

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

16 nov 2014

All Saints and parents gathering at Holy Cross for the feast of All Saints.

what's coming



november

16 THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Coffee Shop after Morning Masses, Parish Life Center (Preschool).
9:30am—Noon, PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE, Parish Life Center.
Noon, English as a Second Language class, Parish Life Center 203.
1–3pm, HOLY CROSS ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE, Holy Cross Academy.
3:30-4:45pm, Making Intentional Disciples Discussion Group with Fr. Rooney, Courtyard Meeting Room.
CYM Dinner and HS Youth Group following 5pm Mass, Parish Life Cent

17 Monday, St. Elizabeth of Hungary, religious 7:30pm, RCIA/RICA program, Church. All invited to class at 7:30.

18 Tuesday, Weekday (The Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul, apostles; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, virgin) 10am, Council of Catholic Women (CCW) General Meeting, Courtyard Meeting Room 7:30pm, Life in the Spirit Gathering, Courtyard Meeting Room.

19 Wednesday, Weekday6:30pm, YOUCAT, John Paul II House.
7:15pm, Keeping in Balance Women's Group, Courtyard Meeting Room.

20 Thursday, Weekday

9:45am, Craft Group, Parish Life Center 100. 7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paul II House. 7:15pm, Choosing the Better Part Women's Group, Parish Life Center 204.

21 Friday, The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:30am, St. Anne's Sisters in Faith (Moms' Group), JPII House. 7pm, Bunco, Parish Life Center 100. 8pm, ORGAN CONCERT and Reception, Church and Parish Life Center.

22 Saturday, The Dedication of Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Fredericksburg (2010) 8am, Mañana de Reflexión en español/ Morning of Reflection in Spanish, Parish Life Center.

9am, Special Mass in observance of our parish feast, Church. Confirmation Retreat II: Basilica of the National Shrine, Washington D.C.

23 SUNDAY, SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING
Coffee Shop after Morning Masses, Parish Life Center (Youth Ministry).
11:30am, New Parishioners WELCOME MEETING following 10:30am Mass, Church. Come register.
Noon, English as a Second Language class, Parish Life Center 203.
CYM Dinner and HS Youth Group following 5pm Mass, Parish Life Center.

24 Monday, Saint Andrew Dūng Laç, priest and martyr, and his Companions, martyrsNo Religious Education Classes: Thanksgiving Break.
7:30pm, RCIA/RICA program, Church. All invited to class at 7:30.

25 Tuesday, Weekday (St. Catherine of Alexandria, virgin and martyr) 10am, Saint Mary Book Club, John Paul II House, downstairs.

26 Wednesday, Weekday
6:30pm, YOUCAT, John Paul II House.
7:15pm, Keeping in Balance Women's Group, Courtyard Meeting Room.

27 Thursday, Weekday. THANKSGIVING DAY

10am, Mass for Thanksgiving Day (No 6:30 or 9am Mass). Parish Offices are closed.

28 Friday, Weekday

Thanksgiving Holiday - Parish Offices are closed.

29 Saturday, Weekday

SCRIP Sales after 5pm Mass.

30 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

No Coffee Shop today after Morning Masses. 8:30am Mass, Knights of Columbus Corporate Communion.

express announcements

nota bene (note well, please):

- Don't miss our Open Houses **TODAY at Saint Mary Preschool in** the Parish Life Center 9:30-Noon and Holy Cross Academy from 1pm to 3pm. Come and see our progress, get updates, and see why we are so proud of our school.
- Come to our first Organ Concert of the season this Friday. For more information see display ad on p. 9.
- Market If you or someone you know needs to register at Saint Mary, we WILL have a New Parishioners' Welcome Meeting next weekend, November 23 in the church. Because of Christmas, this will be the last Welcome Meeting of 2014. Please join us.
- Mass on There will be only one Mass on Thanksgiving Day at 10am. Please bring non-perishable food donations for the Fredericksburg Food Bank, and bring them up to the altar at the Offertory. To those who are traveling, we wish you a safe and happy journey.
- SCRIP is on sale this weekend in the Parish Life Center after most Masses. Please use SCRIP and help our school.

contact us 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

Mon.-Fri.: 6:30 & 9am; Sat., 9am DAILY MASS

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.

540-373-6491, fax 371-0251 PARISH OFFICE 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 Secretary, Mary Fitch

HOLY CROSS 540-286-1600 ACADEMY 250 Stafford L

250 Stafford Lakes Parkway Fredericksburg, Virginia 22406-7234

Principal, Sr. Susan Louise Eder, O.S.F.S.

ST. MARY 373-7553 PRESCHOOL Director, Nanci Scharf

373-6491

Director, Aristides Lucas

Associate Director, Karen Sturtevant

373-6491

Director, Leo Chavarria

JOIN US

Steven Haughton, RN, and Beth Palacios, RN

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.

New Family Registration meetings held in the church on fourth Sundays, following the 10:30

Mass. Please notify us of any contact changes.

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

this week's bulletin:

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from our pastor



Dear Good People of Saint Mary,

I asked the folks in the front office what was the most frequently asked question or most common misunderstanding that they encounter in office day to day. Everyone – Mary, Lori and Chris – said that the most difficult issue had to do with the Church's law on the requirements for Godparents/Sponsors for the sacraments, without a doubt. So, with our Confirmation class for adults coming up, I thought this might be a good time to review what the universal law of the Church is with regard to the selection of Godparents and Sponsors to stand up for those who are preparing to receive sacraments.

First, we need to say that the parish doesn't make up these rules, they are clearly required by the church's universal Code of Canon Law. Sometimes I'm told by people that exceptions were made by someone in another parish far away; all I can say is that laws are sometimes broken, but that doesn't make breaking the law a right by precedent – or permissible. The Code of Canon Law is a volume of laws which developed over time precisely when confronted with abuses in the Church that threatened the validity of the sacraments attempted. No one has the right to change these laws. Some margin is allowed, on occasion, for a diocesan bishop in a situation of pastoral need, danger of death or the like, but we are not permitted to change them.

It is interesting that the Code places the requirements of suitability firmly on the shoulders of the Godparents/Sponsors; not on the parents. Often children may be born into families with parents in an irregular marriage or circumstance where the parents can't meet the requirements: the Church would never punish a child for the irregularity of parents' situations. The Godparents/Sponsors should be chosen precisely *because of their suitability*. They are the ones who will make the profession of faith in place of the child (if the child is too young to make this sort of choice by themselves) and they are the ones who promise to stand in the place of parents where needed,

to guarantee the well-being of that child or person they are sponsoring – both spiritually and physically. When I was a child I was very much aware that if something were to happen to my parents, that my Uncle Vince and Aunt Josephine were going to be in charge of my life and my formation in the faith.

Often today we find a very secular approach to the selection of Godparents/Sponsors, due to friendship, or some kind of family or professional tie. This is often to the detriment of the person being sponsored. Godparents/Sponsors must be selected according to the witness they, themselves, exhibit with regard to faithfulness, practicing faith, and living in the sacraments.

For this reason, there are some things required, without exception of a Godparent/Sponsor:
—they must be living a life of faith according to the teachings of the Church, in the Catholic Church, regularly practicing the virtue of religion;

- —they themselves must be fully initiated in the Church through Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion;
- —they must promise to raise this child/support this person in the life of the sacraments;
- —if they are married, they must be married according to the canonical form of the Catholic Church (Catholic rite, vows received by priest or deacon, witnessed by two persons);

—they must be 16 years of age.

By Canon Law, only one Godparent/Sponsor who meets these requirements is necessary. When two Catholics can't be named, sometimes a second baptized person might be designated as a "Christian Witness." Although this person has no canonical role in the sacrament, even if they aren't Catholic, they may make a commitment to raise their Godchild in the Catholic faith. As such, any baptized person is eligible, except for an ex-Catholic. If a Godparent is unable to be present for the baptism, a proxy may stand in, in place of the Godparent, without meeting any requirement other than sharing in the intention of the Church for the newly-baptized. Hope this helps.

God bless you. F. Dm

education

holy cross academy







Join us today for our Open House

We hope that you will join us for our Open House today. Come see our Saint Mary Preschool and meet our teachers from 9:30am until noon in our Parish Life Center. You can see all that the children have been doing and how much they are learning.

Holy Cross Academy will be open from 1pm to 3pm. We would love to give you a tour and tell you all about our National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. Our teachers and staff will be there to speak with you and student ambassadors will take you around our school.

November has already been extremely busy for all of us. Our preschoolers came to HCA for a Teddy Bear Picnic last Wednesday. Now that was fun! Our principal, Sr. Susan Louise, read them a book about bears and what it would be like to be one. Mrs. Libby Budd led them in a few catchy songs and Mrs.Lise Schmiegel performed Goldilocks and the Three Bears to the delight of the children and all of us. The morning ended with a delicious snack shared by the kindergartners and preschoolers and a chance to try out the playground.

Our fourth graders organized their Mini-Mall, making, advertising and selling their unique products. All the students enjoy shopping for bookmarks, marshmallow launchers, stress balls, study guides, rings, bracelets and paper weights. Not only did they learn a great deal from this experience but the proceeds benefit Catholic Charities and all the good work they do for our community.

If you want to learn about our school, plan to come to our November 16th Open House. You can learn about all that we can do for your child by calling us at 540-286-1600 or visiting our website, www.holycrossweb.com. For St. Mary Preschool, please call 540-373-7553. Our school is a place where each child can flourish, grow and learn. 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 opportunities we provide for our students.





education

religious education

We Care Week 2014

Our Religious Education program has been invited to participate in the 8th Annual We Care Week which will be held from November 30 to December 6. Last year schools and religious education programs raised almost \$24,000 for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington. We are asking each child to put their donation into one of their unused Children's Envelope for September or October and bring it to class. Please write "We Care" on the envelope.

If each child donates at least \$1.00 we can raise almost a thousand dollars for Catholic Charities. http://www.ccda.net/programs_christhouse_shelter.php http://www.ccda.net/programs_fredericksburg.php

Classes for Spanish Speaking Parents

Deacon Alberto had three discussions with Spanish speaking parents of children preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation; Baptism, Reconciliation, and Holy Eucharist.

First, Deacon Alberto spoke about the importance of the Sacraments of Initiation. He also empha-

sized the importance of being living witnesses to their children by attending Mass every week, and actively participating (receiving) in the Sacraments. He encouraged them to ask their children what they learned in class. He also explained why it is so important to dress appropriately when attending Mass and how distractions result from inappropriate attire at Mass.

Second, he spoke to parents about the importance of bringing their children to both Sunday Mass and Religious Education classes. He explained the seven sacraments, dwelling mainly on the Sacraments of Initiation. He explained the importance of preparation in order to receive the sacraments and why we have two years of preparation.

In the third discussion Deacon Alberto explained why formation is important in preparing for the sacraments. He spoke about how a sacrament changes the person who receives it. He also explained that Matrimony and Holy Orders are sacraments in the service of Communion and encouraged parents to be follow through with example that will bring their children's lessons home and real in the context of daily life.



The first half of our Confirmation Class for 2015 attended the annual retreat at the National Shrine of the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC last week...



community

opportunity

Council of Catholic Women November General Meeting

Parishioner and author John Wills will be the guest speaker at the general meeting of the Council of Catholic Women. Mr. Wills, who is also a retired FBI agent and a former Chicago police officer, is sure to be an interesting and informative speaker. Please join us Tuesday, November 18 promptly at 10am in the Courtyard Meeting Room. You'll be glad you joined us!

Les invitamos a la mañana de reflexión

a celebrarse el 22 de noviembre de 8–12 del mediodía. El tema a discutirse será el Adviento. Nuestro orador será el Padre Lino.

All are invited to attend a morning of reflection in Spanish on November 22 from 8am–noon in the afternoon. The main topic will be Advent. Our speaker will be Father Lino.

Jesse Tree Advent Ornaments with Young Adults, November 23

Saint Mary Young Adults will be making Jesse Tree ornaments for Advent on November 23 at 3pm in

the Parish Life Center, room 204. Come and learn about this tradition that is so valuable for children and adults alike. The ornaments represent the people, prophesies and events leading up to the birth of Jesus. We will have two styles of ornaments: those for children and those for adults, so bring the whole family!"

Cursillo Women's Retreat December 4—7

Looking for spiritual renewal? Cursillo is a lay Catholic movement; the name means "short course in Christianity." On a Cursillo weekend you will examine and celebrate your relationship with Christ and Christian community. There will be a series of talks and discussion, times of quiet, opportunities for spiritual direction, Mass and Reconciliation, and fun, too. Plus you'll meet new friends with whom you can share your walk with Christ. Weekends run from Thursday evening to Sunday evening. There will be a Women's Weekend at San Damiano, the Diocesan Spirituality Center in White Post, VA, on December 4-7. If you're interested or just want to know more, contact Joyce Bodoh at jbodoh@gmail.com or 540-521-0588.

