



PASTORAL SHARINGS

Dear Friends,

I usually take my vacation in October- less crowds and better air and hotel rates. This past week, however, I took a few days and went with a friend to visit a mutual friend in Oldtown, Maryland. Barbara raises Alpakas and has a lovely guest house on her many acres of land. It was good to savor the quiet along with the three horses and four goats that occupy the stable. The older I get I savor listening to the sounds of nature- beats my IPOD any day. It gave me a chance to finally read *The Shack*, and to reflect on several books of quotes and anecdotes. Perhaps the following might just ignite a thought or two for you as well.

*“Life is school and none of us graduate ‘til they shut the box”
(Bits and Pieces)*

“Some people approach every problem with an open mouth”(Adlai Stevenson)

The people who make a difference are not the ones with the credentials, but the ones with the concern.” (Rev. Max Lucado, Minister, Author)

“You are not stuck where you are unless you decide to be” (Wayne Dyer)

“The next best thing to winning is losing! At least you’ve been in the race.(Nellie Smith)

“I believe that anyone can be successful in life, regardless of natural talent or the environment within which we live. This is not based on measuring success by human competitiveness for wealth, possessions, influence and fame, but adhering to God’s standards of truth, justice, humility, service, compassion, forgiveness and love.” (Jimmy Carter, President)

“If God is our Father, then it follows that we are all brothers and sisters to one another.” (Pope John XXIII)

“Senility doesn’t always come from being old, but from not being loved and not being made to feel useful.” (Leo Buscaglia, Author)

“The question is not whether we will die, but how we will live.” (Joan Borysenko)

“Kind words can be short and easy to speak but their echoes are truly endless.” (Mother Teresa)

“Profanity makes ignorance audible.” (Dr. Leo Buscaglia, Author)

“If all I’m remembered for is being a good basketball player, then I’ve done a bad job with the rest of my life.” (Isiah Thomas)

“You don’t stop laughing because you grow old; you grow old because you stop laughing.” (Michael Pritchard, Bits and Pieces)

“Wouldn’t the world be a great place to live if the power of love replaced some people’s love of power.” (Bits and Pieces)

“Whatever you give out to others comes back double.” (My Dad)

GOD IS LIKE.....

Sometimes we need a moment of humor. This particular story came to me over the internet. While there was no acknowledgement of who the teacher was or the school involved, I thought it was much too good to keep to myself, so here goes. A fifth grade teacher in a Christian school asked her class to look at TV commercials and see if they could use them in some way to communicate ideas about God. Here are some of the results: 1. **BAYER ASPIRIN** – He works miracles. 2. **A “FORD”** – He’s got a better idea. 3. **COKE** – He’s the real thing. 4. **HALL-MARK CARDS** – He cares enough to send His very best. 5. **TIDE** – He gets the stains out that others leave behind. 6. **GENERAL ELECTRIC** – He brings good things to life. 7. **SEARS** – He has everything. 8. **ALKA-SELTZER** – Try Him, you’ll like Him. 9. **SCOTCH TAPE** – You can’t see him, but you know He’s there. 10. **ALLSTATE** – You’re in good hands with Him. 11. **VO-5 HAIR SPRAY** – He holds through all kinds of weather. 12. **DIAL SOAP** – Aren’t you glad you have Him. Don’t you wish everybody did? 13. **U.S. POST SERVICE** – Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet nor ice, will keep Him from His appointed destination. Enjoy your week.



Masses For The Week

Monday, August 10

ALEX KEEPERS.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Tuesday, August 11

Special Intentions for

MR. & MRS. GERALD HAY.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Wednesday, August 12

CHRISTINE TOUZZO.....7:30am - Fr. Martin

Thursday, August 13

JOHN CONNOLLY.....7:30am - Fr. O’Keefe

Friday, August 14

JENEVIEVE & DONALD VALENTINE.....7:30am - Fr. O’Keefe

Saturday, August 15

MRS. JANE BROWN.....9:00am - Fr. O’Keefe

TOM MALONEY.....5:00pm - Fr. Wilson

Sunday, August 16

THOMAS HENRY.....7:30am - Fr. O’Keefe

JOE WEIS.....9:00am - Fr. O’Keefe

RACHEL MARIE BAKER.....11:00am - Fr. Martin

PARISHIONERS.....12:45pm - Fr. Martin

DID YOU KNOW...If you’re a Catholic in western Alaska, the overwhelming odds are that if you are to worship with a Sunday Mass, it will be via the KNOM (managed by the Jesuits in Western Alaska) broadcast.

This region, the size of California, is served by only 7 priests, and in almost every village, Mass is offered only once every 3 to 6 weeks. 15 villages never see a priest. Some have Mass once per year.



Altar Flowers
 In Loving Memory of our
 Son, Brother and Grandson Sean Patrick
 From
 The Duprey and Romero Families
 And
 In Loving Memory of
 Harry and Anna Wright
 From
 The Wright Family



This call is for you!!!

Please answer the call to teach Nativity’s children in the Religious Education Program. Some classes do not have teachers and may need to be cancelled. Consider helping with this important service for the Lord. **Call 703-455-0372 today to volunteer!**

Students enrolled in the Religious Education Program **by August 31**, begin classes the week of September 20.

Students enrolled in the Religious Education Program **after August 31**, begin classes the week of September 27.

Student Registration forms should be turned in to the Religious Education Office along with the student’s baptismal certificate (unless it has been previously submitted) and payment. Forms are available in the Religious Education Office, on the community board in the church vestibule, or at www.edu.nativityburke.org; on the Nativity CCD tab click on Student Registration.

All Catechists and Assistants should attend the Orientation Meeting / Workshop on September 13, at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall. This is a very important information meeting regarding the Religious Education school year. Workshop attendance earns credit hours toward Catechist Certification.



Going on vacation? Need to find a Church?

Visit
www.CatholicWeb.com.

Scroll to search, type in the city and state you are visiting. You will be able to find a Church near your vacation site.

Saturday, August 15th, is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Since the feast falls on a Saturday, **IT IS NOT A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION.** The Solemnity will be celebrated on Sunday, August 16th.

Are You Interested in Becoming Catholic?

If so, we invite you to participate in Nativity's RCIA program, beginning Monday, September 14, 2009, at 7 pm, in the "Green Room" at the back of the Church. RCIA, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, is the Catholic Church's way of forming new disciples of Jesus Christ, and welcoming new members into the Church at the Easter Vigil. Our program involves instruction, prayer, group discussion and spiritual events designed to prepare those seeking to enter the Church. RCIA is open to those who have not been baptized, Christians baptized into another faith, adult baptized Catholics who have not been confirmed and anyone else who wants to learn more about the Catholic faith. For more information, contact the Church office at (703) 455-2400 to speak with Fr. O'Keefe, or send an e-mail to Ron Riggins at rriggins@cox.net or pick up an RCIA brochure at the back of the Church.



At times of sadness, say your rosary.
Bl. Charles de Foucauld



PRO-LIFE CORNER



There can be no democracy without virtue, and there can be no human activity divorced from the moral law. In the matters of the moral law, the Church does not have the right to be silent! As God's people we must take a position against abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia. Speak out! Take action!

The **GABRIEL PROJECT** supports women who are facing a crisis pregnancy and need help. Contact 1-866-444-3553 or 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.)

Pro-Life Rosary-A prayerful, peaceful and public gathering of friends and neighbors who pray the rosary for one hour takes place on Saturdays at 10:00 am on Rolling Road across from Kings Park SC Giant Food. Please call Jane Hamilton, 703-646-5051 for more information.

Crisis Pregnancy 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

We joyfully welcome into the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Andrew Fernando Arias Godinez, Brandon Cuya, Luciana Rivero, Olivia Grace Anderson, Victor Sebastian Cruz, Cailin Marie Wendorf, Kaden Anthony Ingold, Makaio Joseph Patnode Lim, Lilia Kennedy Raeder Jesse, Anthony Jordan Cabrera



WOMEN OF NATIVITY CHRISTMAS IN AUGUST

The **Women of Nativity** will be collecting school supplies after all Masses during the weekend of August 8-9 for its annual Christmas in August Project. Items needed include: loose-leaf paper, 3-ring binders, spiral notebooks (single and multiple subject), pens, #2 pencils, fiskar scissors, large glue sticks, thin Crayola markers, 12" rulers, pencil cases and school backpacks. Supplies will only be collected on the scheduled dates because of delivery arrangements. Thank you for your consideration in this matter. For further information or questions, please call Kathy McHugh at 703-239-2198 or Debby McLernon at 703-250-6869. Thank you in advance for your generous contributions.



The 7 Girl Scout troops of Nativity would like to thank the Knights of Columbus and the parishioners who supported our bake sale at the KOC Annual Yard Sale on July 25th. We had a lot of fun baking and selling!

Your generous donations will help fund upcoming activities, including a planned trip to the birthplace of Juliette Gordon Low, the founder of Girl Scouts, in Savannah next summer. Thanks for helping Girls Grow Strong!

Holy Family Catholic Church is hosting their annual Family Fall Festival 2009!! The festival is on Friday, Sept. 11 from 6-11pm and Saturday, Sept. 12 from 4-11pm. Lots of International foods, music, entertainment, games and prizes for your entire family and friends. Come one and all, we can't wait to see you there! Holy Family Catholic Church is located at 14160 Ferndale Rd., Dale City, VA

New University of Mary Washington Student?

Drop by the Catholic Student Center when you arrive. We are conveniently located across the street from campus at 1614 College Ave. (the red brick building with white columns). Meet new friends, and grow in knowledge and love of your Catholic Faith. Come to our events, such as, Tuesday Pizza with the Pope Bible Study, Thursday Supper Seminar, Thomas on Tap, Adoration and social outings. Join us at Sunday and weekday Masses. Discover retreat and service opportunities and much more. Contact us at 540-373-6746 or visit our website for additional information: www.umwccm.org

So, in case you haven't heard! My last day is tomorrow. I will be heading to a mission program through Life Teen down in the northern part of Georgia. Next year I will be a part of a young community that focuses on prayer and service to teenagers and the local community. I am nervous and excited!

But, I wanted to let you all know that I am going to really miss this place. I have experienced so much in the past year that I find it hard to put into words how much it has meant to me. I love the Mario Kart with Tito at 7 in the morning; playing music with Tre and Alex while dressed up as giant food; visits from Anna and Rachel when I am super bored in my office; singing silly Jesus songs with Emily on the bus; goofing off with Robert and Andrew at workcamp; being tossed in the mud by Holden; and the sometimes intense spiritual discussions that I have had with many of you. I love it all. There are so many more memories that I could create a book about them.

I hope and pray that this group continues to stay close and vibrant with whoever takes my place. There have been so many moments this past year that have shown me that God exists and I thank you for that because I had no real part to play in it. It was all you! God Bless!

Praying super hard
Paul Devine



Editors note: Teens, you don't know how lucky you are to have had Paul as your CYO Director.

CALLING ALL GIRLS!!!

Fun and adventure await your daughter in a Nativity Girl Scout troop! Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. So come make new friends, try new things, go camping - be part of the amazing sisterhood of nearly 5 million Girl Scouts. Troops will be forming or registering new members soon for the 2009-2010 school year at all levels, Daisy through Senior (Grades K-12). All parishioners from Nativity Church and students from Nativity School are encouraged to join. Adult volunteers are always appreciated-free training is provided. Please contact Nativity's troop organizer, Becky Chaves, at (703) 425-4965 to register or to get more information. Flyers are also in the Scouting Folder on the bulletin board in the church vestibule.



“Don't go to church, be the church...”

Sign in front of a church in Orlando, FL



PRAYER SHAWL MEETING....The next daytime meeting will take place in the APR on Monday, August 17th at 9:30am. The evening meeting will take place on Wednesday, August 19th 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.

FYI

Schedule Change for August and September....For the months of August and September 2009, we are changing the dates of the baptism classes (English) which are scheduled the 3rd Thursday of each month. **Note the following change...August 27th (4th Thursday)**-instead of August 20th and **September 24th (4th Thursday)**-instead of September 17th.

Engaging Spirituality Introductory Session Scheduled

A 45- minute Introductory session for **Engaging Spirituality** will be held at 7:30 pm August 26 in the Green Room at the back of the Church. **Engaging Spirituality** includes 21 weekly sessions starting in late September and highlights the linkage between spirituality and compassionate engagement by emphasizing personal and communal prayer, reflection on the writings of spiritual masters, personal encounters with vulnerable people, and contemplative dialogue in a small faith community. More information is available on the bottom shelf of the table marked “Social Justice Directory” between the doors of the Church lobby next to the Gift Shop. Further information is available from Joe Pettit, 703-455-4937, pettit@georgetown.edu.

FOOD FOR OTHERS ~ There will be a **canned food collection** to assist Food For Others, a distributor of free food for people in need in Northern Virginia, **August 8th and 9th before and after all Masses**. During the summer months, when children are out of school, there is a greater need of food. This is mainly due to the fact that the children do not have access to the free breakfast and lunch that is often provided to them through the school systems. Your help and donations will be greatly appreciated. There will also be donation forms available if you would like to make a financial donation to help keep their street distribution sites functioning.

Every food donation helps in the fight against hunger ~ no matter how small or big.

Thought for the Week: Those who devote their lives to a cause greater than themselves always find a larger, fuller life than the one they remembered.

Wilbert E. Scheer

Catholic Heritage Festival, Saturday August 22nd, 2009

Mark your calendars for the Catholic Heritage Festival, Saturday August 22nd, from 10:30am to 4:00pm at Bull Run Regional Park in Centreville. Celebrate with fellow Catholics of all ages and nationalities from across the Diocese with Mass, great food, games, music, sporting events, dancing and more. Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate the oneness of our faith at Arlington's first ever Catholic Heritage Festival.

Sell Your Wares or Promote Your Catholic Organization at the Catholic Heritage Festival. You're invited to sell your artwork, crafts, food, etc or showcase your Catholic organization at the Festival. All vendors and exhibitors must receive prior approval. To reserve a vendor table, please contact Tom O'Neill at 703-841-3807.

Over 50 and interested in serving the materially poor?

Volunteer two days a week with the materially poor and grow spiritually through the Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC). To learn more about the diverse IVC volunteering opportunities in Northern Virginia: **1.** Attend info session at 7:30pm, Thursday, August 13; The Broadway Club Room; 502 W. Broad St.; Falls Church 22046; **2.** Contact IVC Regional Director Jim Kelley (703-533-7322 or jkelly@ivcusa.org); **3.** visit www.ivcusa.org.



**OPERATION STARFISH®
HAITI MISSION TRIP ANNOUNCED**

Fr. Martin will be taking another group of Nativity parishioners to Haiti the week of November 9-13, 2009. With logistical support from Food For The Poor, this pilgrimage will focus on the Port-au-Prince area, with a side trip to Haiti's south coast to inaugurate "Nativity Village at Lozandier," our 4th Nativity Village project. Travelers will visit with Fr. Jean Printemps at the first Nativity Village at Merger, where we have built housing, water wells, sanitation, an elementary school and a chicken farm. We are also planning to go to Rainbow House (where children with HIV/AIDS are treated), Cardinal Leger Leper Hospital, Food For The Poor's main feeding center, clinics, orphanages and other facilities that serve the poorest of the poor.

Nativity Village at Lozandier will be blessed and dedicated. This development project includes housing, water, sanitation and a fishing village. Fr. Martin welcomes anyone who feels the call of the Holy Spirit to join us. "You have only to bring your eyes, ears, and an open heart," he says. For more details contact Jim McDaniel (jimmcdaniel@me.com) 703-455-6874; or the church office.

**THE WEEK AHEAD
IN OUR PARISH**

Sunday, August 9

**Christmas in August Collection
Food for Others Collection**

Monday, August 10

8:00 pm.....AA Meeting (APR)

Tuesday, August 11

9:30 am.....Bible Study Summer Session (APR)

Wednesday, August 12

7:00 pm.....Hispanic Prayer Group (SC)

7:30 pm.....WON Meeting (APR)

Thursday, August 13

9:30 am.....Craft Group (APR)

7:30 pm.....Prayer Group (APR)

Saturday, August 15 Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary

9:00 am.....Mass (CH)

9:30 am.....Pro-Life Rosary (CH)

10:00 am.....Dog Obedience Class (PL)

7:00 pm.....Hispanic Mass (CH)



Celebrating a Silver or Golden Wedding Anniversary this year? Were you married in 1959 or 1984? Then join Bishop Loverde for the 2009 Marriage Jubilee Mass to be celebrated on Sunday, October 25th at 2:30pm at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More. Contact the parish office (703-455-2400) to register no later than September 25th. For more information, visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/familyvlife/MJM.php

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---Social Action Linking Together (SALT)--Update: The Minimum Wage Increases. **SALT** has been a leader for the Fair Wage Act. On July 24, the final stage of the 2007 federal wage increase was implemented, raising minimum wage from \$6.55 to \$7.25. The legislation, the "Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007", raised the pay for the nation's lowest-income workers from \$5.15 an hour to \$7.25 over a three-step process with the final increase occurring on Friday July 24th. **SALT** thanks parishioners and advocate partners for adding your voice to let working families escape poverty. **SALT** is a grass roots community faith-based network of individuals who deal with public policy issues at the State level. For more information or to join **SALT** go to www.S-A-L-T.org or contact John Horejsi, **SALT** Coordinator at jhorejsi@cox.net.