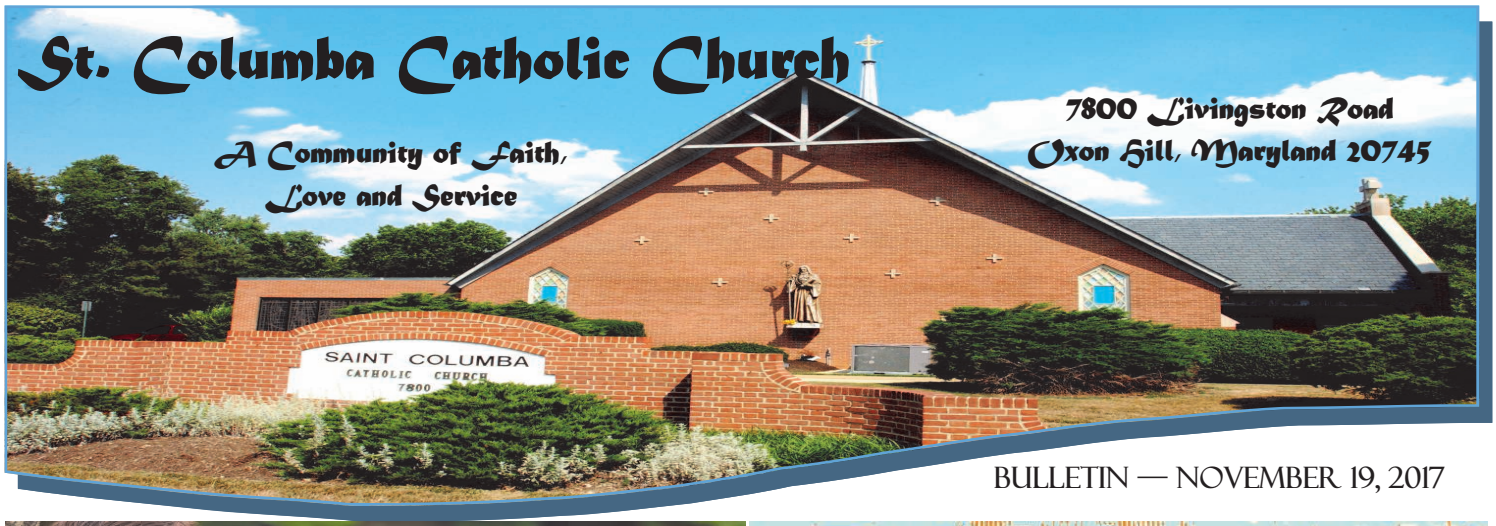
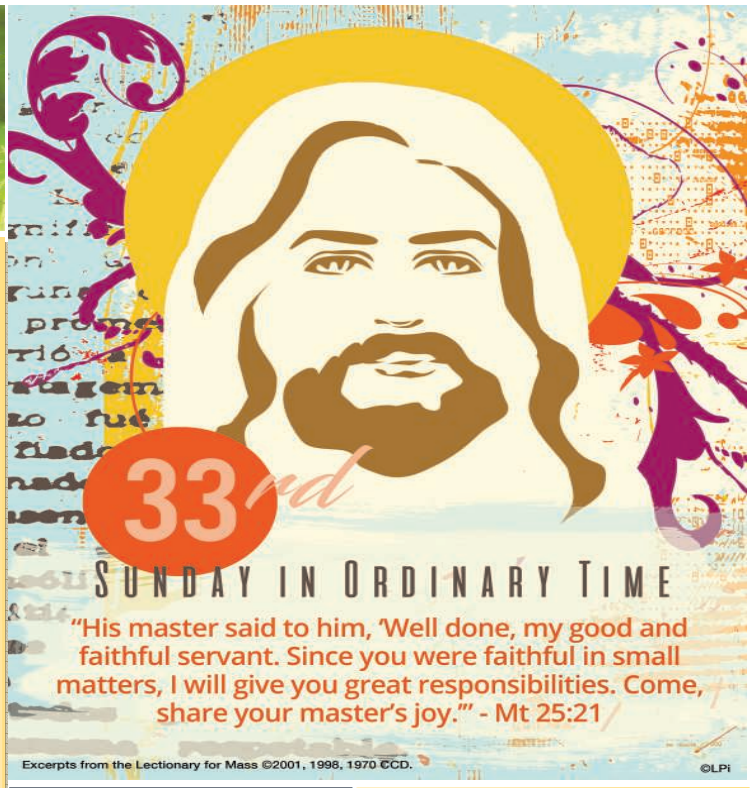


BULLETIN — NOVEMBER 19, 2017



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil
5:00 p.m.
Sunday
8:00 & 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

First Saturday
Tagalog (Filipino)
7:00 p.m.

Weekdays
Monday—Friday
8:15 a.m.
Saturdays
9:00 a.m.

Mass and Novena
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Wednesdays
7:00 p.m.

First Friday
8:15 a.m.
and 7:00 p.m.

Adoration
Wednesdays
6:00—6:45 p.m.
First Friday
9:00 a.m.—6:45 p.m.
Third Saturday of the Month
6:30—8:30 p.m.

Confessions
Saturdays
3:30—4:30 p.m.
or by appointment

Rosary
Monday—Friday
7:25 a.m.

Coffee Socials
First Sunday after all Masses
(Sept. to June)

Parish and School Staff

Pastor
Rev. Gary T. Villanueva

Deacons
Deacon Andy Espinosa
Deacon Robert Villanueva
Deacon Rick Fisher (Ret.)

Parish Accountant
Diane Alexander

Parish Admin. Assistant
Leah Flores

Parish Youth Ministry Coordinator/Admin. Asst.
Sr. Emily Bautista, MCST

Parish School of Religion Coordinator:
Sr. Rosario Salazar, MCST

Director of Music Ministry
Rebecca Yoder

Parish Council Chair
Benny Ramos

Fr. Dewan Hall Coordinator
TBA

School Principal
Katrina Fernandez

School E/F Coordinator
Lera Rickling

School Admin. Assistant
Marie Norment

Plant Manager
Carlos Brown-Bey

Parish Office

Phone: 301-567-5506
Fax: 301-567-6546
Email:
stcolumbachurch@verizon.net
Parish Website:
www.stcolumbacatholic.net

Parish School of Religion

Phone: 301-567-6113
Fax: 301-567-3188
Email:
st.columbapsr@gmail.com

School

Phone: 301-567-6212
Fax: 301-567-6907
Email:
schooloffice@stccatholic.org
School Website:
http://www.stccatholic.org

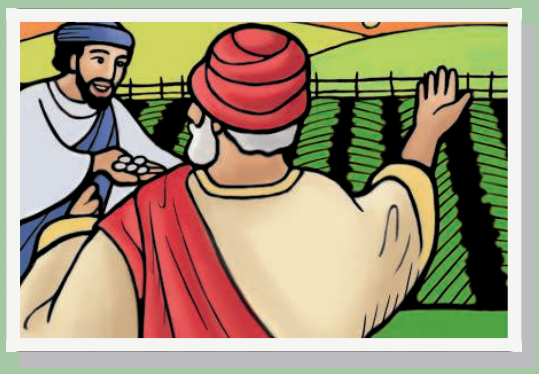
BAPTISMS

Classes offered 3rd Thursday of the month. Please call the Parish Office.

BAPTISM AND SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR OLDER CHILDREN
Please contact the Parish School of Religion, Sr. Rosario Salazar, MCST at 301-567-6113.

MARRIAGE
Please contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to a proposed wedding date. Reservation of the church is required before other preparations such as receptions are made.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK/ COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND
Please contact the Parish Office



"'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master's joy.' " - Mt 25:20b-21

REFLECTIONS
THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"But the man who received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money." This servant was scared. He didn't want to take any risks and just wanted to play everything safe. As he confesses to his master, "Out of fear I went off and buried your talent in the ground." And the master was not pleased. The other servants who invested the money he gave them were richly rewarded for their efforts to produce more. But this servant was punished for letting his fear rule the day.

What factors are keeping us from making a return on God's investment in us? He has given us all life, and each of us also has a special collection of "talents" to make use of. We have certain gifts, skills, experiences, resources, and abilities that (though we may not often think about it) come from God. He calls us to make the most of these things, not just to take them for granted or bury them in the ground, so to speak. Our gifts are meant not just for our own enjoyment, but to help others, to spread truth and goodness and beauty to the world around us.

Sometimes, however, we fail to really capitalize on our potential. Laziness, distraction, or self-pity can get in the way if we are unwilling to put in the hard work to improve our natural gifts, if we allow ourselves to zone out with entertainment or frivolous pastimes instead of making good use of the time entrusted to us, or if we wallow in negativity by focusing on what we don't have instead of embracing what we do.

Each moment is a gift from God. May we seize every opportunity to multiply the investment God has made in us so that we may be worthy to hear God tell us, "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 19, 2017

Sunday:	Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-5/ 1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30 or 25:14-15, 19-21
Monday:	1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/ Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/ Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday:	2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-7/Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday:	2 Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15/Lk 19:11-28
Thursday:	1 Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/ Lk 19:41-44
Friday:	1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10bcd-12/Lk 19:45-48
Saturday:	1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19/ Lk 20:27-40
Next Sunday:	Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-3, 5-6/ 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-46

NOVEMBER MASS INTENTIONS

All Mass Intentions for the whole month of November are for the souls of the deceased whose names have been placed in the gold box in front of the altar.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

Our Sick and Suffering

Especially Edwin Smith, John Vary, Norm Dela Rosa, Virginia Maxwell (15Oct17). Deacon Rick & Rachel Fisher, Roy DeMesme, Tess Samoy, Lamar Johnson, Ellamae Hulsey, Linda Wilkes, Kobi King, Simon Perez, Jr., Nicholas Mararac, Joseph Alto, Jacob Dylan Paguio, Jeanne Pike, Angelita Majors, Angel Viray, Bonnie Gilkerson (12Nov17). Conrado Flores, Sr., Marian Flores, Gloria King, Fidela Saguros, Eleanor Wachowski, Julius Perez, Goyena Boucher, Ruth Mararac, Dorothy Francia (19Nov17).

Our Beloved Dead

Especially John Bryan, Meiko Locksley, Gloria Briscoe, Nelia Perez Valderama, Teodora Javier, Jun Nagales, Cecil Taylor, William Goodwin, Jr., Esther Baraquio, Robert Eloise, Anna Nicholson

Pray for

Our Military

Especially Linden Bynoe; John M. Harris II; Marquette Young; Crystal Villanueva Lee; Sharmelle Williams; Tiffany Williams; Peter John Ifurung; PFC Mark J. Venancio; Maj. Teresita Vida; Andrew Alexander; Lt. Victor Barba; 1st Lt Peter Agboli; Krystol Dudly; Christian Samoy; Derrell Thomas and Jahaira Best, Kevin Myers.

St. Columba School

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On-going School Visits are by appointment. For evening appointments please contact Mrs. Rickling our Enrollment Coordinator at **301-567-6212 x2 or email her at ricklingl@stccatholic.org**

St. Columba School would like to announce the opening of Pre-K4 for the upcoming school year 2017-18. You may apply on-line at our school website, www.stccatholic.org. Our school summer hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:00am to 1:00pm.

Please contact Mrs. Rickling, our Enrollment Coordinator for more information and for school tours at 301-567-6212 x2 or
by email, ricklingl@stccatholic.org.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA CHRISTMAS MARKET PLACE

Our 17th Annual Breakfast with Santa Christmas Market Place will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2,2017 in the Father Dewan Hall. There is no admission fee for the Christmas Market place.

Pancake breakfast will be served from 9 am to 12 noon. Adults $10 and Children 4 - 10 -$5 (3 and under free)

Photos with Santa will be taken from 9 am to 12 noon ($5)
We will also feature a Santa's craft shop, local crafters and vendors, and door prizes throughout the event.

For more information please contact Christine Patton at christinepatton55@gmail.com or call the school office at 301-567-6212.

HAVE YOU REGISTERED WITH ST. COLUMBA PARISH?

Share more actively in the life of the parish by registering your family. Registration packets are available in the Narthex and at the Parish Office.

Holy Communion for the Sick/Homebound

If you are physically unable to come to Mass and would like to receive the Eucharist at home, please contact the parish office at 301-567-5506. Arrangements will be happily made to bring the Eucharist to you.

Come and join! All youth are invited!

St. Columba Catholic Church
Young Disciples of Christ

The Official St. Columba Parish Youth Group!

Meeting times:

Every Friday from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM in the 8th Grade Classroom

For more information, please contact one of our core team members:

-Sr. Emily Bautista, MCST (Youth Coordinator):
-301-567-5506

-Sr. Rosario Salazar, MCST (Youth Coordinator):
-301-567-6113

-Craig Maresch (Youth Minister)
-240-643-3644

-Jose Valderrama (Youth Minister)
-202-297-7978

RCIA (THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)

Do you know someone who is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Perhaps you are thinking about what it means to be called to the Catholic way of life. The Church has a process called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) whereby adults can learn and discern whether to become Catholic Christians. The process leads an-unbaptized adult to his or her baptism, usually at the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. If the adult has been baptized in another Christian tradition, then the process prepares the person to be received into the Catholic Church by making a profession of faith as a Catholic. The process also prepares the way for someone who was baptized in the Catholic Church to receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Here at Saint Columba, the RCIA meets on Saturday mornings at 9:30 AM from until 11:00 AM beginning in September and continuing through May. Each morning we explore a different topic with lecture/discussion facilitated by one of the RCIA team members. Our goal is to help you on your spiritual journey as you come to know Jesus through the Scriptures, the teachings of the Catholic Church, prayer and worship, and the community of Saint Columba. You will be accompanied on your journey by a Catholic sponsor, usually a friend, who is there to help answer questions and support you. To know more about the RCIA process, call the Parish Office at 301-567-5506 or call Mike Maxey at 301-536-1543.

PRAYER LIST: Names for the Prayer List should be written either in a note or sent electronically. The name will be added to the next bulletin listing in the order it is received and will remain for one month and then removed. To place a name back on the list, please resubmit the name. Thank you!

CERTIFICATES: When requesting Certificates (e.g. baptisms, confirmations) or permission letters to be a godparent, please call or email the Parish Office with required information at least 10 business days in advance.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: It is necessary to use donation envelopes so that the parish office can track your attendance, allow the parish office to keep track of your donations for year-end statement of your donations, and for not using the envelopes you will be marked inactive. **If you are moving or have a change of address or if there is an addition of a family member, please notify the parish office.**

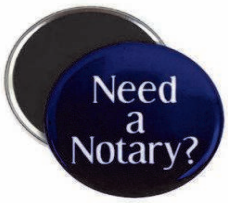
BAPTISMAL INFORMATION CLASS: In The Archdiocese of Washington, parents who wish to have their son/daughter baptized must attend this information session. The session is "user-friendly", informative (learn about raising you child Catholic), social (get to meet other parents) and fun! **Next classes: October 19, November 16 and December 21 at 7:00 p.m. (class starts promptly) in the Weekly Church Chapel (go to the smaller parking lot of the church).** To attend, please contact or email the Parish Office. **NO WALK-INS**. Only the parents are required to attend, but Godparents are welcome.

Monday-Friday
9:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.
Lunch Time
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Parents!
Your children are a gift from God, and we consider children incredibly important at St. Columba Catholic Church.
Please feel free to discuss with your children what is happening in the church, and if they get a little noisy, please don't feel out of place. Their energy is a sign of the life that God has given them.
Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are welcome in God's place.

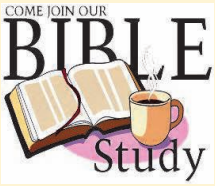
Children's Bulletins
In the Narthex on the table, there is a "Kids bulletin: with 2 different children's bulletins, one for Kindergarten—1st grade, and one for 2nd grade—3rd grade.
It comes with activities that go along with the Biblical text for this week's message, readings and Gospel. Feel free to pick up a copy for your children's use **instead of using the pew envelopes for drawing and writing.**

St. Columba Parishioners
The presence of children is a gift to the church and a reminder that our church is growing. Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents!



Please call the Parish Office at 301-567-5506.

FOOD DONATIONS FOR THE POOR
Please leave your donation in the blue plastic bin in the narthex. **Non-perishable foods only. Please check the expiration date.** Items needed are: pasta, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, vegetables, canned meat, and canned fruit. The Oxon Hill Food Pantry also needs several volunteers. Please call Frieda Edwards at 301-894-8374. Thank you!



"Join and experience a deeper appreciation of your faith!" All are welcome, especially the youth.

We will meet every Monday at 7:00 p.m. at the 8th Grade Room (go towards the Father Dewan hall). Please contact Craig Maresch at 240-643-3644, Maggie Edmonson at 301-567-3347 or Nancy Wooster at 301-248-4065 before attending the class.

The **OFFICIAL 2017 WHITE HOUSE ORNAMENT**

The Official 2017 White House Christmas Ornament honors Franklin D. Roosevelt, who served as the 32nd president of the United States from 1933 to 1945. The design is inspired by the eagle cartouche emblazoned on the speaker's stand at President Roosevelt's first inauguration. The ornament's silhouette is reminiscent of a tabletop radio—like those many Americans used to listen to the president's reassuring Fireside Chats—and four stars toward the top of the ornament represent Roosevelt's historic four terms as president. On the back of the ornament, President Roosevelt's beloved Scottish Terrier, Fala, sits next to a festive Christmas tree.

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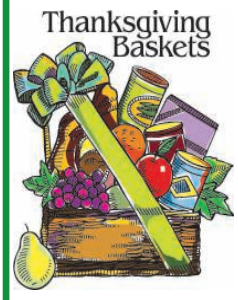
VOCATIONS CORNER

Please continue to pray for our fellow parishioner who is aspiring for Holy Orders.

Seminarian Patrick Agustin is currently studying Theology in North American College, Rome, Italy.

Let us continue to pray for more vocations to the priesthood, the permanent diaconate and the religious life. If you know of anyone who feels such a calling, please give them encouragement and advise them to speak with Father Gary or any of the MCST sisters.

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN MINISTRY



The African American Ministry of St. Columba plans to deliver Thanksgiving baskets to members of our community who are in need. If you are able to support this effort, please bring non-perishable food items (please check the expiration dates!) and place them in the box that is marked in the Narthex. If you would prefer to make a monetary donation, please place your contribution in an envelope and give it to an usher to place in the African American Ministry mail slot. Checks should be made out to "St. Columba Church" with AAM or African American Ministry in the note field. Last year, we were able to provide for 35 families through the generosity of our parish family. With your support, we look forward to our parish family being a blessing to others again this year!

CATECHISM IN A YEAR

131. What is the saving meaning of the Resurrection?

The Resurrection is the climax of the Incarnation. It confirms the divinity of Christ and all the things which he did and taught. It fulfills all the divine promises made for us. Furthermore the risen Christ, the conqueror of sin and death, is the principle ofour justification and our Resurrection. It procures for us now the grace of filial adoption which is a real share in the life of the only begotten Son. At the end of time he will raise up our bodies.

"Jesus Ascended into Heaven
and Is Seated at the Right Hand of
God the Father Almighty"

Further reading: CCC 651-655, 658

132. What does the Ascension mean?

After forty days during which Jesus showed himself to the apostles with ordinary human features which veiled his glory as the Risen One, Christ ascended into heaven and was seated at the right hand of the Father. He is the Lord who now in his humanity reigns in the everlasting glory of the Son of God and constantly interceded for us before the Father. He sends us his Spirit and he gives us the hope of one day reaching the place he has prepared for us.

"From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead"

Further reading: CCC 659-667

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN MINISTRY OF ST. COLUMBA CHURCH CELEBRATES NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH

The Oblate Sisters of Providence, the first religious order of women of African descent in the world, was formally established on July 2, 1829, in Baltimore, MD. Elizabeth Lange emigrated from Cuba in the early 1800's. She was a free, well-educated young woman of means who, using her own funds, established a school in her home to educate children of other refugees and slaves. A group of four women, encouraged by Fr. Joubert, opened a Catholic school for girls, St. Francis Academy, in their convent. It is the oldest continuously operating Catholic school for black children in the United States. It has been in operation since 1828. All of this was accomplished during the time of slavery, and in the face of much opposition.

On July 2, 1829, Elizabeth Lange and three other women professed their obedience to the Archbishop of Baltimore, Monsignor James Whitfield, and pledged to educate and evangelize African Americans. They provided a home for orphans, educated freed slaves, nursed the terminally ill during the cholera epidemic of 1832, sheltered the elderly, and even served as domestics at St. Mary's Seminary during a time of crisis.

Mother Mary Elizabeth Lange and the Oblate Sisters of Providence persevered in their mission, against all odds, especially those of racial injustice and poverty. Their continuing service is, indeed, a testament to God's Providence.

For more information on the history of Blacks in the Catholic Church, visit: https://www.nbccongress.org

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