THE AMERICAN CATHOLIC

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 26, 2012

The Catholic Community at American University
Kay Spiritual Life Center
4400 Massachusetts Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20016

Register NOW at:
WWW.AUCATHOLIC.NET

Spring 2012 SCHEDULE

Sunday Mass:	11 AM & 10 PM
Daily Mass:	Monday & Wednesday - 6 PM Tuesday & Thursday - 5 PM
Holy Hour:	Mondays - 8 PM (with Night Prayer)
Confessions:	Mondays - 8:15 to 8:45 PM (During the Holy Hour) Sundays - 9:15 to 9:50 PM; By Appointment, contact Fr. Ken Letoile at priest@american.edu

Catholic Chaplaincy

CHAPLAIN • FR. KEN LETOILE, OP
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Dear Members of the Catholic Community at AU,

On February 13th, Cardinal Wuerl wrote a letter in response to President Obama's accommodation to the HHS mandate. I offer excerpts from that letter for three reasons: to help us better understand what is involved; to give us talking points as we discuss this topic with others; to encourage Lenten support for the "Respect for Rights of Conscience Act" currently being considered in Congress.

"Last Friday President Obama attempted to respond to the strong objections that have been raised by the Catholic Church and other faith communities to the Department of Health and Human Services' unprecedented mandate that would force religious institutions, in violation of their religious beliefs, to provide and pay for abortion-inducing drugs, contraceptives and sterilization. Unfortunately, the 'accommodation' that the President announced still presents grave moral concerns and continues to violate our constitutionally protected religious liberty.

Even for religious institutions who are employers and who purchase group health insurance from insurance companies, the problem created by the mandate remains unresolved. Those institutions will still be compelled to purchase insurance policies that provide free abortion-inducing drugs, contraceptives and sterilization.

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AU Catholic Community Stewardship
Sunday, February 19, 2012

11 AM Mass:	$62.14
10 PM Mass:	$54.98

Thank you for your generous support.

Continued from page 1: Since these additional drugs and procedures will be automatically provided by the insurer by virtue of the insurance policy (even though not expressly listed in the policy), it is no response to our moral concerns to say that religious employers will not have to pay for them because their insurance companies will. Catholic institutions will be forced to pay for and maintain policies that enable their employees to receive insurance coverage of products and procedures that violate our religious convictions.

What is at stake here is a question of human freedom. The authors of the Bill of Rights enshrined freedom of religion as our nation's first and founding principle. We should not be reduced to petitioning the government for rights that the Constitution already guarantees. The only complete solution to the problem that this mandate poses for religious liberty is for Congress to pass legislation to protect our freedom. The Respect for Rights of Conscience Act is one of several bills that have been introduced for this very purpose.

With gratitude for your collaboration in this very important matter and with every good wish, I am"

Faithfully in Christ,
Donald Cardinal Wuerl
Archbishop of Washington

Interfaith Events

- Wednesday, February 29, Rev. Philip Wogoman of Wesley Seminary will speak on "The best part of your religion" in the Kay Lounge.
- "Interfaith Perspectives on the Environment", Tuesday, March 6, in Butler Board Room
- Shabbat Service and Fasting Discussion, Friday, March 23, 6 PM worship, 7:15 dinner in Kay Lounge, $5.00 donation.

CSA T-Shirts are here!

Support the CSA by buying a T-shirt. T-shirts are available after Masses today and during the week in the Catholic Chaplaincy offices. $20 each.

CSA Sponsored Diaper Drive

Join the CSA at the Safeway in Tenleytown on March 3 at 1 PM to collect donations to support a local charity. Please contact Walter Tyrna at president@aucatholic.net with any questions.

A Sony Media Player was found in the Kay Chapel after Mass. Please contact Martha Kerley at kerley@american.edu or 202-885-3327 if you think this item is yours.

