

**Palm Sunday of  
the Passion of  
the LORD**

**20 march 2016**



# what's coming



SAINT  
MARY

of the  
IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION  
Roman Catholic Church

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

## march

### 20 PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Coffee Shop after morning Masses, Parish Life Center. (CYM)  
SCRIP on sale after all Masses except 2pm Mass.  
3:30pm, Health Ministry Meeting, Courtyard Meeting Room.  
CYM Dinner and Youth Group meeting following the 5pm Mass.

### 21 Monday of Holy Week

No Religious Education classes this week.  
7pm, Extra Lenten Confessions, Church.  
7:30pm, RCIA/RICA class, Church and Parish Life Center.

### 22 Tuesday of Holy Week

7pm, Extra Lenten Confessions, Church.

### 23 Wednesday of Holy Week

7pm, 6th Grade presentation of "A Tale of the Three Trees," Church.  
7:30pm, Extra Lenten Confessions, Church.

### 24 Holy Thursday, The Sacred Triduum of the LORD

No morning Masses: 8am, Office of Readings and Morning Prayer, Church.  
9:30am, CCW Craft Group, Parish Life Center 100.  
7:30pm, Mass of the Lord's Supper, Church, procession to Parish Life Center, adoration until midnight.  
11:45pm, Night Prayer at end of adoration, Parish Life Center.

### 25 The Passion of the LORD (Good Friday), The Sacred Triduum

No morning Masses. Parish offices closed.  
8am, Office of Readings and Morning Prayer, Church.  
Noon, Tre Ore, The Seven Last Words of Jesus in Word and music, Church.  
Noon, Additional parish confessions until 3pm.  
2:30pm, The Stations of the Cross, Church.  
3pm, Sacred Triduum: The Lord's Passion & Veneration of the Cross, Communion Service.  
5:30pm, Triduo Sagrado: La Pasión y Veneración de la Santa Cruz.  
7:30pm, Sacred Triduum: The Lord's Passion & Veneration of the Cross, Communion Service.  
10pm, Night Prayer, Church.

### 26 HOLY SATURDAY, EASTER VIGIL

No morning Masses, no confessions.  
8am, Office of Readings and Morning Prayer, Church.  
11am, Blessing of Easter Food.  
8:30pm, Sacred Triduum: The Solemn VIGIL of the Resurrection of the LORD (until 11:30pm), Church.

### 27 EASTER SUNDAY

There will be NO Masses at the Church on Easter Sunday.  
8am, Celebration of the Resurrection of the LORD, Fredericksburg Expo Center, 2371 Carl D. Silver Parkway.  
10:15pm, Celebration of the Resurrection of the LORD, Fredericksburg Expo Center  
12:30pm, Celebration of the Resurrection of the LORD, Fredericksburg Expo Center, (bilingual).

### 28 Monday within the Octave of Easter

No Religious Education classes this week. Parish offices closed.

### 29 Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

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

### 30 Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

### 31 Thursday within the Octave of Easter

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

nota bene (*note well, please*):

- ✂ Watch the calendar for **additional opportunities for confession** scheduled this week: Monday through Wednesday evenings, and between Noon and 3pm on Good Friday. **There will be no confessions after 3pm on Good Friday or on Holy Saturday.**
- ✂ Please note our annual **Easter Sunday schedule (page 8)**, which is very different. The Church permits only one Vigil, ours will be **Holy Saturday night from 8:30–11:30pm**. There is no 5pm or 7pm Mass on Holy Saturday. We then joyfully welcome more than 9,000 people to three beautiful Masses on **Easter Sunday** at the Fredericksburg Expo Center, **8am, 10:15am and 12:30pm**. There are no Masses in the church on Easter Sunday, and no afternoon and evening Masses after the 12:30pm Mass.

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, 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.

