

**Second Sunday  
of Lent**

**21 february 2016**



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



*Mosaic of the  
Transfiguration,  
Saint Catherine  
Monastery, Sinai*

# what's coming



SAINT MARY  
of the  
IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION  
Roman Catholic Church

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

## february

### 21 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Coffee Shop after morning Masses, Parish Life Center. (CYM)  
**Participant Sign-up for Lenten Small Groups** continues.  
**40 Hours / Parish Mission Talks** begin at all Masses with Fr. Don.  
SCRIP on sale after all Masses except 2pm Mass.  
3:30pm, Health Ministry meeting, Courtyard Meeting Room.  
8pm, **40 Hours' Adoration** begins  
CYM Dinner and Youth Group meeting following the 5pm Mass.

### 22 Monday, THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER THE APOSTLE - continuous Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

8:30am, **Office of Readings and Morning Prayer**, Church (regular daily Mass schedule).  
6pm, **Vespers**, Church.  
6:30pm, Special **40 Hours Mass**, Church, followed by **Parish Mission Talk** with Fr. Don.  
7:30pm, RCIA/RICA class, Parish Life Center.  
10pm, **Night Prayer**, Church.

### 23 Tuesday, Lenten Weekday (Saint Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr) - continuous Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

8:30am, **Office of Readings and Morning Prayer**, Church (regular daily Mass schedule).  
6pm, **Vespers**, Church.  
6:30pm, Special **40 Hours Mass**, Church, followed by **Parish Mission Talk** with Fr. Don.  
8:30pm, **Solemn Benediction and Close of 40 Hours**, Church.

### 24 Wednesday, Lenten Weekday

Noon, Lenten Ecumenical Prayer Service: Rev. Joe Hensley (St. George Episcopal) preaches here, Church.  
7pm, **Mercy Communal Penance Service**, Church.

### 25 Thursday, Lenten Weekday

9:30am, CCW Craft Group, Parish Life Center, Room 100.  
3pm-8pm, Our Lady of Guadalupe visiting image, Church.  
7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paul II House.

### 26 Friday, Lenten Weekday

9am, St. Anne Sisters in Faith, John Paul II House.  
6-7:30pm, Lenten **Soup Supper** (hosted by Music Ministry), Parish Life Center.  
7:30pm, **Stations of the Cross** (English), Church.  
8pm, **Via Crucis** / Estaciones de la Cruz (español), Church.

### 27 Saturday, Lenten Weekday

Special Collection for the Oblate Sisters' Missions in Africa, all Masses.  
SCRIP on sale after the 5pm Mass.

### 28 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Special Collection for the Oblate Sisters' Missions in Africa, all Masses.  
Coffee Shop after morning Masses, Parish Life Center. (Trail Life 4034)  
11:30am, **New Family Welcome Meeting**, Church.  
SCRIP on sale after all Masses except 2pm Mass.  
No CYM Dinner and Youth Group meeting (CYM Annual Retreat weekend).

### 29 Monday, Lenten Weekday

7:30pm, The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide, 12 Mondays, *begins tonight*, Courtyard Meeting Room.  
7:30pm, RCIA/RICA class, Church and Parish Life Center.

### 1 Tuesday, Lenten Weekday

10am, CCW Board Meeting, Parish Life Center.  
7:30pm, Life in the Spirit Prayer Gathering, Courtyard Meeting Room.

### 2 Wednesday, Lenten Weekday

Noon, Lenten Ecumenical Prayer Service: Fr. Don preaches at St. George Episcopal Church.

### 3 Thursday, Lenten Weekday (Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin)

9:30am, CCW Craft Group, Parish Life Center, Room 100.  
7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paul II House.

nota bene (*note well, please*):

✠ **40 HOURS' Eucharistic Adoration begins tonight (Sunday)** following the 7:01pm Mass. Please see p. 7 for the full schedule. Adoration is a time of grace and blessings not only for the individual who sits in the Presence of the Lord, but also for the parish who sponsors it. Please make visits to the Blessed Sacrament throughout these days; if you can sign up for an hour or half-hour, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the church vestibule.

✠ Host and Participant sign-ups continue for our **Lenten/Easter Small Groups Series, "The Face of Mercy."** Information may be found on page 6 and our website, [www.stmaryfred.org](http://www.stmaryfred.org).

✠ Come to our **Mercy Penance Service, Wednesday, February 24.** All priests will be on hand for a special parish service: prayer and song, an examination of conscience, quick individual confessions (for tonight, no discussion, no questions, please), individual absolution, a prayer of penance while tying a knot in our Lent altardcloth, a song of mercy. Join us for mercy and reconciliation while still early in Lent.

✠ We welcome back the miraculous **image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, this Thursday, February 25, 3-8pm** in the church.

✠ Again, the series "**The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide**" begins Monday, February 29, for 12 Mondays. Comfort, counsel and clarity offered, to let you know the power of healing and that you still belong here. Details p. 7.

✠ Don't forget the **Bishop's Lenten Appeal** for outreach in our diocese, if you are still considering a pledge or gift. Help us make our goal - every family, please.

1009 Stafford Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401

<b>SUNDAY MASS</b>	Saturday Vigil 5 & 7pm Sunday 7, 8:30, 10:30am, 12:30, 2pm (Spanish), 5pm, 7:01pm 10:30am at Holy Cross Academy
<b>DAILY MASS</b>	Mon.-Fri.: 6:30 & 9am; Sat., 9am First Friday 8pm Holy Days of Obligation, as announced
<b>DEVOTIONS</b>	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
<b>CONFESSION</b>	Wed., 7-9pm; Sat., 8am & 3:30pm, or by appt.
<b>PARISH OFFICE</b>	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
<b>HOLY CROSS ACADEMY</b>	540-286-1600 250 Stafford Lakes Parkway Fredericksburg, Virginia 22406-7234 Principal, Sr. Susan Louise Eder, O.S.F.S.
<b>ST. MARY PRESCHOOL</b>	373-7553 Director, Nanci Scharf
<b>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE</b>	373-6491 Director, Aristides Lucas Associate Director, Karen Sturtevant
<b>YOUTH MINISTRY</b>	373-6491 Director, Leo Chavarria
<b>HEALTH MINISTRY</b>	845-3031 Lois Sullivan, RN, FCN
<b>BAPTISMS</b>	Parish registration (90 days) and class required. Please contact the parish office to schedule the date at least four weeks in advance.
<b>MARRIAGE</b>	Parish registration required; contact parish six months in advance to begin preparation.
<b>JOIN US</b>	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](mailto:bulletin@stmaryfred.org). Thanks!

this week's bulletin:

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## from our pastor



SAINT  
MARY

of the  
IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION  
Roman Catholic Church

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

Dear Good People of Saint Mary,

This weekend I am giving the homily at all Masses as the first installment of two other talks I will offer on Monday and Tuesday nights at 7:30pm, our Parish Mission during our annual tradition of 40 Hours' Eucharistic Adoration. Please come.

*"Rediscover, Reconnect."* This is the Mission title because I believe that there is a whole lot about our Faith that many of us either never got, or have forgotten about ourselves and spirituality. How can self-knowledge and self-love be so key to our understanding of our relationship with God and still so unhealthy in our own understanding of ourselves and how we are made? How would we ever *"love our neighbor as we love ourselves"* if we don't even have a healthy understanding of what that means? And how do we get ourselves to a place where we can have even an hour of uninterrupted time to just sit and reflect on our lives, our life with God, and where we are headed?

Of course, Lent is a time to scale back the demands, turn down the volume, focus, really *focus*. Silence is not emptiness: we don't need to be constantly stimulated, entertained, satisfied. This has become the expectation of so many in the way we approach life. But the truth is, such pursuits actually produce an emptiness, because we realize that these are things that never satisfy, they only cause us to seek more entertainment and greater stimulation. So we just use more, consume more, always *more...* It can become a never-ending spiral; it often results in desolation and despair, addiction or indifference.

In the same way, solitude is not loneliness. Many of us don't like to be alone because we don't like our own company. A spiritual director asked me once, early in formation, "Would you enjoy sitting down and talking with yourself?" "Would you hire yourself?" "Would you recommend yourself to serve someone in need?" Many people today don't even know who they are, or never had a

quiet enough moment to think about it. We are bundles of other peoples' expectations and society's rules (beyond immoral, now mostly amoral). We need to feel that we belong, that our existence is relevant—but to what, or to whom? All things, all situations, all structures are man-made and are only temporary—are *things*. Wouldn't it make sense to pledge our allegiance (we, who are not things, but *persons made for eternity*) to the One Who Is always and forever?

Is it any wonder that families are confused, marriages fail, the last two generations of youth have just grown numb? Pope Francis says that indifference is the biggest enemy of our time, it is killing spiritual growth. Young people, especially, I'm calling on you: know yourself, and learn that we can't know who we are unless we also know God, who made us and whose love keeps us in existence from moment to moment. Young people: rediscover your Church and come alive in the life of God. If he didn't remember us every minute of the day, we would cease to be. We must remember him. This time of 40 Hours and Parish Mission is for you, especially. We older members of the Church can still change and turn our hearts back to God. You don't need to turn away! Come and show us how to start on the right path!

This is sure: you can't hear the voice of God if there is no silence, no solitude in your life. Then—in the humility that you find there—you discover his mercy. The prayer of adoration is key to this formula. Then comes gratitude. Pope Francis said to the people of Chiapas, Mexico, last week: "Today's world, overcome by convenience, needs to learn anew the value of gratitude!" We have to correct our throwaway culture. The place to begin is to realize that we can't allow our own goodness, our own belonging to God to be thrown away. Not by me, not by anyone who doesn't know God or who I am. Then we become people of his mercy, people who speak his Word. Come, join us.

God bless you. *Fr. Don*

### Wednesday Noon Lenten Ecumenical Prayer Services

**Micah Churches gather for prayer and almsgiving to the homeless. Light lunch receptions follow.**

February 24 Rev. Joe Hensley (*St. George Episcopal*) preaches at St. Mary Catholic Church.  
March 2 Rev. Don Rooney (*St. Mary Catholic*) preaches at St. George Episcopal Church.  
March 9 Rev. Aaron Dobyne (*Shiloh Old Site Baptist*) preaches at the Presbyterian Church.  
March 16 Rev. Allen Fisher (*Presbyterian Church*) preaches at Fredericksburg Methodist Church.

# holy cross academy



*A National  
Blue Ribbon  
School of  
Excellence,  
2012*



*Thanks to all our  
volunteer judges  
who worked with the  
students making our  
science fair a success!*



## The results are in!

Our 7th & 8th grade students breathed a sigh of relief that the weather did not interfere with our HCA Science Fair. After working on their chosen projects since the beginning of the school year, they were both nervous and excited to present them to our Science Fair judges. The students practiced their presentations in class so they were ready to go when it was time to present.

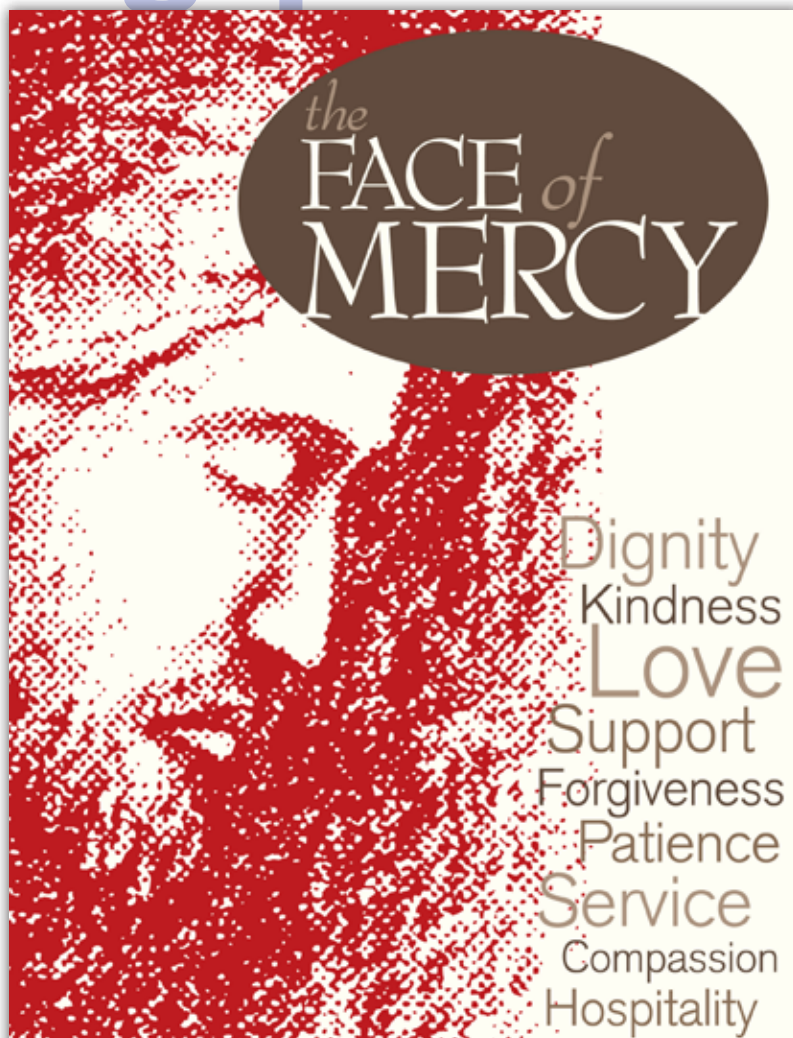
Edwin Carlson took first place with his study of the effects of magnetic fields on lentil seedlings. Maddie Weber is traveling with her family and made her presentation via video and FaceTime. For her work on the effects of altitude on heart rate and oxygen levels, Maddie was awarded

2nd place. Sam Rotsch was our 3rd place winner for his study of trebuchets. Honorable Mentions were earned by Emery Brown, Meaghan Dreany, Peter Gallagher, Hillary Jean-Bart, Rainey O'Malley, Sean Sirks and Rachel Startzel. Congratulations to our winners who will represent us in the diocesan Science Fair and to all our students for their hard work.

Holy Cross Academy is proud to serve our parish community of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception. We invite you to visit our website, [www.holycrossweb.com](http://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](tel:540-286-1600) or St. Mary Preschool at [540-373-7553](tel:540-373-7553) to arrange for a tour. We hope to see you soon.



# parish life coming up



## Host and participant signup continues

The Face of Mercy Lenten Friends series **begins the week of February 29**. We invite everyone to participate in the building of our faith-based relationships, "Lenten Friends." **This five-week series**—featuring readings, teachings by area pastors, and testimonials by parishioners—provides time to build trust within existing friendships, and at the same time develop new ones. It's a way to help one another move forward on a path of spiritual growth.

Please visit [www.lentenfriends.org](http://www.lentenfriends.org) and select St. Mary Church from the drop down to sign up as a host or join a group. You can also link directly to our signup genius page by visiting our Parish Website, [www.stmaryfred.org](http://www.stmaryfred.org), and click on the participant link to the right to join an existing group. Hosts will be contacted when materials arrive. **All are welcome. Sign up today!** There is a \$10 participant fee.

## Upcoming visits: Our Lady of Guadalupe

The miraculous image of Our Lady will visit Saint Mary on **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.

## Saint Mary's 2016 Loyola Retreats

Loyola on the Potomac is located in Faulkner, Maryland 20632. **This year's retreat theme is entitled: "The Way."** Ignatian Spirituality proposes principles and practices to help us walk the path set out by Jesus in the Gospel. Utilizing the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, this year's theme offers guidance in prayer and the fundamentals of discernment. The retreat is open to anyone who desires to grow through prayer.

The retreats begin on Fridays with check-in and Confessions (5-6:30pm), orientation (6:45pm), and dinner (7pm) and conclude with lunch on Sunday following Mass. The **Men's Retreat is March 4-6, 2016** (during Lent) and the **Women's Retreat is March 11-13, 2016** (during Lent). The suggested offering for the Retreat is \$235. A payment plan is available. Special Retreat Fee of \$185 for anyone making their first retreat at Loyola and to "young adults" retreatants up to age 30. **Contact Len or Sylvia Fontenot for more info: 540-663-2261** or email [lensyl1966@verizon.net](mailto:lensyl1966@verizon.net). To register, go to [www.loyolaontheptomac.com](http://www.loyolaontheptomac.com).

## happening here

Special this Year: **A Retreat for Women**, entitled "Let me Live Gracefully" on **April 15-17, 2016** offering opportunity for group discussion, along with silent prayer time. This retreat is limited to only 25 women. The suggested offering for the Retreat is \$235.

### Cursillo Weekend

Come and discover the Cursillo community! **The Women's Weekend is March 3-6.** Deeply reflect on your relationship with Christ and grow as a member of the Christian community at the San Damiano Spiritual Life enter in Winchester. **To register or for more information**, please contact Joyce Bodoh at **540-521-0588** or [joycebodoh@gmail.com](mailto:joycebodoh@gmail.com) or Mary Lou McGonigle at **540-972-4673** or [macml@comcast.net](mailto:macml@comcast.net).

### Diocese of Arlington Teacher Job Fair Mar. 12

The Office of Catholic Schools invites prospective teachers to a job fair March 12, 2016 at **Paul VI High School from 9 - 11am.** Principals from over 30 diocesan elementary and high schools will be on hand to talk with you about openings for the 2016-17 year. People from the Office of Catholic Schools will answer questions about the application process. All teachers must be certified or ready to seek certification. Paul VI High School is located at 10675 Fairfax Blvd. (Rt. 50) in Fairfax. Parking is available. For more information visit [www.arlingtondiocese.org/catholicschools](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/catholicschools) or call (703) 841-2519.

### Divorced?

The **Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide** 12 week program begins **Monday, February 29**, from 7:30-9pm in the Courtyard Meeting Room. Cost is \$5 per person which includes a "personal Survival Guide." This

## 40 Hours 2016 parish mission schedule

**Saturday/Sunday, Feb. 20-21** Homilies at all Masses, short first talk of Parish Mission by Fr. Don, **"Rediscover, Reconnect"**

**Sunday, Feb 21** 8pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins and continues until Tuesday evening

**Monday, Feb 22** Masses as usual.  
8:30am. Office of Readings / Morning Prayer  
6pm. Evening Prayer (Vespers)  
6:30pm. Additional Mass  
7:30pm. Second Parish Mission Talk, Fr. Don  
8:30pm. Adoration continues all night  
10pm. Night Prayer (Compline)

**Tuesday, Feb 23** Masses as usual.  
8:30am. Office of Readings / Morning Prayer  
6pm. Evening Prayer (Vespers)  
6:30pm. Additional Mass  
7:30pm. Third Parish Mission Talk, Fr. Don  
8:30pm. Benediction and Closing of 40 Hours  
**Please join us!**

program is based on the teachings of the Catholic Church and open to anyone who needs comfort, counsel, and clarity after a divorce. The pro-gram features thirty-minute DVD presentations that cover topics of shock, denial, anger, grief, guilt, forgiveness, money, the courts, the kids, the ex, annulment, dating, sexuality, spirituality, remarriage or staying single, and much more. Whether you got divorced ten days ago or ten years ago, the program offers valuable insight for everyone. Sorry, no childcare available. Call Sue Mersch at **708-638-8383**. Please join us.

### Join the Choir!

We welcome singers and instrumentalists, adults and young people (grade 2 and up). We have five choirs that sing Sunday (or Saturday evening) Mass. Find the rehearsal

and Mass times for each choir at [stmaryfred.org/ministries-liturgy/](http://stmaryfred.org/ministries-liturgy/) or pick up our flyer in the church vestibule. Contact David Mathers, Director of Sacred Music at [dmathers@stmaryfred.org](mailto:dmathers@stmaryfred.org) or **(540) 373-6491 x217**.

### Travel to Italy with the Choir

The Saint Mary Adult Choir will make a Pilgrimage Tour of Rome, Florence, Assisi and Orvieto, **January 25-February 3, 2017**. The choir will sing for Mass in Saint Peter's Basilica and other churches and cathedrals and tour important historical sites. **A limited number of spaces on the Pilgrimage are open to non-singing members of the parish.** If you are interested and would like more details, contact David Mathers at the Parish.

# education

# religious education

## No Religious Education classes this week

**There will be no classes this week** so families can participate in the 40 Hours' Eucharistic Adoration, Masses and Parish Missions. **Parish Missions** will be given by Fr. Don on Monday and Tuesday evenings following the 6:30pm Masses on rediscovering spirituality and living the Gospel. We especially invite you, our RE parents, to join us as a part of your Lent family work this year and adult faith formation.

## CRS Rice Bowl 2016

As human beings, we have the right to live and grow in peace. Because we have this right, we have the responsibility to make sure others enjoy the same rights too. CRS, or Catholic Relief Services, serves in countries all over the world where fear and danger prevent these fundamental rights. This week travel to Nongdeune, Laos and see how CRS is helping feed and educate Hongkham and her family ([crsricebowl.org/stories-of-hope/week-2](http://crsricebowl.org/stories-of-hope/week-2)).



Try a Rice and Lentil Mash recipe from Laos: [crsricebowl.org/recipe/rice-and-lentil-mash](http://crsricebowl.org/recipe/rice-and-lentil-mash)

# 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, [stmaryfred.org/high-school-program/](http://stmaryfred.org/high-school-program/)

## Rent-A-Crew

**Have a crew of teens do your yardwork in exchange for a donation to WorkCamp!** Adult-directed teams of teen-agers will be available from February 27th through May 15th to do your yardwork for a suggested donation of \$8 per hour per teen. Your job will be pre-viewed and the number of teens will be agreed upon ahead of time, at a convenient date for you. **Please call Karen Clemente at 540-845-7403 or email at [karenclemente@aol.com](mailto:karenclemente@aol.com) for more information.**

February 26 - 28

## High School Retreat

One weekend could make the difference

Connect with more than your phone.

## YOUCAT

Wednesdays from 6:30pm - 8pm  
in the John Paul II House



# parish life called in love



## Saint Mary RCIA group received by Bishop Loverde as Elect for Easter Sacraments

*Last Saturday evening at the Cathedral of Saint Thomas More, Bishop Loverde received people from all over the diocese at the Rite of Election, calling the unbaptized to Baptism and already baptized non-Catholics to a Profession of Faith. Saint Mary Catechumens (standing) and Candidates (seated) in the foreground at left, are called by Bishop. Katie Shaw presented the Saint Mary Book of the Elect with catechumens' names inscribed for Bishop's signature. The book may be viewed beneath the Holy Family statue in the church through Lent.*

## Fr. Don receives Legacy Award

**Congratulations to Fr. Don Rooney, recipient of the Bishop Paul Stephen Loverde Legacy Award.**

Fr. Don was chosen by Catholic Charities to receive this award at the recent Catholic Charities Ball. The award acknowledges the person in our diocese who best exemplifies an extraordinary passion to serve the poor, through their support of Catholic Charities.

Fr. Don was recognized for providing training to the Catholic Charities staff in ecumenism, advocating for food distribution, sheltering the homeless, providing financial assistance to the needy, aiding refugee resettlement, and support and counseling for those in need. Father is known to be a



singular leader in advocating for the poor. He sees Christ in others, reaching out in dialogue and friendship to those who are neglected and ignored. As a pastoral leader, he inspires others to do the same. Father balances passion for serving others with wisdom in finding those programs that are sustainable and will make a difference in our society.

When asked to comment on Catholic Charities, Father said: "Catholic Charities is the hand of Jesus in our modern



world and we must reach out to all people with the same love and concern that Jesus shows for his beloved. That is why we have worked for so long in Fredericksburg in the areas of Family Counseling, particularly for children and youth who need guidance and healing, helping moms and babies, supporting refugee resettlement, providing food for the hungry and care and rapid rehousing for our homeless neighbors."

**Congratulations, Fr. Don. Your parish family is very proud of you!**

# parish life opportunities

## Mission Appeal: the Oblate Sisters of Saint Francis de Sales' Missions in Africa, next weekend February 27-28

Sr. Johanna Paula and Sr. Anne Dorothy, Oblate Sisters of Saint Francis de Sales from our African Missions, will be speaking about the work of our Oblate Sisters in Africa.

The Oblate Sisters serve in many countries throughout the world, including here at Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception where they founded our school, Holy Cross Academy, in 1998. **They also serve the Missions in Colombia, Ecuador, Namibia and South Africa.** They have been in southern Africa since the 1880s, a mere twenty years after their original foundation in France.



In Africa, the Sisters serve many different communities, ranging from urban areas like Cape Town to the desert of Namaqualand. Their apostolate in Ecuador and Colombia stretches from densely-populated cities to the jungles. Class distinctions are still ingrained in the people of these countries and the Sisters work to lead all groups closer to Christ.



**They run schools, retreat houses and orphanages.**

If you can in any way contribute to the missions of Oblate Sisters, please know that **your generosity will be greatly appreciated.** May we all continue to pray that God will bless our missionaries who work so tirelessly to bring his good news to all his children in the world.



## 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!**





# parish life happening here

## Falls prevention and balance screening



ST. MARY  
*of the*  
IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION  
*Roman Catholic Church*

### HEALTH MINISTRY

The Health Ministry invites you and your loved ones to an educational presentation on Falls Prevention which will include opportunities for balance

screening performed by Courtney Sanner, a parishioner and Doctor of Physical Therapy. The presentation and screenings will be held in the Parish Life Center on **March 12 from noon-1pm** and repeated on **March 19 from noon-1pm**.

In order to decrease the risks of falls, the Health Ministry has been working with Dr. John McLaughlin, an Interventional Radiologist and "Blue Heron Wellness" of the Yoga Foundation of Fredericksburg, to create **an exercise class titled, "Seniors Building Strength and Balance."** The class will be taught by Audrey Aird on Tuesdays from **noon-1pm beginning in March**. The fee for this program is \$5 per person per session when you arrive at the class.

For more information and to **sign up for the March 12 or 19 presentation**, please contact Lois Sullivan at [lsullivan@stmaryfred.org](mailto:lsullivan@stmaryfred.org).

To sign up for the **"Seniors Building Strength and Balance" program**, please contact the Yoga Foundation at [www.blueheronfredericksburg.com](http://www.blueheronfredericksburg.com).



## Saint Mary Parish Night Out 2016

time to  
step it up,  
Fred.

### Purchase tickets now

Friday, 29 April 2016

at the beautiful UMW Jepson Center, two blocks from church

Cash Bar 6-11pm

7pm Dinner & Dancing

Entertainment by the Andrew Thielen Big Band

\$75/person.  
Last year tickets sold out.  
**Reserve yours now!**

Call Marty at **540-373-0259**  
or the parish office and  
claim your table!

Congratulations to  
Joe and Barbara Walor,  
winners of the  
Parish Night Out  
Early Bird ticket raffle,  
\$100 to La Rosetta  
Restaurant, downtown!



# operations given in love

## Weekly Offertory

14 February Offertory	\$30,616.
Ash Wednesday: Church in Central, Eastern Europe	6,284.
Black and Indian Missions	6,331.
Diocesan newspaper (add'l)	1,065.
Poor Box/St. Vincent de Paul	320.

## February Faith Direct Contributions

Offertory Collection	\$43,393.
Parish Building Fund	3,604.
Arlington Catholic Herald	1,320.
Church in Central & Eastern Europe	1,574.
Black & Indian Missions	1,455.

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 special collection on February 27-28 is for the Oblate Sisters' Missions in Africa. See page 10 for more information.**

## 40 Hours' Adoration

Please double-check the adoration schedule in the vestibule of the church to make sure that all the scheduled times for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament are covered. We must have at least two people present at all times. If you are able to come at any times that are not yet filled, please sign up today!

## Stations of the Cross & Lenten Soup Suppers

**Stations of the Cross** take place every Friday evening during Lent. On March 4, Stations of the Cross will be at 7:30pm in English followed by our First Friday Mass at 8pm, Stations of the Cross at 8:30pm in Spanish, and All Night Adoration. On all other Fridays in Lent, Stations will be at 7:30pm in English and at 8pm in Spanish.

Our **Lenten Soup Suppers** also take place in the Parish Life Center on each Friday during Lent from 6-7:30pm. Share a Lenten penitential meal of soup and bread with your parish family, and share what you would have spent on dinner that night with those in need. All free-will offerings received are given to charity. Bring the whole family to enjoy good soup and good fellowship...and then spend time in adoration.

## Choose Life reflection

"Our culture ... has become hardened to many who cry out. We idolize the strong and beautiful and tend to disregard the weak and imperfect. In our own lives, have we been programed not to call for help ourselves or to look past those who do?" (Learning to Cry, Life Issues Forum, December 19, 2014, Tom Grenchik, USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities) *We pray for the courage and grace to love as Christ loves, and by bearing witness to the Truth, may others may come to know and see Christ in our world.*

## 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 23, 2016!** The goal of this year's event is to further fund the expansion of our school.

**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](http://www.hcaauction.com). 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!

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](mailto:HCAauction@holycrossweb.com) with any questions. **We appreciate receiving your information by February 15, 2016.** Thank you for your kind consideration. "There's no place like HCA!"



## Helpful Hints & Reminders

Did you know that when you write a check, you should use only black or blue ink? All other colors may look very nice, but they don't show up on bank scanners and bank employees have to manually enter the amount at the bottom of the check. So please use only black or blue ink when writing a check.

# liturgy called in love

## 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](http://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](http://arlingtondiocese.org/women), or call the Office of Family Life 703-841-2550.

## Unscheduled Masses

**Masses were offered in December and January for the following unscheduled intentions:** +Ruth Weaver, +Leo Fischer, the Oblate Sisters, +Mary Ellen Normand, +William Novick, Antoinette Stanislawski, +Marian Stello, Pete Romani, +Virginia Palmer, +Desiderio C. Hebron, III, Rose Downs, Martha Pino, All Souls, Paul Johnson, Donald Funai, Kathleen Powell, Barbara Michalski, +Vincent McCorkle, +Joseph O'Connor, +Peter Joseph Stafford, Jr., +Kate Rhoades, +Richard Sowala, Jr., +Samantha Pereira, and +John Lynch.

## Saint Mary prayer list

**Please pray for those who are sick or in need, especially:** 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, Nancy Borrero, Gina Wood, David Arnold, Josephine Kreider, Ephiny Chewing, 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, Mary Ulmer, Victoria Sibley, Nancy Borrero, Carmen Cardinelli, Teresa McPherson, Chris Enke, Betty Ann & Bill Dateno, Harold Gardiner  
**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.**

## Masses next week

### 27 February-- SATURDAY

5pm Fr. Holmes  
7pm Fr. Lino

### 28 February-- SUNDAY

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

## Daily Mass intentions and readings

### february

#### 22 MONDAY

6:30 +Fred Gasper  
9am Adam Stanislawski  
6:30 For our Parish Family  
1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

#### 23 TUESDAY

6:30 +Dominic Tam Nguyen  
9am Seguna & Alberto Lomardo  
6:30 For our Parish Family  
Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12

#### 24 WEDNESDAY

6:30 +Patricia Fedigan  
9am +Joseph O'Connor  
Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28

#### 25 THURSDAY

6:30 +Michael McGovern  
8:15\* +Joseph O'Connor  
9am +Antonia Maraldo  
Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

#### 26 FRIDAY

6:30 +Trinh Family Members  
9am +Ruth Quade  
Gn 37:3-4, 12-13, 17-28; Mt 21:33-46

#### 27 SATURDAY

9am +Kelly Outson  
5pm For the Parish  
7pm +June Kellogg  
Mi 7:14-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

#### 28 SUNDAY

7am Karen & Lauren Sambat  
8:30 +Joseph Detrane  
10:30 Mary Ann Holzworth  
10:30\* +John Lynch  
12:30 Military (Living & Deceased)  
2pm +Marcel Astier  
5pm +Joseph Cascio  
7:01 +John Lynch  
Ex 3:1-8, 13-15; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12;  
Lk 13:1-9

*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