

Our Lady of Lourdes Monthly Calendar
 Join us for our Centennial Spruce Up Day at Lourdes ~ Saturday, July 27, 2013 ~ 9A

JULY 2013						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Expansion Committee Meeting 7P Life After the Pink Slip 7P	2 Zumba Class 6:00P Baptismal Prep 7P Lector Prep 7P	3	4 Independence Day <i>Church Office Closed</i>	5 <i>Church Office Closed</i>	6 SVDP Meeting 9A Lector Prep 10:30A Dance by Kenya 1:30P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist T-Shirt Weekend
7 T-Shirt Sunday Sunday Breakfast RCIA 9:30A Social Action 9:30A St. Vincent de Paul 12N Women's Council 12N	8 Pastoral Council 7P	9 Zumba Class 6:00P Adult Faith Formation 7P AGLD Rehearsal 7P	10 Bible Study 7:00P AGLD Rehearsal 7P	11 RCIA 6:00P Zumba Class 7:00P AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P	12	13 Dance by Kenya 1:30P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
14 RCIA 9:30A KPC/KPCLA Meeting 12N Jr. Daughter Meeting 12N	15	16 Young at Heart Summer Fling 12N Zumba Class 6:00P Adult Faith Formation 7P AGLD Rehearsal 7P	17 Bible Study 7:00P AGLD Rehearsal 7P	18 RCIA 6:00P Zumba Class 7:00P AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P	19 <i>Men's Ministry</i> Movie Night for Edgewood 7:30P	20 SVDP Meeting 9A Life Issues 4P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
21 T-Shirt Sunday Sunday Breakfast RCIA 9:30A Haiti Committee Meeting 12N	22	23 Zumba Class 6:00P Adult Faith Formation 7P AGLD Rehearsal 7P	24 Bible Study 7:00P	25 RCIA 6:00P Zumba Class 7:00P AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P	26	27 Centennial Spruce Up Day Dance by Kenya 1:30P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
28 RCIA 9:30A Lay Dominicans Meeting 2P	29	30 Zumba Class 6:00P AGLD Rehearsal 7P	31			

Join us for Sunday Breakfast on Sunday, July 7th & July 21st
 Sponsored by the Knights of Peter Claver

NEW CLOTHES FOR A FINAL TRIP

In December of last year, 45-year-old identical twins Marc and Eddy Verbessem, who had spent their entire lives together, bought new suits and shoes for a trip to Brussels University Hospital in their native Belgium. Congenitally deaf, the twins had learned that they faced blindness as well, but they were not seeking medical care. Instead, after sharing coffee with their aging parents and an older brother, they lay down to receive lethal injections from hospital physicians. Though the twins were neither in pain nor terminally ill, but only (as their brother explained) "really worn out," doctors ended their lives under a 2002 Belgian law permitting euthanasia.

A GROWING TREND

The twins were among 1,432 reported victims of medically assisted suicide in their country in 2012, a 25% increase over the previous year. And the numbers may be much higher, since physicians report only about half the cases. A third of the deaths involve victims who did not request euthanasia, and more are anticipated as a result of pending legislation to allow disabled children and people with dementia to be put to death.

Closer to home, in May of this year, Vermont joined Oregon and Washington state in legalizing assisted suicide for the terminally ill. The pro-suicide group Compassion and Choices hailed Vermont's so-called Death with Dignity Act as a major step toward "normalization of the practice of aid in dying in the practice of medicine" in America.

MISPLACED COMPASSION

Critics argue that such compassion toward human suffering is sadly misplaced. The American Medical Association opposes physician-assisted suicide as "fundamentally incompatible with the physician's role as healer" and "difficult or impossible to control." Facing an uncertain future, vulnerable people like the Verbessem twins may feel pressured to end their own lives to satisfy greedy heirs or to avoid becoming a burden on others. "In the name of autonomy and empowerment," warns Boston Cardinal Sean O'Malley, "seriously ill patients . . . are at risk of becoming victims of this law."

OVERCOMING THE CULTURE OF WASTE

In June, Pope Francis spoke forcefully against our "culture of waste," in which we consider it normal when "homeless people die of cold on the streets" but "if the stock markets drop ten points it is a tragedy! Thus people are disposed of, as if they were trash." Christians, insisted the pope, must counter the mindset in which "human life, the person is no longer perceived as a primary value to be respected and protected, especially if poor or disabled, if not yet useful - such as the unborn child - or no longer needed - such as the elderly."

Unless we learn to be "attentive to every person," as Pope Francis suggests, we may no longer even take notice when troubled people, overcome with life's challenges, look forward to nothing except their own execution.

Our US bishops' statement on assisted suicide is online at www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/assisted-suicide/to-live-each-day.

**TWO DATES — TWO LOCATIONS —
ONE DYNAMIC PRESENTATION!**



“Saint Francis, Pope Francis, and a Vision for the 21st Century Parish”

*The Gospels, the legacy of St. Francis, and the message of Pope Francis
speak of a Church that, at its best, gathers and sends.
The future of American Catholicism holds exciting and promising prospects
when we renew the possibilities of gathering and sending at the parish level.*
—Jack Jezreel

**ALL
ARE INVITED**



**FREE
ADMISSION**

**SPEAKER: JACK JEZREEL
FOUNDER OF JUSTFAITH MINISTRIES**

Wednesday, July 17th, 7:00-9:00 pm
Saint Lawrence Catholic Church
319 Grayson Highway
Lawrenceville

Thursday, July 18th, 7:00-9:00 pm
Saint Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
928 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd., SW
Atlanta



Sponsored by Justice & Peace Ministries, The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta
Email: justpeace@archatl.com, Telephone: 404.920.7895

Suggestions from the Church Office

We're off to a new fiscal year and we'd like to offer some suggestions for Lourdes church support without the use of envelopes:

Option 1

You can submit your regular church support, Capital Campaign or Archbishop's Annual Appeal via the Lourdes website (**www.lourdesatlanta.org**)

- (1) From our home page click on the "Become a Member" tab and scroll down to how to give
- (2) Click on the highlighted "online donation form" and fill in the complete form:
 - a. Select the type of donation you wish to make (Single/One-Time Gift, Monthly Gift, Quarterly Gift, Semi-Annual, or Annual Gift)
 - b. If you choose to make your donation recurring, please select the date (1st of the month, 5th of the month, 15th of the month, 20th of the month)
- (3) Next, I wish my funds to be applied to:
 - a. Click on the drop down arrow and scroll to Offertory/Stewardship, Archbishop's Annual Appeal or Capital Campaign
- (4) Choose one of the following payment options:
 - a. Credit Card
 - b. Bank Account

Option 2

You can submit your regular church support as a bill pay through your bank online services, please check with your individual bank for that process. Once enrolled through your bank, please submit to this address:

Our Lady of Lourdes Church
29 Boulevard SE
Atlanta, GA 30312

And in the memo filed, please indicate Church Offertory or your Church Envelope Number.

Option 3

You can submit a voided check to the office and we'll sign you up that way.