



9900 Thomas Nelson Highway

Lovington, VA 22949

August 2, 2020

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH NEWSLETTER #13.2020

1. Remaining Sacrament schedule for 2020

Confirmation – The ceremony was held at the church on this past Wednesday. Father Carlos conferred the sacrament on Kayla Davis, Brayan Villa, Yamilet Dominguez, Lissette Albarran, Maria Angelos Gomez, Elizabeth Villa, Luke Cockerham, Max Schneider and Jesus Serrano. **CONGRATULATIONS** to the future of the Church!!

Children's RCIA – The Sacramental Ceremony will be held on Sunday August 2nd at 5 PM.

Adult RCIA – The Sacramental Ceremony will be held during the 1pm Mass on Sunday 5 August. Rehearsal and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held on August 6th at 7pm.

2) Public Masses at St Mary's continue this Sunday August 2.

FATHER JULIO REYES will be celebrating the 10am and 1pm masses this weekend(2 August).

The following procedures continue to apply and we ask that all follow this guidance and the directions of the Safety Ushers.

Sunday Mass times will be 10:00 am (English) and 1:00pm (Spanish). A group of Parishioners has volunteered to participate as Safety Ushers in these masses to keep all of us safe. Please follow their guidance! Note the time change for the Spanish mass!

3) We will allow people into the church on a first come, first in basis. 50% of sanctuary capacity is the maximum. The maximum that can be allowed into the church is effected by family groups who may sit together. But for now, first come, first in.

4) Parishioners must bring their own face coverings - that must be worn properly over the nose and mouth and mask must not have an exhale port which allows exhale with less restrictions.

5) **Parishioners must arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the start of mass! No exceptions!**

6) Specific instructions on procedures to be followed during Mass will be given before Mass begins.

7) Parishioners who answer **yes** to any of the following:

a) Have you or anyone in your household had a fever in the past two (2) weeks?

b) Do you or anyone in your household have a new cough or new shortness of breath?

c) Have you come into contact with anyone who is positive with COVID-19 in the past two (2) weeks?

or **do not have a face mask will not be permitted to enter the church.**

8) **THE BISHOP'S DISPENSATION FROM ATTENDING SUNDAY MASS WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT AND THE MASS WILL BE LIVESTREAMED FOR THE FAITHFUL WHO DO NOT FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH ATTENDING IN PERSON. THE DISPENSATION WILL CONTINUE AS LONG AS OUR CHURCHES ARE NOT FULLY OPEN.**

9) Parishioners in a vulnerable category are encouraged to stay at home (over 65 and/or immune-compromised).

The masses will continue to be livestreamed on the Parish Facebook Page at 10am and 1pm. The link to the facebook page is <https://m.facebook.com/St-Marys-Catholic-Church-164123760290127/>.

10) **Daily Mass and Mass intentions.** Father Carlos would like to dedicate both Sunday Mass and Friday Daily Mass to special intentions. Daily mass will be said on Wednesday at St. Francis and Friday at St. Mary at 12 noon. If you have an intention for mass please contact Father (757-751-8194) or call the office (434-263-8509) with the name of the person or persons.

11) **Supporting the Parish.** While we have no means to take up a collection the parish still has expenses and bills. So this would be a great time to sign up for eGiving

(<https://membership.faithdirect.net/VA947>) if you are capable of giving. The Diocese has also set up a web page (<https://offertory.richmonddiocese.org>) for gifts to the parish online but you do not want to sign up for eGiving. Lastly you can always mail a check to the parish.

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12) **Sacrament of Reconciliation.** Father Carlos will hear confessions on Saturdays from 3-4pm at the church. Please adhere to social distancing requirements. No more than 10 people total in the church at any one time and 6 feet must be maintained between all people. The confession station is in the forward left side of the nave next to the Baptismal Font. Masks are required. Wash your hands before and after or use hand sanitizer. Father is available during these times for private consultations. And you can always call him for a private meeting or reconciliation. 757-751-8194.

13) **Additional Diocesan Information on Reopening.**

We know the desire to participate in the liturgy and receive the Eucharist is incredibly strong. Ways are being explored to address this concern, all the while continuing the care and concern for the physical and spiritual health of all. **We are reminded that the greatest divine law is that we love God and our neighbor; all other laws and individual rights are subordinate to that supreme divine law.**

Please be patient and charitable as we work through these difficult times.

14) **Communications.** As no bulletin is being published during this period, the parish is using FLOCKNOTES and Facebook for regular electronic communication with email, texts and newsletters. This is in addition to the usual telephone and email communication. If you are not registered in FLOCKNOTES and are not receiving regular FLOCKNOTE emails and texts, you can sign up by texting GUADLUPE to 84576 and following the instructions. If you need to do it in Spanish then text GUADALUPE to 202-765-3441. To do it online, go to <https://StMaryCatholicChurch12.flocknote.com/everyone>. Only a name and email is required to register but if you have a text number that is highly recommended to ensure you don't miss any important material. **Recently a number of people have been added to FLOCKNOTES using data from the parish's office records. Much of the data is incomplete so if you want to correct your data follow the above process to sign up on flocknotes. That will correct your data.** The parish has a Facebook Group <https://m.facebook.com/groups/616666051719052/> which you can join by having a Facebook account and then asking to join the group. There are a number of St. Mary Groups on Facebook so make sure you have ours. Our Logo is prominently displayed and there is no other Lovingston St. Mary's. As a member of the group you can post info and ask questions by commenting on posts. When you are asked a question upon requesting to join the group, answer I AM A PARISHIONER. And you will be allowed into the group. Father Carlos has been posting gospel messages on this page. The parish also has a Facebook Page that is totally public and is only used to stream masses, the link to that page is listed in paragraph 1 above. **Please pass this info to any parishioner you know who is not receiving information from the parish.**

15. **ADIOS Father Carlos**. On Saturday 15 August starting at 7:30pm parishioners can drive up to St. Marys and say Good by to Father Carlos. Father will be in the parking lot and you can drive up and talk with him. The Knights will direct traffic. At a date in the future when it is OK to hold an indoor event we will ask Father to return for a more traditional HAIL and FARWELL.

16. **Prayers:** Please pray for Deacon Bob who is recovering at home. He told me this morning that he is feeling better and regaining some strength. However, it will be a while before we will see him at church, so keep praying, they are working.

17. There is a flyer attached for a fundraiser to benefit the church. Order a seafood meal before mass and it will be delivered to church for you to pick up after mass. See the flyer for details.

16) **PASTOR's WORD for the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Jesus is the man for others. Jesus cares for his people and never leaves them alone. The crowds do not leave Jesus alone. They take him for someone who is ready to respond to their needs.

And those who flock to Jesus do not hope in vain. For he takes loves them and is there to respond to their needs. It does not matter to him that he does not get the peace he wants for himself. So, he puts the needs of others' ahead of his own.

How does the miracle of the five loaves and two fish used to feed five thousand people show to you the Lord's mighty power and care for his Church and people.

Do you see and find the Eucharistic meal a nourishment to feed your soul, body and spirit? How important it is for you to receive it?

As the Lord said in the gospel, "There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves." What is it in this invitation for you and the Church that calls us to fulfill this proclamation today?

Let us pray at this time not only for ourselves, but for those who are in needed and isolate. As we pray: "Draw near to your servants, O Lord, and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness, that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide, you may restore what you have created and keep safe what you have restored. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen."

God Bless you,

Carlos Lerma, Pastor

Ministry News

Pastoral Council

The Council will have its last meeting with Father Carlos on Thursday 6 August at 6:30pm in the church.

Migrant Worker Ministry

The ministry has ceased visits to the migrant camps until it is safe to do so.

Prison Ministry

The prison ministry is on hiatus until the state will allow visitors to the prison.

Knights of Columbus

John Paul 2nd Council 16535 will meet via ZOOM at 7pm on Tuesday 11 August. The Knights have purchased a large commercial grade barbeque so look for some future delicious barbecue events when able due to COVID.

During this Pandemic the Knights are now allowing members to join completely on line. Anyone who like to join via this streamlined and easy process can contact Wayne Parent (wcparent7@aol.com) or Len Thompson (lenthompson@gmail.com) to receive info on how to do this. If you have thought about joining, now is the time. If you have never thought about it, now is the time!



ADIOS FATHER CARLOS

August 15th at 7:30pm

Drive-By Parade at St. Mary's



Catholic Diocese of Richmond
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