

Our Lady of Lourdes Monthly Calendar

JUNE 2019 ~ Happy Father's Day

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>2. Ascension of the Lord Women's Council 10A Social Action 11:30A St. Vincent de Paul 12P Dancers Rehearsal 1:30P</p>	<p>3 Stephen Ministry 6:30P Zumba Class 7:15P</p>	<p>4 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P Lector Prep 7P Baptismal Prep 7P</p>	<p>5 Zumba Class 6:15P <i>Bible Study 7:00P</i> (ON BREAK) AGLD Rehearsal 7:15P</p>	<p>6 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Choir Rehearsal 7:00P</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 Pastoral Care Team 10A AG Youth Dance Class 11A Eucharism 11A AGLD 1P Rosary 4:30P 5:00PM Eucharist</p>
<p>9 Pentecost Sunday Live Stream 10A Mass KPCLA Meeting 12P KPC Meeting 12P Jr. Daughters/ Knights Meeting 1:30P Youth Choir Rehearsal 1:30P Dancers Rehearsal 1:30P Open Dancers Rehearsal 2:30P</p>	<p>10 Stephen Ministry 6:30P <i>Pastoral Council 6:30P</i></p>	<p>11 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P</p>	<p>12 Zumba Class 6:15P <i>Bible Study 7:00P</i> (ON BREAK) AGLD Rehearsal 7:15P</p>	<p>13 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Choir Rehearsal 7:00P</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 AG Youth Dance Class 11A AGLD 1P ASBS Meeting 3P Rosary 4:30P 5:00PM Eucharist Farmer's Market 6:30P</p>
<p>16 The Most Holy Trinity <i>Father's Day</i> <i>Breakfast served after the services</i> Farmer's Market Habit Ministry 11:30A St. Vincent de Paul 12P Dancers Rehearsal 1:30P</p>	<p>17 Stephen Ministry 6:30P</p>	<p>18 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P</p>	<p>19 Zumba Class 6:15P <i>Bible Study 7:00P</i> (ON BREAK) AGLD Rehearsal 7:15P</p>	<p>20 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A <i>Finance Council 6:30P</i> Choir Rehearsal 7:00P</p>	<p>21 <i>Eucharistic Congress</i> <i>Mass 6:30P</i> <i>Georgia International</i> <i>Convention Center</i> <i>College Park</i></p>	<p>22 Graduation Weekend <i>Eucharistic Congress Mass 8:30A</i> T-Shirt Saturday AG Youth Dance Class 11A Eucharism 11A AGLD 1P Venerick/Paul Wedding 2:30P Rosary 4:30P 5:00PM Eucharist Belgens</p>
<p>23 The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ Live Stream 10A Mass T-Shirt Sunday Graduation Weekend Belgens Health Ministry Meeting 11:30A Lay Dominicans 2P Life Issues 7P (Conference Call)</p>	<p>24 Stephen Ministry 6:30P <i>Tuize Prayer 8P</i></p>	<p>25 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P</p>	<p>26 Zumba Class 6:15P <i>Bible Study 7:00P</i> (ON BREAK) AGLD Rehearsal 7:15P</p>	<p>27 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Choir Rehearsal 7:00P <i>(Offsite)</i></p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p>						

Save the Date

- Sunday, June 16 ~ Father's Day ~ Breakfast served after all the services*
- Saturday June 15/ Sunday June 16 ~ Farmer's Market ~ After All Masses*
- Friday June 21/ Saturday June 22 ~ Eucharistic Congress ~ Georgia International Congress Center*
- Saturday June 22/ Sunday June 23 ~ Graduation Weekend ~ All Masses*
- T-Shirt weekend ~ June 22/23*

Life

Our Lady of Lourdes
Life Issues Committee



Notes

June 2019

Today, when special accommodations for persons with physical and intellectual limitations are taken for granted, it may be difficult to imagine how marginalized these people were in the early 1960s, when Jean Vanier founded what became the L'Arche communities. Confined to prison-like asylums, people with cognitive disabilities were often warehoused indiscriminately with persons suffering from dementia and mental illness—far away from a society that dismissed them with contempt.

Inspired by a Dominican priest, the devoutly Catholic Vanier invited two men from such an asylum to share his household in the spirit of the gospel. He called their home L'Arche (The Ark), after Noah's Ark. L'Arche today includes 154 interfaith communities worldwide, where "core members" with intellectual disabilities live with volunteer "assistants" in a family environment based on mutual respect. Vanier explained, "L'Arche is not a solution to a social problem, but a sign that . . . we are not condemned to live in a state of war and conflict where the strong crush the weak."

OUR CALL TO SERVE THE "DISCARDED"

Even now, however, many people do not share Vanier's guiding principle that "each person is unique, precious and sacred." Just weeks ago, a lawmaker in a nearby state crudely defended the common practice of aborting babies who might be born with disabilities: "Some parents can't handle a child with problems. It could be retarded. It might have no arms and no legs." For the marginalized at the other end of life, equally cold arguments are advanced to justify euthanasia and assisted suicide.

Marking Jean Vanier's recent death, Pope Francis praised the saintly L'Arche founder for hearing "the Christian call in the mystery of death, of the cross, of illness, the mystery of those who are despised and discarded," particularly those "who risk being condemned to death even before being born." God blessed us with "a great witness," the pope said.

BEFRIEND SOMEONE WHO IS LONELY

Since the L'Arche community in nearby Decatur was established in 2012, it has drawn active support from Lourdes members called to join Jean Vanier's witness. Recently a journalist asked the elderly Vanier how Christians who are more focused on their own families and careers could offer a similar witness of faith. This is how he answered:

Try and find somebody who is lonely. And when you go to see them, they will see you as the messiah. Go and visit a little old lady who has no friends or family. Bring her flowers. People say, 'but that's nothing'. It is nothing – but it's also everything. It always begins with small little things. It all began in Bethlehem. That was pretty small.

Our Life Issues Committee is now exploring opportunities to befriend residents of local senior-care facilities. Interested? Drop a note to lourdesforlife@gmail.com.