



**TWENTY-FOURTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**
13 Sept 2015



*Parish Ice
Cream Social,
Cakewalk
& Dance is
TODAY*

what's coming



SAINT
MARY

of the
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION
Roman Catholic Church

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

september

13 SUNDAY, TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Coffee Shop after morning Masses, Parish Life Center. (Troop 1410)

SCRIP on sale after all Masses except 2pm Mass.

Manna Food Drive after all Masses.

3:30pm, 1-Mile Fun Run/Walk, Walmart Garden Center to HCA.

4-7pm, Annual Parish Ice Cream Social, Cake Walk and Dance, Holy Cross Academy.

14 Monday, THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Religious Education classes begin this week.

7:30pm, RCIA/RICA class, Church.

8:15pm, TAIZE prayer service, Church.

15 Tuesday, Our Lady of Sorrows

10am, CCW General meeting, Courtyard Meeting Room.

16 Wednesday, Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

6:30pm, YOUCAT, John Paul II House.

17 Thursday, Weekday (Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church)

9:30am, CCW Craft Group, Parish Life Center, Room 100.

1pm, Health Ministry Volunteer Class, Parish Life Center, Main Hall.

7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paul II House.

7:30pm, Parish Council Meeting, Courtyard Meeting Room.

18 Friday, Weekday

9am, St. Anne Sisters in Faith, John Paul II House.

19 Saturday, Weekday (Saint Januarius, Bishop, Martyr)

Parish Life Weekend. Please visit our ministry booths after each Mass.

SCRIP on sale after the 5pm Mass.

20 SUNDAY, TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Parish Life Weekend. Please visit our ministry booths after each Mass.

SCRIP on sale after all Masses except 2pm Mass.

21 Monday, Saint Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist

7:30pm, RCIA/RICA class, Church.

7:30pm, Catholics' Divorce Survival Guide class series begins, Courtyard Meeting Room.

22 Tuesday, Weekday

12pm, Birthright Volunteer Meeting, Courtyard Meeting Room.

7pm, Acts of the Apostles Class (JoAnn Baker) begins, Holy Cross Academy Library.

7:30pm, South Africa Slide / Video Presentation by Sisters and Fr. Don, Church (also Oct. 1).

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

23 Wednesday, Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

4:15pm, Canonization Mass with Pope Francis, CUA Mall, Basilica East Portico.

6:30pm, YOUCAT, John Paul II House.

7:15pm, Walking With Purpose - "Touching the Divine" group begins, Courtyard Meeting Room.

24 Thursday, Weekday

9:30am, CCW Craft Group, Parish Life Center, Room 100.

9:45am, Acts of the Apostles Class (Tess Thome) begins, Courtyard Meeting Room.

6:30pm, Family Holy Hour, Church.

7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paul II House.

7:15pm, Walking With Purpose - "Keeping in Balance" group begins, Parish Life Center Room 100.

7:15pm, Walking With Purpose - "Opening Your Heart" group begins, Parish Life Center Room 204.

25 Friday, Weekday

9am, St. Anne Sisters in Faith, John Paul II House.

7pm, Hope Over Heroin event, Pratt Park.

7pm, Bunco group, Parish Life Center Main Hall.

26 Saturday, Weekday (Saints Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs)

WE WELCOME YOU HOME. 540-373-6491

nota bene (note well, please):

- ✂ **The Parish Ice Cream Social, Cakewalk and Dance, is today, 4-7pm.** Please, join us!
- ✂ Our monthly **Taizé Prayer Service** is Monday, September 14, 8:15-9pm. The tradition in Taizé, France, was established during the Nazi occupation of Paris, a place of refuge for all Christians. A chant form of prayer was created so all could join. Please join us as we create a place of unity and peace in Fredericksburg.
- ✂ It's not too late! You may bring donations for the **Manna Food Drive** for the Fredericksburg Food Bank anytime before and after Masses this weekend.
- ✂ **Parish Life Weekend:** get involved in parish life and work, **next weekend, Saturday and Sunday, September 19-20.**
- ✂ Registration is open for the **Called and Gifted Workshop**, to be held **October 9-10.** Please visit the parish website for more information and the registration form, or simply fill out the registration form on p. 7 and send it in.
- ✂ **Parish Photo Directory** sign-up is now open. Visit our parish website to schedule your appointment. Photo sessions **begin September 29.**
- ✂ **Senior Luncheon, September 29.**



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 Lois Sullivan, RN, FCN Beth Palacios, RN, FCN
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:

- 4** from our pastor
- 5** holy cross academy
- 6** education
- 7** called and gifted
- 8** adult education
- 10** parish life
- 13** from the pope
- 14** outreach - pella
- 16** operations
- 17** liturgy

from our pastor



HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

Dear Good People of Saint Mary,

At the welcome and introduction of each Mass, you may have heard the Lector say "We are not complete without you." These are words of true longing, but also theological words: we miss people who were once with us; we recognize our lack of diversity when we know that our baptized brothers and sisters are divided up all over Sunday according to bad decisions in the past, both personal and churchwide; we also know that Jesus' prayer on the night before he died was clearly that we get it together and realize that we are not here for ourselves, but for something much bigger, which we call the Body of Christ.

It is time to go to work, once again this year.

It is the responsibility of each member of the Body of Christ, which has literally taken place in God's plan at Saint Mary in Fredericksburg, to "come to Christ's full stature," to recognize God's call and be thankful, then to do something about it. Parish Life Weekend is the time for each and every person in this Body to learn and to

to take their place, teach, to feed and fed, to reach out in healing and to be healed, to comfort and to find peace in the work that God, in his Mercy, has given us to do. There is no doubt in my heart that at this moment, God has no other plan for us than that we grow

together in prayer and loving service and know God's plan in each of our lives and the life of Saint Mary. To be reconciled, to be holy and wholly his. The knowledge of God is the science of the saints, and we are all called to be saints.

By now you surely have received your Parish Renewal Handbook and Annual Report which contains a catalog of ministries and contact information, as well as a spiritual development of our parish theme, "People of Thankfulness, Sowing Seeds of Mercy." If you haven't already, I ask you to read it and prepare your hearts to make a commitment to God and the life of this parish in the year to come with a plan: how are you going to express your thanks to God in the coming year? How much time do you plan to pray? In which ministry do you plan to serve, using your special talents to build up God's kingdom in the way that is unique to your gifts? And how much are you willing to give to support financially the mission of this parish and her many works? Ultimately, it is a question of how much you are willing to give your own heart to God, because where your heart is, there is your treasure.

Hearts only grow through thankfulness. Gratitude is the secret to just about every aspect of the spiritual life and the growth of community. Without it we are drawn into ourselves, trapped in self-centeredness and isolation. The kind of individualism that we see so common today is exactly what could ultimately destroy culture, families, and churches. It is already happening.

One who is forgiven much loves much. And this person is one who realizes the secret of self is that we give ourselves away in love and service. How important are your things in life? For what are you most thankful? We realize that the best things in life aren't things. They aren't things we have earned, or bought, or found. They are gifts—grace, relationships, love, faith and hope—that are given to us by God, gifts that won't wear out or decay. We want to return them to him a hundred-fold. Honestly, it isn't possible to be truly a Christian and not be a person who gives. We are made in the image and likeness of God, who pours himself out for us.

Every family, please, return a card and get involved. We will place our commitment cards in the offertory baskets at next week's Masses.

God will certainly bless you.

Fr. Don

holy cross academy



Sliding gently into the new school year

Classes are in full swing at Holy Cross Academy and so is recess time! It was our great joy to welcome our new students and their families and to share with all of our HCA Moms and Dads our goals for this coming school year. As a school community, we are embarking on an ambitious self-study as part of our school reaccreditation. Wish us luck!

As our students settle into the routine of a new school year, they learn how to work together and to share their gifts with one another. Listening attentively, they explore new worlds and discover new ideas. Our school year promises to be an exciting one for teachers and students alike.

Holy Cross Academy serves Saint Mary Parish by offering an excellent academic program grounded in our Catholic faith. Our students strive to become the best that they can be spiritually and academically. Our school program develops the whole child and challenges each student to pursue excellence in all areas.

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. We look forward to telling you all about the wonderful opportunities we provide for our students. Learn about our parish school by visiting our website, www.holycrossweb.com. If you would like to see what we can do for your child, please call our HCA office at 540-286-1600 or St. Mary Preschool at 540-373-7553.



*A National
Blue Ribbon
School of
Excellence,
2012*



education

religious education

Religious Education Volunteers needed

We still need Religious Education volunteers, especially Catechists. Please check the bulletin board in the church vestibule for openings and call the Parish Office to volunteer. You are also invited to

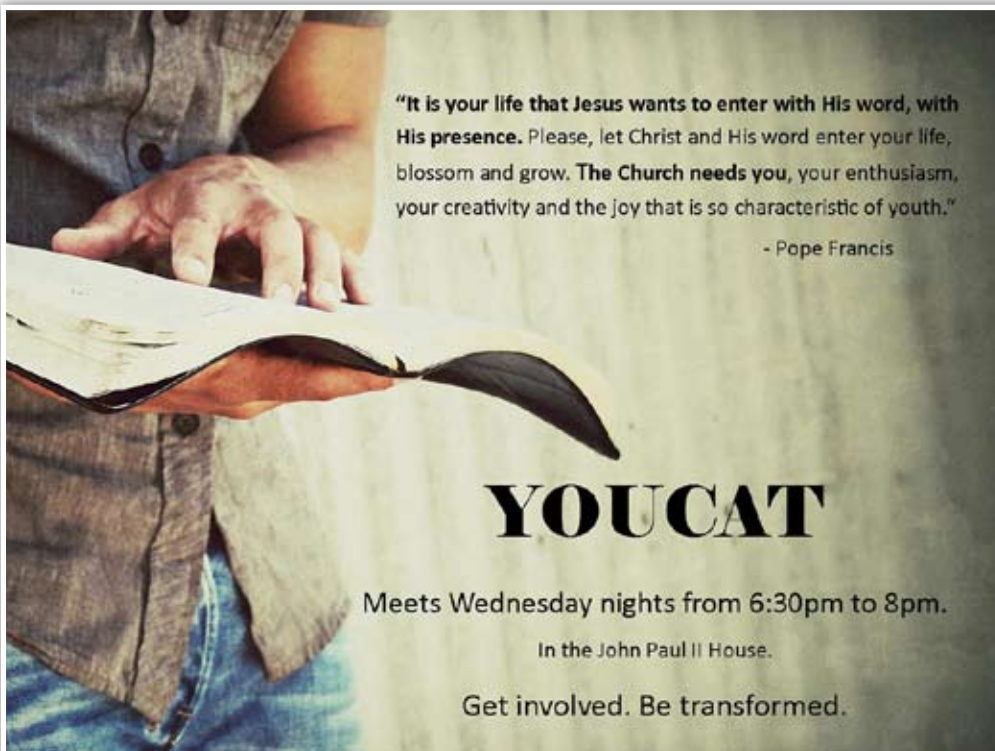
our booth Parish Life Weekend, September 19 and 20

Religious Education Classes resume this week

Religious Education classes are here again. Parents are reminded

to accompany their children to the first class. We will begin in the main hall of the Parish Life Center. After that meeting parents are asked to meet with their child's catechist in their child's classroom. Parents are invited to the main hall each week to watch videos on parenting.

youth ministry



"It is your life that Jesus wants to enter with His word, with His presence. Please, let Christ and His word enter your life, blossom and grow. The Church needs you, your enthusiasm, your creativity and the joy that is so characteristic of youth."

