

Dear Friends,

One of my professors in the seminary told us that the church is the last one-room school house. In one place are assembled people of different ages, backgrounds, levels of learning and need all seeking simultaneously to be taught by one teacher. For some reason this image seems most relevant as I contemplate the beginning of the season of Lent in just a few weeks.

We connect to the church on a parish level in different ways – this in turn forms our ideas of what the church is and what it should be. The bits and pieces we see are never complete as the reality of what makes a parish is larger than our own particular experience of it. The daily Mass communicant, the Sunday Mass attendee, the twice a year visitor, the resident in one of our four nursing homes, the shut-in, the school family, the couple preparing for marriage, the person planning to bury a loved one, the convert seeking instruction, the family seeking guidance in a difficult situation, the person struggling with a spiritual, physical, financial or emotional crisis and seeking council and assistance, all come to this place we call the parish for answers, support, understanding and love. It is true that all of us as members of the Body of Christ are called to respond generously and compassionately. You are the church! It is also true that the ordained members of the church are called in a special and unique way to respond to and care for all.

Perhaps having just completed the Christmas season with one less priest than the year before and anticipating an even busier Lent in just a few weeks, I am mindful of the challenges ahead. Fr. Baez and I will strive to continue providing additional opportunities for prayer and the celebration of the Mass and confessions, opportunities to learn more about the teachings of the church and the Scriptures while at the same time attending to those situations which know no season. Perhaps even more I ask for your continued prayers and understanding especially when your particular moment of connection with the parish may not immediately or completely satisfy your expectation or need. The same applies to your clergy for we too also connect to the parish with our own expectations and need to know that the Body of Christ which is this community of faith is bigger than us.

Pray that your priests and deacons will become more zealous, prudent, patient, and especially holy. I promise that this is our prayer for you as well. In this brief respite called ordinary time (which begins tomorrow) may we become more aware of the extraordinary grace of Christ which is given to us. And so we continue to grow in the knowledge and love of Our Lord and we give thanks to God for his love and the call to love one another in turn.

In Christ,

Rev. David A. Whitestone, Pastor

Welcome Home

Are you, or someone you know, questioning or struggling to accept some aspect of Church teachings? Are you unable to participate in the Sacraments of the Church? Do you think that the Catholic faith is irrelevant? Welcome Home is an opportunity for Catholics to find answers & support in a respectful, welcoming setting. Our next session of Welcome Home meetings will begin on **Sunday, February 3**, and will continue for six consecutive Sundays. Each meeting will include a brief talk, small group discussions, and opportunities for private individual meetings. Please join us and invite any Catholic who is questioning or is away from the Church. The meetings begin at 7pm in the St. John Room, Parish Hall. For information, contact Deacon Dave Maurer or Carolyn Smith at 703-273-5369.

The 2013 Annual St Leo Parish Retreat
4pm Friday, April 26—1pm Sunday,
April 28, 2013 at Loyola Jesuit Retreat
House in Faulkner MD

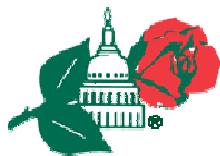
It's not too soon to mark your calendars. The theme of the Weekend Retreat this year is "Speaking As One Friend To Another". This is an opportunity for deepening our faith & love for Jesus through honest dialogue in prayer. Suggested retreat offering is \$235 (more if you can) for 2 nights lodging, 6 meals & snacks. Register at: www.loyolaonthepotomac.com. Send your deposit of \$115 to Loyola Retreat House, PO Box 9, 9270 Retreat Rd, Faulkner, MD 20632. Please make your reservation early. Remember, Loyola's policy is that no one will be denied a retreat because of finances. To set up a confidential payment plan call 301-392-0819. Other questions? Contact Jim Caputo: 703-691-0479.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



—Please remember in your prayers the repose of the souls of the faithful departed, especially Robert Hughes, brother of Kathleen Fisher; Sheila Fay, mother of Ellen Smith.

—We ask you to remember those in need of our daily prayers, especially Irene Paton.

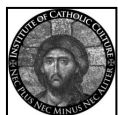


MARCH FOR LIFE Friday, Jan. 25

All are invited to attend 9am Mass at St. Leo. A FREE bus will leave St. Leo at 10am to take parishioners to Washington, D.C. Listen to inspiring pro-life speakers at the D.C. Mall beginning at 12 noon; March begins at 1:30pm. The bus will leave D.C. at 4pm. A sign-up sheet is located in the church vestibule. *All passengers MUST be listed on the sign-up sheet in order to ride the bus. Please sign up early; seating is limited.*

If you prefer a half-day trip to the March for Life, please join St. Leo's Late Shift Marchers for Life Friday, January 25 11:45am—1:00pm in the Guadalupe Room, Parish Hall for pizza & sign-making. We will carpool to L'Enfant Plaza Hotel Parking Garage (\$17/car) & walk to the March. We arrive after the talks to join others as we march to the Supreme Court. We'll walk back to garage for a 4:30pm return. Please RSVP so we have enough pizza. Contact Marian: tjhartzell@verizon.net or 703-359-8963.

Italian language classes will be offered at Saint Leo by St. Mary of Sorrows Italian Heritage Society. Level Beginner 3 Classes started January 7th at St. Leo on Monday evenings from 6:30-9pm. Other levels offered at St. Mary of Sorrows. For information contact Lucio D'Andrea: 703-978-7896 or luciodandrea@verizon.net or Elisabetta Lazarte: 703-887-1995 or bsmile24@aol.com.



The Institute of Catholic Culture presents:

FROM DEATH TO LIFE: A STUDY OF THE HOLY WOMEN OF THE ROMAN CANON

presented by Deacon Sabatino Carnazzo on Sundays, February 17 and 24 at 7:30 pm in the Guadalupe room, Parish Hall.

FREE ADMISSION! NO RESERVATION REQUIRED!

For more info, please visit www.InstituteofCatholicCulture.org, or call (540) 635 - 7155.

Young Adult Silent Lenten Retreat February 15-17

Save the Date! Please join Fr. Nicholas Lombardo, O.P. and Fr. Joseph Barranger, O.P. and other young adults for our Lenten silent retreat at San Damiano Spiritual Life Center in White Post! Visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/YAMretreat or contact Erin Kisley 703-841-2549 for more info. This retreat is for all young adults, married or single.

Father Diamond Scholarship Council 6292 will award a 4 year \$500 scholarship to a Catholic student entering 9th grade in a Catholic HS starting in the Fall of 2013. Contact Tim Tilson: 703-273-9436 or email: HMSLYDIA@msn.com. The application is on the Knights of Columbus council website: www.6292.kofcva.org in the news section.

Liturgy of the Word



Monday	Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20
Tuesday	Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday	Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39
Thursday	Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45
Friday	Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12
Saturday	Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17
Sunday	Is 62:1-5; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

MASS INTENTIONS

January 14 through January 20

Mon.:	6:15	Robert and Agnes Noonan
	9:00	Gertrude Botts
Tues.:	6:15	Mickie Goush
	9:00	Teodoro Cabellos
Wed.:	6:15	Virginia Ann Walton
	9:00	Joyce Novack
Thurs.:	6:15	Virginia Ann Walton
	9:00	Annie Dunhan
Fri.:	6:15	Christian J. Abad
	9:00	Janet Lucas
Sat.	9:00	Joyce Novack
	5:00	Leon Dixon
Sun.:	7:30	For the Parish
	9:00	deceased members, Knights of Columbus
	11:00	Kathryn Cotner
	1:00	Isabel Berzuela
	5:00	Ella Mae Howes

In addition to the regular schedule of Masses, Mass has been offered for the following intentions: Nancy Mullins, Sandy Arnesen, Virgil Reid McGarity, Edgardo Gavino, Special Intention.

BAPTISM CLASS IS MANDATORY at Saint Leo. The next class is Tuesday, February 12th at 7:30 pm in the St. Mark room. Please call the rectory office (703-273-5369) to register.



BAPTISM

*Low Gluten Hosts are available for those who need them.
Please inform the sacristan before Mass begins.*



A VOCATION VIEW

National Vocations Awareness Week Jan.13-19

"This is My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." Are you considering making known the love of our Heavenly Father as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Call Father Brian Bashista: 703-841-2514, or write him: b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org.

Tax Statements will be mailed out by the end of January for contributions made to Saint Leo the Great Catholic Church to those who have used their envelopes.

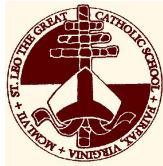
Faith Direct will send out statements on our behalf for contributions that were made through Faith Direct's online service.

Contributions made to the Bishop's Lenten Appeal will be receipted directly from the Bishop's Lenten Appeal office.

Thank you for your continuing generosity to Saint Leo the Great Catholic Church.

Saint Leo the Great Catholic School

invites interested parents to visit the school and learn what makes us a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence



An Open House for Preschool and Kindergarten through Grade 8, for school year 2013-2014 will be held on Sunday, January 27th at 12 noon in Saint Leo School gym. Principal's welcome will begin at 12 noon followed by a tour of the school. Applications are available for pickup at the open house, and during the school day from 9am to 2pm, and on the school website: www.saintleothegreatschool.org Please RSVP to Mrs. Cynthia Washington, Assistant Principal and Director of Admissions at 703-273-1211, ext. 645 to reserve a place.

All completed applications, with copies of supporting documents, may be sent through the mail or hand-carried to the school between the hours of 9am and 2pm. Acceptance letters for the 2013-2014 school year will be mailed once completed applications are received. Financial Aid packets are also available upon request. In the event of inclement weather, please check the website, or call the school office, 703-273-1211 for information.



Applications available: www.saintleothegreatschool.org.

PLEASE NOTE: *Saint Leo parishioners receive preferential status in Pre-School through eighth grade applications. In-parish families must be registered.*

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Rite of Christian Initiation and Adult Confirmation

RCIA classes have begun. Now is the perfect time for you to prayerfully consider whether God might be calling you to join the Catholic Church or to invite someone else to do so. If you are already Catholic but would like to catch up on sacraments you may have missed along the way, or, you would just like to learn more about your Catholic Faith, you are also welcome to join us. Classes are on Wednesdays from 7:30-9:00pm in the Guadalupe Room.

Papal Authority and Authority in the Church Lee Cena, Director of Religious Education at St. Leo, will lead a series of 4 talks on Church authority beginning on Tuesday, January 22nd, and continuing on Tuesdays, January 29, February 5 & 12. The series will be held at 7:30pm in the Guadalupe room, Parish Hall. Please join us for any or all of the talks.

For additional information regarding any of the above events, please contact Carolyn Smith:

carolynsmith.stleos@gmail.com or 703-273-5369.

Diocesan Women's Conference Fr. Paul Scalia, Delegate for Priests and Gloria Purvis Scott, Host of EWTN series' "Authentically Free at Last" will speak at the 2013 Women's Conference on Saturday, **March 9th** at St. Joseph in Herndon. This year's conference is entitled "Encountering Jesus, Responding with Love." Bishop Loverde will celebrate the opening Mass. Breakfast and lunch are included. Online registration begins January 1st (mail-in registration begins immediately). Visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/men for info.

Diocese of Arlington 2013 Men's Conference On Saturday, **March 2nd**, the 4th annual Arlington Diocese Men's Conference will be held at St. Joseph's in Herndon. The theme for this year's conference is Fact or Fiction: Knowing and Loving Your Catholic Faith. Featured speakers are Dr. Peter Kreeft and Father Thomas Joseph White, who will explore commonly misunderstood aspects of the Catholic faith. Breakfast & lunch included. The conference program begins at 9 am, and will close with Mass celebrated by Bishop Paul Loverde at 2:30 pm. Visit: www.arlingtondiocese.org/men for information & to register. You can also contact Tom Gross: 703-273-0631, Juan Velasquez: 703-624-7783, or Al Leightley: 703-273-2089.



SVDP National Vehicle Donation Program can help help someone in need in just three simple steps. Used car/plane/jet ski donations may be turned into money to provide critical items such as food, shelter, housing, care for the elderly, or medicine. Your tax deductible car donation will help someone in our community. Call (800) 322-8284 or <http://www.svdpsusa.com/NVDPHome.aspx>

Thank you and many blessings to all who donated food in November: ReMax Gateway, St. Mary of Sorrows, Paul VI Lacrosse Team, St. Leo parishioners & School, Mother's Group & Youth Group.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



Religious Education News

Vacation Bible School 2013

We need volunteers (Virtus compliance required) in order to host this program. Please contact Lee Cena: 703-273-4868 as soon as possible.

- 1/21 **NO CCD** MLK Holiday Weekend
- 1/28 ALL CONFIRMATION paperwork is due for Confirmation 2013
- 2/4 **K-7 CCD** First Penance Assessments continue
- 2/9 **FIRST PENANCE Service: 10:00 & 11:45 in Church**
(Times will be assigned by class)
- 2/18 **NO CCD** President's Day Holiday
- 3/2 **2013 CONFIRMANDI** half-day retreat at Saint Leo
2 sessions

Religious Education Office: 703-273-4868

Bishop O'Connell High School Open House Sunday, Jan. 27, 1-3 pm Bring your family for a tour of our facilities. See our brand-new chemistry labs, meet our teachers, administrators and coaches, and chat with current students. No RSVP necessary. Visit www.bishopoconnell.org/visit or call 703-237-1433 for more information. Bishop O'Connell High School is located at 6600 Little Falls Rd in Arlington.



Father Diamond Council Events & Calendar

**Meetings – 2nd and 4th Tuesdays
7:00 PM Providence Hall**

- 1/14 Bingo at Fairfax Nursing Center 7:15 PM
- 1/19 Third Degree Exemplification School Gym 10:00 am followed by food at Providence Hall
- 1/20 Corporate Communion– 9:00am Mass
- 1/22 Food 7:00 PM, Rosary 7:30 PM followed by Council Business Meeting
- 1/25 March for Life Collection at the Mall
Volunteers needed to Work for Life

Giant, Shoppers Food Warehouse & Safeway Gift Cards for sale at Providence Hall every weekday at 3:00 PM or call Larry Novak: 703-978-6137
(Profits benefit scholarship funds and St Leo PTO)

Join the Knights of Columbus. Call Pat McGuire 703-218-2986



Join us for **High School Youth Night:** "Being Catholic in High School, Part 2!" 6-8pm in the school gym. Come immediately following the 5:00pm Mass for dinner, talk, and a solid faith community.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: We will be taking a group to the **March for Life on Friday, January 25.** We will begin the day at the "**Life is VERY Good**" Conference at the Patriot Center, and then travel to DC to pray for an end to abortion, and the end of Roe vs. Wade. **If you are interested in attending, please email us no later than Wednesday, January 23, 2013**

Middle School Students : Join us for "**A Person's a Person, No Matter How Small: Blessed Mother Teresa and the Beauty of Each Person.**" One of our CORE Members walked across America to spread the Pro-Life Message this past summer with Cross-Roads and will be sharing her story. We meet from 7-9pm in the Guadalupe Room. Never been? Come check it out! Dinner is provided.

To register for high school youth group/RCIT please visit our website at www.stleoyouth.com.

Are you an adult who has a desire to do relational ministry with Middle or High School age youth? We're looking for YOU! We need adult volunteers who are willing to help with our Youth Nights this school year. Contact Erik or Melissa for more information, at stleoyouth@gmail.com

Girls CLC Meets THIS Monday, January 14. Each week we break open the Gospels, grow deeper in our faith and build strong relationships. Usually cupcakes or other sweet treats are involved. Meet in the Youth Room 7:30 -9:00pm.

Boys CLC Meets THIS Wednesday, January 16. Each week we break open the Gospels, grow deeper in our faith and build strong relationships. Crazy madness & creative games usually ensue. Meet in the Youth Room 7:30—9:00pm

To learn more about CLC's (Catholic Life Communities) visit our website: stleoyouth.com

Want to stay updated on youth events? Visit our website for calendar & registration. <http://www.stleoyouth.com>

"It is love alone that gives worth to all things."

-St. Teresa of Avila

Please pray for our youth, that they will come to know the love of Christ and rediscover their faith.

Diocesan Science Fair Needs Volunteers The Diocesan Science Fair needs individuals with a science background to help judge seventh and eighth grade students' research projects for the 2013 Science Fair. These projects encompass such categories as botany, health, chemistry, zoology, behavioral science, engineering, physics, math and other areas of life and physical science. If your calendar allows you to spend the morning (8 am - noon) on Saturday, April 20, 2013 at Paul VI High School to judge projects, please call Janet Vetrano (Office of Catholic Schools): 703-841-2560.

Marriage Help Retrouvaille has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you, too. For confidential information or to register for the program beginning the weekend of Feb. 8-10, call 703-351-7211 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

Horarios e Información

Santas Misas:

Español: domingos a la 1:00 pm
Inglés: sábados—5 pm (Vigilia),
domingos—7:30, 9, 11:00, 5pm

Confesiones en español: Todos los viernes a las 7pm
Todos los sábados de 3:30 a 5:00pm. Los domingos desde las 12:00pm a 12:50pm.

Bautizos: Preparación- llamar a Carlos Cea: 703-836-2139 ó Padre Ramon: 703-273-5369.

RCIA Para Adultos: domingos 10:30 am—12pm Salon Juan al lado de la iglesia. Para información, llamar al Diacono Jose Lopez 703-222-7704

Matrimonio: Todo Católico que desee contraer matrimonio debe contactar la parroquia por lo menos seis meses antes del evento. Para mayor información comunicarse con el Padre Ramon al 703-273-5369.

Grupo de Jóvenes: domingos 2:30—5pm—
Información: Guadalupe Barrera 703-655-2729.

Catequesis Para Niños y Jóvenes: domingos 11—12:30. Llamar a Lee Cena: 703-273-4868.

Catequesis para Niños especiales ó sordos:
domingos 11:00am—12:30pm
Información - Lee Cena: 703-273-4868.

Sacramentos para Estudiantes de Secundaria:
llamar a la Oficina de Jovenes al teléfono 703-591-6089, ó email a youth@stleos.com.

Legion de Maria: lunes 7:30—9 pm ó domingo 11 am—12:30 pm. Llamar a Padre Ramon: 703-273-5369.

Información general: llamar a Diacono Jose Lopez 703-222-7704



Semana Nacional de las Vocaciones Jan. 13-19

“Este es Mi Hijo amado, en quien me complazco”. ¿Está considerando la posibilidad de hacer conocer el amor de nuestro Padre Celestial como sacerdote, diácono, hermana o hermano? Llamar al Padre Brian Bashista (703) 841-2514, o escriba a: b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org.

Clases de Catequesis para Adultos: ¿Has recibido todos tus sacramentos? Si te falta el Sacramento de Comunión o Confirmación, y eres un adulto mas de 17 años, tienes que inscribirte en el curso de catequesis para adultos (RICA). EL curso te enseña todo lo que necesitas para que seas una persona preparada en la fe. El curso comienza el 16 de septiembre 2012 en el Salon de San Juan a las 10 am y continua casi todos los domingos hasta la cuaresma del proximo año. Para inscribirte, habra una mesa en la entrada de la iglesia todos los domingos hasta el 9 de septiembre. Si necesitas mas información, llamar al Diacono Jose Lopez o al Padre Baez al 703-273-5369.

Grupo Divina Misericordia y Compasión ¿Conoce a alguien que se encuentre solo y enfermo? ¿Sabe de alguien que necesite de la palabra de Dios y de la compañía de miembros de su iglesia? Un grupo de personas de nuestra parroquia visita a los miembros de la comunidad que se encuentran enfermos en los hospitales ó en sus casas. Se brinda oraciones y compañía a todas aquellas personas delicadas de salud. Tambien un ministro le puede traer comunión ó puede pedir que un sacerdote le visite para recibir los sacramentos. Por favor llamen a Gilma Orozco al 571-238-6634.

¡Vamos a Adorarlo! Todos los últimos sábados del mes, adoramos al Santísimo Jesucristo durante una Hora Santa. Estan invitados a la proxima Hora Santa que sera el 29 de diciembre 2012 a las 6:30 pm en la iglesia para prepararnos para la llegada del año nuevo.

Cambio de charla de bautismos para el mes de diciembre: La clase regresara a su horario normal del tercer sábado del mes en enero 2013, o sea el 19 de enero.

Grupo de Oración Sábados 6-8:30pm, Salon de Nuestra Sra de La Guadalupe. Información: Jose Ferrufino: 703-250-1343.

Educación Religiosa

- 1/27 **NO HABRA CLASES;** se recogeran los papeles necesarios para la Confirmacion 2013
- 2/3 **K-6 CCD clases (11– 12:30); MISA a la 1:00 p.m. EXAMENES de la Primera Confesion**
- 2/9 **Sabado Primera Confesion- 10 & 11:45 en la Iglesia**
- 2/17 **NO HABRA CLASES**