

First Sunday
of Lent

09 March 2014

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



what's coming

march

9 Sunday, First Sunday of Lent

Coffee and donuts after morning Masses. (Thurman Brisben Center)
SCRIP Sales after Masses. Manna Food Project collection after all Masses.
10am-12noon, Columbian Squires/Roses, John Paul II House.
12noon-2pm, English as a Second Language Classes, 2nd Floor, Parish Life Center.
6pm, Catholic Youth Ministry dinner, Parish Life Center.
6:15pm, Adult Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room. *Class is full, keep on eye on bulletin for future classes.*
7-8:30pm, CYM Youth Group, Parish Life Center.

10 Monday, Lenten Weekday

10am, Legion of Mary, Room 100, Parish Life Center.
7:30pm, Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, Church. Topic: Reconciliation; Anointing of the Sick & Redemptive Suffering. All Parish adults welcome. 8:15pm, small group discussion continues for RCIA candidates in the Parish Life Center.
8:15pm, "Preparing a Place for Unity and Peace," an ecumenical prayer service in the Taize tradition, church. All area Christians invited.
8pm, Young Adult Ministry meeting, John Paul II House.

11 Tuesday, Lenten Weekday

St. Joseph Novena begins.
10am, St. Mary Book Club, John Paul II House.
7:30pm, Life in the Spirit Prayer Group, Courtyard Meeting Room.

12 Wednesday, Lenten 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.

13 Thursday, Lenten Weekday

9:30am, Adult Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room. *Class is full, keep on eye on bulletin for future classes.*
9:45am, Craft Group, Room 100, Parish Life Center.
7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paul II House.
7:30pm, Parish Council Meeting, Courtyard Meeting Room.
7:30pm, Men's Group, Blue and Grey Brewery.

14 Friday, Lenten Weekday

9:30am, Moms' Group "St. Anne's Sisters in Faith," John Paul II House.
6-7:30pm, Lenten Soup Supper, hosted by the Music Ministry, Parish Life Center.
7:30pm, Stations of the Cross, church.
8pm, Via de la Cruz, church.

15 Saturday, Lenten Weekday

9:15am, Spanish Prayer Workshop, Courtyard Meeting Room.
10am, Baptisms, Church.
SCRIP Sales after 5pm Mass.

16 Sunday, Second Sunday of Lent

Irish Breakfast after morning Masses, hosted by Ancient Order of Hibernians.
SCRIP Sales after Masses.
12noon, English as a Second Language Classes, Room 203, Parish Life Center.
3:15pm, Spanish Prayer Workshop, Courtyard Meeting Room.
6pm, Catholic Youth Ministry Dinner, Parish Life Center.
6:15pm, Adult Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room.
7-8:30pm, CYM Youth Group, Parish Life Center.
8pm, Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotion begins, church.



saint
mary

of the
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION
Roman Catholic Church



this week's
bulletin:

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nota bene (*note well, please*):

- ☞ Join us for our **Lenten Soup Suppers** on Fridays during Lent in the Parish Life Center from 6-7:30pm, followed by **Stations of the Cross** in the Church at 7:30pm in English and 8pm in Spanish.
- ☞ The St. Mary **Manna Food Project** will collect nonperishable food items and financial donations **this weekend** for the Fredericksburg Area Food Bank. Volunteers will be available before and after all Masses to accept your donations.
- ☞ Couples from **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** are available **this weekend** after Masses to provide details about the upcoming Marriage Encounter Weekend, to be held in Fredericksburg in April. All married couples are invited to stop by the Courtyard Meeting Room after Mass for more information.
- ☞ Save the date for our **Parish Lenten Mission & Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotions** - March 16 through March 19. Our guest is the Very Reverend Dennis Corrado, a nationally known preacher, and we invite you to join us during Lent for this spiritually enriching program.
- ☞ As part of your Lenten almsgiving, we encourage you to take a **Lenten Rice Bowl** for your family, to assist the poor and suffering people in 91 countries throughout the world.
- ☞ Enjoy an **Irish Breakfast**, sponsored by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, after all the Sunday morning Masses on March 16.
- ☞ **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.

from our pastor



Dear Good People of Saint Mary,

Our Parish Mission with Fr. Dennis Corrado already begins next weekend! Fr. Dennis will join us for all the Masses next weekend, then with a special talk on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 7:30pm. Our annual 40 Hours' Devotions will also be underway next weekend from Sunday night to Tuesday night, so it will be a time of real prayer and growth. Please note that we have changed the Masses to 6:30pm on Monday and Tuesday evenings in order to schedule both 40 Hours' Masses and Father's Mission Talks. Please mark your calendars, sign up in the church vestibule for a time of prayer in the Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, and don't miss these talks.

The topic this year will be forgiveness. I was told about Fr. Dennis by a music director friend of mine in Connecticut last year. She said that he came and preached all the weekend Masses and the word slowly got out. On Monday night, there were about 200 people, on Tuesday their church was full. On Wednesday they had to put up video screens in the hall for the crowds (their church is relatively small). He is a very dynamic and genuine, challenging speaker and brings a great opportunity for our growth and reflection in making this Lent a season of real conversion and prayer. I encourage you to take advantage of this great opportunity.

Thanks for your great initial response to our parish's responsibility for the Bishop's Lenten Appeal. After Commitment Weekend last weekend, our unofficial totals are right at 70% of our goal for this year, a great start. Please be sure to take your part and give your contribution. Envelopes are available in the church for you to use if you have maybe misplaced the one mailed to you.

Every diocese in the country has an annual appeal of some sort in order to accomplish the works of the diocese - diocesan ministries, the formation of priests, services to the community and everyday realities of payroll

and utilities for many offices. We can't be a branch without a vine! Please be generous.

I was in the front office the other day and overheard a conversation at the window which has me thinking. Someone was requesting a Mass intention for a particular date. As you may have guessed, the date requested was no longer available, in fact, it had been requested by someone already.

We are now filling Mass intentions for October and I wouldn't be surprised if the Intentions Book for calendar year 2014 will be full by Easter. As you know, we only have about 1,000 *announced* Mass intentions available each year, since one Mass each Sunday must be for the parish. Canon Law allows for only one announced intention with a stipend (suggested \$10) at each Mass (a law written in answer to abuses long ago), and in the parish we have limited the number of Masses you can request each month in order to give more people an opportunity to request a Mass intention.

Since we don't open the book for 2015 until November, what do we do in the meantime? The person who came to the window was told about the possibility of *unannounced* intentions, but wasn't interested, which indicated to me a lack of understanding of what this means. You see, every time a priest celebrates a Mass, one particular intention may be used and it provides him personally with a stipend. Each time one of us celebrates (more than one priest at a Mass), or celebrates a Mass away from the parish for whatever reason (our parish pilgrimage, for example, or when we are away) we use all the *unannounced* intentions which have been requested. For a while now, we have had none of these. Consider it, if you will; there is no limit to the number of *unannounced* Masses you may request. And if we can't get to them all, we send them to priests in parishes or missions who don't have enough.

God bless you.

Fr. Don

holy cross academy

Here Comes the Preschool!

On Friday morning, February 28th, our preschool students filled the hallways of Holy Cross Academy for their annual teddy bear picnic. As they walked in the front doors with teddy bears in tow, the excitement began to build. They were led into Father Brisson Hall where they joined their teachers and waited for their special guests to arrive.

Within a few minutes, the kindergarten students came down to join them for a story and snack. Sister Susan Louise read a story as our youngest students eagerly listened. Later they were entertained by a puppet show presented by Mrs. Schmiegel. Later our 8th graders visited and helped the preschoolers create St. Patrick's Day wreaths and cards for the local nursing home. It was an exciting day for our little Crusaders as they spent the day with the big kids at the big school.

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



youth



CYM - Sent Retreat

On February 21-23, twenty-seven of our high school teens went for a weekend retreat focused on training them to be better evangelists. This year's retreat theme was Sent, as in Christ sending His disciples to spread the Good News of Jesus. The word 'sent' also has powerful meaning in regards to our parish theme of Liturgy is Life is Mission. At the end of Mass we hear words of dismissal. These words in Latin are, "Ite, Missa est" which literally translates to, "Go, it is sent." What is the sent? We are the "sent" who have received the power of Christ through His Eucharist in the Mass and are sent to be the voice, hands

and feet of Christ. We are sent to share with those who live in darkness the illuminating and transforming power of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. Here are some pictures of our young people having fun, praying and learning how to be evangelists for the Church.

Clockwise from right: Our 2014 retreat group; the guys climbing mountains; teens praising God during Adoration; teens reflecting and writing out their testimony so they are able to understand how God has been moving in their lives and also be able to share their journey of faith with friends, family and peers as a means to evangelize; Volunteer Abi Ibarra teaching one of our sessions on how to not be afraid to share the Good News of Jesus.



First Penance This Week

This week about 190 students in the Religious Education program preparing for First Communion will do their First Confession during class time. Parents, please refer to the First Penance information in your booklet.

Examination of Conscience for Children

To examine means to look into, to seek after and to hunt for. For example, a boy was putting together a puzzle. When he had put all of the pieces together, he found that he was missing one piece. He thought perhaps it had fallen on the floor. He looked under the table. He looked in the garbage can. He examined every inch of the carpet. He looked behind, around, and under the couch. He looked and looked until he finally found that puzzle piece.

In the same way, you must look or examine your conscience. You must hunt for your sins and find hidden faults. But how do you begin? You should always pray to the Holy Spirit and ask His help. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you know your sins. Ask for His light. If you were to drop a quarter on the floor in your bedroom at night, it would take you a long time to find that quarter if you never turned on your bedroom light. But as soon as you switch on your light, you quickly find your quarter. This is what the Holy Spirit will do in our conscience if we ask for His help. He will turn on the light so that sins may be found or remembered. But this is not all we must ask of the Holy Spirit. We must also ask Him to help us be truly

sorry for our sins and to help us not commit them ever again. You must pray with all your heart and ask this; and then the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Love and Understanding, will most certainly help you. You cannot make a good Confession without the help of the Holy Spirit.

The 10 Commandments are our guide. In the 10 Commandments, God has told us what we are to do and what we are not to do to live good and holy lives.

<http://catholicparents.org/oxcart/examinationchild2.html>
<http://catholicparents.org/oxcart/examinationchild.html>

Operation Rice Bowl

As we begin our Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl, we catch a glimpse of people working to bring God's kingdom to earth; a community in Kenya is rallying together to create employment opportunities, a means to provide for local families.

Empowering individuals to work and enabling them to provide for their friends, families and communities respects our shared human dignity—whether in Kenya, or in our own community! As we work, we pray that we will all work together in solidarity, towards the same goal of bringing God's great love and glory to even the darkest corners of our world

Read more at: <http://www.crsricebowl.org/stories-of-hope/week-1/>

Novena to St. Joseph

Please join the parish in a Novena to St. Joseph from Tuesday, March 11 to Wednesday, March 19. March 19 is the feast day of Joseph, Husband of Mary.

*O Saint Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God,
I place in you all my interests and desires.*

*O Saint Joseph, assist me by your powerful intercession and obtain for me from your Divine Son all spiritual blessings through Jesus Christ, Our Lord; so that having engaged here below your heavenly power,
I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.*

*O Saint Joseph, I never weary contemplating you and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while he reposes near your heart. Press him in my name and kiss his fine head for me,
and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.*

*Saint Joseph, we place our parish of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception and our school Holy Cross Academy under your watchful care and protection. Grant us all we ask of you today so that
we may grow in holiness and that our works may prosper and grow.*

*We offer this prayer through Christ, our Lord. Amen.
Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception, pray for us.
Saint Joseph, pray for us.*

parish life

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:

Wednesday, March 19

8:15am to 8:45am

1:35pm to 2:05pm

Tuesday, March 25 (*this is a change*)

6:30pm to 7pm

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!

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

The General Thomas Francis Meagher Division, Fredericksburg, of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) in America is planning several annual St. Patrick's Day celebrations. On Thursday, March 13 the AOH will host a family dinner with Irish song and dance at Holy Cross Academy from 5:00-7:30pm. Please call 540-538-2379 to reserve tickets. There will be a St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 15 at 12noon in the Bowman Center and an Irish Breakfast after all Sunday morning Masses on March 16.

Now is a great time to join the finest Irish Catholic Organization in the World and assist our effort to live our motto of: "Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity". For dinner tickets or membership inquiries contact Jeffrey Fitzpatrick at 540-538-2379 or FredRedVa@yahoo.com.

May 3rd - Our annual Parish Night Out

Dinner and dancing at UMW Jepson 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

Over 40 Fellowship - March 16

Join the group for breakfast next Sunday, March 16 for breakfast at Country Cookin' at Eagle Village Shopping Center. Meet at 9am and then attend 10:30 Mass at the church or Holy Cross Academy. New members and those who are just interested are welcome. Please make every attempt to be at this event and make some new friends!

Ladies of the Parish - CCW News

Our next general meeting will be Tuesday, March 18 at 10am in the Courtyard Meeting Room. Fr. Steven Holmes will be the guest speaker. Please come enjoy the friendship and refreshments.

Save the date for a mother-daughter tea that will be held on Saturday, April 12 at the Parish Life Center from 2:30-4pm. This afternoon event will be a very special time for mothers and daughters of all ages. Please contact Teresa Hopkins at teresahop@cox.net or Suzi Eggleston at 540-834-0752 with questions and watch for more information in an upcoming bulletin.

Our monthly BUNCO game night will be held on Saturday, March 22 at 7pm. All adults in the parish are invited to have a fun time and meet new friends!

It is time for elections for the CCW Board. If you would be willing to serve within this organization, please call Mary Keeton at 540-371-8661 or email at keetonfam@cox.net We are especially in need of people willing to serve as President, 1st Vice President {programs} and 2nd Vice President {membership}. Please consider sharing your skills and expertise with us as we grow to serve our Parish and community. Please call for job descriptions and any questions that you may have regarding time commitments, projects or mission of the CCW.



SAINT MARY *of the* IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH
PARISH LENTEN MISSION + MARCH 16-19

Please join us for Forty Hours of Prayer and Eucharistic devotions and our Parish Lenten Mission where we come together over the course of three evenings for special presentations by a guest speaker.

The mission is one of several Lenten events aimed to help guide parishioners and guests through the penitential season of Lent with spiritually enriching programs to help deepen our faith and relationship with God. This year the parish is pleased to welcome our mission guest, the Very Reverend Dennis Corrado, c.o. who will lead our Mission titled,

FORGIVENESS LEADS TO WELLNESS AND JOY

All are welcome to these free events and parishioners are encouraged to also invite friends & family.

The Very Reverend Dennis Corrado, c.o. (c.o. stands for Congregation of the Oratory) is the Founder/ Provincial Superior of the Oratorian Fathers and Brothers of St. Philip Neri, The Saint of Joy, in Brooklyn, New York. He has preached in 17 states and foreign countries. He holds graduate degrees in Theology, Religious Education and Communications. He is co-responsible for the development of The Metrotech Parish of St. Boniface which serves 25,000 plus workers in the downtown area near the Brooklyn Bridge. He was named one of the best preachers in NYC by New York Magazine and one of the religious leaders of New York for the 21 Century by the NY Daily News. For 15 years Father was the American Delegate representing the US Oratorian Houses to the Holy See in Rome.

SATURDAY/SUNDAY,

MARCH 15th and 16th

OPENING of FORTY HOURS

MISSION TALK (DURING ALL HOMILIES)

FORGIVENESS LEADS TO WELLNESS AND JOY

MONDAY, MARCH 17th

FIRST DAY of ADORATION

6:30am MASS

8:15am OFFICE of READINGS

8:30am MORNING PRAYER

9:00am MASS

5:45pm EVENING PRAYER

6:30pm MASS

7:30pm MISSION

WHAT IS FORGIVENESS AND WHY IT IS SO DIFFICULT TO PRACTICE

10:00pm NIGHT PRAYER

TUESDAY, MARCH 18th

SECOND DAY of ADORATION

6:30am MASS

8:15am OFFICE of READINGS

8:30am MORNING PRAYER

9:00am MASS

5:45pm EVENING PRAYER

6:30pm MASS AND BENEDICTION

CLOSE OF FORTY HOURS

7:30pm MISSION

LIVING THE TRUTH: THE ONLY

ENVIRONMENT FOR FORGIVENESS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19th

6:30am MASS

9:00am MASS

7:30pm MISSION

PRACTICAL WAYS TO INCREASE THE JOY

WHICH FOLLOWS FORGIVENESS

Pontifical blessing included

The Parish Mission is free and open to everyone. A free-will offering will be taken on Wednesday night as well as DVDs and CDs of this series available for \$10. each.

"as I have done for you

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.

Retreat for Women Healing after Abortion, April 25-27

A Rachel's Vineyard Weekend Retreat offers a safe and confidential environment for women who have struggled with the pain of abortion to experience the compassion of God and begin the process of healing. For more info, email info@helpafterabortion.org, visit www.helpafterabortion.org or call 1-888-456-HOPE.



Bishop's Lenten Appeal

Each family in our parish is asked to give to the Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA). 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!

SHARE at St. Mary Parish!

This is a food cooperative program with a community service requirement. Package Pick-up is typically the fourth Saturday of the month at the Parish Life Center between 8:00am and 9:00am. The following month's menu will be available at the time of pick-up. Orders due by Monday, March 17; pick-up is Saturday, March 29.

Please contact Rick Caporali for more information and details, rcaporali@stmaryfred.org.

Shopping for March:

Value Package (\$21)

- Chicken Breast (1 lb.) • Pollock Filet (1 lb.) • Chicken & Vegetable Stir Fry (1 lb.) • Boneless Ham Steak (1 lb.) • Tyson's Steak Strips (3/4 lb.) • 3 lbs. potatoes, white onions, and lots of other fresh, healthy, seasonal produce

Meats & Cheese Box (\$23)

Limited Availability • 3 Beef Summer Sausages & 3 Cheeses: Mild Cheddar, Colby, and Spicy Pepper Jack

Easter Spiral Ham (\$37)

Limited Availability • With sweet potato casserole, crushed pineapple and brown mustard.

Lenten Seafood (\$24)

- Breaded Shrimp (1 lb.) • Salmon Filet (1.5lb) • Cod Filet (1 lb.)

Breakfast Special (\$16)

- 48 adorable egg, turkey sausage & cheese "sliders" packed in 24 double portion packs.

Noontime Lenten Prayer Services

The downtown churches involved with MICAHA offer prayer services each Wednesday during Lent at noon, followed by a light luncheon. The next services are:

March 12 at Fredericksburg United Methodist Church with guest presider Rev. Allen Fisher

March 19 at Fredericksburg Baptist Church with guest presider Rev. Don Rooney

March 26 at St. George's Episcopal Church with guest presider Rev. Anne Jones

April 2 at Shiloh Old Site Baptist Church with guest presider Rev. Brenda Biler

April 9 at Trinity Episcopal Church with guest presider Rev. Kent Rahm

**No joint service during Holy Week*

so you must also do"

American Heritage Girls Open House

Have you heard the buzz? Our local American Heritage Girls Troop VA0128, sponsored by the Saint Mary CCW, was one of the first troops in the country to earn AHG's brand new Respect Life Patch. The girls who represent ALL local Catholic parishes created care packages for local attendees at the March for Life, including 100 handmade chaplets and prayer cards. This year we have logged almost 200 hours of community service, hiked, camped, and honored our veterans. Every meeting and special event is full of Faith, Service and Fun!

Everyone is invited to attend our Open House on Thursday, March 13 at 7pm at St Michael the Archangel High School, 6301 Campus Dr, Fredericksburg, VA 22407.



American Heritage Girls created March for Life care packages

Girls K-12 will join in the unit activities to experience a typical meeting while parents can learn all about American Heritage Girls as an organization and troop VA0128 in particular. RSVPs are appreciated though not required [via ahgva0128@yahoo.com](mailto:ahgva0128@yahoo.com).

Diocesan Women's Silent Lenten Retreat

April 3-6, Fr. Tom Ferguson will lead 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. For more info. call the Office for Family Life at 703-841-2550 or visit <http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/retreatforwomen/index.aspx>.

We invite all Christians to gather in the peace of Christ at St. Mary on Monday, March 10 as we "prepare a place for unity and peace" in Fredericksburg.

Praying with one voice, let us ask God to bring healing to our world and end the divisions that separate peoples.

You are invited to a monthly gathering of prayer in the ecumenical tradition of the Taize community in France, the second Monday of every month from 8:15 to 9pm.

It is our hope that this monthly prayer brings together Christians of all churches, pastors and flocks, as together we realize a bit more each day that we must rely upon God's power to bring about unity



among all who follow Jesus, "as he and the Father are one." It is something we are unable to do ourselves.

This Unity which embraces all people stands at the very heart of Christ's mission...and belongs to the essence of this community. Let us provide a place where his Spirit can come and accomplish this plan for us.

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 3/2/14	\$44,940.
Poor Box for St Vincent de Paul (wk ending 3/2/14)	356.
Children's Offertory for February	399.
SCRIP Profit for the week Year to Date:	186. \$5,862.

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.

The Second Collection next week-end is for the Parish Building Fund.

National Collection for US Black and Indian Missions - March 8 & 9

Evangelization – 128 years of service – among the Black, Indian, Eskimo and Aleut communities has been the singular purpose of the Black and Indian Mission Office. Established in 1884 as the embodiment of the Church's concern for evangelizing the Black and Indian peoples of the United States and the Eskimo and Aleut peoples of Alaska, the Black and Indian Mission Office has been able to distribute assistance to 132 Dioceses through the generosity of this parish and parishes throughout the United States. Support went to the neediest people across our country – from the inner cities of the rural South to the deserts of the Southwest to Alaska's cold wilderness. Please give what you are able to this collection. Your generosity will help to strengthen the faith, continue the legacy and share the mission with children and adults across the Black and American Indian communities.

SCRIP Helps Support HCA

Stop by the SCRIP table after Mass to purchase gift cards for all your shopping needs! When you buy gift cards through the SCRIP program the retailer donates a percentage back to Holy Cross Academy. It's the easiest way to raise money for our parish school. There are ways to place your order online also and orders can be picked up after mass, at the church office or school office. You may pay with cash, check (made out to St. Mary church), or pay with PrestoPay; which is the online payment system.

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 scripcordinator@holycrossweb.com or 571-330-3448. Thanks for using SCRIP!

Children's Offertory envelopes for March

The children's charity that will benefit from the offering in March is Stafford Junction, a faith-based nonprofit organization tasked with improving the lives of children and their families in low-income neighborhoods in Stafford County through programs focusing on education, nutrition, and healthy living. With the intervention of Stafford Junction, the crime rate in the Olde Forge neighborhood dropped by more than 50% within two years. Stafford Junction is a mission project of our parish and children's donations will assist the parish in providing much needed support for their programs throughout the year. For more information visit their website at www.staffordjunction.org.

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

Stations of the Cross - Lenten Soup Suppers

Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday evening during Lent. On April 4 Stations of the Cross will be at 7:30pm in English followed by our First Friday Mass at 8pm, Stations of the Cross at 8:30pm in Spanish, and All Night Adoration. On all other Fridays in Lent, Stations will be at 7:30pm in English and at 8pm in Spanish. This schedule will encourage everyone to be able to attend Mass and Stations of the Cross.

Our Lenten Soup Suppers will take place in the Parish Life Center on each Friday during Lent from 6 to 7:30pm. Share a Lenten penitential meal of soup and bread with your parish family, and share what you would have spent on dinner that night with those in need. All free-will offerings received are given to charity. Bring the whole family to enjoy good soup and good fellowship.... and then spend time with Our Lord in prayer.

Anointing of the Sick - March 22

Our 9am Mass on Saturday, March 22 will be a special Mass for the Anointing of the Sick. All who suffer from serious illness or are over 65 years of age and have not received the Anointing of the Sick in the last six months are welcome to receive this Sacrament.

Choose Life Reflection

"Christians know that suffering cannot be eliminated, yet it can have meaning and become an act of love and entrustment into the hands of God who does not abandon us; in this way it can serve as a moment of growth in faith and love." (Pope Francis, Lumen Fidei, 56) *We pray for all families concerned with how to provide for their loved ones, especially expectant mothers: May they turn to the Lord, trusting in His providence, and experience the support of the Christian community.*

St. Mary Prayer List

Please Pray for those who are sick or in need, especially: David Arnold, 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, 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 McDevitt, Gerald Gardiner, Ree Messer, Joyce Webster, O'Neta Shorter, Daniel Bustamonta, Dawn Dittmer, 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, Bentley Hunt, Anna Castagna, Ruth Weaver, Linda Sholander, Darlene Garcia, Barbara McKnight, Donald Estes, Mary Ullmer, Ariana Stanislawski

Please Pray for all the men and women in our military and civilian support services overseas, especially: Javier Acosta, Leah April, David Asher, 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 Ebanal, 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, Raymund Haskell, 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, Geoff Mann, 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 +Robert Green, +James Bruder, Sr., all the benefactors of St. Mary.

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

march

10 MONDAY

6:30 +Marie Sidorak
9am +Justin Armitage
Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Mt 25:31-46

11 TUESDAY

6:30 Father Lino
9am +Wilbert Derise
Is 55:10-11; Mt 6:7-15

12 WEDNESDAY

6:30 +Evelyn Maxwell
9am +Virginia Clay
Jon 3:1-10; Lk 11:29-32

13 THURSDAY

6:30 Jason & Nichole Miller
8:20* +Richard Winchester
9am +Cesario Ferrer, Sr.
Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Mt 7:7-12

14 FRIDAY

6:30 J.T. Hassman
9am +Howard Singer
Ez 18:21-28; Mt 5:20-26

15 SATURDAY

9am +Cary Mitchener
5pm +Bob Kaila
7pm +Eleanor Heath
Dt 26:16-19; Mt 5:43-48

16 SUNDAY

7am For the Parish
8:30 +Christine McWhirt
10:30 +George McWhirt III
10:30* +Joann Storey
12:30pm +Anne Cunningham
2pm +Virginia Marengo
5pm Doug and Nancy Craig
7:01pm +Evelyn Maxwell
Gn 12:1-4a; Ps 33; 2 Tm 1:8b-10;
Mt 17:1-9

*indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy