



# SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

FOUNDED  
1911

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## MASS TIMES ~ PRESIDERS SCHEDULE

**Saturday Vigil, February 17**  
5:30 p.m. ~ Father O

**Saturday Vigil, February 24**  
~ Father D'Silva

**Sunday, February 18**

7:30 a.m. ~ Father Regis  
9:00 a.m.\* ~ Father Alec  
10:30 a.m. (Church) ~ Father Bill  
10:30 a.m. (Gym) ~ Father D'Silva  
12:30 p.m. ~ Father Alec  
5:30 p.m. ~ Father Bill

**Sunday, February 25**

~ Father O  
~ Father Regis  
~ Father Alec  
~ Father Bill  
~ Father Alec  
~ Father D'Silva

\*American Sign Language interpreted Mass

### Weekday & 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 or 5:30 p.m. Mass on federal holidays

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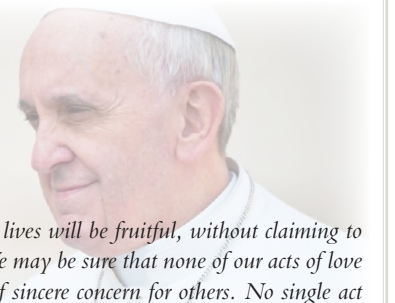
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### Thought for the Week From Pope Francis



*We can know quite well that our lives will be fruitful, without claiming to know how, or where, or when. We may be sure that none of our acts of love will be lost, nor any of our acts of sincere concern for others. No single act of love for God will be lost, no generous effort is meaningless, no painful endurance is wasted. All of these encircle our world like a vital force.... Let us keep marching forward; let us give him everything, allowing him to make our efforts bear fruit in his good time (Joy of the Gospel, 279).*

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be **no 11 am Mass on Saturday, February 24**, as our school students will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at that time.

Adoration is back in the Church until further notice. 5:30 pm Mass will continue to be in the Church.

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. William Foley, Pastor • [wfoley@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:wfoley@blessedsacramentdc.org)  
Rev. Alec Scott, Parochial Vicar • [ascott@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:ascott@blessedsacramentdc.org)  
Rev. Msgr. Maurice V. O'Connell, Senior Priest • [moconnell@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:moconnell@blessedsacramentdc.org)  
Rev. Percival L. D'Silva • [pdsilva@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:pdsilva@blessedsacramentdc.org)  
Deacon Kenneth Angell • [kenneth.angell@opic.gov](mailto:kenneth.angell@opic.gov)  
Deacon Leo Flynn • [leo@theflynnnteam.com](mailto:leo@theflynnnteam.com)  
Deacon Donald Mays • [dmays@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:dmays@blessedsacramentdc.org)

#### Assistants on Weekends

Rev. Regis Armstrong, OFM Cap, Catholic University

### DUFFY PARISH CENTER

**Main Office** 202.966.6575 (Monday - Friday, 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

**Ray Manning Adult Center** 202.363.4512

Mr. John Navolio, Business Manager

202.449.3984, [jnavolio@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:jnavolio@blessedsacramentdc.org)

Mr. Jay Rader, Director of Liturgy and Music

202.449.3981, [jayrader@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:jayrader@blessedsacramentdc.org)

Ms. Michelle Balch, Director of Religious Education

202.449.3989, [mbalch@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:mbalch@blessedsacramentdc.org)

Ms. Rosalie Days, Sacramental Preparation Coordinator

202.449.4618, [rdays@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:rdays@blessedsacramentdc.org)

Mrs. Casey Esser, Youth Minister

202.449.3985, [cesser@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:cesser@blessedsacramentdc.org)

Mrs. Patricia Kavanaugh, Social Concerns Minister

202.449.3987, [pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto: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](mailto:evoelzke@blessedsacramentdc.org)

Ms. Kate Ryan, Director of CYO

202.449.3972, [kryan@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:kryan@blessedsacramentdc.org)

### BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL

Mr. Chris Kelly, Principal

202.966.6682, [ckelly@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:ckelly@blessedsacramentdc.org)

Ms. Nancy Ryan, Director of Admissions

202.966.6682, Ext. 6110, [nryan@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto: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 at noon in the chapel and 4th Sunday at 2 p.m. in the main church. For more info visit: [www.blessedsacramentdc.org/sacraments-rites](http://www.blessedsacramentdc.org/sacraments-rites)

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

**Reconciliation** • Saturday, 4 - 5 p.m. or anytime by appointment.

**Altar Server Program:** [altarservers@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:altarservers@blessedsacramentdc.org)

**Eucharistic Minister Volunteers:** [worshipministry@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto: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! To register as new parishioners, visit [www.blessedsacramentdc.org/new-parishioners](http://www.blessedsacramentdc.org/new-parishioners). Hard copies of the registration form are available at the parish office or contact Rick Perry: 202.449.3982.

**Website Postings** • [website@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto: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, 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

Dear Parish Family:

A few days ago, we accepted the ashes of repentance and made Lenten resolutions to pray, fast, and give alms to the poor. Anyone who enters a desert, however, does not really know what to expect. At the beginning of a retreat, one is frequently asked to consider the particular grace that is needed or desired at that time. Although our prayers and penances are usually done in private, as the gospel for Ash Wednesday suggested, we do need the support of one another on our spiritual journey. The ashes we wore expressed the truth that we are all sinners and are all engaged in the on-going process of conversion. Like the dirty windshield of our cars on a bright sunny morning in the winter, in the light of God's grace we become more profoundly aware of our sinfulness and distance from God. As is true on most retreats, once we have entered the desert we are often confronted by the "wild beasts" of our temptations. Fundamentally, the evil one wants us to "give up" and yield to fear and despair. The challenge of Lent is to trust in God's compassionate mercy and to prepare once again to profess our faith at Easter. Do you know when the devil returned to tempt Jesus one final time?

Blessed Lent,

*Father Bill Foley*

### PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Our parish mission statement has just been approved by the Pastoral Council:

***The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament is a welcoming Catholic community whose people encounter Christ in the Eucharist and serve Him in our neighbor.***

### Regarding the Flu

Questions have been asked about liturgical practices during the flu season. Some suggestions might help. We do clean the holy water containers, but no one is required to use holy water upon entering or leaving Church. We invite people to share a "sign of peace," but that does not necessarily imply touching. A reverential bow or a wave is sufficient. Communion from the chalice is optional, but we will continue to offer that possibility. Anyone who feels ill is encouraged to avoid this option.

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

Ana Maria Arce	Patricia Friend	Patrick Adams Murphy
Amanda Brignola	Bart Hayft	Fredy H. Ortega
Evelyn Childs	Katharine M. Heck	Daniel Ortman
James Curran	Alexa Hughes	Maria Stechschlte
Ann Marie Duggan	Elizabeth Kennedy	Nelly Turner
	Marian Middendorf	

**PARISH SURVEY- All Parishioners Urged to Participate**

One of Father Bill Foley's initiatives after becoming our new pastor has been the design of a Parish Survey to assess our strengths and opportunities for growth. The Survey will provide a basis for setting long-term goals. Working in conjunction with the Pastoral Council and with the expertise of volunteer parishioner Rita Thiron, the survey will be available via both email and hard copy in early March. It is vital to hear from all members of the parish community. If you are not currently receiving emails from the parish, please send your email to the Parish Secretary/Office Manager, Joan Ward, [jward@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:jward@blessedsacramentdc.org), to ensure you receive the survey.

We hope to have the results of the survey sent to parishioners by this coming fall. We strongly urge all parishioners to participate in this important work.

**SOCIAL CONCERNS/OUTREACH****Operation Rice Bowl: A Lenten Journey Opportunity**

Please remember to join our faith community and nearly 14,000 Catholic communities across the United States in the *Lenten faith in action* Catholic Relief Services' "Operation Rice Bowl" program. "RICE BOWLS" are *still* available in church entrances. This program offers participants opportunities to engage daily in the spiritual pillars of Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Parishioners are invited to reflect on our brother and sisters and help us see our role in caring for the most vulnerable. A brochure is attached inside of each small *cardboard bowl* providing *instructions, suggestions, prayers, and a Lenten calendar*. For more information or to have a "Rice Bowl" mailed, please contact Patricia K. Kavanaugh in the Social Concerns Office, 202.449.3987, [pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org). Information also available Catholic Relief Services, [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org).

**Blessed Sacrament Parish Helping Hands Ministry**

Lent is a special time to reach out! This Social Concern Ministry offers many services to our parishioners, for example transportation to Mass, medical appointments or other necessary commitments. It offers homebound parishioners companionship and/or if you are a Eucharistic Minister you may provide Communion to an individual at home or a small group in a nearby Assisted Living Facility. This opportunity will brighten your Lent and the parishioner who received the gift. This Lent pray but also offer hope. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Pat Kavanaugh, Director of Social Concerns, 202.449.3987, [pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:pkavanaugh@blessedsacramentdc.org). Thank you!

**DID YOU KNOW??**

Did you know that the DisAbilities Ministry will be holding a retreat for members, friends, families and caregivers during Lent? Please join us for reflection, prayer and community on **Saturday, March 3**, from 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Light refreshments will be provided. Our retreat facilitator will be Father Foley. Make the most of your Lenten Journey by joining us!

For more information on how Blessed Sacrament is becoming inclusive, contact [evaelzke@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:evaelzke@blessedsacramentdc.org).

**LENTEN ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK****Wednesday, February 21: The Light Is ON For You**

Confessions 6:30-8:00 p.m. To find confession times at other parishes and for additional resources, visit: [TheLightisON.org](http://TheLightisON.org).

**Friday, February 23: Stations of the Cross & Pizza**

Stations begin after the 5:30 p.m. Mass; Pizza will be served afterwards in the Parish Center. Volunteers are needed to serve the pizza and assist with the set-up.

**That Man Is You: More Than Is Expected Of You**

In his homilies this past weekend, Fr. O referred to "*hesed*," a Hebrew word roughly translated as "doing more than is expected." Christians can always strive to live better lives, to grow in virtue and the love of God.

THAT MAN IS YOU (TMIY) offers the men of Blessed Sacrament an opportunity to do more than is expected during Lent. As everyone knows by now, we meet in the School Auditorium from 6:30 to 8:00 on Saturday mornings, obviously no easy thing. Seriously consider joining us for Lent, starting **SATURDAY THE 24th**.

Each TMIY session includes a substantial hot breakfast, a video presentation, and small-group discussion. The organization supplies special booklets to guide a man's spiritual journey during Lent. TMIY is for all men, but especially helpful for those with children in school.

If you'd like to try TMIY but can't commit yourself to make every session, that's fine. Register so we know how many to expect, then come whenever you can. To register, go to [www.blessedsacramentdc.org/article/registration-now-open-for-that-man-is-you/](http://www.blessedsacramentdc.org/article/registration-now-open-for-that-man-is-you/)

FMI: Dave Byers, 301-681-7014, [dbyers4@verizon.net](mailto:dbyers4@verizon.net).

**Tax Statements**

If you would like your 2017 Contribution Statement, please email your request to [statements@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:statements@blessedsacramentdc.org). Please be sure to include your full name and address in the email so we can make sure our information is up to date. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Rick Perry at 202.449.3982.

**Poor Box Donations**

Poor Box donations in **February** will benefit the Weekend Bag program of the Capital Area Food Bank. The program provides bags of groceries to children ages 5-18 who are at risk of hunger during the weekend when school breakfast and lunch programs are not available.

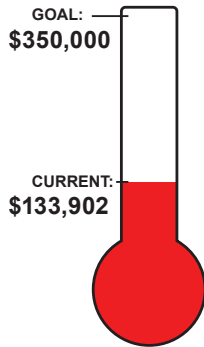
**BLESSED SACRAMENT FACILITIES UPDATE**

**Parish Projects:**

**Church Roof** – About 20% of the tower work is complete and most of the lower level areas around the church are complete. While progressing well, the completion time will be a function of the weather. The additional levels of scaffolding being installed due to the size of the cross on top are still in progress and will coincide with the refurbishment of the cross. The construction areas and grounds around the fencing remain off limits to pedestrians for safety reasons. Sidewalk areas may be temporarily blocked periodically for safety reasons, but all church entrances should remain open. Also, for safety reasons, all work areas, especially inside the fencing, is off limits to everyone except contractors.

Donations for the roof are continuing to come in and we now have \$133,902 towards our \$350,000 goal for our roof project. Thank so much for your generosity!

