



# SAINT PETER'S CHURCH

A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY  
DEVOTED TO DEEP AND  
ABIDING FRIENDSHIP  
WITH JESUS CHRIST

ESTABLISHED 1700

3320 SAINT PETER'S DRIVE  
WALDORF, MARYLAND 20601  
[WWW.STPETERSWALDORF.ORG](http://WWW.STPETERSWALDORF.ORG)

HOURS: M-T 8:30 – 4:30 P.M.  
FRIDAY 8:30 – 1:00 P.M.  
PHONE 301-843-8916  
FAX: 301-632-6272

OFFICE FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION  
301-843-9583

ST. PETER'S SCHOOL  
301-843-1955



## SUNDAY MASSES

8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon and 1:30 p.m. (en Espanol), 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m.

Daily Mass at 8:00 a.m. Monday through Saturday

Confessions:

Saturday from 3:00 – 3:45 p.m. (Church)

Wednesday from 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. (Our Lady of the Fields Chapel)  
or by appointment

Chapel of Our Lady of the Fields

Open 24 hours a day for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament

## PASTORAL STAFF

### Resident Priests and Deacon

Father Keith A. Woods, Pastor

Father Cezary Kozubek, Parochial Vicar

Monsignor Oliver McGready, Retired

Deacon Robert Martin

## PARISH STAFF

Tom Abell, Parish Facilities Manager

Alice Culbreth, Director of Christian Formation

Sister Theresa Frere, IHM, Coordinator of Ministry  
to the Sick and Homebound

Gavin Arvizo, Youth Minister

Alicia Moore, Parish Secretary

Fran O'Neill, Parish Accountant

Diana M. Davis, Music Director

J.R. West, Principal, St. Peter's School

## *Welcome Visitors and New Members*

St. Peter's welcomes those new to our community or those who may be visiting family and friends. Please don't hesitate to introduce yourself to those worshipping with you. Also, if you've recently moved into our parish, please register at the parish office, 301-843-8916. We are glad you're here and hope you will come back often.



If you would like to register in St. Peter's Parish, please contact the Parish Office to request a registration form, 301-843-8916 or email [parishsecretary@stpeterswaldorf.org](mailto:parishsecretary@stpeterswaldorf.org)

### **St. Peter's Catholic School**

301-843-1955

Grades pre-K thru 8, hours: 8:15 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Before/After Care, hours: 6:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. and 3:15 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

**Mass and Novena in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus** 8:00 p.m. on the First Friday of every month in the Church. All night Eucharistic Vigil from the Friday evening Mass until the Saturday morning 8 o'clock Mass from September to June.

### **The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

For those interested in becoming Catholic – those persons who have never been baptized or those baptized into other Christian denominations who now wish to become Catholic – or for those Catholics who have missed receiving Sacraments after Baptism. Please contact the Office for Christian Formation at 301-843-9583 x155 for more information.

### **GIFT (Growing in Faith Together): Family Religious Education**

Please contact the Office for Christian Formation to discuss opportunities for Faith Formation for the entire family, including Baptism, Marriage, First Penance and First Holy Communion. Our Sunday Family Religious Education sessions meet 2x per month and include an enrichment session for families (and social), as well as age-level instruction in the faith (CCD) for children/youth in PreK - 8. Please call the Office for Christian Formation at 301-843-9583 x166 (English speaking only) or x115 (hablar espanol).

### **Youth Ministry (and Confirmation Preparation)**

Youth Ministry provides spiritual, social and cultural experiences for students in middle through high school. The purpose of St. Peter's Youth Ministry is to empower the young people in our parish to live as disciples of Jesus Christ by drawing them to responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the Catholic faith community. For youth in middle and high school it will foster development and growth in Christian discipleship and Catholic identity through faith formation sessions, service projects, social events and spiritual activities, such as retreats. Contact Gavin Arvizo, Youth Minister for more details@ [gavin youthminister@gmail.com](mailto:gavin youthminister@gmail.com) or 301-843-9583 x 160.

### **St. Vincent de Paul Society**

The St. Vincent de Paul Society food pantry is open on the third Saturday of the month from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. and is located in the school auditorium. For more information, call 301-932-7713. Donations of non-perishable food items may be left in the baskets beneath the Offertory Table at the central entrance to the Church for the benefit of the monthly food distribution to the needy.

**The Women's Worship Ministry** meets on the fourth Monday of each month except June, July and August. Worship and praise begins at 7:00 p.m. in church followed by Bible study and Scripture reflection. Just bring your Bible and your joyful voice! Contact: Kathy Moore, 301-843-2839, [goodnews36@gmail.com](mailto:goodnews36@gmail.com).

**Altar Society** washes and presses altar linens, cleans altar and sacristy, fills holy water fonts, etc. in the Church. Call Lily Perez 301-512-4854.

To report repairs and other matters concerning church buildings and grounds, please contact the parish facilities manager on 301-843-8916, ext. 142.

## From Father Woods

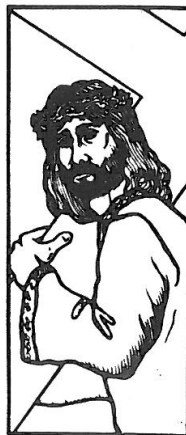
### *Veiling and Unveiling*

While the practice has been abandoned in some places, the Church still encourages the custom of veiling statues during the final two weeks of Lent. The Fifth Week of Lent and Holy Week were formerly known as "Passiontide." While no longer called by this name, the tone of this phase of Lent still changes significantly beyond our own need for conversion and our response to our baptismal commitment. Instead the focus becomes the meaning of Christ's Passion and Death. We focus less on ourselves and more on Him.

So why cover the statues? The Church uses this visual act to demonstrate the need to turn our attention away from other things and people and to focus only on the mystery of the Lord's sacrifice. Of course the saints remain important - especially Our Lady and her participation in the events of our redemption. But during this time, all attention should be turned to Christ Crucified. Over these two weeks the story is unfolded for us about what happened that precipitated the Passion.

The Church is reminding us that if something is distracting us, we should simply cover it up in order to maintain proper attention. It's pretty easy to cover statues with purple veils so that we will pay attention to the Liturgy. What distractions do we need to cover up in our own lives so that we can pay closer attention to the Lord? If we can't seem to find the time or the concentration for prayer, maybe we need to "cover up" the distraction of the television, the computer, or some unnecessary work. If we don't have enough time for family and friends, maybe we should cover over some time in our calendars to spend with them. If there is some strong temptation or influence that takes us away from being a good Catholic, perhaps we need to veil it so we're not always distracted by it.

The purple covers only stay up for two weeks. On Holy Saturday the veils are removed and we gain a new appreciation for the familiar statues. We are happy to see the images of our heavenly friends again. The discipline, self-denial and self-discipline of Lent should help us to have a new appreciation for the graces that God uncovers for us at Easter. That's the exciting part yet to come. We have no idea how much God has been using us and helping us during these forty days. If we enter whole-heartedly into the mysteries we celebrate during Holy Week, we will be amazed at what God uncovers about Himself in our lives. And once the Holy Week of our lives comes to an end, we pray for what Saint Paul describes as an experience when the veils are taken away and we see God face-to-face.



# Mass for the Intentions Week

## Sunday, March 18, Fifth Sunday of Lent

4:00 p.m. Vigil	Olivia and Gene Swan
8:00 a.m.	Angela and Filmino DiGiovannantonio
10:00 a.m.	Parishioners of St. Peter's
12:00 noon	Meliton Pineda
1:30 p.m.	Intentions of the celebrant
6:00 p.m.	Jim Bush

## Monday, March 19, St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m.	Doris Stover
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## Tuesday, March 20

8:00 a.m.	William E. Montgomery
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## Wednesday, March 21

8:00 a.m.	John Fitzherbet
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## Thursday, March 22

8:00 a.m.	Special Intention
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## Friday, March 23, St. Turibius of Mogrovejo

8:00 a.m.	Virgil Ball
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## Saturday, March 24, Blessed Oscar Romero

8:00 a.m.	Ralph Swift
4:00 p.m. Vigil	Michael J. Middleton

## Sunday, March 25, Palm Sunday of the

### Passion of the Lord

8:00 a.m.	Elisabeth DiGiovannantonio
10:00 a.m.	Parishioners of St. Peter's
12:00 noon	Juliann Leginze
1:30 p.m.	Intentions of the Celebrant
6:00 p.m.	Virgil Ball



*The sanctuary light will burn this week in loving memory of Virgil Ball.*

The Designated Charity this weekend will be the Angel's Watch Women's Shelter. The Designated Charity next weekend will be Health Partners.



If someone you know is seriously ill and asks to be included in the prayers for the sick, please call the parish office. Names will remain on the prayer list for four weeks. At that time if you wish to have the name put back on the prayer list, please call the parish office.

Please pray for God's grace  
for those who are ill:

Father Robert Pittman, John David Yamnicky, Doris Ann Bradburn, Belinda Windsor, Mary Beard, G. Oliver, Loula Phoebus, Joan Schrock, Jeff Radtke, Al Dintino, Johnny Norman, Carmen Quinones, Mustafa Naeem, Patricia Gray, Mercedes Vaira, Bob Jupiter, Tim Beard, Linda Simpson Welch, Bernard Manderville, Scott Williams, Joanne Shuba, Rose Daskievige, Daniel Pickle, Curtis Boswell, Michael Strutt, Yvonne Karotko, Michael Boswell, Bruce Peters, Richard Davis, Mary Faunce, Bobbie Vaira, Karen Davidson, Brenda Dodson, Eddie Beder, Bill Lipford, Douglas Gourley, Nancy Tierney, Joe Goldsmith, John Walther, Madeline Pell, Christina Lazo, Baby Abigail, Joel Rivera, Isabel Velazquez, John Thomas, Eileen Delgado, Patty Duncan, Cindy Chhimes, Beatrice Proctor, Rose Ashburn, Anthony Licamara, Carmita Navarra, Suzanne Connelly, Gary Reese, Junie Oteyza, Ron Harris, Joey Abbott.

Please also pray for:

- *an increase in vocations, especially in our parish*
- *our parish Priests*

### ***The Lord's House***

*Our parish church is a place of prayer where Jesus lives in the Blessed Sacrament. Please keep a reverent and respectful silence before, during and after Mass. Please be respectful of the Lord and those speaking with Him in prayer. Please also arrive on time for Mass so that all the graces of the Holy Sacrifice will be yours.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ***Sunday, March 18, Fifth Sunday of Lent***

No GIFT sessions  
Catechist in-service – 11:00 a.m. in school  
Hispanic Community – 1:00 p.m. in school  
Confirmation Preparation – 6:00 p.m. in school  
Living Stations practice - 6:45 p.m. in Church

***Monday, March 19*** – Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

***Wednesday, March 21***, Confessions in Chapel – 7:00 p.m.

***Friday, March 23***, (Day of Abstinence)

School Stations – 2:30 p.m.  
Stations of the Cross – 6:00 p.m. in Spanish, 7:00 p.m. in English  
Cenacle Prayer Group – 8:00 p.m.

***Saturday, March 24***, Confirmation Retreat - 8:00 a.m. in school

***Sunday, March 25, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord***

GIFT sessions – 11:15 a.m.  
Living Stations practice – 6:45 p.m. in Church

***Covering Statues*** – for the Fifth Sunday of Lent the *Roman Missal* states: “In the Dioceses of the United States, the practice of covering crosses and images (statues and pictures) throughout the church from this Sunday may be observed. Crosses are to remain covered until the end of the celebration of the Lord’s Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil”. The last two weeks of Lent – the Fifth Week and Holy Week – used to be called “Passiontide”. While the name no longer survives, there is still a definite shift in the Lenten focus. The first four weeks are concerned with our conversion; the last two weeks focus on Jesus’ Passion and Death for our salvation (Oh, the word *rubric* comes from the Latin word for “red” since the directions in the Missal are printed in red ink!)

***The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*** – throughout this Lenten Season, please keep in your prayers all those in our Parish and throughout the Universal Church who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion or to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church at Easter. Lent is a time of intense discernment and preparation for the catechumens (those to be baptized) and candidates (those already baptized into other Christian communities and will become Catholic). May the Holy Spirit guide them and bring many more persons into the Catholic Church.

***Lent 2018 Share in Hope Food Drive*** - The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank all those who participated in the Share in Hope Food Drive for the Archdiocese of Washington last weekend with donations of food and/or monetary donations. We collected over 3,000 items of food. We also want to thank all the volunteers especially the youth who helped with this collection. Any and all additional items are always welcome. If you forgot to bring your grocery bag last weekend, just leave it in the back of Church. Thank you!!

***Sacraments for Children*** - this year we have a number of children who need to receive the Church's Sacraments. Instead of having them receive the Sacraments during the Easter Vigil in the context of the Sacred Triduum, we decided to have a special Mass for them on Saturday, the 17th of March. The Easter Vigil can be a bit overwhelming. The adults have been prepared for many months to understand receiving Sacraments on this special night as we celebrate the Resurrection. For children, it's quite enough just to experience the Rites of Baptism and First Holy Communion. Please pray for these young people and their families:

## **Baptism**

Kruz Washington 4 years old

Isabella Montano 2 1/2 years old

## **Baptism and First Holy Communion**

Michael Montano 2nd grade

Joshua Montano 4th grade

Kyrie Washington 2nd grade

Kavon Washington 4th grade

Amiya Washington 7th grade

Antoinette Davis 6th grade (SPS)

## **First Holy Communion**

Bryanna Kirkpatrick 6th grade

Edwin Urias Santa Maria 7th grade

Oscar Urias Santa Maria 7th grade

Cristina Zarate 8th grade (SPS)

***Fantastic Bulletin Stuffers!*** - Our bulletin company is able to print a color cover for the weekly bulletin, but inside pages are only in black and white. Occasionally (but frequently lately) we have special things we want you to have and these need to be in color. These color inserts are printed here, but need to be placed inside our 750 bulletins. The 8th graders from Saint Peter's School have repeatedly come to our rescue! Under the direction of their homeroom teacher, Miss Haley Potter, the 8th graders can have all bulletins stuffed in under 15 minutes - and they never fail to respond when we ask them. The whole Parish offers its gratitude. We are certain to need their services in the weeks to come!

***Solemnity of Saint Joseph*** - Monday the 19th of March is the feast in honor of Saint Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Saint Joseph is the Patron of the Universal Church, of Fathers, of Workers, of a Happy Death among other titles. Please pray in a special way for Holy Mother Church, for all fathers/grandfathers/expectant fathers, and for those who are overworked or unemployed on this day. We rely on the prayers of the quiet foster-father of the Son of God. Saint Joseph, pray for us!

***218 Annual Jubilarian Mass*** - Cardinal Donald Wuerl will celebrate the annual Jubilarian Mass honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 51+ years on Sunday, June 17, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Please call the parish office to register, 301-843-8916. Names of the jubilarians need to be turned in to the parish office by **Monday, April 16.**



***Communal Anointing of the Sick*** - Anointing of the Sick will be administered on **Saturday, April 7, at 1 p.m.** in the Church. **This will not be a Mass**, but a Liturgy with individual anointing. As mentioned in previous bulletins, the Sacrament of the Anointing is not just for those at the point of death, but also for those “in danger of death from sickness or old age”...for those aged in “a weakened condition even though no dangerous illness is present” and for those “before surgery when a dangerous illness is the reason for the intervention” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*). For other questions, you may contact: Sr. Theresa Frere, IHM, [homebound@stpeterswaldorf.org](mailto:homebound@stpeterswaldorf.org) or parish number, 301-843-8916 ext. 117. You do not need to RSVP.

***The Campaign That Won't End*** - As you know, the Saint Peter's Capital Campaign ended on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December. In January the Priests and office staff were discussing what to do about the Campaign envelope that is included in your envelope packet. Since some people were accustomed to making offerings through the envelope, we decided to simply rename the envelope something like "Building and Repair" or "Church Maintenance". To that end, Father Woods wrote to the Archdiocese to ask permission for this kind of collection, which would be assessed like all collections. Much to our delight and surprise, the Archdiocese suggested that they simply extend the Capital Campaign to be a full 5 year program (most campaigns are for 5 years.) With this permission, any monies put in the Capital Campaign envelopes are exempt from assessment and will allow us to pursue goals from the Campaign - including more artistic preservation work in the Church and HVAC improvement.

***Statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe*** – the warm days we had a few weeks ago provided us with the opportunity to permanently attach the statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe to its pedestal in front of Saint Peter's School. We ask Our Blessed Lady to watch over our whole Parish and entrust ourselves to her prayers and intercession.

***Sacrament of Penance*** – plan now to make sure you have time to make a good Confession before Easter. Catholics must confess serious sins at least once a year. This is a Precept of the Church. The Holy Week flyer in today's bulletin lists the additional Confession times throughout Holy Week. At the entrances of the Church are wonderful cards that provide an Examination of Conscience and Act of Contrition. There is tremendous grace in asking God for forgiveness in this Sacrament and receiving Absolution. This is the reason Christ died for us: to save us from sin.

***Go to Confession this Holy Week!***



# Holy Week 2018



## Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

Confessions on Saturday afternoon from 3:00 to 3:45 p.m.

Mass on Saturday evening at 4:00 p.m.

Masses on Sunday at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon, 1:30 p.m. (Spanish) and 6:00 p.m.

*Palms will be blessed and distributed at all the Masses.*

### Monday of Holy Week

Mass at 8:00 a.m.

Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of Saint Matthew, the Apostle at 7:00 p.m.

*At this Mass, held during Holy Week in every diocese in the world, the local bishop blesses the Holy Oils (the Oil of the Sick, the Oil of Catechumens, and Sacred Chrism) used in sacramental celebrations throughout the diocese.*

### Tuesday of Holy Week

Mass at 8:00 a.m.

Confessions from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Church

### Wednesday of Holy Week

Mass at 8:00 a.m.

Confessions from 11:00 a.m. to Noon and from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. in Church

## The Sacred Triduum





### **Holy Thursday**

Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00 p.m.

*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Repository until midnight.*

*The Collection at this Mass – which celebrates the institution of the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood – will benefit Saint John Paul II Seminary in Washington*

### **Good Friday**

Stations of the Cross in Spanish at 1:00 p.m.

Living Stations of the Cross at 3:00 p.m.

Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday – in Spanish – at 4:00 p.m.

Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion – 7:00 p.m.

### **Holy Saturday**

Confessions from 11:00 a.m. to Noon in Church

Solemn Mass of the Easter Vigil at 8:00 p.m.

*Please note: there are no afternoon Confessions or 4:00 p.m. Mass on Holy Saturday.*



### **Easter Sunday**

Mass at 8:00 & 10:00 a.m., Noon, 1:30 (Spanish) and 6:00 p.m.

# SHARING Joy IN THE OF Love IN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY



## EMPOWERING YOUTH TO SHARE THE JOY OF LOVE

The Scriptures and stories of saints remind us that God does not wait until someone turns 18 or 21 to call them to great things. Many of our great Christian saints and heroes were young people who listened daily to God in prayer and made courageous decisions to answer His call in their lives. As families and as a parish family we share the responsibility to call young people to great things and support them at every step along the journey.

### WE ENCOURAGE YOUTH TO SHARE THE JOY OF LOVE BY...

- strengthening your faith with your family (parents, siblings, grandparents, etc.) by praying and going to Mass and parish activities together;
- actively participating in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation and continuing to put your faith into practice as a fully initiated Catholic;
- becoming an active participant in the life of the parish through opportunities such as youth ministry programs, or as altar servers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, etc.;
- attending a retreat or conference during high school years.

## EMPOWERING YOUNG ADULTS TO SHARE THE JOY OF LOVE

Pope Francis reminds us that marriage preparation does not begin when you meet your future spouse or are engaged. "Marriage preparation begins at birth," and continues through each stage of our lives (*Amoris Laetitia*, 208). Whether you are single, engaged, or newly married, the best way to discern, prepare, or live into a vocation is to live your faith wholeheartedly and generously today.



### WE ENCOURAGE YOUNG ADULTS TO SHARE THE JOY OF LOVE BY

- not waiting until you feel "more settled" to join a parish community, volunteer and donate regularly;
- finding a small community to belong to: family, young adult community, small group, lay movement;
- finding a mentor or mentor couple you look up to and ask to meet them for dinner to talk with them and learn from their experience. Don't have one? Ask your priest for someone to recommend;
- forming habits today that you want to have later in life: eat dinner together at the table, pray before meals, attend Mass together every weekend, incorporate family traditions or develop new ones;
- learning more about your faith through ongoing spiritual reading, retreats, adult faith formation programs, and other opportunities.

Cardinal Wuerl has written a Pastoral Plan to teach and celebrate the gift and joy of love in the family and help families that are hurting.

At its heart, the pastoral plan applies the vision of Pope Francis' letter *Amoris Laetitia* to parish ministry and family life.

The plan has five parts:

**Part I**  
Amoris Laetitia's Teaching

**Part II**  
The Way of Faith and Contemporary Culture

**Part III**  
The Way of Accompaniment

**Part IV**  
The Importance of Parish Life

**Part V**  
Resources in Service of the Ministry of Accompaniment

See the pastoral plan, resources, and more at [www.adw.org/amorislaetitia](http://www.adw.org/amorislaetitia)



# LA ALEGRÍA DEL *Amor* *Compartido* EN EL MATRIMONIO Y LA FAMILIA



## HABILITAR A LOS JÓVENES PARA QUE PARTICIPEN EN LA ALEGRÍA DEL AMOR

La Sagrada Escritura y las vidas de los santos nos recuerdan que Dios no espera hasta que alguien cumpla 18 o 21 años para llamarlos a realizar grandes cosas. Muchos de nuestros grandes santos y héroes cristianos fueron jóvenes que escuchaban a Dios en su oración diaria y tomaron decisiones valerosas para responder al llamamiento del Señor. Como familias individuales y como familia parroquial, todos compartimos la responsabilidad de alentar a nuestros jóvenes a realizar grandes cosas y apoyarlos paso a paso en su caminar.

### ANIMAMOS A LOS JÓVENES A PARTICIPAR EN LA ALEGRÍA DEL AMOR,

- fortaleciendo su fe con su propia familia (padres, hermanos, abuelos, etc.) orando y participando juntos en Misa y en actividades de la parroquia.
- participando con entusiasmo en la preparación para el Sacramento de la Confirmación y poniendo siempre en práctica su fe como católicos plenamente iniciados
- siendo partícipes activos en la vida de la parroquia uniéndose a programas de pastoral juvenil o como monaguillos, lectores, ministros extraordinarios de la Comunión, etc.;
- asistiendo a un retiro o conferencia durante los años de escuela secundaria

## HABILITAR A LOS JÓVENES PARA QUE PARTICIPEN EN LA ALEGRÍA DEL AMOR

El Papa Francisco nos recuerda que la preparación para el matrimonio no comienza cuando se conoce al futuro cónyuge ni cuando los novios se comprometen. “Cada persona se prepara para el matrimonio desde su nacimiento” y continúa durante cada etapa de su vida (AL, 208). Si tú eres soltero, eres un novio comprometido o te has casado hace poco, la mejor manera de discernir una vocación o prepararse para ella es vivir la fe con sinceridad y generosidad.

### JÓVENES ADULTOS, LOS ANIMAMOS A COMPARTIR LA ALEGRÍA DEL AMOR,

- sin esperar a sentirse “más afianzados” para incorporarse a una comunidad parroquial, ofrecerse de voluntarios y hacer donaciones periódicas;
- buscando un grupo católico cerca de su casa al que puedan pertenecer, por ejemplo: familias, comunidades de jóvenes adultos, grupos pequeños, movimientos seglares, etc.;
- buscando una persona o una pareja casada que ustedes admiren para que sea mentora e invítenlos a cenar para conversar con ellos y aprender de su experiencia matrimonial. ¿No conocen a ninguna? Pídanle a su sacerdote que les recomiende una;
- formándose ahora los hábitos y las cualidades que desean tener en el futuro, como cenar juntos, rezar antes de las comidas, asistir a Misa juntos cada fin de semana, incorporar sus tradiciones familiares o desarrollar nuevas tradiciones, etc.
- aprendiendo más acerca de su fe, por ejemplo, haciéndose el hábito de leer libros espirituales, participar en retiros y programas de formación en la fe para adultos y otras opciones.

El Cardenal Wuerl ha escrito un Plan Pastoral con el fin de enseñar y celebrar el don y la alegría del amor en la familia y ayudar a las familias que sufren.

En su esencia, el plan pastoral ayuda a aplicar la visión de la carta *Amoris Laetitia* del Papa Francisco en el ministerio pastoral de la parroquia y en la vida familiar.

### El plan consta de cinco partes:

1. La enseñanza de *Amoris Laetitia*
2. El camino de la fe y la cultura contemporánea
3. El camino del acompañamiento
4. La importancia de la vida parroquial
5. Recursos al servicio de la pastoral del acompañamiento

El Plan Pastoral, los recursos y otros elementos pueden verse en [www.adw.org/amorislaetitia](http://www.adw.org/amorislaetitia)



## Del Padre Woods

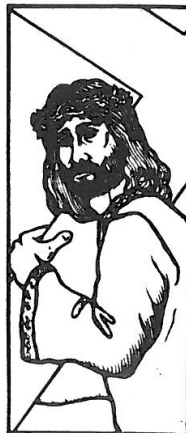
### Con Velo y sin Velo

Si bien la práctica ha sido abandonada en algunos lugares, la Iglesia aún fomenta la costumbre de cubrir con velo las estatuas durante las últimas dos semanas de la Cuaresma. La quinta semana de Cuaresma y Semana Santa anteriormente se conocía como "Passiontide". Aunque ya no se lo llama por este nombre, el tono de esta fase de la Cuaresma sigue cambiando significativamente más allá de nuestra propia necesidad de conversión y nuestra respuesta a nuestro compromiso con el bautismo. En cambio, el enfoque se convierte en el significado de la Pasión y la Muerte de Cristo. Nos enfocamos menos en nosotros mismos y más en él.

Entonces, ¿por qué cubrir las estatuas? La Iglesia usa este acto visual para demostrar la necesidad de desviar nuestra atención de otras cosas y personas y enfocarse únicamente en el misterio del sacrificio del Señor. Por supuesto, los santos siguen siendo importantes, especialmente Nuestra Señora y su participación en los eventos de nuestra redención. Pero durante este tiempo, toda la atención debe dirigirse a Cristo Crucificado. Durante estas dos semanas, la historia se desarrolla para nosotros sobre lo que sucedió que precipitó la Pasión.

La Iglesia nos recuerda que si algo nos distrae, simplemente debemos cubrirlo para mantener la atención adecuada. Es muy fácil cubrir las estatuas con velos de color púrpura para que prestemos atención a la liturgia. ¿Qué distracciones necesitamos cubrir en nuestras propias vidas para poder prestar más atención al Señor? Si parece que no podemos encontrar el tiempo o la concentración para la oración, tal vez tengamos que "cubrir" la distracción de la televisión, la computadora o algún trabajo innecesario. Si no tenemos suficiente tiempo para familiares y amigos, tal vez deberíamos cubrir un tiempo en nuestros calendarios para gastar con ellos. Si hay alguna fuerte tentación o influencia que nos aleje de ser un buen católico, tal vez tengamos que velarlo para que no siempre estemos distraídos.

Las fundas de color violeta solo permanecen durante dos semanas. El sábado santo se quitan los velos y obtenemos un nuevo aprecio por las estatuas familiares. Estamos felices de ver las imágenes de nuestros amigos celestiales de nuevo. La disciplina, la abnegación y la autodisciplina de la Cuaresma deberían ayudarnos a tener un nuevo aprecio por las gracias que Dios nos descubre en la Pascua. Esa es la parte más emocionante que está por venir. No tenemos idea de cuánto Dios nos ha estado usando y ayudándonos durante estos cuarenta días. Si entramos en los misterios que celebramos durante la Semana Santa, nos sorprenderemos de lo que Dios descubre acerca de sí mismo en nuestras vidas. Y una vez que la Semana Santa de nuestras vidas llega a su fin, oramos por lo que San Pablo describe como una experiencia cuando se quitan los velos y vemos a Dios cara a cara.





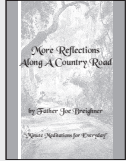
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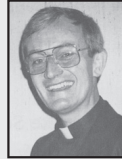
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Advice is like a good road map. It can show us the best way to go, but we have to decide to make the trip. And just as no road map can include all the detours and roads under construction, so no advice can substitute for our own judgment and character. On the road of life we all have to get lost and find our way on our own. We cannot avoid making mistakes. Unfortunately, too many of us fail to learn from our mistakes and that only makes matters worse. As a witty person said, "Experience is what you get when you don't get what you want." In other words, when we try and fail, at least we have the experience of what did not go right.

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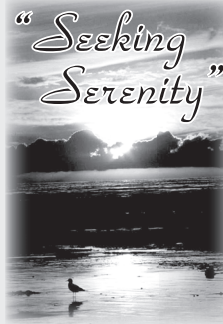
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