Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord – March 20, 2016
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church

Web Site: www.olphsedc.com or www.josephite.com/parish/dc/olph
New Email: info@olphsedc.com

PARISH STAFF
Very Rev. Thomas R. Frank, SSJ, Pastor
Rev. George-Bede Ajuruchi, SSJ, Parochial Vicar
Deacons: Ira Chase, Thomas Jones, and Timothy Tilghman
Parish Secretary: Mrs. Bernice Waller

Director of Religious Education: Ms. Cynthia Battle
Phone: 202-678-5459 Email: cdbattle@yahoo.com
Finance Council Chair: Mrs. Bonita Boulware
Phone 301-758-3768 Email: bhboul@aol.com

Director of Music: Mr. George Stewart
Phone: 240-401-4904 Email: gcsmusic@msn.com
Pastoral Council Chair: Mrs. Karla Rodney
Phone 240-619-3022 Email: karlarodney@comcast.net

Mass Schedule
4:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass
8:00 am and 11:00 am Sunday Masses
7:00 am Weekday Masses followed by Morning Prayer

Confessions
30 minutes before Mass or by appointment.

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Novena/Communion Service
Mondays at 7:30 pm (All are welcome)

Novena to St. Joseph
Wednesdays after 7:00 am Mass

The Rosary
Recited at 4:00 pm on Saturday and 7:30 am and 10:30 am on Sunday.

BULLETIN ITEMS/INSERTS:
(ALL MUST BE APPROVED BY THE PASTOR)
Email to Doris Savoy: dojehasa@verizon.net or call 202-610-3751 by MONDAY of the week prior to publication.

Notify Doris Savoy of any printed flyers you want in the bulletin. They must be received by Thursday morning.

Birthdays/Anniversaries submit two weeks before the 1st of the month in which the event falls.
Bereavement Newsletter (published for the first of each month): items are due two weeks prior to publication.

Sunday School
October-June

Sacraments
Baptism: Is celebrated periodically, but not during Lent. For information on Parent Information Sessions, contact the rectory for required attendance. Adults who desire Baptism receive the Sacraments of Christian Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil, following a period of participation in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Call 202-678-4999.

Confirmation: Available to our youth, thirteen years of age or older, through the religious education process with activities involving parents and sponsors. Adults are prepared through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

First Communion: Preparation through the Sunday School Classes.

Funerals: Please contact the priest before confirming any arrangements with your funeral home.

Matrimony: Couples thinking about marriage should contact the parish priest prior to engagement or at least six months prior to the anticipated wedding date. The church desires to help couples prepare a good foundation for a lifelong commitment to this sacred marriage vocation.

NEWCOMERS & VISITORS: WELCOME TO “THE CHURCH ON THE HILL”!
Thank you for worshipping with us today. May you be blessed with hope, joy, love and peace while here!
Should you want to join our parish family please contact a Minister of Hospitality, Priest, or call the Rectory.
Again, Welcome!
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Weekday Mass from 7 to 7:30 AM followed by Morning Prayer.

Please CALL the Rectory for all requests.

The Archdiocese of Washington established a Mass stipend of ten dollars ($10.00), however, if you cannot afford the suggested offering, offer what you can. Memorials are noted by: † Indicates Deceased BD means Birthday AD means Anniversary of Death

Saturday (19th)
4:30 pm Vigil Mass For the People of OLPH

Sunday (20th)
8:00 am St. Joseph’s Ladies’ Aux. No.213, KOSJI
11:00 am

Monday (21st)
7:00 am

Tuesday (22nd)
7:00 am

Wednesday (23rd)
7:00 am

Holy Thursday (24th)
7:00 pm

Good Friday (25th)
12:00 noon

Holy Saturday (26th)
7:45 pm Vigil Mass For the People of OLPH

Easter Sunday (27th)
8:00 am †BD Emery Shepherd, by wife Lucie Shepherd
11:00 am †AD Bro. Marx Edward Anthony Tyree, SSJ

OLPH History, Mission Statement, Vision Statement and Core Values

Matthew 28:18-20:
The Commissioning of the Disciples

Then Jesus approached and said to them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age.”

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish has a rich, black cultural history. From its formation in 1920, the Black Catholics of Anacostia contributed to its development and growth through their sacrifices of time, talent, skills and funds to provide a parish plant of their own. Thus, the uniqueness of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish places it in a leadership position to interact with other Black and non-black parishes in utilizing the gifts of Black spirituality through music, dance, education, and special action.

MISSION STATEMENT: We, the people, of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, therefore, acknowledge that our Pastoral Mission is to proclaim Christ and teach the “Good News”, to worship and bear witness in the community, to love and serve as Jesus commanded, and to preserve and share our rich Black heritage.

VISION STATEMENT: “A Roman Catholic church that is actively visible in the Community, shares its spirituality through fellowship, and is committed to serving God.”

CORE VALUES
BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS: We will always speak the truth, respect the opinions and roles of all parishioners, and value each person, always maintaining Christian charity in all of our actions.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH: We will seek to increase the understanding of our Catholic faith and expand our spiritual growth by participating in and supporting charitable and spiritual activities, in addition to attending Mass.

STEWARDSHIP: We will become involved in church activities and commit our time, talent and treasures.

INCLUSION: We will be open and inviting by extending ourselves to all by sharing in our parish life; thereby, reaffirming our vision of being actively visible in the community.

LEGACY: We will preserve our rich Black cultural history by respecting the past, continuing in service and faith in the present, and committing to the future of OLPH.
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

The Week Ahead

CH: Church  CHG: Church Grounds  FFO: Faith Formation Office
REC: Rectory  1P/3P: First/Third Portable Building
PR: Panorama Room  PRF(S): Panorama Room Field (Stage)
WSG: Washington School for Girls

Sunday, March 20th – Palm Sunday:

ALL MASSES GATHER IN FRONT OF SCHOOL
• RCIA – after 8 am Mass – 1P
• Ladies of Charity (after 8 am Mass) – 3P
• 9:30 am Sunday School – WSG
• 9:30 am OLPH Health Ministry – PR
• 1:00 pm Perpetual Glory Rehearsal – CH

PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN RE-CERTIFICATIONS IN THE SCHOOL (All those prior to 2013)

Tuesday, March 22nd:
• 11:00 am Hilltoppers – PR
• 12:30 pm Line Dance Class – PR
• 6:30 pm Ministry of Sacred Motions – CH
• 7:00 pm Scripture Study – WSG
• 7:00 pm AA Meeting – PR

Wednesday, March 23rd:
• 6:30 pm Youth Choir Rehearsal – CH
• 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study – WSG
• 7:00-8:00 pm Confession/Spiritual Direction

“CAST THE ENVELOPE PLEASE”

All those who attended the Parish Council 2015 Leadership Retreat are invited to come and open the envelopes to find out how well we have done with our goals set at the retreat at 7:00 pm in the PR

Easter Triduum

Thursday, March 24th — HOLY THURSDAY:
• 7:00 pm MASS OF THE LORD’S SUPPER – CH (ADORATION UNTIL MIDNIGHT)

Friday, March 25th — GOOD FRIDAY:

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED
• 10:00 am LOC Food Prep for Homeless
• 12:00 NOON - GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

LENTEN FISH FRY

11:00 am-6:00 pm – PR

Saturday, March 26th -- HOLY SATURDAY:
• 5:00 am LOC Food Delivery to Homeless
• 7:45 PM EASTER VIGIL MASS
  Gather in the Panorama Room

Sunday, March 27th — EASTER SUNDAY:

REGULAR MASSES 8:00 & 11:00 am
YOUTH MASS AT 11:00 AM

For the children Easter Goodies with the Celebration of the Resurrection. Thanks to the Sodality, BASIC and Youth Ministry.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Mission In Motion

St. Joseph, Largo Lenten Schedule

Fridays: Stations of the Cross 9 am and 7 pm (with Lenten Reflections following evening stations)

Wednesday, March 23: 7-9:30 pm Penance Service with individual confessions

The Patriarch’s Bible Study will be held April 2, 2016 at Holy Family in Hillcrest Heights, 2200 Callaway Street from 10 am to 12 noon. Call and invite the brothers from your parish and from your neighborhood. The patriarch of the day is Moses. We discussed Moses at Mt Calvary last year. This time we will look at Moses at a critical moment in his ministry, the beginning of the Exodus. You can do some homework if you like. Look at Moses in Exodus 3 and 4. In addition, we will take time to look at good things men are doing at other Mission in Motion parishes with the idea of joining other brothers as Iron Sharpens Iron to keep the Mission in Motion.

OLPH PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Do you know an OLPH Parishioner that:
- uses their God-given talents to serve God and your neighbor?
- can lead by empowering other OLPH members to grow?
- is passionate, on fire, with joy and enthusiasm for the Body of Christ?
- can help enable structure in the Church to function effectively?

Then nominate this parishioner or yourself to be an OLPH Parish Council member in the upcoming Parish Council election.

Reminder:

The Ministry/Organization Calendar Dates Request Forms are due by Sunday, March 27, 2016. You can email the forms to Fr. Frank or drop off hard copies in the Rectory.
Bible Study!
Tuesday Nights at 7:00 pm Psalms
Wednesday Nights at 6:30 pm - Sunday Readings.

Baptism Sessions for parents and Godparents begin on March 31st at 6:30 pm in the school. You may only complete your interview and register with one of the priest. Baptism is scheduled for April 24th.

Youth and Children’s envelopes are available at the Religious Goods table. Please sign the form so that we will have the number on the envelope for your child. Let’s teach our children and youth that we are to share our “time, talent and treasure” with the Lord through the church.

“Hearts Full of Mercy”, A RCIA Reunion: If you came into the Church through RCIA in the last 10 years or are a former RCIA Team member, we would love to hear from you! Come join the gathering on Saturday, April 2nd from 10 am - 3:30 pm. Continental Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please register on the form in the back of the church.

Year of Mercy
Archdiocese of Washington

How Will You Celebrate the Jubilee?
Pope Francis asks each of us to celebrate by showing to others the mercy that God constantly extends to all of us. Here are a few things you can do.

Pope Francis envisions a year when people will become more merciful in their own lives and bring God’s mercy to others. He is entrusting the extraordinary jubilee year to the “Lordship of Christ” and asks Christ to pour out his mercy on the entire cosmos. “How much I desire that the year to come will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God!”

The pope also stresses that living a merciful life does not mean that we ignore justice in our society. Indeed, he reminds us, “Mercy is not opposed to justice but rather expresses God’s way of reaching out to the sinner, offering him a new chance to look at himself, convert, and believe”. Indeed, God’s justice is mercy.

Sunday Collections
March 13, 2016

God Bless you for your support.
Attendance: 287
Offertory: $6,362.50
Weekly Operating Expenses: $15,000.00

Flowers for the Altars
No flowers during our Lenten Journey.

Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday, marks the beginning of Holy Week. During this week, we prepare ourselves for Easter by prayerful reflection upon the events of Jesus’ passion and death. During this week, your family might display a crucifix in a prominent place as reminder of salvation Christ won for us. This can also serve as the focal point for family prayer during Holy Week.

Because of the length and complexity of the passion narrative, it is difficult for children to remain attentive when it is proclaimed in its entirety. Families can make it a tradition to read a portion of this Sunday’s Gospel each day of Holy Week, providing ample opportunity for children to ask questions and respond to the events described there. In this way, the entire week can become a “way of the cross.”

Each day during Holy Week, the family can gather in a prayerful space with a crucifix as its focal point. The passion as found in Luke’s Gospel might be read throughout the week. After reading from the Gospel each day, the family might reflect on the reading together. Conclude your prayer time together by praying the Lord’s Prayer and/or singing an appropriate hymn.

Interested in more Resources for your Lenten Journey? Visit www.loyolapress.com/liturgical-year-lent.htm
PRAYERS FOR THE 40 DAYS OF LENT

Day 35 — To put love into action. St. Augustine was asked, “What does love look like?” His answer: “It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like.” Prayer: Dear God, let me put love into action moment by moment, hour by hour, day by day. Scripture: Jn 13:34.

Day 36 — To bring light. An often quoted Chinese proverb teaches that it is better to light a candle rather than curse the darkness. Prayer: Dear God, allow me to be a beacon of light for all who are discouraged and despairing, weary and worn out so that they will not curse the darkness. Scripture: Mt 5:14.

Day 37 — For more careful study of the Gospel. Russian Orthodox St. Tikhon of Zadonsk said: “If an earthly king — our tsar — wrote you a letter, would you not read it with joy. . .and careful attention? The King of heaven has sent a letter to you — the Gospel.” Prayer: Dear God, create in me a desire to set aside time to study and reflect on Scripture, especially the Gospels. Scripture: Ps 119:47.

Day 38 — To overlook faults. “Every person should keep a fair-sized cemetery in which to bury the faults of his friends,” said Henry Ward Beecher. Prayer: Dear God, let me be ignorant of the faults of others. Scripture: Lk 6:37.

Day 39 — For greater inner peace. Dante Alighieri summed this up simply, “In his will is our peace.” Prayer: Dear God, help me cultivate your peace which surpasses all understanding. Scripture: Phil 4:7.

Day 40 — To continue advancing spiritually. “All growth that is not toward God is growing to Decay,” says George MacDonald. Prayer: Dear God, may my Lenten practices help to make great advances in my spiritual life, and may those continue throughout the year. Scripture: Lk 2:52.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Are we also like Peter and deny Christ over and over? Christ calls us to be all we can in our Marriage Sacrament. Sign up today to attend the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends on April 22-24, 2016 in Gaithersburg, MD. For more information visit welovematrimony.org, or call 301-541-7007, or email at applications@welovematrimony.org.

2016 Annual Married Couples Mass

Cardinal Donald Wuerl will celebrate the annual Jubilary Celebration of marriage honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45. 50 and 51+ years on Sunday, June 19, 2016 at 2:00 pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Please call OLPF parish office or use the sign-up forms in the back of church to register. Names of Jubilarians need to be turned in to the parish office by Monday, April 11th.

March 20, 2016

James and Constance Dunnington
49th on March 19th

DEACON “COME AND SEE” EVENTS

The Office of Permanent Diaconate Formation of the Archdiocese is recruiting men for permanent diaconate. The initial selection process for this class will begin with a series of “Come and See” events at various parishes around the Archdiocese through March 2016. Interested applicants should attend one these events to learn more about the permanent diaconate and the formation program. Applicants must be baptized Catholic men between the ages of thirty and fifty-nine, active in the parish, and recommended by their pastors. For info contact Deacon Desi Vikor, Director of Formation, at 301-853-4582 or email vikord@adw.org. Additional info at http://site.adw.org/permanent-deacons. The last scheduled date to “come and see” for potential applicants and their wives is Wednesday, March 16th at Archdiocesan Pastoral Center in Hyattsville from 7-9 pm.


Guest Speakers:

Sr. Patricia Chappell, SNDdeN
“How the Church Engages Our Community”
Rev. Maurice Nutt, C.Ss.R.
“Let’s Get Serious About Evangelization”
Rev. Joseph A. Brown, S.J.
“The Mission of the Church to Strengthen the Family Structure”

Cost $50 per person – includes conference materials, supplies and meals too.

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Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

March 20, 2016

Quote for the Week

By Warren Newton
"Today is a new day and God wants to improve His relationship with you! Will you let Him?"

Just a Little Reminder

When NAMES can be removed from the prayer listings, PLEASE advise the Rectory 202-678-4999 or Doris Savoy 202-610-3751.

Communion for the Homebound

Any parishioner who is sick or homebound and unable to attend Mass on Sunday may request to receive the Sacrament of the Sick prior to admission. Also, because of privacy laws, hospitals no longer notify parishes of a parishioner’s stay. Please notify the Rectory leaving the name of person, hospital and room number, also when the person returns home.

Sick & Shut-in

"Father God, we pray for all those who are facing sickness in the bodies. We ask that you would restore their health, soothe their pain, and ease their worry. Give them your peace and comfort as they wait. In Jesus’ name, Amen!"

Homebound/*Nursing or Rehab/**Hospital


Special Prayers

Please pray for all sick and recovering parishioners, family and friends!


+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++ RECENT DEATHS

In your prayers remember the soul of Anne Nolan Sister-in-law to Pearl Baylor Services were held 3/17/16

May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace!
**Spiritual Works of Mercy**

**Comforting the Afflicted**

During this jubilee year, holy men and women can serve as inspiration for Catholics working to be Christ to those in need.

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**St. André Bessette**

St. André Bessette (baptized Alfred) understood affliction from the inside. Born in Quebec in 1845, the eighth of 12 children, Bessette grew up in poverty. He lost his father when he was 9, his mother when he was 12, and four of his siblings during his childhood. Many were amazed Bessette didn’t join them. After his parents’ death, his chronic ill health made earning a living almost impossible. Bessette tried his hand at farming, shoemaking, blacksmithing, baking and working in a factory, but failed every time. Finally, at age 25, Bessette’s pastor recommended that the pious young man try religious life. He sought admission to the Congregation of Holy Cross in Montreal and was accepted as a novice. A year later, however, the congregation asked him to leave, citing his chronic ill health. This time, however, the bishop of Montreal intervened and urged the congregation to find Bessette a place. So, they appointed him doorkeeper at the College of Notre Dame in Montreal. As doorkeeper for a busy college, Bessette crossed paths with hundreds of people each week. Inevitably, they would tell him their troubles, and he would respond by telling them to turn to St. Joseph. In his free time, Bessette visited the sick, anointing them with oil from the chapel and asking St. Joseph to intercede for them. Soon, accounts of miraculous healings surfaced. As news of the holy doorkeeper spread, Bessette gave up his work at the college and did nothing but meet with the sick and afflicted. Eventually, he needed four secretaries to help him deal with the 80,000 letters that arrived annually. In 1904, Bessette began raising money to build a chapel to honor St. Joseph. Although he never lived to see it completed, the Oratory of St. Joseph in Montreal is now Canada’s largest church. Brother André Bessette became St. André in 2010. He is a patron Saint of the Josephite Fathers and Brothers.

**Imitating St. André Bessette**

- Call or visit a friend who is experiencing difficulties.
- Send a gift or care package to someone who is struggling.
- Write an encouraging note to someone in need of support.

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**LENTEN FOOD DRIVE 2016**

Continues here at OLPH

If you have not picked up a bag, there are plenty still available. Our collection will be donated to the OLPH Ladies of Charity Food Pantry. Please be generous with your contributions. Flyers are on the table for our most needed items. If you wish to make a financial donation, make the checks payable to “Ladies of Charity” with a note that it is for the food drive.

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**Fort Stanton SEASONED SENIORS**

Mr. Louis Jones, Senior Advisor 202-671-1040
Walk Club at 8 am Monday/Wednesday/Friday
Crochet Class at 10 am Tuesdays
Quilting at 10 am on Tuesdays & Thursdays
Bowling 1st and last Wednesdays
Wreath Making 10:15 am 1st & 3rd Wednesdays
Healthy Cooking Class 10:15 am Fridays

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**Do you know about the Anacostia Art Center?**

It opened in 2013 and is located at 1231 Good Hope Road, SE. Their Mission: “We’re dedicated to creating a home for small businesses, artists, arts and cultural organizations to fulfill our commitment to the revitalization and sustainable economic development of Historic Anacostia.” Many interesting events are held. Visit the web at: www.AnacostiaArtsCenter.com for more information or call 202-631-6291.
Mayor Bowser Launches Summer Programs

“As we continue to build pathways to the middle class for District youth, it’s important that we provide them with opportunities to learn, grow, and experience new interests,” said Mayor Bowser. “Between our summer camps and the Mayor Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program, we’re giving our youth and young adults in the District the platform they need to gain new skills and reach success.” The Department of Parks and Recreation will offer a rolling registration for its 2016 Summer Camp season starting today for select site locations. The 2016 Summer Camp season will run from June 20 through August 19, 2016. Most camps will operate Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. DPR also offers a Before and After Care package for an additional flat rate. Before care is offered from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. and after care is offered from 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

FREE SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS will be awarded to income eligible students in the District of Columbia who will enter grades 3-6 in the Fall of 2016. Every child deserves the opportunity to experience camp. Scholarship includes:

- Full-day care and instruction for the entirety of the camp program
- Before Care services beginning at 8:30 am
- Extended Care services from 3-5:30 pm
- Six, day passes to the National Building Museum’s galleries and Summer Block Party for your child and his/her family

Applications are due by April 15, 2016. Please submit as soon as possible for early consideration. For more information and to secure a registration form contact Ayana Bias (Community Liaison & Director of Volunteer Services, UPO) at 202-231-7946 or abias@upo.org.

The District of Columbia Homeland Security & Emergency Management Agency, is partnering with the National Disaster Preparedness Training Center at the University of Hawaii, and hosting two (2) Natural Disaster Awareness Training Sessions for community leaders and senior caregivers. Each session is a 4-hour course designed to provide senior caregivers and community leaders with an understanding of the necessary plans and tools needed in planning for natural disasters. These sessions will also help participants to better understand, as well as to assist seniors and neighbors in a disaster event and process for recovery.

Participants will be better able to identify personnel best equipped to address response and recovery requirements in the case of an actual disaster. This course will assist community leaders to identify and to define properly the roles and responsibilities they may be expected to assume in the event of a natural disaster, as well as those of first responders and support personnel in the response and recovery phase.

Training Sessions:
Natural Disaster Awareness for Senior Caregivers
March 22, 2016 from 9:00am – 1:00pm
Natural Disaster Awareness for Community Leaders
March 22, 2016 from 1:00pm – 5:00pm

Register at the DC HSEMA - Training Track website to create an account and to login. Questions, please contact: Lisa L. White, Community Emergency Exercise & Training Specialist at Lisal.White@dc.gov 202.481.3172 (Office)
Word of God - Jesus has a triumphant procession into Jerusalem riding on the word of mouth testimony of his good words, deeds and miracles to celebrate the Passover with his Disciples. We read the Passion today conscious of the importance of the Suffering of Christ poured out in Love for us and awareness that unlike the palms that will be dryed out by the end of the week and the betrayal by the disciples and the people of Jerusalem, we are called to faithfulness, to mercy, to hope, thus keep our "proverbial palms of spirituality" fresh. Thus may God be great in us, in our family and our faith family.

**HOLY WEEK in the Holy Year of Mercy**

**Palm Sunday** - Betrayal Sunday a reminder as we read the Passion that Jesus forgave everyone and didn't forget as he later calls them to accountability.

**Chrism Mass Monday** at 7 PM at St. Mathew's Cathedral - Priests renew their Ordination Commitments, and Blessing of the Holy Oils(Oil of Catechumens used in Baptism, Chrism also used in Baptism and in Ordination, and Oil of the Sick for use in anointing the sick and those preparing for death) for use in the parishes.

**Spy Wednesday** - Confessions 7-8 PM and at many other ADW Churches(they are keeping the lights on) it is part of our Easter Duty.

**Holy Thursday** - Mass of the Lord's Supper 7 PM - Connections w/ the Jewish Passover Meal(which celebrates the passage from Slavery in Egypt to Freedom in the Promised Land) and the Catholic Eucharistic Meal(which celebrates the passage from Slavery to Sin to Freedom from Sin and Death). We also celebrate God's call to all to SERVE in the Washing of the Feet. Adoration after the Mass enables us to spend time in thanksgiving for all that the Lord has done for us throughout the centuries, our life, and this Lenten Season.

**Good Friday** - 12 noon -Christ's Passion and Death on the Cross - A day of fast and abstinence - so that we might acknowledge our sinfulness, our sorrow, our firm intention to avoid sin, to give thanks for His Ultimate Sacrifice for us, and to join our cross carrying with His.

**Holy Saturday** - 7:45 PM -The Celebration of the culmination of Salvation History, fulfillment of His Incarnation, HIS VICTORY over Sin AND Death, Sacraments of Initiation for a new member of the Church, and our own thanksgiving for blessings received(both for us personally and all we have mutually supported) during this Lenten Season!

**Lenten Practices.** *Now is the time for us to bring in our Rice Bowls sponsored by the Catholic Relief Services for the benefit of the world's hungry, return the Catholic Charities Bag of Food for our Food Pantry and our Lenten Folders for the benefit of our Youth Ministry. Don't forget to Support our Fish Fry on Good Friday and pass the word to others who are not aware of our fine reputation for good food.*

**Special Thank You!** It has been a difficult beginning of this year for Fr. George and myself as we have each lost a parent to eternal life. I want to thank all of you who sent cards, had Masses offered for Him and for us, and expressed your prayerful support and condolences. On the 26th of February he fell and broke his leg in three places right near the hip. An effort to bring him comfort via surgery was launched and then abandoned as it was soon realized that such an effort would bring more problems than help. The consequences of pain medication ultimately resulted in a heart attack on Monday Night the 29th. Fortunately, I was able to see and talk to him before that heart attack. We delayed the funeral to the following week as many families do, because of family traveling long distances. I want to thank you too for the financial support of the Josephites and St. Vincent de Paul Society in His name. Last but not least I want to thank Fr. George who "held the fort" upon his return from Nigeria and for the parish hospitality extended to Fr. Byrd.