Support Operation Rice Bowl this Lent

This Lent make a financial sacrifice by filling a Rice Bowl box with money to help those in need. Rice Bowl collection boxes will be available after Masses today. Each year, Operation Rice Bowl calls us to pray with our families and faith communities; fast in solidarity with those who hunger; learn more about our global community and the challenges of poverty overseas; and give sacrificial contributions to those in need. Operation Rice Bowl is an official Lenten Program of the Catholic Relief Services (CRS). The global food crisis is affecting many of our brothers and sisters around the world, as well as people in our own country. CRS is committed to serving the poor overseas who are facing hunger and additional hardships. Please return Rice Bowl boxes to the Catholic Chaplaincy Office by Palm Sunday, April 1.

Lent with the Catholic Community

Activities during Lent:

- Attend Daily Mass (6 PM Mon. & Weds; 5 PM Tues. & Thurs) and Adoration (8-9 PM Mon.)
- Stations of the Cross: Fridays, 3 PM
- Fast (1 full meal) on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday
- Abstain from meat on Fridays
- Tuesday Bible Study at the Catholic Couches—8:15 PM: The Passion in St. Mark and St. John's Gospels
- RCIA—Wednesday, 7 PM
  Please pray for those members of our Catholic Community preparing to receive Sacraments of Initiation at the Celebration of the Easter Vigil in Kay Spiritual Life Center: Isbella Diaz & Carla Faustina.
- Men's and Women's Group Meetings: Thursdays, 7-8 PM
- CSA Diaper Drive: Saturday, March 3
- Alternative Spring Break—March 11-16
- Catholic Community Dinner—March 24: "Are Religious Truth Claims Intolerant." Fr. Thomas Joseph White, O.P.
- Tuesday, April 3, at Trinity University, Sister Teresita Weind, SNDdeN will speak on "Radical Gratitude."
- "Invite a Friend to Palm Sunday Mass", April 1.
- Lenten Penance Service, Monday, April 2, 8-9 PM
- Attend Holy Week Services: April 1 to April 8
- Rice Bowl Collection for the Poor
- Your own personal acts of sacrifice, prayer and service

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY ALIVE!

AU Catholic Women's Group Meetings

Totus Tuus Maria is a women's faith sharing group run by AU students, for AU students. Come join other Catholic AU students to discuss the Gospel, share our lives as Christian women, and pray together. Meetings will be at 7 PM in the Kay Spiritual Life Center lower level.

AU Catholic Men's Group Meeting

Join your fellow Catholic men of the AU Catholic Community in discussing the Gospel, prayer, fellowship, and food! Please contact Fr. Ken Letoile, OP, at priest@american.edu for more information. Meetings will be at 7 PM in the Kay Spiritual Life Center lower level.

Bible Study Spring Semester

Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 8:15-9:15pm at the Catholic Couches in the Kay Spiritual Life Center (note new location). Please contact Fr. Ken at priest@american.edu with any questions. The bible study will focus on the passion narrative in the gospels.

Give the Gift of a Mass! A True Sacrifice —

A personalized Mass card will be given in your name.
Contact Martha Kerley (kerley@american.edu) to schedule an available Mass.
Offerings help fund our Catholic Chaplaincy!

Register at www.AUCatholic.net
for the latest Catholic Community emails and announcements.

MASS SCHEDULE	Mass	Mass Intention
Sunday, Feb. 26— First Sunday of Lent	11 AM Mass	Pro Populo
	10 PM Mass	Frances Coyle
Monday, Feb. 27—Monday of the First Sunday of Lent	6:00 PM Mass	Available
Tuesday, Feb. 28—Tuesday of the First Sunday of Lent	5:00 PM Mass	Available
Wednesday, Feb. 29—Wednesday of the First Sunday of Lent	6:00 PM Mass	Available
Thursday, Mar. 1—Thursday of the First Sunday of Lent	5:00 PM Mass	Available
Friday, Mar. 2—Friday of the First Sunday of Lent	**No AU Mass**	**No AU Mass**
Saturday, Mar. 3—Saturday of the First Sunday of Lent	**No AU Mass**	**No AU Mass**
Sunday, Mar. 4— Second Sunday of Lent	11 AM Mass	Available
	10 PM Mass	Pro Populo

† *Please contact Mrs. Martha Kerley (kerley@american.edu) to offer a Mass intention. Customary offering $5.00*