

Third Sunday
of Lent

23 March 2014



what's coming

march

23 Sunday, Third Sunday of Lent

Coffee and donuts after morning Masses. (Thurman Brisben Center)
10am-12noon, Columbian Squires/Roses, John Paul II House.
12noon-2pm, English as a Second Language Classes, 2nd Floor, Parish Life Center.
3pm, Adult Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room. *Class is full!*
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.

24 Monday, Lenten Weekday

10am, Legion of Mary, Room 100, Parish Life Center.
7:30pm, Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, Church.
8pm, Young Adult Ministry meeting, John Paul II House.

25 Tuesday, The Annunciation of the Lord

7pm, Confirmation Rehearsal (teams 1-10), church.

26 Wednesday, Lenten Weekday

6pm, YOUCAT - Youth Ministry Program, John Paul II House.
7:30pm, Women's Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room.
8pm, Legion of Mary, Parish Life Center 100.

27 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.
7pm, Confirmation Rehearsal (teams 11-21), church.
7:30pm, Men's Group, Blue and Grey Brewery.

28 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 Council of Catholic Women, Parish Life Center.
7:30pm, Stations of the Cross, church.
8pm, Via de la Cruz, church.

29 Saturday, Lenten Weekday

8am, SHARE Food Distribution, Parish Life Center.
9:15am, Spanish Prayer Workshop, Courtyard Meeting Room.
10:30am, Confirmation Mass (teams 1-10), church.
2pm, Confirmation Mass (teams 11-22), church.
SCRIP Sales after 5pm Mass.

30 Sunday, Fourth Sunday of Lent

Coffee and donuts after morning Masses. (Council of Catholic Women)
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.

31 Monday, Lenten Weekday

10am, Legion of Mary, Room 100, Parish Life Center.
7:30pm, Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, Church.
8pm, Young Adult Ministry meeting, John Paul II House.



saint
mary

of the
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION
Roman Catholic Church



this week's
bulletin:

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nota bene (*note well, please*):

- ✠ Our **New Family Welcome Meeting** will be held today, **Sunday, March 23** at **11:30am**, starting in the church.
- ✠ 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.
- ✠ **Confessions** on **March 26** will begin at approximately 8pm, due to Confession for our Religious Education students.
- ✠ Tickets for the **Mother-Daughter Tea** to be held on **April 12** are on sale after Masses this weekend and next weekend.
- ✠ Come join the party at our annual **Parish Dinner Dance** on **May 3** at the Jepson Alumni Center. See page 8 for ticket information.
- ✠ **Coffee and Donuts** are available after Sunday morning Masses in the Parish Life Center.
- ✠ **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



**saint
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Dear Good People of Saint Mary,

Lent came later this year and still took us by surprise. But it has been an amazing season so far. I wonder what God has in store for us yet; we already have such a full and particularly special season of events this year.

And you have responded. There is nothing more satisfying in ministry than when you realize that what you are blessed to offer is truly needed and a blessing to those in your care.

We have rarely seen such a response as we had this week at the Parish Mission talks of Fr. Corrado. His message was so relevant and personal to everyone because he has a particular gift of speaking the truth in a way that we can hear it, I think. I saw a lot of people surprised by what they probably already knew but just never heard it put so simply and clearly. He has given us a message that needs to be shouted from the rooftops and deeply received in our hearts. Thanks for coming.

Again, the 5-week series on Scripture and the Mass... well, I didn't think we would probably get even a dozen to come on Sunday nights. Typical to me, I had an announcement ready to say that we didn't have enough response to keep it on the calendar and would try to reschedule later in the spring when people might have more time to plan. Well, the available room's capacity is 60 and the response was so great that we had to add an additional Sunday afternoon class - both classes are filled to capacity. Thanks for coming.

Adoration this week for 40 Hours - well, perhaps thanks to new technology and online sign-ups - we had all the times completely filled for adoration of Jesus in the Eucharist for the entire cycle of hours. Last year we had difficulty, asking and asking. I get the sense a shift has taken place here, people are praying more, people are more involved. The message is heard and seen in our actions. So, again, thanks for coming.

