



## Things to Ponder

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## Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - John 2:1-11 (also Dr. King's Legacy)

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Dear Parish Family,

As we celebrate the memory of Dr. Martin Luther, King, Jr. this weekend, we cannot ignore the racial tension that seems to seethe beneath the surface of what otherwise might appear to be a peaceful scene.

We have come a long way since the death of this holy man in 1968, but we still have much to do to promote trusting relationships among people of all racial and religious backgrounds. I sense that our Holy Father, Pope Francis, would have related well to Dr. King in as much as both have encouraged dialogue among people. Productive conversation, however, presumes mutual respect.

This week thousands of people will gather in Washington to advocate for the rights of the unborn, the terminally ill, and those on death row. One might ask how the legacy of Dr. King is connected to the pro-life cause. Supporters of both focus on the word freedom. Genuine freedom is never selfish; it is always oriented towards the good of the whole community. The effect of Jesus in any given situation has always been to liberate people from fear and sin.

Today's gospel describes his first miracle - at a wedding. Marriage is one of the key Biblical images of God's love for us; yet, that bond, too, has become the source of controversy of late. Hopefully, in the days and months ahead, respectful dialogue will clarify our teachings and promote fruitful discussion among all who seek the truth, who is Jesus!

Yours in Him,

*Rev. Bill Foley*

From the Pastor's Note—Weekly Bulletin—January 17, 2015, St. Patrick's Church,  
Olney, Maryland

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