- Pope Francis

YOU CAT

Meets Wednesday nights from 6:30pm to 8pm.
In the John Paul II House.

Get involved. Be transformed.

CYM Dinner and HS Youth Group: September 20

All high school teens are invited to join us **Sunday, September 20 at 6pm** for an awesome meal as we gather together before our high school youth group begins. There's nothing quite like a meal to bring people together and help get to know one another. After the CYM Dinner, **join us from 7pm-8:30pm for a dynamic, fun and faith filled night as we kick off the year.** All high school teens must be registered to participate so please see the high school page in the Youth Ministry section of the website.



facebook.com/stmarycym
instagram.com/stmarycym
twitter.com/StMaryCYM

how are you called?

Begins **9/14**
"COME AND SEE"

RCIA

We invite **YOU** to deeper life in **Jesus Christ**, to consider becoming a member of this **Body of Christ**. Please call the parish office to register. You are welcome.

Maybe you are asking yourself, "Now what?"

Join over 500 parishioners who have already experienced the Called and Gifted Workshop and are listening to the call of God.

God calls us in concrete ways, through the gifts of service he places in each of us at our baptism. Many people don't discover them unless they *intentionally* stop, study, search and realize that God is calling all his people to act in ordinary, faithful ways that we might even take for granted. You have a special role in the Church as a lay person, an *office*, and no one else can accomplish what you can, because no one has the combination of gifts that God has given you. No one else has your particular background, experience, gifts and connections. No one else can take your place.

Are you going through, or planning to make, a transition in your life? Perhaps your children have recently left home. Perhaps you want to

return to work after an absence, or you are considering a call to the priesthood or religious life. Knowing what God has given you to offer other people can help you to discern his will for your life—and provide you with direction when you make choices.

On Friday evening and Saturday, October 9 and 10, our parish is sponsoring a teaching team from the Catherine of Siena Institute in Colorado Springs to offer the introductory Called and Gifted Workshop. The discernment process will help you to discover God's will for you.

Following the Workshop, work with one of our trained team members for a consultation on your Workshop results between October 13 and 31. The process then takes shape in six follow-up small group meetings with people who share similar gifts to the ones you wish to explore.

To register or find out more, call Fr. Don at the parish office, or see links to more information and a registration form at our parish website at www.stmaryfred.org. You may also contact us at called@stmaryfred.org

Simply fill out and return the registration form below and plan to join us October 9 and 10.



registration form:

Please return this form to the Parish Office **by Wednesday, 30 September 2015**, if you plan to attend the Workshop.

Name of Ministry (if actively involved): _____

☐ Registered Member / St. Mary (\$20)

☐ Not a Member of St. Mary (\$30)

Name of church where you are a member: _____

yes! I will attend the Workshop.

NAME _____

DAYTIME PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Box lunch on Saturday is included. Payment must be included with registration. Make checks payable to St. Mary. Fee is not refundable.

adult classes 2015-16

Classes and Series for Adult Formation and Information — You are welcome.

Why not continue your Adult Education by taking a class this year? We have many offerings to choose from. *Please remember, space is sometimes limited!* Please watch the bulletin for details about any costs or registration deadlines.

RCIA Classes (Open to all parishioners)

begins September 14, Mondays until Easter.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, Mondays from 7:30–8:15pm in the church.

Classes are taught by all priests and members of the RCIA Team. All adults are welcome—you can already be Catholic/don't have to become Catholic to attend.

The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide

begins September 21, 12 Mondays. Mondays, 7:30–9pm in the Courtyard Meeting Room. 12-week DVD series, discussions led by Sue Mersch. Email suemersch@gmail.com or call 708-638-8383. Please register before September 14.

Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom (Two sessions)

Session I begins September 22, 20 Tuesdays.

Session II begins September 24, 12 Thursdays.

20-week DVD series by Jeff Cavins, will show how Christ's Kingdom on earth is empowered to carry out his work in the world. The Acts of the Apostles provides a historic framework for understanding the rest of the New Testament, which comes

alive when read in a new way within the context of the Acts narrative.

Session I, Tuesdays, 7-9pm at Holy Cross Academy Library led by JoAnne Baker.

Session II, Thursdays, 9:45-11:45 in the Courtyard Meeting Room, led by Tess Thome.

Book fee is \$15 and registration for classes is requested by September 14 to order class materials. Please call the parish office to sign up for either Tuesday evening or Thursday morning classes.

Walking with Purpose: Women's Bible Study

To bring women to a deeper personal relationship with Jesus Christ through personal Bible study and small groups, linking everyday challenges to solutions through Jesus' teachings. Go to www.walkingwithpurpose.com for info. This year we will be offering several courses:

Opening Your Heart: The Starting Point (Year 1)

begins September 24, 22 Thursdays.

A foundational 22-week course, designed for women who are new to WWP as well as those with more experience in Bible study, meeting Thursdays, 7:15–8:30pm in the Parish Life Center. Register first night, for information email Lori Mattson lori@acumen-ea.com.

Keeping in Balance (Year 2)

begins September 24, 22 Thursdays.

22 sessions focused on creating health and holiness within using the Old and New Testaments, meeting Thursdays 7:15–8:30pm in the Parish Life Center. More

information, email Lori Mattson lori@acumen-ea.com.

Touching the Divine (Year 3)

begins September 23, 22 Wednesdays.

22 sessions studying the Gospel of John to discover how much Christ loves us and how his love is our true satisfaction, meeting Wednesdays 7:15–8:30pm in the Courtyard Meeting Room. More information, email Lori Mattson lori@acumen-ea.com.

The Called and Gifted Workshop offered again October 9-10

Please call the parish office to register, space is limited as the Workshop is not open only to the parish this fall. Join us for the acclaimed Workshop, one follow-up Consultation during October, and a six-meeting series of small groups as we discover and deepen the gifts God has given us. If you attended the Workshop but never followed up on the small group gatherings, you are welcome. Meetings are scheduled for Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings, first two weeks in November, December and January.

Laudato Si': Pope Francis' Encyclical on the Care of Creation

begins October 25, 3 Sunday afternoons.

Join Fr. Rooney as he and several parishioners share leading discussion about Pope Francis' encyclical on life and care for the environment. This is the perfect forum to learn about Catholic social teaching in this breakthrough document. Please download the document and read it; we will discuss it for two meetings and make an action plan for our community at

save the dates

the third.

October 24, November 1 & 8, 3:15-4:45 in the Courtyard Meeting Room.

Pray with Sacred Scripture: Lectio Divina November 10 and February 11

Fr. Don Rooney will offer a class on two occasions this year on the great tradition in the Catholic Church of how to pray with Sacred Scripture. Did you know that the Bible is, first and foremost for Catholics, not a textbook but a prayerbook? We need to practice our skills of listening! Come and learn a way of prayer that might change your life. The same class will be repeated twice. *We will meet in the church 7-9pm Tuesday, November 10 and Thursday, February 11.*

End of Life Decisions Presentation November 14

Join Fr. Don Rooney, David Mathers and Regis Keddie for a seminar on end-of-life planning which includes liturgical, sacramental, medical and financial planning. Let us know you are coming: 9:30-12pm in the PLC.

Marital Attachment: Why You React the Way You Do and How to Change That: October 13

Do you and your spouse find yourselves arguing about the same things all the time, but it seems that you are talking past each other and not to each other? If that is the case, this talk may be for you! Join William McKenna, counselor at Catholic Charities Family Counseling, and find out what attachment is, how it affects not just your marriage but also your daily life, and how you can use it to change yourself for good.

Tuesday evening, 7:30-9pm, location TBD. Register with the Parish Office by October 6.

Lent Retreats at Loyola on the Potomac November 4-6: Men November 11-13: Women

Loyola retreats are conducted in an atmosphere of prayerful silence and include generous amounts of time for prayer, personal reflection and the cultivation of a deep relationship with God. The retreats are open to anyone who is seeking a deeper relationship with God in prayer. It also provides for daily Eucharist and the sacrament of reconciliation on Friday and Saturday. Loyola Retreat is located in Faulkner, Maryland.

This year's retreat is entitled "The Way." We invite our retreatants to explore the Ignatian principles of being "contemplatives in action" and "to help us walk the path set by Jesus in the Gospel."

Retreats begin with check-in and confessions from 5-6:30pm on Friday, an orientation at 6:45, dinner at 7pm and conclude with lunch on Sunday following Mass. The suggested offering for the retreat is \$235, but only \$185 for first-time retreatants. A payment plan is available. Contact Len or Sylvia Fontenot, 540-663-2261 or email lensyl1966@verizon.net. To register go to www.loyolaonthepotomac.com



The Mystery of God and Why He Matters

begins January 5, 6 Tuesday evenings.

What do we really mean by "God"?

Atheism is on the rise. Skeptical thinkers vigorously attack belief in God as irrational or, even worse, dangerous. The so-called New Atheism has attracted millions of young people thanks to bestselling books such as *The God Delusion* and *God Is Not Great*. How should Christians respond? How can we turn the tide of secularism and draw people back to God?

In this new film series and study program, Bishop Robert Barron reaches into our rich intellectual tradition to teach us how. Using the insights of St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, Pope Benedict XVI, he uncovers a clear yet sophisticated understanding of what we mean by "God".

Who is God? And why does he matter? Watch this series and you'll not only learn the answers yourself, but you'll discover how to share them with others - especially those who no longer believe.

We will meet in the church 7-9pm beginning Tuesday, January 5 and keep February 16 in case of a snow day.

40 Hours' Parish Mission: February 22-23

Each evening after Mass, during our 40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration, our own Fr. Don Rooney will speak this year on the necessity of gratitude, mercy and spiritual growth, and the traditions of prayer that have defined Catholic spirituality. Find solitude for 40 hours in your life and discover what benefit might be in store for you. All welcome.

parish life

parish life is...



Here is a quick list of all the ministries that are available to you for parish service.

Please watch your mailboxes for our **Catalog** this week and read and pray about these groups, and consider what you might get involved in.

Next week you will have the opportunity before and after Masses to meet with representatives to find out if the fit is right for you.

In two weeks we will have **Commitment Sunday** when everyone will place the Commitment Card in the offering basket: your commitment of time for prayer, your gifts for service, and your financial support of our parish family.

► EDUCATION

- Adult Religious Education
- ESL: English/Second Language
- Faith Formation K-12 (Religious Education Program)
- Holy Cross Academy
- RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
- Vacation Bible School
- Catholic Youth Ministry (CYM) Confirmation Team Leaders
- High School Youth Group
- Middle School Youth Program
- WorkCamp Volunteers
- Youth Group Parent Volunteers

► LITURGY

- Altar Servers
- Senior Altar Servers/Funerals
- Altar Society
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- Ministry to the Homebound
- Hospitality: Greeters
- Hospitality: Ushers
- Lectors
- Music Ministry
- Adult Choir
- Folk Choir
- Spanish Choir
- Children's Choirs (Grades 2-6)
- Youth Choir (Grades 7-12)
- Seasonal Decorators

► OPERATIONS

- Administrative Support
- Bishops' Lenten Appeal Committee
- Communications Committee
- Development
- Scrip Volunteers
- Operations Committee

► OUTREACH

- Catholic Advocacy Committee
- Ecumenical/Interreligious Commission
- Family Services (Catholic Charities)
- Health Ministry
- Homeless Shelter Dinner

