

**CELEBRATING CHRIST SINCE 1873** 

June 21, 2020 ◆ Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest."

**Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time** 

## **PASTORAL STAFF**

Rev. Gerard Francik
Pastor

frfrancik@shgparish.org

Rev. Canisius T. Tah Associate Pastor frcanisius@shgparish.org

**Rev. Hilario Avendaño** Associate Pastor for Hispanic Ministry

Mr. James A. Ryan Retired Deacon

Mr. James Nuzzo
Deacon

Mr. Bill Arther
Permanent Deacon Intern

Ms. Jamie Danielson
Director of Mission
jdanielson@shgparish.org

Mrs. Susan Spedden
Director of Pastorate Operations
sspedden@shgparish.org

Mr. Mike Frye

Dir. of Maintenance & Facilities mfrye@shgparish.org

**Sr. Cecilia Cyford, SSJ**Coord. of Religious Education sr.cecilia@shgparish.org

Mrs. Michele Hunter Coordinator of RCIA & Adult Faith Formation mhunter@shgparish.org

Ms. Susan Lea Coord. of Youth & Y.A. Ministry slea@shgparish.org

Mrs. Kathy Whitelock
Coord. of Development & Comms.
kwhitelock@shgparish.org

Mrs. Jeanne Cossentino Principal jcossentino@shgschool.org

Mrs. Anne Purnell
Asst. Middle School Principal
apurnell@shgschool.org

Mrs. Georgeann Gurkovich Asst. Principal ggurkovich@shgschool.org

**ASSISTING CLERGY** 

**Rev. James Proffitt** 

"In the Sacred Heart, every treasure of wisdom and knowledge is hidden. In that divine heart beats God's infinite love for everyone and for each of us as individuals."

- Pope St. John Paul II, Homily for the Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart during his Apostolic Voyage to Canada (1984)

"Do not let the past disturb you. Leave everything in the

## **Mass Schedule**

Weekend Masses (Main Church)

Sabado a las 7:00 de la noche en español

Sunday at 9:00 AM and 12:00 PM

Weekday Masses (Main Church)

Monday — Friday at 9:00 AM

Saturday at 8:00 AM

Jueves a las 7:00 de la noche en español

## **Confessions**

Saturday (Main Church) 3:00-4:00 PM 5:30-6:45 de la tarde en español

# Private Prayer in the Little Church

9:30 AM – 9:00 PM each day Maximum of ⅓ church capacity permitted at one time.

## **Parish Office Open to Visitors**

Please wear a protective mask and observe social distancing when entering the office or the churches. ning in the Sacred Heart of Jesus and begin again



with joy."

- St. Teresa of Calcutta

"Draw from the Heart of Jesus the spiritual food and drink for your life so that, nourished by Christ, you are new persons, transformed in depth by this divine love."

- Pope Francis, June 6, 2018

## **Weekend Mass Update**

Weekend Masses are now in the Main Church and will be limited in capacity. Attendees will be seated when they enter church (you can't choose your seats) — starting at the front rows and working back so that proper distancing is maintained. These procedures are to keep everyone safe.

All people over the age of two **must** wear a mask from the time they enter church property (once you leave your car in the parking lot) until they exit.

Although Holy Communion may be received on the tongue, it is being highly discouraged at this time in order to maintain the safety of our priests and ministers. Thank you!

## Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

The Novena continues for nine consecutive Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM. Parishioners can participate in the Novena in the Little Church, following all necessary Phase II Guidelines from the Archdiocese of Baltimore, and it is also livestreamed. It will conclude with the novena prayers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on **Tuesday**, **June 30**.



All Masses and special services will continue to be livestreamed through the **parish website** and **Facebook** (except for the Sunday 12:00 PM Mass).

## XII domingo del tiempo ordinario 21 de junio de 2020

## El fundamento del culto al Corazón de Jesús: la Encarnación

El fundamento del culto al Corazón de Jesús lo encontramos precisamente en el misterio de la Encarnación del Verbo, quien, siendo consustancial al Padre, por nosotros los hombres y por nuestra salvación bajó del cielo, y por obra del Espíritu Santo se encarnó de María, la Virgen, y se hizo hombre.

Adoramos el Corazón de Cristo porque es el corazón del Verbo encarnado, del Hijo de Dios hecho hombre, de la Segunda Persona de la Santísima Trinidad que, sin dejar de ser Dios, asumió una naturaleza humana para realizar nuestra salvación. El Corazón de Jesús es un corazón humano que simboliza el amor divino. La humanidad santísima de Nuestro Redentor, unida hipostáticamente a la Persona del Verbo, se convierte así para nosotros en manifestación del amor de Dios. Sólo el amor inefable de Dios explica la locura divina de la Encarnación: tanto amó Dios al mundo que entregó a su Hijo unigénito, para que el que crea en él no muera, sino que tenga la vida eterna (Jn 16). Es el misterio de la condescendencia del divina. anonadamiento de Aquel que a pesar de su condición divina, no hizo alarde de su categoría de Dios; al contrario, se despojó de su rango y tomó la condición de esclavo, pasando por uno de tantos. Y así, actuando como un hombre cualquiera, se rebajó hasta someterse incluso a la muerte, y una muerte de cruz (Flp 2, 6 ss).

## El Corazón de Cristo transparenta el amor del Padre

En la vida de Jesucristo se transparenta el amor del Padre: "Quien me ve a mí, ve al Padre" (Jn 14, 9): "Él, con su presencia y manifestación, con sus palabras y obras, signos y milagros, sobre todo con su muerte y gloriosa resurrección, con el envío del Espíritu de la verdad, lleva a plenitud toda la

revelación y la confirma con testimonio divino..." ("Dei Verbum", 4).

Toda su existencia terrena remite al misterio de un Dios que es Amor, comunión de Amor, Trinidad de Personas unidas por el recíproco amor, que nos invita a entrar en la intimidad de su vida.

## Dear Parishioners,

The life of a prophet was not enviable. To begin with, no one usually



volunteered to be a prophet unless he or she was a false prophet. But, even after being called to do a challenging task — calling people to repentance and accountability and showing true justice — prophets were usually persecuted, ignored, made fun of, and even tortured and killed. We hear the poor prophet Jeremiah lament his treatment today.

Jesus goes on to speak about it in the Gospel reading. He tells the disciples not to be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. This is a blatant reference to all of the prophets who have come before him, what will happen to the disciples, and the future that is to come to Jesus, Himself. Saint Paul refers to Jesus' death when he celebrates that through one man we were all justified. In his writings, we find the beginnings of the doctrine of Original Sin. Adam and Eve sinned, and we all suffered because of that. But the good news is that through one man, Jesus Christ, we have all been saved. Original Sin may not be a popular teaching to communicate today, but it is part of our belief in a loving and caring God, and it demonstrates the importance of baptism.

Fr. Jerry Francik

## Sacramental

Bautizos: Se celebran cada segundo sábado del mes (excepto durante la cuaresma). Los padres y los padrinos requieren asistir a una clase de preparación que se realiza el tercer domingo de cada mes y los padrinos deben haber recibido todos los sacramentos de iniciación cristiana (Bautizo, Confirmación Eucaristía). Favor llamar a la oficina para mayor información.

Matrimonio: Las parejas están que planeando en casarse deben contactar sacerdote o el diacono por lo menos seis meses antes de la fecha planeada para este sacramento. Todas las parejas comprometidas deben de cursillo tomar el prematrimonial.

## **Unción de los Enfermos:**

En caso de emergencia llamar a la oficina parroquial o a la rectoría. Por favor notificar a la oficina si sabe de alguien que se encuentre en el hospital y necesite de este sacramento.

## Sacramento de la Reconciliación:

El sacramento de la confesión se celebra los sábados de 5:30 p.m. a 6:45 p.m.



Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### **MUSIC MINISTRY**

Mrs. Katie Angerer kangerer@shgschool.org

Mr. Mathew Lane mathewlane@verizon.net

## **SEMINARIAN INTERNS**

Mr. Maurice Sunde Afor msunde@shgparish.org

Mr. Cornelius Ugwu cugwushgparish.org

## **Parish Office Hours**

## Monday - Friday:

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM 1:15 - 4:30 PM

#### **Mailing Address:**

Sacred Heart Parish P.O. Box 3672 Glyndon, MD 21071-3672

## **Phone Numbers**

## Parish Office / Rectory

410-833-1696

parish@shgparish.org

Fax 410-833-2676

**Hispanic Ministry** 

410-830-1862

**Development Office** 

410-833-4933

**Sacred Heart School** 

410-833-0857

**Religious Ed. Office** 

410-833-8515

**Youth Ministry** 

410-833-7639

Convent

410-526-1327

## **Bulletin Deadline**

Announcements are due one week before the requested bulletin date. Send notices to jment@shgparish.org.

## Pray for the Repose of the Souls of the Faithful Departed

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

Robert McCormick, Meghan McLaughlin, Christopher Tah



Fr. Canisius' father, Christopher Tah, passed away last week in Cameroon. Please keep Fr. Canisius and his entire family in your prayers during this difficult time.

## Please Remember the Sick in Your Prayers

Lucy Angerer, Mary Ellen and Mike Berry, Georgeanne Bond, Arvel Brown, Abby Renehan Cafiero, Chrissy Christian, Gloria Cyford, Maria Ekavhiare, Theresa Eyler, Sandy Gamber, Troy Heiner, Gerry Kleiman, Barbara Krepps, Loretta McCusker, Carlyle Montanye, Scott Moser, Elaine Ortiz, Austin Phillips, Judy Schaefer, Mel Serio, Bud Shearer, Ryan Shriver, George Stifler, Joe Trinite Sr., Taylor Wagner

## **Sacred Heart Mass Intentions**

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Sunday, June 21 — Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Parishioners of Sacred Heart	Father's Day Novena	
Monday, June 22		
Charles Christie	Father's Day Novena	
Tuesday, June 23		
Father's Day Novena	Raymond Fendlay	
Wednesday, June 24 — Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist		
James Grosso, Jr.	Father's Day Novena	
Thursday, June 25		
Father's Day Novena	Eurola Antao	
Thursday, June 25 (Spanish Mass)		
Sp. Int. Elaine Ortiz		
Friday, June 26		
Ralph Hyatt	Father's Day Novena	
Saturday, June 27		
Father's Day Novena	Carmelina Fernandes	
Saturday, June 27 (Spanish Mass)		
Timoteo & Berta Cahuas		
Sunday, June 28 — Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Father's Day Novena	Parishioners of Sacred Heart	

(All Mass intention requests are being offered, though not necessarily on the date requested.)

## Scripture Readings for June 28 — Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a • Ps 89:2-3, 16-19 • Rom 6:3-4, 8-11 • Mt 10:37-42

If we have died with Christ, we believe we shall also live with him (2). He invites us to take up our cross and follow him, and to respond to those who are in need (3), as did the woman who extended hospitality to Elisha the prophet (1). Blessed is she who walked in the countenance of the Lord (Ps).

## **Our Stewardship**

## Weekly Offering — June 14, 2020

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\$15,977.00
\$14,572.00
\$1,405.00
+ ,
\$1,792.00
\$354.00
\$110.00

## Electronic Fund Contributions 6/08/20 – 6/14/20

(Not included in above total)

Offertory	\$5,631.30
Maintenance	



## Annual Appeal for Catholic Ministries Update: "Renew a Steadfast Spirit"

We are at 76% of our parish's goal or at \$107,039 — with an expected rebate to Sacred Heart of \$26,760. We are at 18% participation and are above last year with 387 donors vs. 361 last year. Thank you for your participation and support! To contribute to this year's Annual Appeal, please visit www.archbalt.org/appeal/give/.

## **Online Giving**

https://www.shgparish.org/giving

Your offertory can also be dropped in the mail slot at the Parish Office or mailed to this address:

Sacred Heart Parish
P.O. Box 3672 • Glyndon, MD 21071-3672

## Wisdom Sayings from the Sisters of St. Joseph

- Sisters Cealy, Helen, Karen, and Mary Beth

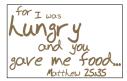
## Maxim of Love 20

"Concentrate on carrying out what God wants you to do at the present moment and do it as perfectly as possible."

- I remember that God's vision of perfection is inclusive love.
- I give myself wholeheartedly to the present moment in union with God.
- Today I choose to be mindful of my use of the gift of water.

## **Parish Outreach**

Our Daily Bread Update Monthly collection and delivery of the Our Daily Bread "Zippy Beef"



casseroles will resume on the normal 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month. Drop-offs will return to the same place as before, by the back door of the school kitchen (near the freezer!) between the school, convent, and rectory on Tuesday evening, June 23 from 7:00 – 9:00 PM and again on Wednesday morning, June 24 from 7:30 – 9:00 AM where our volunteers will collect your casseroles and/or dry goods donations.

One difference... empty casserole pans will be given to you there, so you can **pick up** empty pans when you drop off your casseroles.

Thanks to the flexibility of the Sacred Heart ODB Ministry team, new volunteer drivers, and **you** who faithfully supported this outreach during 11 weeks of the pandemic, we delivered **571 casseroles**, about 100 pounds of lunch meat, and carts and boxes of dry goods, snack, drinks, and more for the clients served at Our Daily Bread!

**Please** consider bringing an extra casserole or two on June 23/24 so that Sacred Heart can continue to deliver at least 100 casseroles on a monthly basis. We are just one of a handful of churches able to reliably support ODB during these unusual times. Thank you for your patience as we work out the "new normal".

From ODB: "We are so incredibly grateful to SHG for your support to ODBEC during the COVID-19 pandemic. Your congregation has been an exceptional help to us in the most difficult time of our organization. Thank you for all the hard work. ODBEC is truly indebted to your service." ~ Nick Rudomin, Volunteer Manager ODBEC

To prevent spillage, please **double-bag** and **freeze or refrigerate** your casserole before you drop it off. If you can't make a casserole, please consider donating dry goods such as canned vegetables/fruit, coffee, tea, sugar, peanut butter and jelly, powdered drink mixes, and non-food kitchen items such as paper cups, paper and plastic sandwich bags, and kitchen cleaning materials. Contact Mark Grabenstein (410-654-0414 or markgrabenstein@verizon.net) for more details.

## **Food Collection for Parishioners**

Food is collected for Sacred Heart parishioners at the drop-off location outside of the + Mother Seton Room.

Distribution of food items to those in need is on Sundays from 10:30 AM through the afternoon.



Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

# Sacramental Ministry

## **Baptisms**

Baptisms are currently being scheduled for one family at a time; there are no "group baptisms". Parents are required to attend a preparation class (offered monthly). Contact the Religious Education Office for more details and to arrange for Baptism.

## Reconciliation

Confessions are heard on Saturdays from 3:00 – 4:00 PM (5:30 – 6:45 PM in Spanish) in the Main Church and by appointment. Parish Reconciliation Services are held during Advent and Lent.

## Marriage

Couples planning to be married should contact a priest or deacon at least six months before the anticipated date and must take a marriage preparation course. Do not set a date until you have met with the priest or deacon.

## Communion to the Sick

#### *In normal times:*

For the hospitalized or homebound who are unable to attend Mass and wish to receive Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office. Mass is celebrated at FutureCare Cherrywood Nursing Home on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 10:30 AM.

## **Parish Life**



## **Clergy Appointments**

Effective September 1, Fr. Canisius Tah has been appointed Associate Pastor in Residence at St. Charles Borromeo Church in Pikesville. While Fr. Jerry will remain pastor of both Sacred Heart and St. Charles, Fr. Canisius will live at St. Charles and become more responsible for the day-to-day operations of liturgy, the sacraments, finances, and social activities. Also effective September 1, the future Fr. Brendan Fitzgerald has been appointed Associate Pastor for Sacred Heart Parish. You may remember seeing Deacon Brendan serving at Mass while he was here during quarantine. He is finishing his service at St. Peter the Apostle Church in Libertytown, and he will be ordained to the priesthood on August 22 at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen.

Please also welcome seminarian **Cornelius Ugwu** who arrived last week to begin his pastoral year with us here at Sacred Heart. You can view all of the recent clergy appointments in the Archdiocese of Baltimore by clicking here.

## **Confirmation Update**

Archbishop Lori has "temporarily delegated the faculty to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to the parish Pastors", which means that Fr. Jerry can administer the sacrament at Sacred Heart. We currently have 52 confirmation candidates, so to physically distance and allow enough space for a candidate, a sponsor, and up to 6 guests, we will have **two** celebration Masses:

**Saturday, July 25** at 10:00 AM • candidates and sponsors arrive by 9:15 AM Practice will be Friday, July 24 at 5:00 PM.

**Saturday, September 19** at 10:00 AM • candidates and sponsors arrive by 9:15 AM Practice will be Friday, September 18 at 5:00 PM.

There is a limit of 26 candidates for each celebration. You can use this link (www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A45A8A62DA4FF2-celebration) to sign up for one of the Masses. Specify your total number attending (including the candidate and sponsor) in the comments. More details about logistics and social distancing will come later this month. Contact Sue Lea at slea@shgparish.org or 410-833-7639 with any questions.

## First Eucharist Update

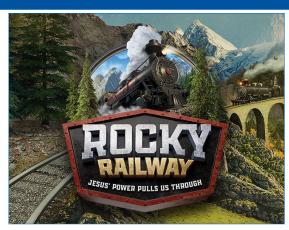
They've had to wait for a very long time, but more than 100 of our parish children have been receiving their First Eucharist at different weekend and weekday Masses, and you will continue to see them in the days and weeks ahead! Please pray that these children and their families will always remain close to the Eucharist throughout their lives.



## Knights of Columbus — Online Ceremony of Admission and Advancement

In these unusual times, opportunities are available via the internet to join the Knights and to advance to Third Degree by participating in an online ceremony. These ceremonies, known as *exemplifications*, are normally done in person. However, due to current social distancing precautions, they are now offered online. After the 30-minute ceremony, you will be a third-degree Knight of Columbus.

Ceremonies are still available on June 23, 25, and 29. You can click here to see the schedule and to view all of the details for registering. We would certainly prefer to host this new ceremony in person in our beautiful church, but for now the online version makes it available for you, your family, relatives, and friends to view and/or participate in the lessons of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. Existing 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degree members can also take advantage of viewing the ceremony as well. When registering, be sure to complete all boxes marked with "\*"—and use council #5208.



## All Aboard Rocky Railway VBS!

Get "on track" with Jesus and look for Vacation Bible School ticket information next week! Kids of all ages can travel with us (safely, from a distance) through Bible adventures, music and dance, crafty creations, and more — and learn about Jesus' power in your life.

## Sodality St. Patrick's Day Raffle Winner

Congratulations to Carmela Ventz, winner of the Sodality's St. Patrick's Day raffle. Fr. Jerry drew the winning ticket #530 on Monday, June 15 in his office at the Parish Center. A check for \$175 was mailed to Carmela at her home in Reisterstown. Many thanks to all those who bought tickets in generous support of the Sodality. By the grace of God, and perhaps a bit of Irish luck, we hope we will all be able to gather together next year for our Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon.

SACRED HEART PARISH

# ON MISSION: 2019-2020 MINISTRY PLANNING MEETING

It's time to plan for next year! Hopes, requirements, and expectations will be outlined for the year ahead.

> JUNE 28TH, 2020 | 1:30 PM (OUTDOORS AFTER MASS) JUNE 29TH, 2020 | 7:00 PM (VIA ZOOM)

At least one leader of each ministry, prayer group, related organization, and Bible study, please plan to attend one of the above mandatory meetings.

"My friends, we cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life."

- Pope Francis, June 3

## A Prayer for Healing from Racism

This prayer is part of a brief liturgy for racial healing from Catholic Charities USA, available here.

God of justice,

In your wisdom you create all people in your image, without exception.

Through your goodness, open our eyes to see the dignity, beauty, and worth of every human being.

Open our minds to understand that all your children are brothers and sisters in the same human family.

Open our hearts to repent of racist attitudes, behaviors, and speech which demean others.

Open our ears to hear the cries of those wounded by racial discrimination and their passionate appeals for change.

Strengthen our resolve to make amends for past injustices and to right the wrongs of history.

And fill us with courage that we might seek to heal wounds, build bridges, forgive and be forgiven, and establish peace and equality for all in our communities.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## Vatican official: Racism is 'spiritual' virus that must be wiped out

VATICAN CITY (CNS): Much like the coronavirus pandemic, racism is a "spiritual" virus that has spread

throughout the world and must be eradicated, said Archbishop Vincenzo Paglia, president of the Pontifical Academy for Life.

"I would compare (racism) to COVID-19, but it is a virus of the spirit, a cultural virus that, if not isolated, spreads quickly," Archbishop Paglia told Catholic News Service (CNS) June 1.

Archbishop Paglia told CNS that just as people were called to self-isolate in order to care for one another, racism can only be defeated by people caring for each other.

"Today we must start a revolution of brotherhood. We are all brothers and sisters. Brotherhood is a promise that is lacking in modern times," he said. "In my opinion, the true strength that supports us in our weakness is brotherhood and solidarity. And just as it defeats the coronavirus, it also defeats racism."

Click to view the full article from Catholic News Service.



**Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time** 

# Sacramental Ministry

## **Anointing of the Sick**

In case of emergency call the Parish Office/Rectory at anytime. Please notify the Parish Office if you know someone in the hospital or at home who wishes to be anointed. Masses of Anointing are celebrated several times a year.

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

"Thirsting for God?" Do you know someone not baptized or baptized in a non-Catholic Christian tradition who is thirsting for what it means to become Catholic?

Do you know someone already Catholic but has vet received Confirmation and Communion? They may be thirsting, too! The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) place to ask questions and seek understanding.

The RCIA is a Church rite for adults pursuing the possibility of joining the Roman Catholic Church. If you, or someone you know, are interested or would like more information, please contact Michele Hunter at 410-833-1696 or mhunter@shgparish.org.

## **Social Justice**

## Laudato si' Year for the Catholic Church

To commemorate the fifth anniversary of his encyclical Laudato si', Pope Francis announced that the period between May 24, 2020 and May 24, 2021 will be designated as Laudato si' Year for the Catholic Church, and he released a special prayer. During this year, Sacred Heart Parish will provide weekly excerpts from the encyclical with reflection questions as a way for parishioners to participate in this global commemoration. To read and reflect on the full encyclical, click below:

# POPE FRANCIS ENCYCLICAL LETTER

## Laudato si' in English • Laudato si' in Spanish

The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change. The Creator does not abandon us; he never forsakes his loving plan or repents of having created us. Humanity still has the ability to work together in building our common home. Here I want to recognize, encourage, and thank all those striving in countless ways to guarantee the protection of the home which we share. Particular appreciation is owed to those who tirelessly seek to resolve the tragic effects of environmental degradation on the lives of the world's poorest. Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded. (LS #13)

- Who comes to mind when you think of people who have a concern for the environment?
- Discuss this excerpt with your family or friends this week.
- "Dear Mom and Dad" is a project for youth aimed at educating older generations through letters from those advocating for a better future for the planet. Check out <a href="https://www.dearmomanddad.org/about">www.dearmomanddad.org/about</a> then share it with youth you know.

## **Invitation to Make Cards for Senior Citizens**

The Respect Life Committee encourages you to invite your children, teens, friends, and neighbors to join you in making pictures and cards for the senior citizens at FutureCare Cherrywood Nursing Home. You can return these pictures/cards to a plastic container which is located to the right of the entrance to the Parish Center. Please include a message or Bible verse on the pictures/cards that reminds the senior citizens of God's love for them. Some examples include: "God loves you." "Jesus loves you." "You are loved." Please return the pictures/cards by Monday, June 29. The Respect Life Committee will deliver the cards and pictures to the nursing home. Thank you for helping us share Christ's love with the senior citizens! Please call Denise Blair-Nellies at 410-795-6852 for more details.

## Happy Father's Day!

Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son Jesus, the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.

Bless all fathers as they care for their families.

Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience; support them in the work they have to do, protecting those who look to them, as we look to you for love and salvation, through Jesus Christ our rock and defender. Amen.

— Author unknown

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

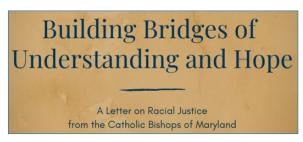
June 15, 2020

representatives so

For centuries, our country and our State have been plagued with problems of racial inequality and injustice. Although many people have acted in good faith in service and prayer to bring about just change, to acknowledge the dignity of each life, and to love one another, our current crisis causes us to reflect on how much we still must do together to make impactful progress. We vividly recall our own Church's past sins and failings and admit to them freely.

With regret and humility, we must recognize that as Catholic leaders and as an institution we have, at times, not followed the Gospel to which we profess and have been too slow in correcting our shortcomings. For this reason, it is incumbent upon us to place ourselves at the forefront of efforts to remove the inequalities and discrimination that are still present in Maryland and our nation today.

Despite our painful history, the Church in Maryland has been deeply enriched by the gifts of Black Catholics. We think of Mother Mary



Lange, who founded the first Catholic school for Black children in the United States, in Baltimore in 1828. One year later, she founded the Oblate Sisters of Providence, the first religious order for women of African descent. Today, she is a Servant of God, in the process to be canonized a Catholic saint, a cause for which all Catholics should pray.

Maryland is also home to the National Black Catholic Congress, which acts as a witness and guide to the realities of the Black Catholic experience across the United States. It is also home to the Josephite priests and brothers, whose mission is to serve the African American community.

At a time when school segregation, sadly, was the norm in Maryland, two of our predecessors — Cardinal Patrick O'Boyle and Cardinal Lawrence Shehan — began the process of desegregating Catholic schools and parishes.

On March 12, 1950, in a homily on race relations, then-Archbishop O'Boyle said, "Unless the full resources of the Church are placed at the disposal of every single member of the church and made available to every man, there is no Catholicism worthy of the name. Our Sacraments, and our societies, our Mass and mysteries of the Faith are a common possession. Just as God is Our Father — What is Catholic is ours; it is all of us united as one."

This history provides the context for us today and should act to animate our prayers, thoughts and actions for an end, finally, to the sin of racism that remains with us and in us. The unjust killing of George Floyd and other Black Americans, and the subsequent protests, rallies, and vigils that continue to take place make it clear that the conscience of our nation is on trial as questions of race and equality confront each and every one of us.

We must recognize that all of us share the same human nature and dignity because we are all created in the image and likeness of God; this is why human life is sacred. We call all people of good will to prayer, to root out any hatred and animosity that has taken hold in one's own heart. Inspired by Jesus' command to "love one another as I love you" (John 15:12), we must seek to know and understand one another and to work to break down barriers through listening, prayer and a commitment to change hearts and minds.

However, prayer and dialogue, alone, are not enough. We must act to bring about true change. United, we seek healing, harmony and solutions that recognize that every person has been created in the image of God and that every person possesses human dignity. Over the years, the Catholic Bishops of Maryland have stood firmly in our support of laws that sought to bring about justice and an end to unequal treatment based on race.

This includes access to health and maternal care, meaningful educational opportunities, prison reforms, restorative justice initiatives, housing anti-discrimination efforts, juvenile justice reforms, and ending the grossly disparate practice of capital punishment. We commend the efforts of our state lawmakers to convene working groups to discuss legislative initiatives that are needed for reform, transparency, and racial equality. We look forward to playing an active part in these conversations on both a state and national level, and to lending our voices to those whose own have been stifled or altogether silenced by those who seek to quiet them.

We continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will enlighten the minds and hearts of our elected that truth and justice will prevail over the falsehoods of discrimination and injustice.

We pray that God will guide us during these difficult times and give us the courage to act with conviction in our duty to seek racial equality, heal divisions, and build bridges of understanding and hope.

In Christ,

Most Reverend William E. Lori and the Catholic Bishops of Maryland

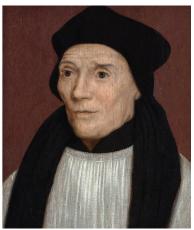


Beginning June 22, the Feast of Saints Thomas More and John Fisher, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops celebrates Religious Freedom Week. Join us in promoting religious freedom For the Good of All.

All people desire to know their Creator. All people have a natural impulse to seek the good and to live in accordance with that good. All people can flourish when they pursue the truth about God and respond to the truth.

Religious freedom means that all people have the space to flourish. Religious freedom is both an American value and an important part of Catholic teaching on human





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dignity. When we promote religious freedom, we promote the common good and thus strengthen the life of our nation and the community of nations.

Learn more at www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek!

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A partir del 22 de junio, fiesta de Santo Tomás Moro y San Juan Fisher, la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de Estados Unidos celebra la Semana de la Libertad Religiosa. Únanse a nosotros para promover la libertad religiosa para el bien de todos.

Todas las personas desean conocer a su Creador. Todas las personas sienten el impulso natural de buscar el bien y vivir de acuerdo con lo que es bueno. Todas las personas pueden prosperar cuándo buscan la verdad sobre Dios y responden a la verdad.

La libertad religiosa significa que todas las personas tienen campor para prosperar. La libertad religiosa es un valor estadounidense y tambien una parte importante de la doctrina





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católica sobre la dignidad humana. Cuando promovemos la libertad religiosa, estamos `promoviendo el bien común y así fortalecemos la vida de nuestra nación y de la comunidad de naciones.

¡Aprenda más en www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek!

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