

Shrine of The Most BLESSED SACRAMENT

FOUNDED I9II

3630 Quesada Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20015 202.966.6575 • Phone 202.966.9255 • Fax 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 Vigil, November 19 5:30 p.m. ~ Father Ron

Sunday, November 20

- 7:30 a.m. ~ Father Ron 9:00 a.m.* ~ Father D'Silva 10:30 a.m. (Church) ~ Father Regis 10:30 a.m. (Gym) ~ Father D'Silva 12:30 p.m. ~ Father Alec
- Saturday, November 26 ~ Father D'Silva

Sunday, November 27

- ~ Father O
- ~ Father Regis
- ~ Father D'Silva
- ~ Father Ron
- ~ Father Ron
- ~ Father Alec

*American Sign Language interpreted Mass

Weekday & Saturday Masses

5:30 p.m. ~ Father O

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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Thought for the Week From Pope Francis

For just as some people want a purely spiritual Christ, without flesh and without the cross, they also want their interpersonal relationships provided by screens and systems which can be turned on and off.... Meanwhile, the Gospel tells us constantly to run the risk of a face-to-face encounter with others, with their physical presence which challenges us, with their pain and their pleas.... True faith in the incarnate Son of God is inseparable from self-giving, from membership in the community, from service, from reconciliation with others. The Son of God, by becoming flesh, summoned us to the revolution of tenderness (Joy of the Gospel, 88).

THANKSGIVING WEEK REMINDERS

- Masses on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, **November 24**: 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. only.
- No adoration hours are scheduled for this Thursday
- The parish office will be closed Wednesday Friday, **November 23-25**.
- There will be no School of Religion Tuesday, November 22 or Sunday, November 27.

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Ronald A. Potts, Pastor • rpotts@blessedsacramentdc.org Rev. Alec Scott, Parochial Vicar • ascott@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

Assistants on Weekends

Rev. Regis Armstrong, OFM Cap, Catholic University

DUFFY PARISH CENTER

Main Office202.966.6575 (Monday - Saturday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.)In an Emergency202.966.6575, Ext. 3988 (to page priest on duty)Facilities202.449.4610Pius X Library202.449.3974Ray Manning Adult Center202.363.4512Mr. John Navolio, Business Manager202.449.3984, jnavolio@blessedsacramentdc.orgMr. Jay Rader, Director of Liturgy and Music202.449.3981, jayrader@blessedsacramentdc.orgMs. Michelle Balch, Director of Religious Education202.449.3989, mbalch@blessedsacramentdc.orgMs. Rosalie Days, Sacramental Preparation Coordinator202.449.4618, rdays@blessedsacramentdc.org

202.449.3985, cesser@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. Kate Ryan, Director of CYO 202.449.3972, kryan@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 classes are required of all parents prior to baptism. We recommend taking classes before the child is born. Group baptisms are offered every 2nd Saturday and 4th Sunday at 2:00pm. For more info visit: www.blessedsacramentdc.org/sacraments-rites

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. **Altar Server Program:** altarservers@blessedsacramentdc.org

Eucharistic Minister Volunteers: worshipministry@blessedsacramentdc.org

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 • Hard Deadline: Mondays @ 9 a.m. Send to: bulletin@blessedsacramentdc.org.

Newsletter Content • newsletter@blessedsacramentdc.org Website Postings • website@blessedsacramentdc.org Facebook Postings • dbyers4@verizon.net

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, 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 • NOVEMBER 20

As we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King and the end of Great Jubilee Year of Mercy, our first reading from the second Book of Samuel concerns the choice of David as king of Israel. We are reminded about God's promise of gathering all the tribes of Israel by a descendant of David. This hope is characterized by the statement of the Lord. "You shall shepherd my people Israel and shall be commander of Israel." It is for this reason that King David is a figure and



Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls (Rome) Detail of apse fresco Photo credit: Katherine Quan

symbol of Christ as King and Messiah. Christ is the fulfillment of this prophecy who gathers everyone to the Father through His passion, death and resurrection.

Our second reading from St. Paul's letter to the Colossians, reminds us of the redemption brought about by Jesus, the beloved Son of the Father, the image of the invisible God. The blood of His cross has reconciled earth and heaven because He was near the Father who created all things in Him. This King of the universe, through whom God "reconciles everything on earth and in the heavens," has been given to us. We have received God's forgiveness and been freed not only from sin, but from the "invisible powers" that tempt us.

