

Lord, You invite all who are
burdened to come to you.

March 29, 2020



OUR LADY of
GOOD COUNSEL
CATHOLIC CHURCH

8601 Wolftrap Road, Vienna, VA 22182-5026

Phone: 703.938.2828 Fax: 703.938.2829

www.olgcva.org ~ www.olgcschool.org

Administered by the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays 9am

Office Hours

Mon-Fri 9am - 1pm

Church Mon - Fri 7am - 5pm

Sat & Sun 8am - 12pm

Join the Parish

www.olgcva.org/register

Add Item to Bulletin/Media

www.olgcva.org/about-us/communications

Pastor Rev. Matthew Hillyard, OSFS.....frhillyard@olgcva.org
Parochial Vicar/Outreach Rev. John Dolan, OSFS.....frdolan@olgcva.org
Retired Rev. William Metzger, OSFS
Deacon Christopher Moore.....cgmoore@olgcva.org
School Principal Adrienne Jewett 703.938.3600.....ajewett@olgcschool.org
Faith Formation Amy Winkler 703.896.7414.....dre@olgcva.org
Liturgy/Music/Ministry of Care/Funerals Gerard Hall 703.896.7411....liturgy@olgcva.org
Development Amy Schlanger 703.896.7424.....development@olgcva.org
Communications/Bulletin Irene Zaso 703.896.7412.....communications@olgcva.org
Director of Finance Brian Patterson 703.896.7402.....bpatterson@olgcva.org
Child Protection Liaison Christine Moan 703.896.7413.....cmoan@olgcva.org
Pastoral Council (Russ Weaver).....PastoralCouncil@olgcva.org
Finance Council (Mike O'Grady).....FinanceCouncil@olgcva.org
Society of St. Vincent DePaul (Linea de Ayuda) 703.938.3210.....svdp@olgcva.org
Women of OLGC (Tita Brett).....OLGCWomen2019@gmail.com
Men's Club (Mike Kennedy).....mensclub@olgcva.org
Respect Life /Gabriel Project Betsy Argauer 703.255.3744.....betstim@gmail.com
Knight of Columbus Santa Maria Council #4654.....www.knightsvienna.org
Counseling Catholic Charities **Consejería** Caridades Catolica.....703.425.0109
Información en español Maria Romero 703.896.7419.....welcome@olgcva.org

All through LOVE, and nothing through force or fear.

Welcome to Our Lady of Good Counsel

We, as members of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, strive to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ by proclaiming our faith, educating ourselves and our children, sharing our persons, resources and gifts in the care and service of one another. We are called to foster an environment of hospitality in accordance with the Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales.

Mass Intentions/Intenciones de la Misa

Sunday, March 29, 2020

- + The Kessler & O'Dea Family
- + Catherine Frazier
- + Sara C. C. Hildbold
- + Roy & Ann Tillotson
- + Hilda Ramona Lopez
- + Zbigniew Koluch

Monday, March 30, 2020

- + Irene T. Labeda
- + Giancarla Looyd

Tuesday, March 31, 2020

- + Patrick Carolan
- The OLGC Community

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

- Our OLGC Middle School Team
- + Betty & George Bernard

Thursday, April 2, 2020

- + Giancarla Looyd
- + Catherine Frazier

Friday, April 3, 2020

- + Catherine Frazier

Saturday, April 4, 2020

- + Lee Ashman
- + Renato Torrijos

Sunday, April 5, 2020

- + Pete Komarinski
- + Rian Taylor Bachman
- + Alice Buenaflor
- + Ed Zdancewicz
- + Rosa Julia Fernandez
- + David Burgos

Please keep the deceased in your prayers + Anthony Bow Jung.

All OLGC Funerals: www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship/funerals.

Book of Prayer Intentions: Located in the Narthex.

Weekly Prayer of Faithful: www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship.

Readings for the Week/Lecturas por la Semana

Scripture Readings for the Week of March 29, 2020

Sunday Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8;
Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 or Jn 11:3-7, 17,
20-27, 33b-45

Monday Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or

Dn 13:41c-62; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21; Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday Dn 3:14-20, 91-92. 95; Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56; Jn 8:31-42

Thursday Saint Francis of Paola, Hermit

Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Jn 8:51-59

Friday Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7; Jn 10:31-42

Saturday Saint Isidore, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13;
Jn 11:45-56

Sunday Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Mt 21:1-11; Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20,
23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14—27:66 or
Mt 27:11-54

Prayer Opportunities in the Chapel:

Pray the Rosary All weekdays after 8:30am Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena Tuesdays after 8:30am Mass

Our Lady of Grace Thursdays 3-4pm

Rosary for the Persecuted Thursdays 6:45pm

Eucharistic Adoration first Friday of the
month Sept-May after 8:30am Mass until 4pm

Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

First Fridays Sept -June at morning Mass

Our Lady of Fatima First Saturdays after 8:30am Mass



Devotional Candles www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship/.

The Sanctuary Candle in the Church will burn for peace, calm and hope for all.

The Sanctuary Candle in the Chapel will burn in loving memory of Joseph De Maria.

The Our Lady of Good Counsel Votive Candle will burn in thanksgiving for Bernadette Long.

Quote of the Week: "Do not look forward to the trials and crosses of this life and fear. Rather, look to them with full confidence that, as they arise, God, to whom you belong, will deliver you from them."

~ St. Francis de Sales

Parish Events & Updates

**With no community Masses, we are in uncharted territory, but one thing has not changed -
We are still a community of faith.**

Our website www.olgcva.org is the main source of information and will be updated as needed.

The news announcement will be updated as needed www.olgcva.org/news-post/~post/response.

The OLGC Oblates will continue to say private Masses for the scheduled intentions. The bulletin has these intentions listed on the first page so that all may pray for them.

We will post OLGC Masses and any other recordings on www.olgcva.org/live. The other opportunities to view Mass online are daily Mass www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/, Sunday Mass www.arlingtondiocese.org/tv-mass, www.catholictv.org/masses/catholictv-mass, and Spanish Mass www.ewtn.com/espanol/magtv.asp.

Please continue to pray for one another. The Faith Formation office has created a sign up for anyone who is interested in joining an online group www.signupgenius.com/go/904084baead2fabf58-olgc.

Church is open Monday - Friday from 7am - 5pm and Saturday & Sunday 8am - 12noon, while keeping a safe distance from one another and not exceeding the 10-person limit. Please use the front main doors of the Church from the bell tower or the door closest to the Administration Building. All other doors will be locked.

Daily readings are available online www.usccb.org/bible/readings/031920.cfm. Diocese's list of resources www.arlingtondiocese.org/covid19resources/. The Magnificat is now available for free online us.magnificat.net/free.

The weekly Prayer of the Faithful is listed online www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship/liturgical-ministries.

The bulletin is available on our website www.olgcva.org/about-us/communications and you can sign up to receive our bulletin via email at discovermass.com/church/our-lady-of-good-counsel-vienna-va/ by clicking on the button "Sign Up Today".

The Candle stands have been moved into the Church for you to light a candle and say a prayer.

Office Hours are will be Monday - Friday 9am - 1pm, this may change as time goes on.

We are in communications with our homebound, but if at any time you are in need of assistance or want to volunteer to help others, please contact Amy Schlanger, 703.896.7424 or email development@olgcva.org. She is making a list of volunteers and those who need assistance.

Confessions will be available in the Church on Wednesday April 1 from 6:30pm – 7:30pm and on Saturdays March 28 and April 4 at 9am.

Stations of the Cross, we invite you to pray the stations individually in from 7am – 5pm on Fridays, books will be available.

OLGC parishioners have the opportunity to view online Catholic media in the form of programs, e-books, movies, audio sources for FREE through our parish subscription to Formed.org. Parishioners can experience several hours of watching, reading and listening to the best of Catholic content. **Use Code VGXJ7X.**

If you know of a parishioner who is not receiving emails from the church please have them check their spam folder or have them email communications@olgcva.org.

Electronic giving a sure and consistent way to support your church during this uncertain and changing time through Faith Direct <https://membership.faithdirect.net/enroll/VA875>. Please think about enrolling for future collections.

Follow us: Church - [Facebook - @olgcviennava](#) | [Twitter - @olgcviennava](#) | [Instagram - @olgcviennava](#)
School – [Facebook - @olgcschoolva](#) | [Twitter - @olgcschoolva](#) | [Instagram - @olgcschoolva](#)

Calendar: (subject to change) Calendar can be viewed on website www.olgcva.org/about-us/calendar

Parish Information

The parish office has updated their email lists. If for some reason you did not received messages from Fr. Matt on February 28th, or March 13th please contact Irene Zaso, communications@olgcva.org, 703.896.7412. To make sure we have your correct email address on file or fill out the below form. If residents have changed in your household, or you have recently moved, changed phone numbers or email addresses, please complete the information below. You may return this form in the collection basket, or drop it off at the Welcome Desk or Parish Office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Fraudulent Email & Text Messages

PLEASE BE CAUTIOUS! Parishioners continue to receive phony email messages allegedly from clergy and staff. Churches are reporting text messages are also being received.

DO NOT REPLY TO THE MESSAGE and DO NOT CLICK ON LINKS. If you receive a message like this, report it as Spam, Junk, or Phishing through your email provider. If you have already clicked or replied to the message, it is recommended that you change your email password since many of these scams are trying to capture your information.

OLGC Staff will only communicate with you from an email address ending in @olgcva.org or @olgcschool.org.
All other email addresses should be considered spam.



We are blessed and thankful for all the gracious gifts that you provided to our parish in the past year. Your prayers, support, and monetary gifts allow us to continue to spread the Gospel and share God's message of love and peace. We prayerfully ask that you consider using our secure and easy-to-use electronic giving program, Faith Direct. Faith Direct will automatically process donations to the offertory or any second collections of your choosing. To enroll in online giving, visit faith.direct/VA875. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

March & April Second Collections:

Mar 22, 2020 Catholic Relief Services
Apr 2020 Facility Improvement Offering
Apr 05, 2020 Oblates in Retirement - *This collection is to support the retired Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, many who have served the OLGC Community and are now committed to*

praying for you and your families. Some are infirm and need great assistance with the activities of daily living. We are proud to provide a dignified care that you would want for yourself or your loved ones. As you know, such care is costly, and we need your help. Your generosity can give care to an Oblate priest or brother in his final years. Your gift offers vital support for necessities, such as medications and nursing care. Your donation says thank you for their many years of service to OLGC and the various ministries served by the Oblates.

Apr 09, 2020 Society of St Vincent De Paul
Apr 10, 2020 Holy Land Good Friday
Apr 12, 2020 Easter
Apr 26, 2020 Catholic Home Missions



February Monthly Collections	
Offertory	\$187,773.08
Total Budgeted	\$185,933.75
Variance	\$1,839.33
YTD Received	\$1,679,411.29
Budget YTD	\$1,696,066.50
Variance	(\$16,655.21)

Donations can also be given on Faith Direct using this link
membership.faithdirect.net/enroll/VA875.

Liturgy/Ministry of Care Gerard Hall, liturgy@olgcva.org, 703.896.7411
Thomas Conroy, liturgyassist@olgcva.org, 703.896.7418

There are still some dates in 2020 that are available for Mass and Candle intentions.
Please contact Maria Romero at welcome@olgcva.org, 703.896.7419 or fill out the forms online.

Mass intentions - www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship/devotions/mass
Candle intentions - www.olgcva.org/liturgy-worship/devotions/candle

Sacramental Information:

Sacrament of the Sick Urgent - call 703.938.2828. The Sacrament of the Sick may be received by the elderly, by those going into the hospital, by those who are ill or are experiencing a decline in their health. Contact Gerard Hall, liturgy@olgcva.org, 703.896.7411.

Sacrament of Baptism 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month 11am. Visit www.olgcva.org/sacraments/baptism for details, or contact Thomas Conroy, liturgyassist@olgcva.org, 703.896.7418.

Sacrament of Marriage Visit www.olgcva.org/sacraments/matrimony for details at least 6 months prior to marriage.

Funerals Contact Gerard Hall, liturgy@olgcva.org, 703.896.7411.

Become Catholic Contact Amy Winkler, dre@olgcva.org, 703.896.7414.

Faith Formation Amy Winkler, dre@olgcva.org, 703.896.7414

Derek Rogers, youth@olgcva.org, 703.896.7409; Amy MacKinnon, ccfcoordinator@olgcva.org, 703.896.7426; Guadalupe Saenz, ccfofficeassist@olgcva.org, 703.896.7415



Join us for Vacation Bible School! Mon. June 29 - Thurs. July 2, 9am - 12:30pm
This year's theme is "Rocky Railway: Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through!"

The activities are for rising Kindergartners through rising 5th graders.
Older kids are very welcome to join us as helpers!

Register online www.olgcva.org/faith-formation/children-youth/vbs.

Volunteers are needed, please contact Amy MacKinnon, ccfcoordinator@olgcva.org, 703.896.7426.

FORMED®

Join Brother Francis in this compact presentation of what Lent is all about and how we observe it as Catholics.

KIDS KORNER

Brother Francis
Let's Learn
about Lent



SIGN UP FOR FREE AT FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP

POWERED BY THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE®

OLGC parishioners have the opportunity to view online Catholic media in the form of programs, e-books, movies, audio sources for FREE through our parish subscription to Formed.org. Use Code **VGXJ7X**.

"Developing character, faith, and life-long learners in the Salesian Tradition."

Accepting Applications & Re-Registrations NOW

Visit our Admissions page www.olgcschool.org/admissions for more details.

Applications for New Student Enrollments are accepted at any time. New Students must fill out an application and tuition deposit per child must be received to reserve a space for your student(s). Once the application paperwork and entrance testing is complete, a letter of acceptance will be mailed to you.

Re-Enrollments of Current Students are accepted thru April 15th. Students re-enrolling must make a tuition deposit per child to reserve a space for your student(s) for the upcoming school year.

Preschool is an exciting time for a child and the parents. It is an introduction to play-based learning, an opportunity to cultivate friendships and a time to blossom in independence and self-awareness. Through individual, small group and whole group instruction, OLGC preschool students begin to explore the wonders of language, literacy, mathematics, religion and the arts. Our program thoughtfully and purposefully incorporates these concepts into everyday play and classroom activities. With a balanced and developmentally appropriate focus on social, emotional, physical, religious and academic growth,



OLGC preschool fosters a program where your child will grow as a student and friend in a safe and nurturing environment. Your child is a blessing, let OLGC Preschool be blessed with the presence of your child.



OLGC is currently accepting applications for the 2020 – 2021 school year. Students eligible for our three-year-old program must turn 3 by September 30, 2020. Students eligible for our four old year Pre-K program must turn 4 by September 30, 2020. Applications and additional information about our program is available on our website www.olgcschool.org/preschool.

Fellowship

Summer Camps: We do not know what the future holds but we can be optimistic.

OLGC Fun Camp: Weeks of June 15 & June 22. OLGC Fun Camp is back this summer with all-new adventures for our rising Kindergarten through fifth graders! Join Mrs. A Miller, Mrs. K Miller, Mrs. Sudduth and Mrs. Danielli as we create art, discover science and technology, explore the world around us and learn new games! We will have a special focus this year on the characteristics that make us each unique children of God with daily prayer and special recognition awards. Summer Fun Camp registration is now open! Please visit our website to register <https://olgcfuncamp.wixsite.com/2020>.

PowerU Summer Camp Registration is Open with Discounts. PowerU coaches and students create an unforgettable camp experience every summer. Students love choosing from a wide variety of activities to create their own unique camp experience, and parents appreciate how our team connects activities to meaningful discussions about leadership. Register online <https://www.powerukids.com/>.

Marshall High School Girls Basketball Camp Please join us for some fun and fundamental basketball this summer! Parishioners Duane Knauf and Mike Trivisonno, varsity coaches at Marshall High School, are holding their annual girls' basketball camp at Marshall High School from June 15 until June 18. They are the former commissioners and coaches of the OLGC house and CYO league. Current Marshall varsity players include many OLGC school alums and will be the counselors at camp. The focus of the camp will teach the fundamentals of passing, shooting, dribbling, and developing basketball IQ. Register online <http://bit.ly/gcm-register-2020>. Contact Mike Trivisonno at 703-864-2029, trivisonno12@gmail.com.



We will still host the Auction Portion ONLINE.

www.bidpal.net/love2020

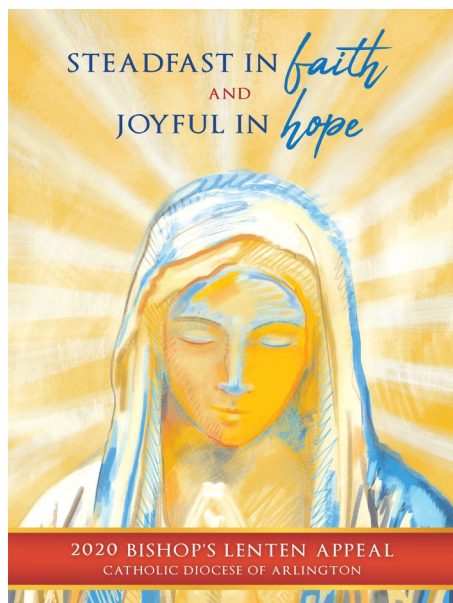
The online auction will open 12:00 pm, Friday, March 27 and will close at 10:00 pm on Saturday, March 28.

This year, we were to raise the paddle to help fund the St. Vincent de Paul Society. We will have an option to support them online. Please do consider them, as they will need our support even more during this time as they continue their mission to serve those in need within our greater community. If you purchased tickets to the event, we will be in touch separately.

Contact: Amy Schlanger, Director of Development, development@olgcv.org, 703.896.7424

Annual Car Raffle - If you still have car raffle tickets please mail them to All Saints Church, 9300 Stonewall Rd., Manassas, VA 20110-2566 as soon as possible.

2020 Bishop's Lenten Appeal - Steadfast in Faith and Joyful in Hope Use the envelopes in the bookracks or donate online through the secure site to make your pledge or gift https://secure3.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA/BLA/BLA_Home.aspx



The Bishop's Lenten Appeal is critical to our diocesan needs and we are asking every household in our parish to support this appeal to the extent that they are able.

The BLA funds many programs, services and ministries that serve people in need and furthers the Gospel mission of Jesus Christ in our diocese.

Let us join together to do the Lord's work - works that touch the lives and souls of thousands of people.

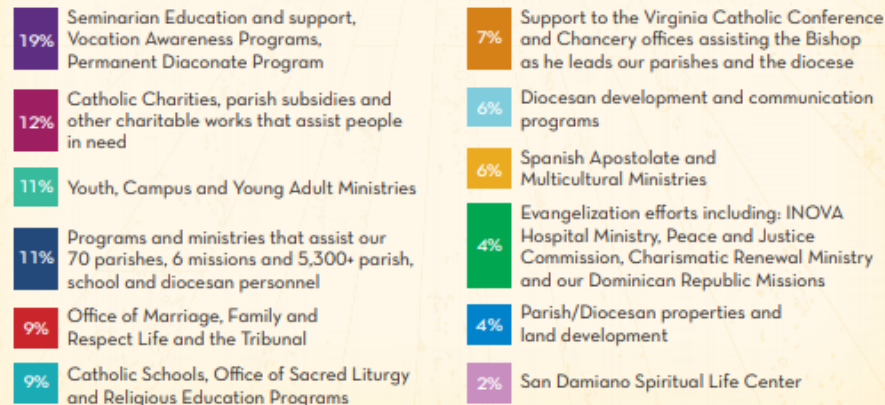
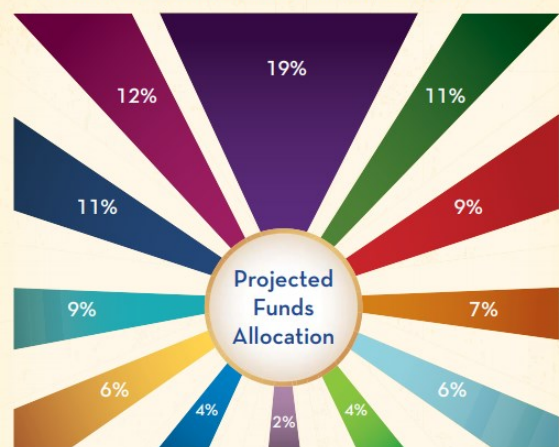
Thank you!

OLGC BLA Goal \$370,000.

We are at 64% of our Goal.

Current donations total \$235,205.

100% of all donations received for the BLA are restricted gifts to be used within the diocese for the sole benefit of the programs and ministries outlined below.



This chart reflects projected 2020 BLA funding for \$18.85 Million which is allocated to these various areas.

Información Parroquial en español

Toda preguntas o sugerencias en español comuníquese e incluyendo la siguiente información en el boletín Maria Romero, Coordinadora de Bienvenida y/o Enlace con la comunidad de habla hispana, welcome@olgcva.org, 703.896.7419.

Sin misas comunitarias, estamos en un territorio desconocido, pero una cosa no ha cambiado, es que a pesar de todo seguimos siendo una comunidad de fe.

Todos los eventos son propensos a cambiar. Visite nuestra página web o llame a la oficina para obtener actualizaciones y preguntas. Las misas han sido canceladas, la iglesia permanecerá abierta para el que deseen venir a orar. El horario es el siguiente lunes-viernes de 7am - 5pm y los sábados y domingos de 8am -12 del mediodía. Ya que las misas están suspendidas, los oblatos de Nuestra Señora del Buen Consejo continuarán celebrando las misas en privado. Aquí hay un enlace donde puede ver la misa diaria en español <https://www.ewtn.com/espanol/magtv.asp> Si usted es feligrés y desea recibir nuestros correos electrónicos, comuníquese con communications@olgcva.org para que le agreguemos su correo electrónico y pueda recibir los informes.

Nuestra parroquia tiene un medio católico en línea gratuito en el programa forma. Formed.org usa el contraseña / código VGXJ7X.

Registrarse en la parroquia: Para recibir una carta de padrinos, preparación sacramental (bautismo, catequesis, matrimonio etc.), una carta de recomendación o una carta de inmigración, es necesario estar registrado en la parroquia, por lo menos tres meses, entre otros requisitos. Si desea registrarse y ser miembro de nuestra parroquia, por favor pase por El Centro de Bienvenida después de misa y obtenga una inscripción o visite nuestro sitio web en el siguiente enlace www.olgcva.org/register.

Cita de la semana: "No esperes el mañana con ansias por las pruebas y las cruces de esta vida ni con miedo. Más bien, míra con plena confianza porque, a medida que surjan, Dios, a quien le perteneces, te librará de ellos". ~ San Francisco de Sales

La Luz está Encendida para ti! Confesiones en español durante la cuaresma: Sábados 28 de marzo 9:00am, y el miércoles abril 1, de 6:30pm – 7:30pm en la Capilla. ¡Bienvenidos! Nuestras puertas están abiertas y La Luz Está Encendida. La Luz está Encendida es una iniciativa en la que las iglesias católicas de toda el área metropolitana, están abiertas para el sacramento de la Reconciliación.

Durante la temporada de Cuaresma: Tenemos folletos con información sobre la Cuaresma y material para el crecimiento espiritual para este tiempo de conversión e información adicional para meditar los cuales están disponibles en los estantes en la entrada principal de la iglesia.

El Vía Crucis ha sido CANCELADO sin embargo, si desea venir y rezar el Vía Crucis la capilla estará abierta y los libros estarán disponibles para su uso.

Libro de Intenciones y misas: El libro de intenciones se encuentra en la entrada principal de la iglesia. El propósito de este libro es para pedir por nuestras intenciones personales, por los enfermos, por los que están vivos o fallecidos. No se aceptan peticiones antes de la misa. Si desea ofrecer una misa, por favor solicite un formulario.

Catequesis: niños, adultos y bautizó de niños mayores de 6 años comuníquese con Guadalupe Saenz gsaenz@olgcva.org 703-896-7415. **** Las clases están canceladas ****

El sacramento de La unción de los enfermos puede ser recibido por los ancianos, por quienes serán ingresados al hospital o por quienes están enfermos comuníquese al 703-896-7419. Igualmente para ofrecer misas, pedir oración durante la misa por recién fallecidos, funerales, certificados sacramentales etc.

Sacramento de Matrimonio: Comuníquese por lo menos 6 meses antes de la fecha del matrimonio.

Sacramento del bautismo las charlas para padres y padrinos: Son el último lunes del mes a las 7:30pm en el salón Aviat a la derecha de la escuela. Debe inscribirse de antemano, una vez completada la charla y entregado los documentos requeridos le confirmaremos su fecha del bautizo. ****Las charlas están canceladas****

Senior Moments: Marge Van Lierde, Gitkagirl@gmail.com, 571.831.3951

SHEPHERD'S CENTER ALERT – In an emergency meeting to consider the impact of the growing coronavirus pandemic on our community and its implications for its services, the Executive Team of the Shepherd's Center serving the Oakton-Vienna-Reston-Herndon areas suspended face-to-face services on March 20 until further notice. It determined it was simply too dangerous for its highly vulnerable clients, volunteers, office staff and the community to maintain the potential risk of COVID-19 transmission any longer. All assigned and unassigned companion and medical rides were canceled after that date until further notice.

As well, all social and educational activities have also been canceled. The office itself was closed for business effective March 20 until further notice. However, it will continue to facilitate Friendly Caller services by phone to mitigate isolation among their clients. If you are a client and would like a Friendly Caller, or you would like to volunteer to be a Friendly Caller, please contact the office at 703-281-0538.

During these challenging times, the Center's vision of creating "A World Without Loneliness" has more meaning than ever. There is the worry that many of its seniors will experience isolation due to the programs and services being canceled. We are living in strange times right now, and everyone has concerns about many things. But strange times also give us opportunities to make a difference in the lives of others – in this case just one of the most vulnerable among us – a senior who is in need of a friendly voice in a telephone call. Please consider volunteering!

VIENNA CLOSINGS/CANCELLATIONS – At this printing, all Town of Vienna special events, as well as programming, rentals, open gym and drop-in activities, classes, and teen center activities, are canceled through Sunday, April 12. The Vienna Community Center is closed but the staff is still working inside. Visit viennava.gov/coronavirus for updates.

THE CENSUS – YOU COUNT! -Census data determines the amount of funding distributed to Virginia and Fairfax County by the Federal government. A couple of weeks ago, households began receiving the official Census Bureau mail that provides detailed information on how to respond. All households should have the information by April 1. There are three ways to respond: online, by phone or by mail. While you are required by law to participate, the Census Bureau also is required by law to protect your answers.

Responses are used to produce statistics – no personal information is disclosed. To learn more, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/topics/census.

AGING IN PLACE – MOVE #4: CHOOSE YOUR FOREVER HOME

– If your home is too big for you and too expensive to renovate, or your neighborhood is too sprawling and isolated, you might consider downsizing to a townhome or a smaller home near a town center. But you may be surprised to find it's more costly than you expected. Thinking you'll save money by downsizing is one of the biggest retirement fallacies and that's especially true for seniors looking for their forever homes. You'll find yourself competing for a limited housing stock with a younger generation of buyers looking for starter homes. Freddie Mac's Chief Economist Sam Khater says "The lack of supply is driving up the prices of homes."

But if you can swing it, finding that forever home can be a way to age well, in a supportive community. It worked well for a couple who traded in a large family home in the suburbs of Charlotte for a smaller townhouse near downtown. Their children were grown and the house felt too big for them and they had fewer connections with their neighbors with their kids gone. They did experience "sticker shock" at the price of smaller homes closer to the city and chose one just on the outskirts at a lower cost. Another couple decided to swap their large home in Minneapolis for condo half that size in an upscale suburb of Minneapolis. They were founding members of a neighborhood "village" with programs and services for older adults living in the central riverfront district. Making those connections was part of the motivation for this couple to age in place in a city condo. And when one had major surgery, they were able to recover at home and neighbors brought meals and offered rides.

That kind of support was particularly important to another resident in the same area. She saw it as a loosely knit community and wanted to simplify her life and make it easier for the family, in case something happened to her. She takes part in many activities and considers it her forever home, and doesn't feel isolated. (Adapted from Kiplinger's Retirement Report. Next week: Move #5: Creating an Alternative Income Stream.)

ELDER WISDOM – I joined a health club last year, spent about 400 bucks. I haven't lost a pound. Apparently, you have to go there.

