

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

Welcome to St. Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church.

If you are new to the area or moved back after sometime away, we would like you to choose St. Mary Star of the Sea as your Parish Family.

Please talk to Fr. Brian after Mass or visit the Rectory Office to register during office hours.

THANK YOU
ferry much



A most grateful thank you to the Hospitality Committee for hosting the Strawberry Fest Spring event and making it a memorable event for our community. May God Bless this parish community with many more.

IMPORTANT NEWS TO BE AWARE OF ON PHISHING SCAMS: There has been a large activity of Phishing Attacks aimed at parishes, priests, and parishioners. These attacks are in the form of emails and cell phone message texts. If you receive an email or text message from Rev. Brian requesting help or a favor in any form of donation and / or gift card donation for the Church. BEWARE!!! This is not Fr. Brian making any requests. If you receive any email or phone text message from Rev. Brian please delete it immediately. Do not attempt to open any attachments. Fr. Brian will never communicate with any parishioner via email or text to discuss any topic. He will always personally approach you in person or personal phone call. Information on Phishing Scams has been added to help you understanding and safeguard yourself from possible theft.



PHISHING SCAMS AND HOW NOT TO GET CAUGHT: Email phishing scams are getting more sophisticated every day, using familiar sender names and other information to lower their targets' defenses and make them more likely to become victims. It may seem like we've seen it all, and then —bam!— we're hit with a sneaky new tactic or a complicated computer virus. How can we keep our computers, networks, and personal identities safe online? By remaining vigilant — think before you click!

Phishing scams continued. ➡

The following are 4 ways internet scammers are trying to get into our systems and ways to protect your organization and yourself.

1. Scam with a Familiar Name through Email:

Phishers and hackers have become a lot better at copying email addresses and sending them in a way that makes them look legitimate. A familiar scam that's been circulating lately is an email that looks like it's from your parish priest. Typically, it's a hastily written request for the recipient to purchase gift cards for sick hospital patients he is "visiting" or for a parish event like an upcoming auction. Usually, "Fr. Bob" will ask the person to pick up some Google Play or iTunes gifts cards in various denominations, take pictures of the back with the PIN numbers scratched off, and have them email the information back to him. Unfortunately, this is a common scam that a lot of people fall for. Once those numbers are revealed and sent, funds can be depleted within a matter of minutes. Even if you were to discover the scam within a short period of time, gifts cards are typically non-returnable ... and can be used by anyone with the PIN.

2. Payroll Scams via Email

Payroll scams through email are especially popular today. Using a familiar name but fake email address, the fraudster will ask someone in the finance department for their direct deposit paycheck to be sent to a new bank account and routing number, which is all supplied through email. However, you guessed it: it's a scam.

You should never accept vital information sent through email, no matter how authentic it might appear. Always request a voided check and verify with each parish employee any changes to a paycheck, checking account, or financial institution. All it takes is a quick phone call or a stop at their desk to verify whether this is a true request.

3. Phishing Attempt via Text Messaging:

Imagine that you just received a notification on your phone that "you've got mail." Checking your email on the fly, you see a communication from your pastor, asking for a huge favor. They ask for your phone number so they can text you, and you send it. Minutes later, you receive a text message. "I'm in a meeting and can't talk," it reads. "I need you to stop at the nearest gas station. It's important." Congratulations — you've been phished.

Falling for this type of scam is even easier if you use your phone to check email, because it doesn't automatically show the email address it's sending from, just the name, which is easy to customize. And if your boss or pastor is a fast-paced kind of person, a random email from them isn't that unusual. But even so, if you were to have followed instructions, you'd have ended up purchasing gift cards, and then asked to scratch off the back so you could send the details via text.

continued. ➡

4. Phishing Attempt via Account Verification

It's normal for employees, parish staff, and other organizations to send files back and forth through email. However, rarely, if ever, do these files require you to enter personal information in order to open them. A trending phishing scam is an email sent to a person with a PDF document attached. Using a simple message that conveys that this is an urgent request, someone clicks the link and is then prompted to enter their Adobe login/password to open the document. Unfortunately, you've been phished, and your personal information is now at risk.

If you're like most people, you have a password that you use for multiple accounts. So if a hacker is able to guess even one password for one account, it won't take long until they start finding more of your accounts and try that same password. In addition to not falling for this particular phishing scam, you should also be sure to use multiple passwords for various accounts and update them often.

You should also consider a secure password manager, like 1Password.com or lastpass.com, which holds all of your logins and passwords in one secure spot, but also suggests better passwords and remembers them for when you need them. No need for post-it notes under your keyboard, multiple passwords that get forgotten, or a chance of one being guessed by a hacker.

Every day, you hear of a new internet scam. The best way to not fall for these scams is to remain vigilant, always verify, and always think before you click. For more ways to protect yourself, visit the [Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Information website](http://FederalTradeCommission.gov) for some great tips.

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Archdiocese of Washington News

CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Are you interested in finding the right Catholic school? Catholic schools instill a life-long love of learning in a safe and faith-filled environment. Take the first step by visiting an open house near you. Learn more at adwcatholicschools.org.

SECOND COLLECTION: On the Weekend of June 22 & 23, the Archdiocese of Washington will take up the Peter's Pence second collection. Gifts to this annual collection help the Holy Father support victims of war, oppression, and natural disaster.

STRONGER MEN'S RETREAT: All men are welcome and encouraged to attend a retreat at the Saint John Paul II National Shrine on **Saturday, June 22**. Come explore how God calls you to lead as a man of faith, husband, son, and father. Lunch is included with registration. For questions, email events@jp2shrine.org, and register at strongerretreat.eventbrite.com.

15TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL MASS OF MATTIE STEPANEK: famous and faith-filled young poet from the Archdiocese of Washington. All are invited to the 15th Anniversary Memorial Mass for Mattie J.T. Stepanek on **Saturday, June 22 at 11 am**. Mattie's brief life had many challenges, yet he accomplished a great deal in 13 years, writing six bestselling books of poetry and one bestselling book on peacemaking. Mattie inspired tens of thousands around the world with his message that life is worthy, hope is real, and that peace is possible. At an early age, he developed a profound relationship with God, and these spiritual conversations shaped his poems and other writings.

The Mass will be held at St. Francis of Assisi (6701 Muncaster Mill Rd, Derwood). Please join members of the Mattie J.T. Stepanek Guild after the Mass to learn more about the cause for Mattie's sainthood and how Mattie's life of holiness and heroic virtue continue to inspire young people today. This liturgy and the reception that follows are wheelchair-accessible. For more information, contact Mattie4Sainthood@gmail.com or call 240.994.0603

MARIAN DAY OF PRAYER AND THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE APPARITIONS AT MEDJUGORJE: Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at St. Joseph Church, 313 Second St., N.E. Washington, D.C.. Begins at 10:00 am with the International Rosary, Holy Mass at 12:10 pm with Fr. William Gurnee III, Pastor celebrating. Lunch will be in the local establishments within 1 block or Union Station food court which is two blocks from the church. Our speaker this year will be Fr. William Gurnee III at 2 pm with Divine Mercy following at 3 pm. A Eucharistic Blessing will conclude our day of prayer. We will be on Capitol Hill this year and appropriately we will pray for Our President, Vice President, Congress and the Supreme Court to elect honest and forthright statesmen and to enact just and righteous laws. Contact the Anniversary Committee at maria_chiara@msn.com or 240-988-7318. Our website is www.marian-center.org to print a flyer or obtain more information.

QUO VADIS CAMP: The Office of Priest Vocations annual Quo Vadis Camp for high school aged young men will be held at Mount Saint Mary's Seminary July 28-31, 2019. For four days, high school aged young men who desire to grow in holiness will have an opportunity for Mass, prayer, and Eucharistic adoration, as well time for fraternity, sports, and reflection. Bus transportation is available. More information is available and registration is open at www.DCpriest.org. Please contact the Office of Priest Vocations (vocations@adw.org or 202-636-9020) with any questions.