

PARISH CALENDAR

- Sun Sept 11 Youth Faith Formation, **9:30AM, CC**  
Youth Group meeting, **5:00 PM, CC**
- Tue Sept 13 Adult Faith Enrichment, **7:00 PM, CC**
- Wed Sept 14 Cantor & Choir Practice, **6:30; 7 PM**
- Thu Sept 15 Apologetics Class, **6:30 PM, CC**
- Fri Sept 16 Bible Study, "Doors of Mercy", **10AM**
- Sat Sept 17 Rosary Devotion, **4:30 PM, Church**  
Yard Sale, sponsored by KofC, **6AM-12PM**
- Sun Sept 18 Youth Faith Formation, **9:30AM, CC**  
Parent Mtg.(all grades), **9:45AM, CC**  
Catechists Commissioning, **11 AM Mass, C**

MASS INTENTIONS

- Tue Sept 13 9:00 am Patrick O'Donnell
- Wed Sept 14 9:00 am Dale Fields
- Thu Sept 15 9:00 am Deacon David R. Powell
- Fri Sept 16 9:00 am Sarah Goldsmith
- Sat Sept 17 5:00 pm Herbert Ouellette
- Sun Sept 18 8:30 am Mary Frances Norris
- Sun Sept 18 11:00 am Roland, Beatrice & Gilbert McKay

LITURGICAL FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

- Mon Sep 12 The Most Holy Name of Mary**
- Tue Sept 13 St. John Chrysostom**
- Wed Sept 14 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
- Thu Sept 15 Our Lady of Sorrows**
- Fri Sept 16 Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian**
- Sat Sept 17 St. Robert Belarmine

WEEKDAYS LITURGICAL MINISTERS

**Daily Lector:** J. Blackwell, M. Goldsmith, C. Galli, C. Galli  
**Meals-on-Wheels:** P.Keen, K.Owens, J&J Lenderman  
**Altar Preparation:** P. Browne

*Some new schedules for Meals on Wheels delivery are in the front entrance rack. Volunteers, please take your copy today.*

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS



Please remember the sick of our parish, and all in need of our prayers, especially those who serve our country and their families, and all who are listed in our Parish Book of Intentions.



**DECEASED** Please pray for the soul of **Pedro Panganiban**, the father of parishioner Sandy Nguyen. *May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

**Altar Flowers:** Flowers for the Altar in Memory of a Deceased Loved One – or in honor of a Special Occasion may be requested by calling the church office, 301-994-0607. (Donation for two altar arrangements: total \$50)

**Correction:** *Flowers on the altar last week were in memory of **George and Madeline Gateau**, gift of Chip and Linda Gateau and Butch and Joyce Mori.*

**THIS WEEK:** **Flowers on the back altar** are in memory **Anthony Sacco**, gift of his family.

**Flowers at the center of the front altar** are in memory of **Rudolph Barnes**, gift of Thomas and Jean Barnes.

STEWARDSHIP - FINANCIAL BLESSINGS

	9/4/2016	9/6/2015	
<b>General Collection</b>	\$5712.57	\$4992.48	+\$720.09
Identifiable Gifts	141		
<b>Maintenance</b>	\$1300.00	\$2017.00	-\$717.00
<b>Poor Box</b>	\$204.64	\$416.00	-\$211.36
<b>Donations</b>	\$525.00	\$670.00	-\$145.00

*Thank you for your faithful parish support.*

**Stewardship Lesson from the Sunday's reading:**

In the First Reading from the Book of Exodus, God speaks to Moses. In the midst of revealing to Moses what the Israelites have done and how they have violated His trust in them, the Lord says, "I see how stiff-necked this people is." As is often the case in Holy Scripture, the term "stiff-necked" has a basis in agriculture, and one with which we may not be familiar.

Farmers at that time used the term "stiff-necked" to describe an ox or horse which did not respond to directions. When an animal like that would not move and resisted direction, the animal tended to stiffen and freeze, thus the term "stiff-necked" for one who is stubborn and uncooperative.

God may consider us to be stiff-necked at times, might He not? In spite of the Lord's appeals to us to trust Him and to follow Him, we sometimes stiffen and resist. Usually we do that because following the Lord may prove uncomfortable for us. God's terms for us and His expectations of us may sometimes seem unreasonable and even impossible.

Yet, that is the challenge of living stewardship as a way of life. It is not always easy, and it may put us in positions where we feel uncomfortable and even vulnerable. Moses pleads the case for his people to God and the Lord responds to Moses' plea, his prayer, and Scripture tells us "So the Lord relented in the punishment." We do need to trust the Lord, and we do need to pray to Him, as He will respond with love and mercy.

**OUR PARISH NEWS**

**eGiving with Faith Direct**

This month we are introducing a new and exciting way for you to support our parish offertory and second collections: *Faith Direct*.

*Faith Direct* enables parishioners to make your Church contributions through either direct debit from your checking/savings account or through your credit/debit card. No more writing checks or searching for envelopes on the way out the door. Now you can apply the convenience of direct debit to your parish offerings in much the same way as you may now use it to make your mortgage, car or tuition payments.

*Faith Direct* also offers you personalized offertory cards to replace your envelopes for the collection basket.

Please join me in enrolling by responding to the mailing you will receive or visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) to enroll securely online. Our parish code is **MD769**.



**Annual Collection for Catholic University of America**  
**September 10/11, 2016**

This institution is unique among universities in the United States – even among Catholic universities. Established by the Vatican and the U.S. bishops in 1887, it is the national university of the Catholic Church. It is proud to have nearly one third of the U.S. bishops as alumni, along with over 12,400 living priests and religious from around the world. In Washington, DC the university provides an education based in Catholic intellectual tradition to nearly 7,000 students through its 12 schools, including arts & sciences, music, engineering, philosophy, social work, law, and business, in addition to ecclesiastical degrees in canon law and theology. Your support will enable Catholic University to expand its impact in preparing the next generation of leadership for our Church and nation. Thank you for your generosity.

**SAVE YOUR USED WINTER COATS:** As you buy new winter coats, please save your used winter coats for the St. George Coat Drive to be held the weekend of **29-30 October** (POC Dennis Hackathorn 301-994-9673)

**YARD SALE**

**Saturday, September 17**  
**6:00AM—12:00Noon.**

*Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus,*

Donate your treasures to the Knights of Columbus or rent your own table (\$10). For more information, contact Brian Werring (240) 925-5668 or [KofC13091@gmail.com](mailto:KofC13091@gmail.com)

**Men's Conference**

A one-day Men's Conference will be held Saturday, September 17, 2016 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in LaPlata, MD, 8am-2pm. Speakers include noted author Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, and Mr. Patrick Kilner. The day will begin with Mass with Cardinal Wuerl and costs \$20 which includes breakfast and lunch. The theme for this conference is based upon I Corinthians 16: 13 "Be on your guard, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong." There will be opportunities for worship, confession, and fellowship. You will not want to miss this. Please register at [www.adwmen.eventbrite.com](http://www.adwmen.eventbrite.com).

**St. Mary's County Fair – Sept. 22-25, 2016**

**Volunteer & Change a Life at the St. Mary's County Fair.** Would you prayerfully consider volunteering for a 2-hour shift at the Catholic Evangelization booth? If interested, please see the following link to sign up <http://www.saintalloysiuschurch.org/countyfair/> or contact Debra Vavrus at [240-317-5332](tel:240-317-5332).

**FAITH FORMATION**

**Youth Faith Formation at St. George**  
**Preschool through Confirmation**

**Classes begin September 11, 9:30-10:45AM**

**Parent Meeting (all Grades) September 18, 9:45 AM**

**ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT**

**MORNING BIBLE STUDY:**

**"DOORS OF MERCY."** Every **Friday morning, 10:00-11:30AM** in the **Community Center**. For more information about the study program, visit Saint Benedict Press at <https://www.mercystudy.com>

**EVENING BIBLE STUDY:**

Every **Tuesday evening** in the **Community Center**. Please contact Kim Browne for more information.

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2016**

## CATHOLIC REGIONAL SCHOOL (LFS)

### Little Flower School News

Many thanks to everyone who supported the 1st Annual Patriot's Day 5K by running, walking, sponsoring, or volunteering! We are so grateful and already looking forward to next year!

Tue., Sept. 13 School Mass, Holy Face Ch., **10:15am**  
Wed., Sept. 14 Early Dismissal; **12:45pm** TAG Day  
Thur., Sept. 15 1st Grade Bake Sale  
Fri., Sept. 16 4th & 5th Grade Parent/Student  
Morning Mass, **8am**  
8th Gr. Parent/Student Lunch, **11:45am**  
Back to Sports Night, **6pm**

Don't forget to save your Box Tops and Campbell's Soup labels! They add up and help our school to be able to purchase supplies, gym equipment, technology, and other things to enhance our students' learning!

Interested in learning more about Little Flower School? Call the office today to schedule a tour! We'd love to talk more with you about how to make a Catholic education a possibility for your child! (301)994-0404 or email [LFSoffice@littleflowercatholic.org](mailto:LFSoffice@littleflowercatholic.org)

## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CORNER

### 47th Annual Car Raffle Benefit

Get into the drawing to win a new 2017 Ford Mustang (or \$18,000 Cash Option). Price is \$1 per ticket or \$5 for 6 tickets. Drawing to be held October 8, 2016.

### CHARITY PERSONIFIED — Saint Teresa

The portrait of Mother Teresa displayed on the façade of St. Peter's Basilica at her Vatican canonization on Sunday, Sept. 4, was commissioned by the Knights of Columbus and painted by renowned American artist Chas Fagan.

A graduate of Yale University, Fagan has painted portraits of all the U.S. presidents — a collection that regularly tours the country for the White House Historical Association. He lives and works in Charlotte, N.C.

Also an accomplished sculptor, Fagan's pieces include a bronze of President Ronald Reagan that stands in the Capitol rotunda and likenesses of Mother Teresa and Rosa Parks that are carved into the stone detail of the narthex of Washington's National Cathedral.

The official canonization image was seen publicly for the first time at a press conference in Washington, D.C., at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine on Thursday,

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 1. It was commissioned by the Knights as a gift to the Missionaries of Charity, the order founded by Mother Teresa in 1950.

The Knights' gift also includes the printing of more than 1 million prayer cards bearing the new image, that were distributed at the canonization Mass led by Pope Francis. Reproductions of the portrait were also given to the Missionaries of Charity and the poor they serve around the world.

"The Knights of Columbus has been privileged to work closely with Mother Teresa and her Missionaries of Charity since the 1970s," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "We always felt a special affinity with Mother Teresa, since our first principle is charity. As with her, that principle manifests itself in our own work and also through our help and support for the poor and vulnerable — those on the margins of society."

The Knights of Columbus printing plant in New Haven, Conn., has done other assignments for Mother Teresa's congregation.

In 1988, the Knights were first honored to work with Mother Teresa, who personally delivered her order's constitutions and official book of prayers to be created by the printing plant that is now supporting her canonization.

At the time, in a talk to nearly 600 K of C employees, she thanked "the Knights of Columbus for all the good things they have done for the people of God."

In 1992, Mother Teresa was chosen as the first recipient of the *Gaudium et Spes* Award, the highest honor that the Knights bestow.

## THIS SUNDAY'S SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

In today's Gospel reading from St. Luke, Jesus delivers three parables in short order. The first deals with a lost sheep; the second with a lost coin; and the third with a lost son. Although the Lord was specifically speaking to Pharisees and scribes, a large crowd had gathered including sinners and tax collectors, and Jesus' message was as much for them. In fact, it is a message each of us needs to hear and to take to heart.

As is always the case in Holy Scripture, there are messages for us in each of today's readings. How carefully do we listen to those messages? We may hear the scripture readings; we may even follow them carefully in a *missalette* or other book, but do we truly listen for the messages there are for each of us?

The First Reading comes to us from the Book of Exodus. The second Book of the Old Testament, Exodus gets its

## SEPTEMBER 11, 2016

name from the ancient Greek word *exodus*, meaning “going out.” It tells how the Israelites leave slavery in Egypt through the strength of God and under the leadership of Moses. They journey through the wilderness to Mt. Sinai, where God promises them the land of Canaan (the Promised Land) in return for their faithfulness. However, this particular reading from Exodus 32 speaks of a time when the people strayed from their faith.

God is speaking to Moses, and the Lord explains that things are happening and have happened of which Moses may not be aware. God speaks of idols and false Gods. This is a warning for all of us. Many times in our lives we lose our sense of priority; we may see other things as more important at moments than our faith. God can and will forgive us, but it is a forgiveness we must seek, and we must be committed to changing to live God-centered lives — the kind of conversion required of us to be good stewards.

To serve God we must first be faithful to God. That is what Paul is explaining to Timothy in the Second Reading. St. Paul is well aware that he is reliant upon the Lord to be enabled to serve Him and to share the Good News with others. Paul says, “I am grateful to him who has strengthened me, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he considered me trustworthy in appointing me to the ministry.” We often speak of how important it is to trust in the Lord. However, we cannot neglect the fact that God trusts us as well.

This is the kind of trust about which Paul is speaking. Paul did not “volunteer” to serve God. He was called and he responded to that call. The Lord also calls each of us, and He expects each of us to respond as good stewards also. However, one of the greatest gifts we receive — free will — can also be a stumbling block. Of course, it all goes back to faithfulness, the faith that failed the Israelites. God loves us; God is patient with us; and God forgives us when we fail. The secret is for us, like Paul, to be grateful for our calling. Our Second Reading concludes with St. Paul declaring “To the king of ages, incorruptible, invisible, the only God, honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.” Paul could never stop praising God. If we have trouble with that, it is probably because we do not know God very well. That may be the real goal of our lives.

Jesus’ parables are the epitome of how He teaches us. The three in today’s Gospel Reading from St. Luke all involve what is important in life. In the parables of the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the Lost Son (the Prodigal’s son) Jesus is addressing the issue of what is important in God’s eyes and how that relates to repentance and

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

forgiveness. Much has been written and said about the story of the prodigal son and it might be summarized quite simply. The son makes two appeals to his father. The first might be stated as “Give me...” and the second as “Make me...”

We may ask for a lot from God as well. But the real key to success and to being a good steward is to say quite simply “Lord, make me what You will” or “Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.” It is only through faith and through gratitude and through acceptance of God’s will that we can truly serve Him. Real joy is found in God’s response to that second request — “Make me.”

### NEWS IN AND AROUND OUR AREAS

**Sun., Sept. 11 All You Can Eat Breakfast, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dist. VFD&RS, Drayden Rd., Valley Lee, 8-11am.** \$9. Adults; \$5 ages 6-12, 5 and under, free. Great menu-including BACON! Info: 301-994-9999

**Sun., Sept. 11 Holy Angels Church, Avenue. MD Seafood Dinner, 11:30am-4:00pm.** Crab balls, steamed spiced shrimp, fried oysters, fried chicken, parsley potatoes, coleslaw, green beans, beets, rolls, fruited jello, beverages. Adults \$27; Carry-outs & advance tickets \$25; child 6-12 yrs. \$8; 5 & under free. Info: 301-769-2541.

**Sun., Sept 11 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Crab Feast Fundraiser, Loyola on the Potomac, Faulkner, MD. 2-5pm.** All you can eat crabs, fried chicken, hamburgers & hotdogs, corn on the cob, and more. Beer, sodas, water. Live music, hayrides, 50/50 raffle. Price \$65. Info: Lisa White, 301-392-0819 or [lisa.white@loyolaretreat.org](mailto:lisa.white@loyolaretreat.org).

**Mon., Sept. 15 Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows special Field Mass and Rosary, 5:00 PM, St. Mary’s Queen of Peace Cemetery, Helen, MD.** Celebrant: Father Anthony Lickeig. Mass and Rosary offered for deceased of community, especially those who have recently died. Held rain or shine (enclosable tent for comfort). More info: 301-475-5005.

**Sat., Sept. 17 Hope, Help and Healing: A Catholic Response to Domestic Violence and Abuse Symposium, St. Catherine Laboure Church, Wheaton, MD, 9am-12pm.** [see bulletin board notice]

**Sat., Sept. 17 Annual Lebanese Festival, Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Church, 7142 Alaska Av., NW, Washington, DC. 12PM-11PM,** Kid’s activities, Lunch & Dinner, Music & Dancing, \$1,500 Raffle, etc. 202-829-5554.

**Mon., Sept. 19 Southern Maryland Area Monthly Mass with Eucharistic Adoration and Healing Prayers, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 7:00 PM.** Confessions start 6:30 PM. All welcome. Info: 301-863-8144.

**Sat., Oct. 1 Yard Sale, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dist. VFD&RS, Drayden Road, Valley Lee, 7am-12:00pm.** Reserve a table \$10. Info/ reserve a table: Kelly at 240-299-5261.

### Men’s Annual Retreat – October 28-29, 2016

Give a weekend to God!

**Ignatian Weekend Retreat-“Entering into the Father’s Joy”.** The men of Southern Maryland Parishes go on retreat each year at **LOYOLA ON THE POTOMAC – A Jesuit Retreat House in Faulkner, Maryland.** You may also make reservations online at [www.loyolaonthepotomac.com](http://www.loyolaonthepotomac.com). “Come away and rest awhile”.