A Unique Opportunity to Support the Missions of our Oblate Sisters

In June, Saint Mary parishioners donated generously to our Mission Appeal for our school in Rocafuerte, Ecuador. Our Oblate Sisters are working to complete construction on two new classrooms for the preschool children of St. Francis de Sales School in Rocafuerte, Ecuador.

A generous benefactor donated a beautiful Lladro Nativity which we are raffling off to benefit this Mission endeavor.



Raffle tickets: 1 for \$10, 3 for \$25 Drawing: 8 December 2014

Tickets are available three ways:

1. Purchase tickets at Holy Cross Academy Office or Saint Mary Parish Office: provide contact information and payment in person or by mail; 2. Purchase online at HCA website http://holycrossweb.com/fundraising.htm



Lladro Children's Nativity Set – nine figures with stable; in mint condition -\$900 value



Hand-carved Nativity from Ecuador with hand-woven scarf - \$95 value



community

First Concert of the 2014-15 Season

SAINT MARY of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

1009 Stafford Avenue, Fredericksburg, Virginia www.stmaryfred.org

CONCERTS at SAINT MARY

Organ Concert

Friday, November 21, 2014 at 8:00pm

David Brian Lang





Music of Bach, Franck, Vierne, Mathias, D. Johnson, Peeters and more performed on St. Mary's 3-manual, 49-rank, Robert William Wallace pipe organ.

David Brian Lang is a prominent concert organist, choral conductor and accompanist throughout the Washington, DC area. Beginning his sixth season as artistic director of The Reston Chorale, Mr. Lang also serves as keyboard artist for Washington Hebrew Congregation and has previously served as director of music and organist for Saint John Catholic Church in McLean, VA, and as organist for Saint John's Episcopal Church - Lafayette Square (The Church of the Presidents) and the Cathedral of the Assumption in Louisville, Kentucky.

The concert is free.

A free-will offering will be accepted. Meet the artist at dessert-reception following.

For more information: dmathers@stmaryfred.org or 540-373-6491 x 217

COMING to SAINT MARY

Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at 7:30pm Advent Lessons and Carols, featuring Saint Mary Choirs

> Friday, February 13, 2015 at 8:00pm Weston Jennings, organ

Friday, May 22, 2015 at 8:00pm Jeffrey Palmer, countertenor

Saint Mary's is 5 minutes from I-95, exit 130A. Old Town Fredericksburg is a delightful historic city filled with many fine eateries, shops and attractions.



community



2014 State LARCUM Conference December 5-6 in Norfolk

The State LARCUM Committee (Lutheran | Anglican | Roman Catholic | United Methodist) Churches in covenant for nearly 20 years invite you to attend our annual conference, this year held in Norfolk, Virginia on December 5-6. We have planned a wonderful program of talks, praise and fellowship, and an opportunity to get to know our ecumenical partners in the Commonwealth at this annual gathering.

The speaker this year is Rev. Dr. John Armstrong, President of Act3Network who will speak on "The New Landscape of Post-Christian Christianity". Presentations will cover "Spiritual But Not Religious: What is Happening to the Religious Landscape in America?", "Our Missional Moment: How Should the Church Serve in a Post-Christendom Future?" and "Belonging and Then Believing: What Has Ecumenism Got to Do with Our Future?"

The conference opens Friday evening with registration/reception at 6pm, New Attendee Orientation at 6:30p and the first Presentation at 7p. The fee is only \$35 for the Conference (\$10 for Students). Registration Forms can be found in the vestibule of the Church or contact the parish office for more information.

Please plan to join us.



outreach

"for the least of these"

Taking a real role in facing the problem of food insecurity

We had the pleasure of meeting with Mishelle Krogstadt of the Fredericksburg Area Food Bank recently to discuss our emergency food pantry and affirm our commitment to supporting their food distribution programs and outreach in the community. Even though our space at Saint Mary is limited, our emergency food program, supplemented by "in-house" food collections, continues to provide, on average, about 5–6 meals or 15–20 lbs of food to anyone who comes to us in need and asks Saint Mary for support.

Pantry Distribution Program

The Fredericksburg Area Food Bank distributes millions of pounds of food to the hungry and working poor through their partner agency food pantries. Their Pantry Distribution Program provides food assistance to the hungry of Planning District 16, which include the counties of Stafford, Spotsylvania, Caroline, King George and the City of Fredericksburg, as well as neighboring communities. The Food Bank is a resource for their partner faith-based and member non-profit organizations to obtain the food they need to help keep food resources readily available for distribution to the hungry.

Since the elimination of the voucher program in 2008 and the introduction of a new model, food is distributed primarily out of satellite pantries, and has become more efficient with more than 570,000 lbs. of food distributed in 2013 in the City of Fredericksburg alone.

Food Insecurity

Food insecurity nationwide is a growing concern. In the City of Fredericksburg, 17.6% of the population (4,390 persons) and 18.3% of children (910) are considered food insecure. Thirty-six percent of the individuals whose income is 185% of the-poverty level are served by charitable response, meaning local food banks, community food pantries or other non-profit programs. Of those whose income is between 130% and 185% of the poverty level, 18% are served through Reduced Price School Meals, or WIC. Of the individuals whose income is below 130% of the poverty level, 46% are supported through SNAP, Free School Meals and CSFP (Seniors). These results are based on figures through the end of 2012.

Nationally, in a study conducted by the Economic Research Service for the USDA, it found that the percentage of U.S. households that were food insecure remained essentially unchanged from 2012 to 2013; however, food insecurity declined from 2011 to 2013. The percentage of households with food insecurity in the severe range—described as very low food security was essentially unchanged. In 2013, 85.7 percent of U.S. households were food secure throughout the year. The remaining 14.3 percent (17.5 million households) were food insecure. Food-insecure households are those which had difficulty at some time during the past year providing enough food for all their members due to a lack of resources. The change from 2012 (14.5%) was not statistically significant; however, the cumulative decline from 2011 (14.9%) was statistically significant. In 2013, 5.6 percent of U.S. households (6.8 million households) had very low food security, essentially unchanged from 5.7 percent in 2011 and 2012. In this more severe range of food insecurity, the food intake of some household members was reduced and normal eating patterns were disrupted at times during the year due to limited resources. Children and adults were food insecure at times during the year in 9.9 percent of households with children. At times during the year, these 3.8 million households were unable to provide adequate, nutritious food for their children. The percentage of households with food-insecure children was essentially unchanged from 2011 and 2012 (10.0 percent in each year). (Household Food Security in the United States in 2013, September 2014, www.ers.usda.gov/publications/err-economic-research-report-173.aspx)

How can we help?

Although our emergency pantry operation is not as robust as others in the community, Saint Mary continues to consistently and generously provide support to the community through a variety of means. Our Manna Food Drives held twice a year provide thousands of pounds of food and monetary donations directly to the Food Bank. Food is regularly collected at the school Mass at Holy Cross Academy. Those donations are forwarded here and placed in the receptacle in the vestibule of the church, and later dropped at the Food Bank. And of course many of you privately support the Food Bank through volunteer service and donations. Thank You!

We have submitted to the Diocese our local ef-

forts to support the hungry in our community: our combined March and September Manna Food Drives resulted in 3,795 lbs of food and \$5,471 in monetary donations; our special children's food programs provided an additional \$4,918 in monetary donations; our Religious Education department's Thanksgiving food drive has resulted in another 500+ lbs food for those in need.

Please consider how you might further our efforts. May God continue to bless your generosity and support for those in need in our community.

Cold Weather Shelter is now open

The Cold Weather Shelter re-opened for the winter season this past Thursday and will remain open each evening until March. Teams of St.

Mary volunteers assist on Tuesday evenings greeting and checking in clients, setting up sleeping areas and providing hospitality for the 30 + individuals that utilize the facility. Each participating church/organization is asked to bring 3 dozen items (white socks, small toiletries: shampoos, deodorant, tooth brushes and tooth paste, etc.). Please considered how you might be able to support this need - all donations are gratefully accepted at our Parish Office.

Although it is a positive note that the temporary shelter will available during the harsh winter months, it highlights the continued efforts needed for sustainable housing and support mechanisms in our community. For more information about community efforts to help the homeless please visit www.www.dolovewalk.net or www.thurmanbrisbencenter.org



Bishop Paul Loverde presides at the newly anointed altar during the Mass of Dedication of Saint Mary, November 22, 2010.