We continue now in the season of Lent with a particular focus on all those who are preparing for sacraments. You may have noticed all the little sheep on the steps of the sanctuary. Each one was placed there when our children finished their First Reconciliation last week. At each prayer service throughout the week we listened to the parable of the Good Shepherd who goes out into the valleys and thickets and looks for the lost sheep. I asked the kids before confession, "Who is the lost sheep in the story?" Every time, they replied, "We are!" Reconciliation is a powerful reality, and the lambs on the steps are a strong visual of how the gift of reconciliation is given to our community in a new way through all these children. So, remember to pray for them during this season.

Also, we pray for all the Elect and the Candidates (adults and young people), who are preparing in RCIA or Religious Education to receive the sacraments - Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist - at the Easter Vigil. I had hoped to place their photos in the vestibule of the church this year so you can recognize them, maybe we will get it done for the season of Easter after they have become members of the Church... but we must remember to pray for all of them now, as they are in these last weeks of preparation. At various Masses coming up (3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent) we will have what are called "Scrutinies," opportunities for the Assembly to pray for them at Masses, to help them to be ready for the grace and joy of the sacraments. These are also great reminders for ourselves, to renew our desire for the same grace and joy.

Finally, don't forget the Living Stones on the steps in front of the altar. As in other years, you are invited to place a stone there for anyone you have invited to come back to the Mass, family members or friends who have been away. The Stones are powerful reminders for us to pray for them, too.

God bless you. *Fr. Don*

holy cross academy

Collaborative Learning

"You learn to speak by speaking, to study by studying, to run by running, to work by working; and just so, you learn to love by loving. All those who think to learn in any other way deceive themselves."

St. Francis de Sales

You may ask, "What are human flashcards?" Sixth grade students at Holy Cross Academy can certainly answer that question. While learning about Ancient Greece, students worked with partners and photographed each other demonstrating a non-verbal clue to learn the names of gods and goddesses and what they represent. It was an interactive study tool which was later posted for students to access at home.

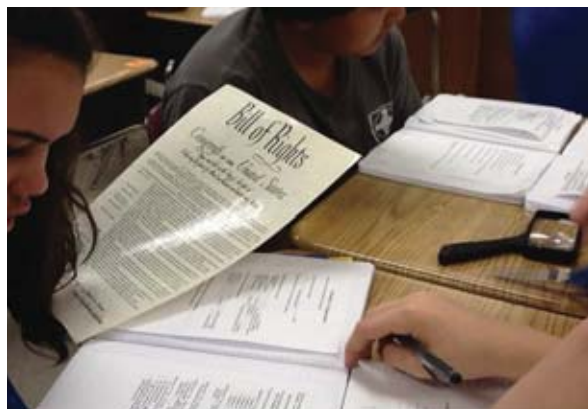
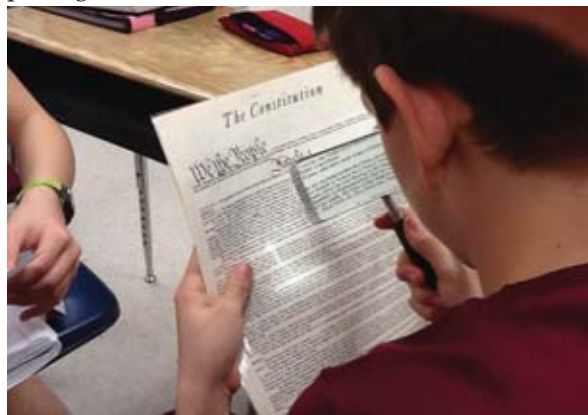
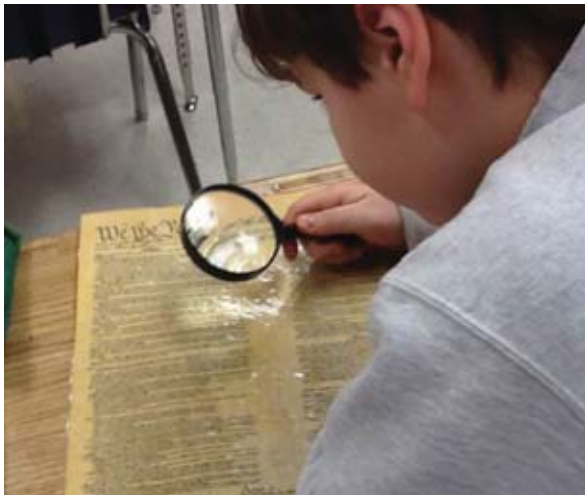
Wonder about our beginning, our rights and our great nation fill the minds of the 7th grade students. They are engaged in a study of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. They worked together in small groups to interpret these documents, answer sets of questions and discuss the importance of our freedom and respect for the USA.

Eighth graders are traveling through the Great Depression. They are learning causes and effects by participating in small plays which they present in class. Participating in these plays make the lessons meaningful and long-lasting for the students.

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



Seventh graders study our country's important documents

The Bishop's Homily from the First Sunday of Lent

*Given by Arlington Bishop Paul S. Loverde at the
Cathedral of Saint Thomas More in Arlington.*

As you know, in a number of ways, like homilies, articles, and especially my pastoral letter published at the end of the Year of Faith on November 24, 2013, I have been urging us to draw closer to the Lord Jesus within the Community of His Disciples the Church. Why? So that our hearts can be set on fire with the love flowing from His Heart!

After all, if our hearts are truly on fire, that is, if they are aflame with love for Jesus Christ and for all our brothers and sisters, both those who are fellow disciples with us and those who are not yet so, if this kind of love is present within us, then we will experience "the joy of the gospel, (which) fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus", as Pope Francis reminds us (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, n 1). With that inner joy comes the ability to cope and to persevere as we travel life as well as an enthusiastic desire to reach out and to invite others to come to Jesus themselves.

However, we need to ask an honest question of ourselves: "Are our hearts really on fire with love for Jesus Christ and for others? Or, are they lukewarm, or, sadly, about to burn out?" Is it possible that hearts once aflame with love for God and neighbor can grow lukewarm or burn out? Yes, it is not only possible, but it actually happens. Why? Because we encounter temptations, which, if not overcome, lead us away from the Lord and, thereby, dampen and eventually extinguish the fire of love within our hearts.

In today's Scripture readings, we heard how our first parents Adam and Eve faced temptations and also how Jesus Christ Himself faced temptation. We also learned that Adam and Eve surrendered while Jesus Christ was victorious.

But, first, let us understand better the meaning of "temptation." We usually understand the verb "to tempt" to mean "to entice someone to do wrong" or "to lead a person into sin" or "to try to persuade someone to take a wrong turn or make a wrong move." But, while these meanings are not wrong, there is a more basic meaning to the

verb "to tempt." In most instances, the word in Greek — the word recorded in the Gospel — has a quite different meaning: it means "to test" far more than "to lead into sin." So, what Adam and Eve experienced in the garden in Eden was a test by the Evil One; what Jesus experienced in the desert was a test by the same Evil One. What we experience each day are tests that come from the Evil One, the devil, and also from our weakened human nature and from the circumstances surrounding us in our culture.

Why is it that the Gospel account proclaimed on the first Sunday of Lent each year is always the temptations of Christ? The reason is to remind us that, even as the Lord Jesus was tempted, that is, tested, in His human nature, and He overcame these tests, so too, you and I, as we travel life, will be likewise tested every day, and if we remain united to Jesus, then we too will overcome these temptations, whatever their format. Should we fail and fall, the Lord Jesus is our Savior. If only we go to Him with sorrow and the desire to try to avoid sin in the future, we can be forgiven and restored. So, the bottom line for us is encouragement and hope.

As we ask ourselves this day, "Are our hearts on fire?" and should we answer honestly that the fire is not as strong as it should be, let us not give up. Rather, keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, let us beg Him for the grace to turn back to Him in true sorrow, to reach out for His love that forgives and restores, so that our hearts can be re-enchanted with the love flowing from His Heart.

Today, as we hear how Adam and Eve failed when tested yet how Jesus Christ overcame when tested, let us really cling to the Lord Jesus, so that in Him, we can overcome any temptation or test. It is only when we let go of Him that we fall and become too weak to resist.

When all is said and done, we do want to possess hearts on fire with love for God and others. This Lent, through prayer, fasting and other forms of penance, and almsgiving, let us be strengthened so as to overcome any test or temptation. In doing that, our hearts will more and more be set on fire, so that on Easter, we will rise with the Risen Christ and go forth with hearts even more on fire! Be encouraged and be at peace! I wish you a Blessed Lent.

Catechists Write:

Why do I enjoy being a Catechist?

I teach first grade CCD and find that my students humble me with their belief and their honest questions. They share with me their childlike innocence and when they question what is wrong in the world, I find myself looking at things differently, less skeptically, more in a way that I feel as if I CAN make a difference just by wishing things right and living the way I should. The way God wants me to. My kids are so full of love and so willing to give. They are also willing to tell you when they don't like something or don't think something is right! And they usually follow it up with a hug. What a great way to be! And their humanity never ceases to surprise me. The way they help each other and are willing to share. I hope my students enjoy learning from me as much as I enjoy learning from them!
Diane M. Beyer, Freelance Writer

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.

Michael Horne, a parishioner of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church, is the program director for Catholic Charities in Fredericksburg.

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-clemente@aol.com. An adult will meet with callers to preview the task and determine how many teens will be needed to complete it.

As the program director, Horne now spends his days counseling people with depression, stress, addictions or marital problems in one of the most underserved communities in the state.

Horne was born in New Orleans in 1978, but spent his youth moving around the world before settling in Texas while in high school. As a young adult, Horne began to pursue a career in the entertainment industry. He studied radio, television and film at the University of Texas and he spent several years dabbling in acting, writing, directing and production as an audio technician for PBS in Houston.

After a few years, Horne realized that although his job was interesting, it was not fulfilling. "I really just didn't feel that God was calling me to be there," he said. "Entertaining people is good, but is it really helping people?" At the same time, Horne was experiencing a spiritual reversion, returning to the Catholic faith he had left behind as a young adult.

<http://www.zoominfo.com/p/Michael-Horne/1538981354>

Operation Rice Bowl

This week we visit the Annaliza and Danilo family who live in a coastal town in the Philippines. In 2012 their village was destroyed by a major typhoon and CRS helped rebuild the community. Read their story of hope in your Lenten Calendar and watch the video at: <http://www.crsricebowl.org/stories-of-hope/week-3/>

As a community of faith, we have the obligation to reach out to those who are most in need. The Gospel calls us to take action on behalf of the most vulnerable members of society.

Confirmation Rehearsal Reminders

Teams 1 through 10 will meet on Tuesday, March 25 at 7 pm. Teams 11 through 21 will meet Thursday March 27 at 7pm. We will begin in the Parish Life Center. Please plan to be at the Parish Life Center by 6:45 pm so we can start on time. Sponsors are asked to attend rehearsal if possible. If a sponsor cannot make it to rehearsal a parent can come and stand in so that they can communicate the information provided at rehearsal.



youth

parish life

VIRTUS Update Training for Volunteers

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

Tuesday, March 25

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!

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 (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 28, 2014. Please join us as we continue to discover how to better understand our spouse. We will 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 JP II house. Babysitting is available. Please contact Rocio at rocio.o.atkinson@gmail.com or Suzi Eggleston at 540-834-0752 for further questions.

Mother-Daughter Tea - Tickets on Sale

Please join us on Saturday, April 12 from 2:30-4pm in the Parish Life Center where we will enjoy afternoon tea complete with an assortment of finger sandwiches and delectable pastries. There will also be door prizes. Janice Lancaster, a certified image consultant will show us how to "accessorize our personality." She will reveal the latest trends in accessories for spring and which styles are most suitable for our fashion personality.

Bring your Mother, Daughter, Mother-in-law, daughter-in-law, granddaughter, a special friend, for a delightful afternoon together.

Tickets are \$10 and will be available after Masses on March 22/23, and March 29/30. Contact Suzi Eggleston at 540-834-0752 or Teresa Hopkins at teresa-hop@cox.net for details.

Start Gathering Your Donations, Please

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.

Married couples - renew, refresh, rekindle your marriage!

Today's gospel: "Whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

Come experience the life giving water of Christ at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend, April 11-13 in Fredericksburg. Enter Holy Week with a new outlook. Questions? Tom & Mary Beth Spring 540-368-9097. Apply: www.renewmarriage-vanorth.org.

Ministerio Hispano

Concierto de Oracion, "Ahi tienes a tu Madre." May 3, 7:30pm a 11:15pm. Invitada Especial: Hermana Glenda. Congreso de Mujeres, "Mujeres de Fe." May 24, 8:30am a 7:30pm. Invitados Especiales: Diana Sanchez y Oscar Osorio.

Lugar: Parroquia San Antonio de Padua, 3305 Glen Carlyn Rd., Falls Church. Para mas informacion, llamar a Omar Solorzano a 703-824-3582 o email info@mjesusestavivo.org.

Legion of Mary

Spiritual Direction, Prayer, Active Works. Meaningful fellowship that makes a difference. Is this "Pathway to Holiness" of interest? Come and see what one of the Church's largest lay ministries can offer you! The Legion of Mary has two praesidia at our parish: one meets on Mondays at 10am; the other on Wednesdays 8pm, Rm 100, in Parish Life Center. For more information, contact gcarneal@cox.net.

Women's Cursillo in Fredericksburg

Join with other women from parishes in the "southern" part of the Diocese for a weekend you will remember forever, a Cursillo Weekend, on May 1-4. This is an exciting time for us to get away and realize our spiritual connection/relationship with the Risen Christ...Come and See. Mary Lou McGonigle - macml@comcast.net 540-972-4673 or www.arlingtoncursillo.org

Lent at St. Mary Parish

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.

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.)

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.

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.

"as I have done for 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 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*

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!

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/retreatfor-women/index.aspx>.

Funds Needed for Dinners

St. Mary parish volunteers have a strong commitment to the Thurman Brisben Homeless Shelter. We provide two dinners a month for the residents AND while we are there we make bag lunches for the following day. Many thanks to those who have donated funds in the past to purchase ingredients for the dinners at the Homeless Shelter. It is much appreciated by the residents. If you can donate funds for ingredients, please call Patti Kaila at 540-786-3825 or email home@bestappraisal.com. Every dollar helps!

We hope you were able to participate in our 2014 Parish Lenten Mission this past week. The evening talks, Forgiveness Leads to Wellness and Joy, were led by Rev. Dennis Corrado and were well received by the many parishioners (and friends) in attendance.



so you must also do"



The children at the Creche Orphanage in the Holy Land.

The 120 or so orphans are cared for by the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul, who have operated the orphanage since 1884. St. Mary parish has made a donation through our annual Christmas Charity Collection for the past several years. The children are provided additional medical possibilities through donations such as ours.

Dear benefactors and friends,
How can we express our gratitude for your continuous kind gestures towards these deprived children ... You who do their best to participate in ensuring for these innocent creatures the most important for their growth: health ... medication ... hospitalization ... the only thing that we can do is to thank the Lord for the interest and love you have to those little creatures.

May the Lord accept your generosity and your love and shower you with his choicest blessings. Be assured, dear benefactors and friends, of our gratitude and our prayers.

The Children surround you with their tenderness.

E. Noirot
Daughters of Charity
St. Vincent
Bethlehem
Sister Elisabeth NOIROT,
Daughter of Charity.

Community Resource from the Health Ministry

Do you have questions about the new Affordable Care Act? The national enrollment deadline is March 31.

Take time to attend a local "Patient Navigator Town Hall" sponsored by Mary Washington Healthcare and Advanced Patient Advocacy. The event will be held on **Tuesday, March 25 from 6-8pm** at the Fick

Conference Center, on the Mary Washington Hospital Campus, 1301 Sam Perry Boulevard.

The Fick Conference Center is located on the 2nd Floor of Carl Silver Health Center (Moss Free Clinic).

The Town Hall will offer an opportunity for you to learn about new, affordable health plan choices, ask questions about the Affordable Care Act, and get help signing up for health insurance that meets your needs.

The Town Hall is open to the public and refreshments will be served.

Questions about the program can be addressed to VANavigator4@apallc.com or heather.trascapoulos@mwhc.com; or you may call 540-741-2541.

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 3/16/14	\$36,717.
Parish Building Fund	11,924.
Black & Indian Missions (addl)	2,047.
Poor Box for St Vincent de Paul (wk ending 3/9/14)	270.
SCRIP Profit for the week Year to Date:	116. \$6,074.

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.

Second Collection for Little Sisters of the Poor

This weekend 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. 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-hepoorvirginia.org

Catholic Relief Services - March 29 & 30

How Will You Help Jesus in Disguise?
In the struggles that each of us faces today, we sometimes forget to see Jesus in everyone we meet. The Catholic Relief Services Collection never forgets. Next weekend our parish will take up this collection, which supports six Catholic agencies that touch more than 100 million lives around the world. In providing

humanitarian aid, resettling and welcoming displaced individuals and families, and advocating on behalf of victims of atrocities such as human trafficking, the organizations supported the CRS Collection act from their belief that every individual is an equal heir of Christ's love and care. How will you help Jesus in disguise? Thank you for your continued, and generous, support of those in need.

Set up a SCRIP Account

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 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 March

Stafford Junction is 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!

Choose Life Reflection

"Be kind, especially with the infirm. Love them well ... Oh yes! Be kind. It is a great grace God is giving you. In serving the aged, it is he himself whom you are serving." — St. Jeanne Jugan, Founder of the Little Sisters of the Poor

We pray for Christians who have become discouraged in their efforts to promote the dignity of human life: May the Lord give them a hope that sustains them in their mission and the grace to renew their spirits.

All Night Adoration, April 4

All Night Adoration for First Friday on April 4 will start at 9pm, immediately following the 8pm Mass and Spanish Stations of the Cross. Please sign up today for All Night Adoration.

"Eucharistic Adoration outside Mass should become a particular commitment for individual parish and religious communities. Let us take the time to kneel before Jesus present in the Eucharist, in order to make reparation by our faith and love for the acts of carelessness and neglect, and even the insults which our Savior must endure in many parts of the world." (Blessed Pope John Paul II, Anniversary of Death April 2)



St. Mary Prayer List

Please Pray for those who are sick or in need, especially: 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 Steinger, Lucy Holzworth, Fr. Tom Brown, David Arnold, David Carr

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 +Vivian Gray and all the benefactors of St. Mary.

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

march

24 MONDAY

6:30 Robert Shircliff
9am Abigail Ibarra
2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Lk 4:24-30

25 TUESDAY

6:30 +Joan Ellen Villani
9am Michael Gardner
Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

26 WEDNESDAY

6:30 +Kevin O'Keefe
9am +Bob Kaila
Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19

27 THURSDAY

6:30 +Wayne Dean
8:20* +Charles Miller
9am Claire Chavarria
Jer 7:23-28; Lk 11:14-23

28 FRIDAY

6:30 +Christine McWhirt
9am +George McWhirt
Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34

29 SATURDAY

9am +Barbara Wallace
5pm Janie Sherry
7pm +Virginia Rose
Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14

30 SUNDAY

7am +Richard Hippler
8:30 For the Parish
10:30 Nguyen Family
10:30* Mike Storck
12:30pm +Virginia Rose
2pm +Myrna Martinez
5pm Elizabeth Nowack
7:01pm +William Gibney
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23;
Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9,
13-17, 34-38

*indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy