

**Fourth Sunday
of Advent**

21 dec 2014

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



what's coming



december

21 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Coffee Shop after morning Masses (Girl Scouts), Parish Life Center.
SCRIP Sales after all Masses except the 2pm Mass.
Noon, English as a Second Language class, Parish Life Center 203.
3pm, Las Posadas, Parish Life Center.

22 Monday, Advent Weekday

No Religious Education Classes this week—Christmas Break
7pm, Additional Advent Confessions, Church.

23 Tuesday, Advent Weekday (Saint John of Kanty, Priest)

7pm, Additional Advent Confessions, Church.

24 Wednesday, Advent Weekday, Christmas Eve / Vigil

Parish offices closed after noon on Christmas Eve.
4pm, Vigil Masses, at both Church and Holy Cross Academy.
6:30pm, Vigil Masses, at both Church and Holy Cross Academy.
8:30pm, Vigil Mass, Church.
11pm, Festival of Carols before Midnight Mass (12am), Church.

25 Thursday, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Parish offices closed.
Christmas Masses at Midnight, 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm, and 2pm (in Spanish).

26 Friday, Saint Stephen, the First Martyr

Parish offices closed.

27 Saturday, Saint John the Apostle, Evangelist

SCRIP Sales after 5pm Mass.

28 SUNDAY, THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

SCRIP Sales after all Masses except the 2pm Mass.
No CYM activities.

29 Monday, Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord (Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop, Martyr)

No Religious Education Classes this week—Christmas Break

30 Tuesday, Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

7:30pm, Life in the Spirit Gathering, Courtyard Meeting Room

31 Wednesday, Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord (Saint Sylvester I, Pope)

ONE 6pm Vigil Mass for the Holy Day of obligation, Mary, Mother of God, Church.

january

1 Thursday, Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

Happy New Year!
No Religious Education Classes this week—Christmas Break.
Holy Day Masses: 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30, 2pm (Spanish), Church.

2 Friday, Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors of the Church

St. Anne's Sisters in Faith (Mom's Group), John Paul II House.
8pm, First Friday Mass followed by all-night adoration, Church.

3 Saturday, Christmas Weekday (The Most Holy Name of Jesus)

RCIA Trip to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington DC.
2:30pm, Spanish Baptism Class, Parish Life Center.
6pm, Knights of Columbus Monthly Family Dinner, Parish Life Center.

4 SUNDAY, THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

SCRIP Sales after all Masses except the 2pm Mass.
No CYM activities.

nota bene (*note well, please*):

✠ The **second collection** this week is our parish's **Christmas Collection for Special Charities**. This year we are supporting (1) the Creche Orphanage in Bethlehem (in the Holy Land) through the Holy Land Christians' Society, (2) two elementary school classrooms for the Oblate Sisters of Saint Francis de Sales' school in Rocafuerte, Ecuador, and (3) building a fund to help pay for counseling for children whose families can't afford it at Catholic Charities Family Services/Fredericksburg.

✠ **Christmas Vigil Masses** are at 4pm, (at the Church and HCA), 6:30pm (at the Church and HCA), and 8:30pm. **A Festival of Carols** will be held at 11pm before the Midnight Mass. **Christmas Day Masses** are at 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm and 2pm (Spanish). Please note, there are NO Masses on Christmas Day at 5pm, nor 7:01pm.

✠ **Parish offices will be closed** from noon on Wednesday, December 24 through Friday, December 26.

✠ **SCRIP is on sale** this weekend in the Parish Life Center after most Masses. Please use SCRIP and help our school.

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; <i>students staff office weekdays until 9pm,</i> <i>Saturdays 9-5pm, Sundays 9:30-1:30pm</i> 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 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
HEALTH MINISTRY	845-3031 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.
JOIN US	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 bulletin@stmaryfred.org. Thanks!

this week's bulletin:

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from our pastor



Dear Good People of Saint Mary,

Already last weekend we had many people who were wishing us a merry Christmas and about to leave for parts all over to celebrate the holidays with family or enjoy a nice Christmas break vacation. For those who are traveling this week, we offer special prayers for safety. May all your visits fill you with joy and good memories; where reconciliation is needed, may unity endure; where understanding is sought, may it be found. May love be the guide for every word and situation. And may the mystery of the Son of God come to birth in a tiny child in obscurity always cause you to find wonder and awe at the desire of our loving God to “stoop down,” as the Fathers would say, to raise a suffering world with his caring love. Merry Christmas.