Anniversary of our Church Dedication

Each year, one of the most important liturgical celebrations in a parish is the Anniversary of the Dedication of the parish church. This is a Solemnity and ranks in importance up with Easter and Christmas, believe it or not. Over time, many

parishes lose track of their Dedication date, but our church and its new altar were officially dedicated by Bishop Loverde at a Mass of Dedication on November 22, 2010. This year, our observance Mass is on Saturday the 22nd at the 9am Mass.

operations

given in love

Weekly Offertory

9 November Offertory Nov. Faith Direct Offertory	36,112. 29,267.
Parish Building Fund (includes \$2,321 Faith Direct)	11,895.
All Saints' Day (add'1) (includes \$1,007 Faith Direct)	1,691.
(includes \$1,007 Faith Direct) All Souls' Novena (add1)	1,352.

Retirement/Religious 3,922. (includes \$1,307 Faith Direct)

Poor Box/St. Vincent de Paul 205.

Thank you for your 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 Campaign for Human Development November 22–23

"Never tire of working for a more just world, marked by greater solidarity!"

—Pope Francis, Apostolic Journey to Rio de Janeiro, July 25, 2013

During World Youth Day on July 25, 2013, Pope Francis told us to "never tire of working for a more just world, marked by greater solidarity." The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) seeks to defend human dignity and reach out to those who live on the margins of our society by funding projects that increase justice and express the charity of Christ toward the poor. The CCHD is dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty and you are essential to its success. Your generous donations will give those in poverty the support they need to make lasting changes. Together, we can make a difference in families and communities across the United States. Our diocese retains 25% of the collection to fight poverty right here in the diocese. Please donate prayerfully and generously. More information is available at http://www.povertyusa.org/. Thank you.

Children's Charity for November

Children's Offertory Contributions in November will be used for Christmas gifts for teenagers in foster care in the City of Fredericksburg. This age group is often overlooked at Christmas, and the contributions made in November will be sent to Social Services for gifts or gift cards. Children's Offertory Envelopes are available in the Religious Education Office.

Shop with Scrip

SHOP WITH SCRIP GIFT CARDS!! IHOP is our newest retailer available in our Scrip inventory. IHOP gives back an 8% rebate to HCA! There are many restaurants to enjoy in our Scrip inventory and online. Take a look today and see how easy and delicious it is to support HCA.

Stop by the scrip table to get more information or set up an online account. Or, set up an account online at www.shopwithscrip.com. Please email us for our school code, so Holy Cross Academy gets credit for your purchase. If you have any questions about SCRIP please email Torie Baldwin at scripcoordinator@holycrossweb. com or 571-330-3448. Thanks for using SCRIP!

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 December 19 to be included in the next installation.

Legion of Mary

Are you interested in evangelization? Do you have Marian Devotion? Do you have a desire to both witness the Catholic faith to others, and desire them to come and know Jesus on a deeper level? What about becoming a member of the Legion of Mary here at St. Mary? If you are interested in becoming a member in our Legion please consider contacting Father Stephen Holmes, Legion Coordinator, or Mr. Gregg Carneal or Mrs. Pam Biedenbender. Further information can be gained by going to the parish website or call Father Stephen Holmes at 540-373-6491.

Electronic Offertory Faith Direct available

Faith Direct enables your family to make your parish contributions through either direct debit to your checking account or through credit cards. Now you can apply the convenience of direct debit to your parish offerings in much the same way as you may now use it to make your mortgage, car or tuition payments.

With Faith Direct, the parish will gain predictable cash flow that will help us with planning our parish needs and programs. Faith Direct also offers you personalized offertory cards to replace your envelopes for the collection basket.

You may enroll securely online by visiting www.faithdirect.net Our parish code is VA635.

called in love

Eucharistic Holy Hour

You are invited to a diocesan-wide Eucharistic Holy Hour sponsored by the Arlington Division of the World Apostolate of Fatima (the Blue Army) on Sunday, November 23, from 3–4:00pm at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, 271 Winchester St., Warrenton. At Fatima, Our Lady asked for prayer and sacrifice for the conversion of sinners, peace in the world, and an increase in vocations; we hope you will join us in prayer.

Special Mass for Thanksgiving

There will be a Special Mass at 10am on Thursday, November 27, to celebrate Thanksgiving. As we have done for so many years, we ask all those attending to bring non-perishable food items with them for Thanksgiving, to be donated to the Food Bank for those in need. We hope you will join us and begin your day at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, giving thanks to Our Lord. Please note there will not be a 6:30am or a 9am Mass on that day.

Pro-life reflection

"Today, too, children are a sign. They are a sign of hope, a sign of life, but also a diagnostic sign, a marker indicating the health of families, society and the entire world. Wherever children are accepted, loved, cared for and protected, the family is healthy, society is better and the world is more human."

(Pope Francis, Homily during Holy Mass at Nativity Square in Bethlehem, May 2014)

St. Mary Prayer List

Please pray for those who are sick or in need, especially: Eleanor Mitchell, Hall Family, Kelly Keiser, John Nash, Keith Snellings Sr., Patricia Snellings, Jan Kozyra, Melvyn Schreckinger, Linda Klein, Kevin Ahern, Angie Calloway, Holly Smith, Cathy Thompson, Joseph Bozicevic, Charlie and Esther White, Martha Clemens, Veronica Johnson, Wilma Evans, Phyllis Timms, Tyler Hansen, Dawn Vigil, Michael Wood, Bob Young, Katy Cornell, Thomisita Devilla, Robert Lyman, Anna Castagna, Beth Malaby, John Paul Baksy, Dan Owens, David Arnold, Steve Keene, Daniel Bustamonta, Joseph Rooney, Dianne Stephens, MaryBeth Stephens, the Clasen Family, Mary Jean and Don Williams, Mary Ullmer, Charlie Catalano, Billie Stewart, Lisa Storm, Charles Lee, Irene Sweeney, Marcella Sowieja, Carlita Aberle, Daniel and Forrest Theiss, Ed Buzicky, Kati Johnston, Marianne Ford, Richard Fadden, the Carlos Ortiz Family, Martha Ferrara, Harold Gardner, Betty Ann & Bill Dateno, the Goldsmith Family, Shaun Williams, Lori Horner, Heidi Wilbrandt, Josephine Kreider, Sr. Marie de Chantal, Jo Ann James, Frances Scott, Dennis Hahn, Barbara Leone, Debbie Lloyd, Nancy Hursey, Chris Balut, Linda Kaila, Rose Sisco, Jeff Shinrock, Donald Estes, Johnny Wharton, Phyllis Woolverton, Ellen Kozyra, Glenn Nichols, Sr., Thomas Schulsky, Julie Fabula, Amelia McDevitt, Gerald Gardiner, Prov Moeller, The Girth Family, Marie Rooney

Please pray for all the men and women in our military and civilian support services overseas, especially: 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, Nick Schulz, Duayne Scott, Tim Smetek, Andrew Smith, Douglas Stransky, Shawn Tupta, Heidi Urben, Christopher Williamson, Daniel Zeytoonian, Justin Carter, Julianne Rogers, Jamal Williams

Please pray also for those who have died, especially the benefactors of Saint Mary Church.

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

november

17 MONDAY

6:30 Vladimir Putin 9am + The Trinh Family Rev 1:1-4, 2:1-5; Lk 18:35-43

18 TUESDAY

6:30 + Brian D. Kern 9am + Barbara Mertens Rev 3:1-6, 14-22; Lk 19:1-10

19 WEDNESDAY

630 + Christopher Ford 9am + The Nguyen Family Rev 4:1-11; Lk 19:11-28

20 THURSDAY

6:30 Andre & Jennifer Jones 8:30* + Georgette Astier 9am + Patricia Gasper Rev 5:1-10; Lk 19:41-44

21 FRIDAY

6:30 + Concetta Ferrante 9am + Emilia Quiles Rev 10:8-11; Lk 19:45-48

22 SATURDAY

9am For our parish 5pm + Carmella Cumso 7pm + Ryan & Brian Pitts Rev 11:4-12; Lk 20:27-40

23 SUNDAY

7am + Josephine Filipczyk
8:30 + Richard Asher
10:30 + Timothy Hanlon
10:30* + William Sampson
12:30 Our Military living & deceased
2pm For the parish
5pm + Christopher Ford
7:01 Connie Sielicki
Ez 34:11-17; 1 Cor 15:20-28;
Mt 25:31-46

Masses were offered in October for the following unscheduled intentions: +Timothy Hanlon, Catherine Clagett, +Christopher Ford, +Lawrence Jarrell, +Ken Schmitz, Michael Coughlin, +Frank & Margaret Clancy, Donald Funai, +Martha Rybolt, Bob Willis, +Karen Williams, Bennett Lesley, Jack Doherty, +Sherry Mooney, +Maria Sauceda, +Morgan Berwinkle, +Nick Kennedy, The Guacena Family, Rod Key+ and Family, +Leonor & Frank Schupp.

*indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy