



Dear Parishioners,

This week's column includes Part II of Father Korpi's reflection on **Faces of Poverty** which was written as part of a class on Social Justice. As we prepare ourselves during this season of Lent, let us remember all of the poor and troubled not only in D.C. Haiti and Japan, but worldwide.

Have a good week!



## **Faces of Poverty, Part 2**

**Deacon Bill Korpi**

In 2003 I met another woman named Pat, the second person in my **Faces of Poverty** story. A woman came to our parish office to tell us that there was a woman living in her car parked next to the Safeway grocery store. She apparently had been seen there for at least a couple weeks and the visitor, a parishioner, was concerned. She had observed and judged, but had decided that her ACTION would consist of telling the Church that we should "do something" about this situation. A woman living in her car in affluent Fairfax County was, obviously, NOT as invisible as the poor who lived on the streets of DC. Gathering up two female staff members, we went to investigate the situation. I will try to be brief in recounting Pat's story but to still make the point.

Pat was afraid of us as we approached her car, even in the broad daylight. We carefully coaxed her into talking to us and, eventually, letting us give her help. She told us that she had been in the car for over two months. She smelled badly and had not taken her shoes off the whole time. She told us that she lived nearby and was separated from her husband and family and, oddly enough, was a parishioner of our Church. She had taught religious education classes (just like ME) and claimed to have powerful friends. She claimed to know the President of the United States, powerful Senators and Congressmen, and significant Church leaders. She cited, in particular, Cardinal Cushing and Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

In my years of dealing with homeless persons, I have encountered many of them suffering from delusion and other mental illnesses. My experience taught me to observe and judge and I saw such a case before me. We talked her into going along with the women who were with me to the Rectory where she was able to shower and dress in clean clothes. They took her shopping and we all took her to a foot doctor because her feet were so injured from being in the shoes for so long. We took her to a local hotel that takes in homeless people (we paid her expenses and for meals for a few days). She agreed to let us take her car to the parish for cleaning.

Time for the next surprise. A group of teenagers was called to come clean out the car, which was quite a difficult and unpleasant job. They tackled it with enthusiasm and we were made proud by their spirit. One of the boys came into my office and said: "Deacon, I think you better see this." He held in his hand a thick photo album. As we, myself and the women who had by now formed the "PAT" group, looked through the album we were shocked to see the pictures. There were pictures of Pat and President Clinton; with the current Speaker of the House; with Senator Ted Kennedy and with other well known dignitaries. There was a picture of Pat that was a few years older taken with Cardinal Cushing from Boston. Most surprising of all, was a picture of Pat - - driving the very car our teenagers were cleaning out - - and chauffeuring her very recognizable passenger, Mother Teresa of Calcutta. By now, we knew that we were dealing with a

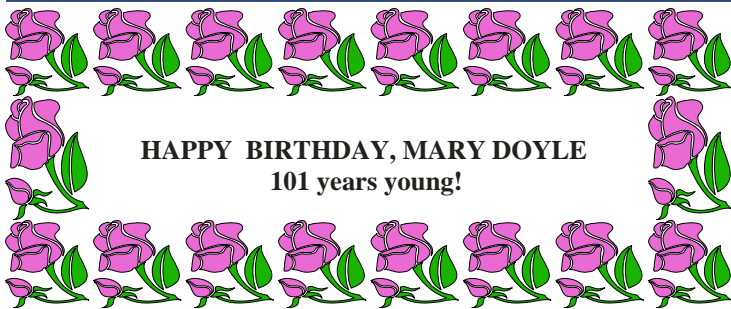
very unusual case and that the issue of Pat being delusional was over.

Our interaction with Pat went on for over two months. In all, our parish invested over seven thousand (that's THOUSAND) dollars in rehabilitating her situation. We paid back taxes on the car, helped purchase current license plates and insurance, and provided housing for her. During this period we learned that Pat had come into this situation by diving head first into a bottle (of alcohol). We insisted that she enroll and attend AA meetings and she seemed to be improving. It wasn't very long before we began to suspect that she was drinking again, although she vigorously denied it.

Observing (her behaviors) and judging left little doubt in our minds. After investing so much in terms of time and money in her rehabilitation and listening to the advice of her AA counselor, we decided to encourage her to engage in her own life. We provided her with ample funds to get her back to Boston (where she said she wanted to go) and bid her farewell. She expressed her gratitude and promised to "pay us back everything" one day. In a very direct manner, I confronted her with our suspicion of her drinking and she again denied it. It was then that I told her that the only way I wanted her to pay us back was to NOT park her car in front of OUR Safeway when she moved back into it the next time. She left with a sad look on her face and I have no idea what happened to her after that. She has never contacted anyone in the parish and I have every reason to believe that she is NOT living happily ever after.

This has been a story of two women: Ruth and Pat. One received a handout of \$7.82; the other in excess of Seven thousand dollars. One life was turned around by the sheer determination and will of a woman who had spent her entire life in a ghetto. The other, a person of connections to power and money, but lacking strength of will, probably turned out not so well. Both women educated us. Both women taught us the value of the lessons learned from Blessed John XXIII. Observe, judge, and act! Trust your instincts, but be OPEN to the movement of the Spirit. This is also a story of Mike H. He taught me the value of "getting off the couch"! I have done my best to tell these stories and others as often as my ministry allows, so that others may share the experience and, hopefully, be motivated to mission. That we may all learn to recognize that "there is one (are many) among you whom we do not know."

Ruth, with then Deacon Korpi, holding her "license" to work.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARY DOYLE**  
101 years young!



### THE LIGHT IS ON

During Lent confessions will be heard on **Wednesday March 23rd and March 30th, April 6th and 13th from 6:30 to 8:00pm. A Lenten Penance Service** will be held on **Tuesday, April 12th at 7:30pm.**

### Parish Prayer List

**Please remember, in your prayers, the sick of our Parish Community:**

Sean Ballard; Sarah Buckley; Patricia Dolan;  
Missy Jones; Hayfa Kirma; Lois Lambert;  
Peter McCourt; Lynn Penley; Pat Perry;  
Michelle Roggenbeck; Claudia Wolf

**For our deceased relatives and friends and especially for all who have recently died:**  
Rebecca Bass, Cousin of Robin Florence; Daniel Kilian

We also ask that you pray for our military men and women and their families. May God keep them safe and out of harms way.

**HOW IS YOUR HEARING?**

This Second week of Lent, we continue with our check-up by looking into just how well we “hear”, or more appropriately how well we “listen”. In the first reading, Abram “listened” to the call of the Lord. In the Gospel we hear God confirm Jesus as the “beloved Son” to whom all must **listen**. If we follow these directions, we learn that we cannot stay on the mountain top. Rather we must go back to the world to **LIVE** the gospel. We must be among the people doing the work of Jesus. We must **hear** the sounds of poverty, ignorance, prejudice, injustice, etc. And as much as we are able to, we must address these ills and work to bring about change. It will not be easy, which is why we need the good nourishment and energy which comes from involvement in the Lenten services. So this week, let us all check our hearing and ask ourselves how well are we hearing, and better yet, **listening** to the message of Jesus and are we really responding to his call.



**2011 BISHOP’S LENTEN APPEAL**



The Bishop’s Lenten Appeal is well underway. Please help the work of vocations, Catholic Charities, family life and the other programs carried out by our diocese. Every gift is important; that is why your generosity is vital to the success of the 2011 BLA. If you have already given, we thank you. If you have not yet pledged and wish to do so, envelopes are available in the Church office. Please prayerfully consider Bishop Loverde’s request for support and give generously.

**Let us Place our Gifts at the Service of Others!**

**PRO-LIFE CORNER**



Abortion is the killing of a human person. Every single person aborted is a unique, full and equal human person in a different stage of their life; embryo, fetus, infant, toddler, teen, adult or senior citizen. At every stage it is human life and this life must be defended from conception until natural death.

Through Palm Sunday, April 17, 2011 - 40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil at American Women Services, 8316 Arlington Blvd, Fairfax, VA 22031. Daily 7 AM - 7 PM. Can you pray for 1-2 hours and witness for Life? Details at <http://www.40daysforlife.com/fairfax/>

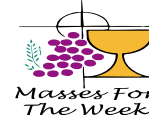
The Nativity Parish contact is Josh Reynolds, 703-470-8978, [josh.reynolds.01@gmail.com](mailto:josh.reynolds.01@gmail.com)

The **GABRIEL PROJECT** supports women who are facing a crisis pregnancy and need help. Contact 1-866-444-3553 or [gabrielproject@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:gabrielproject@arlingtondiocese.org) You are not alone! (Gabriel Project is a crisis pregnancy program open to all and sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Arlington.)

**24-Hour Crisis Pregnancy Hotline: 1-800-395-HELP (4357)**  
**Project Rachel (healing after abortion): 1-888-456-HOPE (4673)**

**Pregnancy Resource Centers Phone Numbers:**

- Catholic Charities National: 1-800-CARE-002
- Catholic Charities Local: 703-425-0100
- A Woman's Choice: 703-538-4305
- Gabriel Project: 1-866-444-3553



**Monday, March 21**

Joy Troncoso 7:30am Fr. Martin

**Tuesday, March 22**

Joan McDonald 7:30am Fr. Martin

**Wednesday, March 23**

Mark Gielecki 7:30am Fr. Martin

**Thursday, March 24**

Nicholas La Croix 7:30am Fr. Korpi

**Friday, March 25**

Henry McArdle 7:30am Fr. Korpi

**Saturday, March 26**

Special Intentions of Owen & Kian Blanchard 9:00am Fr. Korpi  
 Special Intentions of Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hay 5:00pm Fr. Wilson  
 Spanish Mass 7:00pm Fr. Wilson

**Sunday, March 27**

Richard Carroll 7:30am Fr. Korpi  
 Luigi Carini 9:00am Fr. Martin  
 Parishioners 11:00am Fr. Martin  
 Henry P. McArdle 12:45pm Fr. Wilson

The Little Angel Gift Shop has an assortment of First Communion veils. All are handmade, with love, by Natasha Hines. First Communion is April 30th. Hurry and get yours while supplies last.



**Thank you advertisers!**

Each week we will recognize one of our advertisers. Please support them, for without them our Bulletin would not be a success.

**VAN CAFFI PLUMBING & HEATING**  
**703-836-6775**

**Nativity School's Annual Dinner and Auction**

Our school's largest annual fundraiser, Lights! Camera! Auction! will be held the evening of **April 2, 2011.....**

6:30pm – 10:30pm at the Country Club of Fairfax, Fairfax, VA. We invite all adult parishioners to attend and enjoy a night of fun and excitement; all proceeds benefit Nativity Catholic School. Tickets for the event are \$50.00 payable in advance and can be purchased after Masses the weekend of March 12th -13th or at the school office. Your ticket price includes, a sumptuous selection of hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, full dinner buffet, drink ticket, entertaining and competitive games and silent auction and the always exciting live auction. The funds raised in our silent and live auctions support the students, teachers, and staff with assemblies, technology in the classrooms, outreach programs and many more activities.

**For more information** on attending the event, to make a donation of an item or service or if you are interested in being a sponsor, please contact Bridget Spencer at (916) 595-2570 or [bridgetmspencer@gmail.com](mailto:bridgetmspencer@gmail.com).

Thank you in advance for your support and generosity.

***"I came for the cookies, but I found love and Jesus."***

Be a part of the flame that draws souls to Christ. Bake cookies for the women's KAIROS prison retreat scheduled for this Fall at Fluvanna Women's Prison beginning April 6, 2011. This gift of love requires a lot of cookies – about 4,000 dozen for each retreat. Each team member is responsible for bringing 100 dozen home made cookies for the weekend.



The types of cookies needed are: Oatmeal, Peanut Butter, Sugar, Cinnamon, Ginger, Molasses, Chocolate, and Chocolate Chip. Cookies should be 2 inches in diameter and not more than 1/2 inch thick. No icing, sugar, sprinkles or any other type of coating on the outside. No nuts, raisins, fruits, or M&M's on the inside.

**Packing the Cookies**

Bag thoroughly cooled cookies in a **Quart-Sized Zip Lock bag, 12 to a bag**. Please use **only** a quart-Sized Zip Lock Bag. If you fail to cool your cookies before bagging them, they will stick together and crumble and may not be admitted into the prison. Label each bag with the type of cookie. Freeze all cookies if not delivering within 3 days of the start of the retreat.

For recipes and information about KAIROS, visit the KAIROS Buckingham web site -

<http://kairos-bkcc.org/sites/default/files/documents/KairosCookiesBrochure35.pdf> or call Diane Bayne 703-763-7230

Please place your cookies in the kitchen opposite the church office or give them to a staff member. **Final pickup for the Fluvanna weekend is April 5.**



**THE WEEK AHEAD  
IN OUR PARISH**

**Sunday, March 20**

2:00, 4:00 & 6:00 pm ..... CCD (S)  
2:00 pm.....Baptisms (CH)

**Monday, March 21**

9:30 am.....Prayer Shawl Ministry (APR)  
4:00 & 7:00 pm.....CCD (S)  
6:30 to 7:30 pm.....Lenten Soup Supper (PH)  
8:00 pm.....AA Meeting (APR)

**Tuesday, March 22**

9:30 am.....Bible Study (APR)  
4:30 & 7:00 pm.....CCD (S)  
7:30 pm.....Legion of Mary (APR)

**Wednesday, March 23**

10:00 am.....Mom & Me (APR)  
7:00 pm.....Hispanic Prayer Group (SC)  
7:00 pm.....ESL (Room 5)  
7:00 pm.....RCIA (PH)  
7:00 pm.....RCIC (Room 4,6)  
7:00 pm.....Prayer Shawl Ministry (APR)  
7:00 pm.....JustFaith (GR)  
7:30 pm.....Youth Choir (Room 2)

**Thursday, March 24**

9:30 am.....Craft Group (APR)  
6:30 pm.....Hispanic Lenten Retreat (PH)  
7:00 pm.....Spanish Class (Room 2)  
7:00 pm.....ESL (Room 5)  
7:30 pm.....Prayer Group (APR, Room 7,8,SL,SC)  
7:30 pm.....Adult Choir Practice (CH)

**Friday, March 25**

6:45 pm.....Family Fellowship Group (PH)  
7:30 pm.....Stations of the Cross (CH)  
8:30 pm.....Hispanic Stations of the Cross (CH)

**Saturday, March 26**

10:00 am.....Dog Obedience Class (PL)  
10:00 am.....ESL (Rooms 5, 6, 7, 8)  
5:00 pm.....Hispanic CYO (Room 4)  
5:00 pm.....Hispanic CCD (S)

***Thought for the Week:***

Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow. It empties today of its strength.

Corrie Ten Boom



### Religious Education News

Confirmation students and sponsors/proxies *must attend practice* on **Saturday, March 26**, in the church: **Group I** from 10:00am-11:30am; **Group II** from 12:00pm-1:30pm.

Confirmation students will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on **Sunday, March 27: Group I** at 3:00pm; **Group II** at 7:30pm.

**Religious Education classes cancelled on Sunday, March 27, only**, due to Nativity's Confirmation Celebrations. Classes on Monday, March 28, and Tuesday, March 29, will be held as usual.

**First Communicants must attend** the JESUS DAY RETREAT on Saturday, April 9, 8:00am-12:30pm in the parish hall.

**Seventh Grade Students and Parents are to attend an important information meeting on Wednesday, April 6, at 7:00pm in the church** regarding Confirmation requirements.

**Student Registration for 2011-2012 is now open.** Class placement is on a first-come, first-served basis according to the date the registration form is received in the Religious Education Office. Return a completed Student Registration form with payment as soon as possible to increase the chance of placement in your first choice session. **Important: registrations will not be processed without a copy of a student's baptismal certificate included with the form (including students baptized at Nativity)** unless the baptismal certificate is already on file in the Religious Education Office. Forms are available in the Religious Education Office, on the community board in the church vestibule, and at website: [www.edu.nativityburke.org](http://www.edu.nativityburke.org); on the Nativity CCD tab click on Student Registration.

The **Inclement Weather Policy** can be viewed at [www.edu.nativityburke.org](http://www.edu.nativityburke.org); click on Weather Policy.

**PRAYER SHAWL MEETING....**The next daytime meeting will take place in the APR on **Monday, March 21st at 9:30am**. The evening meeting will take place on **Wednesday, March 23rd** at 7:00pm in the APR. Come and bring your project to work on or learn how to make a prayer shawl for someone who is seriously ill. For more information call Toni Rausch, 703-455-3260; Flo Grike, 703-250-7799 or Joanne Dezzutti, 703-455-5702.



**Soups on!!!** Our **Lenten Soup Suppers** are every Monday during Lent in the Parish Hall from 6:30pm-7:30pm. The cost is \$5 per person and \$20 per family. Please help support the teens of Nativity and spread the word.



### High School and Jr. ViBe:

The next Vibe/Jr. **ViBe** meeting will be on March 20th from 7-8:30pm in the APR. See you there!

Stations of the Cross schedule is as follows: Practices will be from 4pm-6pm in the Church on March 20th, 27th, April 3rd and 10th. The performance will be on April 15th. If you are interested in participating please contact Mike Giardina by email or phone.

Email: [Mike.Giardina@mwa.com](mailto:Mike.Giardina@mwa.com) Phone: [703-922-2789](tel:703-922-2789)

Soups on!!! Our Lenten Soup Suppers are every Monday during Lent in the Parish Hall from 6:30pm-7:30pm. The Last Soup Supper will take place on April 18th. The cost is \$5 per person and \$20 per family. Please help support the teens of Nativity and spread the word!

**Get Connected to EWTN News!** Let the Eternal Word Television Network keep you up to date with the latest Catholic current events. Watch the World Over, which brings you exclusive interviews and investigative reports, every Thursday at 8:00pm ET. Explore [www.ewtnnews.com](http://www.ewtnnews.com) and subscribe to receive daily news alerts or for Spanish language Catholic news, visit [ewtnnoticias.com](http://ewtnnoticias.com)

**Annual Multi-Car Raffle** Thank you to those who have already returned their sold tickets. There is still plenty of time to enter the raffle, but don't wait to the last minute. Remember each \$5.00 ticket is a chance to win all five 2011 vehicles from Koons of Manassas (Honda Civic



Hybrid, Honda Accord, GMC Sierra Truck, Honda CRV sport utility and Honda Odyssey Van) plus up to \$20,000 in cash. Thank you for your continued, generous support. If you have any questions or need more tickets to sell,

The Catholic Healing Ministry of the Diocese of Arlington will be Thursday, March 24th at 7:30pm at All Saints, Manassas, VA. For information call 540-347-0809 or visit [www.healingministry.net](http://www.healingministry.net).

PRAY THE ROSARY FOR WORLD PEACE

"God has called us with a holy calling...according to His own purpose and grace." If you think God is offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, call Father Brian Bashista at (703) 841-2514, or write: [b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org).



## OPERATION STARFISH® NEWS

[www.operation-starfish.org](http://www.operation-starfish.org)

### **Fr. Martin Opens 2011 Lenten Starfish Campaign**

Fr. Martin announced the beginning of Nativity's 2011 Lenten Operation Starfish® campaign by speaking at all the masses the weekend of March 12 – 13. His message was one of appreciation for 14 years of compassion and love for our sisters and brothers in Haiti. Since 1998, working through the international charity, Food For The Poor, Inc., Nativity parishioners have developed 6 Nativity Village projects with over 800 houses. Each village includes clean drinking water, sanitation, access to health care and education, and small business development. This year, we will begin our 7<sup>th</sup> Nativity Village, near Cap Haitien, Haiti's second-largest city.

Fr. Martin also provided each Nativity family a “before” and “after” photo of Durova Previl, a mother of 5 whom he met on Nativity's last mission trip to Haiti. He told the story of how Durova was struggling with sick, malnourished children in the slum when he and Nativity parishioners encountered her. With the help of Fr. Duken Augustin and Food For The Poor, Durova and her family were moved into a new house in Nativity Village at Chastenoye just 1 week later. Her life was transformed and the pictures show this. Fr. Martin asked us to keep Durova's picture visible at home as a Lenten meditation.

### **A Penny A Gallon For Starfish**

For the entire month of April, Cardinal Plaza Shell will automatically donate 1 penny to Operation Starfish® for EVERY gallon of gas pumped. That's easy! All you have to do is pump gas. Cardinal Plaza Shell does the rest – 1 penny for every gallon pumped all April. Just think ... pumping gas could build a house for a family in Haiti.

Cardinal Plaza Shell will also donate 5% of any auto repair bill to Operation Starfish® throughout the entire year. Please tell the service desk you're with Nativity Church so 5% of your repair bill can be directed to Starfish.

Cardinal Plaza Shell is conveniently located at the corner of Old Keene Mill Road and Rolling Road in the Giant shopping center – 8334 Old Keene Mill Rd, 703-451-6232.

### **Pane e Vino Wine Dinner Benefit**

Our friends at Pane e Vino Ristorante will be featuring wines from Three Fox Vineyards at a gala wine dinner event on Thursday, March 24 at 6:30 pm. Proceeds will go to Operation Starfish® to build houses in our newest Nativity Village. For more information go to <http://www.panevino-ristorante.com/>. For reservations, call 571-642-0605.

### **Nativity Parishioner Providing Medical Care in Cap Haitien**

Nurse Practitioner Jennifer Schmidt traveled to Haiti on March 12 with a medical team to provide cholera treatment, inoculations, and health care at several area clinics affiliated with the Cap Haitien Health Network. They will also work at Food For The Poor's St. Anthony Health Center, located in Nativity Village at Prolonge. Please keep Jen and her colleagues in your prayers; they return on March 23.

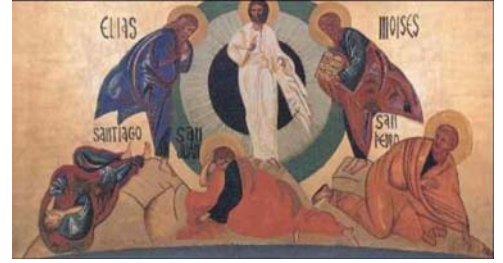
### **High Tea Anyone?**

On Sunday, April 17, Global Woman (<http://www.myglobalwoman.com/>) will host a high tea at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Capitol Hill, Washington, DC. Proceeds will go towards construction of houses in Nativity Village at Chastenoye and towards support of the Little Children of Jesus Home, a Food For The Poor facility caring for handicapped orphans. Nativity parishioners visited Little Children of Jesus on our last mission trip to Haiti. For more information, contact Lina Frank at 571-436-3171, or [lfrank@globalwoman-magazine.com](mailto:lfrank@globalwoman-magazine.com).

For more information on Nativity's Operation Starfish®, contact Jim McDaniel at [seastar2004@msn.com](mailto:seastar2004@msn.com), or call the Church office.

## ¡DIOS EN EL ASFALTO!

2º de cuaresma (A)  
Javier Leoz



Quien dice “sí” a Dios, está emplazado a configurar su vida conforme a la voluntad del Señor. En cuántos momentos hemos sentido el fracaso del mundo y ha sido en la oración, en la reflexión o en la búsqueda de las cimas de la fe donde se ha sentido nuestro corazón sobrecogido, nuestra alma edificada y nuestra existencia más serenada.

1. Ha quedado atrás el primer domingo de la Santa Cuaresma: la lucha entre el bien y el mal. Hoy damos un paso más y, camino hacia Jerusalén, el Señor se transfigura delante de nuestros ojos. Brilla con nuevo resplandor su persona. Sabemos que, Jesús, no es aquel “Niño” que nació en Belén y que ha crecido solamente en estatura y dignidad humana: es el Hijo de Dios. Una vez más, como en su Bautismo en el río Jordán, se abren los cielos y Dios de nuevo ilumina su sendero. Un camino que no estará exento de cruz y de sufrimiento.

Recientemente en una estadística se reflejaba que las generaciones jóvenes están siendo dispuestas a nivel técnico o de conocimientos sobre la ciencia, el arte o la astronomía (entre otras muchas cosas) pero que queda pendiente una asignatura: ayudarles a disponerse para sufrir. No porque haya que ser masoquistas, ni mucho menos, sino porque cuando se toman medidas ante una eventualidad (y el sufrimiento es una realidad antes o después) las personas podemos estar a la altura para hacerles frente y sacar, de esas situaciones de prueba, lecciones para nuestro propio crecimiento personal, espiritual o eclesial.

2. Necesitamos transfigurarnos para que, cuando llegue el momento, podamos en toda circunstancia y lugar dar razón de nuestra fe y de nuestra esperanza. Si no nos dejamos tocar por el dedo de Dios, aconsejar por su voz y arrastrar por su resplandor, no será posible. Necesitamos la fragancia de Dios, signos de su presencia y de su poder. Pero ¿cómo lo vamos a tener sino lo buscamos? ¿Cómo vamos a percibir su voz si andamos sumergidos y perdidos en mil valles infectados de ruidos y de contiendas? ¿Cómo vamos a descubrir su apariencia si preferimos otros destellos más artificiales y sin contenido alguno?

Caminaba un peregrino en busca del “Dios perdido”. Se afanaba escudriñar en las azoteas de los grandes rascacielos y en las cumbres de los más altos montes. Un buen día una voz sonó en su interior: *“A Dios lo tienes muy cerca de ti, en el asfalto por donde pisas”*.

En nuestro personal viacrucis (a veces con muchas caídas y contradicciones) el Señor se nos revela como fuerza. En nuestro avance hacia la Jerusalén que nos aguarda (cuando cerremos los ojos a este mundo) el Señor nos habla y se nos muestra de mil modos y maneras. Sólo es cuestión de creer en El, de esperar en El y de fiarnos de El. La gloria de Dios no nos espera más allá de las nubes y del sol; hay que descubrirla y saber encontrarla junto a nosotros. Como les ocurrió a aquellos discípulos: no entendían, no comprendían...pero veían con sus ojos totalmente asombrados que Jesús era mucho más de lo que pensaban y que, Dios, andaba mucho más cerca de lo que ellos podían imaginar.

Disfrutemos en esta cuaresma con la presencia de Jesús; en la Eucaristía, en el sacramento de la confesión, por la visita a un enfermo o con el silencio tan necesario y urgente para nuestra salud física, mental o espiritual.

Miremos un poco nuestro ayer, o nuestro hoy, y ojala seamos capaces de encontrar muchos momentos en los que hemos podido decir **“Señor, qué bien he estado aquí”**. Y no olvidemos, que en el ascenso hacia una gran montaña, todo se mezcla: el sufrimiento y el gozo, la tristeza y la alegría, la fuerza y la debilidad. Todo es necesario y....por todas sus fases se pasa.

### LA LUZ ESTA ENCENDIDA PARA TI !! CELEBRA EL SACRAMENTO DE LA RECONCILIACION

Es una iniciativa diocesana dirigida a todos los católicos para poner a su disposición el Sacramento de Reconciliación. La Confesión es una maravillosa oportunidad para poner a un lado el camino pecaminoso y poder acercarnos a nuestro Señor.

Las Confesiones se harán cada miércoles durante la Cuaresma, de 6:30-8:00pm en todas las iglesias Católicas de la Arlington y la Arquidiócesis de Washington. (Adicionalmente a la hora normal de confesión ante la Misa, los sábados, 6:15-6:55pm)





### **CAMBIAME, SEÑOR**

Para que, mi rostro al igual que el tuyo  
sea irradiación del Dios que vive en mí y tanto quiero  
Y, descubriéndolo como mi todo y mi vida  
hable de tal manera con El

que, en el monte de mi existencia,  
pueda exclamar: ¡QUE BIEN SE ESTA AQUÍ!  
**CAMBIAME, SEÑOR**

Y, sintiéndome tocado por tu gracia  
no acalle ni limite la voz que pregone tu poder  
la voz que cante tus hazañas  
la voz que alabe tu santidad y tu grandeza

**CAMBIAME, SEÑOR**

Que cuando la prueba me asalte en el camino  
sepa que, tu presencia, me acompaña  
me guía, me consuela y me empuja a seguir adelante

Que, cuando mire al cielo, como Tú miraste  
crea, escuche y me embargue

la presencia de un Dios que se fía de mí  
que confía en mí y que tanto espera de mí.

**CAMBIAME, SEÑOR**

Siendo testigo de tu reino

de que, otro mundo, todavía es posible

Porque, Tú Jesús, eres el enviado

el Ungido, el preferido, el amado

Aquel que es capaz, por su obediencia,  
de cambiar a toda la humanidad.

Javier Leoz

### **Actividades de la Comunidad Hispana**

**Iglesia de la Natividad 6400 Nativity Lane**

**Burke, VA 22015**

**Teléfono 703-455-2400**

**Rev. Cedric Wilson**

#### **SANTA MISA EN ESPAÑOL:**

**Todos los sábados a las 7:00pm**

**CONFESIONES:** Los sábados antes de la Santa Misa de  
**6:15pm a 6:55pm**

**Catequesis Para niños y Jóvenes:** Sábados de 5:00pm a  
6:45pm Informes: 703-455-2400, ext 116

Sr. Ponciano 202-262-6659

**Catequesis Para niños y Jóvenes:** Inscripciones para el año  
escolar septiembre 2010 a mayo 2011 están abiertas.

**Catequesis para adultos:** Bautismo, Comunión, y  
Confirmación, Sábados de 5:15pm a 6:15pm

Contacto: Tito Pinto 703-912-9220

**Charla para el Bautismo:** Primer Miércoles del mes 7:30pm,  
aula 8

**Sacramento del Bautismo:** Tercer Sábado del mes. 1:30pm  
Contacto: Diacono Pardo 703-455-2400

**Grupo de Oración:** Miércoles 7:00pm a 9:00pm.

Están todos invitados. Marco Camacho 703-968-5585

**Grupo de Liderazgo Juvenil reuniones:**

Domingo 11:00am-1:00pm aula 5 Contacto: Nelson Pineda  
571-234-3664

**Reunión del Grupo de los Jóvenes Sábados:** a partir de las  
5:00pm aula 4. contacto: Juan Carlos Chávez 703-473-6941

**Solidaridad Cristiana:** Mayor información llamar Mirian  
Ponciano 703-913-5494.

**Para mas información:** María Guevara 703-444-5716

**Anuncios para el boletín: debe ser presentado por escrito el  
viernes a las 9 de la mañana (10 días antes de su  
publicación). Pueden enviar su información electrónico a  
[nativitybulletin@aol.com](mailto:nativitybulletin@aol.com)**

**Charlas de Convalidación** para recibir el Sacramento del  
Matrimonio: cada otro domingo del mes 9:00am – 10:45am  
aula 4. Contacto: Antonio y Maritza Di Paolo 703-493-8719

**Reunión de Matrimonios:** domingo 9:00am – 11:00am aula 5.  
Contacto: Segundo y María Guevara 703-444-5716

**EL DIACONO JOSE PARDO OFRECERE' SERVICIOS  
PASTORALES EN:**

**CONSEJERIA PERSONAL**

**CONSEJERIA MATRIMONIAL**

**ANULACION DE MATRIMONIO**

**DIAS: LUNES Y JUEVES DE 1 A 4 PM**

**703.455.2400**

**703.998.5161**

## APRENDE TU FE

### Formas de penitencia

- **Oración**—En la oración, nos encontramos y caminamos con Dios. Durante la estación de Cuaresma, somos alentados a aprovechar las ocasiones para la oración individual y en común. Las oportunidades para la oración pueden incluir asistir a misa, orar la liturgia de las horas, orar dentro de la familia, visitar una capilla, leer con fervor la Biblia, recitar el rosario u orar ante el Santísimo Sacramento.
- **Ayuno**—Absteniéndonos de comer, manifestamos nuestra unidad con el Señor, reconocemos nuestra necesidad de conversión y damos testimonio de nuestra solidaridad con los menos afortunados. Los católicos que tienen dieciocho años o más y se encuentran en buena salud están sujetos hasta cumplir cincuenta y nueve años a la obligación de ayunar en Miércoles de Ceniza y Viernes Santo. Tradicionalmente, la obligación canónica de ayunar ha sido entendida en la Iglesia como el consumo de sólo una comida completa al día.
- **Dar limosna**—Esta práctica penitencial conlleva dar dinero u otros recursos en beneficio de los necesitados. Una fuente posible de este dinero es lo que se ha ahorrado con el ayuno u otros medios de autorrenuncia.
- **Abstinencia**—En Estados Unidos, esta práctica penitencial consiste en inhibirse del consumo de carne. En la Iglesia Latina la abstinencia es una obligación para los católicos después de haber cumplido los catorce años de edad, y se practica Miércoles de Ceniza, Viernes Santo y los viernes durante la Cuaresma. Se alienta a párrocos y padres a ver que los niños que no están sujetos a la exigencia de ayuno y abstinencia sean llevados a apreciar un auténtico sentido de penitencia.
- **La práctica de la caridad que "cubre una multitud de pecados" (1 Pe 4:8)**—Motivados por el amor a Dios y al prójimo, expresamos solicitud mediante diversas obras por los necesitados, especialmente los pobres, los enfermos, los desamparados, los ancianos, los solitarios, los encarcelados, los desalentados, los postrados en cama y los abrumados de problemas.
- **Obras de misericordia**—Mediante acciones caritativas (ver pag. 7) expresamos compasiva atención por otros aliviando sus cargas y atendiendo a sus necesidades corporales y espirituales.
- **Rito penitencial en la misa**—Esto es parte del Rito Inicial de la Misa, que sigue al canto de entrada y saludo, y precede a la Gloria y colecta. En este rito, la invitación al arrepentimiento nos permite expresar disposición a escuchar la Palabra de Dios, a celebrar la Eucaristía y a recibir la Eucaristía con espíritu de humildad y contrición.
- **Ayuno eucarístico**—El ayuno eucarístico es una antigua costumbre durante la cual nos preparamos a recibir la santa comunión y con la cual mostramos la debida reverencia al sacramento. Se exige a los católicos latinos que gozan de buena salud abstenerse de toda comida o bebida, con excepción de agua y medicinas, por lo menos una hora antes de recibir la santa comunión.
- **Ascetismo**—La práctica del ascetismo es una disciplina basada en el autocontrol y la autorrenuncia que ayuda a un individuo o comunidad a alcanzar metas espirituales. Esta disciplina se ejerce con el objetivo de lograr mayor libertad para la auto-donación en el amor. De esta manera, buscamos imitar el total despojo de Cristo.
- **Mortificación**—En términos generales, la mortificación se refiere a la radical autorrenuncia y donación incondicional a Dios a que Jesús llamó cuando dijo a sus discípulos: "El que quiera seguirme, que renuncie a sí mismo, que cargue con su cruz y

que me siga" (Mt 16:24). Más específicamente, la mortificación es una forma de disciplina ascética que implica la renuncia a alguna clase de disfrute a fin de alcanzar un mayor desapego de los deseos. La meta de la mortificación es la plenitud de la vida, no la muerte; la libertad, no la esclavitud.

Continua en la próxima edición