For those who are traveling, I want to remind you that you can always find our bulletins posted on line, so you don't miss our greetings or any news about upcoming events in the parish. If you haven't subscribed, all you have to do is go to our parish website (www.stmaryfred.org) and at the lower right corner of our front web page type your email address in the box and click on “subscribe.”

Giving can become such a complicated procedure. For many, Christmas has become the only time during the year when we remember each other with a card (how often do you buy stamps these days?) or bake something for our neighbors. I actually put “shopping” on my to-do list this time of year. We wonder if something has happened to someone because we didn't get the usual Christmas card in the mail this year.

I have never liked shopping. I always wonder why I didn't just get this done last summer when nobody was thinking about Christmas shopping yet? Every once in a while there is a nice spirit with so many people out and about and looking for that perfect gift for someone in particular, if you are lucky. More often than not I am grateful that some visionary invented the internet and the “shopping cart.”

I know a lot of families, especially older brothers and sisters, who have pretty much lost the spirit of giving. The calls come, eventually: “How much are you giving?” Of course, you don't want to give more than somebody and make

them feel bad. In the same way nobody likes to feel like they got the short end of the stick. For a while in our family we wrote checks to each other for the same amounts and basically exchanged bank balances, an equal transfer of funds. It was either give up on it all together, or re-think the meaning of *why* we give.

The truth is, giving can never become routine, or it isn't giving anymore, it is just a habit. Giving is something that shapes us and makes us different from all other forms of life in God's creation. We give because we are made in the image and likeness of God, who *gives*. He gives his Son. He gives his life on the cross. He gives his divine life in the sacraments. Jesus literally gives his Body and Blood, his life, his Mother, his Spirit, his Mission of blessing from the Father. How many times we read Jesus explain that the Father has given everything over to him, and all that he has received from the Father he has given to us?

Notice the gift is always the gift of self. It isn't a gift card or a lottery ticket, or even a shiny new car with a big bow on the top. It's something better.

For this reason we often encourage our children not to think so much about buying something, but instead making something of themselves to give at Christmas time. Something personal, because giving is meaningless if it doesn't also involve a personal commitment of good will and love. The gift is only the expression of what is inside, a revelation, the invisible made visible.

Those actually are the words we use to describe Jesus at Christmas, the definitive Revelation, the fullness of love.

In these last days before the great Gift of Jesus, take a few moments in your busy day—commit to a few moments in each of the few days remaining—ask what might be your special gift to your family and those you love? To your parish family? What gifts has God given to you in particular? Ask God for the grace to be truly thankful for them, and truly strong in seeking ways to use them to make him known this Christmas, to bring him to birth in your life and make it visible. Above all, ask God for the ability to truly give yourself to him, and to those he loves.

God bless you.

Fr. Dom

holy cross academy

Small Voices Lifted On High

"Born this night in Bethlehem,
Baby Jesus tiny Child.
Alleluia, praise the King.
Baby Jesus, born today.

Kneel before him as he sleeps,
Baby Jesus, tiny Child.
Alleluia, praise the King,
Baby Jesus, born today."

At Holy Cross Academy and Saint Mary Preschool, children of all ages lead us in our celebration of the birth of Jesus. Small voices are lifted on high as they join the angels in announcing the coming of our Savior-King.

Each year, our Holy Cross students partner with Catholic Charities to provide for needy babies in our area. Children come in laden with boxes of diapers, lotion and creams, gift cards to area stores, and tiny outfits for our little friends. Providing for these babies reminds us that Jesus came to us as a baby and that he cares deeply for each person, big or small, in our world.

Our children express their care and concern for all human life by caring for our smallest and most

vulnerable neighbors. As each child brings a gift to the Giving Tree, we all sing the words of our most cherished Christmas carols. We proclaim "Joy to the World"; we recall that holy "Silent Night"; and we invite all to join in praise, singing "O Come, All Ye Faithful."

After bringing our gifts to place them near the tree, we watch our 8th graders present a Scriptural reenactment of the first proclamation of the Good News.

On behalf of the faculty, staff, students and families, we wish each of you a blessed, merry Christmas!

If you want to learn about our school and what we can do for your child, call us at 540-286-1600 or visit 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.