- Jail/Prison Ministry
- Manna Project (Food Bank)
- Micah Ecumenical Ministries
- Cold Night Shelter
- Community Dinners
- Outreach Committee
- Refugee Assistance
- SHARE Program
- St. Vincent de Paul Society

► PARISH LIFE

- Ancient Order of Hibernians
- Book Club
- Called and Gifted Program
- Council of Catholic Women
- Circle of Love
- Craft Group
- Prayers & Squares
- Cursillo
- Funeral Receptions Committee
- Gardens Committee
- Homeschoolers Group
- Knights of Columbus
- Legion of Mary
- Lenten Small Groups Program
- Magdalenes
- Men's Group
- St. Anne Sisters in Faith (Moms' Group)
- Over 40 Single Catholics
- Parish Food Chain
- Parish Life Committee
- Prayer Groups
- Global Prayer Ministry
- Life in the Spirit Gathering
- Spanish Prayer Group
- Respect Life Ministry
- Birthright of Fredericksburg
- Mary's Shelter
- Retreats
- Secular Franciscan Order
- Senior Luncheons
- Vocations Committee
- Welcoming New Parishioners
- Young Adults
- Youth Organizations (Sponsored by parish/school)
- American Heritage Girls
- Boy/Cub Scouts of America
- Girl Scouts of America
- Squires / Roses
- Trail Life USA Troop

Health Ministry volunteer classes

Find out more at one of our Health Ministry Volunteer classes on September 17 from 1-3pm. To register please call **540-373-6491**. For additional information, contact the parish Nurse at **540-845-3031** or epalacios@stmaryfred.org.

Health Ministry Walks

Please join the Health Ministry Ministry walk starting **September 26 and continuing through November 14**. We meet every Saturday at 7am just in time to finish for the 9am Mass. Location: Rappahannock River Heritage trail and Canal path; 3.1 miles. For more information, contact the Parish Nurse: **540-845-3031**, ParishNurse@stmaryfred.org.

Family Holy Hour

Thursday, September 24, 6:30pm.

Please join us for a family holy hour to celebrate the World Meeting of Families and the Holy Father's visit to the United States (September 22-27), and to intercede for the upcoming Synod on the Family (October 4-25). Individuals and families with children of all ages are invited to come and offer their prayers for the Church's efforts on behalf of the family, as well as the particular needs of their own families. The hour will include time for silent prayer, song, a Divine Mercy Chaplet and benediction. Please join us in contemplating Jesus "who reveals the mystery and vocation of the family" and is "the face of the Father's mercy" (*Instrumentum laboris; Misericordiae vultus*). For more information, please contact Michael and Kara Horne, karahorne@gmail.com.

Teen/Parent Summit

A Parent(s) of Teens discussion group—facilitated by Dian Epp, LCSW, a member of the Saint Mary Health Ministry Team—will begin **Monday, September 21 from 7-8:30pm** and continue for 4-6 sessions depending on interest. Attendance is limited to 12. Priority will be given to parents who attended the summit but is open to all parents of teens in the parish. To register, please call the Parish Office at **540-373-6491**.

The first 4 sessions are:

- **Sept. 21:** Teens and technology
- **Sept. 28:** Parent and teen communication
- **Oct. 5:** Warning signs of substance abuse in teens
- **Oct. 12:** Setting effective boundaries with teens

If there is interest, 2 additional sessions will be:

- **Oct. 19:** Ways to identify signs of anxiety and depression in teens
- **Oct. 26:** How to promote your teen's self esteem

Classes will be held in the conference room at Catholic Charities.

English as a Second Language class forming

We are very interested in restarting the ESL Program here at Saint Mary. If you are a former educator, program participant, or someone who enjoys assisting in this area and are looking for another way to engage your Teaching gift, **please consider attending our organizational meeting scheduled for Sunday, September 27, at 12:30pm** in the Parish Life Center. Former Students are invited and welcome to return to the classroom to assist. Bilingual skills are helpful but not necessary. All class materials and instructions are in

English. **Future classes will be held Sundays, from Noon-1:30pm before the Spanish Mass.** Please contact the office at **540-373-6491** or email Rick Caporali, at rca-porali@stmaryfred.org for more information.

Birthright Volunteer Training September 28

Men and women interested in learning more about volunteering for Birthright of Fredericksburg are invited to attend a "Hey Look Us Over!" social from 7:30-9pm at the home of Kathleen Mahoney on **Monday, September 28**. A short film and a discussion of the Birthright Charter will give attendees a clear idea of the organization's mission and philosophy. Those who wish to train as volunteers will attend sessions in October at a convenient time for the group. Registration is required by September 24: bmah761569@aol.com or 540-371-2073.

KofC yard sale donations

There are only a few weekends left for donating items for the KofC yard sale **September 26**, if you've wanted to clean out your closet, basement, garage, or shed while contributing to a good cause. **Point of Contact for drop off or pick-ups:** Fred or Debbie Nunez (540) 371-3125 and Mario or Patria Figueroa (540) 898-0957.

Coats for Kids

The Knights of Columbus, Fredericksburg Council #4034 and the Fredericksburg Sheriff's Department are joining in an effort to provide coats to needy children in the Fredericksburg area. We are conducting fundraisers to obtain the money to purchase new coats through the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids Program.

Poncho Villa on Route 17 has agreed to provide 15% of the total bill of patrons who come in on **the evening of Tuesday September 22 from 5 to 8pm** with proof that they are there for our fundraiser (Coats for Kids).

We are asking for as much support as we can get to raise money for the kids. **Please join us on September 22 from 5 to 8.** Bring this bulletin article or see us at the door for the required proof.

REAP Scholarship Grants

The Religious Education Assistance Program (REAP) is a scholarship grant program for Catholic school tuition assistance, developed and administered by Fredericksburg Council #4034 of the Knights of Columbus. We support Catholic school education by providing financial assistance for families who are unable to fully pay the current year's tuition at Holy Cross Academy, Saint John Paul the Great High School, or St. Michael High School.

The student's effort and potential for academic success are also important considerations. Individual grants up to \$2,000 will be awarded for the current 2015-2016 academic year. For information about eligibility and how to start the process, registered Saint Mary families should contact Mr. Kevin Doyle, Council 4034 Church Activities Director, at reap@kofc4034.org. **Applications must be postmarked by Thursday, September 17, 2015.**

Please note that this program does not provide financial assistance for students enrolled in the parish Religious Education Program. More information is available at <http://www.kofc4034.org>.

happening here

smile!

New parish photo directory

Lifetouch will photograph our parish families at no cost beginning in late September, October, and early part of November. All parish members are eligible to make an appointment. Extended family, friends and neighbors are welcome to schedule appointments, although they will not be included in the directory. You may include family pets, these also will not be included in the directory. Each family will receive one free 8"x10" photo, with the option to purchase others. Lifetouch accepts cash, checks and all major credit cards.

Can we submit our own photo?

You may submit your own family photo at a cost of \$10. The fee is waived in the following circumstances: special pages are provided free for military members (simply submit pictures of them in uniform) and homebound parishioners (who have their photo taken by a parish volunteer with a digital camera).

How do I sign up for a sitting?

Sign-ups have begun. You will find the online registration on the Saint Mary home page (stmaryfred.org). No access to the Internet? Stop by or call the Parish Office at 540-373-6491 for assistance. **Photo sessions begin the last week September 29, daily from 2pm to 8:30pm.**

We need warm, friendly volunteers!

...to sign people up at church, make reminder calls, take pictures of homebound parishioners, coordinate military photo pages, and greet people and sign them in for photo sessions. Call the Parish Office at 540-373-6491 or contact **Sandy Keddie** at photodirectory@stmaryfred.org.

We invite *all* Christians to gather in the peace of Christ Monday, September 14, as we "prepare a place for unity & peace:" Taizé prayer in Fredericksburg.

Praying with one voice, let us ask God to bring healing to our world and end the divisions that separate peoples.

You are invited to a monthly gathering of prayer in the ecumenical tradition of the Taizé community in France, the second Monday of every month from 8:15 to 9pm.

It is our hope that this monthly prayer brings together Christians of all churches, pastors and

flocks, as together we realize a bit more each day that we must rely upon God's power to bring about unity among all who follow Jesus, "as he and the Father are one." It is something we are unable to do ourselves.



This Unity which embraces all people stands at the very heart of Christ's mission...

CCW Announcements

Donate to the annual Craft Bazaar—Attention Saint Mary Crafters: **We need your home made crafts!** If you have items you have made and wish to donate to this year's annual Craft Bazaar, please bring them to the Parish Life Center, room 100, **any Thursday morning until October 15** or to the church office with Wanda Cushing's name on them.

The first CCW meeting of the 2015-16 season will be Tuesday, September 15, at 10am. We meet in the Courtyard Meeting Room. Father Don Rooney will be our guest speaker.

BUNCO rescheduled

The first Bunco game will be Friday, **September 25, from 7-9pm** in the Parish Life Center.

Prayer for the Care of Creation

Religious leaders and members of local faith communities filled the sanctuary at Shiloh Old Site Baptist Church in Fredericksburg

on Wednesday evening, September 1, the day that Pope Francis declared World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation.

Patriarch Demetrios declared the first day of the Orthodox Church's new year as the Day of Prayer for Creation in 1989. He spoke out of his concern that "the abuse by contemporary man of his privileged position in the creation and of the Creator's order to him 'to have dominion over the earth' (Gen. 1, 28), has already led the world to the edge of apocalyptic self-destruction."

Themes from the evening of prayer and reflection included how we have turned this dominion into selfishly treating God's creation as a commodity, about our obligation to provide the care upon which all God's creatures depend, and asking God to give us new eyes to see, new ears to hear and new hands to care for the chorus of creation which is our gift and our charge.

Members of nine downtown churches, including Saint Mary, were participants.



Save the Date: Diocesan Pilgrimage 3 October, 9:30-2:30pm

Join Bishop Loverde, clergy and religious, and the families of our diocesan family for the diocesan pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, **Saturday, October 3 from 9:30am to 2:30pm.**

This year's theme, "*Oh Mary, Keep Our Family Alive in Love*," is perfectly suited for the moment in which we find ourselves needing prayer as a country and as a Church, following upon the Pope's World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia and before the 14th Ordinary General Assembly of Bishops in Rome meeting on "*The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and the Contemporary World*." Since most families will not have the opportunity to attend the Papal events, this pilgrimage will allow us to come together as one family and enjoy a perfect capstone to the rich and grace-filled two weeks of the Papal Visit. With hearts on fire we can come together to ask Mary, Our Mother for her intercession and protection.

Greetings from Francis

(Fr. Don:) this letter was sent to our group this week during our dialogue between Catholics and Evangelicals in Chicago. Some of the members of our dialogue include Rev. Norberto Saracco, one of the Holy Father's best friends from Argentina who is an Evangelical pastor, as well as four other dear friends of the Pope. He wrote this letter to Norberto, who read it to our group:

Dear Brother,

I remember with joy the meeting we had at my previous diocese with member of the Lausanne Movement. Together we shared the Word and prayer.

We know that the visible unity of the Church is the work and gift of the Holy Spirit, who will bring it about in His time. Meanwhile, any effort we make in favor of the unity of Christians is necessary and urgent. The world needs to know Jesus. We must proclaim Him without any pause, together. The division among Christians is the fruit of our sin, and it is a scandal and our greatest impediment for the mission for which the Lord has called us: announcing the Good News of the Gospel.

Today, the blood of the many Christians slaughtered in diverse parts of the world cries out to heaven. The one that persecutes does not make a mistake, he doesn't ask if they are Catholic, Evangelical, Orthodox... they are Christians, followers of Jesus Christ, and that is enough. This blood challenges us: Do we have the right to make our divisions a priority while the blood of our brothers is shed for the testimony of Jesus Christ?

This is the moment of reconciliation, to accept "the unity in reconciled diversity," an expression of Oscar Cullman. We know very well what divides us, let us be more strengthened in what unites us: the common faith in Jesus Christ as the only Lord and Savior, the Word of God, and Baptism (Eph. 4:1-6). The year 2017 marks the 50th year since the sovereign irruption of the Holy Spirit in the Catholic Church, known today as the Charismatic Renewal, which was birthed ecumenically. I have united those who have been born again (Jn 3:3-4) in this river of Grace, to celebrate together in St. Peter's Square on Pentecost this year, an invitation I extend to all Christians of all confessions, to worship our Lord and to pray for a new Pentecost for the Church and for the world. This is a necessity, "That the Lord would renew us in our prodigal days with a new Pentecost," as was asked for by Saint John XXIII at the Second Vatican Council.

My prayers and close support accompany all of you in the meeting.

And I ask, please pray for me. I need it.

Fraternally,
FRANCESCO



outreach to saint mary

MAY THIS HOME BE FIRMLY
BUILT UPON FAITH
HELD HUMILY TOGETHER BY
HOPE
AND EVER LIT BY THE
LIGHT OF GOD'S LOVE

Thank you from our Sisters and the Sisters of South Africa and Namibia

The Oblate Sisters of St. Francis de Sales are extremely grateful for the support and assistance of Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish in building their beautiful new convent in Pella, South Africa. Brisson Convent, named after Blessed Fr. Louis Brisson, founder of the Oblate Sisters, was dedicated on July 18, 2015. Fr. Don Rooney, pastor of Saint Mary Parish, and Fr. Tom Murphy, OSFS, pastor of Saint John Neumann Parish in Reston, celebrated the first Mass with the Sisters on July 19. Along with our gratitude, please know that you are all in our prayers.

We invite you to join the Sisters, Fr. Don and Rick Caporali to view a slide/video show of our parish participation in our trip to South Africa and Namibia:

**Tuesday, September 22, 7:30pm,
and Thursday, 1 October, 7:30pm.
We are hoping that many people
come, so we will meet in the
church.**

It will be our pleasure to share with you the beauty of this region and the wonderful people we encountered on our trip.



WE WELCOME YOU HOME. 540-373-6491

outreach from pella, s. africa



The dedication of Brisson Convent in Pella, South Africa. Left: First Mass in the Chapel, and a meeting of the Sisters of South Africa, the U.S., and France after Mass;

Below: Interior courtyard, dining hall, Fr. Don plants palm trees as part of the ceremony in the sand in front of the convent, the kitchen, the dedication plaque thanking our parish on the front porch:



In grateful remembrance to all our benefactors who financially contributed to achieve the goal of building this convent...

operations given in love

Weekly Offertory

6 September Offertory \$40,316
Mandeville, Jamaica (add'l) 12,596
Building Fund (add'l) 261
Poor Box, St. Vincent de Paul 344

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.

The Second Collection next weekend is for the Parish Building Fund. Please recall that we continue to pay off our renovations with a monthly mortgage payment and this collection helps us to effectively afford paying out of our operating budget free from a capital campaign. Donations to the Parish Building Fund are retained 100% by the parish.

Pro-life Shrine to the Holy Family is ordered, due in November

Fr. Don wrote in his letter last week that we are deepening our commitment to life with a plan for our community to intentionally grow in awareness of the value and dignity of human life through education and outreach, seeking a solution to the reality of abortion in our culture. We also want to truly become instruments of hope and mercy, and help bring healing to all those who have made the mistake of abortion. One of the outward signs of our parish commitment will be a shrine to the Holy Family located in the island in front of the Parish Life Center. It is cast in bronze, with life-size figures of Mary seated with Jesus standing on her knee, and Saint Joseph standing by.



The sculpture will be placed on a platform so that it will be clearly visible even when the parking lot is full of cars. Now is the right time to promote the values of life, family and mercy.

We have placed the order and paid half up front, and are asking anyone interested for donations to this powerful symbol on our campus. We have already received one generous donation of \$10 thousand, so are one-fourth of the way there. Please call Fr. Don directly if you can help us make this a reality.

Carmelite Conference Announced

Fifth Centenary Celebration of the Birth of Saint Teresa of Avila
"Living the Teresian Spirituality in Our World Today," **September 19, 2015 at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, 9am-3:30pm.** Guest Speakers are Father Kieran Kavanaugh, OCD, Father Marc Foley, OCD and Ken Vaughan, OCDS. Free and open to the public. Visit www.stteresa500celebration.wordpress.com for more information.

Please note: Prayer list for military men & women

The prayer list at the right has not been updated since we first started a military personnel prayer list some four years ago. Please contact the office if you wish to have any of these names to appear on an updated list. Thank you.

Abortion and Confession

Pope Francis recently universalized, as an incentive during the Extraordinary Year of Mercy, permission for priests to absolve the sin of abortion in confession. For some time it was considered a "reserved" sin, which means that the priest would ask the bishop to supply a penance. Bishop explains that this is a faculty that was already given to priests in Arlington not only by him, but also by Bishop Keating before him. He also wants to reassure all who have confessed this sin in the past with a sincere heart, that they are forgiven forever, and do not need to repeat confession: www.arlingtondiocese.org/newsdetails.aspx?Pageid=422&id=8994

Anyone seeking healing after abortion is encouraged to call Project Rachel 888-456-HOPE or visit www.helpafterabortion.org

Masses next weekend

19 September—SATURDAY

5pm	Fr. Cummings
7pm	Fr. Don

20 September—SUNDAY

7am	Fr. Lino
8:30	Fr. Holmes
10:30	Fr. Don
HCA10:30	Fr. Cummings
12:30	Fr. Lino
2pm	Fr. Holmes
5pm	Fr. Cummings
7:01	Fr. Don

liturgy called in love

Respect Life Sunday

National Life Chain **Sunday,**
October 4, 2:00 - 3:30pm

What is a Life Chain?

