

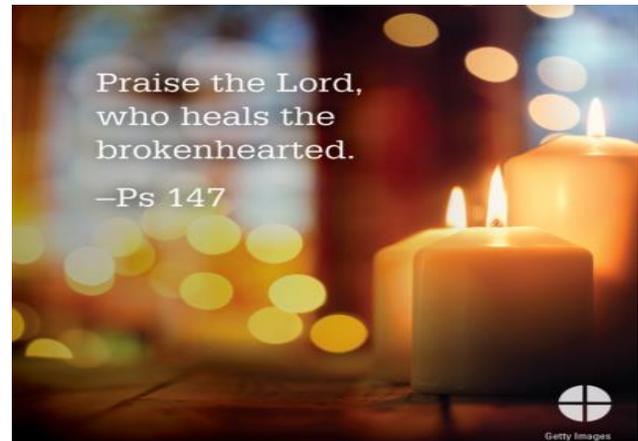
St. Charles Borromeo Church

Celebrating 172 Years as the Catholic Community in the Heart of Pikesville

Mission Statement

Saint Charles Borromeo Roman Catholic Church is a Christian Community bonded by faith and empowered by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and action through prayer, education, evangelization and service.

FEBRUARY 7TH, 2021
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



101 Church Lane ● Pikesville, MD 21208 ● 410-486-5400 ● Fax: 410-486-5421 ● www.ourstcharles.org
[Facebook.com/SCBPikesville](https://www.facebook.com/SCBPikesville) ● Office Hours: 9:00am – 3:00pm ● Email: charlesst@comcast.net

STAFF CONTACTS

Rev. Gerard Francik, *Pastor*
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Jeanette Pearl, *Parish Nurse*
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Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00PM (~~Traditional Choir~~)
Sunday: 8:30AM, 11:00AM (Contemporary Choir)
Monday-Friday: 7:30AM & Wednesday: 7:00PM
Holy Day: 7:30AM, 12:10PM, 7:30PM
Eucharistic Adoration: Tuesdays, 8:00AM-9:00AM

Reconciliation

Saturdays 3:15PM-3:45PM; Wednesdays 6:00PM-6:55PM;
or by appointment

Infant Baptism

Congratulations to all parents and parents to be. Baptism Preparation sessions for parents and new godparents are led by Deacon Steve once a month following the 11:00AM Mass. Contact Deacon Steve Roscher to register for a session and to arrange for the celebration of your child's baptism.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

RCIA is for adults interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and deepening their relationship with Jesus Christ as they journey toward full initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation) into the life of the Catholic Church. Please contact Deacon Steve Roscher.

Marriage

We rejoice with engaged couples, and ask them to contact Deacon Steve Roscher at least 6 months prior to the date of marriage, in order to schedule an appointment to begin marriage preparation.

Additional Sacramental Preparation

Families wishing to prepare their children for Reconciliation or First Eucharist, please contact Fr. Canisius. High School youth who are interested in Confirmation should contact Sue Lea.

Care for the Sick

Please contact the Parish Office when a parishioner is homebound, in the hospital, or in a healthcare facility and wishes to receive a visit, or any of the Sacraments. Whenever possible, please make arrangements for Anointing of the Sick before surgery or hospital admission.

Faith Formation

Religious Education sessions for children (K-5th Grade) are held in the rectory on Sunday mornings from 9:45AM-10:55AM. Our Middle School program is a collaboration with Sacred Heart in Glyndon. Our High School program meets in the rectory basement on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 7:00PM-9:00PM.

DEADLINE FOR BULLETIN: TUESDAY AT NOON

Please pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP . . .

✠ A REFLECTION FROM FR. CANISIUS ✠

Dear Parishioners,

It is not a very uplifting way to start our Liturgy of the Word this Sunday, is it, to hear Job's expressions of despair? Life has become unbearable to Job. He describes life as drudgery and misery, without hope or happiness. He has lost his children, his wealth, and is stricken with boils from head to foot. Have we ever felt that we just can't handle one more hardship in our life? Perhaps that's how we have felt the last year with the pandemic! Our circumstances may be different, but the feelings are the same. Job gives expression to a universal human experience of grief and despair. Job's hopelessness may stir memories of our own moments of darkness or may remind us of so many others who suffer from illness, poverty, or threat of violence.

The despair of the first reading is contrasted with the hope of the Gospel. Simon's mother-in-law is lying sick at home, unable to get up. Jesus grasps the hand of Simon's mother-in-law, helps her up, and her fever leaves her. Outside her door, there is a whole town's worth of people with various diseases, or who are possessed by demons, whom Jesus also cures. Jesus brings hope to this despairing community. Then he goes on to preach and cure in other villages. As he proclaimed: *For this purpose have I come.*

This is our hope: the hope of God's people for the coming of the Kingdom. It is hope for the fulfillment of God's promise to heal the broken-hearted and bind up their wounds. In Jesus we experience this fulfillment. Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are able to get up and live again. She was able to get up and serve Jesus. So, too, others touched and cured by Jesus are able to get up and live again.

Living in hope saves us from the misery, if not necessarily the tragedies, experienced by Job. Living in hope, having met Christ and received the Good News of the kingdom of God, allows us to live for the sake of the Gospel as we await Christ's return, as Paul did.

Like Job, we know despair; like Paul, we know hope. Knowing both is a part of the human condition. Our call is to live by hope, to be a people of hope, and to like Paul, share our hope freely with others.

Ash Wednesday is right around the corner, February 17. Because of Covid protocols, we'll be distributing ashes differently this year. We will be sprinkling them on your head instead of marking your forehead. **Lent might be a good time to return to church.**

As a parish, we have concerns for our day-to-day operations during these unprecedented times. The offertory collection is our main source of income and the

collection has gone down the last few weeks. Please consider online giving. These are just some of the things that you can set up as a donation through online giving: Offertory, Holy Days including Easter and Christmas, poor box, all special collections, flowers, building maintenance and capital improvements. Thank you for your generous support to our parish.

Since Covid began, we have been trying to find new ways of reaching out to our parishioners—like through our recently updated website at www.ourstcharles.org and our Flocknote communication and messaging tool at <https://ourstcharles.flocknote.com>. Another way is through the wonderful Mass videos utilizing our new live streaming system. This system was installed over the summer. We need people to help with this on the weekends, at morning Mass, and for special events. **I would like to start a Technology Ministry of people that are tech savvy and willing to help with this.** Please let me know or call the parish office if you are interested in this new and very important evangelizing ministry.

Have a blessed week!

~ Fr. Canisius

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 7th

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7 | *1 Cor* 9:16-19, 22-23 | *Mk* 1:29-39

Monday, February 8th

St. Jerome Emiliani

St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

Gn 1:1-19 | *Mk* 6:53-56

Tuesday, February 9th

Gn 1:20—2:4a | *Mk* 7:1-13

Wednesday, February 10th

St. Scholastica, Virgin

Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17 | *Mk* 7:14-23

Thursday, February 11th

Our Lady of Lourdes ~ World Day of the Sick

Gn 2:18-25 | *Mk* 7:24-30

Friday, February 12th

Gn 3:1-8 | *Mk* 7:31-37

Saturday, February 13th

Blessed Virgin Mary

Gn 3:9-24 | *Mk* 8:1-10

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 14th

Lv 13:1-2, 44-46 | *1 Cor* 10:31—11:1 | *Mk* 1:40-45

The full text of Daily Mass readings can be found at
www.bible.usccb.org or on MyParish app.

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

DAILY MASS IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC OR CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR ST. CHARLES FACEBOOK PAGE:
www.facebook.com/SCBPikesville/live/

Date	Time	Presider	Mass Intention
Mon Feb 8	7:30am	Fr. Maurice	Marian Smithmyer
Tue Feb 9	7:30am	Fr. Canisius	Msgr. Daniel Cummings
Wed Feb 10	7:30am	Fr. Maurice	Maria Ninfa Pedrosa
Wed Feb 10	7:00pm	Fr. Canisius	Thomas Bruemmer
Thu Feb 11	7:30am	Fr. Canisius	Joe Justice
Fri Feb 12	7:30am	Fr. Canisius	John Gast
Sat Feb 13	4:00pm	Fr. Canisius/ Deacon Steve	Connie Hogg
Sun Feb 14	8:30am	Fr. Canisius/ Deacon Steve	People of the Parish
Sun Feb 14	11:00am	Fr. Canisius	Emelda Din

ARCHDIOCESAN MASS

Archbishop Lori celebrates Mass at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen at 11:00am each Sunday. *It is broadcast live on Ch.24 (MyTV Baltimore); Comcast Xfinity (803); and Verizon (509).* A livestream of the Mass is available online at: archbalt.org/online-mass/ or on the *myParish* app.

ONLINE PARISH MASSES

At St. Charles we are praying for you every day!
 All are welcome to join us "virtually" in our communal prayer at the following times:

DAILY MASS: Monday-Friday at 7:30am

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:00pm

SUNDAY MASS: 11:00am

www.facebook.com/SCBPikesville/live/

CHILDREN'S READINGS & CLOSED CAPTIONS

Martha Yalov, our CLOW leader, posts weekly videos on our Facebook page proclaiming the Sunday readings from a simplified lectionary translation created for children. These videos also contain "closed captions" so they are wonderful for those who suffer from hearing loss or are deaf. They are about 9-10 minutes long. Gather the family and check it out this weekend!

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

*I wish, my Lord, to receive you
 with the purity, humility, and devotion
 with which your most holy Mother received you,
 with the spirit and fervor of the saints.*



Altar Flowers



*If you would like to provide altar flowers for an upcoming weekend in 2021 in memory of a loved one; or in honor of a special occasion, contact the parish office at 410-486-5400.
 The donation is \$50.*

LET US PRAY WITH OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

*"There is an appointed time for everything,
 and a time for every affair under the heavens."*

- Ecclesiastes 3:1

...a time to heal

Deacon Vito Piazza; Frank Satterfield; Brian Callahan; Jean McKim; Bishop Francis Malooly; Tom Streicher; Lucas Herb; Claris Hosford; Pearl Timothy; Joann Easton; Maureen Browne; Joseph Rossi; Debbie Rossi; John Grimm, Sr.; Desmond Duffy; Joe Prieto; Mary Ellen Gordon; Richard Abbotts; Nancy Abbotts; Hyacinth Davis; Butch Cogle; Paul Singleton; Shep Hogg; Whitney Hamacker; Erika Wright; Erica Estworthy; Helen Bennett; Margaret "Peggy" Howser; Patricia League; Theresa Brophy; Mary Margaret (Gillespie) Payne; Gloria Brennan; Bob & Peggy Moan; Tiffany Brown; Wendy Simpkins; Shelley McThomas; Marie McGinn; Gregory Hannon; Joan Marie Getchell; Tim McNamara; Ed McBride; Carol Jones; Marge Rudie; Andy Moan; Terry Bullinger; Betty Schmedes; Don Brink; Jeanette Cherigos; Herman Milovitz; Steve Haywood; Joan Herion; Debbie Cremen; Lori Roscher; Robert Anthony; Helen Arena; Roger Smith, Sr.; Ann Marie Goddard; Sr. Mary Dee Smith, GNSH; Gina Vespignani; Stephanie Schneider; Paul Gambrell; Christine Isaac; Mashariki Sanyika; Jeff Lohinski; Mary Mosner; Kathy Justice; Mary Beth Himmelheber

May our Lord and Redeemer give health to their bodies and holiness to their souls.

...a time to die

**Lance Cyford
 Deacon Henry Davis
 Marie Gussio
 Bernard W. Nossel**

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING

In observance of the *World Day of the Sick* (February 11th) we will celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick at the **11:00am** Mass this **Sunday, February 7th**. There will be a general blessing for all those in attendance/watching the livestream and an opportunity for individual anointing after the homily.

Fr. Ray's Prayer-Poem for February 7th

Part I...in the words of the First Letter to the Corinthians 9:13

“All this I do for the sake of the gospel...!”

Part II...in another's words, a prayer-poem –

one wants
to know
the extent
of “all this”

one wants
to know
what this “gospel” is
that calls forth
“all this”

seems like
Paul implies
there may be
implications...

[“amen”]

- fr. Ray

FAITH FORMATION . . .



BAPTISM PREPARATION can be held via ZOOM or in person and private Baptisms can now be scheduled. To learn more, please email Deacon Steve at: steve.roscher@archbalt.org

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST



For information about preparing your child to celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, please email Brother Patrick Wildgen at

brpatus@yahoo.com or call him at 410-218-8705.

CHILDREN'S RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Videos are posted on the parish's Facebook page:
https://www.facebook.com/pg/SCBPikesville/videos/?ef=page_internal

TO PARENTS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STUDENTS:

Very soon, I will be implementing an additional program mandated by the Archdiocese relating to Child Safety and Family Life. Most of the books are in for this, however, in several of the grades, I didn't order enough and had to order several additional books. By the time you read this in the bulletin, they will probably have already arrived. As of this writing, the books haven't arrived yet, but soon, any day now. When all the books are in, I will ask that parents go to the rectory to pick up the book relevant to the grade level of your child(ren). Once everyone has the textbooks, I will post lessons just like I do for the regular classes. I stress the importance of the program and the Archdiocese requires this of any catechetical program. I really appreciate your cooperation! Thanks!

Bro. Patrick Wildgen, O.S.S.T.
Coordinator of Religious Education
410-218-8705 or brpatus@yahoo.com



Are you someone, or do you know someone, who...

- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the sacraments of Confirmation or Eucharist?
- Was baptized into another religion, but never received any formal religious education?

Do you find yourself in any of the above or know someone who does? If so, then RCIA is right for you and others. Due to the coronavirus, meetings will be held online at this time. For more information contact Deacon Steve Roscher at sroscher@verizon.net or leave a message for him by calling the parish office.



Our Inter-Parochial Catholic Elementary School

OUR SCHOOL YEAR IS PROGRESSING BEAUTIFULLY for both our remote and in-school learners! Sacred Heart School is committed to providing a safe, healthy, and academically rigorous educational experience for our students by offering both an on-site (5 full days) and virtual instructional option for our families. We are now enrolling for the 2021-2022 academic year! Kindergarten and Middle School spaces are limited.

WE HOST “Virtual Welcome Wednesday” Admission Chats at **9:30am** on Wednesdays throughout the year. To attend, please go to www.shgschool.org and click on the “RSVP Event Calendar” link, fill out an inquiry and register for one of the dates provided to learn more about our school. Hope to see you there! Questions? Please contact Mrs. Stacey Aisquith, our Director of Admissions, at 410-833-0857, ext. 114, or via email at saisquith@shgschool.org.

THE SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR IS BACK! While the Fair will be exclusively held online this year, we still plan on making it a fun and joyous experience for all. Our customized Sacred Heart of Glyndon homepage features:

- A fully Virtual Fair so you and your kids can experience the magic of the school shopping experience. Browse over 200 titles by grade, meet popular authors, and discover the comfort and joy of our Fair
- Direct access to over 6,000 additional titles with family-friendly prices, at the Scholastic online store
- Every dollar you spend will benefit our school directly (25% back in rewards!)

Fair Dates: through February 7, 2021

Virtual Store:

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/shg2021>

We can't wait to “see” you at the Fair!



WHAT IS FORMED?

FORMED is “The Catholic Faith. On demand.” Similar to Netflix, **FORMED** gives you access to thousands of Catholic movies, programs, audio books, radio talks, studies, podcasts, and more—instantly! Thanks to the generous gift of a Sacred Heart parishioner, Sacred Heart and St. Charles parishes now have a year-long subscription to **FORMED** that is available to **all Sacred Heart and St. Charles parishioners at no charge.**

HOW IT WORKS

FORMED provides the very best Catholic content from more than 60 organizations to help parishes, families, and individuals explore their faith anywhere. Thousands of movies and other materials can be viewed directly from your computer’s browser or from any mobile or connected device. Faith-filled, engaging content can also be enjoyed in your living room with Roku, Apple TV, and Chromecast, among others.

SOUNDS GREAT! HOW DO I SIGN UP?

To register, simply go to formed.org/signup and search for Sacred Heart Parish (using the zip code 21071). You will use your email address to sign up.

STEWARDSHIP . . .

– What I Do With What I Have Been Given When I Believe in God –

JANUARY 31 ST , 2021	WEEK 5	JANUARY
Offertory – Envelopes	\$2307	\$16,903
Offertory – Loose	\$269	\$1369
Maintenance / Utilities	\$145	\$2762
Solemnity of Mary	\$0	\$745
TOTAL PARISH OFFERTORY	\$2721	\$21,779
Over / Under FY2020 Offertory Budget of \$7700/wk	-\$4979	-\$16,721
Christmas Offering	\$0	\$1012
Retired Priests	\$85	\$626
Sacred Heart School Support	\$0	\$70
Food for Life	\$0	\$20
Poor Box (St. Vincent de Paul)	\$1	\$175
WEEKEND ATTENDANCE	105	622

YOUR POOR BOX DONATIONS SUPPORT OUR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OUTREACH

If you are uncomfortable with rejoining us in person for Sunday Mass, you can still provide critical support for our parish by mailing your tithe to the parish office; or by using your bank’s BillPay feature; or through online giving.

ST. CHARLES BORROMEО ONLINE GIVING

- No need to write checks or remember envelopes
- Contributions can be scheduled regularly--or give on an a la carte basis, giving when you choose
- Choose which Second Collections to support
- Contribute to the Poor Box
- No need to make up missed contributions
- A credit card or debit card can be used instead of a checking account, if you wish

Online giving is not meant to replace the traditional Sunday offertory collection; it is meant to enhance it.

For more information email the parish office:

charlesst@comcast.net

Or go to www.ourstcharles.org and click on **DONATE** at the top of the homepage.

EFT CONTRIBUTIONS	JANUARY 2021
Weekly Offertory	\$5524
Maintenance / Utilities	\$990
Solemnity of Mary	\$10
TOTAL PARISH OFFERTORY	\$6524
Poor Box (SVdP)	\$125

2020 YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION REPORTS

Call or e-mail the Parish Office at 410-486-5400 or charlesst@comcast.net to request your charitable contribution report for tax year 2020.

SPECIAL FEBRUARY COLLECTIONS

During February we will have the following special collections:

February 7	Maintenance Fund
February 14	Utility (Heat) Fund
February 17	Church in Central/Eastern Europe
February 21	Lenten Sacrificial Giving
February 28	Sacred Heart School Support

Thank you for your generosity. We will have a special collection box available in the back of church for your offering, or you may give online by selecting the fund name listed above.



**Rejoice in Hope, Endure in Affliction,
Persevere in Prayer**
(Romans 12:12)

When you support the Annual Appeal for Catholic Ministries, you are supporting our parish and a myriad of ministries, programs and other Catholic institutions that strengthen our community of faith. Now more than ever, your generous support for the Appeal is offering spiritual and material comfort and, ultimately, the blessing of HOPE to those we are called to serve, while bringing you into closer communion with the Living Christ and your archdiocesan family.

This year, we have made joining your neighbors in supporting the Annual Appeal for Catholic Ministries easier than ever:

♦ **PLEDGING:** *Pledge and pay in monthly installments. A monthly reminder will be sent for the duration of your pledge unless you are fulfilling your pledge in automatic credit card deductions.*

♦ **GIVING WEEKEND** (Feb 20-21): *Make a gift or pledge (in person or virtually) during Mass on this special weekend. Envelopes and mobile/online options will be provided.*

♦ **APPEAL GIVING TUESDAY** (Feb 23): *In the tradition of Giving Tuesdays, the convenience of making a gift or setting up a pledge will be communicated directly to you.*

♦ **ONE-TIME GIFT:** *An outright gift can be made by check or credit card at any time during the Appeal. Distributions from retirement plans and gifts of stock are also popular ways to give.*

To make an online pledge or gift, donate at .

<https://www.archbalt.org/appeal/give/>

Please make sure to select St. Charles Borromeo as your parish when making your pledge/gift.

OUTREACH & MINISTRIES . . .

GIVING TREE THANK YOU

Dear St. Charles Church family,

How can we adequately thank you for all of your hard work and generosity? We are most grateful that you chose to bless our center with your many gifts. So many young mothers and their beautiful babies will be blessed. You have a very generous congregation and the abundance of gifts (and money!) that you provided us is evidence of the Holy Spirit at work. Thank you, thank you, thank you. We are in AWE!

God bless you all!

Terrie Gwyn

and all at Women's Center West

OUR DAILY BREAD

"For I Was Hungry and You Gave Me Food"

NEXT DELIVERY DATE:

Wednesday, March 17th*

*Due to changes at ODB as a result of the pandemic, we have been asked to provide casseroles only on the odd-numbered months—but we will accept them at anytime and will store them in our freezers until delivery. They have also requested the following additional items: **Heavy Duty 10" Paper Plates; Plastic Forks and Spoons; Paper Napkins; 8oz. Hot Drink Paper Cups; Capri Sun® Drinks; and Bottled Water.** We are happy to store these items at the rectory if you would like to make a donation.

Frozen casseroles can be made in advance and dropped off at the parish office during normal business hours. Pans w/ recipe may be picked up at the parish office or in the rear of the church. Store-bought party-sized (90+ oz.) Lasagna and Mac & Cheese casseroles re also gratefully accepted.

RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION UPDATE

Your spiritually adopted baby is 4 months old! He/she has eyelids, eyebrows, eyelashes, nails, and hair forming. Teeth and bones are becoming denser. Your **baby** can even suck their thumb and yawn. The brain has begun maturing.

HEALING AFTER ABORTION

If you or someone you know is suffering after abortion, confidential, compassionate help is available. Visit www.HopeAfterAbortion.org.

MATERNITY COUNSELING/ADOPTION

Maternity counseling and adoption services are offered by Catholic Charities at 667-600-2400

Pregnant, Need Help? 1-800-ANGEL-OK

FOOD PANTRY PROJECT

"I was hungry and you gave me food."



We fed **24** families in the month of **January** with your generously donated items. By bringing something during the month of **February** you can help keep our food pantry well-stocked to meet the continuing need in our community. Items may be dropped off at the parish office or placed in the shopping carts in the church vestibule. Items most needed at this time are: **Rice; Jelly; Crackers; Jello Gelatin; Canned Potatoes; Unsweetened Cereals.** **Please check expiration dates—we cannot distribute expired or opened items. Please do NOT leave any perishable items (refrigerated/frozen items) in the church shopping carts.**

IN THE COMMUNITY . . .

THE RESOURCE EXCHANGE

The Social Action Committee at St. Vincent de Paul Church (Fr. Ray's parish) operates a Resource Exchange which provides useable household items and furniture to previously homeless individuals as they move into apartments. Members of the Social Action Committee pick up donations of gently used furniture on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. If you, or someone you know, is looking to donate used furniture or household items please visit their website at www.stvchurch.org and click on "Resource Exchange" under "Justice and Service" for a list of acceptable items. A contact number is provided to schedule a pick up. This is a wonderful way to make a direct donation to someone moving out of homelessness.

CONCERT SERIES

The Immaculate Heart of Mary (8501 Loch Raven Blvd., 21286) Concert Series 2020-2021 presents The Choirs of Calvert Hall High School in concert on **Sunday February 14th at 4:00pm**. The Calvert Hall College High School Vocal Music Program presents a solo voice recital featuring members of The Hallmen with an appearance by the Corridors. The students will present a program of Italian art songs, French melodies, German lieder, and American musical theater and jazz selections under the direction of Mr. George Wilkerson, Jr. The Concert will be presented live, in person in the church* as well as livestreamed: <https://www.facebook.com/ihmchurchmd/> <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWGX8z4tC1JAIHyv1GrKEg> Note: Due to COVID, large choirs and larger singing groups are not able to perform safely, therefore, the program has been adapted to allow a safe concert presentation by soloists and small groups. *Those attending in person must wear a face covering, seating capacity is limited and social distancing will be maintained.

42nd ANNUAL (Virtual)

SOCIAL MINISTRY CONVOCATION

Persistence in the March Towards Justice

Saturday, February 27, 2021

9:00am – 3:00pm

Keynote Address: Ashley Morris

Associate Director for the Intercultural Office of the
Archdiocese of Atlanta

Because this event is virtual this year, we are encouraging participants to register online if possible. We will communicate updates about how to access links for the virtual event through the Eventbrite page. Registration will remain open through the day of the Convocation. Cost is \$10. You can register at <https://www.archbaltsmc.org/>. If you are unable to register online or have technology needs for the event, please contact St. Francis of Assisi Church at 410-235-5136. They will connect you with a member of the planning committee and we will try to assist you.



**Be a voice for hope
and justice at
Catholic Advocacy
Day 2021!**

We need you on **February 16th**, Catholic Advocacy Day. The Maryland Catholic Conference will highlight three priority issues for Catholics statewide to advocate for on behalf of our Church, including education, life, and human rights. We will create the action alerts. All you have to do to bring your voice before the Maryland legislature is sign, click and send the alerts to your legislators (or make a personal call to their offices, if you prefer). Join the Catholic Advocacy Network to get advance notice and alerts sent right to you (text and/or email).

NEW HOME REPAIR PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS

The Baltimore County Department of Aging (BCDA) recently announced the Baltimore County Age-Friendly Upgrades for Seniors (BCAUSE) program, which offers Baltimore County homeowners over the age of 65 who are at or below 50% of area median income the opportunity to receive up to \$4500 in home repairs (roof, plumbing, electrical/heating, etc.) or safety modifications (grab bars, stair rails, assistive devices, etc.) to help enable them to stay in their homes in order to age safely in place. The BCAUSE program is a collaboration between the Baltimore County Department of Aging, Civic Works, Rebuilding Together Baltimore, CHAI, and Dundalk Renaissance. Older adults interested in participating in the BCAUSE program should call the Baltimore County Maryland Access Point (MAP) at 410-887-2594, Monday-Friday between 8:30am and 4:30pm. A certified Information and Referral Specialist will complete an application over the phone to determine eligibility. For more information on BCDA programs visit www.baltimorecountymd.gov/aging or call Maryland Access Point (MAP) at 410-887-2594.



The 2021 Maryland General Assembly is in session! Maryland Right to Life needs your help to stop the continued expansion of abortion in Maryland. We have made reaching committee members easy through our website www.MDRTL.org. Simply go to the **TAKE ACTION** tab to view campaigns, which will be updated throughout session. There you will see a synopsis of important bills. Enter your address and your representative will automatically come up. You will be able to view a pre-written letter and phone script. Press send and a pre-written letter will be emailed from you, the constituent. Next, follow up with a quick phone call. Just state your name, address and whether you support or oppose the bill in question. You will not be required to debate in any way. To get started, sign up for email action alerts at www.MDRTL.org TODAY. It's as easy as 1,2,3! Your voice WILL make a difference and save lives when it matters most - right before a vote! Email Contact: julie@mdrtl.org

Let Your Pro-Life Voice Be Heard!

STEP 1

Sign Up for Email Updates & Action Alerts at MDRTL.org

STEP 2

Go to the **TAKE ACTION** Tab for Pre-Written Email & Phone Messages

STEP 3

Share Action Alerts with Friends, Family and Contacts.

Celebrating February as **Black History Month**

Black History Month is a time to celebrate the achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing African Americans' central role in history. We choose to honor the contributions and achievements of Black Americans by learning more about their stories. We shine a light on those who blazed trails in our Catholic faith. This month we are proud to celebrate the causes for canonization for leaders of African descent who ministered in the United States of America and are on the road to sainthood:



Venerable Pierre Toussaint (1776-1853)

a philanthropist and founder of many Catholic charitable works, was born a slave in Haiti and brought from Haiti to New York as an apprentice under a popular hairstylist in the city. He eventually became the most sought-after hairdresser of high society women. Upon the death of his master, he

gained his freedom and quickly succeeded as one of the country's first black entrepreneurs. He became quite wealthy, but instead of spending lavishly on himself, he supported the Church and the poor. He and his wife sheltered orphans, refugees, and others out on the streets in their home. He founded one of New York's first orphanages and raised money for the city's first cathedral. During yellow fever epidemics, Toussaint would risk his life to help others by nursing the sick and praying with the dying. *"I have never felt I am a slave to any man or woman but I am a servant of Almighty God who made us all. When one of his children is in need, I am glad to be His slave."*

Servant of God Mother Mary Lange

(1784-1882) was born Elizabeth Lange, a native of the Caribbean, and is believed to be Cuban born of Haitian descent. She was the foundress and first Superior General of the Oblate Sisters of Providence (1829-1832), the first religious congregation of African American women



in the history of the Catholic Church. On July 2, 1829, Elizabeth and three other women professed their vows and became the Oblate Sisters of Providence with the goal of educating and evangelizing African Americans. They educated youth and provided a home for orphans. Freed slaves were educated and at times admitted into the congregation. They nursed the terminally ill during the cholera epidemic of 1832, sheltered the elderly, and served as domestics at St. Mary's Seminary. Mother Mary Lange practiced faith to an extraordinary degree. It was her deep faith—in close union with Jesus—which enabled her to persevere against all odds. She lived through disappointment and opposition until God called her home in 1882 at the St. Frances Convent in Baltimore, Maryland.

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