



SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

FOUNDED
1911

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Washington, D.C. 20015
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www.blessedsacramentdc.org

Blessed Sacrament School
5841 Chevy Chase Parkway, NW
Washington, D.C. 20015
202.966.6682
www.bsstoday.org

MASS TIMES ~ PRESIDER SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 10
5:30 p.m. ~ Father O

Sunday, October 11
7:30 a.m. ~ Father O
9:00 a.m.* ~ Father D'Silva
10:30 a.m. ~ Father Andy (Church)
10:30 a.m. ~ Father Ron (Gym)
12:30 p.m. ~ Father Andy
5:30 p.m. ~ Father Ron

Saturday, October 17
~ Father D'Silva

Sunday, October 18
~ Father Armstrong
~ Father Ron
~ Father O
~ Father D'Silva
~ Father Ron
~ Father Andy

*American Sign Language interpreted Mass

Weekday and Saturday Masses

Monday - Friday: 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m., 11 a.m.

Filipino Mass in Tagalog every 4th Sunday at 3:30 p.m.

Holy Day Masses

Eve of the Feast: 5:30 p.m.
Day of the Feast: 6:30 a.m., 8 a.m., 11 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*

Exposition: Monday-Friday, 3-5:15 p.m., in the church
Thursday before first Friday of each month, 6-8 p.m.,
with Holy Hour from 7-8 p.m.

*No adoration on federal holidays

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THIS WEEKEND

Flu Shots

Sunday, 8 – 11:30 a.m. on the lower level of the parish center. Med Star Nursing Association will offer the flu vaccine. No appointment is necessary.

Artist Reception in the Daystar Gallery

Sunday, 2 – 4 p.m. in the main meeting room of the parish center. "Landscape Paintings" by Francesca Adams is on display in the gallery until November 6.

Rite of Commissioning Mass

Sunday, 5:30 p.m. Mass. All Confirmation candidates and families are invited. A special blessing will be given to the candidates as they prepare for their upcoming retreat.

COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY REMINDERS

The parish office will be closed this Monday, **October 12**, for the Columbus Day holiday. Also note: no 6:30 a.m. Mass and no adoration hours are scheduled.

THIS MONTH

Respect Life month is observed each year in October. This year's theme is: "Every Life is Worth Living." Please pray for respect for life from conception to natural death.

Poor Box Donations

Donations collected during the month of **October** will benefit Joseph's House, which provides comprehensive nursing and support services to homeless men and women dying of AIDS and cancer. In addition to 24-hour care, residents are offered the opportunity for shared community life with family-style meals and the companionship of other residents, staff and volunteers.

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Ronald A. Potts, Pastor • rpotts@blessedsacramentdc.org
 Rev. Andrew Gonzalo, Parochial Vicar • agonzalo@blessedsacramentdc.org
 Rev. Msgr. Maurice V. O'Connell, Retired Priest • moconnell@blessedsacramentdc.org
 Rev. Percival L. D'Silva, Retired Priest • pdsilva@blessedsacramentdc.org
 Deacon Kenneth Angell • kenneth.angell@opic.gov
 Deacon Donald Mays • dmays@blessedsacramentdc.org

Assistant on Weekends

Rev. Regis Armstrong, OFM Cap, Catholic University

DUFFY PARISH CENTER

Main Office 202.966.6575 (Monday - Saturday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)
In an Emergency 202.966.6575, Ext. 3988 (to page priest on duty)
Facilities 202.449.4610
Pius X Library 202.449.3974
Ray Manning Adult Center 202.363.4512

Mr. John Navolio, Business Manager
 202.449.3984, jnavolio@blessedsacramentdc.org
 Mr. Jay Rader, Director of Liturgy and Music
 202.449.3981, jayrader@blessedsacramentdc.org
 Ms. Michelle Balch, Director of Religious Education
 202.449.3989, mbalch@blessedsacramentdc.org
 Ms. Rosalie Days, Sacramental Preparation Coordinator
 202.449.4618, rdays@blessedsacramentdc.org
 Ms. Casey Armand, Youth Minister
 202.449.3985, carmand@blessedsacramentdc.org
 Mrs. Patricia Kavanaugh, Social Concerns Minister
 202.449.3987, pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org
 (Office open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., and by appointment)
 Ms. Emma Voelzke, Special Needs Coordinator
 202.449.3990, evoelzke@blessedsacramentdc.org
 Ms. Kathy Gillespie, Director of CYO
 202.449.3972, kgillespie@blessedsacramentdc.org

BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL

Mr. Chris Kelly, Principal
 202.966.6682, ckelly@blessedsacramentdc.org
 Ms. Nancy Ryan, Director of Admissions
 202.966.6682, Ext. 6110, nryan@blessedsacramentdc.org

SACRAMENTS

Baptism • Baptismal preparation is required of all parents prior to the baptism of their child. We recommend preparation take place before the child is born. For more info: Father O, baptism@blessedsacramentdc.org or 202.449.4617.

Matrimony • All couples who are to be married at Blessed Sacrament must complete our parish marriage preparation program. Please contact one of the parish priests six months in advance of your marriage date.

Reconciliation • Friday and Saturday after the 11 a.m. Mass (if no funeral); Saturday, 4 - 5 p.m. and after the 5:30 p.m. Mass, or anytime by appointment.

PARISH SERVICES & INFORMATION

Care Of The Sick & Homebound • If you or someone you know is hospitalized or homebound and would like a priest to visit, contact the parish office at 202.966.6575.

New Parishioners • Welcome! Please register by: stopping in at the parish office or using the registration form available online or from the pamphlet rack at the Quesada Street entrance to the church.

Bulletin Announcements • Deadline: Mondays @ 10 a.m. Send to: bulletin@blessedsacramentdc.org

Newsletter Content • newsletter@blessedsacramentdc.org

Photo/Video Submissions • communications@blessedsacramentdc.org

Website Postings • website@blessedsacramentdc.org

Church Bulletin Boards • The parish secretary maintains the church bulletin boards. Please drop off any flyers for posting to Joan Ward in the parish office, located in the Duffy parish center.

Inclement Weather Policy • The parish center/office follows Montgomery County Schools for delays and closings. All evening activities are cancelled those days the schools are closed.

PASTOR'S COLUMN

The author of the Book of Wisdom has meditated on the Scriptures and after a long reflection on his experience has led him to understand the importance of Wisdom. The gift of Wisdom guides the world in the right direction corresponding to the Father's intention and fulfilling His will through the Law. Wisdom is personified as a woman and she is preferable to health, beauty, and light—Wisdom does not perish. She is a gift from God for which we must pray. This Wisdom is the spirit of discernment, understanding of the heart, surety of judgment that shows with certainty what is good and what is evil. The gift of Wisdom helps us to see the world around us as God sees it.

In the Letter to the Hebrews, we are given a brief instruction and reflection on the power of God's word. This word is living because it comes from the living God. That is why it is "effective" and penetrates everywhere "soul and spirit" and "joints and marrow." It is impossible to evade it, even if one refuses to listen. What God said once remains eternally and one cannot silence Him or nullify His words. It is impossible to flee and avoid hearing God's word because it reveals the truth of who we are and what the Lord calls us to do. By His word, the Lord calls us to cooperate with His grace and accomplish His will in our lives.

In today's passage from Mark's Gospel, a rich young man comes forward to Jesus and kneels down asking, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" We immediately identify with the young man because he asks the question we all have in our own hearts. Jesus reminds him that in order to know how to act, one must consult the commandments of the Law. The young man answers, "Teacher, all of these I have observed from my youth." Jesus looks at him and loves him and adds,



Odilon Redon, Christ and the Disciples, (c. 1895)
 Source of Image: <http://liturgy.stu.edu>

"Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." "To follow" Jesus, an expression that describes discipleship, demands that we prefer Him over everything, that we accompany Him without looking back. "At that statement his face fell, and he went away sad, for he had many possessions." Then Jesus "looked around" and said, "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" They were amazed at His words and examples and said, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus responds, "For human beings it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God." Jesus makes it clear that salvation comes from God and God alone—we cannot save ourselves. In order to enter the kingdom of heaven, we must free ourselves from earthly things, from material riches that tie us down. And we all know how difficult it is to be truly detached from what we possess, even if it is very little. But Jesus' word reaches farther: there exists no way of forcing open the gate of heaven; salvation is a gift—a grace—that always comes from God.

God bless you,
Father Ron

Youth Corner

Question for the Week

What is your most important possession? How hard would it be for you to give it up?

(Source: www.osvcurriculum.com/lifelong_catechesis)



News

We had a great turnout October 1 for our Fall Mass and Dinner. Special thanks to Star of the Sea and Sancta Maria for a wonderful meal. Welcome to our two new units, Mary Undoer of Knots and Morning Star. Our next Mass and meeting is **November 5: 11 a.m.** Mass followed by a luncheon in the parish center.

Reminders and Announcements

- Dues are due in October: Annual dues for Sanctuary Sodality—\$10 for active members; \$5 for inactive members. Individual units may collect an additional amount. Unit presidents, one check from your unit, payable to Blessed Sacrament Sanctuary Sodality, can sent to Treasurer Mary Tull at 1914 Brightleaf Court, Silver Spring, MD 20902.
- Roster Updates: Unit presidents, please send your updated roster to sodality@blessedsacramentdc.org. Include complete contact info and let us know whether members would like an honor guard or can assist as a eucharistic minister or lector at our monthly Masses.
- Save the Date: Sodality Holiday Bazaar is November 14, 2015. If you would like help in any way, please contact chairperson Kate Monahan at sodalitybazaardc@gmail.com.
- Bazaar Basket Ideas: Each unit is asked to provide a raffle basket for the bazaar (valued between about \$100-200). Questions? Contact Emma Voelzke, voelzke5@verizon.net.
- Gently Used Clothing & Household Goods: It's time to clear out your closets for a great cause. Chic Boutique, Used Clothing and White Elephant Sale collections will begin in November. Check bulletin announcements for collection dates.

REST IN PEACE

Robert Barry

NEWLY BAPTIZED

Davis Charles Dinsmore
Henry Edward Keegan
Ciaran Thomas Kessler
William Reid Riddle
Luke Adam Weschler

PLEASE INCLUDE OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS THAT THEY MAY EXPERIENCE HEALING AND COMFORT

Luis Amiel
Alejandro Arce
Annielou Bayly Berman
William H. Casson
Ann Gardiner
Kieran Kelley
Marian Middendorf
Barrie & Elizabeth Montague

Brady Nelson
Fredy H. Ortega
Daniel Ortman
Richard B. Perry
Rev. Barbara Schlachter
Nelly Turner
Violeta Turner
Hope Elena Katz-Zogby

FAITH FORMATION

We Welcome Our New Director of Religious Education

The parish welcomes Michelle Balch, the new Director of Religious Education. Originally from the San Francisco Bay Area, Michelle attended the University of Dallas, where she earned a BA in Art History. After her university studies, she spent two years as a Salesian lay missionary in Eastern Bolivia, ministering to indigenous peoples through teaching English and catechism. This past May, after completing her internship at the USCCB in the Pro Life Secretariat, Michelle graduated from the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family, where she earned a MTS (Masters in Theological Studies) with a concentration in bioethics. Michelle can be reached at 202.449.3989 or mbalch@blessedsacramentdc.org.

Confirmation

Confirmation Retreat

Friday, **October 16**, 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Net Ministries will be at the parish center to lead our young candidates in a powerful retreat. Questions? Contact Rosalie Days: rdays@blessedsacramentdc.org.

SUNDAY READINGS/QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

... from the Faith Formation Commission

Wisdom 7:7-11: Here are remarks of Pope Francis to the United States Congress. Could they be a call to Wisdom?

All of us are quite aware of, and deeply worried by, the disturbing social and political situation of the world today. Our world is increasingly a place of violent conflict, hatred and brutal atrocities, committed even in the name of God and of religion. ...

Our response must instead be one of hope and healing, of peace and justice. We are asked to summon the courage and the intelligence to resolve today's many geopolitical and economic crises. Even in the developed world, the effects of unjust structures and actions are all too apparent. Our efforts must aim at restoring hope, righting wrongs, maintaining commitments, and thus promoting the well-being of individuals and of peoples. We must move forward together, as one, in a renewed spirit of fraternity and solidarity, cooperating generously for the common good. ...

Let us help others to grow, as we would like to be helped ourselves. In a word, if we want security, let us give security; if we want life, let us give life; if we want opportunities, let us provide opportunities. The yardstick we use for others will be the yardstick which time will use for us.

—Speech to United States Congress, September 24, 2015

Hebrews 4:12-13: Do motives and attitudes color your decision-making? Are your motives and attitudes in good order, or could they use a re-alignment?

Mark 10:17-30: Think of people you know who spend their time giving. What are they like? Do they receive the hundredfold Jesus promised to those who follow him? What happens to you when you give things up?

(Source: Center for Liturgy at St. Louis University)

VISIT YOUR PARISH LIBRARY

Recent gifts to the fiction collection include both contemporary and classic authors from many traditions. As the days shorten, sample these moving stories and immerse yourself in past eras and strange, unvisited places:

“The Buried Giant,” by Kazuo Ishiguro

The seventh and latest book by this prize-winning author tells of an old married couple, Axl and Beatrice, who live in sixth-century Britain, where, after the war between Saxons and Britons, an uneasy peace and a general amnesia about the past exists. The author conjures up a country of mists and legendary dragons, knights and giants who provide a fantastic background to their story of searching for their lost son who disappeared, they aren't sure how. They meet a she-dragon, Querig, who must die in order to restore the country's memory. This story is one that calls to mind many other journeys of search, venturing out, and arriving. Forget about the allegory and enjoy the story.

“The Final Solution: a Story of Detection,” by Michael Chabon

The story takes place in rural Sussex, England, in 1944. Holmes, a retired detective, 89 years old, whose memories of thwarting criminals in 19th-century London, suggest a reincarnated Sherlock, meets a nine-year-old refugee boy from Nazi Germany, Linus Steinman, who cannot speak and has lost his family. His constant companion, a grey parrot, churns out sequences of German numbers but their meaning isn't clear. After the parrot vanishes and someone is killed Holmes takes on the case. Each character in this short book is alive with color and pathos, seeking “some elucidation of the heartbreaking clockwork of the world.”

“The Last September,” by Elizabeth Bowen

The Irish war of independence is the setting for a novel about an Anglo-Irish landowning family, the Naylor, in 1920. Rich, patronizing toward the poorer Irish, they try to ignore the harsh events around them and are conflicted as to their loyalties. It's also a study of two generations; Lois Farquar, the niece of Sir Richard Naylor and his wife Myra, tries to break away from the establishment and mirrors the political and social changes to come. Bowen has written about Ireland before in “The House in Paris”; her highly-acclaimed book, “Death of the Heart,” probes choices in love and lifestyle with sensitivity anchored in realism, a theme Bowen revisits many times.

For more information, visit the library or call 202.449.3593.

Dramatic Reading Next Tuesday, October 20

Mark your calendars for the final half and denouement of bitter, but subtle, family strife portrayed in “The Lion in Winter.” A discussion will follow, led by John Dluhy and, of course, wine and cheese are offered. The reading begins at 7 p.m. in the parish library.

Do You Own Books/DVDs/CDs You No Longer Wish to Keep?

They may be of great interest to other parishioners; please donate them for the parish library's biennial book sale event, scheduled for **October 24-25**. Fiction, travel, history, cookbooks, and biography, as well as children's books, are all welcome if they are in good condition and unmarked. However, magazines and textbooks are not suitable for this sale. Please bring your donations to the library on the second floor of the parish center.

THE ADULT CENTER

All parishioners, 39 and holding, are invited to gather in Apt. 1 in the Chevy Chase apartment building next to the church for fellowship after the 11 a.m. weekday Mass. Bring a sandwich and join the activities. For more information or for transportation, call Rita Killian at 202.363.5069.

Monday	Closed for Columbus Day
Tuesday	Strong Seniors: Strength & Balance Exercise Class
Wednesday	Watercolor Art Class with Dick Swartz
Thursday	Bridge for Bridge Lovers @ Noon
Friday	Closed

CHIMES CHATTER

Continuing from the last Chimes Chatter column . . . As I, a “newbie” volunteer, now climb one last short ladder, I reach level four, the highest point of our chimes' bell tower, where the striking machines are located. The very peak of our belfry closes in above me with the four-sided pitched timber superstructure I see above me, as I stand on a wooden platform overlooking sixteen mailbox-shaped covers concealing strike machines. Checking my wristwatch for the next quarter-hour strike, I hear a “click” as the peal begins to shake the whole timber structure below me, and the piercing sound of each struck note now assaults my ears. No wonder the sound of these chimes carries for a mile into the adjacent neighborhoods. These are very loud. With this particular peal now completing its cycle, I and another volunteer lift a few removable “mailbox” covers to inspect for any loose or broken connections, for any frayed cables, and for ease in the sliding horizontal hammers. I am shown the “target” marker at the top edge of the bronze tube where the rawhide-headed hammer strikes the tube. I eagerly await the next peal, and with the exposed strike machines, I see the power of the horizontal strike-and-retract-action of the sliding hammer, plus the bright sparking as the vintage contacts release the stored direct current energy in the form of heat and light (sparks). A few sprays of lubricant as we place covers on the strike machines, and we are ready to descend some 75 feet back down to the Quesada street level. All systems here above checked out well this time.



Photo by Joe Bozik

Chime-in with your story? Contact 1RetroJoe@gmail.com.

By the way, the chimes are under a repair cycle for parts and are silent for a short term.

Coffee and Conversation on Thursdays @ the Corbett Café

Join fellow parishioners at the Corbett Café, Apartment 1 of the Chevy Chase Apartments (next to the church) **every Thursday** after the 8 a.m. Mass for coffee and conversation. We'd love to meet you! Please note the day change from Mondays to Thursdays.

MATTHEW

The King and His Kingdom



A 24-Part Bible Study Featuring Jeff Cavins

Please join us for this engaging study at Blessed Sacrament in the school auditorium 7 – 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings, **October 14 - December 16, 2015 and January 6 - May 11, 2016**. The study brings the Gospel to life and draws you closer to Christ. You will see Jesus as the awaited Messiah who fulfills the promises and prophecies of the Old Testament, establishes the New Law, and inaugurates the Kingdom of Heaven. Set in the rich context of Jesus' life, Matthew shows us who Jesus is and what his life and teachings mean for us today. Register online at www.evangelization.com. Your registration includes the student materials, and the ability to stream the study videos online at your convenience. For more information, contact Ceil Malphrus at ceilmalphrus@verizon.net or 301.907.0827.

SCHOOL NEWS

School Admission Process for 2016-17 and Open House Dates

The process of admission for new families to Blessed Sacrament School for the 2016/17 school year will begin on Monday, **October 12**. We are proud of our 90+ year tradition of serving families by offering excellence in academics with faith formation. Please visit www.bsstoday.org to complete the online application and see what documentation is required for admission. All forms are online, as is information about deadlines and fees. We look forward to meeting prospective new families at one of our Open Houses: Thursday, November 12, at 9 a.m. coffee, for K parents or Thursday, November 19, at 9 a.m. coffee, for parents of children in grades 1-8. We may add another Open House in January. Questions? Contact nryan@blessedsacramentdc.org.

Scholastic Monster Book Fair

The Book Fair is this week! Come start your Christmas shopping early and support our school while doing it.

Thursday, **October 15**: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Friday, **October 16**: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sunday, **October 18**: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.



SMYTH FUND GOLF CLASSIC

For those who enjoy golf, some great tunes, great fun and company, while contributing to a great cause, the Smyth Fund Golf Classic has it all.

Thursday, October 15, 2015
at the Worthington Manor Golf Club
All proceeds directly benefit Blessed Sacrament School
For more info: www.bssgolf.org

USED
BOOK SALE

Support Your Parish Library:
The Saint Pius X Library
Fundraising Event

Saturday, October 24
8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 25
8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Lower Level of the Parish Center

Books • CDs • DVDs



Call for Volunteers for the Library Book Sale

Volunteers are needed to help in the functioning of the biennial donated book sale on Saturday, **October 24**, and Sunday, **October 25**, at the parish center. Service would be for two hours between 8:30 and 5:30 on either or both days and would consist of assisting visitors and possibly as cashier. To sign up, contact fellow volunteer Bob Watson at 202.966.7580 or towatson@erols.com.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **Louis Zinzi Carpets Ltd.**
for placing an ad in our weekly bulletin.

Time Once Again to Gear Up for Sodality's Holiday Bazaar

If it's fall, it's time to start saving clothes and white elephants for the Sodality Bazaar! One of our most beloved traditions, the Sanctuary Sodality's Holiday Bazaar returns to the parish on Saturday, **November 14**. A big feature of the bazaar is a monster clothing and white elephant sale. As you clean out your closets for winter, think of us. We need lots of gently used clothes and white elephants to sell! We will start to accept donations at the parish center during the week of the bazaar. Stay tuned to future bulletin issues for more information as the weeks fly by. If you have a large number of pieces to donate, and/or many items of very good quality, we may be able to assist you with an early pick up of your items. Please contact sodalitybazaardc@gmail.com if you have questions.

OUTREACH

Great Fall Meal Values From SHARE

SHARE @ Blessed Sacrament, the parish food co-op, has an amazing fall variety of food packages for easy-fixing, nutritious meals geared to the chilly weather. This month's packages include the Value Package for \$21, a Seafood Box for \$22, the Pork Chop Box for \$21, and the Chicken Leg Quarters Package for just \$10. For more details about these packages or to place an order, visit: www.blessedsacramentdc.org. Ordering deadline is Monday, **October 12**, at 5 p.m. Food distribution is Friday afternoon, October 23, from 3 to 6 p.m. For more info, leave a message in the Blessed Sacrament SHARE voice mailbox, 202.449.4611, or send an e-mail to SHARE@blessedsacramentdc.org.

DID YOU KNOW??

Blessed Sacrament Disabilities Ministry will host a symposium on housing, *Housing for People with Disabilities: Practical Guidance from a Catholic Perspective*, 7:30–9:30 p.m. Wednesday, **October 21**, in the school gym. This symposium will provide an overview of the opportunities and challenges faced by families when transitioning a young adult with a disability into an away from home living situation, in a manner consistent with Catholic values. Resource experts Sarah Burkey (Jubilee Association), Tina Campanella (Quality Trust of DC), Peg Kolm (Archdiocese of Washington), Pat Malone (Parent of a resident at a group home), and Taedi Tanham Carney (M&L Special Needs Planning) have been invited to present. Following the presentations our team of experts will answer questions and lead an open discussion. Issues pertaining to both DC and Maryland residents will be discussed. Please bring anyone that is interested in learning more about transitioning and housing! All are welcome!

For more information about the symposium and about how Blessed Sacrament is becoming a more inclusive community, contact Emma Voelzke at evolzke@blessedsacramentdc.org or 202.449.3990.

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE



During his visit, Pope Francis drew the attention and interest of millions of people in our region and across the country. Many of those people do not know Jesus and the Church. How can you use that widespread public interest in Pope Francis to share your faith with those around you? Consider sharing your Walk with Francis pledge with family, friends, and neighbors and challenging them to take the pledge, too. Anyone can take the pledge! Then, after they have taken the pledge, work together in an act of peace and justice, serve the poor and marginalized together, or even share your faith and prayer with them! After all, if they like walking with Pope Francis, they are going to love the one that Francis is following: Jesus. Share the pledge with others at WalkwithFrancis.org or on social media using [#WalkwithFrancis](https://www.facebook.com/WalkwithFrancis).

CHRISTIAN FAMILY MOVEMENT MINISTRY

A Prayer for Help in Ending Violence

Ten people, including the shooter, died on October 1 in Roseburg, Oregon. It is reported the shooter asked, "Are you a Christian?" then shot. The pastor of a local Adventist church asked, "If he had been pointing a gun at you, what would you have said?" Thinking of standing to say you are a Christian gives personal feeling to this shooting. Let us pray:

Loving and faithful God, through the years the people of our archdiocese have prayed in times of war, disaster and illness. We come to you Father and ask you to help us in the battle of today against violence, murder and racism.

We implore you to give us your wisdom that we may build a community founded on the values of Jesus, which give respect to the life and dignity of all people.

Bless parents that they may form their children in faith.

Bless and protect our youth that they may be the peace-makers of our time. Give consolation to those who have lost loved ones through violence.

Hear our prayer and give us the perseverance to be a voice for life and human dignity in our community.

We ask you this through Christ our Lord.



Looking for Sponsors for 28th Annual Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive on December 5

We are bigger than ever, reaching over 18,000 homes in our surrounding neighborhoods and we expect to collect over 60,000 cans and non-perishable items in just that one day! We need your help! Sponsorship opportunities are available: get your company logo on 18k flyers, t-shirts, thank you door hangers, website, banners and more! Please support our efforts to expand our reach and our passion to wipe out hunger in our area. For more info: www.greggannoncfd.org/churches/blessed-sacrament or contact Jessica Walsh: 301.385.9713/jessica@greggannoncfd.org.

Young Adults: Experience and Advocate Care for Creation

Bring Pope Francis' recent encyclical, *Laudato Si*, to life in the Chesapeake Bay watershed with an experiential, interfaith series for young adults to bring awareness and advocate taking action for clean water. Participate in one or all three of the events from **October 17-November 14** discussing the care of our common home with other young adults while kayaking through a wetland sanctuary, paddling on the Patuxent River, and discussing faith-based advocacy. Learn more at www.interfaithchesapeake.org/commonhome or 410.609.6852.

FROM THE COMMUNITY

Coat Closet Volunteers Needed for Catholic Charities' Coat Closet

The "Coats of Many Colors" Coat Drive gives men and women from our community the opportunity to shop in our seasonal Coat Closet located at St. Francis Xavier Church in SE DC. We need volunteers one Saturday and one Tuesday a month from **November through February**. For more information and to sign up: www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/coats.