**Church Chimes** – Note that we will not be ringing the chimes until after the roof project is complete.



**School Projects:**

**Outdoor Classroom** – The major portion of the outdoor classroom is complete and should be substantially complete soon.

If you have any additional questions about these projects, please contact [jnavolio@blessedsacramentdc.org](mailto:jnavolio@blessedsacramentdc.org)



Walking with Purpose invites women of all ages to join us during Lent

- Study God’s Word during Lent in a manner that brings spiritual growth and enrichment to all aspects of life.
  - No previous experience with the Bible is necessary.
  - The theme of “Keeping in Balance” will focus on principles that help women manage life’s pace and pressure with calm and steadiness.
  - After participating in WWP, a majority of women report that their prayer life has improved, their relationship with Christ and their Catholic faith are stronger, and their appreciation for the sacraments has grown.
  - Meetings will be Tuesday mornings from 8:45-10:30 a.m. in the Parish Center from **February 20 to March 27**.
  - Small group discussions follow coffee, refreshments and socializing.
  - Course materials will be provided at no charge for the Lenten sessions.
  - Complimentary babysitting is available.
- For more info, contact: Pam Kelly: 202.320.3340, [pamelagkelly@gmail.com](mailto:pamelagkelly@gmail.com)

**VETERANS AND MILITARY SERVICE MINISTRY**



The next Veterans-Military Ministry Team meeting will be **Sunday, February 25** after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the lower level of the parish center. Please join us as we plan our Spring transition workshops (the first one is March 3) and our team retreat on March 25. If you have questions, please contact Jocelyn Rowe at [jocelyn@roweglobalgroup.com](mailto:jocelyn@roweglobalgroup.com). New members are always welcome and you do not have to be a veteran or member of the military to join!

**Spring Workshop: Saturday, March 3, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.**

The Veterans-Military Ministry is hosting a Spring workshop on **Saturday, March 3** for veterans and active duty military: “Writing from the Heart and Soul: A Workshop for Veterans and Active Duty Military.” The workshop, led by Ministry Team member Susan Mitchell will take place from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus (5034 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, 2nd Floor). A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. Questions and to RSVP -- please contact Jocelyn Rowe, [jocelyn@roweglobalgroup.com](mailto:jocelyn@roweglobalgroup.com) or 202.641.4556.

Workshop Overview: Military service brings with it diverse feelings including loss, sacrifice, joy, pride, grief, and gratitude. Our hearts can be full to overflowing and our souls ache to find a way to express ourselves. Many communities over the centuries have used songs and poetry as a means to accompany the warrior upon return from war and military service. The scriptural psalms or song poems were a way for the Hebrew people to express their joys, sorrows, fears, laments and petitions, and they continue to serve this function today in many settings. This workshop will use the Psalms as a template or guide, a structure for our thoughts and feelings. We will begin by listening to a few of the most vivid psalms, and then write our own and a group psalm. All writing is confidential unless you wish to share it with the group. No previous religious experience, affiliation or inclination is needed. If you are able, please bring something to write with and on: a journal, laptop, tablet or phone. Some notebooks will be available on site.

**Boy Scouts Troop 90**

Congratulations to the honorees of Boy Scout Troop 90 and their Court of Honor on January 31: Connor Hurley, Will Loveland, Brendan Miller, Justin Missar, and Paul Ritacco attained the rank of Scout and Jack Sampson achieved Tenderfoot. In addition, 20 merit badges were awarded to 15 Scouts!

**SPONSOR OF THE WEEK**

We would like to thank **Damian Buckley** for placing an ad in our weekly bulletin.

## WOMEN'S RETREAT

**ATTENTION LADIES**—Blessed Sacrament's Annual **Women's Retreat** is coming up the weekend of **March 9-11**. It will be held at the Loyola Retreat House in Faulkner, MD. This special "you" get-away is just the nourishment your heart needs and a great way to enhance your Lenten Season!

The theme this year is "Come, Follow Me". Ignatian Spirituality proposes principles and practices to help us walk the path set out by Jesus in the Gospel. **This retreat will invite us to hear Jesus' call to us now, and to respond to it.** The weekend is open to anyone who desires to grow in their relationship with God through prayer. The retreat includes time for prayer, worship and personal reflection. A private room and meals are included.

If you are interested in joining other women in the parish for a wonderful, spiritual experience, contact Jessica Walsh at [jessicawalsh@ggcfcd.org](mailto:jessicawalsh@ggcfcd.org), 301.385.9713 or Rita Killian at [r.killian@verizon.net](mailto:r.killian@verizon.net), 202.363.5069. You can also get more information on the Loyola Retreat House website at [www.loyolaretreat.org](http://www.loyolaretreat.org). Information flyers can be found in the back of the Church, in the Parish Center and in the School. Carpooling available. The retreat fee for the weekend is \$245. First time retreatants and young adults under 30 years only pay \$195. Registration Fee assistance available. Space is limited...sign up today!

### Ignatian Weekend Retreat – "Come, Follow Me!"

Give a weekend to God, your family and yourself. The men of Blessed Sacrament go on retreat each year at Loyola On The Potomac – A Jesuit Retreat House in Faulkner, MD. Our Ignatian Weekend is silent and includes generous amounts of time for prayer, personal reflection and the cultivation of a deeper relationship with God. The programs and lectures are thoughtful and led by experienced priests and lay persons. It is open to anyone who desires to grow in their relationship with God through prayer and reflection. The retreat begins **Friday evening, March 2 and concludes with lunch on March 4.**



For more information, contact John Vittone at [vittone.john@gmail.com](mailto:vittone.john@gmail.com) or 301.580.8164. A deposit of \$115 and a registration form are required to secure your room. The retreat fee for the weekend is \$245 and includes all meals. (\$195 for first time retreatants and/or young adults up to age 30.) All rooms are single occupancy with a private bathroom. Reserve online at [www.loyolaonthepotomac.com](http://www.loyolaonthepotomac.com).

### THE ADULT CENTER

Because of the uncertainties of weather and potential safety risks, the Adult Center will be closed the month of February, reopening on **MONDAY, MARCH 5.**



#### Free Throw Contest

The Knights of Columbus Washington Council 224 will be holding a Free Throw Contest at Blessed Sacrament Gym on **Sunday March 11th, from 6:30-8 p.m.** Contestants between the ages of 10 and 14 are able to take part. Any questions may be directed to the Council Email Address at [kofc224dc@gmail.com](mailto:kofc224dc@gmail.com).

## Youth Ministry



### High School

**The High School SOR program is accepting new students for the spring semester. This course meets on Sunday nights, 6:30-8pm.** Register online at the School of Religion page or email Casey Esser for details!

**High School Youth Nights are every Wednesday night, 7-9pm** in the Parish Library (Parish Center 2nd floor). This year includes service outings, retreat, ice skating, paintball, and more!

### Middle School

**Faith & Service nights** take place on the first Friday of every month. Meet at the 5:30 Mass, followed in the Auditorium 6pm-8pm. Includes dinner, games, a talk, and a service project. All middle school students are welcome! Adult and high school volunteers are always needed to help out.

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

**OUR SCHOOL IS YOUR SCHOOL**

Catholic Schools Week at Blessed Sacrament is one of my favorite weeks of the school year! It is filled with lots of fun and faith. The last week of January was Catholic Schools Week and we had many exciting activities to celebrate.

On Monday morning, the week was kicked off a prayer service in the gym, led by the student council and all students who were members of Boy or Girl Scouts. After the service, BSS Alumni Will Mason spoke to the school about his time as a Boy Scout and how he is becoming an Eagle Scout, and his Eagle project was building part of our new. Outdoor classroom.

Because of a snow delay on Tuesday, Parent Appreciation Day moved to Wednesday. On this day, parents came to school for coffee and a performance by the K-2nd graders. Following this, the parents visited classrooms and the 3rd graders performed their "Pioneer Day" show.

Wednesday was also Student Appreciation Day. Students were given a free dress day, a special treat at lunch, and no homework! Thursday was Teacher Appreciation Day. The teachers could wear PJs to school and they had a special breakfast in the faculty lounge. On Friday, the final day of Catholic Schools Week, there was a school liturgy in the church. Student members of the Christ Care Corps led the mass. Overall, Catholic Schools Week is a fantastic celebration of Catholic Schools and for parents, teachers and students!

-Maggie DiMaio

**Bread, Book and Brethren** hopes you'll join our exploration of Mark's Gospel using the premier Catholic Bible study sets. Do you want to start the new year "seeking intellectual stimulation and spiritual renewal"? Recently retired lawyer MaryAnne Kane says she found both in the Wednesday morning meetings of Bread, Book and Brethren. She reports that, "The topics covered are compelling, the caliber of the discussion is very high, and the people involved are well-informed and welcoming."

Drop in any Wednesday morning in January for coffee and snacks 8:30 to 9 a.m. in the Parish Center's main meeting room. Study sets are available.

- 9-10 a.m. structured small group discussions
- 10-11 a.m. lecture by an area Biblical scholar or Colledgeville DVD

For more information: Nan Levine at 202.244.7691 or [eniko.basa@verizon.net](mailto:eniko.basa@verizon.net).

**Save the Date: First Friday**

The monthly First Friday gathering of men who relate how they connect their practical business and professional experiences with their commitment to live by their tenets of faith is on **Friday, March 2**, after the 6:30 a.m. Mass. Our speakers represent a diverse cross-section of organizations, professions, industries and vocations. Cortez McDaniel, Director of Men's Programs and Services at the Father McKenna Center since 2009, discusses his work with the homeless, recently incarcerated, and others seeking stability. Cortez also is a co-founder of the DC Peace Team mediating conflict resolution for youth and young adults. Please join us on March 2 for another important discussion and also discover myriad ways our faith is tested and at work in the marketplace.

**FROM THE COMMUNITY**

**Order of Malta Anointing Mass**

The Federal Association of the Order of Malta cordially invites the sick, disabled, and elderly of the Archdiocese to receive the Sacrament of Anointing at a Lourdes Anointing Mass on **Saturday, March 17** at 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Potomac. Our Lady of Mercy is completely accessible and there is plenty of free parking. Members of the Order of Malta will be present to help people throughout the morning. There will be an anointing and a blessing with Lourdes water for the sick, disabled and the elderly in attendance.

Family, friends, and caregivers are invited. A light luncheon reception will be offered to everyone after Mass in the Parish Hall. There is no charge for the day. If you have any questions, please contact: Joan Glasgow 301.807.7500 or email her at [glasgow778@gmail.com](mailto:glasgow778@gmail.com).

**Forest Side Memory Care Adult Day Program Opens in Chevy Chase**

Do you need activities and a safe environment for your loved one suffering from memory loss? Forest Side Memory Care is accepting applications for new adult day program located at their residential facility, 2701 Military Road NW. Fee based. Limited space. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Part-time or full time. Call Marianna Blagburn, Program Director at 202.966.1910.

**The Ignatian Volunteer Corps**

Answering Jesus' (& Pope Francis') Call To Serve "The Least" Among Us: The Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) is a Jesuit-sponsored organization that provides men and women, age 50 and greater (retired or semi-retired) with substantive opportunities to share their skills, talents and life experiences with nonprofit organizations that assist the materially poor or address issues related to poverty. A unique feature of IVC is a spiritual reflection component that helps volunteers discover the deeper meaning in their service, and their lives. Volunteers negotiate their schedules with the agency at which they select to serve. To learn more about IVC, contact Mike Goggin, DC/Metro MD Regional Director: 202.277.4447 or [mgoggin@ivcusa.org](mailto:mgoggin@ivcusa.org), or visit [www.ivcusa.org](http://www.ivcusa.org) and click on "DC-Metro MD."

**Attention CPAs and Tax Lawyers!**

This upcoming tax return season, Catholic Charities is managing an IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program at Catholic University's Columbus School of Law.

CPAs and tax lawyers are needed to provide pro bono tax preparation for the working poor. If a return is filed, many of these workers will enjoy a sizeable IRS refund check due in large part to the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). The EITC can help lift thousands of Washington area families out of poverty and keeps them out of poverty. Sadly, almost 20,000 low income residents of DC are not claiming the EITC, and thus are losing a potential financial resource for them.

We will be providing training in January for all interested volunteers. Tax return preparation will take place on Saturdays from February 3 to April 14. To learn more about volunteering for Catholic Charities VITA Program, please contact Deacon Jim Shanahan by email: [jim.shanahan@cc-dc.org](mailto:jim.shanahan@cc-dc.org) or phone: 202.772.4310.