

**Fourth Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

31 January 2016



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



what's coming



SAINT
MARY

of the
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION
Roman Catholic Church

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

january

31 SUNDAY, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Bishop's Lenten Appeal Announcement Weekend Catholic Schools Week Begins

Coffee Shop after morning Masses, Parish Life Center. (Girl Scouts Troop 522)
SCRIP on sale after all Masses except 2pm Mass.
CYM Dinner and Youth Group meeting following the 5pm Mass.

february

1 Monday, Weekday

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

2 Tuesday, THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

3 Wednesday, Weekday (Saint Blaise, Bishop, Martyr)

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

4 Thursday, Weekday

Principal Appreciation Day: Thanks, Sister Susan Louise
9:30am, CCW Craft Group, Parish Life Center, Room 100.
7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paul II House.
6pm, Academic Fair and Family Dinner, Holy Cross Academy.

5 Friday, Saint Agatha, Virgin, Martyr

9am, St. Anne Sisters in Faith, John Paul II House.
8pm, First Friday Mass followed by all-night Adoration, Church.

6 Saturday, Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

Bishop's Lenten Appeal Commitment Weekend
SCRIP on sale after the 5pm Mass.
9am, Spanish Prayer and Life Workshop, Courtyard Meeting Room.
11am, CCW Winter Workshop, Parish Life Center, Room 100.
6-8:30pm, KofC monthly Family Dinner, Parish Life Center.

7 SUNDAY, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Bishop's Lenten Appeal Commitment Weekend

Host Sign-up for Lenten Small Groups begins
Saint Mary Preschool Open House, 9:30-12, Parish Life Center.
Holy Cross Academy Open House, 1-3pm, Holy Cross Academy.
Coffee Shop after morning Masses, Parish Life Center. (Saint Mary Preschool)
SCRIP on sale after all Masses except 2pm Mass.

8 Monday, Weekday (Saint Jerome Emiliani, priest; Saint Josephine Bakhita, virgin)

7:30pm, RCIA/RICA class, Church.
8:15-9pm, **Taize Ecumenical Prayer Service**, Church.

9 Tuesday, Weekday

10am, Saint Mary Book Club, John Paul II House, downstairs.
6pm, Catechist Training, Parish Life Center.
7:30pm, Life in the Spirit Prayer Gathering, Courtyard Meeting Room.

10 ASH WEDNESDAY

Masses at 6:30 and 9am, Noon, 6 and 7:30pm. *Not a holy day of obligation.*

11 Thursday after Ash Wednesday (Our Lady of Lourdes)

9:30am, CCW Craft Group, Parish Life Center, Room 100.
7pm, Fr. Don's class on *Lectio Divina*, Church.
7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paul II House.

12 Friday after Ash Wednesday

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

nota bene (*note well, please*):

- ✂ Plan to support the work of the Catholic Church in the annual **Bishop's Lenten Appeal**: If we reflect on the mission that Jesus has given us, and the words of Pope Francis, the Church is uniquely placed by God to be his agent of mercy and change, to heal our world. Prayerfully think of how **you** will respond to this call. **Commitment Sunday will be February 6-7 at all Masses**. Your generosity is what makes our Church's response possible. *"Go forth as heralds of God's mercy!"*
- ✂ Host sign-ups open this weekend for our **Lenten/Easter Small Groups Series, "The Face of Mercy."** Information may be found on page 7 today and our website, www.stmaryfred.org.
- ✂ Come to our **School Open Houses February 7**. Visit **Saint Mary Preschool** in the Parish Life Center from 9:30–Noon and **Holy Cross Academy** 1–3pm (250 Stafford Lakes Pkwy, behind Geico)
- ✂ Mark your calendars for February 17 and join Saint Mary in Richmond for **Catholics in the Capitol** as we meet with our Legislators and attend the Bishops' Evening Prayer and reception at Sacred Heart Cathedral (see p. 11). We need to know if you plan to come no later than **Monday, February 1**.
- ✂ We're doing something special for the Year of Mercy: Parish Lent **Mercy Penance Service, Wednesday, February 24**. Plan to come, details to follow soon.

1009 Stafford Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401

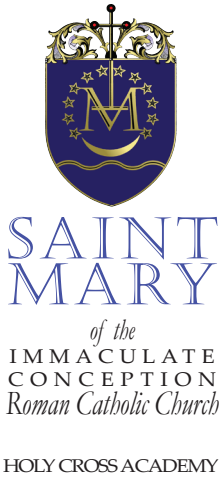
SUNDAY MASS	Saturday Vigil 5 & 7pm Sunday 7, 8:30, 10:30am, 12:30, 2pm (Spanish), 5pm, 7:01pm 10:30am at Holy Cross Academy
DAILY MASS	Mon.-Fri.: 6:30 & 9am; Sat., 9am First Friday 8pm Holy Days of Obligation, as announced
DEVOTIONS	Adoration & Benediction, Wed., 7-9pm Novena with Exposition, Mon., 7-7:30pm 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, 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
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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- 5 holy cross academy
- 6 education
- 7 buzz
- 8 education
- 9 parish life
- 12 operations
- 13 liturgy

from our pastor



Dear Good People of Saint Mary,

Last weekend was surreal for a place that is normally so filled with people. We had between one person (7pm Sat.) and about 250 (5pm Sun.) and anywhere in between at the other Masses. We went ahead and kept all Masses for the weekend so that brave souls who might venture out would not be frustrated finding that Mass was canceled. We shoveled pretty much all weekend, trying to keep ahead of the storm (and then clean up) to be ready for those who did attend.

I seldom speak about money at Saint Mary, because we generally are moving along fine with our weekly offertory, making our payroll, paying bills and covering our \$42K/month mortgage payment on all the renovations which we completed five years ago. The parish voted, when our renovations began seven years ago, to avoid a capital campaign and pay off our debt through the monthly collection and a building fund envelope every month.

This week I have one favor to ask: when it snows like this and we lose, virtually, an entire collection, it is a hard hit for the parish, about \$32,000. We rely on every collection, our budgets don't allow for savings. So if you would, please remember the collection that we lost and help us catch up. (And pray we don't have another snow Sunday!)

While talking with a Methodist pastor friend of mine, I asked if they were dependent on weekly offertory like we were. He said no, in fact, 80% of their budget was covered with electronic automatic transfers/payments and their endowment. Ours is more likely 20% electronic now (thanks, those of you who have enrolled) and we have no endowment.

Well, last week I was a little down due to the fact that I had signed 2,700+ letters to those who had contributed nothing on paper to the parish. In that letter I reflected on the many reasons why this might be happening. I hope we will distribute two bulletins this weekend so that you can see both of them, as some information has changed.

But this past week I had the time to really look over and sign all the 2,500+ letter of people who *did* give to the parish, some a lot, some a little—

all very much appreciated. Some people are very generous. Of those who use envelopes, the average is about \$17 a week, which represents a profound commitment to the parish. I'm so glad I signed these letters last, because I was left with a powerful thankfulness for all of you who keep the mission of Saint Mary alive. Thank you.

I want to say all of this because, as you know, the Bishops' Lenten Appeal comes next weekend. The work of the diocese is very important, we must—*all of us*—support this work that is regional unless we become selfish, even as a parish. Bishop Loverde asks that *each and every* family make some form of a pledge—even if it is a small amount each month for a few months—to live out our regional responsibility as a local church of Arlington. (So much of it benefits us here in Fredericksburg, anyway.)

That said, I think sometimes we focus so much on other charities that we forget our own parish. An example of this was the outpouring of your loving support for so many charities and collections prior to Christmas—then our Christmas collection itself, about \$52K, was \$10K below what we had budgeted, based on the previous year's Christmas offertory. And Masses were fuller than ever...

Last year we went \$45K over our goal for the Bishop's Lenten Appeal, and so our goal has been raised this year by \$25K, to \$395,000. This seems like a big amount - but if those 2,500 families who give would pledge \$10 a month for 6 months, we would be mostly there. Of course, for those who do more, your continued support is very much appreciated.

Let's try this again this year. Commitment Sunday is next weekend, when we fill out our pledge cards for the Diocese of Arlington. Let's not put this off, and get it done in a couple of weeks, and make our goal. We will continue to publish our progress in making our goal for the Bishop's Lenten Appeal. Once it is met, we're done. If you forget to respond in time before we meet our goal and still want to give, I ask you to consider Saint Mary. That way, the diocese receives what is our obligation to give, and we can start to build a financial cushion in the parish that will help snowy weekends be less worrisome. Thanks.

God bless you.

Fr. Don

holy cross academy



Welcome to Catholic Schools Week!

This week, we are proud to celebrate Holy Cross Academy: our students, families, teachers and staff. We begin this weekend with a sincere thank you to Fr. Don, our priests, parish staff and, especially, our parishioners for your support of our school. Your assistance allows us to offer a superior Catholic education to the children of Saint Mary. We are proud to be in this partnership with you as we educate and inspire the next generation for our Church and our nation.

During Catholic Schools Week, members of our staff will be on hand during our Religious Education Program to answer questions you might have regarding our parish school. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 1-3, at our Saint Mary Parish Life Center and Tuesday, February 2nd at Holy Cross Academy, a table will be set up for interested parents to pick up a

brochure, and ask any questions you have about Holy Cross Academy. If you stop by and fill out an interest form, you will be entered in our Movie Time raffle.

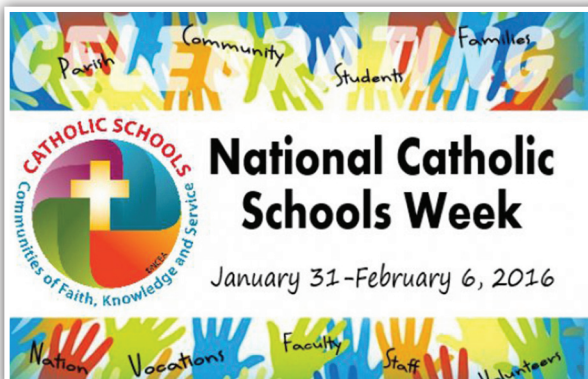
Our Open House is next Sunday, February 7th. Saint Mary Preschool will be open from 9:30 to noon and HCA will welcome visitors and prospective families from 1-3 pm. We promise to have you home in plenty of time for the Super Bowl!

Please accept our sincere thanks for your help and support and please continue to pray for Catholic Schools both here in our parish and throughout our country that we will remain faithful to our mission to bring Christ into the lives of our children in a very special way.

We invite you to visit 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 Saint Mary Preschool at 540-373-7553.



*A National
Blue Ribbon
School of
Excellence,
2012*



education

religious education

Catechist Training

The third Catechist Training session for this school year was held on January 19. Sister Frances Carol made the first presentation on the New Testament. She helped us better

appreciate the New Testament as the fulfillment of the Hebrew Scriptures.

Sr. Susan Louise presented on Pope Francis' Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy discussing the Biblical meaning and history

of "Jubilee" and the meaning of 'mercy.' The seven themes of Catholic Social teaching were also discussed as well as the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, emphasizing the spiritual works of mercy and how to teach them.



youth ministry



High School retreat

Our annual High School retreat is **February 26-28**. Permission slips are available online. Check out the promo video on our page!

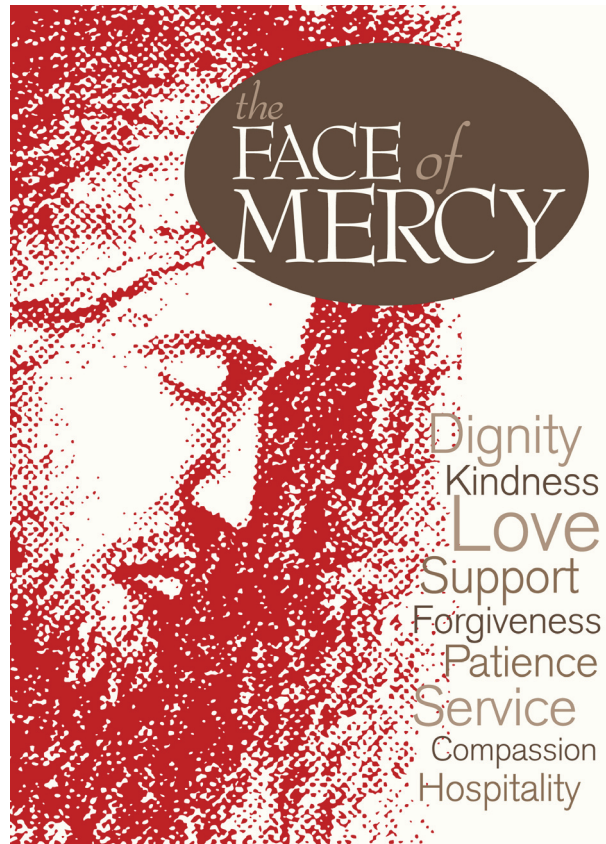
Steubenville Youth Conference 2016

The **Steubenville High School Youth Conference, July 8-10**, is a three-day experience consisting of music, keynote speakers, small group time, breakout sessions, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, fellowship, and fun! The Conferences will challenge Catholic youth to stand firm in their faith, rely upon the awesome power of Jesus Christ who is their guide, friend, and Savior, and to show that faith to the world. **If you are interested you must contact the office of Youth Ministry and commit by January 20.** Tickets will be purchased on January 25 at 8am and literally sell out in 15 minutes! Don't delay!

Lenten Small Groups: The Face of Mercy

This weekend we begin welcoming Hosts who would like to gather a small group of colleagues, friends or family members **during the last three weeks of Lent and first two weeks of Easter** to meet, discuss and share the reflections on this year's Lenten Small Group Program, "The Face of Mercy." There will be three ways to sign up: Host Signup cards will be available in the pews, contact us at thefaceofmercy@stmaryfred.org, or go to www.lentenfriends.org for more information. We will invite people to become involved as hosts and gather their own groups for the next two weekends, and will soon invite individuals who are interested but don't have a group. There is a **\$10 participation fee** for each participant.

Groups can be three to twelve people: might be existing ministry groups, Lenten Small Groups from last year, Bible study groups, Called and Gifted Small Groups or those who may participated in the C&G workshop but missed an opportunity, etc. Groups meet in homes or any comfortable, casual setting—space in the parish is limited. Please leave two empty seats for those looking to be welcomed into our faith community. "The Face of Mercy" is a five-week series, featuring readings, reflections by various pastors and testimonials by parishioners. A booklet and DVD will help guide your discussions. No training is required. Sign up to be a host today!



Tickets now on sale for Parish Night Out: Friday, April 29, 2016

Last year our popular Parish Night Out was **sold out**—don't miss your chance! Join us for a great night of fun and catching up with parish family and friends. Includes **dinner and dancing to the music of The Andrew Thielen Big Band, at the Jepson Alumni Center** at UMW.

Take advantage of our **"early bird" special**: you can buy tickets for a table of ten for the price of nine before the deadline of February 10 and be eligible for the special door prize.

Tickets are \$75 per person. Cash bar 6-11pm, Dinner 7-8pm, dancing until 11:30pm. Not only a great value for the money with the great food and orchestra—the night includes drawings for great doorprizes throughout the evening—wine and champagne packages, movie tickets, restaurant gift certificates, Theater passes, and more... please join us.

For info or tickets, please call Marty at [540-373-0259](tel:540-373-0259) or the parish office and claim your table!

education

we are called

2016 Bishop's Lenten Appeal: Commitment Weekend is February 6-7

By now everyone has received a mailing from Bishop Loverde calling all to "*Go forth as heralds of God's mercy.*"

Please read the materials carefully and consider the important ministries and programs funded by the BLA that truly strengthen our Church. Also, prayerfully consider how you will take your place in this work by making a sacrificial pledge of support.

The BLA requires financial support from **every one of us** in the parish to be successful. By each of us joining together with a gift to the BLA, we can help countless people across our diocese. *Here are a few comments from people who have benefitted from the generosity of our past support of the BLA:*

From a seminarian studying for the priesthood:

"The Bishop's Lenten Appeal directly addresses the needs of the diocese and as a seminarian I am especially grateful and humbled to be one of its recipients. It is by your generosity that my brother seminarians and I are able to undergo rigorous formation for the priesthood. I thank you for your charity and pray that God blesses you abundantly for your support of seminarians and the diocese."

From a woman who attended a Project Rachel retreat:

"I pray that more people who need healing and forgiveness learn about Project Rachel and attend a retreat. It will be the beginning of the rest of your life. You can be forgiven and you can heal. Just let God in."

From an attendee of the Conference for the Engaged:

"The talks were so relatable;

I felt they addressed so many of the things I have been thinking about as I get ready for marriage. I greatly enjoyed participating. It was very dynamic, informative, and enjoyable."

From a mother helped by food pantries with Catholic Charities:

"As a mother, it is heart-breaking to see your kids hungry... I am very thankful for Catholic Charities because who knows where our family would be right now without the nice people there."

From a parish Youth Ministry Director:

"...the youth are there for each other, and they give strength to one another at work camp. To actually see the youth living their faith throughout the week, not just on Sunday at Mass, it's like WOW! This is what it's all about, they are actually being witnesses!"

The BLA provides support to thousands of people, some of whom may be sitting next to you at Mass each week. Thank you for your consideration of a pledge for the BLA.

Talleres de Oración y Vida: comenzando febrero 2016

Desarrollar una relación con el Señor mientras aprenden métodos de oración hermosas cada semana. **Talleres de Oración y Vida** es un servicio aprobado por la Santa Sede e inspirado por el Padre Ignacio Larrañaga donde los participantes aprenden y profundizar su fe con el arte de la oración. Este **taller de 16 semanas** serán ofrecido aquí en Saint Mary los **sábados, de 9:45-11:45am comenzando el 6 de febrero, 2016.** Para **inscribirse**, póngase en contacto con Nannie Espinoza, en ngespinoza@aol.com o **571-236-6904**, or llame a Leticia Gonzalez al **703-473-7218**. El último día para la inscripción es el sábado, 20 de febrero. Para más información, visite www.tovpil.org.

February Conversation and Coffee

Join us **February 7** for **Conversation and Coffee**. Representatives from **Holy Cross Academy** and our **PreSchool**, the **Saint Mary Book Club**, and **St. Vincent de Paul** will be available in the Parish Life Center after the 10:30am Mass offering information about their good works and how they serve our parish and community. Join us and learn more about these ministries.

CCW Winter Workshop

Do you have questions about our parish **SHARE program** or our **Health Ministry**? Come learn how both of these programs are for everyone in our parish at our **CCW-sponsored Winter Workshop** on

parish life happening here

Saturday, February 6 at 11am in the Parish Life Center.

SHARE program—Rick Caporali will be a presenter as well as a cook. Rick and others will demonstrate how to use the SHARE food box whether you are a single person or have many in your family. Tasting will be part of the workshop! Handouts of the recipes presented will be available.

Health Ministry—Our Parish Health Committee is having a dietician speak about *Mindful Eating about What's on Your Plate* as well as an interpretation of the nutritional value of what is being cooked at the workshop. There will be a presentation by a social worker on spirituality and well-being, and a questions and answer session will follow.

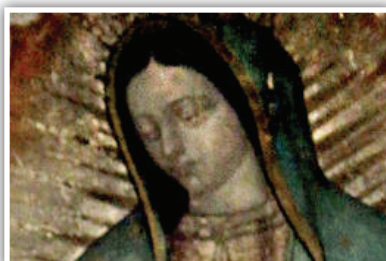
February Family Dinner

The February Family Dinner, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, is next Saturday, Feb 6, 6-8:30pm in the Parish Life Center. The menu includes homemade beef and pork BBQ sandwiches, baked beans, cole slaw, and ice cream. The profit will be donated to the Food Bank. The dinner is open to the public and pay-at-the-door. Takeouts are available. The cost is: Adults, \$7; Seniors (60&up), \$6; Teens, \$6; Children (7-12), \$5; Children (under 7), free. The maximum cost per family is \$25.

Pray with Scripture: Lectio Divina

Fr. Don Rooney will offer this class a second time this year on the great tradition in the 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. **We will meet in the church 7-9pm Thursday, February 11.**



Upcoming visits: Our Lady of Guadalupe

The miraculous image of Our Lady will visit Saint Mary on two occasions in the upcoming months: **Thursday, February 25** from 3-8pm and **Thursday, March 10** from 3-8pm in the church.

This is one of the missionary images which began to circulate at St. John Paul II's request in June, 1991 at the International Rosary Congress and the National Basilica Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. Image Guardian Vivian Mestey, from our parish, reports many miracles are common to those who venerate her image.

Men's Conference March 5

"God, the Father of Extravagant Mercy" is the theme of the Men's Conference this year, March 5, 8:30am to 3:30pm at All Saints Catholic Church, 9300 Stonewall Road in Manassas. Come and hear speakers Dr. Michael Horne, Fr. David Pignato and Damon Owens. The cost is \$45 before February 4, and \$55 after. To register go to arlingtondiocese.org/men, or call the Office of Family Life **703-841-2550**.

Women's Conference March 12

"God, the Father of Extravagant Mercy" is the theme this year, March 12, 9am to 2:15pm at Saint Joseph Catholic Church, 750 Peachtree Street in Herndon. Confessions at 7am, Mass at 11am. Speakers Kathleen Beckman, author, radio host and spiritual director, and Sister Clare Hunter, Respect Life Director for our Diocese. The cost is \$45 before February 4, \$55 after. Register at arlingtondiocese.org/women, or call the Office of Family Life **703-841-2550**.

Join the Choir!

With preparation for Easter getting started, now is a great time to join one of our choirs! We welcome singers and instrumentalists, adults and young people (2nd grade and up). We have five choirs that sing for Sunday (or Saturday evening) Mass. You can see the rehearsal and Mass times for each choir at stmaryfred.org/ministries-liturgy/ or pick up the Saint Mary Choirs flyer at the Information Center in the church vestibule. Or contact David Mathers, Director of Sacred Music, : dmathers@stmaryfred.org or **(540) 373-6491 x217**.

Saint Mary Book Club

Refugee for Life: My Journey Across Africa to Find a Place Called Home is the selection for our Feb. 9 meeting at 10am in the John Paul II House. Innocent Magambi, a native of Burundi, lived his first 27 years in a series of refugee camps scattered across East Africa. Info: Kathleen Mahoney, **540-371-2073** or bmah761569@aol.com

parish life
parish trip



COME WITH US TO SPAIN

September 24-October 6, 2016
13 days, \$3,750.

Join Fr. Don and the group from Saint Mary to tour Fatima and Spain this fall. Dinners included, Mass in a wonderful place everyday.



MADRID - TOLEDO - AVILA - LEON
SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA
FATIMA - MERIDA - SEVILLE
CORDOBA - GRANADA - VALENCIA
BARCELONA - MONTSERRAT

Please call Margaret Ford
373-6900 for information
and to make reservations!



WE WELCOME YOU HOME. 540-373-6491

parish life happening there

You can advocate with us for life, school choice, and the common good February 17

Join Saint Mary Parish with Fr. Don and Sister Susan Louise as we go to Richmond and make appointments with our legislators to speak about all the issues which need to be informed by the Gospel and the mind of Christ. **Contact Fr. Don as soon as possible if you plan to join us** so we can make the appropriate appointments. If you can, plan to stay for the evening vespers and

reception with the legislators at the beautiful Sacred Heart Cathedral to top off the day. Your presence is very important! Sign up for February 17 after Masses this weekend, flyers are available in the church vestibule. Questions? Please contact Fr. Don.

We need to know if you are coming so we can make plans. Due to weather, the deadline to call the office is extended to Monday, February 1. Visit www.votervoice.net/VACC/Home to join the advocacy network, and to follow VACC on Facebook and Twitter.

Catholic Men's Group Thursday, February 18

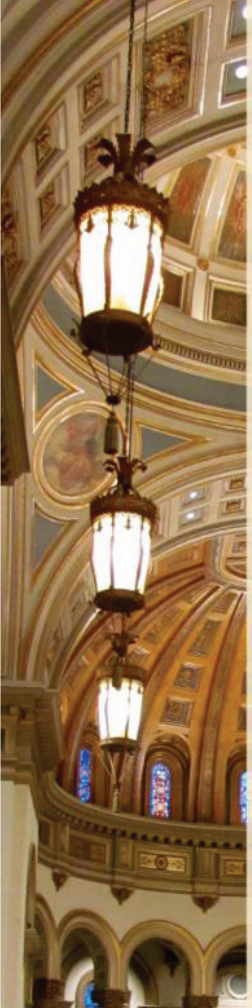
Optio Secundus at the Blue and Gray Brewing Co.

"But the spiritual man has insight into everything, and that bothers and baffles the man of the world, who can't understand him at all."
1 Corinthians 2:15

Deacon Alberto will be with us to continue his guidance, fellowship and just good camaraderie. We will be in our Lenten journey together and we are grateful for his willingness to guide the Optio group as we struggle in today's secular world as men, dads and some of us granddads of good Catholic faith.

The Optio Group strives to bring Catholic men together in a secular world to discuss daily applications of our faith, duties and responsibilities to our families and communities.

Happy hour at 6:30pm, then open discussion and optional dinner from 7-9pm. Questions? Call Kevin Wilkinson at 540-898-8353 or email kwlknsn@yahoo.com.



PLEASE RESERVE THIS DATE!

Wednesday, February 17, 2016
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., with reception to follow

Virginia Vespers:
Evening Prayer for the Commonwealth

with the **Most Rev. Francis X. DiLorenzo,**
Bishop, Catholic Diocese of Richmond

and the **Most Rev. Paul S. Loverde,**
Bishop, Catholic Diocese of Arlington

The Cathedral of the Sacred Heart
800 S Cathedral Place
Richmond, VA 23220

At the mid-point of the 2016 General Assembly session, plan to join lawmakers and public officials of all faiths, clergy, educators, social service practitioners, parishioners, and other people of goodwill in prayer for the needs of Virginia. Vespers, or Evening Prayer, draws on an ancient Christian liturgy. Wine and hors d'ouerves reception follows.

operations given in love

Weekly Offertory

Because of the snow last weekend, collections haven't been counted in time for printing. The collection for the Church in Latin America will be repeated this weekend.

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.

Diocesan Newspaper Collection February 6-7

As registered members of St. Mary Parish, everyone receives a copy of our Diocesan Newspaper, **the Arlington Catholic Herald**. The Parish pays an assessment to the Diocese on 40% of its registered families for subscriptions to the Arlington Catholic Herald. All subscriptions paid to St. Mary during the year and contributions made in the Annual Diocesan Newspaper Collection stay with the parish to help offset this assessment. Last year we received a total of \$12,017.98 from the annual newspaper collection and quarterly subscription envelopes to help offset a \$43,164.00 assessment.

If you have not paid for or renewed your subscription to the Arlington Catholic Herald, we ask that you consider doing so now. The subscription rate of \$24.00 a year is one of the lowest of any Catholic newspaper with a circulation of more than 50,000, and the wealth of Catholic articles and information about your Diocese is invaluable. Green subscription envelopes are included with the January, April, July and October

envelope packets for your convenience, and the Annual Diocesan Newspaper Collection is next weekend. Your generosity is truly appreciated, and we are very grateful for your constant support.

Children's offertory envelopes for February

The children's charity that will benefit from the offering in February is **Hazelwild Farm's Therapeutic Riding Program**. The program offers specialized horseback riding lessons for all ages of riders with a wide range of physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities. The lessons increase stability, flexibility, strength, motor skills, cognitive ability and confidence for the riders, along with providing many other physical and emotional benefits. For more information go to www.hazelwildfarm.com.

Holy Cross Academy Auction this April 23

Preparations are underway for Holy Cross Academy's 8th Biennial Benefit Auction and Dinner to be held on April 23rd, 2016! The goal of this year's event is to further fund the expansion of our school.

Sponsorship and advertisement opportunities are still available. Do you own a business or are part of a business who would like to partner with us? We offer many different opportunities to be recognized before, during and after the event to our 350 event attendees, the families of over 500 students and our 15,000 member parish.

Do you have an item you'd like

to donate to our live or silent auction? Let us hear from you!

Please consider partnering with us by making a donation, becoming a sponsor or advertising your business in our auction catalog and/or our auction website. For more information on the opportunities available check out www.hcaauction.com.



Holy Cross Academy is a tax-exempt non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and donations is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed. Contact the auction committee at HCAauction@holycrossweb.com with any questions. We appreciate receiving your information by February 15th, 2016.

Thank you for your kind consideration. "There's no place like HCA!"

liturgy called in love

Living Stones: A Legacy of family names

We are so grateful for the outpouring of support over the past four years from families who have supported our Courtyard landscaping project by purchasing granite pavers with their names inscribed.

There are **only 9** remaining stones available, once these are spoken for the project will be complete. We continue to take orders, please contact the Parish Office if you are interested. The investment for each stone is \$500 and helps cover the cost of the Courtyard area. You may make installment payments. The final order will be placed when the last stone is sold.

Choose life reflection

"The challenge is to make the Church's "yes" to Life concrete and effective. The struggle will be long, and it needs each one of you. Place your intelligence, your talents, your enthusiasm, your compassion and your fortitude at the service of life!"
— Pope Saint John Paul II

First Friday February 5 All-night Adoration

Our First Friday evening Mass at 8pm will be followed by All Night Adoration. On the Feast of Corpus Christi, Pope Francis exclaimed: *"Jesus speaks in the silence of the mystery of the Eucharist and reminds us each time that following him means going out of ourselves and making our lives not something we 'possess,' but a gift to him and to others."* At least two people must be present at all times during Adoration. Please sign up today in the vestibule and spend quality time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Saint Mary prayer list

Please pray for those who are sick or in need, especially: Thomas Novotnak, Suzi Eggleston, 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, Jimmy Zollman, Charleen Arnold, Joshua Burgh, Brian Keller, Linda Kaila, Cynthia McCready, Jesse Madison, Kelly Ann Carpenter, Martha Ferrara, Tom and Prov Moeller, Debbie Lloyd, Shana Callirgos, Cameron Richard North, Maureen Flanagan, Gretchen Maia, 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, Meredith Dean, Bernice Douglas, Paul Johnson, Alana Cross, Joseph O'Byrne, Veronica Johnson, Hal Ehrhart, Lillian Held, Prudy Tarpey, Mike and Mary Lou Gray, Martha Clemens, Holly Smith, Byers Family, Hunsley Family, Mike Harwich, Charles Dillman, Janie Sherry, Nancy Stewart, Randy Knebal, Larry Hudson, Tracey Hansen, Connie Whatcott, John Whatcott, Patrick Clarke, Jacqui Herr, Valconi Family, Joan Carroll, Larry Dillman, Jessica Ryan, Matt Marshall, John Stehle, Jerome Murphy, Christy Charlebois, Callie Freed, Atkins Family, Paul Johnson, Sandy Martin, Ryan Mott, Tim Murray Family, Felipe and Mildred Sanchez, Dale Meyn, Raymond and Barbara Stauble, Gloria Fontenot, Paul Bartman, David Duke, Betsey Ellis, Nancy Borrero, Gina Wood, David Arnold, Josephine Kreider, Ephiny Chewning, Mary Merrill, Richard Grunwald, Joseph Castro, Patrick Eggleston, Luz Dolores Butron, Susan Datta, Zachary Payne, Mary Jean & Don Williams, Sandra Infante, Maria Stine, Peter & Barbara Wood, Ronald Cullen

Please pray for all the men and women in our military and civilian support services overseas, especially: Glenn Dickinson, Paul Fischer, John Moring, Dominick Joseph Petro, Jamal Williams, Lance Schulte, Brian Hellman, Sean Plunkett, Roy Selvidge, Patrick Fenton, David James, Shawn Tupta, Vincent Petillo, Geoff Mann, Christopher Johnson III, Patrick Desmond, Andrew Marshall Smith, Nelly Garcia

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

Next Masses

6 February— SATURDAY

5pm	Fr. Holmes
7pm	Fr. Don

7 February— SUNDAY

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

Daily Mass intentions and readings

february

1 MONDAY

6:30 Father Lino
9am +Cecilio Albo
2 Sm 15:13-16:13; Mk 5:1-20

2 TUESDAY

6:30 Father Holmes
9am Rose Rodriguez
Mal 3:1-4, Heb 2:14-18;
Lk 2:22-40

3 WEDNESDAY

6:30 Rick Caporali
9am +Virginia Bare
2 Sm 24:2-17; Mk 6:1-6

4 THURSDAY

6:30 +Mary Ann Ryan
8:15* Holy Cross Academy
9am +Joe O'Connor
1 Kgs 2:1-12; Mk 6:7-13

5 FRIDAY

6:30 +Mieko Kasuya
9am +Glenn Derouin
8pm Judy Hellmann
Sir 47:2-11; Mk 6:14-29

6 SATURDAY

9am Deacon Alberto
5pm +Lisa & Rosemary Storm
7pm +William Dean
1 Kgs 3:4-13; Mk 6:30-34

7 SUNDAY

7am +Mary Wade
8:30 +Alma Bonner
10:30 Those who died/January
10:30*Rev. Russell Raj
12:30 +Peter Kang
2pm For the parish
5pm +Joseph O'Connor
7:01 +Quy Vu
Is 6:1-8; 1 Cor 1:11; Lk 5:1-11

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