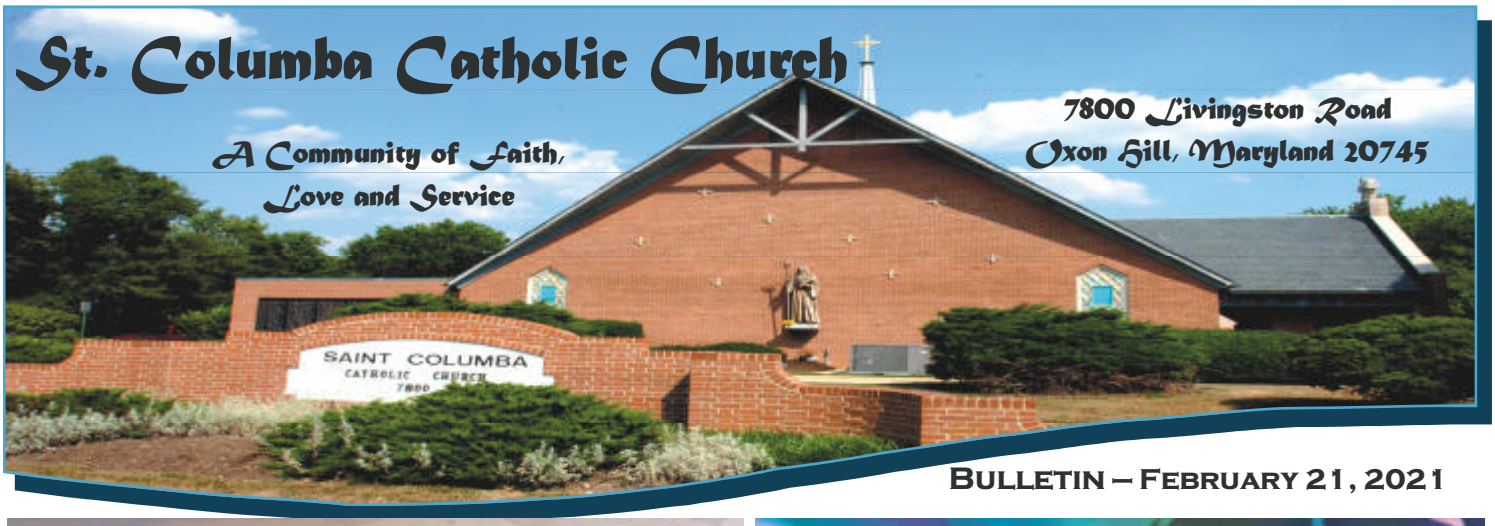
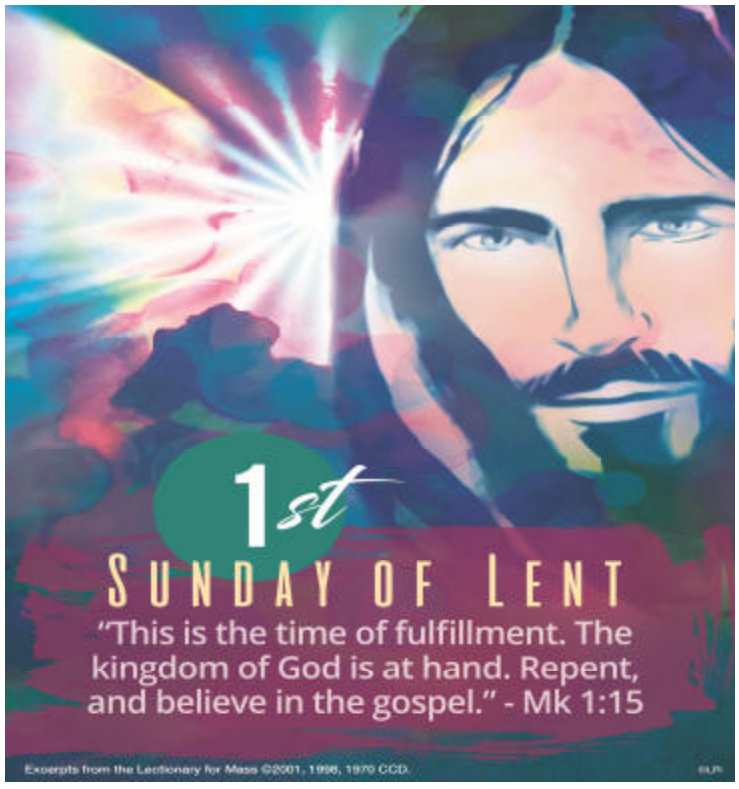



**Bulletin – February 21, 2021**




## MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday Vigil**
4:00 p. m.
**Sunday**
8:00 & 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m.

**First Saturday**
**Tagalog (Filipino)**
7:00 p. m. (no Mass)

**Weekdays**
**Monday—Friday**
8:15 a.m.
**Saturdays**
9:00 a.m.

**Mass and Novena**
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
**Wednesdays**
7:00 p.m.

**First Friday**
8:15 a.m.
7:00 p.m. (no Mass)

**Adoration**
**Wednesdays**
6:00—6:45 p.m.
**First Friday**
9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

**Confessions**
**Saturdays**
2:30—3:30 p.m. or by appointment

**Rosary**
Monday—Friday
7:25 a.m.

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**No Coffee Social at this time until further notice**

## Parish and School Staff

**Pastor**
Rev. Gary T. Villanueva

**Deacons**
Deacon Andy Espinosa (Ret.)
Deacon Robert Villanueva

**Parish Accountant**
Diane Alexander

**Parish Admin. Assistant**
Leah Flores

**Parish Youth Ministry Coordinator/Admin. Asst.**
Sr. Emily Bautista, MCST

**Parish School of Religion Coordinator:**
Sr. Luzviminda Domingo, MCST

**Director of Music Ministry**
Rebecca Yoder

**Parish Council Chair**
Benny Ramos

**Fr. Dewan Hall Coordinator**
TBA

**School Principal**
Christine Patton

**School E/F Coordinator**
Lera Rickling

**School Admin. Assistant**
Marie Norment

**Facilities Custodian**
Ricky Garvin
Zaldy Seno

## *Parish Office*

Phone: 301-567-5506
Fax: 301-567-6546
**Email:**
stcolumbachurch@verizon.net
**Parish Website:**
www.stcolumbacatholic.net

## *Parish School of Religion*

Phone: 301-567-6113
**Email:**
st.columbapsr@gmail.com

## *School*

Phone: 301-567-6212
Fax: 301-567-6907
**Email:**
schooloffice@stccatholic.org
**School Website:**
http://www.stccatholic.org

## BAPTISMS

*Please call the Parish Office for information and to schedule Baptism Preparation Class.*

**BAPTISM AND SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR OLDER CHILDREN**
*Please contact the Parish School of Religion, Sr. Luzviminda Domingo, MCST at 301-567-6113.*

**MATRIMONY**
*Please contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to a proposed wedding date to speak with a priest. Reservation of the church is required before other preparations such as receptions are made.*

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK/ COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND**
*Please contact the Parish Office*

***After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."***
***- Mk 1:14-15***

## REFLECTIONS
## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

St. Oscar Romero said, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what you have and focus on who you are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the "idol of the self," keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It's not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn't just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. "Being more" means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the "quality" of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God's unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of "life in the good old days." Lent isn't about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It's about becoming something new. It's about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 21, 2021

**Sunday:** Gn 9:8-15/ Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/ 1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

**Monday:** 1 Pt 5:1-4/ Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/ Mt 16:13-19

**Tuesday:** Is 55:10-11/ Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17,18-19 [18b]/Mt 6:7-15

**Wednesday:** Jon 3:1-10/ Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-32

**Thursday:** Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [3a]/ Mt 7:7-12

**Friday:** Ez 18:21-28/ Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Mt 5:20-26

**Saturday:** Dt 26:16-19/ Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/ Mt 5:43-48

**Next Sunday:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/ Rom 8:31b-34/

## REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

### Our Sick and Suffering

**Especially** Marion Rathbun, Bernardino Flores (13Dec20). Rachel Fisher, Abe & Tess Samoy, Lamar Johnson, Ellamae Hulsey, Kobi King, Jeanne Pike, Cathy McGarrigan, Grace Macaranas, (10Jan21). Marian Flores, Gloria King, Eleanor Wachowski, Cynthia Flores (24Jan21). Benigno Ramos (14Feb21). Maria Evelyn Suacito (21Feb21).

### Our Beloved Dead

**Especially** Norberto Tayag, Diosie Retener, Arlane Samonte, Aurora Cruz, Ricardo Cunanan, Jr., Roland Escalante, Sr., Donna Bernales, Emilio Ramirez, Mary Montgomery, Katie Bryant.

## Mass INTENTIONS

**Monday, February 15**
8:15 a.m. +Eufrocino & Antero Saguros

**Tuesday, February 16**
8:15 a.m. +David Alan Cole, Sr.

**Wednesday, February 17**
8:15 a.m. No Morning Mass
7:00 p.m. +Pedro Agustin

**Thursday, February 18**
8:15 a.m. +Celerina Lacuesta

**Friday, February 19**
8:15 a.m. +Celso Antonio

**Saturday, February 20**
9:00 a.m. +Danilo Saguros
4:00 p.m. +Peter & Angelina Marino

**Sunday, February 21**
8:00 a.m. +Juliana Perez
10:00 a.m. Douglas Samuel Robertson
12:00 p.m. +Mercedes Quimen

## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY INCLUDING:

Especially Tiffany Williams; Peter John Ifurung; PFC Mark J. Venancio; Andrew Alexander; Lt. Victor Barba; 1st Lt Peter Agboli; Krystol Dudly; Christian Samoy; Derrell Thomas Jahaira Best; Kevin Myers; Delange Monks, Marquette Young, Capt. Daryll Garcia.

# St. Columba School

Established in 1962

*.....Faith. Academics. Service.*

Dear St. Columba families,

Want to know more about our school and all we have to offer? Please contact Mrs. Lera Rickling at 301-567-6212, ext. 2 or ricklingl@stccatholic.org for more information or to arrange a tour!

Also, we highly recommend any new family interested in sending their student(s) to St. Columba School to apply for financial aid from the Archdiocese of Washington prior to the deadline on February 19, 2021 (the link to apply can be found on web site -www.stccatholic.org)!

*Peace and blessings,*
*Mrs. Christine Patton*
*Principal*
*St. Columba School*

## VOCATIONS CORNER

Please continue to pray for our fellow parishioner who is aspiring for Holy Orders.

Seminarian Chukwuma Collins Odigwe is currently studying Theology in Saint John Paul II Seminary, Washington, D. C.

Let us continue to pray for more vocations to the priesthood, the permanent diaconate and the religious life. If you know of anyone who feels such a calling, please give them encouragement and advise them to speak with Father Gary or any of the MCST sisters.

## END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

The contribution statement for 2020 will be available starting February 1, 2021. Please call or email the parish office to obtain a copy of your statement. For the Parish Online giving users, to obtain a copy of your statement, log on to your account. Thank you!

## COLLECTIONS

**SUNDAY OFFERING**
Month of January 2021
$28, 685.00

**COMPARISON**
Month of January 2020
$36,847.00

**YEAR-TO-DATE**
**2020**
$153,714.00
**2019**
$213,649.00

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH

## PARISH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

If you already pledged and opted for electronic bank or credit card withdrawals. Please set-up your account through Parish Giving. Go to www.stcolumbcatholic.net and click the Parish Giving link. If you need help, please call the parish office at 301-567-5506. Thank you for your support.

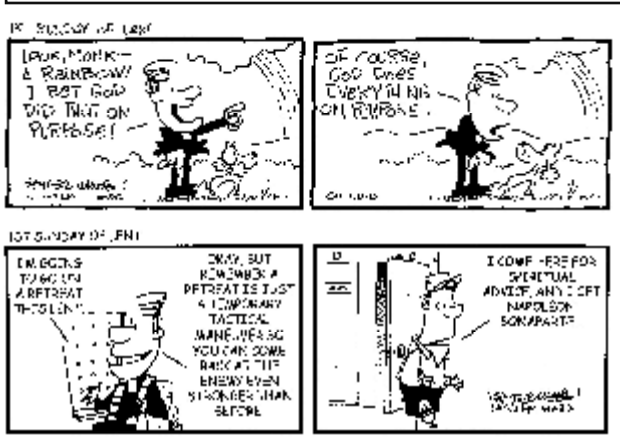
**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN STATUS**

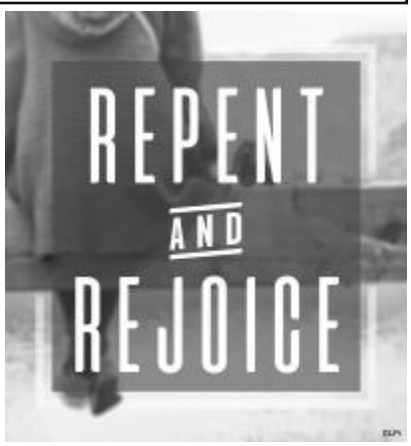
Total Amount Goal:
$860,000.00

Amount collected
January 2021: $13,256.00

## MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT

Cardinal Gregory invites men in their, 20s, 30s, and 40s, who are interested in learning more about the priesthood, to attend a discernment retreat led by priests and seminarians of the Archdiocese of Washington. The retreat will be held the weekend of March 26 to March 28 at Saint John Paul II Seminary and the Washington Retreat House in Washington, D. C. The retreat will be an opportunity to pray and reflect on God's call, meet priests and seminarians, hear their stories, and learn more about the Seminary and priesthood. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required. Please register at https://dcpriest.org/young-adults. For more information, contact Fr. Mark Ivany at 202-636-9020. Please note that all COVID-19 protocols will be in place to ensure everyone's safety

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