*A National
Blue Ribbon
School of
Excellence,
2012*



*Small voices are
lifted on high as
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King.*

religious education

Religious Education Christmas Break

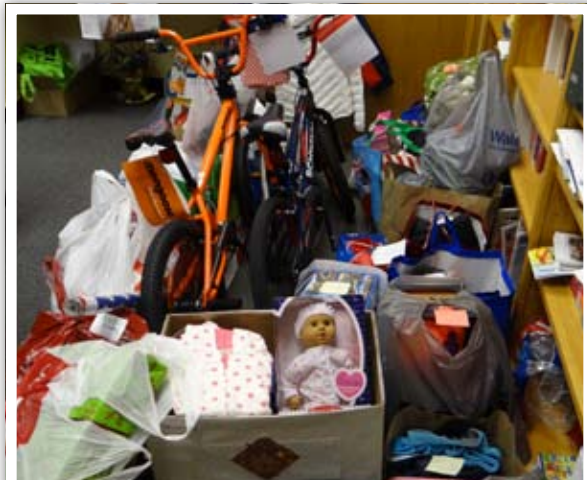
There will be no Religious Education Classes for the next two weeks. Classes resume January 5-8, 2015. Parents are urged to accompany their children to class. An inspiring and meaningful experience is being planned for you. Our activities for this year are influenced by our Parish theme, "Given in Love, Called in Love" and the Year of Consecrated Life declared by Pope Francis.

Christmas Gifts for Families

On November 26, we sent out the Christmas Help List for 20 families. By December 2, parish families had pledged to cheer up Christmas for more than 70 individuals with more than 250 Christmas gifts. Your enthusiasm and generosity is overwhelming and the 20 families will forever be grateful.

Christ is really in Christmas at St. Mary.

Christmas cheer is coming to more than 70 people thanks to your generosity.



Looking Ahead: Steubenville Youth Conference, July 10-12

All High School youth are invited to join us for a powerful weekend in Steubenville, OH.

The mission of the Steubenville Conferences is to invite young people into a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ through the Sacraments of the Church and the power of the Holy Spirit. This experience of Christ's love opens their hearts to become His disciples and embrace the mission of the Catholic Church.

The conferences are filled with dynamic speakers, Eucharistic Adoration, powerful praise and worship music, time for parish fellowship and a ton of fun. If you are interested in attending or learning more please contact the Office of Youth Ministry.

Thank You for Supporting Our Giving Tree

Thanks to all of our parishioners that helped with this year's Giving Tree. Thanks to your generosity many families have received much needed assistance during this holiday season. The agencies representing the families we serve were overwhelmed with our response to their needs. May God bless you!



Saint Mary Leads Diocesan Youth Ministry Awards

This year at the 11th Annual Diocesan Youth and Campus Ministry Dinner, Bishop Loverde awarded two of our Saint Mary parishioners: Scott Vezina and Leo Chavarria for their work with youth.

Scott Vezina—Volunteer of the Year Award

Scott Vezina received the Volunteer of the Year Award for his service in our Wednesday YOCAT program. Scott is a member of the Youth Apostle Institute, a priest and men's lay community dedicated to the service of youth. Scott has been involved in youth ministry for over 15 years as a Director and volunteer in the Diocese of Arlington. Scott's passion for youth and sharing the Gospel has been instrumental in bringing teens to Christ through our YOCAT program. Scott's level of commitment goes beyond our Wednesday night activities. You can find Scott visiting teens and families at their homes, having coffee with teens at the local Starbucks, or doing hospital visits when teens are injured from sporting events or other shenanigans. Leo, our Director of Youth Ministry had this to say about Scott, "Youth Ministry cannot happen without dedicated volunteers who love God and teens. Scott is an irreplaceable gift to our Youth Ministry. I thank God that He placed Scott and his family in Fredericksburg." Thank you and congratulations, Scott, for your great service.



Scott Vezina (left) and Leo Chavarria (right) receive youth ministry awards from Bishop Loverde.

Leo Chavarria—Saint John Bosco Award

Leo's work to reach young people for Christ began when he was a student leader in the Newman Campus Ministry. After graduating in 2004, he was hired as the Assistant Director of Youth Ministry at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Alexandria. There he led the Spanish-speaking youth program and helped with many other things including retreats and mission trips. Saint John Bosco was known for his tireless zeal to do all he could to bring youth closer to Christ and especially youth that were considered outcasts, on the fringes of society. Leo has echoed this witness through his involvement in gang intervention work in Northern Virginia, working with church leaders, law enforcement, and grassroots groups to help young people leave gang life

and seek Christ. In 2009, he was hired as the Director of Youth Ministry at St. Mary in Fredericksburg where he currently serves both middle and high school students. Leo also leads retreats for young people throughout the Diocese of Arlington, gives talks to teens and adults at parishes, and has been a guest speaker at Theology on Tap and other venues.

A teen from Saint Mary had this to say: "There honestly aren't enough words to describe how Leo has impacted my life...Whenever I needed to talk, he was there for me. I had never had such a reliable friend. He helped me on a personal and spiritual level...and he definitely helped me grow stronger. He taught me how to turn to God ...and how powerful prayer really is in any situation."

education

adult formation

You Were Given in Love; You Are Called in Love.

Calling all parishioners: I request that you save the dates the evening of Friday, February 6, 2015 and Saturday the 7th during the day, to attend the Called and Gifted Workshop that we are hosting at Saint Mary.

It is my desire that all of us be renewed in the Spirit of Jesus, that God will renew the face of our earth as he has promised, and that we begin the work of intentionally asking him to renew us now as a parish family.

Our Church today needs this, a program that will provide us with concrete direction both in spirituality and purpose. This is a path of the new evangelization that will call home so many who are "stuck" or drifting away, as well as provide renewal to all of us who are still here and might be wondering what is next.

If you or someone you know might be "stuck" or drifting, please invite them and save the date. If you or someone you love might be wondering what is next in our spiritual life with God, please invite them, and come.

—Fr. Don Rooney

You can find a registration form to download at our parish website, www.stmaryfred.org, and click on the link to the right on our front page.

What is the Called and Gifted Workshop?

The Called and Gifted Workshop helps lay Catholics discern the unique work of love to which God is calling them and to discover how God as empowered them, already, to carry it out. To date over 90,000 Catholics in over 110 dioceses have attended the Workshop in parishes throughout the world, learning about the crucial role every lay Catholic has in the mission of the Church to bring Christ's love to our neighbors and our culture.

Why should I attend?

Because Christ is calling you. Christ *needs* you, to carry his love to others in a way only you can do. No one else has your particular background, experience, gifts and connections. No one else can take your place.

Over and over again, long-time Catholics have asked after the Workshop, "How come I have never heard of this before?" If you are a cradle Catholic with years of Catholic schooling or

have been through the RCIA, chances are that you never fully received Christ's teachings on lay participation in her mission and have never received an opportunity to discover for yourself how Christ is calling *you*, uniquely and personally.

What will I learn?

What the Church teaches

- Church teaching on the role of the laity
- The identity of the "Lay Apostle"
- How ordained and laity properly collaborate
- Implications for parish life and ministries

Results of the Catholic Spiritual Gifts Inventory

- God's working through you for others
- Identify how you are personally and supernaturally empowered

The nature of spiritual gifts

- What are they?
- What are they for?
- How can I discern what mine are?

About Call and Vocation

- What is a vocation?
- Everyone has a vocation!
- Why discerning my call is essential to happiness
- How can I discover mine and why it is never too late

Who is it for?

Long-time Catholics and new Catholics
Active ministry leaders (to clarify call, vocation)
Pastoral leadership
Parents and teachers
People in transition
People who are searching

Do I know what my particular spiritual gifts are? Which gifts make me particularly effective and where can I most fruitfully focus my efforts? Do I need guidance in my responsibility of caring for or teaching the young or those in my life? How do I help them discover their gifts? Even if I'm aware that God is calling me, do I know where?

Who is teaching the Workshop?

The Workshop is presented by the Catherine of Siena Institute in Colorado Springs. Fr. Mike Fones, OP and Sherry Weddell are co-founders. For more information, you are invited to visit their website, www.siena.org or call their office.



Scenes from Holy Cross Academy's Christmas events celebrating the birth of Jesus.



Holy Cross Academy's Living Nativity.

happening here

Los Talleres de oracion y vida

The Hispanic Ministry invites you to attend the prayer and life work shops. participants will learn how to deepen their prayer life and to enter into a personal relation ship with the Lord, The series begins January 24- 2015 in the court yard Meeting Room. for more imformation please contact Leticia Gonzalez (540) 752-1262.

El Ministerio hispano los invita a los Talleres de oracion y vida. En 15 sesiones se aprendera a desarrollar una relacion personal con el senor, desde los primeros pasos,hasta la contemplanacion divina.Empezaran el 24 de Enero en el courtyard Meeting Roon al lado de la oficina parroquial para mas informacion contacte a Leticia Gonzalez (540) 751-1262.

Subscribe to stmaryfred.org for Parish Announcements

Winter weather often causes event cancellations and office closures. These announcements are posted on the Saint Mary website, stmaryfred.org. If you subscribe to the site, you will receive email notifications when these announcements are posted online.

The subscription box is on the homepage, below the Mass schedule and Renewal Handbook. Enter your email address and click on "subscribe." You will receive an email that will ask you to confirm your subscription to the site.



Saint Nicholas Visits the Senior Luncheon



At the Senior Luncheon on December 9, guests were treated to a fabulous meal, wonderful fellowship, and superb entertainment. All enjoyed a special visit by "Saint Nicholas" (a historic 4th-century Christian saint and Greek Bishop of Myra in Lycia).

Tis the Season...To Cover Your Cough

Stop the spread of germs that can make you and others sick! Influenza (flu) and other serious respiratory illnesses like respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), whooping cough, and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) are spread by cough, sneezing, or unclean hands.

To help stop the spread of germs:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Put your used tissue in the waste basket.
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.
- You may be asked to put on a facemask to protect others.
- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds.

How should you wash your hands?

- Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
- Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Be sure to lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
- Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.
- Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.
- Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them

What should you do if you don't have soap and clean, running water?

Washing hands with soap and water is the best way to reduce the number of microbes on them in most situations. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers can quickly reduce the number of microbes on hands in some situations, but sanitizers do not eliminate all types of germs.

Celebrate Religious Freedom Day

On January 11, 2015, the Knights of Columbus Rappahannock Assembly will proudly sponsor the 239th Anniversary of Thomas Jefferson's drafting of the Act of Religious Freedom for Virginia. *"It is a freedom that we must not take for granted!"* With Religious persecution growing throughout the world and in our own country, the Knights urge everyone who is able to turn out to march and support this observance. A parade will begin at 1:30pm at the VRE Station in Fredericksburg, followed by a ceremony at 2pm at the religious Freedom Monument on Washington Avenue. All parishioners, their families, friends and neighbors are invited to join in celebrating this very important event in Virginia's history. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Rick Reschick at 540-368-9345 or rez55@cox.net.

Saint Mary Apparel Available

Looking for last minute gift ideas? Saint Mary apparel is available for order at the parish office, we can prepare a gift certificate for January delivery.



operations given in love

Weekly Offertory

14 December Offertory	34,843.
Dec. Faith Direct Offertory	31,110.
Catholic Charities	12,152.
Immaculate Conception	8,043.
Poor Box for St. Vincent de Paul	89.
Building Fund Dec. (add'l)	5,164.

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.

Children's Charity For December

December has been designated "We Care Month" for our Children's Charity. The We Care Project was initiated in 2006 by dedicated Catholic Charities Ball volunteers to awaken in students an awareness of the needs of others, right in their own diocese, and to encourage students to implement the

Gospel Message by making their own personal sacrifices to raise money for Catholic Charities' Program which serve the poor in our Diocese. All donations made by the children will be sent to Catholic Charities by our parish on behalf of the children.

All Night Adoration: First Friday, January 2 Following 8:00pm Mass

O Come Let Us Adore Him in Eucharistic Adoration!

"The shepherds hastened to Bethlehem, where they found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger" (Luke 2:16).

"We fall down in adoration before the Son of God. As we adore Christ, born in a stable.... we feel the shepherds' same amazement and their same joy." (Pope John Paul II).

Sign-up sheets for All Night Adoration are in the vestibule of the Church, and our newborn King awaits you. Adore Him and honor His Blessed Mother—Come to Eucharistic Adoration!

Give a Gift for Life

For Unto Us a Child Is Born, Christ the Savior! —This Advent, include a Gift for Life on your Christmas List by supporting Project Rachel or the Gabriel Project. It is easy to make a small, tax-deductible contribution as a gift in the name or memory of a family member or friend, and it will make a big difference in a woman's life. You have the opportunity to assist a frightened young woman who has just learned she is pregnant, or a woman who chose abortion and is now grieving the loss of her child. Your gift directly supports the cost of an expectant mother's prenatal vitamins, or counseling for a woman who is experiencing the emotional distress of an abortion. Please pick up a flyer in the vestibule of the Church and follow the directions, or go to the following link to donate online: www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife.

Al Anon Surviving The Weekend Group

Al Anon is for those who have been affected by someone else's drinking, and members come together to learn a better way of life and how to find happiness. Especially at this time of year, it's important to know that you are not alone and there is help. There is an Al Anon meeting every Saturday at 10am in Room 204 of St. Mary's Parish Life Center.



Holy Cross students partner with Catholic Charities to provide for needy babies in our area. Children come in laden with boxes of diapers, lotion and creams, gift cards to area stores, and tiny outfits for our little friends.

outreach called in love

Pro Life Reflection For December 21

Christmas, for which we are now preparing, is not simply the feast of the birth of Christ; it is the feast of His becoming human, the reality called the Incarnation. Jesus was an embryo, a fetus. Life in the womb, which was already sacred because it comes from God, is now made even more holy and worthy of our every sacrifice. *Lord Jesus, You lived for nine months within the body of the Virgin Mary. Give success to the efforts of all who believe in Your Incarnation to protect every life in the womb.*

Daily Advent Prayer

O Jesus, little child, come into my heart on Christmas morn, to wash away my sins and remain there in eternity. O Mary, Mother of my Savior, prepare for Jesus a cradle in my heart. Amen.

Unscheduled Masses in November

Masses were offered in November for the following unscheduled intentions: +Frank Mikalcius, +Timothy Hanlon, Juan Barros, +Sydnor Billingsley, +George Billing, +Gerald Doherty, +Tim Cauley, and Karen Gilbert. Please remember that Mass intentions may be requested at the parish office for any remaining Masses of the year. If dates are no longer available for the date you desire, you are welcome to request an intention that is "unscheduled," and one of the priests will gladly celebrate Mass for your intention at an extra Mass during the week or as a concelebrant.

Saint Mary Prayer List

Please pray for those who are sick or in need, especially: Linda Klein, Kevin Ahern, Angie Calloway, Holly Smith, 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 Gardiner, 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 Schulskey, Julie Fabula, Amelia McDevitt, Gerald Gardiner, Prov Moeller, The Girth Family, Marie Rooney, Dylan and Brandon Meade, Lisa Storm, Barbara Stauble, Michael Coughlin, Karen Danis, Marian Wilinski, Mary Ellen Normand, John Castagna, Kristy Fairbanks, Peggy Silberman, Florence DesRoches, Keith Snellings, Sr., Debra Wood, Danny Terrant, Roberta Mullins-White

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 Ebanal, Christopher Eckert, Tim Evan, Christopher Ewers, Paul Fischer, 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, Stephen Wilson

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

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

december

22 MONDAY

6:30 + John Massaro
9am + Addie Comerford
1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

23 TUESDAY

6:30 + Georgia Fulmer
9am + Patrick Leo Petro, Sr.
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

24 WEDNESDAY

6:30 + George Novack
9am Adam & Mary Badowski
4pm Annie Hocter
4pm* + Patricia Gasper
6:30pm + Bob Kaila
6:30pm* + Vincent Himelright
8:30pm + Robert Joe Campbell
Midnight For the Parish
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-16; Lk 1:67-79

25 THURSDAY

7am Olivia Tan
8:30 + Lance Edwards
10:30 + Dominic Tam Nguyen
12:30pm + Elaine Wheeler
2pm Father Lino
Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

26 FRIDAY

6:30 John & Ann Cardone
9am + Dominick Delio
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

27 SATURDAY

9am + Chris Ford
5pm Dr. & Mrs. Sambat
7pm + Joyce Ann Schirmer
1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:2-8

28 SUNDAY

7am For the Parish
8:30 + Christopher Ford
10:30 + Anna Ban Nguyen
10:30* + Tim Cauley
12:30 Our Military (Living & Deceased)
2pm + Nelly Matayoshi Vargas
5pm + Bob Kaila
7:01 + Josephine Filipczyk
Sir: 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21;
Lk 2:22-40

*indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy