

Our Lady of Lourdes Monthly Calendar

JULY 2012						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 T-Shirt day RCIA 9:30A Social Action 9:30A Jr. Daughter Meeting 9:30A Women's Council 11:30A St. Vincent de Paul 12N Lourdes Group Pictures 1P	2 Liturgy Meeting 7P Life After the Pink Slip 7P	3	4 Independence Day Church Office Closed	5	6	7 SVDP Meeting 9A Lourdes Group Pictures 9A Lector Prep 10:30A Dance by Kenya 1:30P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
8 RCIA 9:30A YAG Meeting 9:30A	9 Pastoral Council 7P	10 Zumba Class 5:45P Lector Prep 7P Baptismal Class 7P AGLD Releasral 7P	11 Bible Study 7:00P	12 Zumba Class 10:30A	13	14 Eracism 11:00A Dance by Kenya 1:30P ASBS Meeting 3:00PM Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
15 RCIA 9:30A KFC/KPCLA Meeting 12N St. Vincent de Paul 12N Haiti Committee Meeting 12N	16	17 Zumba Class 5:45P AGLD Releasral 7P	18 Bible Study 7:00P	19 Zumba Class 10:30A	20 Men's Ministry Movie Night for Edgewood 7:30P	21 SVDP Meeting 9A History Committee 10:30A Prayer Shawl 3P Life Issues 4P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
22 RCIA 9:30A Lourdes Alumni Meeting 2P Lay Dominicans Meeting 2P	23	24 Zumba Class 5:45P	25 Bible Study 7:00P	26 Zumba Class 10:30A	27	28 Eracism 11:00A Centennial Group 12N Dance by Kenya 1:30P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist Thomas ~ Gray Wedding 7P
29 RCIA 9:30A	30	31 Zumba Class 5:45P				

Save the date for Lourdes Picnic ~ Sunday, September 23rd ~ Grant Park



In early June, several Lourdes families hosted visitors from the L'Arche federation who were participating in their international conference at Agnes Scott College. L'Arche members joined us for Sunday mass and then returned on Friday afternoon for a lively presentation on our parish history. As Lourdes members Karen Allen and Charlotte Johnson described their involvement in the Civil Rights Movement, the visitors saw firsthand how our parish is animated by the same spirit that underlies their movement.

A SIGN THAT LOVE IS POSSIBLE

In 1964 a Canadian Catholic philosopher, Jean Vanier, became concerned about the plight of people institutionalized because of developmental disabilities. Inspired by a Dominican priest, Father Thomas Philippe, Vanier invited two of these men to share his household and live together in the spirit of the gospel. He called their home L'Arche (The Ark), after Noah's Ark. L'Arche today includes over 120 interfaith communities in 40 different countries. In these homes, people with cognitive disabilities (called "core members") live with volunteer "assistants" in a family environment based on sharing and mutual respect. As Jean Vanier wrote, "L'Arche is not a solution to a social problem, but a sign that love is possible, and that we are not condemned to live in a state of war and conflict where the strong crush the weak. Each person is unique, precious and sacred."

A BELOVED CHILD OF GOD

One such person was Adam Arnett, a severely handicapped L'Arche core member in Toronto. Arnett was assisted by Father Henri Nouwen, the popular spiritual writer who left his prestigious academic positions to join L'Arche. After Arnett's death, Father Nouwen reflected on their life together in a book called *Adam: God's Beloved*. "Adam," he wrote, "was a person, who by his very life announced the marvelous mystery of our God: I am precious, beloved, whole, and born of God. Adam bore silent witness to this mystery, which has nothing to do with whether or not he could speak, walk, or express himself, whether or not he made money, had a job, was fashionable, famous, married or single. It had to do with his being. He was and is a beloved child of God."

A NEW HOME IN THE ATLANTA AREA

This month, after years of planning, L'Arche is opening a new home in Decatur's Oakhurst neighborhood. Friends of L'Arche Atlanta is a group that has worked to facilitate the opening and welcomes prayers, support and volunteer assistance from anyone who wants to help "make known the gifts of people with intellectual disabilities, revealed through mutually transforming relationships."

A beautiful video on everyday life at L'Arche is available at <http://vimeo.com/10793975>. Information on the new L'Arche community in Decatur, including a list of ways we can help support the effort, is online at <http://www.friendsoflarcheatlanta.org/index.html>.

Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary
Our Lady of Lourdes Court #300
Presents



Annual Prayer Breakfast
Benefiting the Scholarship Fund
“Unifying the Family
Through Acts of Love”

Loudermilk Conference Center
40 Courtland Street NE
Atlanta, GA 30303

Saturday, August 4, 2012 at 9:00 AM
Ticket Donation: \$30

GUEST SPEAKER:
Angela Harrington Rice
Host of AIB TV's *A Woman's Place*



For More Information: Lady Kizmet Charles – 404.635.0447

MALE EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP

“OVERCOMING THE ODDS: SUCCESS STRATEGIES FOR YOUNG BLACK MEN”



“From the school house to the court house, the odds seem to be pervasively stacked against the black male. Unemployment rates, school drop-out rates, income levels and incarceration rates of black males, as compared with white males and black females, are clear indicators of the challenges they face . . . The good news is that these odds can be overcome by putting constructive strategies to work.”

- Norma J. Barnes, Priority Male Initiative Founder

“Overcoming the Odds: Success Strategies for Young Black Men”, is open to all males between the ages of 18 - 28, who want to improve themselves academically, vocationally, economically, and personally. This **FREE event includes self-assessments, an interactive workshop, powerful film, open forum, resource panel, health screenings, and exhibitors:**

- Workshop** *“Five Steps to Success”*
- Film** *“Bring Your A Game”*
- Forum** *“What Black Men Need”*
- Services** *Free Health Screenings*
- Resources** *Education, Training, Employment, Legal & More*

Confirmed Presenters:

Atlanta Institute for Males (AIM)
 Atlanta Metropolitan College
 Atlanta Workforce Development Agency
 Georgia Department of Labor
 Fulton County Call To Manhood Program
 Fulton County Health & Wellness

Fulton County Office of the Public Defender
 Priority Male Initiative
 Urban League of Greater Atlanta
 U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
 United States Job Corp
 Year Up

SATURDAY, JULY 28, 2012

12:30 PM

AUBURN AVENUE RESEARCH LIBRARY
 100 AUBURN AVENUE
 ATLANTA, GA 30303

*This is a **FREE** event. There is no charge to attend “Overcoming the Odds”, but reservations are strongly suggested to insure seating. Please register online at www.communitycouncilma.org, or call (404) 935-5859 to confirm attendance. No food or beverages are allowed in facility.*

Presented by:

**PRIORITY MALE INITIATIVE
 COMMUNITY COUNCIL OF METROPOLITAN ATLANTA, INC.**

**80 Walnut Street, Suite 103
 Atlanta, GA 30314**

(404) 935-5859/(404) 221-1222

www.communitycouncilma.org

