

Our Lady of Lourdes Monthly Calendar

FEBRUARY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Last Day to register to vote for Primary Election on March 1, 2016 Zumba Class 7:15P	2 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P Lector Prep 7P Baptismal Class 7P	3 Zumba Class 6:15P AGLD Rehearsal 7:15P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308	4 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A AGLD Rehearsal 7:00P Choir Rehearsal 7:00P Zumba Class 7:15P	5 YAG Meeting 7:30P	6 AG Youth Dance Class 10A Lector Prep 10:30A Etheridge/Johnson Wedding 2P Dance by Kenya 12N Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist AAA – Follow-up
7 AAA – Follow-up RCIA 8:30A Women's Council 9:30A Sunday School 10A Teen Ministry 10:00A Parenting Ministry 10A St Vincent De Paul 11:30A Super Bowl Party 4P	8 Adult Faith formation 6P Stephens Ministry 6:30PM Zumba Class 7:15P	9 Fat Tuesday Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P	10 Ash Wednesday Zumba Class 6:15P AGLD Rehearsal 7:15P Ecumenical Service at Ebenezer 7:00PM	11 Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes Lourdes Lunch 11:30A AGLD Rehearsal 7:00P Choir Rehearsal 7:00P Just Faith 7P Zumba Class 7:15P	12 "Lenten Fish Fry 6P" Stations of the Cross 7P	13 AG Youth Dance Class 10A Pastoral Care Team 10A Eradism 11A Dance by Kenya 12N Confirmation Class 3P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
14 Valentine's Day Parenting Ministry Fundraiser RCIA 8:30A Sunday School 10:00A Teen Ministry 10:00A Parenting Ministry 10A St Vincent De Paul 11:30A Legislative Meeting 11:30A KPC/KPCLA Meetings 1:30P	15 President's Day Lenten Revival 7P Zumba Class 7:15P	16 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P Lenten Revival 7P	17 Zumba Class 6:15P AGLD Rehearsal 7:15P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308	18 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A AGLD Rehearsal 7:00P Choir Rehearsal 7:00P Zumba Class 7:15P	19 "Lenten Fish Fry 6P" Stations of the Cross 7P Men's Ministry Movie Night for Edgewood 7:30P	20 AG Youth Dance Class 10A Dance by Kenya 12N ASBS Meeting 3:00P Confirmation Class 3P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist
21 KPC-Jr Spaghetti Fundraiser RCIA 8:30A Sunday School 10:00A Parenting Class 10:00A Teen Ministry 10:00A Health Ministry 11:30A St Vincent De Paul 11:30A Dancer's Rehearsal 1:30P	22 Stephens Ministry 6:30PM Zumba Class 7:15P Tuize Prayer Group 8:00PM	23 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A Zumba Class 6:15P	24 Zumba Class 6:15P AGLD Rehearsal 7:15P Bible Study 7:00P Starbucks 650 Ponce De Leon Ave Atlanta GA. 30308	25 Lourdes Lunch 11:30A AGLD Rehearsal 7:00P Choir Rehearsal 7:00P Zumba Class 7:15P	26 "Lenten Fish Fry 6P" Stations of the Cross 7P	27 Ministry Summit 9:30A AG Youth Dance Class 10A Dance by Kenya 12N Confirmation Class 3P Rosary 4:30PM 5:00PM Eucharist Beignets & Bookstore 6:30P
28 Beignets & Bookstore RCIA 8:30A Sunday School 10:00A Teen Ministry 10:00A Parenting Ministry 10A Life Issues 12:00PM Lay Dominicans 2P	29 Zumba Class 7:15P					

Save the Dates

Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Service ~ Wednesday, February 10 ~ Ebenezer Horizon Sanctuary, 402 Auburn Avenue ~ 7P

Lourdes Lenten Revival ~ Monday & Tuesday, February 15 & 16 ~ 7P

Liturgical Ministries Summit ~ Saturday, February 27 ~ 9:30A – 1:30P

WAS THE DOCTOR DISAPPOINTED?

“When you see this documentary, I won’t be here anymore.” With those words, a young woman named Emily opens a short video titled “24 and Ready to Die” produced last summer by the British magazine *The Economist*. The video explains that Emily’s longstanding depression has led the otherwise healthy woman to seek physician-assisted suicide in her native Belgium, where euthanasia has been legal since 2003.

In the documentary, Emily and her friends seem ambivalent about her decision. She even told a Belgian newspaper, “If I had a choice, I would choose a bearable life, but I have done everything and that was unsuccessful.” Besides, her physician insists that ending her unhappy life is Emily’s best option—and then appears disappointed when, as she awaits lethal injection, Emily changes her mind. As the video closes, this doctor even suggests that Emily is able to find her life at least temporarily bearable only because she still has the “emergency brake” of assisted suicide available to her.

AN INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT

Through the video, *The Economist* was clearly trying to influence the debate over “assisted dying” that has been raging on both sides of the Atlantic. Though the British parliament rejected proposed right-to-die legislation, California recently joined four other US states that permit physician-assisted death, and Canada’s highest court unanimously overturned that country’s national ban on assisted suicide. In European countries like Belgium and the Netherlands, meanwhile, euthanasia is now permitted not only for terminally ill adults who request it but for children and others whose lives seem futile to themselves or their caregivers, including psychologically distressed people like Emily.

A FALSE SENSE OF COMPASSION

In a ruling effective this month, the Canadian Supreme Court declared that legal protection for the “sanctity of life” must include a right of “passage into death.” As NBC News commented, the court effectively agreed that “aid-in-dying is pro-life.” Pope Francis, however, insists that so-called mercy killing arises from a “false sense of compassion” in a “throwaway culture” where we see the sick and afflicted as a burden on society. Faced with escalating requests for death, he says, physicians must instead make “courageous and against the grain” decisions in defense of human life.

“IMAGINE SOMETHING THAT BRINGS YOU PEACE”

Archbishop Jozef de Kesel, the pope’s recent appointee to head the Belgian Catholic Church, discovered how hard it is to make such decisions nowadays. Refusing to allow euthanasia in Catholic hospitals and nursing homes, this progressive bishop has come under heavy fire from Belgian politicians and journalists. This is no surprise in an increasingly secular society where 70% of the young people reject traditional Christian beliefs. “I’m not religious,” Emily insists. “You can make yourself anxious and frightened but it’s easy to imagine something that brings you peace.” Sadly, without faith in God, death seems the only source of peace that Emily—like many others today—can imagine.

See “24 and Ready to Die” at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWWkUzJ4M>