

*Our Lady of Lourdes Monthly Calendar*

**MARCH 2015**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>1</b> RCIA 8:30A Adult Faith Formation 8:45A Sunday School 8:45A Teen Ministry 10:15A Women's Council 9:30A Social Action 11:30A St. Vincent de Paul 12N Alumni - Punch &amp; Cookies 11:30A</p>	<p><b>2</b> Stephens Ministry 6:30PM  Zumba Class 7:15P</p>	<p><b>3</b> Feast of St. Katharine Drexel Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:00P Grief Support 7:00P Lector Prep 7P Baptismal Class 7P</p>	<p><b>4</b> Zumba Class 6:30P AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308</p>	<p><b>5</b> Lourdes Lunch 11:30A  Choir 7:00P</p>	<p><b>6</b> "Lenten Fish Fry 6P" <i>Stations of the Cross 7P</i> YAAG Meeting 7:30P</p>	<p><b>7</b> ASBS Retreat 9A SAT Prep/Teen 9:30A Dance by Kenya 10A Lector Prep 10:30A Confirmation Class 3P Rosary 4:30PM \$5:00PM Eucharist</p>
<p><b>8</b> Daylight Savings Begin RCIA 8:30A Adult Faith Formation 8:45A Sunday School 8:45A Parenting Class 9:45A Teen Ministry 10:15A St. Vincent de Paul 12N KPC/KPCLA Meeting 1:30P KPC/KPCLA Junior Meet 1:30P</p>	<p><b>9</b> Stand up for Kids 4P  Zumba Class 7:15P  Pastoral Council Meeting 7P Stephens Ministry 7:30PM</p>	<p><b>10</b> Lourdes Lunch 11:30A  Zumba Class 6:00P  Liturgy Meeting 7:00PM</p>	<p><b>11</b> Zumba Class 6:30P AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308</p>	<p><b>12</b> Lourdes Lunch 11:30A  Zumba Class 6:30P Choir 7:00P AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P</p>	<p><b>13</b> "Lenten Fish Fry 6P" <i>Stations of the Cross 7P</i></p>	<p><b>14</b> Pastoral Care Team 10A Dance by Kenya 10A Erasism 11A First Reconciliation 2P Confirmation Class 3P Rosary 4:30PM \$5:00PM Eucharist</p>
<p><b>15</b> Sunday Breakfast RCIA 8:30A Sunday School 8:45A Teen Ministry 10:15A Social Action - 11:30A St. Vincent De Paul 11:30A Health Ministry 11:30A Dancer's Rehearsal 1:30P</p>	<p><b>16</b> Stephens Ministry 6:30PM Finance Council 6:30P  Men's Ministry Meet 7:00P  Zumba Class 7:15P</p>	<p><b>17</b> Lourdes Lunch 11:30A  Zumba Class 6:00P</p>	<p><b>18</b> Zumba Class 6:30P AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308</p>	<p><b>19</b> Lourdes Lunch 11:30A  Zumba Class 6:30P JustFaith 7:00P  Choir 7:00P</p>	<p><b>20</b> First Day of Spring "Lenten Fish Fry 6P" <i>Stations of the Cross 7P</i> <i>Men's Ministry</i> <i>Movie Night for Edgewood</i> 7:30P</p>	<p><b>21</b> Dance by Kenya 10A Confirmation Class 3P Life Issues 4:00PM Rosary 4:30PM \$5:00PM Eucharist Bookstore Open</p>
<p><b>22</b> Bookstore Open RCIA 8:30A Adult Faith Formation 8:45A Sunday School 8:45A Parenting Class 9:45A Teen Ministry 10:15A Teen Mass 12N Lay Dominicans 1P Alumni Meeting 2P</p>	<p><b>23</b>  <i>Taize Prayer Group</i> 8:00PM</p>	<p><b>24</b> Lourdes Lunch 11:30A  Zumba Class 6:00P</p>	<p><b>25</b> Zumba Class 6:30P AGLD Rehearsal 7:30P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308</p>	<p><b>26</b> Lourdes Lunch 11:30A  Zumba Class 6:30P Choir 7:00P</p>	<p><b>27</b> "Lenten Fish Fry 6P" <i>Stations of the Cross 7P</i></p>	<p><b>28</b> Erasism 11A Dance by Kenya 1:30P Confirmation Class 3P Teen Lock-In 4:00P Rosary 4:30PM \$5:00PM Eucharist</p>
<p><b>29</b> Palm Sunday RCIA 8:30A Sunday School 8:45A Teen Ministry 10:15A  <i>"Dancer's Afternoon of Praise 3:30P"</i></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b> Lourdes Lunch 11:30A  Zumba Class 6:00P</p>				

Save the Dates ~ Holy Triduum 2015

Holy Thursday: April 2 & Good Friday, April 3 ~ 7:00PM Service Each Night

Holy Saturday, April 4 ~ 8:30PM

Easter Sunday, April 5 ~ 8:30AM & 11:30AM ~ Symphony Hall

## BOX-OFFICE SENSATION

The record-breaking sensation at this winter's box office is *American Sniper*, Clint Eastwood's rendition of the autobiography of US Navy SEAL Chris Kyle. His four tours of duty in Iraq earned Kyle numerous medals and a reputation as the deadliest sniper in our military history. Acclaimed for its patriotism, praised even by the First Lady for its realism, the film also drew criticism for glorifying war and violence.

No question that the American public has a taste for violence in media. More than 600,000 of us have already watched a YouTube video of a real killing much closer to home. His own patrol-car dashcam recorded the 1998 death of 22-year-old Laurens County (GA) Deputy Kyle Dinkheller at the hands of Andrew Brannan. Stopped for speeding, the aging Vietnam veteran grabbed his rifle and darted around as if he were in combat, pumping nine bullets into the body of the young husband and father.

## LIVING IN A COMBAT BUNKER

An army volunteer, Andrew Brannan had served with distinction in Vietnam. He twice assumed command of his unit when his commanders were killed, he won a Bronze Star and other combat decorations, and he joined the reserves after his discharge. But by the early 1980s, he was suffering severe psychological distress, losing both his job and his marriage. After hospitalizing him several times, the VA declared him 100% disabled because of service-related PTSD, post-traumatic stress disorder. At the time of the murder, he was living alone in the woods in a shack resembling a combat bunker.

## OUR AMBIVALENCE TOWARD KILLING

Few combat veterans are as badly impacted as Andrew Brannan, and most PTSD victims do not turn violent. But Mennonite theologian Benjamin L. Corey notes that every one of them has to come to terms with our society's ambivalence toward killing:

*Killing in a uniform = glorious and justified.*

*Killing in the street = despicable, and worthy of death.*

Not only that, says Corey, but we follow up both kinds of killing by "glorification and justification of even more violence": Chris Kyle became the celebrated hero of a hit movie, while Andrew Brannan was executed in the name of the people of Georgia.

## BREAKING THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

Though he could not even remember his crime, Andrew Brannan died deeply remorseful for the murder of Officer Dinkheller. He had turned to the Catholic chaplain on Death Row to help him prepare for his January execution. Ironically, Chris Kyle died at the hands of another PTSD victim, a Marine friend whom he tried to cheer up by taking him to a firing range. Compounding the irony, as Benjamin Corey points out, some of Kyle's admirers called for his killer to receive the death penalty. "Who," asks Corey, "will be the people who stand up and say, 'we will not be complicit in continuing a legacy of violence?'" Hopefully, he prays, it will be Christians . . . "because that's our job."

Read Benjamin Corey's whole blog post at <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/formerlyfundie/chris-kyle-andrew-howard-brannan-and-the-american-legacy-of-violence/>