In our passage from Luke's gospel, we find ourselves at the foot of the cross. Jesus promises "Paradise" to the good thief because he repents of his sins. Paradise is the heavenly dwelling that Jesus prepares for His disciples. It is the kingdom into which Christ the King enters through His death, into which He brings "with Him" those who undergo the same Passover. "Today" is therefore the hour of decision. Gathered for the Mass, we certainly do not belong to those who mock Jesus on the cross, but our hearts are moved to pray in humility, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." We belong to the crowd that stands watching in contemplation, perhaps hearing nothing other than what Jesus says, "Today, you will be with me in Paradise."

God bless you, *Father Ron*

This Month

Poor Box Donations

Poor Box donations in **November** will benefit the Tenants Empowerment Network, a transitional housing program for homeless families. The program, which is part of Catholic Charities, also provides case management services, addictions counseling, childcare assistance, and guidance in securing employment. Families may remain in the TEN program for up to two years.

FAITH FORMATION

Call for School of Religion Teacher Aides & Helpers

We could use additional teacher aides/helpers for Sunday SOR and special needs catechesis. If you are interested and are able to help Sunday mornings, please contact Michelle Balch: SOR@ blessedsacramentdc.org.

Symposium on Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love) Compact discs of this program (taped and donated by Ed Finn) are available to parishioners who missed the event on November 6. Remember that CDs of previous Sunday morning lectures on many subjects and given by distinguished speakers may be borrowed. Please call the library, 202.449.3974, for further information.

FROM THE PARISH

Call for Altar Servers

Blessed Sacrament is looking for boys and girls in fifth grade or older who would like to join the altar server program. Training will begin at the end of this month. For more information or to sign-up to serve, please send an email to altarservers@blessedsacramentdc. org or call Fr. Alec Scott at the pastoral center. God Bless!

Call for Usher Volunteers for 10:30 Gym Mass

The Gym Mass requests usher volunteers. Please contact John Umana at jumanabeth@aol.com.

Daystar Gallery

Daystar Gallery announces a new exhibition of paintings by Judy Kearns, Art teacher at Blessed Sacrament, "Contemplation, Earth, Water, Sky," from November 15 to December 9. A reception will be held on **Sunday, November 20 from 1:30-3:30 p.m**.

Sing for Christmas!

If you would like to sing on Christmas Eve at 8:00 p.m., contact Ginny Curtin for rehearsal dates and times: gucurtin@gmail.com. You would be joining members of the 5:30 Sunday and Gym Choirs.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

With the holidays (and office closures) fast approaching, our deadlines to submit the bulletin to the printer are moved up. **Please see the below schedule to ensure your announcement is submitted on time.** Thank you!

For Sunday, Dec. 18: Submit by **Sunday, Dec 11 at 5 p.m.** For Christmas: Submit by **Sunday, Dec 18 at 5 p.m.** For New Year's Day: Submit by **Friday, Dec 23 at 9 a.m.** For Sunday, Jan. 8: Please submit by **Friday, Dec 30 at 9 a.m.**

BAPTISMS

Landon Whieldon Colwell Allison Donahue Fullenkamp Cole Patrick Urgo

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

Alejandro Arce Ana Maria Arce Evelyn Childs Ellen Dragotto Marian Middendorf Fredy H. Ortega Daniel Ortman Maria Stechschlte Nelly Turner Violeta Turner

REST IN **P**EACE

James Jordan Joe Marquette O'Neal McGean

BLESSED SACRAMENT Youth Group

MIDDLE SCHOOL EVENTS

FAITH & SERVICE: On the first Friday of each month, all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders are invited to come for Faith & Service nights. We will attend the 5:30 p.m. Mass, then continue in the Auditorium to eat pizza, play games, discuss our faith, and do a service project. We will have high school students and adult volunteers participating in the leadership of these Faith & Service nights. Each night counts for two service hours.

5:30-8:00 p.m. on Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3. To RSVP, find the link on the parish website or contact Casey Esser (see below).

HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

BONFIRE NIGHT: On the second Friday of every month, all high school students are invited to come and hang out for a bonfire. We will gather with friends and young adults to enjoy music, dinner, and marshmallows. Bonfire nights will begin with 5:30 p.m. Mass in the church and follow from 6-8pm in the rectory courtyard (or Parish Center 2nd Floor in inclement weather).

5:30-8:00 p.m. on Dec 9, Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 10. To RSVP, find the link on the parish website or contact Casey Esser (see below).

DEC 16: CHRISTMAS PARTY & ICE SKATING



December 16, 5:30-10:00 p.m. – Grab your ugly sweater and come to this fun event!! We'll have dinner and exchange gifts at the Parish Center (2nd floor) before going downtown to the National Gallery ice rink in DC. Parent drivers may be needed. Open to all 6th-12th graders

Drop-off & Pick-up at church 5:30 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

RSVP to Casey Esser by Friday, December 9th

Cost is \$15, or \$10 if you bring your own ice skates

Students must submit a permission slip for each event held outside Blessed Sacrament.

Adult chaperones and drivers are always needed, please get in touch!

For more information and to register for these events, please contact Blessed Sacrament's Youth Minister, Casey Esser: cesser@blessedsacramentdc.org | 202.449.3985

FIND US ON BLESSED SACRAMENT DC

THE SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

A Thanksgiving Request: SHARE @ BS has a growing number of requests for food from people who are facing difficulties in these hard economic times. Through SHARE, we are able to give them \$43 of food at a cost to us of \$21. At Thanksgiving we would like also to give these people a turkey for their holiday dinner. If you can donate \$40 to SHARE @ Blessed Sacrament it will help your parish serve this need and bring some comfort to other families. So far this year, we have donated in excess of \$22,000 (a \$44,000 value) to those in need. The requests for food have increased sharply – by 62% - during the past three years. You may want to consider donating \$21 a month which is the cost we pay for \$43 of food. For your convenience, you can use the gold colored donation flier at the church entrances or send a donation to the BS Parish Office - Attention SHARE @ BS. Thank you!

29th Annual Greg Gannon Canned Food Drive Saturday, December 3



TIME TO TAKE ACTION!

If you have participated before and will participate again this year: please visit www.greggannoncfd.org ASAP to confirm your territory and contact information

If you are interested in participating for the first time:please visit www.greggannoncfd.org and tell us how you want to get involved: Territory Leader, Territory Helper, Volunteer to help where needed. We are always looking for new families to join our GGCFD family!

Need Confirmation hours? Visit the website, under the "Parish Communities" tab, click Blessed Sacrament, and complete the online form.

Territory Supply Pick Up – Thanksgiving Weekend

Saturday, November 26 3 - 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 27 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Monay, November 28 3 - 5 p.m.

If you want to learn more about ways you can help, please email Meredith Ficca at mzficca@gmail.com.

Visit www.greggannoncfd.org to see our latest video!

OUTREACH



Thanksgiving Meal Donations for Poor and Homeless Individuals & Families

Thanksgiving Dinner donations are still needed for low income individuals and families. Giant, Safeway cards, cash and checks still accepted. Please leave donations in the Social Concern inbox in the Parish Center or in collection baskets at Masses this weekend. Label all donations, "Thanksgiving Donation for Social Concerns." Thank you in advance for your kind donation and Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family! Questions contact Pat Kavanaugh, 202.449.3987, pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org.

Advent Wreath Family Workshop

Making a family Advent Wreath begins your spiritual preparation for Christmas! When: Next Sunday, November 27

First Advent of Sunday Time: After the 10:30 a.m. Masses Cost: \$30 per wreath



Contact: Suzanne Pierron: gilmore150@hotmail.com To register, visit: www.blessedsacramentdc.org/ event/891422-2016-11-27-advent-wreath-workshop/

Blessed Sacrament Giving Tree Ministry

Please consider participating in the Giving Tree program to provide Christmas gifts for over 700 children in need in our area.

Get a Star: If you participated in the past, you should have received an email with instructions. To request a star, email BSDCGivingTree@gmail.com. You can also pick up a star with a child's name and needs after all Masses November 19/20th and the 26/27th.

Gift Collection: Bring your gifts back December 10/11th. Questions or want to volunteer? Contact Ann O'Brien or Sam Cicotello: BSDCGivingTree@gmail.com

Star Distribution

November 19/20 and 26/27

Gift Collection

December 10/11

DID YOU KNOW??

Did you know that the number of characters with disabilities on prime-time television is on the rise, with a new report finding such representation nearly doubled since last year! Among series regulars appearing this season on scripted prime-time programs on ABC, CBS, The CW, Fox and NBC, 15 are expected to have disabilities. By contrast, there were just 8 portravals of disability on network shows last season. For the 2016-2017 season, the report found that characters with disabilities account for 1.7% of all series regulars on network shows, the highest percentage recorded since being tracked.

For more information on how Blessed Sacrament is becoming inclusive, contact evoelzke@blessedsacramentdc.org.

VISIT YOUR PARISH LIBRARY

What to read now: recently catalogued gifts to the library

Heaven in Stone and Glass: Experiencing the Spirituality of the Great Cathedrals, by Robert Barron (246.96 B278 H34), gift of the Abell family

"Everything in a Gothic cathedral tells a story which in turn opens onto the narrative being spun by God," writes Bishop Barron. Each chapter describes a feature such as the "sacred geometry," the "verticality" of the architecture, the meditative aspect of the rose window and the labyrinth. The author's wide travels and his understated scholarship make this a gem to read and a valuable handbook when visiting any cathedral.

Suite Francaise, by Irene Nemirovsky (F N344 S 37), gift of Jane Simanis

Nemirovsky's part-novel, part-memoir, tells the story of families who experienced the German occupation of France beginning in 1940. Two parts, 'Storm in June' and 'Dolce' tell of the total disruption of normal life as citizens struggle to protect their children and learn to coexist with occupying soldiers, who are themselves uncertain and vulnerable. The French author, of Russian/Jewish ancestry, died in a concentration camp and this book was hidden and unknown for sixty-five years.

To the Martyrs: A Reflection on the Supreme Christian Witness, by Cardinal Donald Wuerl (261 W95 T55), anonymous gift

The theme of persecution was central to Jesus' experience and message, writes the author. From Roman times on, followed by the Muslim armies, eras of martyrdom have continued. Each chapter of this powerful book introduces us to yet further waves of martyrs. Today, the Cardinal writes, "it is impossible to report accurate numbers because the numbers are constantly rising" amid "total international silence."

Visit the library or call 202.449.3974 to borrow these books.

Meet the Authors–December 11, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Parish Library Parishioners Ken Cooper and Jackie Kalin will sign and discuss their book *Where Heaven and the Bronx Meet* on Sunday, **December** 11. This debut novel is about a teacher, Kevin "Mac" McCarthy, whom God enlists to become an angel on earth. Mac embarks on a journey of discovery about himself, the devil, and a host of allies, as he struggles 'to shut down evil' in the Bronx. Our parish and one of its priests is part of the story.

VETERANS AND MILITARY SERVICE MINISTRY

Collections for Deployed Troops and the Local VA: This weekend, the Ministry Team will be collecting the following items for the work of Catholic Chaplains deployed overseas and the Washington, DC VA. Collection boxes are at the main entrance of the church and the side parking lot entrance.



Suggested Donation Items:

- Granola Bars, Nuts or Beef Jerky;
- Personal Hygiene Items: Shampoo, Body Wash, Body Lotion (smaller sizes please), Hand Sanitizers, and Deodorant
- Religious Items: Rosaries, small religious items e.g., pocket crosses, holy cards, prayer cards

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	Thanksgiving Luncheon
Tuesday	Strong Seniors Strengh & Balance Exercise Class
Wednesday	Watercolor Art Class with Dick Swartz
Thursday	Happy Thanksgiving!
Friday	Closed

The 2nd and 4th Monday Club will meet on **Monday, November 21** in the Manning Center immediately following the 11 a.m. Mass to celebrate our own Thanksgiving dinner. **Reservations are a must!** Please call Rita Killian: 202.363.5069.

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

Fall Theology on Tap Series for Young Adults

Tired of election talk? Join other young adults (ages 21-39) at Buffalo Billiards in Dupont Circle for our 4-week speaker series on "Beyond Politics: Working through Conflict to Build a Peaceful World", **Tuesday evenings Nov. 15-Dec. 6**. How do we make a change to build peace in our world, communities, and in our hearts? Hear from our lineup of speakers featuring a priest, professor, communications director, and hostage survivor. All young adults are invited for Happy Hour specials from 6-7 p.m. with a talk and Q/A to follow from 7-8 p.m. Learn more at adw.org/tot.

CHIMES CHATTER

"Bats in the Belfry" – have you seen bats flying around our bell tower? Before addressing that question, some background: the idiom "Bats in the Belfry" is of curious origin and one might presume it is of "Old English" roots. Quite the contrary, as this phrase appeared in an American 1899 book entitled *Billy Baxter's Letters*, authored by William J. Kountz. Using the idiom in context, the author amusingly describes a scene from an opera, liberally exercising more slang: "The band cut loose something fierce. The



Photo by Joe Bozik

leader tore out about \$9.00 worth of hair, and acted generally as though he had bats in his belfry. I thought sure the place would be pinched." The reference to this book is significant due to the 1899 date and the author prefaced his book as full of "up-todate slang." Evidently this figure of speech compares seemingly disorganized flights of bats with a person's eccentricity, drawing a metaphor between a high belfry (where bats may habitate) and a person's elevated head. Moreover, although "bats in the belfry" is American in origin, the word "batty" is interestingly a more common slang term in England than here. Are there bats in our belfry? Although bats have been sited around the church (foraging on tremendous amounts of flying insects), it is believed these bats reside in a more quiet location, as our chimes are too "unappealing" due to their pealing every quarterhour during daylight hours, when bats need rest.

Happy Thanksgiving Day from the Chimes Committee. Share your chimes' memory? Contact 1RetroJoe@gmail.com

The Work of Mary Virginia Merrick

The Christ Child Society was officially started in 1887 in Washington DC. Word of Mary Virginia Merrick's accomplishments and zeal spread quickly and people in other cities across the united states wanted to establish Christ Child chapters in their cities, to provide services to children in need in their own communities. Today there are 44 chapters operating across the country with just over 6,000 members, all serving children in need. Mary used to say "the Christ Child Society was set in motion by love, and love is a mighty impetus."

She was a pioneer in lay social action and specifically in lay social action by Catholic women, at a time when women had few opportunities and rarely held lay leadership positions in either the church or in society. She often said "much can be accomplished when God is by your side."

"Miss Mary" as she was fondly called was very progressive for her time, as the Society she founded served children in need regardless of race or creed during a time of segregation in America. Not content to serve only those seeking assistance, she sent her "friendly visitors" out into the neighborhoods to see first-hand what the needs were and then, motivated by her personal motto "to see a need is to fill it," she found the means to mitigate those needs. In her lifetime she founded fresh air programs to send inner-city children to the country in the summer, libraries in jails and reform schools, settlements houses, boys & girls clubs, summer camps, free dental clinics, legal services for immigrants, and a convalescent home for children with illnesses or special needs, one of the first in the country and much more.

Mary had a vision for a national organization from the very beginning and as the work of the society began to increase and spread she realized the need for solidarity in the organization. In 1916 Mary took action to have the branches that had begun in other cities federated into a national organization. She served as the organization's National President and did so until her poor health forced her to resign in 1948, however she remained the president of the Washington chapter until her death in 1955. Under her direction the Society remained true to its motto – "Laborare Est Orare," "to work is to pray" as well

CHRISTIAN FAMILY MOVEMENT MINISTRY

"Murder leaves scars. Some years ago my nephew's wife came home with the children only to be confronted by a teenage boy who had broken in. He shot and killed both her and the 3 year old girl, then stabbed the 5 year old boy, who survived. The boy has suffered psychologically for 25 years as has my nephew, although he has remarried and has more children. And his father, my brother, mourns his granddaughter. I am scarred by the memory of my stunned nephew at the hospital." – Richard Hage, member of CFM. Let us pray,

A Prayer For Help In Ending Violence

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... We ask you this through Christ our Lord. as its unofficial motto – "To see a need and fill it."

Although Mary was bedridden or confined to a recumbent wheelchair for most of her life, she had an inner fire, a drive that led her to accomplish much, disabled, yes...Frail, no! She was a strong willed, independent woman who was driven to see her Christ Child Society succeed and serve children in need. Yes she often struggled with her pain and physical limitations, but she did not let them stop her, she depended



on her God, and in turn He allowed her to accomplish great things in His own and only Son's name.

For more information on Mary Virginia Merrick's life, go to www. nationalchristchildsociety.org or www.maryvirginiamerrick.org

Prayer for the Cause for Canonization Of Mary Virginia Merrick

Lord God, in your special love for children, You chose to raise up Mary Virginia Merrick to be the servant of the poor children. In laboring to serve the young and those without hope because of the crushing weight of poverty, she proclaimed the love of Your Son. She made her Life's work a demonstration that "nothing is ever too much to do for a child."

Grant that her example of selfless charity and courageous virtue in the face of her own suffering will inspire us to be as generous in the service of others.

We humbly ask that your servant Mary Virginia Merrick be numbered among the Church's canonized saints for edification of your holy people, in accord with Your most holy will. Through her intercession, please hear and answer my request (name your intention). Through Jesus Christ our Lord. – Amen

FROM THE COMMUNITY

Doctors: We Need You!

Mercy Health Clinic in Gaithersburg is seeking physician volunteers. Our need is especially acute for specialists in Orthopedics, Endocrinology, Ophthalmology/Optometry and Primary Care. Mercy Health Clinic serves the poor and uninsured of Montgomery County, providing free medical care to those who have nowhere else to go. Please contact Lauren Cosgrove, MD, at 240.773.1158 or Lauren.Cosgrove@MercyHealthClinic.org if you have 4 hours per month or more to contribute to our clinic.

EVERY WEEK

Coffee and Conversation @ the Corbett Café Every Thursday Join fellow parishioners every Thursday after the 8 a.m. Mass at Corbett Café, Apartment 1 of the Chevy Chase Apartments next to the church, for coffee and conversation.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **Kehoe Landscape Contractors** for placing an ad in our weekly bulletin.