugees and people of color by ICE and other Government officials? Because every letter, every call, every protest, every act of resisting *unchristian and immoral* policies that dehumanize, marginalize and harm human beings, is an informed statement of Gospel values, and a de facto act of living out our discipleship of Jesus Christ.

May the peace and light of the Risen Christ be upon you all!

Fr. Tim

SUNG STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Come refresh your soul during Lent with the Sung Stations of the Cross. In the musical style of Taize, these unique stations invites you to pray along with thoughtful reflections on the Via Crucis and join in a meditative refrain. The Sung Stations will be offered on March 11 and 25 at 7:00pm. Reconciliation is also offered on these dates from 6:30pm-8:00pm. For more information, contact Monica Perz-Waddington: monica.perz@verizon.net

CRS RICE BOWL – Do you have a Rice Bowl on your table? You can learn about hungry children in Guatemala where Catholic Relief Services helps families with support to improve their health and nutrition. There are also hungry children here where 25% of funds raised provide help for programs in our Diocese such as OLQP's Food Pantry. Use your Bowl for meaningful conversations about hunger with your family. Visit crsricebowl.org/week_3 for stories of Hope. Thank you for caring.

FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS Fridays during Lent, we will have Stations of the Cross in the Church beginning at 5:15pm and ending before the Friday Evening Lenten 6pm Mass, before the Stone Soup Supper which immediately follows the 6pm Mass.

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (OCIA)
Over the next three weekends, our parish will celebrate the Scrutinies with those 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 our Elect prepare for the sacraments, may we be united with them in prayer and join in this journey of self-searching and repentance, evaluating our lives and the need for conversion. The First Scrutiny will be celebrated on Sunday, March 8 at the 9:30am Mass. The Second Scrutiny will be celebrated on Sunday, March 15, at the 11:15am Mass. The Third Scrutiny will be celebrated on Saturday, March 21, at the 5:30pm Mass.

2026 BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL IN CHRIST WE ARE ONE

Thank you to those who have contributed to the Bishop's Lenten Appeal! If you have yet to make your gift, please prayerfully reflect on your blessings and consider making a gift now. The BLA unites us as a diocesan family to support programs, ministries and services which help tens of thousands of people. Every gift, large or small, is essential. You may mail your gift or go online to arlingtondiocese.org/BLA or scan the QR code to make a gift. Thank you for your generosity!



Scan Me

ESTACIONES DE LA CRUZ CANTADAS

Venga y refresque su alma durante la Cuaresma con las estaciones de la cruz cantadas. En el estilo musical de Taize, estas estaciones únicas le invitan a orar con reflexiones meditativas del Vía Crucis y a repetir una frase meditativa. Las Estaciones Cantadas se ofrecerán el 11 y el 25 de marzo a las 7:00pm. La reconciliación también se ofrecerá en estas fechas de 6:30pm a 8:00pm. Para recibir más información, contacte a Monica Perz-Waddington: monica.perz@verizon.net

PLATO DE ARROZ CRS – ¿Tiene un Plato de arroz en su mesa? Puede aprender sobre niñas y niños en Guatemala que tienen hambre, donde los Servicios de ayuda católicos ayudan a familias con apoyo para mejorar su salud y nutrición. También hay niñas y niños con hambre aquí, donde el 25% de los fondos que se recaudan provee ayuda para programas en nuestra diócesis como la Despensa de alimentos de OLQP. Use su Plato para tener conversaciones significativas con su familia sobre el hambre. Visite crsricebowl.org/week_3 para ver historias de esperanza. Gracias por preocuparse.



RITO DE INICIACIÓN CRISTIANA PARA ADULTOS (RICA)

Durante los próximos tres fines de semana, nuestra parroquia va a celebrar los Escrutinios con las personas que se preparan para recibir los sacramentos de Iniciación en la Pascua. El objetivo de estos ritos es descubrir y entonces sanar las fallas que llevan al fracaso personal y social y el pecado. Mientras que nuestras elegidas y elegidos se preparan para recibir los sacramentos, que nosotros nos unamos con ellos en oración y nos unamos en esta jornada de introspección y arrepentimiento, evaluando nuestras vidas y la necesidad por la conversión. El primer Escrutinio se va a celebrar el domingo, 8 de marzo en la Misa de las 9:30am. El segundo Escrutinio se celebrará el domingo, 15 de marzo en la Misa de las 11:15am. El tercero se celebrará el sábado, 21 de marzo en la Misa de las 5:30pm.

PETICIÓN CUARESMAL DEL OBISPO DE 2026 EN CRISTO SOMOS UNO

Gracias a todas las personas que ya han hecho una promesa de contribución a la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo. Si todavía no han hecho su ofrenda, reflexionen, en espíritu de oración, sobre las bendiciones recibidas y piensen en hacer una oferta hoy. La Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo nos ofrece una singular oportunidad de unirnos como familia católica para apoyar los programas, ministerios y servicios que ayudan a decenas de miles de personas. Cada donación, grande o pequeña, es vital para el éxito de la Petición Cuaresmal del Obispo. Pueden enviar su promesa de contribución por correo postal o hacerla en línea por medio de arlingtondiocese.org/BLA o enviar una ofrenda al escanear el código de respuesta rápida (QR) que aparece a continuación. ¡Gracias por su generosidad!



Escanéame

YOUTH MINISTRY:

- **APPLICATIONS OPEN for YOUNG DISCIPLES WORK CAMP scheduled for June 22 - 26, for rising 7th, 8th, and 9th graders:** <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPYDWC2026>. Join us for a week of faith, fellowship, and service to the OLQP community and beyond. See the flyer at the back church.
- **"You Buy, We Fry Fellowship Fish Fry" Take Out Lenten Fish Fry #3** - Join us Friday, March 20th at 6:00pm 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. Pre-order today - <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPVAFISHFRY> or scan here,  Or for more details, contact Rebecca Grant Jenkins (rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org), Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries. To pay in advance, please go to ParishSoft Giving: <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-271?tab=home>, then choose "Fellowship Fundraiser" in the drop-down box.

GUN VIOLENCE SAFETY and PREVENTION WITNESS

at the NRA is SATURDAY, March 14 at 10:00am. Come for all or part. More than 50% of suicides in Virginia are caused by guns. More than 80% of homicides are caused by guns. Information about gun violence can be found at Johns Hopkins Center for gun violence solutions -- <https://publichealth.jhu.edu/center-for-gun-violence-solutions>

JOIN US FOR DINNER SERVICE AT THE ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY SHELTER


We are excited to announce that on Wednesday, March 11, we will be serving a delicious dinner at the Alexandria Community Shelter! On the menu, we will have baked chicken, steamed rice and broccoli, fresh green salad, strawberries, and lemonade. We need your help to provide a nourishing meal for approximately 50 neighbors at the shelter. Additionally, we are looking for volunteers to assist with transporting the food from OLQP and to help with dinner service from 5:30pm to 6:45pm. If you are available to lend a hand, please reach out to Emily Porterfield at bellefontebarbelle@gmail.com. You can also sign up via the SignUpGenius link provided here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054BABAF2BA7F49-62726444-march>

CARPENTER'S SHELTER DINNER, Thursday, March 19

Thank you for your consideration in helping with dinner this month! We're serving a favorite: baked salmon, rice, broccoli, salad, fruit, brownies & lemonade. Contact Mary Resnick with questions or for first sign-up: mary.resnick@gmail.com.

Your food can be delivered to the parish office kitchen Monday through Thursday, during their office hours, 8:30-4:30, or to Fr. Ray Hall kitchen on the day of dinner, 4:30-5:00pm. Please label food with date and description and place it in the refrigerator, freezer or counter. Note, if you're delivering directly to the Shelter (930 N. Henry Street in Alexandria), label food the same and add our church name & "dinner". Thank you!

MINISTERIO PARA ADOLESCENTES:

- Ya puedes mandar la solicitud: <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPYDWC2026> para el Young Disciples Work Camp programado para futuros estudiantes de los grados 7, 8 y 9, del 22 al 26 de junio del 2026. Únete a nosotros para celebrar una semana de fe, compañerismo y servicio a la comunidad de OLQP y otras. Mira el volante en la parte de atrás de la iglesia.
- Usted compra, nosotros freímos Pescado frito #3 durante la Cuaresma para llevar - Únase a nosotros el viernes, 20 de marzo a las 6:00pm para la cena que el Padre Martin va a tener de pescado, camarones o una cena combinada con papas fritas y ensalada de col. El costo es de \$15 por pedido. Los ingresos van a apoyar el campamento de trabajo y las peregrinaciones de los ministerios de adolescentes y jóvenes adultos. ¡Ordene por anticipado: <https://tinyurl.com/OLQPVAFISHFRY> o escanee aquí:  Para obtener más detalles, contacte a Rebecca Grant Jenkins (rgrantjenkins@olqpva.org), Directora de los ministerios de adolescentes y jóvenes adultos. Para pagar por adelantado, por favor vaya a **Parishsoft:** <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/FD-271?tab=home> y escoja "Fellowship Fundraiser" en el cuadro desplegable.

TESTIMONIO DE SEGURIDAD Y PREVENCIÓN DE LA VIOLENCIA CON ARMAS DE FUEGO

en la NRA es el sábado, 14 de marzo a las 10:00am. Venga un rato o para todo el evento. Las armas causan más de un 59% de los suicidios en Virginia. Puede encontrar información sobre la violencia causada por las armas de fuego en el Johns Hopkins Center para obtener soluciones contra la violencia con armas de fuego – <https://publichealth.jhu.edu/center-for-gun-violence-solutions>

ÚNASE A NOSOTROS PARA UNA CENA EN EL REFUGIO COMUNITARIO DE ALEXANDRIA

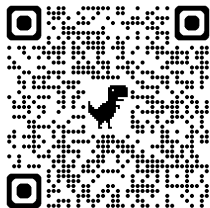
¡Nos complace anunciar que el miércoles, 11 de marzo, vamos a servir una cena deliciosa en el Refugio comunitario de Alexandria! En el menú vamos a tener pollo asado, arroz y brócoli al vapor, ensalada verde fresca, fresas y limonada. Necesitamos su ayuda para proveer una cena nutritiva para alrededor de 50 vecinas y vecinos en el refugio. Además, buscamos personas voluntarias para ayudar con la transportación de la comida de OLQP y ayudar con el servicio de la cena de 5:30pm a las 6:45pm. Si puede ayudar, por favor contacte a Emily Porterfield: bellefontebarbelle@gmail.com. También puede apuntarse por el enlace del SignUpGenius aquí: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054BABAF2BA7F49-62726444-march>

LA CENA REFUGIO DEL CARPINTERO, el jueves, 19 de marzo

¡Gracias por considerar dar su ayuda con la cena este mes! Vamos a servir un plato favorito: salmón al horno, arroz, brócoli, ensalada, frutas, brownies y limonada. Contacte a Mary Resnick si tiene preguntas o para apuntarse por primera vez: mary.resnick@gmail.com. Puede llevar su contribución a la cocina de la oficina parroquial de lunes a jueves de 8:30am a 4:30pm o a la cocina de Fr. Ray Hall el día de la comida de 4:30 a 5:00pm. Por favor identifique la comida con la fecha y la descripción y póngala en el refrigerador, congelador o mostrador. Atención, si va a llevar la comida directamente al refugio el día de la comida (930 N. Henry Street in Alexandria), identifíquela de la misma manera y añada el nombre de nuestra iglesia y "dinner". ¡Gracias!

**PARISH ADVISORY BOARD –
VOTE FOR NEW MEMBERS!**

Voting begins this weekend for the Parish Advisory Board (PAB). Parishioners are highly encouraged to vote electronically via the QR code (below) or online [here](#), or by paper ballot, which can be found in the sanctuary. Please vote only once, for up to six candidates. Candidate profiles are in the bulletin. Voting will continue next weekend, both electronically and via paper ballot. If you cannot vote electronically or in-person via paper ballot, please email olqpelection@gmail.com or call the church office to receive a mail-in ballot.



**JUNTA CONSULTORA DE LA PARROQUIA –
¡VOTE POR NUEVOS MIEMBROS!**

La votación para la Junta consultora de la parroquia (PAB por sus siglas en inglés) comienza este fin de semana. Pedimos encarecidamente que voten electrónicamente usando el código QR (abajo) o el enlace [here](#), o usando una papeleta que puede encontrar en el santuario. Por favor, vote solo una vez por un máximo de seis personas. Hay información en el boletín sobre las personas que se postulan. La votación va a continuar hasta el próximo fin de semana, tanto electrónicamente como por papeleta. Si no puede votar electrónicamente o en persona por papeleta, por favor mande un correo electrónico a olqpelection@gmail.com o llame a la oficina parroquial para pedir una papeleta por correo.

SUPPORTING OUR SISTER PARISH:

Caring for creation with the people of Medor

Our mission is to love our sisters and brothers in St. Joseph parish by helping them meet their needs. Our support began nearly three decades ago, first enabling the parish to pay teachers to educate the children. Fifteen years ago, OLQP and our Haitian partners started an agroforestry program so the community could restore fertility to their badly eroded soils. Over time the program spread to ten communities in the 74-mile parish. Last year 3000 farmers received training, crop seeds, tree seedlings, and tools in exchange for tending tree nurseries and participating in work parties. This caring for creation enables farmers to increase their food production and their incomes. By contributing to the HED collection we support caring for the poor in a sustainable way and caring for creation.



APOYANDO A NUESTRA PARROQUIA HERMANA:

Cuidando la creación con las personas de Medor

Nuestra misión es amar a nuestras hermanas y hermanos en la parroquia St. Joseph al ayudarlas a cubrir sus necesidades. Nuestro apoyo empezó hace casi tres décadas, primero ayudando a la parroquia a pagarles a las maestras y maestros a educar a los estudiantes. Hace quince años, OLQP y nuestras compañeras y compañeros haitianos empezaron un programa agroforestal para que la comunidad pudiera restaurar la fertilidad a sus terrenos muy erosionados. Con el tiempo el programa se extendió a diez comunidades en las 74 millas de la parroquia. El año pasado 3000 agricultores recibieron entrenamiento, semillas para las cosechas, plántulas de árboles y herramientas a cambio de cuidar viveros de árboles y participar en grupos de trabajo. Este cuidado de la creación les permite a los agricultores que aumenten su producción de cosechas y sus ingresos. Al contribuir a la colecta de Cuaresma para Haití apoyamos el cuidado de las personas pobres de una manera sostenible y de la creación.

SPRING 2026 E-CARE

The spring 2026 Environmental Collection and Recycling (E-CARE) event is happening Saturday, March 28, from 8:30am to 3pm, rain or shine, at Wakefield High School (1325 S. Dinwiddie St). This free, biannual event allows Arlington residents to safely dispose of household hazardous materials and old electronics. Small metal items will also be accepted. See link for details: [Arlington County](#)

E-CARE DE LA PRIMAVERA 2026

El evento de la primavera del 2026, Recolección y reciclaje ambiental (E-CARE), se va a celebrar el sábado, 28 de marzo de 8:30am a 3pm, llueva o haga sol, en Wakefield High School (1325 S. Dinwiddie St). Este evento gratis y semestral, les permite a personas que viven en Arlington que se deshagan de artículos domésticos peligrosos y de aparatos electrónicos viejos. También se aceptan artículos pequeños de metal. Vea el enlace para obtener detalles: [Arlington County](#)

OLIVEWOOD HANDMADE CARVINGS, Mar 21-22

On the weekend of **March 21-22** a display of beautiful olivewood handmade carvings from the Holy Land will be setup in Fr. Ray Hall. These Carvings are made by the Christians of Bethlehem who use them as their source of income. During the difficult time in the Holy Land, Bethlehem is still isolated and suffering. Tourism has completely stopped for the past two years. Most Christians in Bethlehem have no jobs and no support for their families, they are living in constant fear. Christians in the Holy Land used to be more than **37%** of the population. There is less than **1%** now. As Christians of faith, please support our brothers and sisters in Bethlehem. You can support them by purchasing some of these beautiful carvings after Mass. For more information, please contact us at 202-302-5889 or visit www.BethlehemCarvings.org. Thank you in advance for all your help and support!

**TALLADOS HECHOS A MANO DE MADERA DE OLIVO,
21-22 de marzo**

El fin de semana del **21 y 22 de marzo**, vamos a tener una exhibición en Fr. Ray Hall de unos bellos tallados de madera de olivo de la Tierra Santa hechos a mano. Las personas cristianas de Belén hacen estos tallados para ganarse la vida. Belén, durante estos momentos difíciles en la Tierra Santa, todavía está aislada y sigue sufriendo. En los últimos dos años no ha habido turismo. La mayoría de las personas cristianas en Belén no tienen trabajo ni manera de mantener a sus familias. Las personas viven en un miedo constante. Este grupo solía ser el **37%** de la población. Ahora hay menos de **1%**. Como personas cristianas de fe, por favor apoyen a nuestras hermanas y hermanos en Belén. Pueden apoyarlas comprando algunos de estos tallados después de Misa. Para obtener más información, por favor contáctenos llamando al 202-302-5889 o visitando www.BethlehemCarvings.org. ¡Gracias por anticipado por toda su ayuda y apoyo!

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



Our Lenten series continues Friday, March 13, with 6:00pm daily Mass in the church, followed by a modest meal in Fr. Ray Hall. Our speaker this week is Deacon Antonio Remedios who will discuss his National Catholic Reporter article on Lent beginning at 7:00pm.

MESSAGE from the OLQP PARISH LIBRARY: A variety of Lenten resources are available to borrow. Feel free to browse the display and follow the self-checkout instructions. March 8, during coffee hour after the Sunday morning Masses, the Library will have carts of free books to browse in Fr. Ray Hall. These items include duplicates from the Library collection, and other donations. Look for the book carts labeled Free Books. One book cart will have a shelf of Spanish language books. Help find these books a new home!

ENVIRONMENTAL BOOK DISCUSSION

Does the climate crisis make you feel hopeless? Join the Integrity of Creation ministry for a discussion of the book "Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World" by Katherine Hayhoe, who is both a devout Christian and the Chief Scientist of The Nature Conservancy. We will meet to discuss the book in the Parish library on Wednesday, May 13 at 7:00pm. All are welcome! Email Dan Herrera (herrerawildlife@gmail.com) for more information.

LENTEN CALENDAR THEME is "Healthy People, Healing Planet"

This week's theme is "Praying for those experiencing climate grief and climate anxiety". A recent survey found that two thirds of US adults are somewhat or extremely anxious about the impact of climate change on the planet and on their mental health.

Here are some tips to lower that anxiety:

Acknowledge your emotions. It's OK to be concerned about what is happening. *Grow in your awareness of others.* Find people who feel similar emotions and extend empathy and compassion. *Take action.* Even small actions can reduce anxiety and helplessness. Individuals can give up meat a few times a week or engage in community actions like a park clean up or even a march to raise awareness. Action helps you feel like a part of the solution. *Spend time in nature.* Experience how God's creation can take care of you and refresh you. Whisper prayers and rest gently in nature's compassion for all life, including yours. (See full message on Day 12 of the calendar.)

From the Integrity of Creation Team

Lenten Care Creation Calendar 2026

[Click here to download the calendar](#)

Or pick up a copy from the back of church.

ALL FEDERAL WORKERS: Join "Fed Up" for community building and concrete suggestions for job searches and resumes on Tuesday, March 24, from 7-9pm. The gathering will be held in Father Ray Hall Library.

ADVOCATES for JUSTICE

Advocates Unite! Together, we can continue to uplift the values of justice, dignity and solidarity in Virginia, and build a better world for all God's creatures. This is the final week of the 2026 Virginia General Assembly, and we pilgrims are about mid-way through our 2026 Lenten Journey. State legislators continue their work on behalf of all Virginians. And we pilgrims continue our Lenten work of prayer, fasting and almsgiving and our discipleship in action on behalf of all Virginians.

In Richmond, elected Members are doing the critical work of developing a balanced budget as required by law to be finalized and adopted by June 30.

Since the Senate-passed version of the budget differs from the House-passed version, conferees are chosen to negotiate and compromise on a final version to present in each chamber for a vote, and ultimately to the Governor for adoption. Budget conferees from each chamber have begun the crucial work of divvying up the limited pot of money among *many* competing needs. Some of what's at stake includes: support for families and children, education, environmental issues, food security, health care access, housing, criminal justice, and more. The Commonwealth Institute for Fiscal Analysis is a trusted source for nonpartisan information, analysis and tracking of the development of the Virginia state budget at this link <https://thecommonwealthinstitute.org/budget-revenue/>. VPAP.org will also carry nonpartisan budget development information as the conferees work. Many nonprofit organizations supporting key economic issues are posting priorities and impacts of the budget.

Following the money is an important component of advocates working for justice for all Virginians. Advocacy pilgrims ought to send a note or make a call to their elected Member in the Senate and in the House and plead for moral clarity and decision-making that aligns with our Catholic Christian values. Next Saturday, March 14 concludes the 2026 General Assembly. There is still time to be an *Advocate for Justice* and cry out full-throated on behalf of all Virginians.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICE: LEARNING CIRCLE

Restorative practices encourage a multiplicity of voices in the process of discernment, building relationships and responding to conflict. These practices, adapted from Restorative Justice work, can be formative for communities of faith and are powerful resources in dialogue with neighbors and the world beyond our walls.

On Sunday, March 15, 2:30pm - 4:30pm, join OLQP's Restorative Practice Ministry, the Interfaith Restorative Practice Network, and other learners in an instructional restorative circle as we explore and encourage the use of restorative practices in our faith communities. Perfect for those who are new to Circle process, and would like to understand and experience restorative practice.

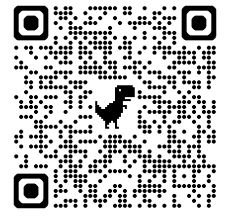
We hope that the circle will include broad representation of a diverse community, including diversity of faith traditions. Registration is free, and limited to 20 participants. To Register: - <https://forms.gle/DfH6BDyWEg1u5EW17>

For more information: Michele Chang, rise2gthr@gmail.com

Our Lady Queen of Peace 2026 Parish Advisory Board (PAB) Election

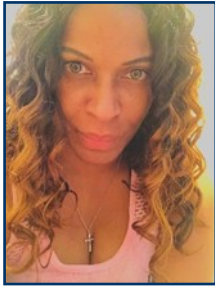
The PAB Election is being held the weekends of March 7-8 and March 14-15.

You can use a paper ballot at Mass, or “go green” and vote online from Saturday, March 7 at 4:00 pm thru Sunday, March 15 at 7:30 pm. Vote online [here](#) or by scanning this QR code with your smartphone camera: →



Vote for up to SIX (6) candidates.

We Invite You to Meet the Candidates:



Nishia Cairo

(Idanishia, go by nickname Nishia) My husband and I have been married for 25 years and we have 3 children. We have lived all over the world. After serving in the Air Force, my family and I discovered this awesome parish community OLQP in 2019. We all gravitated to OLQP because we immediately felt like it was home. All the characteristics that I strive to display such as being a loving and caring person I felt in OLQP. I love that the parish is committed to making our community better and helping those that are marginalized. I also like how diverse OLQP parish is. Previously, I served under the Archdiocese for Military as a Reader and led the Catholic youth ministry. Currently, I am a Senior Financial Manager at the Dept of Homeland Security and hold a Master of Arts degree. I also serve on the Fairfax School board HRAC and I am VP for McLean High Boosters. I'd be honored to serve on the OLQP board.

(Idanishia, pero mi apodo es Nishia) Mi esposo y yo hemos estado casados por 25 años y tenemos 3 hijos. Hemos vivido por todo el mundo. Después de servir en la fuerza aérea, mi familia y yo descubrimos esta maravillosa comunidad parroquial, OLQP, en el 2019. Nos atrajo OLQP porque inmediatamente sentimos que era nuestro hogar. En OLQP sentí todas las características que aspiro a demostrar como ser una persona cariñosa y bondadosa. Me encanta que la parroquia se compromete a ser una mejor comunidad y a ayudar a las personas marginadas. También me gusta la diversidad que hay en

OLQP. Anteriormente, serví bajo la Arquidiócesis para las fuerzas armadas como lectora y dirigí el ministerio de jóvenes católicos.

Actualmente, soy una directora financiera senior en el departamento de Homeland Security y cursé una Maestría en Artes. También sirvo en el Consejo escolar de Fairfax School HRAC y soy vicepresidenta de McLean High Boosters. Me sentiría honrada de servir en la junta de OLQP.



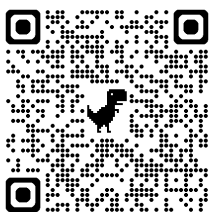
John Graykowski

I have been a member of the OLQP community since 1994. What struck me about OLQP then remains true today; OLQP embodies the meaning of

community, family and the essential lessons found in the Gospel for serving others. Over the years, I have been on the breakfast crew, food pantry, Thanksgiving dinner distribution, lector ministry, Mass coordinator, and my wife, Mary Kelley, is an Altar Server at the 6:00 pm Mass. I am an attorney, retired from federal and Congressional service and continue as a consultant to the maritime industry. OLQP is truly an exceptional, vibrant and wonderful community that has such a tangible and important impact on so many lives. We are blessed with our clergy, staff and congregation, and it would be an honor to serve OLQP as a member of the Parish Advisory Board.

He pertenecido a la comunidad de OLQP desde el 1994. Lo que me impresionó de OLQP entonces fue lo que todavía es verdad hoy día – OLQP encarna el significado de comunidad, familia y las lecciones

Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz 2026 Parish Advisory Board (PAB) elección



La elección de la Junta consultora de la parroquia va a ser los fines de semana del 7-8 de marzo y del 14-15 de marzo. Usted puede usar esta boleta o votar en línea empezando el sábado, 7 de marzo a las 4:00 pm hasta el domingo, 15 de marzo a las 7:30 pm. El enlace va a estar disponible en [Vota aquí](#) o puede escanear este código QR con la cámara de su teléfono inteligente:

Les invitamos a conocer a las candidatas y candidatos:

básicas para servir a los demás que se encuentran en el Evangelio. A través de los años, he sido miembro del equipo de desayunos, la despensa de alimentos, la distribución de la comida del día de Acción de Gracias, lector, coordinador de Misas y mi esposa, Mary Kelley, es monaguilla en la Misa de las 6:00 pm. Soy abogado retirado del servicio federal y congresional y continúo siendo consultor en la industria marítima.

OLQP verdaderamente es una comunidad excepcional, vibrante y maravillosa que tiene un impacto tangible e importante en muchas vidas. Somos bendecidas y bendecidos con nuestro clero, personal y congregación y sería un honor para mí servir a OLQP como miembro de la Junta Consultora de la parroquia.



Milagros Lovo

We have been coming to OLQP since the 1990s, after my mom and my aunts invited us to join them. The feeling of attending that first mass is something I will never forget. I felt like I was back in Peru again. Everything felt so familiar and welcoming. OLQP offered a very sincere way of preaching the word of the Lord and they are a true

reflection of what St. Matthew stands for. We have had the opportunity to watch our children grow at OLQP for the past 30 years. I was a member of the Parish Advisory Board and I gave classes in baptism preparation.

My husband and I gave classes in marriage preparation in Spanish. Currently, I am a Lector and a Eucharist Minister. I am always eager to offer my services to OLQP and it would be an honor to serve this amazing parish and community.

Hemos estado viniendo a OLQP desde los años 90, después que mi mamá y mis tías nos invitaron a unirnos a ellas. Lo que sentí cuando asistí a la primera Misa es algo que nunca olvidaré. Sentí que estaba en Perú de nuevo. Todo me pareció muy familiar y acogedor. OLQP ofreció una manera muy sincera de predicar la palabra del Señor y es una verdadera reflexión de lo que San Mateo representa. En los últimos 30 años hemos tenido la oportunidad de ver a nuestras hijas e hijos crecer en OLQP. Fui miembro de la Junta consultora de la parroquia y di clases de preparación para el bautismo. Mi esposo y yo dimos clases de preparación matrimonial en español. Actualmente soy lectora y ministro de la Eucaristía. Siempre estoy dispuesta a ofrecer mis servicios a OLQP y sería un honor servir a esta increíble comunidad parroquial.



Shiela Harmon Martin

Since 1989, I have been a member of OLQP, and my 37 years of membership have been integral to my commitment to social justice and discipleship. I have served five (5) times on the PAB, and as a Lector, Eucharist minister, member of Ujamaa and Matthew 25 Ministries.

Under my previous POB leadership, the

history of OLQP was update and a CD “We’ve Come This Far By Faith” produced. I am presently a Professor Emerita of Political Science, after 49 years of service at the University of the District of Columbia. Paraphrasing Luke 12:48 “Great gifts mean great responsibility. When God has blessed you with greater gifts, he expects you to use them to serve him and the greater community.” The opportunity to, once again, serve OLQP, as a member of the PAB, will be both God’s gift and my responsibility.

He pertenecido a OLQP desde el 1989 y mis 37 años de membresía han sido parte esencial de mi compromiso a la justicia social y el discipulado. He servido cinco (5) veces en la PAB, y como lectora, ministro eucarístico, miembro de los ministerios Ujamaa y Mateo 25. Durante mi previo liderazgo en la PAB, la historia de OLQP se actualizó y se produjo un CD titulado “We’ve Come This Far By Faith”. Actualmente soy una profesora emérita de ciencias políticas, después de 49 años de servicio en la Universidad del Distrito de Columbia. Parafraseando Lucas 12:48, “A quien mucho se le da, también se le pedirá mucho. Cuando Dios ha bendecido a alguien con muchos dones, él espera que los usen para servirlo y servir a la comunidad mayor”. La oportunidad para otra vez servir a OLQP como miembro de la PAB será un don de Dios como también mi responsabilidad.



Joe Martocci

My family has been blessed to be part of the OLQP community for over sixteen years. I was honored to serve as one of your representatives to the PAB for the years 2018 through and including 2021. (As per Parish rules I did not seek another term on the

Board in 2022.) I was a candidate on the election for the past term and was, unfortunately, unsuccessful.

I have assisted on the Parish Directory Committee, the Labor Day Picnic Committee, am a Eucharistic Minister and was a consistent attendee at Theology on Tap.

Outside the Parish I am president of the Lorton Heritage Society and make any and all attempts to further the growth of a compassionate mindset in our political and spiritual communities. I would appreciate your support of my candidacy for a seat on the PAB to assist Father Tim as he guides us on our spiritual journey.

Mi familia ha sido bendecida al ser parte de la comunidad de OLQP por más de dieciséis años. Recibí el honor de servir como uno de los representantes en la PAB del 2018 hasta el 2021. (Debido a las reglas de la parroquia no busqué servir otro término en la Junta en el 2022.) Fui un candidato en la última elección, pero desafortunadamente no tuve éxito.

He ayudado en el comité del Directorio de la parroquia, el comité del picnic del día del trabajo, soy un ministro de la Eucaristía y asistí habitualmente a Theology on Tap.

Fuera de la parroquia soy presidente del Lorton Heritage Society y trato por todos los medios de fomentar el crecimiento de una mentalidad compasiva en nuestras comunidades políticas y espirituales. Yo apreciaría su apoyo de mi candidatura para un puesto en la PAB para ayudar al Padre Tim al él guiarnos en nuestra jornada espiritual.

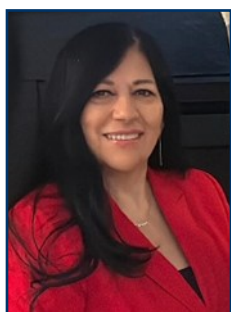


Onyebuchi Lazarus Medani

My Family and I began coming to OLQP in September 2021. We were immediately enveloped with a warm, friendly community that welcomed us. Since then, we have gotten more involved in the parish, first volunteering in the food pantry, then as part of the Children’s Liturgy of the Word. My family serves in different capacities in the

church – my wife as part of EMHC and my two kids as altar servers. When not at OLQP, I work as a dispatch for a courier company at Fairfax. I spend my spare time with family, catching up on the daily activities or taking the kids to after-school activities, including soccer and swimming. I am so grateful for the relationships I have formed within our parish community and have been inspired by several outreach projects by the Parish. I will be honored to serve on the board of such a wonderful parish.

Mi familia y yo empezamos a venir a OLQP en septiembre 2021. Inmediatamente nos rodeó una comunidad calurosa y amistosa que nos dio la bienvenida. Desde entonces, nos hemos envuelto más en la parroquia. Primero fuimos voluntarios en la Despensa de alimentos, después como parte de la Liturgia de la Palabra para las niñas y niños. Mi familia sirve en la iglesia de diferentes formas – mi esposa como parte de EMHC y mis dos hijos como servidores del altar. Cuando no estoy en OLQP, trabajo como despachador para una compañía de mensajería en Fairfax. Paso mi tiempo libre con la familia, poniéndome al día con las actividades del día o llevando a los niños a las actividades después de las clases, que incluyen soccer y natación. Agradezco mucho las relaciones que he formado en la comunidad parroquial y varios proyectos de alcance por la parroquia. Me sentiré honrado de servir en la junta de una parroquia tan maravillosa.



Melvyn Mendez

Born and raised in Guatemala, I began my journey with Our Queen of Peace on a Good Friday in 1990, when my family and I immigrated to the United States. From the moment we arrived, we were warmly welcomed by the community, who embraced us with open arms. Currently, I am honored to serve as a first communion

teacher, guiding young children in their faith journey and helping them prepare for this sacred sacrament. Outside of my involvement in the church, I am a dedicated real estate

agent and a proud full-time grandmother. Given my deep commitment and passion for our church, I would be humbled and honored to serve on the advisory board, contributing my knowledge, experience, and dedication to the betterment of our community.

Nací y me crié en Guatemala y empecé mi jornada en Nuestra Reina de la Paz un Viernes Santo en 1990 cuando mi familia y yo inmigramos a los Estados Unidos. Desde el momento que llegamos, la comunidad nos dio una calurosa bienvenida, que nos recibió con los brazos abiertos. Actualmente, me siento honrada de servir como maestra de Primera comunión, guiando a niñas y niños en su jornada de fe y ayudándolos a prepararse para este sacramento sagrado. Fuera de mi participación en la iglesia, soy una dedicada agente de bienes raíces y una orgullosa abuela a tiempo completo. Dado mi profundo compromiso y pasión por nuestra iglesia, me sentiré honrada y humilde de servir en la Junta consultora, contribuyendo mis conocimientos, experiencia y dedicación para el mejoramiento de nuestra comunidad.



Mark Smith

I’ve been active in OLQP since about 1986, though there was a hiatus of about 15 years. I’ve served on the Parish Advisory Board and the Social Justice Committee in the 1990’s and taught Children’s Liturgy of the Word in the early 2000’s. All

during that time, I’ve served as a lector, which I find an amazing calling. OLQP is my spiritual home not only because of the caliber of the priestly leaders, but the active, involved, caring parishioners that make up our community. Newly retired, I have time to serve on the PAB. I previously worked as a civil servant at the US Dept. of Agriculture and am familiar with most of the Department’s programs (e.g., Supplemental Food Assistance Program, organic marketing, meat safety, invasive species). I would be honored to serve on the PAB and would apply insights from my long history in the parish and outside expertise. *He sido un miembro activo en OLQP desde alrededor del 1986, aunque hubo una pausa de alrededor de 15 años. He servido en la PAB y en el comité de Justicia social en la década de los 1990 y enseñé la Liturgia de la palabra para las niñas y niños a principio de la década del 2000. Durante todo ese tiempo, he servido de lector, lo que considero una vocación increíble. OLQP es mi hogar espiritual no solo por el calibre de los líderes sacerdotales, sino los feligreses activos, comprometidos y solidarios que forman la comunidad. Recién retirado, tengo tiempo de servir en la PAB. Antes trabajé como funcionario público en el Departamento de agricultura y estoy familiarizado con la mayoría de los programas del departamento (por ejemplo, el de Supplemental Food Assistance, mercadeo ecológico, seguridad alimentaria de la carne, especies invasoras). Sería un honor para mí servir en la PAB y aportaría los conocimientos adquiridos a lo largo de mi larga historia en la parroquia y experiencia externa.*

Helping Our Medor Family

Our mission is to support sustainable, community-based development in partnership with our twin parish, St Joseph of Medor, Haiti.

Your prayers and gifts enable St Joseph parish and its partners to strengthen their community.

DESPITE THE TRAGIC VIOLENCE AND POVERTY IN HAITI GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN MEDOR

TEACHING THE NEXT GENERATION



- **2,400** students study in the parish's five primary schools and one secondary school, with equal numbers of girls and boys, creating new opportunities.
- Parish schools employ **130** teachers and staff, who educate tomorrow's workforce and inspire students to broaden their horizons.
- **11** college graduates who completed secondary school in Medor now serve their community- four teachers, two agronomists, two management interns, a nurse, a microcredit agent, and a veterinarian.

PROTECTING THE LAND AND INCREASING INCOMES

- **3,000** farmers in ten communities received training, crop seeds, tree seedlings, and tools, earned by maintaining nurseries and participating in work parties called *kombits* in 2025.
- These farmers learned improved farming and forestry techniques in **41** training workshops last year, with an average of **38** male and female farmers participating in each.
- Farmers planted **162,500** tree seedlings on their plots and eroded hills last year. They planted over to **1.6 million** trees since 2010. The estimated overall survival rate is **65%**.



HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

1. Donate online at <https://giving.myparishsoft.io//app/giving/FD-271>
2. Mail a check made out to OLQP with Haiti in the memo line to OLQP office
3. Place check (made out to OLQP with Haiti in the memo line) or cash in the Haiti box at the church entry)



Catholic University Professor, Catholic Diocese of Arlington Uncovering History of Brent Cemetery, Seeking Descendants of Family, Enslaved Persons

When Diocese of Arlington officials reached out to Catholic University Anthropology Professor Laura Masur they were seeking to answer a question.

Was a large rectangular anomaly that appeared in a magnetometry and GPR (ground-penetrating radar) survey of a 17th-century family cemetery in Aquia, Va., the foundations of a building, maybe even a colonial Catholic chapel? The cemetery had been established by the George Brent family, influential Catholics in colonial Virginia.

Masur, an assistant professor at The Catholic University of America, is a national expert on the archaeology of Catholic churches, cemeteries, and plantations in the Mid-Atlantic region and on the contributions of enslaved persons to American society and the Catholic Church. She led a team of students on a site dig to the Brent Cemetery in March 2025.

Their work wasn't the first undertaken at the site, which has been owned by the Diocese of Arlington since 1974. The diocese has facilitated research and restoration over several decades to conserve the sacred burial ground and better understand the history of those buried there.

This included an investigation by the Archaeological Society of Virginia between 1995 and 2002 that identified the location of the 17th-century Brent residence and uncovered evidence of a strong Indigenous presence dating back thousands of years. The goal of the GPR survey, undertaken in October 2022, was to better establish the cem-

etry boundaries.

The Catholic University team did not discover an historic building in the area of their dig, within a century-old brick wall that surrounds the family cemetery. Instead, they found fieldstone grave markers and depressions that had been buried by a flood deposit more than 70 years ago.

A fieldstone or simple wooden cross is a common marker for graves of people who did not have much money, including those who were enslaved. The 1694 will of George Brent identified 25 enslaved persons.

"This new information expanded our understanding of the burial history of the site," Masur said.

Masur's research, undertaken in close collaboration with the Diocese of Arlington, is now focused on developing the history, which includes identifying the persons who lived and are buried at the site.

The 2022 GPR survey identified 60 burial sites and possibly as many as 88, many of them unmarked. Prior archaeological digs between 1995 and 2002 also identified unmarked graves both inside the brick wall and on a slope outside the wall that leads down toward a swampy area.

Next Step is Locating Descendants

Masur and the Diocese are now working to identify descendants of those buried on the Aquia, Va., land owned by George Brent in the 17th centu-

ry, so they are part of the dialogue about how to move forward.

"Working with the Diocese of Arlington, we want to honor all those buried at the site, including members of the Brent family and the people that they held in bondage. That includes seeking their descendants and engaging in a dialogue about how to memorialize the burial ground," Masur said.

Evidence indicates that most burials date to the period of ca. 1670-1775. The Brent family owned the land until 1841, but there is no evidence the cemetery was used after the 18th century.

Masur and the Diocese are seeking records, family trees, and oral histories that may help identify descendants of the Brents and those they enslaved.

The Brent family included many notable members, including Robert Brent, the first mayor of the District of Columbia. The family intermarried over the years with members of the Carroll, Young, Digges, Neale, Mason and Bayly families of Maryland and Virginia.

"As we have found at other sites in this region, it is likely that the descendants of people enslaved by the family could have those names, as well," Masur said.

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Diocesan Press Releases

<https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/>

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact Laura Masur at masur@cua.edu or Lindsay Alukonis, diocesan archivist, at Lindsay.Alukonis@arlingtondiocese.org.