

The Lamp

November/December 2020



“Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.”

Ps.119: 105

News from the Center

Mother of Light Center was greatly blessed on Saturday, November 21. A Holy Mass and solemn installation of a tabernacle was celebrated by Father Zuberbueler; Deacon Gerard Marie Anthony assisted and Victor Zayas served. Music was provided by Alia, Marianna, and Jose Artieda. The Mass, installation, and procession can be viewed at [Mother of Light Center | Facebook](#). Many thanks to Mary Beth Long and Carter Long for their technical and video expertise.

The installation of the tabernacle at the Center is a precious gift. Prayer comes first in the story of MOLC. More than ever, in the face of this global pandemic, it is most important that we pray together for each other, MOLC, and the world.



Fr. Zuberbueler in front of the tabernacle with the Host

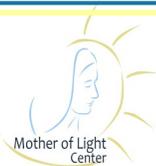


Coat Distribution

Mother of Light Center distributed **over 60 coats in 2 days** at the Center. Despite not being able to hold an “event” due to the pandemic, we still look for ways to get the needed supplies to our families. Thanks to Our Lady of Good Counsel parish for their donations!

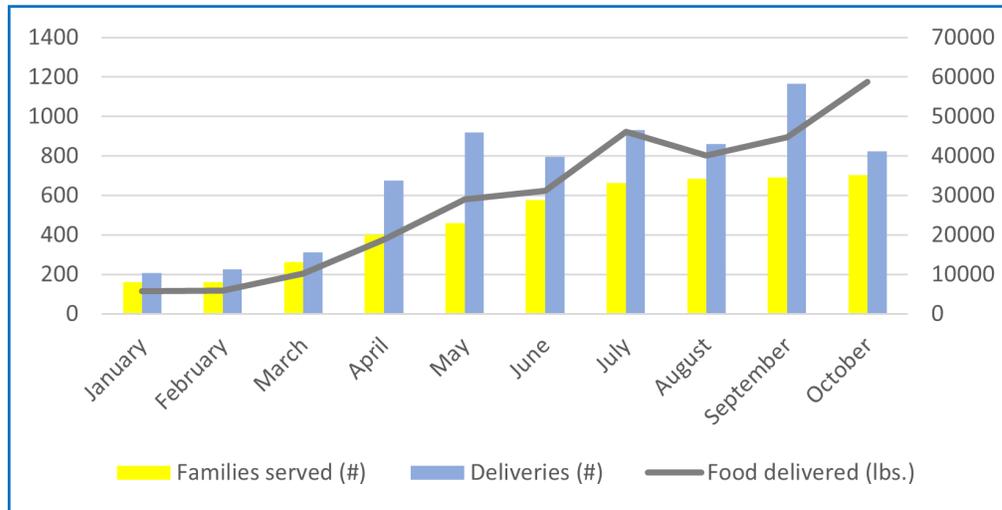
Inside this issue of *The Lamp*:

- MOLC News and Updates
- MOLC by the numbers
- Tabernacle installed
- Recommended reading from our spiritual director
- Message from the Chair



The Lamp is the name of the Mother of Light Center (MOLC) newsletter. The name, linked to the word of God, brings light on our paths. It represents life, hospitality, and guidance for the mission, and our hope for our guests and ourselves (volunteers, benefactors, friends) as we embrace “no us and them — only us”.

MOLC Activities



Year-to-Date:

Food Delivered: 185,739 Lbs. Number Families Served: 684 Number deliveries: 4,927

Upcoming Activities

November

Fully cooked Thanksgiving meals will be delivered to over 300 families on Wednesday, November 25. This distribution will be in addition to our normally scheduled food deliveries on that day.

December

Our annual gift distribution will be taking place on December 21-23 (subject to change). We plan to distribute fully wrapped **Christmas gifts to over 500 children this year**, specific to their age and sex.



How can you help?

Email motheroflightcenter@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer by sorting, wrapping, or delivering gifts.

Please consider making a gift donation. Either purchase one (or two!) and drop them off at Mother of Light Center at 421 Clifford Ave., Alexandria, VA 22305 by December 16. Or, go to our Amazon wish list at <https://bit.ly/christmasgiftlistMOLC> and have the gifts delivered directly to us. Gift cards for Target or Walmart would be extremely useful so we can do last minute shopping to fill in any gaps in any category.

Update from Last Issue

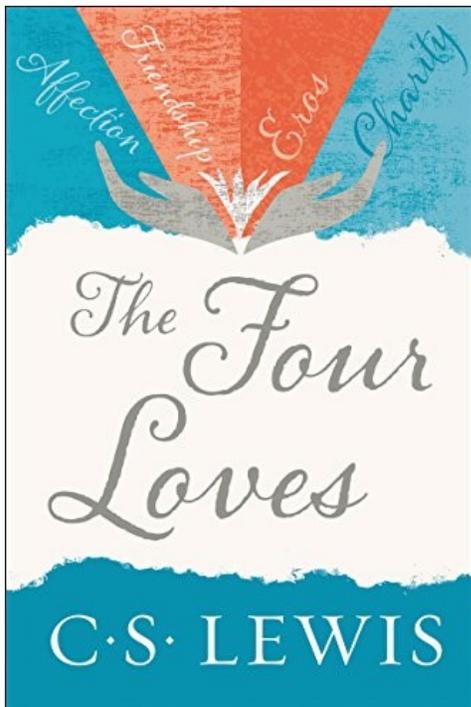
The city of Alexandria has found a room for Marlo in a shared home, and she is now out of the shelter. MOLC volunteers brought her some detergent and other needed supplies and a winter coat.



We hope that you will consider helping those less fortunate this year with a year end contribution to the Mother of Light Center.

You can donate online at www.motheroflightcenter.com.

Recommended Reading



C.S. Lewis—the great British writer, scholar, lay theologian, broadcaster, Christian apologist, and bestselling author of *Mere Christianity*, *The Screwtape Letters*, *The Great Divorce*, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, and many other beloved classics—contemplates the essence of love and how it works in our daily lives in one of his most famous works of nonfiction.

In *The Four Loves*, Lewis examines four varieties of human love: affection, the most basic form; friendship, the rarest and perhaps most insightful; Eros, passionate love; charity, the greatest and least selfish. Throughout this compassionate and reasoned study, he encourages readers to open themselves to all forms of love—the key to understanding that brings us closer to God.

Reverend Father Matthew Zuberbueller
Spiritual Director, Mother of Light Center
Pastor, St. Anthony Catholic Church

https://smile.amazon.com/Four-Loves-C-S-Lewis-ebook/dp/B01EFM8NI4/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=the+four+loves&qid=1605109234&sr=8-1

Message from the Chair

Dear Friends:

On Sunday, November 15, we observed the fourth World Day of the Poor. The theme for this year is “Stretch forth your hand to the poor”. (*Sir 7:32*)

A hand held out is a sign; a sign that immediately speaks of closeness, solidarity and love. In these months, when the whole world was prey to a virus that brought pain and death, despair and bewilderment, how many outstretched hands have we seen! The outstretched hands of physicians who cared about each patient and tried to find the right cure. The outstretched hands of nurses who worked overtime, for hours on end, to look after the sick. The outstretched hands of priests whose hearts broke as they offered a blessing. The outstretched hands of volunteers who helped people living on the streets and those with a home yet nothing to eat. The outstretched hands of men and women who worked to provide essential services and security. We could continue to speak of so many other outstretched hands, all of which make up a great litany of good works. Those hands defied contagion and fear in order to offer support and consolation.
Rome, Saint John Lateran, 13 June 2020, Pope Francis I

There is little I can add to this moving message. Except to underscore that *this* is our mission. We stretch out our hands to the poor – all of us. We know that we could not do this without being bountifully blessed ourselves - the families we serve, the volunteers, and our donors. We never take any of this for granted and thank you all most profoundly. We are grateful for all our hands together being outstretched in service to Our Lord, with the protection and guidance of Our Most Blessed Mother.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers and know that you are in ours.

God bless you and keep you safe,

Beth Currier

Mother of Light Center Chair



MOLC Board Members

Matilde Alvarado
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Rev. Fr. Matthew Zuberbueler

Newsletter Editor:

Mary Wozniak

CORE MISSION

With a coordinated approach, the assistance of volunteers and others in the community, Mother of Light Center is dedicated to love and serve men and women who are poor, needy, and homeless. We provide spiritual support, encouragement and information they need by establishing relationships. We help them identify their talents and potentials, redirect their lives, find jobs and permanent housing, and most importantly, discover how much God loves them.

Mother of Light Center, P.O. Box 1482, Falls Church, VA 22041

Contact us at: motheroflightcenter@gmail.com For more information visit: www.motheroflightcenter.com

MOLC is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt, not-for-profit, charitable organization, registered in the Commonwealth of Virginia. A financial statement is available upon written request from the VA Office of Charitable and Regulatory Programs.