The first Life Chain was built in 1987 by Please Let Me Live, a small pro-life ministry in Yuba City, California. From its small beginning, the Life Chain has grown to over 1,800 Life Chains in the United States and Canada, and is a call to the Christian Church to mobilize against an abortion holocaust that claims over one million American lives annually, and has claimed over sixty million lives worldwide, through surgical abortion. **The Life Chain is a peaceful, prayerful, silent demonstration.** Hundreds of Christians—clergy and lay people—stand 25 to 50 feet apart to form a prayer chain and hold signs. This powerful, visual impact not only raises community awareness but has also been credited with saving children's lives.

Saint Mary Parish will again participate in the Annual Life Chain on Sunday, October 4.

We will meet in the Parish Life Center at 2pm to pick up our signs and walk up to Route 1, where we will form a chain along Route 1 from Route 3 to College Avenue. Please join us and take a stand for the unborn.

Masses were offered in August for the following unscheduled intentions: +John Angelotta, Walter Jessup, +Margaret Clancy, +Sean Bolton, Harold Bautista, +All Souls, +Frank Clancy, Jr., +Fr. Adelaide La Bonte, Joseph Clagett, +Richard Romagnoli, +Ana Maria Jamison, Mark and Anne Doherty, +Mary Kober, +Paulette Lake, +Wilma Evans, +Annette Normand, +JoAnn James, +Marie Fernandes, and +Ellen Earnest.

Saint Mary prayer list

Please pray for those who are sick or in need,

especially: Meredith Adams, Anne Shelton, Holly Smith, Lois Merrill, Janie Sherry, Martha Clemens, Art Gabler, Pat Arvai, Veronica Johnson, William Herr, Naomi Russo, Marie Savage, Deacon Richard Smith, Anna Castagna, John Paul Baksy, Eva Scelzo, Joanne Sanford, Trevor Wood, Beth Malaby, Rhonda Seidlinger, Margaret McAleavey, David Arnold, Tracy Biddulph, Carole Page, Christopher Kelly, Richard Romagnoli, Ann Dunsmore, Lisa Herr, Madeline Doyle, Elizabeth Ames, Elise Valez, Mary Ullmer, Virginia Bare, Bobbi Palumbo, Joanne Deangeous, Kenneth Nieves, Carol Eggleston, Patrick Eggleston, Mary Jean Williams, Don Williams, Gladys Bowen, Tom Bowen, Thomas Novotnak, Peter Stafford, Josephine Kreider, Suzi Eggleston, Melvyn Schreckinger, Betty Ann and Bill Dateno, Harold Gardiner, Marianne Ford, the Carlos Ortiz Family, John Haas, Karen Jones, Jennifer Carlson, Adelyn Wood, Elizabeth Ryan, Dave Kelly, Kevin Murray, Robin Humphries, Catherine Eklund, Jimmy Zollman, Charleen Arnold, Joshua Burgh, Brian Keller, Martin Samsbury-Carter, Linda Kaila, Cynthia McCready, Jesse Madison, Kelly Ann Carpenter, Martha Ferrara, Tom and Prov Moeller, Debbie Lloyd, Shana Callirgos, Cameron Richard North, Karen Danis, Maureen Flanagan, Gretchen Maia, Mary Ellen Normand, D.J. Smetek, Jim Evans, Megan Ramsey, Robert and Tenya Mosier, Cesar Corretjer, Josh Oltman, Donelda Wellwood, Keith Kovalefski, Bruce Bates, Joseph Bozicevic, Dyke Stabler, Helen Kozyra

Please pray for all the men and women in our military and civilian support services overseas, especially: Frank

Creamer, Sal Contreras, James Cook, Brad Cowan, Sam Del Grande, Glenn Dickinson, Aaron Doble, Anthony Dowden, John Dussault, Travis Eades, Doug Ebnal, 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, Emmanuel Morales, Colin Carpenter, Josh Marsillo, Xavier Alas, Julio A. Alarcon, Lance Schulte, Teri Hocter, Josue Bermudez, Bryan Ruth

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

Daily Mass intentions and readings

september

14 MONDAY

6:30 +John & Catherine Dempsey
8:15* Holy Cross Academy
9am +Wilmer Morin
Nm 21:4-9; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 8:27-35

15 TUESDAY

6:30 +Felix Lopez
9am +Evelyn Derouin
1 Tim 3:1-13; Jn 19:25-27

16 WEDNESDAY

6:30 +Virginia King
9am +Joseph Trung Trinh
1 Tim 3:1-14-16; Lk 7:31-35

17 THURSDAY

6:30 Sr. Frances Carol
9am Leo & Jessica Chavarria
1 Tim 4:12-16; Lk 7:36-50

18 FRIDAY

6:30 Marilyn Coughlin
9am +Shirley Alruz
1 Tim 6:2-12; Lk 8:1-3

19 SATURDAY

9am +Cindy Loughran
5pm +Gina Marie Lenox
7pm +Jack & Clara Schirmer
1 Tim 6:13-16; Lk 8:4-5

20 SUNDAY

7am +Joseph Tarallo
8:30 Peggy Murphy
10:30 Karen Haskell
10:30*+Gregory Fatovic
12:30 +Jeannette Marie Finn Major
2pm Thanksgiving/St. Jude
5pm For the Parish
7:01 +Richard Kramlich
Wis 2:12, 17-20; Jas 3:16—4:3;
Mk 9:30-37

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.

* Indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy