

JANUARY 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>4 Epiphany Sunday NO Sunday School RCIA 9:30A Women's Council 9:30A St. Vincent de Paul 12N Social Action 12N</p>	<p>5 Stephens Ministry 6:30PM Liturgy Meeting 7P Zumba Class 7:15P</p>	<p>6 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:00P Lector Prep 7P Baptismal Class 7P</p>	<p>7 Zumba Class 6:30P <i>AGLD Rehearsal 7P</i> <i>Bible Study 7:00P</i> Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308</p>	<p>1 New Year's Day Church Office Closed</p>	<p>2 Church Office Re-Opens at 9A</p>	<p>3 Lector Prep 10:30A Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist</p>
<p>11 RCIA 9:30A Sunday School 8:45A Teen Ministry 10:15A KPC/KPCLA Meeting 1:30P Jr. Daughters Meeting 1:30P Jr. Knights Meeting 1:30P</p>	<p>12 Stand Up for Kids 4P Zumba Class 7:15P</p>	<p>13 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:00P Grief Support Group 7:00P</p>	<p>14 Zumba Class 6:30P <i>AGLD Rehearsal 7P</i> <i>Bible Study 7:00P</i> Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308</p>	<p>15 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:30P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P</p>	<p>16 Men's Ministry Movie Night for Edgewood 7:30P</p>	<p>17 SAT Prep TEST 9:30A Pastoral Care Team 10A Life Issues 4:00PM Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist</p>
<p>18 NO Sunday School KPC Sunday Breakfast RCIA 9:30A Health Ministry 11:30A</p>	<p>19 M.L. King, Jr. Day Church Office Closed Stephens Ministry 6:30PM Men's Ministry Meet 7:00P Zumba Class 7:15P</p>	<p>20 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:00P</p>	<p>21 Zumba Class 6:30P <i>AGLD Rehearsal 7P</i> <i>Bible Study 7:00P</i> Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308</p>	<p>22 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:30P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 SAT Class 9:30A Eracism 11A Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist Bookstore 6:00P</p>
<p>25 Bookstore Open RCIA 9:30A Sunday School 8:45A Teen Ministry 10:15A Lay Dominicans 2P</p>	<p>26 Zumba Class 7:15P Tuize Prayer Group 8:00PM</p>	<p>27 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:00P</p>	<p>28 Zumba Class 6:30P <i>AGLD Rehearsal 7P</i> <i>Bible Study 7:00P</i> Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308</p>	<p>29 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:30P Choir & AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Women's Council SW Meeting 8:30A SAT Class 9:30A Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist Lourdes Book Club 6:00P</p>

Save the Date:

Saturday, January 17 ~ MLK Jr. Mass 1:00PM at The Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

Life Notes

A SHOCKING REPORT

The published reports were horrific. Prisoners were deprived of heat, sleep, food, clothing, and medical care. They were shackled in dungeons, locked in coffins, dragged on the ground or slapped against walls, and subjected to near-drowning and "rectal hydration." They were told they would never leave custody alive, the world would never learn of their fate, and their children and parents would be killed or assaulted.

These evils were not inflicted by a foreign enemy but by the United States of America. In response to the 9/11 attacks in 2001, our Central Intelligence Agency was authorized to establish secret prisons and use torture (called "enhanced interrogation techniques") to obtain information from detained terrorists. Upon taking office in 2009, President Obama ended these initiatives, but their details remained classified until the release of a report by the Senate Intelligence Committee in December.

CONTROVERSY AMONG CATHOLICS

Critics blasted the report as a partisan undertaking likely to put Americans at risk and damage our international standing. In light of threats to our national security, they argued, the CIA's actions had been justifiable. In 2009, in fact, Pew researchers did find that America's Christians, particularly practicing Catholics, generally condoned the use of torture against suspected terrorists. However, our bishops took a very different stance, twice urging Intelligence Committee leaders to release their report in the hope that public awareness "of past practices and of the illegality and ineffectiveness of torture" would help ensure "that our government does not engage in torture again."

TORTURE HAS TWO VICTIMS

Both the Senate report and our bishops insist that torture has not proven effective in gathering useful intelligence. Critics dispute that contention. But Catholic opposition to torture does not rest on utilitarian grounds. Instead, as the USCCB's Stephen Colecchi explained in *America* magazine, "The basis for the church's current total rejection of torture is its teaching on the life and dignity of the human person." Torture has two victims: It not only dishonors a human being created in God's image, but it debases the torturer himself. Our Catechism adds that Catholic complicity in torture during the terrible days of the Inquisition should make us especially vigilant against its use today.

DESTROYING ENMITY, NOT THE ENEMY

In their 2008 study guide titled "Torture is a Moral Issue," America's bishops compare torture with abortion, noting that our belief in protecting human dignity at all times is put to the test in difficult cases. How, they ask, can we possibly love "religious extremists who plotted against our nation and harmed innocent people" or "prisoners accused of terrorist acts, detainees who may harbor information sought for purposes of self-defense"? Yet, they insist, even "in a time of terrorism and great fear," we can learn to respect the rights "even of our worst enemies" if we keep in mind Abraham Lincoln's admonition that "the only way to peace is by destroying enmity, not the enemy."

Read the Catholic study guide on torture at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/torture/torture-is-a-moral-issue.cfm>