

Fourth Sunday
of Lent

30 March 2014

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



what's coming

march

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.

april

1 Tuesday, Lenten Weekday

6:30pm, Parent Gathering Speaker Series, Parish Life Center. See page 6.
7:30pm, Life in the Spirit Prayer Renewal Group, Courtyard Meeting Room.

2 Wednesday, Lenten Weekday (St. Francis of Paola, hermit)

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

3 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.

4 Friday, Lenten Weekday (St. Isidore, bishop and doctor of the church)

9:30am, St. Anne's Sisters in Faith (Mom's Group), John Paul II house.
6pm, Lenten Soup Supper, hosted by Catholic Youth Ministry.
7:30pm, Stations of the Cross, church.
8pm, First Friday Mass, church.
8:30pm, Stations of the Cross (in Spanish), church.
9pm, All night Eucharistic Adoration begins.

5 Saturday, Weekday

8am-12noon, Knights of Columbus Men's Retreat, Parish Life Center.
9:30am, Spanish Prayer Workshop, Courtyard Meeting Room.
10am, Baptisms, church.
2:30pm, Spanish Baptism Class, Room 204, Parish Life Center.
5pm, SCRIP Sales after 5pm Mass.
6-8:30pm, Monthly Parish Family Dinner, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Parish Life Center.
6pm, Holy Cross Academy Dinner and Auction, Holy Cross Academy.

6 Sunday, Fifth Sunday of Lent

Coffee and donuts after morning Masses. (Troop 1410)
12noon-2pm, English as a Second Language Classes, 2nd Floor, Parish Life Center.
3pm, Adult Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room. *Class is full!*
3:30-4:30pm, Middle School Youth Group, 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.





this week's
bulletin:

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holy cross
academy

6
education

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parish life

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outreach

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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, **First Friday Mass** at 8pm, and Stations of the Cross in Spanish at 8:30pm.
- ☞ The Knights of Columbus are hosting a **Men's Retreat** on **Saturday, April 5**. See page 8 for more information.
- ☞ Tickets for the **Mother-Daughter Tea** to be held on **April 12** are on sale after Masses this weekend.
- ☞ Sign up today for **All-Night Adoration** which takes place on **Friday, April 4** immediately following the 8pm Spanish Stations of the Cross.
- ☞ Come join the party at our annual **Parish Dinner Dance** on **May 3** at the Jepson Alumni Center. See page 9 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



Dear Good People of Saint Mary,

It's Tuesday night, we're finishing up Confirmation rehearsal for this weekend, as well as two periods of Religious Education Confessions tonight. Today we ordered the flowers for Easter Masses and did some final planning for Easter Sunday. And it's snowing outside on the Solemnity of the Annunciation! Enough, right? March 25th last year was already Monday of Holy Week!

God is full of surprises. Take the observance we have, for example, of the Annunciation of Mary. It is the feastday of the Incarnation of Jesus. In fact, I wonder why they don't call it that? It is clearly the Mystery that everyone is thinking of at Christmas, the Solemnity of the *Nativity* of our Lord, or *Birth*, but the actual event happens in silence, nobody realizes it. The Son of God actually became *Man* at the moment of his conception by the Holy Spirit in Mary. It should be proclaimed from the rooftops: the feast day that is ultimately Pro-Life. And yet, it was a secret at least to Mary and Joseph, the shepherds at the birth, finally all of us at the Epiphany. And it goes by unnoticed by most people every year, exactly nine months before the birth of Jesus.

I'm guessing that Mary shared the story among the Apostles and her friends and it became part of the Tradition of the Church's deposit of faith somewhere between the writing of the Gospel of Mark and the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. It is an intimate moment that can only be described by the one who received the Word of God.

I say God is full of surprises because this just isn't how we would do it, is it? We would be facebooking and tweeting and texting and blogging. You know it's true, and you know we are a little crazy. But God does all of this in silence. He has begun his work, he has a plan. The plan is unfolding already, and he begins to reveal it little by little - first to shepherds, then pagans, then everybody who listens to him and grows in faith. The faith

grows because, as God is revealing his truth, there is positive proof that God is already working which allows our faith to grow on the fact that God is already present. It isn't a life-or-death choice that confronts us. It is a Word that comes to us that is already in motion, a fruitfulness that we can already see. In the context of the past, it makes sense to our rational nature. Of course, that is no surprise: God made us with a rational nature, human reason, and then speaks to us in a way (words and deeds) that is *reasonable*. It is in our power to know, understand, grow in wisdom and share the truth that we have found.

It's like this in all of life. If you find yourself confused, or not fully understanding something about God, or life, or death, or spirituality, or the gifts through which God is calling you to full life in him -- well, just wait a bit for the revelation to unfold. So much of our life in God is waiting for him to reveal what we need when it is his time, and we receive it in patient trust knowing that God isn't going to ask us to do something and then leave us alone to somehow make it happen by ourselves. We know that the plan is in place, the work is already begun, even if we don't clearly see it right now, because that is how God is. He prepares the world for what is coming, and then helps us to grow into his call.

It is the center of Lent now. It might be the deepest moment of inquiry that you have ever known, it might be a time of doubt, even confusion. The world has done its best to overshadow the message of Jesus and we need to acknowledge that for the evil that it is. But with our confidence in God and his plan we know that all we need to be is attentive and faithful. Keep listening! Keep watching! In time we will see the depths of his love for us, the way in which he lays down his own life so that we might live, and suddenly it all makes sense.

God bless you. *Fr. Don*

holy cross academy



A National
Blue Ribbon
School, 2012

March into Reading

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

— Dr. Seuss, I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!

Holy Cross Academy was recently invaded by book characters! Students in Kindergarten through 5th grade transformed into their favorite book character, paraded around the school and into Father Brisson Hall for our annual Book Character Dress-up Day! All the children had their moment of fame as they held the microphone and introduced their character then frolicked down the aisle back to their place. The paparazzi was everywhere capturing moments of this annual event which celebrates and encourages reading.

Our preschool students commemorated Dr. Seuss's birthday by creating and sporting Thing 1 and Thing 2 and Cat in the Hat hats. It doesn't stop there! They also relished a scrumptious breakfast of "Green Eggs and Ham." These amazingly memorable activities support their lessons on rhyming words and early reading skills. Reading is very important at Holy Cross Academy and it all starts in Preschool!

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. 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 and tell you all about the wonderful things happening here.



faith formation

Thanks
from
Fr. Dennis
Corrado

Dear "newly acquired" Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Fredericksburg branch:

I have been reading your prayer requests over and over again. I am very deeply moved by the needs and the hope and the faith expressed in them. I always said when I prayed for some transitory thing, I was often disappointed but when I needed faith, hope or charity, God supplied me through grace, the Eucharist, family and friends. May God do the same for each of you.

I have held your many requests literally to my heart as I pray for them imitating the enormous heart of St. Philip Neri and his great trust in God's enduring love.

My days with you....despite that SNOW!.... were a revelation of how even a very large community can come together in prayer and song and laughter and feel the abiding presence God's Love. I think the Holy Spirit rocked the building a few times.

I am very grateful to your Pastor and parish priests and their amazing staff of dedicated colleagues for helping me feel part of a very blessed Community of faith.

And I am stunned...even into silence....(which as you probably can figure by now is RARE for me) by your bountiful, generous gifts. I am told the total of the offerings came to \$10,540!! How can I express my gratitude in this feeble letter?

I will pray for you over and over, each day. St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish will have "pride of place" in my prayers and Masses.

And if God so wills, I look forward to another visit some day down the road.

May God's kindly Light lead us on
and may Easter Joy abound in your homes and hearts this year.

Un abbraccio forte a tutti

F. Dennis, c.o.
of the Oratory



An Introduction to Life in the Spirit

You are invited to An Introduction to Life in the Spirit. This new adult program will take place on Tuesday evenings (7:30-9pm) mostly in the church from April 29 to June 17.

Pope Francis: *"I invite all Christians to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ."*

Come because you are hungry!
Come because you are in need of refreshment.
Come because you want more of the Holy Spirit,
as we make our journey from Easter to Pentecost!

Let us know you are coming - please call the Parish Office at 540-373-6491.

"Let us rediscover the beauty of being baptized in the Holy Spirit" (Pope Benedict XVI)

Catechists Write:

Why are Religious Education classes important?

I grew up in the Catholic Church, went to catechism classes faithfully, but never felt I was taught the scope of things that students today are taught. I wasn't encouraged to ask too many questions. So I try to encourage my students to ask things that may be concerning them, or about things they just don't quite "get."

It is important to instill the foundations and understanding for why we believe what we do, why we do what we do, why we are who we are, when children are young. It's important that they know and understand that it's OK to ask questions. They can explore as much as they want in their yearning to understand their faith and the world around them. And to have qualified, caring adults and teachers to answer questions or explore right alongside the children is vital to their continued and lifelong growth in the faith! Our curiosity should never be extinguished or discouraged. Religious education classes are a great way to nurture that curiosity and growth so it can continue throughout their lives and into the lives of their children, and build a solid love of faith and God through understanding. They also become great stewards for the Catholic faith! It is easy to explain and share what you love and understand! Diane M. Beyer, Freelance Writer

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.

Video Games & Parenting: Dealing with the New Space Invaders

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. Video games, used in moderation, can teach children important skills for life and work. They can learn to collaborate, make effective decisions, take wise risks and solve complex problems. Research has also shown that young people who play too many violent video games behave more violently than those who don't.

Come to Dr. Horne's presentation and he will help you work out a balance. The presentation will cite many studies, explore the effectiveness of video games as a powerful learning tool, help parents get a clear understanding of the pros and cons of video games and provide useful guidance.

Technology is here to stay, let's harness it to improve the quality of life of our children. See you on Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the Parish Life Center.

Operation Rice Bowl

Even when we are unsure about God's plan for us or for the world, let us remain open to his works. This openness to God's glory is the true "sight" Jesus speaks of when he says, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see." Through His cross and Resurrection, Jesus brings this clear vision of God's glory to those whose eyes have been previously closed to it; this is the mercy he offers to us!

Catholic social teaching tells us that there is great dignity in work and that we must protect the rights of workers, not just because work enables individuals to provide for their families, but because God is at work when we are at work, even if our tasks seem trivial, even if we can't find that job we really want. God calls us to action. "Try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord," Paul advises the Ephesians. "Take no part in the fruitless works of darkness." So then, let us be fruitful, and let us be sure we empower others to be so as well. Read Timothy and his family's story of hope in your Lenten Calendar and watch the video at: <http://www.crsricebowl.org/stories-of-hope/week-4/>



parish life

St. Anne's Sisters in Faith - April 4

Our meeting is Friday April 4. Please join us as we welcome Deacon Delio for the last of his talks on women saints. Deacon Delio will share great insights on improving our faith walk. We begin with 9am Mass followed by refreshments and Deacon Delio's talk. We meet at the JP II House from 9:45-11:30am. Babysitting is available. Please contact Rocio Atkinson at Rocio.o.atkinson@gmail.com or Suzi Eggleston at 540-834-0752.

Parish Men's Retreat - Saturday, April 5

Please plan on attending the St. Mary's Men's Retreat on April 5 from 7am to 12:15pm. The retreat is free. The retreat is open to all men of the parish. Be sure to invite your friends from Mass. The retreat begins with holy hour at 7am and Mass. A light brunch will be served. This year's theme is "Chastity and the role that a man has in keeping faithful to his vocation." For more information contact Tommy Lyons at chancellor@kofc4034.org

Family Fish Fry - April 5

The April Family Dinner, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will be held on Saturday, April 5 from 6 to 8:30pm in the Parish Life Center. The menu includes deep fried fish, hush puppies, roasted red potatoes, coleslaw, and ice cream. The profit will be donated to Holy Cross Academy. The dinner is open to the public and pay-at-the-door. Takeouts are available. The cost is Adults: \$7, Seniors (60&up): \$6, Teens: \$6, Children (7-12): \$5, Children (under 7): Free. The maximum cost per family is \$25.

Parish Book Club - April 8

The parish book club will meet on Tuesday, April 8, at 10am in the John Paul II House to discuss *The Miracle of Father Kapaun: Priest, Soldier, and Korean War Hero* by Roy Wenzl. Fr. Kapaun, a Kansas native, was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously by President Obama at the White House in April of 2013. He is also up for canonization. Join us to learn more about this amazing Army chaplain who died in a POW camp. More information: Kathleen Mahoney at 540-371-2073 or bmah761569@aol.com

Spend Time with the Girls - April 12

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 teresahop@cox.net for details.

Spring Cleaning? Save Your Stuff!

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.

Renew, restore, rekindle your marriage!

"While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." Christ is our light and He can show us the way to a better marriage. Restore, renew and rekindle your marriage at an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekend is April 11-13 in Fredericksburg, VA. For more information visit our website at: renewmarriage-vanorth.org or call Tom & Mary Beth Spring 540-368-9097.

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.

Parish Night Out 6

parish life

Parish Night Out 6

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. 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 fundrais-

ers in Williamsburg. They play a variety of music 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 create another great Anniversary evening at the Jepson Alumni Center May 3rd. 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.

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. Come and See. Mary Lou McGonigle - macml@comcast.net 540-972-4673 or www.arlingtoncursillo.org

Enter into Lent at St. Mary

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:

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*

St. Mary Preschool Openings for Fall

St. Mary Preschool is currently registering for the 2014-2015 school year. We have openings in both morning and afternoon 3 and 4 year old classes. Come join the fun in our Parish Preschool! For information please contact Mrs. Scharf at 373-7553.



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!

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The SVDP Thrift Shop is located in Greenwich Plaza off Lafayette Blvd and open Monday-Saturday, 10am-4pm, 540-898-9066. The shop is supported by your donations of furniture, clothing and household goods. Monetary donations may be placed in the Poor Boxes near the church doors. The proceeds from the Thrift Shop and your donations are used to help families in need in our community.

Bishop O'Connell HS Theatre

Bishop O'Connell Theater presents the classic musical "The Wizard of Oz." There is NO place like home! Performances are Friday and Saturday, April 4-5 at 7:30pm and Sunday, April 6 at 2pm. General admission tickets are \$10; students and seniors are \$5. Call the box office at 703-237-1448 to reserve your seat. Bishop O'Connell is located at 6600 Little Falls Road in Arlington.

Open House - St. Michael the Archangel HS - April 6

Students in grades 7-11 and their parents are invited to an Open House at St. Michael the Archangel High School in Fredericksburg, VA on Sunday, April 6, from 1-4pm. SMHS is an independent, coeducational high school centered in Catholic values. A wide variety of academic courses, electives, extra-curricular activities, and athletic programs are offered to provide students the opportunity to make the most of their high school years while laying the foundation for success in college and beyond. Space is still available in grades 9 through 12. To learn more, visit www.saintmi-

chaelhs.org, or call the school office at 540-548-8748. Please note: St. Michael High School is not affiliated with the Catholic Diocese of Arlington.

World Care Benefit, Apr 11

Enjoy an engaging evening with JustFaith founder Jack Jezreel and author Fr. Dan Horan, OFM on Friday, April 11 at 7pm at St. Francis Hall in Washington, D.C. Centered on the theme "Profoundly Changed: New Disciples for Peace, Justice, and Hope," this year's World Care Benefit and Celebration also features food, wine, and a silent auction. Proceeds benefit local non-profit Franciscan Mission Service. Ticket and sponsorship information can be found at <http://franciscanmissionservice.org/worldcare2014>

New Post-Abortion Healing Website

An invitation for help, healing and hope is waiting for you at www.helpafterabortion.org. It's a safe place to take the first step to learn more about healing after abortion. All inquiries are completely confidential. Talk to someone who understands. Contact us today for non-judgmental and compassionate care. For more information, please visit our website or call 888-456-HOPE (4673).

COURAGE Support Group

COURAGE is a group that meets regularly to offer fraternal, moral, and spiritual support for those who experience same-sex attraction and desire to live chaste lives according to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Meetings are for men and women and strict confidentiality is maintained. For more information, please contact Courage@arlingtondiocese.org or visit <http://couragec.net/index.htm>.

so you must also do"

Circle of Love Ministry

The CCW would like to share an opportunity to live Christ's words by loving our neighbors. Our Circle of Love committee wants you to be part of our mission by joining us in visiting the sick and home bound, providing needed rides to church or doctors, sharing meals with families in crises, babysitting, and fulfilling a variety of other needs. If you have a few hours to share and would be willing to join us, please send your name and e-mail or telephone number to emgccw@gmail.com and you will be contacted. We look forward to having you on our team.

If any parishioners are in need of assistance, please contact the CCW Circle of Love Ministry at emgccw@gmail.com or call the Parish Office.

Vocations

"The Lord looks on the heart." Are you being called to do the deeds of Christ as a priest or in the consecrated life, proclaiming the reign of the loving mercy of God our Father? Call Father J.D. Jaffe at 703-841-2514 or email j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org.

Diocesan Office of Multicultural Ministries

Asian and Pacific Islander Marian Pilgrimage

The Asians & Pacific Islanders for Mary Annual Pilgrimage 2014 will be on Saturday, May 10, from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, 400 Michigan Ave, NE, Washington D.C 20017. Join our shepherd, Bishop Loverde as the celebrant of this large, Marian pilgrimage. www.arlingtondiocese.org/multicultural.

Heartsongs; Lenten Reflections
Anh Sang Tin Mung (The Light of Good News) presents Lenten Reflections, a Heartsongs Concert Experience on Sunday, April 6 at 7:30 p.m. at Saint Ambrose Catholic Church, 3901 Woodburn Road, in Annandale. Join us for Catholic Folk Songs in Vietnamese and English. Admission is free. Reserve seats at www.hsttc-let.eventbrite.com.

Grow for Your Neighbor

Join the movement to Grow for Your Neighbor. GFYN is the people, organizations and businesses who support and participate in the movement to provide homegrown food to the recipients of the Fredericksburg Area Food Bank. Please consider donating a portion of your homegrown produce to the Fredericksburg Area Food Bank.

There are many ways you can support GFYN. In addition to growing and donating homegrown produce, GFYN welcomes your help promoting our program by tellings your schools, clubs and friends about the program. Please help nurture the growth of this newly sprouted program.

New to gardening and don't know where to start? GFYN has garden kits available for a \$66.40 donation. The kit comes complete with a 4x4 cedar garden box, 5 bags of square foot gardening soil, weed mat, square foot gardening grid, square foot gardening instructions, and a petition for young gardeners to pledge a portion of their produce to The Fredericksburg Area Food Bank. Kits can be ordered at www.sef4educa-

tion.org/ and will be available for pickup on May 3 at the Gateway Boulevard Home Depot. **Deadline to order one of these easy-to-use kits is Friday, April 4** to ensure delivery on May 3.

Join GFYN at The Fredericksburg Home Depot Community Day, Saturday May 3, 9am until 2pm for

- Square Foot Garden Demonstrations and Instruction by The Square Foot Garden Foundation
- Children's Workshops
- Vendors, Exhibits and Family Fun!

If you have any questions please contact info@growforyourneighbor.com or check out the website at www.growforyourneighbor.com/

"While the spirit of neighborliness was important on the frontier because neighbors were so few, it is even more important now because our neighbors are so many."

Lady Bird Johnson (1912-2007)



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 3/23/14	\$38,017.
Little Sisters of the Poor	13,910.
Parish Building Fund (addl)	3,317.
Poor Box for St Vincent de Paul (2 wks ending 3/23/14)	873.
SCRIP Profit for the week	230.
Year to Date:	\$6,304.

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.

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. This 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 April

The children's charity in April is the Operation Purple Program of the National Military Family Association. When you hear "Operation Purple camp" you should think: Kids Serve Too! The camps are a time for having fun, making friends, and reminding military kids that they are the Nation's youngest heroes.

The Operation Purple program was created in 2004 to fill a need identified by military parents to "help us help our kids." The mission of the Operation Purple program is to empower military children and their families to develop and maintain healthy and connected relationships, in spite of the current military environment. We do this through a variety of means, including the healing and holistic aspect of the natural world. The program is joint or "purple" — encompassing all Service branches, including the National Guard and Reserve.

Since its creation in 2004, the Operation Purple program has grown to serve approximately 45,000 military children and teens. The Operation Purple program also includes family retreats at national parks and specialized family camps geared to address the needs of children and families of our nation's wounded service members.

For more information, visit their website at <http://www.militaryfamily.org/our-programs/operation-purple/>

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

Proclaiming the Passion

At our Palm Sunday Masses and at the Good Friday Passion Liturgy all will again this year be invited to listen to the Passion. The words of the Jewish people will be read by one of the lectors, and not by the assembly as a whole. In this way, all may receive the proclamation of God's word.

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)

Choose Life Reflection

"In one way or another, everyone in society works in the service of humanity. Physicians have opportunities that a priest does not have, for our mission does not end when medicine is no longer of help. There still remains the soul that must be brought to God. Jesus says, 'Whoever visits the sick is helping me.' This is a priestly mission. Just as the priests can touch Jesus, so we doctors touch Jesus in the bodies of our patients: in the poor, the young, the old, and children." — St. Gianna Molla

We pray for medical workers who have renounced their involvement in abortion: May they obtain peace and consolation through the mercy of God, and may their conversions inspire others to respect the gift of life.

St. Mary Prayer List

Please Pray for those who are sick or in need, especially: 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 Steininger, Lucy Holzworth, Fr. Tom Brown, David Arnold, David Carr, Martin E. Zidek, Lucille Randazzo, Kelly and Andrew Wood

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 +“Duke” Zeller and all the benefactors of St. Mary.

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

march - april

31 MONDAY

6:30 Cecelia Lee
9am +Hixon & Rupar Family
Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

1 TUESDAY

6:30 Samantha Henry
9am Fr. Stephen Holmes
Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16

2 WEDNESDAY

6:30 +Leroy Alvin Besong
9am +Raoul Lherisson
Is 49:8-15; Jn 5:17-30

3 THURSDAY

6:30 +Edward Breitner
8:20* +Ryan Crane
9am +Elizabeth Tracey
Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

4 FRIDAY

6:30 Heather Ablondi
9am Fr. Keith Cummings
8pm Tiem Vu Family
Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

5 SATURDAY

9am Deacon Dick Delio
5pm +Daniel Shannon
7pm Erin Shircliff
Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53

6 SUNDAY

7am Angela Gustavo Colom
8:30 Margaret Bereit
10:30 Those who died in March
10:30* For the Parish
12:30pm John Louis Owen
2pm +Maria de Jesus Villanueva
5pm Jose & Anthony Mascetta
7:01pm Tricia Davis
Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

*indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy