

Mary's Catholic Church

Street Address: 7301 Annapolis Road, Landover Hills, MD Mailing Address: 7401 Buchanan St. Landover Hills, MD 20784-2323

Phone (301)- 577-8844 Fax (301) 306-5543

http://church.stmaryslh.org

October 2, 2022

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Liturgy

Saturday—9:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. Vigil, 6:30 pm Spanish Sunday—7:00, 9:00, 11:00 am English 1:00 pm & 5:00pm Spanish

Weekday Liturgy Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. English

Reconciliation (Confession / Confesiones)

Monday—Friday 9:30 a.m. Saturday 3:30 p.m. Also by appointment. *Todos los sabados 3:30 p.m.*

Sacrament of Baptism / Bautismos

Last Sunday of every month. Register at the Rectory House. A copy of your child's birth certificate is required. *Para niños menores de 7 años se celebran los terceros domingos del mes. Los padres y padrinos deben asistir a una charla el primer sabado del mes de 10 am a 12 del mediodia. Llame a la oficina parroquial para inscribirse.*

Marriage / Matrimonio : Please contact the office at least 6 months prior to the proposed wedding date. Comunicarse con el parroco por lo menos 6 meses antes de la fecha deseada.

Anointing of the Sick / Uncion de Los Enfermos: Administered at the onset of illness or prior to surgery. Llame a la oficina parroquial si necesita este sacramento.

MISA DE QUINCEAÑERA. El requisito para la misa de quinceañera es haber recibido los sacramentos de Bautizo, primera comunión y confirmación. Deben llamar a la oficina 6 meses antes de la fecha deseada y hablar con Sra. Judith Alvarenga al 301-577-8844 ext. 110.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Evelio Menjivar, Pastor Rev. Ebuka Mbanude, Parochial Vicar (mbanudee@adw.org) Deacon Stephen Robinson Deacon Francisco Cartagena Mr. Rene Chemo, Music Director Mr. Fahd Rzihan, Human Resources Ms. Mary Sims, Business Manager Ms. Jenny Martinez, Parish Secretary

DIRECTOR OF ADULT FAITH FORMATION & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Mrs. Alma Maltez 301-577-8844; ext. 126 stmaryaffd@gmail.com Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Church Tues., Wed., Thur., Fri. 9am-2pm Rectory

RECTORY Monday-Friday 9 am to 5 pm

7401 Buchanan St. Landover Hills, MD 20784 301-577-8844 Fax 301-306-5543 secretary@saintmarylandoverhills.org

SAINT MARY'S SCHOOL

Ms. LaSandra Hayes, Principal 7207 Annapolis Rd. Landover Hills, MD 20784 301-577-0031 www.stmarysschoollh.org



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From Fr. Ebuka's Desk To Question God Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

Have you ever questioned? Have you, in the time of great distress, sorrow, loss or pain, lifted your eyes and voice to God and ask why? Have you ever asked God why evil is happening to you or why evil seems to thrive in the world? If so, then, know that you are not alone. The prophet Habakkuk found himself greatly distraught by the evil and violence that was happening around him. He grappled with the innate human guestion of why evil exists in a world created by a loving and caring God. He praved and prayed and there was no relief in sight. Then he prayed again saying "Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongs and look upon trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise" (Hab. 1:2-3). The prophet's cry and prayerful questioning echo the cry of the psalmist in Psalm 22:1-2 which our Lord borrowed while on the Cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning? O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer; and by night, but find no rest." This raises the question: should one question God?

The scripture paints a "yes" and "no" picture for us. Abraham questioned God when he tried to negotiate the salvation of Sodom and Gomorrah. But this was in all humility, reserving supremacy for God: "Will you indeed destroy the righteous with the wicked? (Gen. 18:23). The prophet Habakkuk and the Psalmist in Ps. 22 also guestioned God amid the pain and sorrow that surround them. Yet, their questioning was completely offered in prayer with a cry for help. It was never with arrogance or any sense of entitlement or threat to God. As prophet Habakkuk struggled with God's slow response to his question, he displayed an important attitude necessary in any relationship with God. He said: "I will take my stand to watch" (2:1). That is, to wait. When one wishes to question God, he/she should be ready to wait for an answer. Job's questioning of God gives us the "no" picture. Job thought that he was entitled to ask God guestions, to claim that he is innocent while God is at fault for letting him go through suffering. When he waited for God's response and God responded, the response came with a recounting of the awesomeness of God who is Job is not match for. "Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will guestion you, and you shall declare to me" (Job 38:1-3. Read till chpt. 42 for the full account of God's response). The response that prophet Habakkuk received also echoed God's majesty and holiness which cannot be challenged by any being whatsoever. His vision of God's splendor swallowed up all his guestions and he exclaimed his joy and confidence in the all-holy God (Hab. 3:18-19).

To me, one can question God as a child questions his father, but never with disgust or arrogance or entitlement because God's holiness does not tolerate any of these. Whatever the situation may be, it is only in prayerful cry for help can one dare to ask God questions. Yet, in such questioning, not only must one acknowledge the sovereignty of God and defer to him as the psalmist did in Ps. 22:2, "Yet, you are holy, enthroned on praises of Israel," but one must also be ready to accept that even in his (God's) mysteriousness, God is still the only answer to all his (man's) questions, as C.S. Lewis masterfully showed in his book "Till We Have Faces."

For questions and comment, contact Fr. Ebuka at mbanudee@adw.org.



St. Mary's Catholic School 301-577-0031 School Office www.stmarysschoollh.org Ms. LaSandra Hayes, Principal

"St. Mary's School is the place to be! We love our school and we want all to see. We celebrate our differences each and every day. Faith, Knowledge and Service! That's the St. Mary's Way! Look out world; here I come. For my success and greatness have only just begun!" This is our school motto that is said every day at our school. Your child needs to be here with us! Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our school!



St. Mary's Catholic School 301-577-0031 School Office www.stmarysschoollh.org Ms. LaSandra Hayes, Principal

"St. ;Mary's School es el lugar para estar! Amamos nuestra escuela y queremos que todos la vean. Celebramos nuestras diferencias todos los días. ¡Fe, Conocimiento y Servicio! ¡Así es el Camino de Santa María! Cuidado con el mundo; aquí vengo. ;Porque mi éxito y grandeza no han hecho más que empezar!"

Este es el lema de nuestra escuela que se dice todos los días en nuestra escuela. ¡Su hijo necesita estar aquí con nosotros!

¡Gracias por su continuo apoyo y oraciones por nuestra escuela!

Elevated in Christ Youth Group Parroquia Santa María, ¿Eres un chico o chica que está buscando una comunidad para crecer en tu fe? ¿tienes la edad de 12 a 18 años?

Te invitamos a formar parte del ministerio de Jóvenes de la parroquia Santa María ¡te esperamos!

> Coordinadora: Katherine de la O. cell: 240-601-5069

Este domingo a las 3:00 pm tendremos la bendición de los animales en el estacionamiento de la Iglesia.

Gracias a todos los padres quienes asistieron a la reunión de Confirmación, revisar los requisitos que los Jóvenes deben completar para recibir el Sacramento de Confirmación.

El domingo 9 de octubre no tendremos clases de Educación por la conmemoración del día Cristóbal Colon.

El domingo 16 de Octubre invitamos a los padres asistir a la Catequesis Familiar a las 11:30 am en el gimnasio de la escuela.