

Second Sunday  
of Lent

16 March 2014



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



# what's coming

## march

### 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.  
3pm, Adult Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room. *Class is full!*  
3:15pm, Spanish Prayer Workshop, Courtyard Meeting Room.  
6pm, Catholic Youth Ministry Dinner, Parish Life Center.  
6:15pm, Adult Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room. *Class is full!*  
7-8:30pm, CYM Youth Group, Parish Life Center.  
8pm, Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotion begins, church.

### 17 Monday, Lenten Weekday (St. Patrick, bishop)

8:15am, Office of Readings, church.  
8:30am, Morning Prayer, church.  
10am, Legion of Mary, Room 100, Parish Life Center.  
5:45pm, Evening Prayer, church.  
6:30pm, Mass, as part of Parish Lenten Mission, church.  
7:30pm, Parish Lenten Mission Talk, *What is Forgiveness and Why it is so Difficult to Practice*, church.

### 18 Tuesday, Lenten Weekday (St. Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop and doctor of the church)

8:15am, Office of Readings, church.  
8:30am, Morning Prayer, church.  
10am, Council of Catholic Women, general meeting with speaker Fr. Holmes, Courtyard Meeting Room.  
5:45pm, Evening Prayer, church.  
6:30pm, Mass and Benediction, church. Close of Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotion.  
7:30pm, Parish Lenten Mission Talk, *Living the Truth: The Only Environment for Forgiveness*, church.  
7:30pm, Life in the Spirit Prayer Renewal Group, Courtyard Meeting Room.

### 19 Wednesday, St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6pm, YOUCAT, Youth Ministry Program, John Paul II house.  
7:30pm, Parish Lenten Mission Talk, *Practical Ways to Increase the Joy which Follows Forgiveness*, church.  
7:30pm, Women's Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room.  
8pm, Legion of Mary, Room 100, Parish Life Center.

### 20 Thursday, Lenten Weekday

9:30am, Craft Group, Room 100, Parish Life Center.  
9:30am, Adult Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room.  
7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paul II House.

### 21 Friday, Lenten Weekday

9:30am, St. Anne's Sisters in Faith (Mom's Group), John Paul II house.  
6pm, Lenten Soup Supper, hosted by the Holy Cross Academy PTO.  
7:30pm, Stations of the Cross, church.  
8pm, Stations of the Cross (in Spanish), church.

### 22 Saturday, Weekday

8am, SHARE Food package pick-up, outside of Parish Life Center.  
9am, Mass with Anointing of the Sick, church.  
9:30am, Spanish Prayer Workshop, Parish Life Center.  
10am, Baptisms, church.  
5pm, SCRIP Sales after 5pm Mass.  
7pm, BUNCO, sponsored by CCW, all parish adults invited, Parish Life Center.



saint  
mary

of the  
IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION  
Roman Catholic Church



this week's  
bulletin:

5  
holy cross  
academy

6  
education

8  
parish life

10  
outreach

12  
operations

13  
liturgy

**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.
- ☞ We hope you will join us for the **Parish Lenten Mission & Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotions** - March 16 through March 19. Our guest is the Very Reverend Dennis Corrado, a nationally known preacher. This promises to be a 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.
- ☞ Come participate in our Mass with **Anointing of the Sick**, which will be celebrated on **Saturday, March 22** at **9am**.
- ☞ **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,

I attended the Micah Ministries Lenten Lunch prayer service this week at the United Methodist Church and Pastor Allen Fischer from the Presbyterian Church was preaching. It was a treat to get to hear someone else preach for once, I am so tired of hearing myself talking all the time! (Although next week the poor folks will have to listen to me at Fredericksburg Baptist Church anyway!)

Anyway, Allen gave a beautiful homily that got me thinking more about the central reason of *why* we are here. He said one of the things I've been saying over and over these past few weeks: that the life of faith and prayer that we live is intended to perfect us as one People of God, not a bunch of individuals constantly seeking God's attention, almost in competition with one another, focused only on ourselves and our advancement. He said it very simply, in true Presbyterian style: piety is not privatization. We are not here to isolate.

I've had plenty of friends who say, "I love the Church, it's the people I can't stand." I've heard plenty of sins confessed (and am aware of plenty of my own) about how intolerant we can be of one another when others get in the way of our plans or desires—even when we call those desires spiritual—and we lose sight of the gift in front of us, talking to us, sharing our space, for a gift which we have set our sights on. It is too easy to get so wrapped up in ourselves that we totally miss the point of the present moment and those whom God has placed here with us.

Ultimately, the message is that we just aren't as important as we'd like to think we are. Isn't this one of the most remarkable gifts given to human beings that set us apart from other forms of life? That we can experience humility. Whether a momentary setback has caused this, or a stark realization of truth, or the compassion which might move us to help, to reach out to another human person

and for that moment allow that person to be the most important thing in your life. We can choose to go last. We can set ourselves aside and recognize the value of a truth that we allow to guide us, or a love that we allow to change us.

We look to the cross in this season of Lent to unpack this mystery. How our human form is forever changed: in our lowliness God chose to reveal our high destiny by his divine touch, first in the incarnation, finally for each of us in baptism. We can never be unchanged, or changed back. And in that high destiny now charged with the divine and holy life of God's Spirit we can choose, like Jesus did, like Mary did, like Joseph did, to live completely *for* another, to accept that once-and-for-all call that defines us by the one we serve. We see it most perfectly in Jesus' total gift of himself on the cross.

For Mary and Joseph it is obvious. They were willing to respond to the Father's call and dedicate themselves to Jesus. But look carefully at Jesus: he was willing to lower himself, taking upon himself our nature, so that *we* might be the object of *his* dedication, and that *we* might be a part of *his* identity, his Body, as Son of God. In him we see so quickly that lowliness is not seen as contrary to high dignity: they both co-exist. It might even be said that the high dignity of our humanity lies in its very lowliness. And lowliness is the state in which we are sanctified.

It takes a great deal of humility to be a person like Jesus, particularly when we begin to speak of forgiveness. Be sure to join us this week for our Parish Mission each night as we delve into the reality of forgiveness. It will prove to be a transformative week not only due to the talks, but due also to the special opportunities we have for prayer in the Presence of God during Forty Hours. Please come and spend time with us, and with God. May we grow deeply into his life this Lent.

God bless you. *Fr. Don*



# holy cross academy

## Choice for Middle School

As a way of tapping into students' interests, Holy Cross Academy offers electives once a week. This enables students to choose an area they would like to participate in or learn more about. Teachers design the elective, write a description and then students sign up based on interest. We have quite a variety being offered this semester as students explore new and exciting fields.

For those interested in art and design, Mrs. Rodriguez offers jewelry making. Mrs. Tomayko's photography class is often seen throughout the

school capturing special events to share with the yearbook staff. Many students were interested in signing up for Mrs. Darling's Introduction to Psychology class to study behavior and the human mind. Mrs. Sandkuhler and Mrs. Richardson are introducing students to first aid while Mrs. Ortiz is teaching sign language. Sister Frances Carol is using her calligraphy skills to share with students in a creative way. Going underwater is the name of Mrs. Tharp and Mrs. Cooper's very popular robotics class. Finally, for the students who long for extra physical activity, Mrs. Manzano and Mrs. McBroom offer "Get Fit" which helps students learn the importance of proper nutrition and physical activity. Wednesday afternoons are very exciting at HCA!



*A National Blue Ribbon School, 2012*



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.holycross-web.com](http://www.holycross-web.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.



education

# adult ed.



Rite of Election at Cathedral of St. Thomas More with Bishop Loverde, March 8, 2014.

We ask the parish to pray for our Catechumens (Hannah Bapple, Donna Clifton, Richard Dutson, Malachi Gray, Beja Julia Romero, Heather Sage, Holly Sage, William Sage, William Sage, and Sara Turner) and our Candidates (John Bone, Cindy Cerna, Nancy Colindres Mendoza, Aurora de Paz Cruz, Sally Frankenberger, Ashley Gimpel, Steven Hertzog, Matthew Hummel, Thomas Julkowski, Dennis Kuhl, Kristine Kuhl, Sean Lilly, Rebecca Losiewski, Adela Martinez, Ralph Mason, Manuel Nicolas Perez, Felipa Sandria Viveros, Katrina Surprenant, Vakida Wilson, Lisa Withers, and William Withers) enrolled in our RCIA program.

# youth



St. Mary of the Immaculate  
Conception Catholic Church

**Thursday, March 20, 2014**  
**5-8pm**

Central Park Chick-fil-A  
(540) 786-7979

## Work Camp Fundraisers

### WorkCamps Rent-a-Crew

Small teams of CYM teens are ready to help with lawn clean-up, housecleaning, and junk removal in exchange for a donation to Workcamp 2014. Crews will arrive at a mutually agreed upon day and time and will be adult supervised until the job is done to the customer's satisfaction. Those interested in hiring the teens may contact Karen Clemente at 540-845-7403 or via email at [kar-enclemente@aol.com](mailto:kar-enclemente@aol.com). An adult will meet with callers to preview the task and determine how many teens will be needed to complete it.

### Chick-fil-A Spirit Night - March 20

Please present this Spirit Night flyer to the Central Park Chick-fil-a location during your purchase. St. Mary WorkCamps receive a portion of the proceeds to fund their WorkCamp experience.



### Forty Hours of Eucharistic Adoration

What is “Forty Hours?” This means that the Body of Christ will be exposed, outside of the Tabernacle yet inside the Monstrance, for 40 hours and at least 2 persons will be in church during this time. It is a time for devotion and adoration, prayer and meditation. We will also hold our Parish Lenten Mission led by Fr. Dennis Corrado and Liturgy of the Hours.

The Liturgy of the Hours, which is the public and common prayer of the Church, is the prayer of Christ with his body, the Church. Through the Liturgy of the Hours the mystery of Christ, which we celebrate in the Eucharist, sanctifies and transforms the whole of each day. It is composed mainly of psalms, other biblical texts, and readings from the Fathers and spiritual masters.

There will be no regular Religious Education classes this week, March 17-20. This is an excellent opportunity for children to celebrate the Liturgy of the Hours, especially pray the vespers or evening prayers. We urge parents to bring their children to at least one of the vespers. They will be celebrated on Monday and Tuesday at 5:45pm.

### Parent Gathering Speaker Series

Mark your calendar for the next program in the series, Tuesday, April 1 at 6:30pm: Dr. Michael Horne: Video Games & Parenting: Dealing With The New Space Invaders.

With video games playing an increasing role in the lives of children and teenagers, parents are faced with difficult decisions such as what games

to allow in the home and how much game play is too much. This talk will examine the effects of video games on children and teenagers while also providing parents with information as they decide what is best for their children.

Dr. Michael Horne received his doctorate in clinical psychology from the Institute for the Psychological Sciences in 2009 where he specialized in working with children and teenagers. During his doctoral training, he completed his dissertation on the impact of violent video game play on compassion. Dr. Horne has worked at various Catholic clinics around the country, and currently serves as the Program Director for the Catholic Charities Family Services office in Fredericksburg, where he works with adults, children, adolescents, couples, and families. Dr. Horne lives in Fredericksburg with his wife, Kara, and their two young children.

### Operation Rice Bowl

This week we visit our brothers and sisters in Guatemala hosted by Yuvillis Pu a thirteen year old girl who desires formal education but also works in a clothing shop to help her family. Read Yuvi's story of hope in your Lenten Calendar and watch a video her story at: <http://www.csricebowl.org/stories-of-hope/week-2/>

Every person has basic rights and responsibilities that flow directly from our human dignity. These rights are numerous and include the right to life, food, shelter, education and employment, as well as political and cultural rights. Along with these rights are duties and responsibilities to respect the rights of others and to work for the common good of all.

## 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

## **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 [hcsecretary@holycrossweb.com](mailto:hcsecretary@holycrossweb.com). Due to the subject matter, no children will be permitted to be in the training!

## **Parish Night Out VI**

St. Mary Parish Council cordially invites you to join friends and fellow parishioners for our annual Parish Night Out – to be held on May 3.

The event is an extended celebration of the St. Mary 150th Anniversary held in 2007, it has been so successful, it has become an annual event! We are marking "150 plus 6" (2014) – Parish Night Out "Six." The event will be held at the Jepson Alumni Center at University of Mary Washington. Cash Bar will open at 6pm, dinner will be served from 7 to 8pm, and then the highlight of music and dancing from 8-11:30pm.

Music will be provided by the fabulous ANDREW THIELEN BIG BAND. But please don't be fooled by the name. Did you know that American Idol and Dancing with the Stars use "Big Bands"? We will again have a 12-piece band plus vocalist. If you love live music, then this is for you. Check out their website for a sampling of tunes at [BigBandOnline.com](http://BigBandOnline.com) (Andrew Thielen). They have played for audiences at Saturday Night Live, the Kentucky Derby, and Betty White's animal fundraisers in Williamsburg. They play a variety of music from the great American songbook – from swing to Motown to disco.

Tickets are on sale for \$75 per person, a 3-course dinner, music, dancing, and all services at the

Jepson Alumni Center are included. Please consider joining us.

We invite YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS to be at the Jepson Center May 3rd to create another great Anniversary evening. We'd love to have you with us! For more details and tickets please contact: Marty Bridi, 540-373-0259 or Vicky Kopcak, 540-273-4456.

## **St. Anne's Sisters in Faith**

Our meeting is Friday, March 21, 2014. Please join us as we continue to grow in our understanding of Marriage 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](mailto:rocio.o.atkinson@gmail.com) or Suzi Eggleston at 540-834-0752 for further questions.

## **BUNCO - Saturday, March 22**

Ask Lady Luck to come with you to the Parish Life Center at 7pm on Saturday, March 22 for a fun couple hours of BUNCO, an easy game and a chance to see old friends and meet new. The suggested "buy in" is \$6; that is, \$5 for prizes and \$1 for yummy snacks. See you there? All adults in the parish are invited to have a fun time and meet new friends!

## **Ladies of the Parish - CCW News**

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](mailto:teresahop@cox.net) or Suzi Eggleston at 540-834-0752 with questions and watch for more information in an upcoming bulletin.

The annual CCW Yard Sale will be held Saturday, April 26. Please start saving items for donation. Donations will be accepted April 23, 24, 25 (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday prior to the sale) at the Parish Life Center. Thank you for your support.

## **Living Stones: A legacy of family names**

We continue to take orders for the "Living Stones" in our new courtyard, each featuring the last name of the family sponsoring it.

Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested. The investment for each stone is \$500 and helps cover the cost of this landscaping project. You may make installment payments. Please place your order by April 15 to be included in the next installation.



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 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

#### OPENING of FORTY HOURS

MISSION TALK (DURING ALL HOMILIES)

FORGIVENESS LEADS TO WELLNESS AND JOY

### MONDAY, MARCH 17<sup>th</sup>

#### 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 18<sup>th</sup>

#### 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 19<sup>th</sup>

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

## 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!



## Noontime Lenten Prayer Services

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

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

## Manna Project Helps the Hungry

Congratulations to the parishioners of St. Mary for another successful Food and Funds Drive on March 8 and 9. St. Mary Manna Project volunteers collected 1,732 pounds of food and personal items, plus \$4,979.73 in cash and checks, during the two-day drive. Donations will be presented to the Fredericksburg Area Food Bank, to help needy families in the area. Our thanks to the Manna volunteers, and the generous members of St. Mary parish, for making the Food and Funds Drive a great success.

## Living Stones

Ask someone back to the Church. Once you have made the invitation, take one of the stones from the side and place it in front of the altar as a reminder for the whole community to pray for them. (Please use one of the provided cork pads underneath the stone.)

## The Light is ON for You

In Lent all Catholic churches in the Archdiocese of Washington and Diocese of Arlington will be open for Confessions and quiet prayer every Wednesday, 6:30pm — 8pm.

## 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>.

## From the Diocesan Office of Victim Assistance

In 2005, the Diocese of Arlington began a series of Prayer Services for victims/survivors of sexual abuse, celebrated by Rev. Mark Mealey, O.S.F.S., and Vicar General. The Prayer Services include a survivor's testimony of his/her efforts to heal from the effects of sexual abuse, followed by a light reception. The next Prayer Service will be on Saturday April 5, 2014 at 10am at Saint Mark Catholic Church, 9970 Vale Road, Vienna, 22181.

## Support Group Evening with Bishop Loverde for Victims/Survivors of Sexual Abuse

Bishop Loverde cordially invites victims/survivors of sexual abuse and their spouse or support person to a Support Group meeting on Monday March 31 at the Dominican Retreat House in McLean. The evening begins at 5:45pm and ends by 9pm. It will consist of a light meal and group discussion, followed by a Prayer Service. Due to the nature and sensitivity of the subject, this event is for victims/survivors and a spouse/support person only. Please RSVP by March 27 to the Office of Victim Assistance 703-841-2530.

## Operation Rice Bowl

Our parish is participating in CRS' Rice Bowl, Catholic Relief Services' Lenten program, as a way to encounter Jesus through others, especially through the most vulnerable in our world. Your prayers, fasting and almsgiving this Lenten season will help Catholic Relief Services continue to provide life-saving assistance in nearly 100 countries.

Please make your checks payable to St. Mary Church; we will send one check from the parish to CRS.

# so you must also do"

March 5, 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Disciples All in Christ Jesus,

The title of my recent letter on the New Evangelization is "Go Forth with Hearts on Fire." For whom are our hearts on fire? Our hearts are on fire with love for God, made visible in Jesus Christ; for our fellow disciples who form the Body of Christ, His Church; and for all the members of the human family, who are likewise brothers and sisters to us. But, in fact, are these hearts of ours truly on fire? Or are they lukewarm, or, worse yet, nearly burned out?

Wherever our hearts are on the spectrum: from aflame with love to nearly burned out, God in His ever faithful and never-changing love for us gives our hearts the season of Lent to be set on fire with His love. Since the heart is the symbol of the human person, you and I, along with all who form our diocesan family, are the ones being invited to journey through these forty days of Lent with an open and willing spirit to be so filled with his living presence that we shall go forth beyond Lent with hearts on fire for the ongoing mission of the New Evangelization.

The New Evangelization itself is a call to be re-evangelized ourselves while at the same time to evangelize others. Unless our own hearts are on fire with love which comes from Christ's Heart, we will not be able to invite others to come to Jesus, either for the first time or after time being away in a kind of spiritual desert.

In the three principal works of Lent – prayer, fasting and other forms of penance, and almsgiving – we are given the means with which to allow the fire of love from the Heart of Christ to set our hearts on fire.

Prayer is, basically, our responding to God, Who is speaking to our hearts. Prayer takes on various forms. We reflect on His Word in the Scriptures, or we offer prayers so very familiar to us since childhood, or we take part in Lectio Divina, or we experience the Lord Jesus embracing us through those outward signs called sacraments, especially Penance and Holy Eucharist. Whatever the form, we are, in fact, opening our very being – symbolized by the heart – to God's transforming touch. Our hearts are being filled with God's loving presence.

Fasting or other forms of penance provide us with a kind of self-discipline which, in effect, frees us from whatever has been enslaving us and strengthens our wills to do good and to reject evil. Fasting and other forms of penance also enable us to make reparation for our sins and the sins of others. In this way, our hearts beat with greater freedom to love as Christ desires that we love. These same hearts also beat with sorrow and reparation for past sinfulness.

Almsgiving means reaching out with acts of charity, especially to those most needy around us and beyond us. Love of God, if it is authentic, must also include love for all people, especially the ones who truly are in need. When our hearts are aflame with God's love, they are also aflame with the kind of love that is able to respond to those who are in trouble and afflicted in any way, and to sacrifice for them. Taking part in the Operation Rice Bowl initiative or in other programs and projects of Catholic Charities are two tangible ways to give alms. Thus, almsgiving is truly real in hearts on fire with love.

Yes, this Lenten season is a grace-filled time for each one of us to be transformed as our hearts are set on fire with God's love, a love we shall more faithfully return to him and more willingly give to others.

I wish each of you a blessed Lent. Please know that you are in my daily prayers as I hope to be in yours, so that together, we can go forth with hearts on fire with love.

Faithfully in the Heart of Christ,

*+ Paul S. Loverde*

Most Reverend Paul S. Loverde, Bishop of Arlington





# staff

[www.stmaryfred.org](http://www.stmaryfred.org)

1009 Stafford Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401

<b>SUNDAY MASS</b>	Saturday Vigil 5 & 7pm Sunday 7, 8:30, 10:30am, 12:30, 2pm (Spanish), 5pm, 7:01pm 10:30am at Holy Cross Academy
<b>DAILY MASS</b>	Mon.-Fri.: 6:30 & 9am; Sat., 9am First Friday 8pm Holy Days of Obligation, as announced
<b>DEVOTIONS</b>	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
<b>CONFESSION</b>	Wed., 7-9pm; Sat., 8am & 3:30pm, or by appt.
<b>PARISH OFFICE</b>	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
<b>HOLY CROSS ACADEMY</b>	540-286-1600 250 Stafford Lakes Parkway Fredericksburg, Virginia 22406-7234 Principal, Sr. Susan Louise Eder, O.S.F.S.
<b>ST. MARY PRESCHOOL</b>	373-7553 Director, Nanci Scharf
<b>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE</b>	373-6491 Director, Aristides Lucas Associate Director, Karen Sturtevant
<b>YOUTH MINISTRY</b>	373-6491 Director, Leo Chavarria
<b>BAPTISMS</b>	Parish registration (90 days) and class required. Please contact the parish office to schedule the date at least four weeks in advance.
<b>MARRIAGE</b>	Parish registration required; contact parish six months in advance to begin preparation.
<b>JOIN US</b>	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 3/9/14	\$39,729.
Church in Central & Eastern Europe	9,079.
Black & Indian Missions	6,618.
Poor Box for St Vincent de Paul (wk ending 3/9/14)	270.
SCRIP Profit for the week	96.
Year to Date:	\$5,957.

*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 this weekend is for the Parish Building Fund.

## Second Collection for Little Sisters of the Poor

During the weekend of March 22 and 23, a second collection will be taken to help the Little Sisters of the Poor, who have provided a home and compassionate care for Virginia's elderly poor since 1874. The Sisters will be present at all the Masses to explain their mission and to ask for your support. Because their residents are of limited financial means, the Little Sisters depend upon the charity of friends and benefactors to operate their Home. Your generosity will enable the Sisters to continue welcoming the needy elderly and providing them with the love and dignity they deserve. For more information, visit their website at [www.littlesistersof-thepoorvirginia.org](http://www.littlesistersof-thepoorvirginia.org)

## 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.

To set up an account online at [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://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@holycrossweb.com](mailto:scripcoordinator@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](http://www.staffordjunction.org).

## Choose Life Reflection

In Lent, the Church enters more deeply into meditation on the suffering, death, and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus. Life was sacred because He made it, and by His Passion and Resurrection it is even more sacred because it is now raised to the heights of Heaven to reign with Him. *Lord, I am filled with wonder at Your love for human life – everyone, born and unborn! May our laws and practices treat humans with the highest respect due them.*

Articles must be submitted two weeks prior to publication. Send articles to [stmary@stmaryfred.org](mailto:stmary@stmaryfred.org). Thanks!

## Mass with Anointing of the Sick - March 22 at 9am

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.

## Fridays in Lent

Stations of the Cross 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 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.

**Abstinence and Fasting.** Every Friday in Lent is a day of Abstinence, when we don't eat meat. Abstinence is observed by all Catholics above 14 years of age. Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence. Fasting means eating one full meal with the other two not equal to the full one. Catholics between ages 18 and 59 are required to fast.

Masses were offered in February for the following unscheduled intentions: May Curran, John Prohaska, Tom Hagg, Mary Damato, Lois Michell, Sr. John Elizabeth's Father, +Gustavo Colom, John Sturtevant, +Charles Atkins, +Marcia Giger, Lisa Storm, Barbara & Christopher Michalski, Adam & Rita Stanislawski, Cass & Ian Hamre, and Angelica Mata.

## 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, Ralph Steining, Lucy Holzworth, Fr. Tom Brown

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 Ebenal, 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 +Mary Skinner and all the benefactors of St. Mary.

## Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

### march

#### 17 MONDAY

6:30 +Anne & John Cunningham  
9am Linda & +Bob Kaila  
Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38

#### 18 TUESDAY

6:30 Sr. Mary Vincent  
9am +Evelyn Derouin  
Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12

#### 19 WEDNESDAY

6:30 John Harcharek  
9am Elaine Meade & +Dolores  
2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Rom  
4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21,  
24a or Lk 2:41-51a

#### 20 THURSDAY

6:30 +Lottie Birdsall  
8:20\* +Brendan Cusack  
9am Martin Eastman  
Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

#### 21 FRIDAY

6:30 +Thomasina DeCarbo  
9am +Richard Salazar  
Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Mt  
21:33-43, 45-46

#### 22 SATURDAY

9am +Virginia Finochetti  
5pm Mike Huie  
7pm +Thomas Rozzi  
Mi 7:14-15; 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

#### 23 SUNDAY

7am Mary Jean & +Bill Peters  
8:30 Joseph Stanislawski  
10:30 For the Parish  
10:30\* Lois Michell  
12:30pm Our Military Living & Decd.  
2pm Father Lino  
5pm +Stephanie Rogers  
7:01pm +Ruth Rockwell  
Ex 17:3-7; Ps 95; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8;  
Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a,  
40-42

\*indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy