

Our First, Most Cherished Liberty



On June 21st the U.S. Catholic Church, lead by her Bishops, commenced the 2016 Fortnight for Freedom, two weeks during which we raise awareness about today's threats against religious freedom in the U.S. and worldwide. Please visit www.usccb.org for more information. Today's text is an abstract from our U.S. Bishops' statement on

Religious Liberty, written in March 2012:

We are Catholics. We are Americans. We are proud to be both, grateful for the gift of faith which is ours as Christian disciples, and grateful for the gift of liberty which is ours as American citizens. To be Catholic and American should mean not having to choose one over the other. Our allegiances are distinct, but they need not be contradictory, and should instead be complementary. That is the teaching of our Catholic faith, which obliges us to work together with fellow citizens for the common good of all who live in this land. That is the vision of our founding and our Constitution, which guarantees citizens of all religious faiths the right to contribute to our common life together.

Freedom is not only for Americans, but we think of it as something of our special inheritance, fought for at a great price, and a heritage to be guarded now. We are stewards of this gift, not only for ourselves but for all nations and peoples who yearn to be free. Catholics in America have discharged this duty of guarding freedom admirably for many generations [...] We have a solemn duty to discharge that duty today.

We need, therefore, to speak frankly with each other when our freedoms are threatened. Now is such a time. As Catholic bishops and American citizens, we address an urgent summons to our fellow Catholics and fellow Americans to be on guard, for religious liberty is under attack, both at home and abroad.

Is our most cherished freedom truly under threat? Sadly, it is. Consider the following: *HHS mandate for contraception, sterilization, and abortion-inducing drugs; State immigration laws; Christian students on campus; Catholic foster care and adoption services; Discrimination against Catholic humanitarian services.*

Religious liberty is not only about our ability to go to Mass on Sunday or pray the Rosary at home. It is about whether we can make our contribution to the common good of all Americans. Can we do the good works our faith calls us to do, without having to compromise that very same faith? Without religious liberty properly understood, all Americans suffer, deprived of the essential contribution in education, health care, feeding the hungry, civil rights, and social services that religious Americans make every day, both here at home and overseas.

What is at stake is whether America will continue to have a free, creative, and robust civil society—or whether the state alone will determine who gets to contribute to the common good, and how they get to do it. Religious believers are part of American civil society, [...] make their contribution to our common life, and they do not need the permission of the government to do so. Restrictions on religious liberty are an attack on civil society and the American genius for voluntary associations.

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Masses this Week

Monday, June 27:

6:30 am +Jean M. Buckley
9:00 am Father's Day Novena

St. Irenaeus - Tuesday, June 28:

6:30 am +William O'Connor
9:00 am +Efren Policarpio

Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles - Wednesday, June 29:

6:30 am +Donald C. McLaughlin
9:00 am +John Bartholme

Thursday, June 30:

6:30 am +Rodrigo Cestti
9:00 am +Joseph and Annelle Thach, Sr.

Friday, July 1:

6:30 am +Natividad Yanez
9:00 am +Emily Peckman

Saturday, July 2:

8:00 am +William Swartworth
5:00 pm +Donald C. McLaughlin
7:00 pm +Alcides Acevedo

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 3:

7:30 am +Bazil Pereira
9:00 am +Dolores Perez
10:30 am Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 noon +Lucia and José Antonio Venero



"A Biblical Walk Through the Mass" Summer Bible Study for High School Students

Meet with Fr. Juan and other leaders every Friday in **Jul.** and **Aug.** from 4:30-6:00 pm for a high school bible study. Following the bible study, join other high school youth for open gym from 6:00-8:00 pm. To register and for more info, contact Susan Gray at (703) 354-8711 or s.gray@queenofapostles.org. Classes begin **Jul. 1** at Notre Dame Graduate School (4407 Sano Street). See you there!

Nourishing Our Souls with Holy Scripture



Readings for Next Week:

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 66:10-14C Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20
Gal 6:14-18 Lk 10:1-12, 17-20

"As for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

If you are considering a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life, contact Fr. Juan at gen-eral@queenofapostles.org or Fr. J.D. Jaffe at (703) 841-2514, or j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org.

Please pray for the members of our parish who are ill

Timmy Burnway, Connie King, J. Saunders, Catherine Hanniff, Kristin Burns, Francis Walter, Eduardo Vega, Deborah DuBrul, Kathleen Donohoe, Clarissa Trono De Guzman, Lyda Tanco, Mark Bush, Joseph Covas, Margaret Peiffer, David Stemcosky, Irma Mori, Rita Sulit, Jason Banis, Emma Collins, Teresa Sabina Piecyk, Juana Mejia, Lisa Nyce, Monique Brooks, Debby Sprah, Consuelo Jocson, Cheryl McGlynn, Teresa Subalusky, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo, Donna Smith

This Week in Our Parish

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, June 26:

Hannan Hall 2:00-5:30 pm Ghana Group
Adoration Chapel 6:00-8:00 pm Prayer Group

St. Aloysius Gonzaga - Monday, June 27:

School 8:30 am-12:30 pm Vacation Bible School
Parish Office 6:30-7:30 pm Liturgy Coordinator Meeting

St. Irenaeus - Tuesday, June 28:

School 8:30 am-12:30 pm Vacation Bible School
Cupertino Room 7:00-9:00 pm RCIA in Spanish

Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles - Wednesday, June 29:

School 8:30 am-12:30 pm Vacation Bible School
Parish Office 7:00-9:00 pm Summer Exchange Program Meeting
Hannan Hall 7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Prayer Group

Thursday, June 30:

School 8:30 am-12:30 pm Vacation Bible School
Parish Office 6:30-8:00 pm Legion of Mary
Church 7:30-8:30 pm Holy Hour

Friday, July 1:

School 8:30 am-12:30 pm Vacation Bible School
Adoration Chapel 11:00 am-12 noon Children's Adoration Hour
Adoration Chapel 3:00-4:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Hannan Hall 3:30-5:30 pm Nazareth Youth Group
School 6:00-8:00 pm Open Gym Night
Cupertino Room 7:00-9:00 pm Hispanic Legion of Mary

Saturday, July 2:

School 4:00-6:30 pm Spanish Prayer Group
School 7:00-9:00 pm Ghana Choir Rehearsal

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 3:

ACCA Food Collection
Hannan Hall 2:00-5:30 pm Ghana Group

Exchange Program: Meet Our Guests from Spain

Mark your calendars for the Sunday Social on Sunday, **Jul. 10**, 8:30 am- 1:30 pm. Stop by and day hello to the students and teachers from Spain who will attend Mass and the Sunday Social with their parish host family.

My name is Almudena. I'm really excited to go to the USA because it will be my first time there. When my cousin Ana, who was there the last year, told me about this experience and the possibility to go with her, I knew that it could be a good opportunity to travel, know American people and another lifestyle. I'm a junior in high school and I love economics, philosophy and history. I'm not sure about what I will study yet, but I love reading, playing the guitar, listening music, hanging out with friends, playing sports, enjoying nature, animals and children. I'm really interested to know new countries and their culture, which is the reason I would like to experience the program. I really want to get to know you. See you soon!

My name is Roberto and I live in Sant Feliu de Llobregat, Barcelona. I study 4th of ESO in Colegio Bon Salvador of Sant Feliu de Llobregat. In the future, I want to study a degree related to chemistry.

I have three aspects that describe my personality: First of all, I'm very independent, because I don't like to depend on someone nor that people depend on me. Also, I like to be the master of all my decisions, the bad and the good. Finally, I always support the simple ideas because the big things always have a simple basis. My main hobby is going to the gym because I love physical exercise. I have other hobbies like playing football or doing longboarding. Finally, the reason why I want to participate in this program is because I love the United States and think that this country is the best of all the countries and in the future, I wish to live in the United States, specifically, in New York City.



USCCB Fortnight for Freedom,

Northern VA, DC Area The Fortnight for Freedom is an annual 14-day event held in dioceses and parishes across the United States to raise awareness about the importance of religious freedom. Launched by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops (USCCB), the Fortnight for Freedom initiative serves as a vital channel for promoting the preservation and protection of our religious liberty through prayer and activism across the country. This year's theme, "Witnesses to Freedom" will focus on men and women of faith throughout the world who have been strong witnesses to true freedom in Christ.

Closing Mass The Fortnight for Freedom Closing Mass will be celebrated by Cardinal Donald Wuerl, with Bishop David Zubik of Pittsburgh delivering the homily, on Monday, **Jul. 4** at noon at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. The Mass will be televised on EWTN and the CatholicTV Network. The relics of St. Thomas More and St. John Fisher will be available for veneration.

Volunteer as a catechist or aide for the 2016-17

Religious Education school year. Classes are held on Sundays, **Sep. 11, 2016 - Jun. 4, 2017**, 9-10:15 am. To apply and for more information, contact Susan Gray at (703) 354-8711 or s.gray@queenofapostles.org.



Choose Life License Plates During the weekend of **Jul. 9-10**, QofA's high school youth group will be providing information about purchasing the bright yellow *Choose Life* Virginia license plates. Help support the pro-life message by "Turning the Parking Lot Yellow".

Missing: Your baby bottle!

Baby Bottles provide all of the funds for our pro-life activities in the parish. The pink and blue flag projects, March for Life, signs, banners, 40 Days for Life, Fetal models and educational materials. We need ALL the bottles back, empty or full. Checks can be made out to: Queen of Apostles. Please put Baby in the Memo section. Please be generous, 1613 babies were aborted at the Whiting St. abortion center last year.

Summer Program for Children with Disabilities

The parish is offering a new program seeking to provide a fun summer experience for disabled students aged 9-14. The program will run **Aug. 8-12** (9 am to 3 pm) in the school gym, and includes fun sports games, a healthy lunch, and arts and crafts. Teen Counselors are certified in First Aid and CPR (counselor-student ratio 2:1 or 1:1) and adults are always present. The cost is \$35. For an application please contact Michael Caballero (caballerom1@bishopireton.org) or Gabriel Sampaio (sampaio@bishopireton.org).

Peter's Pence (Holy Father) Collection

In today's second collection, we are supporting Pope Francis in his charitable works. The Peter's Pence Collection is taken up worldwide to support our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and natural disasters.

Thank you

for your generous contribution to the Poor Box. This weekend's collection will go toward the **Poor Sisters of Saint Joseph**. Next weekend's collection will go toward the **Parish Charity**.