

**Seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

23 Feb 2014

Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA



what's coming

february

23 Sunday, Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Annual Pancake Breakfast, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Parish Life Center.

After morning Masses.

SCRIP Sales after Masses.

10am-12noon, Columbian Squires/Roses, John Paul II House.

11:30am, New Family Welcome Meeting, begins in church and then moves to Parish Life Center.

12noon-2pm, English as a Second Language Classes, 2nd Floor, Parish Life Center.

No CYM Dinner or Youth Group meeting due to Retreat.

24 Monday, Weekday

10am, Legion of Mary, Room 100, Parish Life Center.

6:30pm, Spanish-speaking Parent Discussion led by Deacon Bernaola, Parish Life Center.

7:30pm, Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, Church. Topic: Liturgy, The Mass.

All Parish adults welcome. 8:15pm, small group discussion continues for RCIA candidates in the Parish Life Center.

8pm, Young Adult Ministry meeting, John Paul II House.

25 Tuesday, Weekday

26 Wednesday, Weekday

6pm, YOUCAT - Youth Ministry Program, John Paul II House.

8pm, Legion of Mary, Parish Life Center 100.

7:30pm, Women's Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room. *Spaces still available!*

27 Thursday, Weekday

9:30am, Adult Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting. *Class is full, keep on eye on bulletin for future classes.*

7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paul II House.

7:30pm, Men's Group, Blue and Grey Brewery.

28 Friday, Weekday

9:30am, Moms' Group "St. Anne's Sisters in Faith," John Paul II House.

7pm, BUNCO, Parish Life Center. All parish adults welcome!

march

1 Saturday, Weekday

9:15am, Spanish Prayer Workshop, Courtyard Meeting Room.

10am, Baptisms, Church.

6-8:30pm, Monthly Family Dinner, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Parish Life Center.

SCRIP Sales after 5pm Mass.

2 Sunday, Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Coffee and Donuts after morning Masses. (Girl Scouts)

SCRIP Sales after Masses.

12noon, English as a Second Language Classes, Room 203, Parish Life Center.

3:30-4:30pm, Middle School Youth Group, Parish Life Center.

6pm, Catholic Youth Ministry Dinner, Parish Life Center.

7-8:30pm, CYM Youth Group, Parish Life Center.

3 Monday, Weekday (St. Katherine Drexel, virgin)

10am, Legion of Mary, Room 100, Parish Life Center.

7:30pm, Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, Church.

4 Tuesday, Weekday (St. Casimir)

12noon, Senior Luncheon, Parish Life Center.

7:30pm, Life in the Spirit Prayer Renewal Group, Courtyard Meeting Room.





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nota bene (*note well, please*):

- ✂ Our **New Member Welcome Meeting** will be held today, **Sunday, February 23** at 11:30am in the church.
- ✂ **SCRIP is on sale** in the Parish Life Center after all Masses except Saturday 7pm and Sunday 2pm. Please use SCRIP, and a percentage of what you spend will be applied to our school.
- ✂ A **Pancake Breakfast** is being held by the Knights of Columbus this weekend after the 7, 8:30 and 10:30am Masses. Proceeds benefit their Religious Education Assistance Program.
- ✂ The Hispanic Ministry invites you to attend the **Prayer and Life Workshop**, beginning on March 1.
- ✂ **Ash Wednesday** is March 5. Masses will be held at 6:30am, 9am, 12noon, 6pm and 7:30pm.

from our pastor



Dear Good People of Saint Mary,

This weekend we are challenged to widen the circle of our identity to go beyond ourselves, to consider the Church as a much broader obligation and opportunity to realize our calling as the Body of Christ. As we traveled through Israel-Palestine and Jordan the past couple of weeks I was haunted by an awareness of our Church that seemed always broader. Not only is there a universal Church with whom we have real solidarity in the life, the breaking of the bread and the prayers, and we experienced the love of brothers and sisters everywhere we went, regardless of language or nationality. But there is also a rising tide of awareness that we who have so much have a profound obligation to share what we have with these brothers and sisters who still wait for us to share the knowledge of the faith as well as the many blessings and security which we have received so undeservingly.

One of the things pilgrimage does is broaden your horizons. Sometimes you have to go far away in order to recognize the truth that lies close to home.

To those who have suggested, in response to the Bishop's Lenten Appeal, that our obligation lies really with the needs of our local community, I would recommend a pilgrimage of heart that causes one to travel outside of himself and discover somebody else's life and circumstance.

Each Mass as we prayed in the Eucharistic Prayers for our Holy Father Francis and our Patriarch Archbishop Fouad, I realized that we belong to a remarkable flock, one that spans all time and geography. We are not really the Church of Fredericksburg, or even the Church of Arlington, though that is truly our local Church represented by the person of our successor to the Apostles, Bishop Paul.

To deny this is the foundation of the kind of divisions that so characterize post-modern Christianity, a literal parrochialism that allows us to think only of ourselves. We can justify our isolation because we are unique and special, and don't have to answer, then, to the needs of others in their own sphere. A cult of opinion can stop listening to God--or anyone else, for that matter.

Our love and support has to be for our community on all these levels; our local Church of Arlington is not merely our guide, it is also our link to the universal Church in seeking response to our obligation as the larger Body of Christ.

We can't be separate. We have to remain a branch on the vine or we dry up.

The BLA provides a lot of wonderful services and growth for ourselves in Fredericksburg -- you can see Bishop's mailing for a long list of things we ourselves benefit from. It also gives expression to the kind of outreach that only a diocese can do, as well as connectedness to world-level charity, peace and justice to which we would otherwise have no access. Please, let's get the Appeal started and finished quickly--not because it is something we have to do, but because it is who we are.

As last year, there are matching funds for every dollar you increase your commitment from last year, a great benefit for the Church of Arlington.

I challenge each and every family in the parish to give something, no matter the amount. Not because it is a task, but because it is who you are, as a member of this Body who sees need and responds with love.

God bless you.

Fr. Dom

holy cross academy

Making Everyday Extraordinary at HCA

P is for Principal! To commemorate letter P, HCA Principal, Sister Susan Louise, was the guest reader for our preschool children. They listened attentively as she read *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*. In case you were wondering, our littlest Crusaders did not forget to get dressed recently. They wore pajamas to school as part of their study of the letter P because P is also for Pajamas! There's never a dull moment at St. Mary Preschool!

Our Kindergartners told us it is the year of the horse as they paraded around the hallways shouting "Gung Hei Fat Choy" which translates to Happy New Year! They researched how Chinese families celebrate and enjoyed special treats. It was an exciting event for all as the official 15-day celebration was condensed into one afternoon at HCA.

Reaching out to the community continues as our school families generously donated to help local refugee children who were in need of winter clothing and a much needed medicine. Money was donated by our generous families and the Young Catholics service group sorted, carefully packed, then made cards for them before sending the items to be delivered.

If you want to learn about our school and all that we can do for your child, please call us at 540-286-1600 or visit our website, www.holycrossweb.com. For St. Mary Preschool, please call 540-373-7553. Holy Cross Academy is a place where each child can flourish and grow. We would love to hear from you and will gladly give you a tour of our National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence and tell you all about the wonderful things happening here.



*A National
Blue Ribbon
School, 2012*



*Young Catholics
prepare donations
for a local refugee
family*



*Kindergartners
celebrate the
Chinese New Year*

Arlington bishop, diocese receive apostolic blessing

Pope Francis responds to the bishop's pastoral letter 'Go Forth with Hearts on Fire.'

by Michael Flach, Arlington Catholic Herald

Pope Francis has imparted his apostolic blessing on Bishop Paul S. Loverde and the Arlington Diocese after acknowledging that he received a copy of "Go Forth with Hearts on Fire," the bishop's pastoral letter on the new evangelization.

Bishop Loverde sent the Holy Father a copy of his pastoral letter, dated Nov. 24, 2013. The pope expressed his gratitude in a letter sent to Bishop Loverde from Archbishop Angelo Becciu from the office of the Vatican Secretariat of State.

Pope Francis "appreciates the vibrant and personal tone of this practical summons to a renewed proclamation of the Gospel by all the faithful of the Diocese of Arlington," Archbishop Becciu wrote.

"His Holiness invokes a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon you and the clergy, religious and lay faithful of your diocese as you strive to meet the challenge of the new evangelization," Archbishop Becciu continued. "To all of you he cordially imparts his Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of joy and peace in the Lord."

Bishop Loverde's pastoral letter was distributed to every household in the diocese the week before Thanksgiving. Thousands of additional copies were sent to parishes and schools.

In addition, the Diocese of Bismarck, N.D., under the guidance of Bishop David D. Kagan, recently encouraged its parishioners to read the pastoral letter online and provided them with the link to order hard copies.

Bishop Loverde said he was surprised to receive the letter from the Vatican considering the pope's busy schedule.

"I am very grateful that the letter seems to be a useful and practical help to further the mission that engages all of us and that is to be evangelists," Bishop Loverde said.

Go Forth with Hearts on Fire

"In this pastoral letter," writes Bishop Loverde, "I hope to provide a tool box for you to become a great evangelist in this age." Read our Bishop's call for each of us to "take specific and concrete steps in drawing closer to Jesus Christ and proclaiming Him to others" online (in English and Spanish). The letter includes a study guide, practical takeaways, and suggestions. Download Go Forth on your laptop, tablet, smart phone, or order copies of the letter at www.heartsonfire.arlington-diocese.org

Cursillo Retreats

Are you ready to spend an unforgettable weekend, spending quality time with God and being open to His message for you? Are you looking for an opportunity to grow in your faith? Experience the Women's Cursillo Retreat to be held on March 13-16, 2014. You won't be disappointed! Apply online at www.arlingtoncursillo.org or contact Mary Corrigan at 540-479-3683. Slots fill up quickly. The Men's weekend will be held April 3-6, 2014.

Loyola Retreat Opportunities

Loyola on the Potomac retreats in Faulkner, Maryland are conducted in an atmosphere of prayerful silence and include generous amounts of time for prayer, personal reflection and the cultivation of a deep relationship with God. This year's retreat theme is entitled: "Rivers of Living Water."

St. Mary retreats dates: Men's Retreat, 7-9- March 2014; Women's Retreat, 14-16 March 2014.

Contact Len or Sylvia Fontenot for more info: 540-663-2261 or email lensyl1966@verizon.net. To register, go to www.loyolaonthepotomac.com

Diocesan Women's Silent Lenten Retreat

April 3-6, 2014, led by Fr. Tom Ferguson
Join us April 3-6 (Thursday night through Sunday afternoon) for a reflection on the Gospel of St. John entitled *We Have Seen His Glory: The Revelation of God in the Gospel of John* at San Damiano Retreat Center in White Post, Virginia. For more info. call the Office for Family Life at 703-841-2550 or visit <http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/retreatforwomen/index.aspx>.

Deacon meets with Spanish-speakers

On Monday, February 10, Deacon Alberto met with about thirty Spanish speaking parents. He again discussed our parish theme: Liturgy is Life is Mission. He explained the meaning of the verb "Liturgy" according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church and its application to our daily life and witness to others. Deacon also guided parents on how to prepare their children for the sacraments.



- Make sure your child continues to attend class regularly. Classes are helpful in explaining things to a child and practicing to say an Act of Contrition prayer with other children.
- Alleviate fears. Talk about First Confession in a positive manner. Explain to a child it is not something to be afraid of. A priest will not yell at a child or punish him or her. Encourage your child to ask questions.

Read more: http://www.ehow.com/how_2125950_prepare-child-first-confession.html#ixzz2t20j2yW2



Sacrament of Penance

At the First Communion meeting on Thursday parents got some information on to help their children prepare for First Penance. Plenty of practice and discussions will help them be comfortable at their first confession. Please keep the points below in mind:

- Explain to a child what confession is for. Read books together that are age appropriate which will explain confession to your child. Ask your child if they have questions and answer honestly.
- Talk about what types of things are sins. A child may not understand what types of things they should confess. For example a child may have family rules such as going to bed at a set time. They need to understand breaking a family rule is not necessarily something to confess.
- Keep in mind your child is just learning about what a sin is. Most young children will not have any significant wrong doings. The purpose of a first confession should be to help a child understand the process of admitting a sin and asking for forgiveness.
- Go over the process of a first confession with your child. Ensure that he/she knows where the confessional is in our church.

Lent is Our Time for Preparation

We begin our journey on Ash Wednesday using the spiritual practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving to help us deepen our relationship with Christ.

- We pray for others in the global church. We reflect on what type of person God calls us to be, and we ask for His guidance in living up to our potential.
- We fast, or give things up, as a reminder to remove things in our lives that get in the way of our relationship with God. When we feel hungry or choose not to eat the things we like, we are reminded that everything we have is a gift from God. Our fasting also reminds us of those who do not have enough food, who experience hunger without a choice. God calls each of us to care for those who are in need.
- We give alms with a spirit of generosity to our brothers and sisters in need, honoring Jesus' call to serve our neighbors. This Lent, through our sacrifices, we can empower and transform the lives of our brothers and sisters in need.
- Once a week during Lent: Read the Stories of Hope and learn how you are making a difference through CRS. Prepare and share simple meatless meals using the CRS Rice Bowl recipes. Put your Lenten offerings into your CRS Rice Bowl. You may also return your gift online.

Read more at: <http://www.crsricebowl.org/about/how-to-practice-lent/>

parish life

Women of St. Mary

Walking with Purpose is a weekly reflection that aims to bring women to a deeper personal relationship with Christ. Through personal study and small group discussions, the group helps to link our everyday challenges and struggles to the solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Church. All women are welcome. Child care is not provided, however.



We meet on Wednesdays at 7:30 pm in the Courtyard Meeting Room. For questions or to RSVP, call the parish office or email Lori Mattson at lori@acumen-ea.com. You can also visit www.walkingwithpurpose.com for more information.

Men's Group

Looking for a chance to strengthen your faith? Come join with other men of the parish to discuss issues relevant to work, family, and friendship in a casual environment at the Blue & Gray Brewery. We meet on both the 2nd and LAST Thursdays of each month at 7:30pm. Our next meeting is this Thursday, February 27. Contact Mike Bostain, mrbostain@verizon.net, for more information.

Saint Anne's Sisters in Faith

Our meeting is Friday, February 28. Please join us as we discuss the book, *Marriage, Small Steps, Big Rewards* by Dr. Ray Guarendi. We begin with 9am Mass followed by our book study and refreshments at the JPII house. Babysitting is available. Please contact Rocio at rocio.o.atkinson@gmail.com or Suzi Eggleston at 540-834-0752 for further questions.

Join the Fun Feb. 28 - Play BUNCO!

Join other adults in the parish for a night of fun and games. BUNCO is an easy to learn and fun to play. The evening is sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women and is open to everyone. The evening starts at 7pm on Friday, February 28. Small donation requested for snacks.

Los Talleres de Oracion y Vida

The Hispanic Ministry invites you to attend the Prayer and Life Workshops. Participants will learn how to deepen their prayer life and to enter into a personal relationship with the Lord. The series begins March 1 in the Courtyard Meeting Room. For more information, please contact: Leticia González 540-752-1263

El ministerio hispano los invita a los talleres de oración y vida. En 15 sesiones, se aprenderá a desarrollar una relación personal con el Señor, desde los primeros pasos, hasta la contemplación divina. Empezarán el 1ero de marzo en el "Courtyard Meeting Room" (detrás de la oficina parroquial). Para más información contacte a Leticia González al 540-752-1262.

Parish Senior Luncheon, March 4

The parish senior luncheon will be held on Tuesday, March 4 at the Parish Life Center from 12noon to 3pm. All seniors in the parish are invited.

So we can best prepare for the luncheon, please call Judy Wingert at 540-786-8403 or Gonzalo Guacena at 540-786-6575 if you plan to attend by March 3, 2014. Food will be served from 12noon to 2pm. Entertainment will be provided. Come and enjoy.

St. Mary Book Club, March 11

The Song of Bernadette by Franz Werfel (1942) is the selection for the parish book club meeting on Tuesday, March 11 at 10am in the John Paul II House. Werfel's classic work tells the story of the visions of St. Bernadette Soubirous at Lourdes, France, in 1858. The author, a Jewish refugee, wrote it to fulfill a promise to God while hiding out from the Nazis during WW II. More information: Kathleen Mahoney, 540-371-2073 or bmah761569@aol.com

VIRTUS Update Training for Volunteers

Attention all volunteers at Holy Cross Academy or at St. Mary Catholic Church! Holy Cross Academy will be having a VIRTUS training update session, at Holy Cross Academy's library on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 18
6:30pm to 7pm

Wednesday, March 19
8:15am to 8:45am
1:35pm to 2:05pm

If it has been longer than a year since you first completed the one time-four hour training session, then you need to come in and complete this half hour training. There will be sign in sheets in the library. You do not have to pre-register. Any questions, please contact Lori Jeffers at Holy Cross Academy, 540-286-1600, x203 or hcasecretary@holycrossweb.com. Due to the subject matter, no children will be permitted to be in the training!

parish life



The Knights of Columbus pull pork by hand for February's monthly dinner. Join them on the first Saturday of each month (next week, March 1!) for a family dinner from 6-8:30pm in the Parish Life Center. Proceeds from the dinners support local charities.

March Family Dinner - March 1

The March Family Dinner, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will be held on Saturday, March 1 from 6 to 8:30pm in the Parish Life Center. The menu includes beef enchiladas, Spanish rice, refried beans, onion rings, chips & salsa, and pineapple upside down cake. The profit will be donated to Hope House. The dinner is open to the public and pay-at-the-door. Takeouts are available. The cost is Adults:\$7, Seniors (60&up):\$6, Teens:\$6, Children (7-12):\$5, Children (under 7): Free. The maximum cost per family is \$25.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

The second reading today asks, "Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" Learn how to treat your spouse as the temple of God. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends in Fredericksburg is April 11-13. For more information visit our website at: renewmarriage-vanorth.org or call 703-378-4150.

High School Open House - March 13

John Paul the Great High School's Spring Preview Open House is Thursday, March 13, from 4-6pm. This event is primarily for students in grades 4-7 to come preview high school at JP, but all are welcome! Meet JP students, teachers, and coaches! Tour the beautiful building, and enjoy refreshments! A brief presentation will begin at 4:15pm. For more information, please visit: www.jpthegreat.org/admissions/visiting/open-house/ or call 703-445-0300.

Art Exhibit - Call for Entries

On April 27, 2014, Pope John Paul II, will be officially elevated to Sainthood during his canonization in Rome. As part of the celebrations at Pope John Paul the Great Catholic High School, there will be an art exhibit honoring Pope John Paul II. Artists of all ages are invited to submit their original works by March 15, 2014. For more information, including the exhibit prospectus, please visit www.jpthegreat.org, email artshow@jpthegreat.org or call 703-445-0300.



Parish Night Out May 3, 2014

Cash bar, dinner & dancing.
Held at the beautiful Jepson Alumni Center.
Tickets are \$75 each again this year.

Our annual Parish Night Out has become a favorite tradition for parishioners as we gather in the spring for a fun, formal evening together with great food and great music and dancing.

For tickets or details please contact
Marty Bridi 540-373-0259 or
Vicky Kopcak 540-273-4456

"as I have done for you

HCA Biennial Benefit & Auction

We are getting ready for Holy Cross Academy's 7th Biennial Benefit Auction and Dinner to be held on April 5, 2014!

The goal of this year's event is to begin a fund for the expansion of our school. We invite you to partner with us on this signature event by becoming an event sponsor or auction catalog advertiser at our "Explore Beyond our Borders" themed fundraising event.

Please consider partnering with us by making a donation, becoming a sponsor or advertising your business in our auction catalog and/or our auction website. www.hca2014auction.com

Holy Cross Academy is a tax-exempt non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and donations is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed. Contact the auction committee at HCA2014auction@holycrossweb.com with any questions. We appreciate receiving your information by February 28, 2014.

Baby Items Available

Do you know a family in need of baby diapers, wipes, or clothing?

There is a great program available for eligible families in our area at the Baby Needs Closet run by Catholic Charities. The Baby Needs Closet is open Fridays from 11:30am-12:30pm in the Breezewood Shopping Center on Courthouse Rd near Food Lion. Call Vivian Poole at 703-690-3317 to set up an appointment if you or someone you know needs assistance.

For I Was Hungry... St. Mary Manna Project

The people of St. Mary parish once again have the opportunity to answer Christ's call to feed the hungry. On the weekend of March 8 and 9, the St. Mary Manna Project will collect non-perishable food items and financial donations for the Fredericksburg Area Food Bank. Volunteers will be available before and after all Masses on Saturday and Sunday in front of the church, and at Holy Cross Academy.

Needed items include canned tuna/salmon/chicken, peanut butter, beans, pasta and sauce, mac and cheese, soup, canned vegetables, instant potatoes and rice. Personal items such as shampoo, soap, paper towels, tissues, etc. are also welcome. And, for each \$10 donation, the Food Bank is able to provide thirty meals for hungry families!

The Food Bank feeds more than 20,000 people in the Fredericksburg area each month, but they can't carry out this important work without the help of the local community. So mark your calendar for the weekend of March 8/9, and do your part in answering Christ's call to help those in need.

Men's Discernment Group

Join men from the diocese for an overnight seminary visit to St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Philadelphia on Saturday, March 17 – Sunday, March 18. The trip includes a tour of the seminary, Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, meals, and lodging. All single men 17-50 who are interested can call the Office of Vocations to register at 703-841-2514 or email vocations@arlingtondiocese.org by Friday, March 14.

Donation Drive for Cleaning Supplies

Mary's Shelter operates four different homes for women facing a crisis pregnancy. As part of his Eagle Scout project, a young man in the parish has chosen to coordinate a donation drive for necessary operational items for Mary's Shelter - cleaning supplies. Collection boxes will be located in the Parish Life Center through February for the following items: sponges, toilet paper, kitchen and bathroom cleaning sprays or wipes, large black trash bags, tall kitchen trash bags and laundry detergent. Thank you for supporting Mary's Shelter.



Bishop's Lenten Appeal

Next weekend, each family in our parish will be asked to complete a Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA) pledge form at Mass. If you have already donated through the mail or online or are not able to participate, there will be places to note that on the form. Please read the newsletter being distributed with today's bulletin that contains detailed information about how the BLA funds are distributed throughout our diocese. Please prayerfully consider making a pledge to support the many programs and ministries that serve the people of our diocese. Every pledge is important! Thank you!

so you must also do"

The Problem and the Solution of Today's Health Care

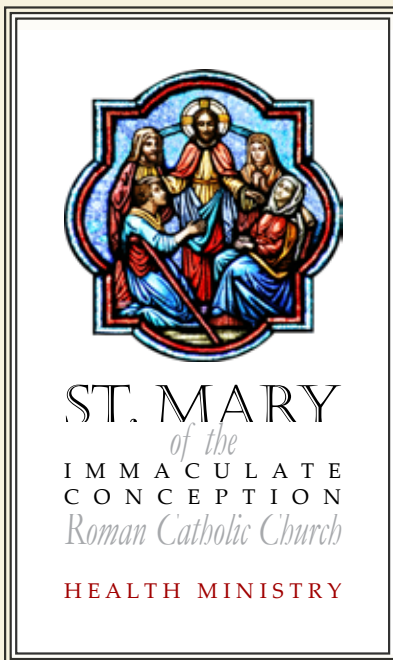
THE PROBLEM

Our interest in health and wellness as a parish ministry is well-timed. Public awareness is at an all-time high. Care delivery is often fragmented and focused on the physical problems presented by the patient, and issues surrounding their psychological, social and spiritual response to illness, trauma or disability is often dismissed or omitted entirely. We are looking for programs and/or practitioners that address the whole person -- a real need, not just an idealistic goal. This whole-person focus of care is especially relevant today as health care, pay sources, changing economics and an aging population all compete for resources.

THE SOLUTION

Many parishioners find that a health ministry team, which includes a parish nurse, meets their needs in a more holistic way, providing tools to bring balance and spiritual focus to the health care equation. The health ministry team assists parishioners by addressing concerns around physical activity, diet, stress management and relationship to God, all of which contribute to overall health and wellness.

It is well established that a healthy lifestyle contributes to healthy individuals. This avenue to an overall solution is surprisingly simple and fits the health ministry/parish nurse model well. Consider how the following principles will play out in our own health ministry team:



- An individual has control over lifestyle choices and it is these choices that most influence health and wellness.
- Health and wellness education equips individuals to make good choices.
- A parish health ministry team provides that education and support.
- Using existing community resources the team draws in additional support to meet the parish need.

- Spiritual growth is a vital part of the plan.

The objectives are simple, action-oriented, and measurable:

1. Assess the identified physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs of the faith community.
2. Design programs and methods to address the identified needs.
3. Provide parishioner support through a well-developed program of volunteer participation and care, integrating all other parish ministries where appropriate.
4. Utilize existing community resources and referrals. There would be no intention to recreate or replace any service or agency that is already found in the Fredericksburg area. This would not be good stewardship with the resources of the parish.
5. Evaluate the outcomes of planned programs.

By working with the resources and services, and building upon the ministries already in place within our community, our parish ministry will sow seeds of wellness to create a healthier faith community through pastoral care, education and coordination of services.

operations staff

www.stmaryfred.org

1009 Stafford Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401

SUNDAY MASS	Saturday Vigil 5 & 7pm Sunday 7, 8:30, 10:30am, 12:30, 2pm (Spanish), 5pm, 7:01pm 10:30am at Holy Cross Academy
DAILY MASS	Mon.-Fri.: 6:30 & 9am; Sat., 9am First Friday 8pm Holy Days of Obligation, as announced
DEVOTIONS	Adoration & Benediction, Wed., 7-9pm Novena with Exposition, Mon., 7-7:30pm All Night Adoration, First Friday Miraculous Medal Novena, Mon., after 9am Mass Divine Mercy, Wed., 3pm
CONFESSION	Wed., 7-9pm; Sat., 8am & 3:30pm, or by appt.
PARISH OFFICE	540-373-6491, fax 371-0251 stmary@stmaryfred.org Mon.-Fri., 8:30am - 4:30pm; students staff office weekdays until 9pm, Saturdays 9-5pm, Sundays 9:30-1:30pm Pastor, Fr. Don Rooney Fr. Keith Cummings Fr. Stephen Holmes Fr. Lino Rico Rostro Deacon Alberto Bernaola Deacon Dick Delio Executive Assistant, Rick Caporali Business Manager, Elaine Stanislawski Director of Sacred Music, David Mathers Administrative Assistant, Kelly Keiser Secretary, Mary Fitch
HOLY CROSS ACADEMY	540-286-1600 250 Stafford Lakes Parkway Fredericksburg, Virginia 22406-7234 Principal, Sr. Susan Louise Eder, O.S.F.S.
ST. MARY PRESCHOOL	373-7553 Director, Nanci Scharf
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE	373-6491 Director, Aristides Lucas Associate Director, Karen Sturtevant
YOUTH MINISTRY	373-6491 Director, Leo Chavarria
BAPTISMS	Parish registration (90 days) and class required. Please contact the parish office to schedule the date at least four weeks in advance.
MARRIAGE	Parish registration required; contact parish six months in advance to begin preparation.
JOIN US	New Family Registration meetings are held monthly in the church on fourth Sundays, following the 10:30 Mass. Please notify us of any telephone/address changes.

Weekly Offertory

Offertory Collection 2/16/14	\$34,009.
Building Fund (addl)	2,328.
Poor Box for St Vincent de Paul (wk ending 2/16/14)	n/a
SCRIP Profit for the week Year to Date:	87. \$5,403.

Please note:

End of year statements have been mailed to all registered parishioners. Only contributions received using your offertory envelopes or a household check are recorded as your contributions. Please call the office if you have any questions.

Thank you for your continued generosity! Please remember to use your Offertory Envelopes to ensure the accuracy of your end-of-year statement. The "Children's Envelope" proceeds will not be recorded on family statements.

SCRIP Helps Support HCA

Don't forget to buy your SCRIP cards to help raise money for our parish school, Holy Cross Academy. SCRIP cards are gift cards that you purchase at face value. The retailers sell them to us at a discount, which is how we make a profit. Simply exchange your cash or check at the SCRIP table for gift cards for gas and grocery purchases or even restaurants and movie retailers. You may even order online at www.shopwithscrip.com. A full list of retailers is available online that can be ordered for you!

You can also purchase many great retailers online with SCRIPNow! With SCRIPNow! there is no waiting. You can order your Scrip in minutes online and have the gift card code emailed to you.

To set up an account online at www.shopwithscrip.com and use our school code, **7B876EB-B188L2**, so Holy Cross Academy gets credit for your purchase. If you have any questions about SCRIP please email Torie Baldwin at scripcoordinator@holy-crossweb.com or 571-330-3448. Thanks for using SCRIP!

Children's Offertory envelopes for February

The children's charity for February is Hazelwild Farm's Therapeutic Riding Program. The program offers specialized horseback riding lessons for all ages of riders with a wide range of physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities. The lessons increase stability, flexibility, strength, motor skills, cognitive ability and confidence for the riders, along with providing many other physical and emotional benefits. For more information, go to www.hazelwildfarm.com.

Parish Registration

Are you registered in our parish? If you are not receiving offertory envelopes, then maybe you are not a registered parishioner.

Our next New Family Welcome Meeting is today, Sunday, February 23, at 11:30am in the church. Come, learn about our many ministries, and complete a registration form.

You must be a registered parishioner to serve as a sacramental sponsor, to begin marriage preparation, or to have your children baptized. Please note that our Baptism Classes are held the first Thursday of each month at 7pm in the Activity Center Library. Registration is required for this class.

Articles must be submitted two weeks prior to publication.
Send articles to stmary@stmaryfred.org. Thanks!

WE WELCOME YOU HOME. 540-373-6491

Choose Life reflections

"Let not your heart be disturbed... Am I not here, who is your Mother? Are you not under my protection? Am I not your health? Are you not happily within my fold? What else do you wish? Do not grieve nor be disturbed by anything."
~Our Lady of Guadalupe to Juan Diego

"Society as a whole must defend the conceived child's right to life and the true good of the woman who can never, in any circumstances, find fulfillment in the decision to abort."
~ Pope Benedict XVI, address to the Pontifical Academy for Life, February 26, 2011

"Likewise, if we really believe that abortion is an intimate act of violence – and of course, it is – then we can't aim at anything less than ending abortion. It doesn't matter that some abortions have always occurred, or that some will always occur. If we really believe that abortion kills a developing, unborn human life, then we can never be satisfied with mere 'reductions' in the body count." ~ Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, *Why This Work Matters: Human Dignity and the Road Ahead* March 9, 2010

Ash Wednesday - March 5

The Mass Schedule for Ash Wednesday, March 5 is as follows:
6:30am, 9am, 12noon, 6pm, & 7:30pm.

All Night Adoration Friday, March 7

All Night Adoration will follow our 8pm First Friday Mass on March 7. Please sign up today to adore Our Lord in the most Blessed Sacrament. "Love our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist above all things in the world." (St. John of God, Founder of the Brothers Hospitallers and Patron of those suffering from heart disease, Feast Day March 8)

St. Mary Prayer List

Please Pray for those who are sick or in need, especially: Katie Billing, Audrey Wolski, Morgan Wolski, Ruth Weaver, Lucy Holzworth, David Arnold, Linda Moler, Matt Miller, Wilma Evans, Hoop Hooper, Rita Wainwright, Marianne Ford, Randy and Vicky Dehr, Velda Taylor, Deborah Ellia, Linda Kaila, Monica Lantigua, Bert DeVore, Betty Ann Dateno, Frank Moehler, Harold Gardiner, Garafano Family, Grant Family, Casey Family, LaCombe Family, Cecelia and Charles Lee, Christopher Ford, Joan Baker, Barbara Leone, Mary D'Amato, Sal Detrane, Tina Beaversdorf, Robert C. Murphy, Josephine Kreider, Eleanor Mitchell, Peter Fisher, Helen Kozyra, Catherine Gordon, John Castagna, Tyler Hansen, Meredith Whatcott, Julie Fabula, Amelia McDewitt, Gerald Gardiner, Ree Messer, Joyce Webster, O'Neta Shorter, Daniel Bustamonta, Dawn Dittmer, Joseph Mascetta, David Asher, Martha Clemens, Lisa Storm, Veronica Johnson, Joseph McCormick, Patrick Wilkinson, Holly Smith, Patricia Portcelli, Doris Winstead, Cathy Thompson, Kathy Dobson, Tricia Davis, Joseph Bozicevic, Shirley Bozicevic, Connie Brimmer, Cathy Nichols, Reva McCloud, Regina Sullivan, Fr. Paul Richardson

Please Pray for all the men and women in our military and civilian support services overseas, especially: Javier Acosta, Leah April, Joel Asher, Miguel Ayala, Crystal Black, Ned Brownell, Jr., Derek Brostek, Christopher Burton, Matthew Campos, Leslie Capuano, Bruno Carriero, Jonathan Catalano, Frank Creamer, Sal Contreras, James Cook, Brad Cowan, Sam Del Grande, Glenn Dickinson, Aaron Doble, Anthony Dowden, John Dussault, Sandy Dussault, Travis Eades, Doug Ebnal, Christopher Eckert, Tim Evan, Christopher Ewers, Paul Fischer, Jonathan Fleming, Roberto Fuentes, Jason Geary, Ramon Guerra, Jr., Andrew Hamilton, Harry Hamilton, Ronnie Hamilton, Maria Harbeson, Andy Haskell, Raymond Haskell, Robert Haynes, Michael J. Herbek, James Helm, James Hoffnagle, Jr., Robert Horner, Danny L. Howard, Jr., Anthony Howell, Matthew Kearney, Daniel Kramer, Julio Laffitte III, Chris Lammers, Stephen Lammers, Scott LaRousse, Ryan Larsen, Jeffrey Lawrence, Kenneth Linstrom, Ryan Lynch, Sean Malloy, Josh Martin, Samantha Martin, Justin McClelland, Patrick McGroarty, John Moring, Nathaniel McNamara, Roger Mitchell, Joseph Moore, Joseph Muldoon, Corey Nash, Mindy Niemann, James Kevin O'Donnell, Bryce Parson, Joshua K. Pastell, Sean Penczak, Dominick Joseph Petro, Scott Price, Nick Schulz, Duayne Scott, Tim Smetek, Andrew Smith, Douglas Stransky, Shawn Tupta, Heidi Urben, Christopher Williamson and Daniel Zeytoonian.

Please pray for all the faithful departed: especially all the benefactors of St. Mary.

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

february - march

24 MONDAY

6:30 +Larry Curran
9am Teresa Eastman
Jas 3:13-18; Mk 9:14-29

25 TUESDAY

6:30 Jason Burkett
9am David Dickinson
Jas 4:1-10; Mk 9:30-37

26 WEDNESDAY

6:30 +Faybian Lee
+Miranda Pusey
9am +Glenn Derouin
Jas 4:13-17; Mk 9:38-40

27 THURSDAY

6:30 +Dr. John Greenhalgh
8:20* +Patrick O'Sullivan
9am Antoinette Babel
Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:41-50

28 FRIDAY

6:30 Joseph Mascetta
9am +Stanley Kozyra
Jas 5:9-12; Mk 10:1-12

1 SATURDAY

9am +Leroy Alvin Besong
5pm For the Parish
7pm Ed Minniear
Jas 5:13-20; Mk 10:13-16

2 SUNDAY

7am +Barbara Ann Lord
8:30 +William Novick
10:30 Those Who Died in February
10:30* Grace Sherry
12:30pm +Ellie Blaine
2pm +Maria de Jesus Vyllanueva
5pm +Jack Elwell
7:01pm Steven & Tracy Hertzog
Is 49:14-15; Ps 62; 1 Cor 4:1-5; Mt 6:24-34

*indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy