

FEBRUARY

2 | 2 | 2024

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church

8601 Wolftrap Rd., Vienna, VA 22182-5026

P: 703.938.2828 • F: 703.938.2829

www.olgcva.org • www.olgcschool.org

Administered by the Oblates of
St. Francis de Sales

Mass Schedule

Mon-Sat - 8:30am; 9am on holidays

Saturday Vigil 4pm

Sunday 8am, 10am (online),

12pm (en español), 5pm

View Mass Online

www.youtube.com/c/StreamingOLGC

Chapel open for prayer

Mon - Fri, 9am - 5pm

Confessions Saturdays 9:00am

or by appointment

Office Hours

Mon - Fri 9am - 4:30pm,

Closed 12-12:30pm for lunch

*“The lives of the
saints are nothing but
the Gospel put into
practice.”*

- St. Francis de Sales

*“La vida de los santos
no es más que el
Evangelio puesto en
práctica”.*

- San Francisco de Sales

Jubilee 2025 & OSFS Double Jubilee

The year 2025 marks two celebrations in the life of the church: a Jubilee year worldwide and the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales Double Jubilee.

Throughout the year, we will have dedicated events focusing on Hope and Salesian Spirituality.

Each week, the Bulletin will have a Salesian meditation for you to use when you have a few minutes of quiet.

We are looking into a congregational Book Read a little later in the year. We will invite everyone to read a short book on the theme of Hope and provide opportunities to have conversation on it.

Please join us for any or all of the Jubilee events here at OLGC and visit arlingtondiocese.org/the-holy-year-tour for information about Holy Year Tours in the Diocese.



Upcoming Events at Our Lady of Good Counsel

MONTHLY EVENING PRAYER CENTERED ON HOPE

Monday, February 3, 7:00 pm

We close the day with hymns, psalms, prayers and scripture centered on Hope in this Evening Prayer service. Come hear the good news of God's great mercy, sing songs of praise, and ask for strength to be living signs of hope for those in need in our community.

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER SERVICES

Beginning March 10, our weekly Evening Prayer services will alternate between Jubilee 2025 and OSFS Jubilee themes. Come for prayer, scripture, reflection, music and silence at 7 pm March 10, 17, 24.

SILVER HAIRD SAINT AND WISDOM FIGURES

A presentation by Brother Mickey McGrath

Sunday, March 30, 2—4 pm

Join Brother Mickey McGrath as he uses his own art, stories and life experience to share the timeless wisdom of great saints, artists, and other prophets from across the ages and margins.

From Elizabeth and Zechariah in Luke's Gospel to Dorothy Day and Nicholas Black Elk in modern times, we will look at prophets of "more advanced age" who can help us mature in our Faith and guide us to our True Selves.



Mass Intentions/ Intenciones de la Misa

Presider schedule available at:
bit.ly/OLGC-Presider-Schedule

Sat. Feb. 1/ Sun. Feb. 2, 2025

- + Anastacio Flores
- + Frank Van Lierde
- + Saul Martinez
- + Sung Taik Han
- + Patrick E. Pagsibigan

Monday, February 3

8:30am The OLGc Parish Community

Tuesday, February 4

8:30am + Katue Reeg

Wednesday, February 5

8:30am + Arthur Hathaway

Thursday, February 6

8:30am + Michael Egan

Friday, February 7

8:30am + Nicholas Hoy

Saturday, February 8

8:30am + Epifania Lagman Marabe

Sat. Feb. 8/ Sun. Feb. 9, 2025

- + Anastasia Mendoza and Saul Cruz
- + Francisco Recio
- + Zoraida & Dr. Robert Duca
- + Jorge Escalante &
+ Olga Marquez de Escalante
- + Francisca Moreno de Flores

**Please keep those listed in the prayer
intention book and the recently
deceased in your prayers.**

- + Barbara Marzigliano
- + Carmela Jacobs Tobin
- + Regina Benson

SANCTUARY CANDLES

Sanctuary Candles are available on a weekly basis starting on a Sunday. To "light a candle for someone" indicates one's intention to say a prayer for another person, the candle a symbol of that prayer.

For a donation of \$25, you may have the candle burn for a week in memory of a deceased loved one, for a celebration or for a special intention.

Visit olgcv.org/liturgy-worship/devotions/candle to light a candle.

Welcome to Our Lady of Good Counsel

We, as members of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, strive to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ by proclaiming our faith, educating ourselves and our children, sharing our persons, resources and gifts in the care and service of one another. We are called to foster an environment of hospitality in accordance with the Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales.

Please contact our staff if you have questions about any matter related to the life of the church. Below is a list of the many people here to help.

Pastor	Rev. Matthew Hillyard, OSFS	.....	frhillyard@olgcv.org
Parochial Vicar	Rev. Mathias Kumar, OSFS	.....	mkumar@olgcv.org
Retired	Rev. William Metzger, OSFS	.....	william.metzger@olgcv.org
Retired	Rev. Lewis Fiorelli, OSFS	.....	lfiorelli@oblates.org
Deacon	Christopher Moore	.....	cgmooore@olgcv.org
School Principal	Robin Williams 703.938.3600	.....	rwilliams@olgcv.org
School Admissions & Testing	Valerie Taylor 703.938.3600	.....	vtaylor@olgcv.org
Director of Music	Kathy DeJardin 703.896.7411	.....	kdejardin@olgcv.org
Liturgy Administrator	Cheryl Jones	.....	liturgy@olgcv.org
Children's Faith Formation	Amy MacKinnon 703.896.7426	.....	amackinnon@olgcv.org
Faith Formation Office	Jackie Madden 703.896.7415	.....	jmadden@olgcv.org
Dir. of Faith Formation	Derek Rogers 703.896.7409	.....	drogers@olgcv.org
Youth Ministry	Carmen Clem 703.896.7414	.....	ccllem@olgcv.org
Communications/Bulletin	Maude Hales 703.896.7412	..	communications@olgcv.org
Director of Finance	Emilynda Clomera 703.896.7402	.....	eclomera@olgcv.org
Records Manager	John League 703.896.7413	.....	records@olgcv.org
Child Protection Liaison	Christine Moan 703.896.7423	.....	cmoan@olgcv.org
Advancement/Annual Giving	Alison McKee & JoAnne Kinyon	.....	advancement@olgcv.org
Events Manager	Frank Fletcher 703.896.7418	.....	events@olgcv.org
Events & Fellowship Coordinator	Pam Trimble 703.896.7457	..	ptrimble@olgcv.org
Parish Office Manager	Maria Romero 703.896.7419	.....	welcome@olgcv.org
Intentions/Ministry of Care	Maria Romero 703.896.7419	.....	welcome@olgcv.org
OCIA/Adult Sacraments	Amy MacKinnon	.....	amackinnon@olgcv.org
Información en español	Maria Romero 703.896.7419	.....	welcome@olgcv.org
Pastoral Council	(Tina Wickham)	.....	PastoralCouncil@olgcv.org
Finance Council	(Regina Stranix)	.....	FinanceCouncil@olgcv.org
Society of St. Vincent DePaul	(Linea de Ayuda) 703.938.3210	.....	svdp@olgcv.org
Respect Life/Gabriel Project	Betsy Argauer 703.255.3744	.....	betstim@gmail.com
Knight of Columbus Santa Maria Council #4654		.....	www.knightsvienna.org
Counseling Catholic Charities	Consejería Caridades Catolica	.....	703.425.0109

Our website, OLGCVA.org, is a source of lots of information about our parish life. There are a number of ways you can communicate with staff for specific needs through the site. The links below provide first steps to various things you may need.

OLGC Funerals: www.olgcv.org/liturgy-worship/funerals

Join the Parish: olgcv.org/register

Schedule an Event: olgcv.org/about-us/facilities

Add Item to Bulletin/Media: olgcv.org/about-us/communications

Mass Intention/Devotional Candles: olgcv.org/liturgy-worship/devotions/mass



2025 OBJECTIVES FOR GALA FUNDRAISING

We have much to be excited about in 2025 as we continue with the architectural planning, contracting, and transformation coming to OLGC through The Cornerstone Project.

In addition, we are most grateful to our community for their support of the Gala and our efforts to address important, impactful projects around our campus that do not fit in the scope of The Cornerstone Project.

We are excited to announce this year's goals for Gala fundraising:

- Improve perimeter security by installing license plate readers at all entrances and investigating options for a possible phased approach to perimeter fencing.
- Add campus-wide communication technology that puts OLGC on a dedicated FirstNet emergency communication bandwidth, increasing access to first responders.
- Continue improvements to our outdoor spaces with a priority on enclosing the upper soccer field and relocating the Stations of the Cross to a more accessible location.
- Address the dynamic needs of all our students by relocating the Academic Support Center (ASC) to a quieter, more study-centric location, redesigning the second-floor loft space, and installing collaborative study spaces to better accommodate individual student needs.
- Design and install a symbolic stained-glass feature to frame the new Our Lady of Good Counsel statue in a Narthex space dedicated to our patron.

Don't forget to get your tickets by February 15!



Become a Sponsor



Donate an experience or item



Donate a basket

GALA DESIGN CONTEST

Does your child want to help the OLGC Gala be the best it can be? Help us by participating in the Gala Program Cover contest. All OLGC students and CCF students are invited to submit artwork to grace the cover of this year's Gala of Eden program.

Use your creativity to create an "Apple of My Eye" themed design that will be seen by hundreds of Gala guests!

Entries must:

1. Include the words "OLGC Gala of Eden" and "2025"
2. Include green apples, flowers or greenery
3. Be inspired by the theme "Apple of My Eye"
4. Be submitted via document scan to Pam Trimble (ptrimble@olgcv.org) by midnight 2/1/25

*Cover is 8.5x11 inches (vertical). Any image size will be accepted.



Volunteer your time and talent to the Gala



Readings for the Week/ Lecturas de la Semana

Week of February 2-9, 2025

SUNDAY Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40
or Lk 2:22-32

MONDAY

Heb 11:32-40, Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20

TUESDAY

Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22:26b-27-28, 30-32; Mk 5:21-43

WEDNESDAY Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a;
Mk 6:1-6

THURSDAY Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Ps 48:2-4, 9-11; Mk 6:7-13

FRIDAY

Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc; Mk 6:14-29

SATURDAY

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6; Mk 6:30-34

SUNDAY Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; Ps 138:1-5, 7-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11 or
1 Cor 15:3-8, 11; Lk 5:1-11

Monthly Collections

Fiscal Year July 2024—June 2025

	November	December
Offertory	170,664	315,266
Total Budgeted	174,934	293,141
Variance	(4,270)	22,125
YTD Received	859,986	1,175,252
Budget YTD	910,175	1,203,316
Variance	(50,190)	(28,065)

Weekly & Second Collections

You may give with checks or cash
via envelopes, give online at
membership.faithdirect.net/VA875,
or text amount to 703.810.7674.
Thank you.

February

2/2 Arlington Catholic Herald

2/9 Facilities

2/23 Latin America

FEED THE FLOCK: BECOME AN EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION

Are you looking for a meaningful way to grow in faith and serve the OLG C community? Join us as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion and experience the joy of sharing Christ's presence with others. Two training sessions are being offered in the church: Wednesday, February 12 at 7 pm or Saturday, February 15 at 9:30 am.

If you're interested, please complete and submit the Ministry Information Form (www.olgcv.org/liturgy-worship/liturgical-ministries/ministry-form) by Monday, February 10. For additional information and/or questions, contact Cheryl Jones at cjones@olgcv.org.

FEBRUARY OUTREACH PROJECT

IT'S POWER PACK TIME!

Let's work together to address the needs of Fairfax County Public School children who need food support over the weekend. Sign up to donate food at bit.ly/OLGC-power-packs-2025-food.

Drop off items in DeSales Hall on
Sunday, Feb. 9, 7:30 am – 12 pm,
Friday, Feb. 14, 7:30 – 10 am (school
and preschool carpool drop off or
DeSales Hall) or
Saturday, Feb. 15, 8 am – 12 pm.

We will pack on Saturday, Feb. 15, 12 – 3 pm and deliver on Feb. 21.

To help collect or pack, sign up at bit.ly/OLGC-power-packs-2025-volunteers. Thanks so much for helping make this another successful year!



JOIN US FOR THE NEXT OLG C BOOK STUDY!

Voices of Wisdom in the Magisterium

Starting Tuesday morning, February 4, our five-week book study will explore *Four Women Doctors of the Church* by Mary T. Malone. This inspiring book introduces us to four extraordinary women—Hildegard of Bingen, Catherine of Siena, Teresa of Avila, and Therese of Lisieux—each known for their intelligence, courage, and unwavering dedication to their vocations. Led by fellow parishioner and adult catechist Ann Marie Mack, this study invites all to reflect on the impact these women had on the Church, their faith, and the role of women in sharing the Gospel.

Tuesday mornings February 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 4, 9:30-10:45a in Fr. Brisson Room, St. Joseph Center

Due to limited seating, please RSVP to Cheryl Jones if you plan to attend: cheryl.mcmillan.jones@gmail.com

CAR RAFFLE

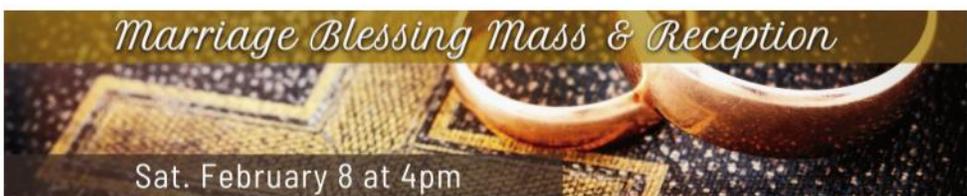
All Saints Church (Manassas) has invited our parishioners to participate in their Multi Car Raffle. Prizes include four 2025 vehicles from Ourisman Ford of Manassas (Ford Escape, Mustang, Maverick Truck (Hybrid) and Bronco Sport). Tickets have been mailed out to the community. Please consider selling/purchasing the tickets mailed to you.

The raffle continues to benefit our parish and many other charitable causes throughout the diocese, as it has in the past.

Calendar (Subject to change, updates at www.olgcva.org/about-us/calendar)

February 2 – 9

Day	Event	Time	Location	Day
SUNDAY	Donut Social	8 AM - 2 PM	DeSales Hall	2
	Children's Liturgy of the Word	10 - 10:30 AM	Chapel	
	OCIA Breaking Open the Word	10:30 - 11 AM	Reconciliation Rm	
	Girl Scout Troop 50348	11 AM - 12:30 PM	Counsel Rm	
	CCF-Emmaus	1:30 - 3 PM	SJC-Brisson Rm	
	Girl Scout Troop 50198	3 - 6 PM	SJC-Brisson Rm, Aviat Rm	
	Nightlife	6 - 8 PM	DeSales Hall	
	Jr. High CCF	6:15 - 7:45 PM	School	
MONDAY	Little Rock Scripture Study	10 - 11:30 AM	Zoom	3
	Rosary Makers	10 AM - 12 PM	SJC-Aviat Rm	
	Quilters	11 AM - 3 PM	SJC-Brisson Rm	
	Jubilee Evening Prayer	7 - 7:45 PM	Chapel	
TUESDAY	OLGC Book Study	9:30 - 11 AM	SJC-Brisson Rm	4
	Tuesday Morning Bible Study	9:45 - 11:45 AM	Zoom	
	Mystagogy	7:30 - 9 PM	SJC-Aviat Rm	
WEDNESDAY	High School CCF	5 - 7 PM	SJC-Aviat Rm	5
	BSA Troop 976 meeting	7 - 8:30 PM	Counsel Rm	
	OCIA	7:30 - 9 PM	SJC-Brisson Rm	
	St. Vincent DePaul Society	7:30 - 9 PM	SJC-Aviat Room	
	Men's Basketball	8 - 10 PM	Fr. Brisson Gym	
THURSDAY	Prayer Shawl Ministry	9:30 - 11 AM	SJC-Brisson Rm	6
	CS Pack 976 Wolf Den	6 - 8 PM	School	
	Men's Basketball	8 - 10 PM	Fr. Brisson Gym	
FRIDAY	Cub Scout Pack 976 Awards Dinner	6 - 8 PM	DeSales Hall	7
	Adoration	9 AM - 3 PM	Church	
	Coffee Social	9 - 10:30 AM	DeSales Hall	
SATURDAY	Elementary CCF	8:30 - 10 AM	School	8
	Baptisms	10 AM	Church	
	Blessing of Marriages	4 PM	Church	
	Blessing of Marriages reception	5 PM	DeSales Hall	
SUNDAY	Power Pack Collection	7:30 AM - 12 PM	DeSales Hall	9
	Christ House Food Collection	9:30 AM - 1 PM	SJC parking lot	
	Children's Liturgy of the Word	10 - 10:30 AM	Chapel	
	OCIA Breaking Open the Word	10:30 - 11 AM	Reconciliation Rm	
	CCF-Emmaus	1:30 - 3 PM	SJC-Brisson Rm	
	Girl Scout Troop 50296	3:30 - 5 PM	SJC-Brisson Rm	
	Jr. High CCF	6:15 - 7:45 PM	School	



2024 Giving Statements

End of year giving statements went out this week. Watch your email. The subject line is "EOY 2024 Letter from Our Lady of Good Counsel" and comes from accountingmanager@olgcva.org. Hard copies were mailed to those who do not have an email address on file. If you prefer a hard copy, please email accountingmanager@olgcva.org or call Megan Hoskins (703.896.7407) for your 2024 Contribution Statement.



Girl Scout Cookie Sales

The wait is over! OLGC Girl Scout Troops will be selling cookies after Masses on the weekends of February 8-9 and February 22-23. Be sure to bring cash. All varieties are \$6 per box. Stock up on Thin Mints, Samoas, Trefoils, Do-si-Dos, Tagalongs, Adventurefuls, Lemon-Ups, and gluten-free Toffee-tastics.

This is your last chance to get Girl Scout S'mores as they will be retired after this cookie season. Your purchase helps to fund our Troops' activities and service projects. Thank you for your support!



2025
DOUBLE OSFS JUBILEE
*A Year of
Gratitude & Hope*

RETREAT ON THE RUN

A Mini Weekly Retreat

1. Find a quiet place and take a moment to be conscious that you're in the loving and living presence of God. **2.** Read the reflection slowly and prayerfully until a word or idea grabs your attention. **3.** In the silence of your heart, talk to God about whatever is stirred up in your heart. Stay with this silent prayer for a while. **4.** As you close, offer thanksgiving for God's loving presence during this time and all times. **5.** Take the word or phrase from your prayer and carry it as you go about your day.

REFLECTION

"In spite of the all-powerful strength of God's merciful hand, which touches, enfolds, and bends the soul with so many inspirations, calls, and attractions, the human will remains perfectly free, unfettered, and exempt from every form of constraint and necessity. Grace is so gracious; it has the power not to overpower but to entice our hearts."

(Treatise on the Love of God 2.12)

Adapted from "Retreats on the Run" by the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

Tear off this column and tuck it in your pocket or purse to use when you have a few minutes—in carpool line, at the doctor's office, on Metro.



GOOD THINGS HAPPENING @ OLG SCHOOL

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Last week, the students and teachers celebrated Catholic School Week, the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States.

We recognize that the integration of religious truth and values with life in the curriculum makes Catholic education exceptional.

Among the activities of Catholic School Week, the students collected food for the St. Lucy Project, prayed the Rosary with prayer partners, and enjoyed several special out-of-uniform days.



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Pajama Day



Hawaiian Day



Senior Moments

Marge Van Lierde
Gitkagirl@gmail.com
571.831.3951



SEASONED CITIZENS' LUNCHEON

OLGC seniors are invited to this month's luncheon at noon on Thursday, February 13 when the "Full Hearts" theme will be featured, honoring St. Valentine's Day in DeSales Hall. Reservations



are required and easily made: RSVP to bit.ly/seasoned-citizens-feb2025, email seasonedcitizens@olgcv.org or call Dagny at 703.281.5525. There's no charge. Please note that take-home meals are only available for homebound OLGC parishioners. Email Heidi, heidilinksnyder@gmail.com to make arrangements. There'll be Bingo for some fun after enjoying a delicious meal. The Book Swap Table will be up and running again, thanks to your donations!

FIRST FRIDAY FLICKS

"Sounder" (1972) is the free movie that will be shown at the Vienna Community Center Auditorium on February 7 at 2 pm. Free popcorn!

HEALTHY HABITS FOR YOUR BRAIN

Positive, everyday actions can make a difference in brain health, even lowering the risk of cognitive

decline and dementias. Incorporate some or all of these habits into your life to help maintain a healthy brain. Take charge of your brain health today, it's never too early or too late to start!

Challenge your mind. Be curious! Put your brain to work and do something that's new for you. Learn a new skill. Try something artistic. Challenging your mind may have short- and long-term benefits for your brain.

Stay in school. Education reduces the risk of cognitive decline and dementia. Continue your education by taking a class at a local library or college, or online.

Get moving. Engage in regular exercise. This includes activities that raise your heart rate and increase blood flow to the brain and body. Find ways to build more movement into your day—walking, dancing, gardening—whatever works for you!

Protect your head. Help prevent an injury to your head. Wear a helmet for activities like biking, and wear a seatbelt. Protect yourself while playing sports. Do what you can to prevent falls, especially for older adults.

Be smoke-free. Quitting smoking can lower the risk of cognitive decline back to levels similar to those who have not smoked. It's never too late to stop.

Control your blood pressure. Medications can help lower high blood pressure. And healthy habits like eating right and physical activity can help too. Work with a health care provider to control your blood pressure.

Manage diabetes. Type 2 diabetes can be prevented or controlled by eating healthier, increasing physical activity, and taking medication, if necessary.

Eat right. Eating healthier foods can help reduce your risk of cognitive decline. This includes more vegetables and leaner meats/

proteins, along with foods that are less processed and lower in fat. Choose healthier meals and snacks that you enjoy and are available to you.

Maintain a healthy weight. Talk to your doctor about the weight that's healthy for you. Other healthy habits on this list can help with maintaining a healthy weight.



Sleep well. Good quality sleep is important for brain health. Stay off screens before bed and make your sleep space as comfortable as possible. Do all you can to minimize disruptions. If you have any sleep-related problems, such as sleep apnea, talk to a health care provider.

TERMS FOR UNDERSTANDING BRAIN HEALTH

"Cognitive decline" refers to changes in the ability to think that happen as people age. Some changes are a normal part of getting older, but you can take steps to slow them down. More significant decline or severe changes are not normal and may be a sign of Alzheimer's disease or other dementias. "Dementia" is a general term used to describe problems with thinking and memory that are severe enough to interfere with a person's daily life. Alzheimer's is the most common cause of dementia but there are several kinds of dementia. It is not a normal part of aging.

Elder Wisdom

You know you're over the hill when the older you get, the better you used to be.

Información Parroquial en español

Preguntas o sugerencias, ofrecer misas, pedir oración durante la misa por recién fallecidos, funerals, comuníquese con Maria 703.896.7419, mromero@olgva.org



JUBILEO 2025

El Mensaje de San Lucas—
Formación Parroquial.

Todos están cordialmente invitados el domingo 2 de febrero, inmediatamente después de la misa de 12 del mediodía, para analizar más de cerca el Evangelio de Lucas, el cual estaremos escuchamos en la misa de los domingos este año. El padre Mateo dirigirá esta discusión sobre uno de los libros más bellamente escritos del Nuevo Testamento. Esta sesión ofrece una oportunidad para profundizar su comprensión de la vida, el ministerio y las enseñanzas de Jesús a través de las Escrituras y el canto.

LA PRESENTACIÓN DEL SEÑOR (2 DE FEBRERO DE 2025)

Perspectiva Salesiana

“Dios ha empleado muchas maneras y diversos medios para manifestarnos Su deseo de que todos seamos salvados, y de que nadie ignore este hecho. Para este propósito, Él nos hizo “a Su imagen y semejanza” durante la Creación, y por medio de la Encarnación fue Él quien asumió nuestra imagen y semejanza, y consecuentemente padeció la muerte para poder rescatar y salvar a toda la humanidad” (Tratado Sobre el Amor de Dios, Libro 8, Capítulo 4).

Seguramente todos estamos muy familiarizados con el hecho de que, a través de la Creación, todos fuimos hechos a imagen y semejanza de Dios. Por otra parte, es probable no todos sepamos que Dios, a través de la Encarnación, se hizo a Sí mismo a nuestra imagen y semejanza. Independientemente de si estamos al tanto de estos sucesos o no, ambos son una realidad.

San Francisco de Sales se sentía captivado por la noción de que Dios pudiera amarnos tanto, que no solamente viniera a estar entre nosotros, sino que se haya convertido en uno de nosotros! ¡Dios asumió nuestra naturaleza! En la persona de Jesús, Dios obtuvo conocimiento de primera mano, y experimentó lo que significa dormir, levantarse, trabajar, descansar, bailar, llorar, lamentarse, luchar, tener éxito y soñar. Por medio de esta experiencia, Jesús no solamente redimió lo que significa ser humano, también celebró lo que significa ser humano – ser humano de la forma en que Dios sueña que lo seamos.

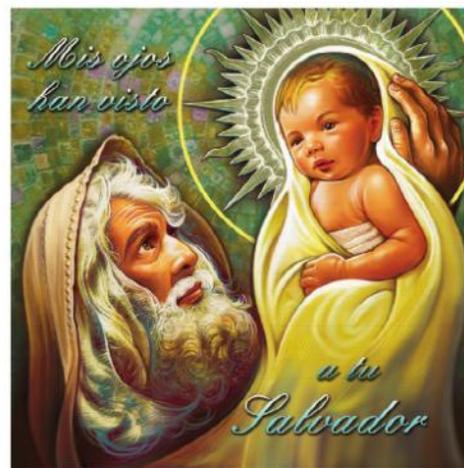
El autor de la carta a los Hebreos también creía en esta verdad. Él escribe que, “Jesús supo realmente lo que fue ser” de carne y hueso...y “tuvo que asumir la semejanza de Sus hermanos (y hermanas) en todos los sentidos”. De esta forma, Jesús no solamente logró redimirnos, sino que también logró entendernos realmente.

Este es verdaderamente un gran misterio. Esta es verdaderamente una gran intimidad: Dios nos amó tanto, que asumió nuestra naturaleza... Él se hizo a Sí mismo a nuestra semejanza y según nuestra naturaleza - la mejor, la más verdadera naturaleza, tal y como Dios lo había destinado desde el

inicio de los tiempos. De cierto sentido, a través de la Encarnación Dios nos muestra cuán cómodos podemos sentirnos en nuestra propia piel. ¿Cómo? Demostrándonos que Dios se siente cómodo en nuestra piel, a través de la persona que fue Su hijo Jesucristo!

Dicho de una manera más simple, la naturaleza de Dios es estar con nosotros donde quiera que estemos – tal y cómo somos.

Jesús nos reta a que hagamos lo mismo cada día: que vayamos al encuentro de los demás, donde quiera que estén, tal y como sean, e invitarlos a sentirse cómodos en su propia piel a través de nuestros esfuerzos por sentirnos cómodos en la nuestra. En lugar de dejarnos llevar por la tentación de acercarnos a los demás sólo cuando consideramos que están listos o que son dignos, en lugar de esperar a que sean ellos los que den el primer paso en el baile de la vida, debemos abrirnos a ellos y ponernos en el lugar de los demás. Tal y como nos lo demostró Jesús con su ejemplo de vida: el primer paso en cualquier intento por ayudar, sostener y animar, por rescatar y redimir a otros, es llegar a conocerlos.



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SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DEPAUL, OLGc CONFERENCE

Have you heard a call to help those less fortunate and wonder what more you can be doing? Our Lord has said “whatsoever you do for the least of my brothers, you do for me.” The OLGc Society of St. Vincent DePaul is looking for the support of our fellow parishioners, both for your financial support and for your time, as we need new volunteers to step up and serve right here in our own community.



In one day this month, we had calls to help a family to keep their heat on, help a recovering addict pay rent so he could stay in a recovery house, and help a single mother with food cards to keep food on the table. In the past month, we helped a single mother and her three children get into new housing after a fire destroyed their apartment; we helped a young immigrant woman seeking to go to college with tuition for ESL classes, we put together a rent package for a single mother with two young children who lost her job and was facing eviction.

These are just a few examples of the many calls we receive. The need is great. The work is rewarding. Please consider joining us. We meet the first and third Wednesdays of every month at 7:30 pm in DeSales Hall.

CONSTRUCTION COMING SOON



Church skylight replacement February 12

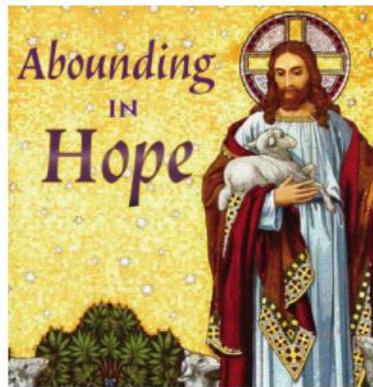
Watch for cranes and workmen as we begin improvements to the church. Dust and debris are signs of good things to come!

Please stay out of work areas to ensure the safety of all.

DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY NEWS

2025 Bishop's Lenten Appeal

The 2025 BLA Commitment Sunday begins soon! Once a year we are asked to make a pledge to support the work of our diocesan programs and ministries which provide services that no parish could provide on its own. We are asking every family to participate to help our parish make our goal. By participating in the BLA, we renew our commitment to the Lord with a response to His call to serve our brothers and sisters. You may go online to make a donation at: www.arlingtondiocese.org/bla.



SECOND COLLECTION FEBRUARY 2

Arlington Catholic Herald

The Arlington Catholic Herald is the official newspaper and news source of the Diocese of Arlington. This award-winning, biweekly newspaper delivers Catholic news and information about our diocese, U.S. bishops and the Vatican to more than 108,000 homes across Virginia and beyond—and 24-7 at catholicaherald.com. Please donate to the annual second collection this weekend, which helps our parish support the Catholic Herald in spreading the Good News. You may make a check payable to Our Lady of Good Counsel and please write “ACH Second Collection” on the memo line. Thank you!



Upcoming Diocesan Events

Visit arlingtondiocese.org/events for details

Holy Hour of Encounter
February 6 @ 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Quo Vadis Evenings with Jesus
February 7 @ 5:45 pm - 8:00 pm

**Running the Race to Sanctity:
A Dynamic Retreat with
Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers Day 1**
February 7 @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

43rd Catholic Charities Ball
February 7 @ 6:00 pm - Midnight

**Mingle & Mix at the Ritz, a Celebration
for Young Adults**
February 7 @ 8:30 pm - Midnight

**Running the Race to Sanctity:
A Dynamic Retreat with
Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers Day 2**
February 8 @ 7:30 am - 11:00 am

Mass for Women Religious Jubilarians
February 8 @ 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Diocesan is proud to be printing
Our Lady of Good Counsel's
Sunday Bulletin

You are invited to help support our Parish!

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