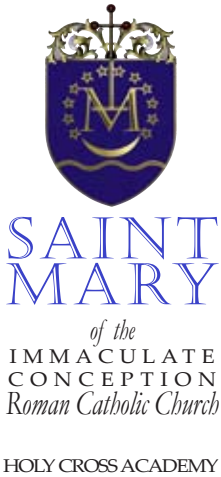
Articles must be submitted two weeks prior to publication.  
Send articles to bulletin@stmaryfred.org. Thanks!

this week's  
bulletin:

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## from our pastor



Dear Good People of Saint Mary,

*He is our Passover.* The words hang in the air as we pray the first Eucharistic Prayer for Reconciliation. *"Indeed, though we once were lost and could not approach you, you loved us with the greatest love: for your Son, who alone is just, handed himself over to death, and did not disdain to be nailed for our sake to the wood of the Cross. But before his arms were outstretched between heaven and earth to become the lasting sign of your covenant, he desired to celebrate the Passover with his disciples..."*

He is Lord of the Passover, God who became Man for this moment when he could become the fulfillment of Creation's deliverance. He becomes the Lamb of the Passover meal, prescribed so carefully by God in the meal of the flight from Egypt, now in the form of unleavened bread, because the people of Israel have no time to wait for the yeast to rise... we must flee from our captivity and come to know the freedom of the daughters and sons of God who is life. *Now, take haste.* To God, whose love is greater than any sin. God, who is love, must redeem his beloved.

*"Therefore, as we celebrate the memorial of your Son Jesus Christ, who is our Passover and our surest peace, we celebrate his Death and Resurrection from the dead, and looking forward to his blessed Coming, we offer you, who are our faithful and merciful God, this sacrificial Victim who reconciles to you the human race." And from the second prayer, "Accept us also, together with your Son, and in this saving banquet graciously endow us with his very Spirit, who takes away everything that estranges us from one another."*

Come, gather this Thursday, as we re-present this event of our salvation, the institution of Eucharist and Priesthood when Jesus literally came into his own and fulfilled the plan formed by God from the beginning of the world. The Meal and the Cross form a unity such that they cannot be separated either from themselves or from the dawn of new life in resurrection. For this reason the three days of the Sacred Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil) cannot be separated, they form one continuous liturgy which begins with the Last Supper and ends with the Empty Tomb. The tomb makes no sense without the ultimate sacrifice; likewise, the sacrifice *This is my Body, this is my Blood* makes no sense without a victory, his *passing over* the darkness and silence of our death. You will notice we only begin once with the customary sign of the Cross, only once do we end with the final blessing after the Vigil

Mass: they form a continuous whole, one liturgy of the saving Mystery of Jesus.

There is something rare about what happens on Good Friday. We observe the three hours of Jesus' suffering and death on the Cross, and people became accustomed to the Stations of the Cross in the few centuries before Vatican II before the restoration of the ancient Triduum in 1969, but these are really private meditations and devotions. Neither of these actually belong to the particular ancient Tradition of the Church for this day. We intentionally gather in the darkness of Good Friday evening to recognize the emptiness of the church where, for one day, Jesus is not present among us. We recognize the impact of this event: no sacraments may be celebrated because the Lord of life has died. We listen to Saint John's account of his Passion. We venerate the wood of the Cross, the instrument of our salvation. We receive Communion, leftover from Holy Thursday which is brought into our space from outside.

The Apostles took up the commemoration of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus, because his Death and Resurrection are at the heart of our salvation, our Passover. At least by the second century, Christians celebrated the Great Easter Vigil, an event which began the night of Holy Saturday, continuing until dawn on Easter morning. During this vigil, Christians commemorated salvation history, awaited the return of Jesus, and celebrated the Resurrection of Jesus at dawn on Easter Sunday. It was at the Vigil that catechumens, after a three-year period of catechesis, were baptized and received first Communion. The Easter Vigil is the most important day of the liturgical year. Imagine if our Vigil were to start at sundown and end at sunrise, as in the early Church! As it is, it lasts several hours, as we only include seven readings and psalm responses from Scripture, instead of listening to the Word of God all night until the new light of dawn. At that moment of Resurrection we sing, again, the *Glory to God* and the light of Christ, blessed and venerated, floods our hearts and minds with the new life of Christ himself.

Easter Sunday Masses are the celebration of our new life in Baptism as we gather for the sole purpose to proclaim the joy of our new life, as we renew our promises and are sprinkled in the waters of the Easter font of rebirth. A day of ultimate Joy, we gather for no other reason than to celebrate and give thanks. Join us for these amazing days.

God bless you. *Fr. Dom*

# holy cross academy



A National  
Blue Ribbon  
School of  
Excellence,  
2012

## Getting into Character

At Holy Cross Academy, we love to read—read—read! When March rolls around every year, we plan special reading events for all our students. Our children in kindergarten through fifth grade look forward to our annual Book Character Dress-Up Day. After choosing one of their favorite fiction or nonfiction books, they dress up as one of the characters and parade around the school for everyone to see. The students enjoy telling everyone the name of their book and their chosen character.

Our Middle School students are also involved in special reading programs. In 7th grade, the students created a book trailer in technology class. They created a QR code for their trailer and pasted it inside the book. Now students in all grades can access the book trailers with iPads when they visit the library. The 7th graders enjoyed integrating technology into their literature and library classes. We are all enjoying the trailers they created.

We have one more **Open House** this school year if you would like to learn all about our school. It will be on **Wednesday, April 13, 6:30-8pm**. We are also happy to arrange tours at your convenience.

*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 or St. Mary Preschool at 540-373-7553 to arrange for a tour. We hope to see you soon.*





## education

# religious education

### No Classes: Easter Break

There will be no Religious Education classes for next 2 weeks. **Classes resume April 4-7.**

### CRS Rice Bowl: Global Solidarity

Catholic social teaching inspires and guides how we are to live and work in the world. In this principle, Global Solidarity, Jesus tells us to love our neighbors, even though they may be different than us. That means the neighbors who live next door and also those who live on the other side of the

planet. Jesus reminds us that we are all part of God's great family. [www.crsricebowl.org/stories-of-hope/week-6](http://www.crsricebowl.org/stories-of-hope/week-6)

Centro Latino, a Catholic Charities-supported non-profit, works alongside the Latino population in the Archdiocese of Louisville, Kentucky. That work includes what you may expect: distributing food and clothing, and providing opportunities for education. But Centro Latino also recognizes the importance of community and stability. In the picture Centro Latino receives dozens of bicycles for Hispanic adults



to use for work, recreation and leisure. [www.facebook.com/centrolatinoky](https://www.facebook.com/centrolatinoky)

**Please return the Rice Bowls so Catholic Relief Services can continue helping others live better.**

# youth ministry



### 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 27–May 15 to do 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. **Call Karen Clemente** at **540-845-7403** or email at [karenclemente@aol.com](mailto:karenclemente@aol.com) for more information.

### Middle School Youth Group



The Middle School Youth Group will meet Sunday, **April 3 from 3:30pm–4:30pm** in the Parish Life

Center. Join us for an hour of faith, friends and fun.

### Youth Ministry Flower Sale



**Open after Masses April 9 through April 24**

Plants are healthy, locally grown and beautiful!

All proceeds help our St. Mary Youth to to WorkCamp

# from the bishop prayer and penance



March 8, 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

Prayer is the one indispensable element in any undertaking or strategy. Whatever other elements may be needed, if prayer is not the absolute and essential action, the effort will ultimately be unsuccessful.

As we are so very much aware, a number of crucial decisions will be made by the U.S. Supreme Court in its current session that will conclude at the end of June.

Oral arguments have already been made regarding the issue of abortion—specifically, the constitutionality of health and safety standards enacted in Texas for abortion facilities. On March 23, oral arguments will be presented regarding the Little Sisters of the Poor and other religious groups and institutions that will be forced to provide insurance coverage for contraception and abortifacients to their employees, contrary to their conscience and to the principle of religious freedom.

I invite all the members of our diocesan family to join me in a novena of prayer and penance from March 14 to March 22, the day preceding the oral arguments in the Little Sisters of the Poor case. The elements of this novena should include some or all of the following: personal and/or communal prayer, participation in the Holy Mass (if not on all 9 days, at least on some of them), specific forms of penance (such as fasting), and the use of either a prayer to Saint Joseph (March is the month of his patronage of the Universal Church and of the family), or the diocesan prayer for the conversion of hearts to protect religious freedom, the sanctity of human life and the sanctity of marriage, or both. (The texts of the prayers are below.)

Moreover, I invite all the members of our diocesan family to join me in prayerful observance of each of the First Fridays of April, May, and June. Our participation should include: taking part in the Holy Mass, some form of penance, and invoking the intercessory prayer of the Lord Jesus Whose Sacred Heart continues to beat with love for the conversion of those still blind. A holy hour is likewise encouraged on each of these First Fridays.

Obviously, I leave to each person the concrete "how" of making this novena in March and of intentional prayer and penance on the First Fridays of April, May, and June. What is absolutely essential is that our diocesan family be united in prayer and penance from now until the end of June.

So much hope is to be found in our united prayer and penance! Let us then be joined together in these ways, clinging to the Lord Jesus, and imploring the intercession of Our Blessed Mother, and of our diocesan patrons Saint Thomas More and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Thanking you for joining me in this intentional prayer, I remain

Faithfully in the Heart of Christ,

*+ Paul S. Loverde*

Most Reverend Paul S. Loverde  
Bishop of Arlington



# triduum and easter



Join us in prayer as we gather to witness the saving Mysteries of **Jesus'** passion, death and resurrection during the Sacred Triduum, the holiest feast of the Church year.

## HOLY THURSDAY

**8am** Morning Prayer & Office of Readings

**7:30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper**

*Adoration until midnight in the parish life center; Night Prayer before midnight*

## GOOD FRIDAY

**8am** Morning Prayer & Office of Readings

**12-2:30pm TRE ORE: The Seven Last Words of Jesus**

**12-3pm** Final Confessions

**2:30pm** The Stations of the Cross

**3pm The Passion and Veneration of the Holy Cross**

**5pm La Pasión y Veneración de la Santa Cruz**

**7:30pm The Passion and Veneration of the Holy Cross**

**10pm** Night Prayer

## HOLY SATURDAY / VIGIL

**8am** Morning Prayer & Office of Readings

**11am** Blessing of Easter Food

**8:30pm The Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord**

## EASTER SUNDAY

**8am, 10:15 and 12:30pm Easter Masses** at Fredericksburg Expo Center





# parish life coming up

## Building strength and balance

To work toward decreasing the risks of falls, Saint Mary Health Ministry has been working with Dr. John McLaughlin and the Yoga Foundation of Fredericksburg to create an exercise class titled, "**Seniors Building Strength and Balance.**" The class will be on **Tuesdays from 12:15pm -1 pm beginning on March 22** at the Yoga Foundation of Fredericksburg studio, 1403 Franklin St, Fredericksburg, VA 22401. The fee for this program is \$5 per person per session when you arrive at the class. To sign up, please contact the Foundation at [info@yogafredericksburgva.com](mailto:info@yogafredericksburgva.com).

## Donate to the Yard Sale

Clear out the clutter, pack up no-longer-needed possessions and donate your unused treasures to the CCW annual Yard Sale. **Donations will be accepted** at the Parish Life Center on Wednesday, **March 30** and Thursday, **March 31** from 9:30-11:30am and 4:30-7pm, and on Friday, **April 1** between 9:30am-7pm. We are accepting plants, books, DVD's, jewelry, toys, baby and children's items (but not clothing), handbags, luggage, medical items, electronics, furniture and other household items.

## Annual yard Sale

The CCW's annual Yard Sale is the Saturday after Easter—**April 2 from 8am-2pm in the Parish Life Center**. Proceeds benefit parish and community charities.

## Family Holy Hour, April 9

A Family Holy Hour will be held on Saturday, **April 9, at 11:30am**. Families of all ages are invited to this event, which will include Adoration, praise and worship.

## Mother/Daughter Tea

Saturday, **April 16 from 2-4pm** in the Parish Life Center, the Council of Catholic Women is sponsoring *World in a Cup*, our Mother/Daughter Tea. You don't really have to bring a daughter or a mother—bring a friend or just come enjoy a delightful several hours. If you attended last year we feel sure you'll want to come again—if you didn't, you probably heard what a wonderful experience you missed! Tickets are \$10 per person and are available now from any CCW board member and will also be sold at our general meeting on March 15. Watch for further details!

## 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 Basilica and other churches and cathedrals and tour important historical sites. **A limited number of spaces on the Pilgrimage is open to non-singing members of the parish.** If you are interested and would like more details, contact David Mathers at [dmathers@stmaryfred.org](mailto:dmathers@stmaryfred.org).

## Win a Trip for Two to Ireland

On Sunday, **March 20**, the Gen. Thomas F. Meagher Division, Ancient Order of Hibernians will be selling raffle tickets for a trip to Ireland at the morning Masses. Tickets are 10 dollars each or 3 for 25 dollars. Proceeds help support various charities as well as other related parish projects. For more information, please contact Dan Mulhern at **540-903-7079**.

## Men's laser tag

All Catholic men ages 18-30 are invited to laser tag and

evangelization on **Easter Thursday (March 31st) at 7:30pm** Central Park Funland (1351 Central Park Boulevard). Please invite your friends to this occasion of brotherhood, including non-Catholic men. RSVPs are appreciated but not required. **Please contact Michael McCabe** at [montanamike3304@yahoo.com](mailto:montanamike3304@yahoo.com) or **703-624-2189**.

## Legion of Mary

The Legion of Mary invites all active and auxiliary members to the annual Acies Ceremony on **April 2, 2016 at 11:30am** at St. Anthony in King George. For more info or a ride, call Cindy Deuell, **540-850-4748**.

## Book Club Selection

The parish book club will read an oldie-but-goodie for its **April 12 meeting: *The Cardinal*** by Henry Morton Robinson. At its first publication in 1950, it became an immediate best seller with its story of a humble working class Bostonian who became a priest and rose to receive the red hat of a cardinal. Join the discussion at **10am in the John Paul II House**. More information: Kathleen Mahoney at **540-371-2073** or [bmah761569@aol.com](mailto:bmah761569@aol.com).

## St. Jude Youth Retreat

**Attention students in Grades 7-12:** Here is an opportunity to grow in your faith! Attend the St. Jude Youth Retreat given by NET Ministries on **Friday, April 1, 5pm-10pm**. This retreat centers on the beauty and richness of the Catholic Church and the importance for us to understand the uniqueness of that identity. The cost is \$10. Pizza will be provided. For more information or to register for the retreat, please contact Nancy Simms at [religiously@stjudechurch.us](mailto:religiously@stjudechurch.us) or **540-891-7350**.

parish life  
coming up

SAINT MARY of the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

CONCERTS at SAINT MARY  
2015 - 2016

## Chamber Choir Concert

Friday, April 8, 2016  
at 8:00pm

### *Voix de Femmes* "Voices of Spring"



*Voix de Femmes*, Maryland's women's chamber choir, invites you to rejoice in nature's renewal by celebrating the wondrous "*Voices of Spring*" with them! This spirited program will feature musical gems by composers from around the world such as Holst, Whitacre and Casals. The second half will include songs made popular by famous sisters, and a few French selections, naturellement!

**The concert is free. All are welcome!**

*A free-will offering will be accepted.*

*Meet the artist at a reception following the performance.*

**For more information:**

**dmathers@stmaryfred.org or 540-373-6491 x 217.**

COMING to SAINT MARY

**Friday, May 20, 2016 at 8:00pm**

*Benjamin LaPrairie, organ*

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





# parish life coming up

## HCA Auction, 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 begin the expansion plans of the school, to include a cafeteria, chapel, and rooms dedicated to music, art, science, language and technology.

**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.hcauction.com](http://www.hcauction.com).

**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. Contact the auction committee at [HCAuction@holycrossweb.com](mailto:HCAuction@holycrossweb.com) with any questions. Thanks for your kind consideration.



## 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!

Activate your inner Fred and  
Ginger and make some NEWS!

NEW memories waiting to be  
made with old friends

NEW friends waiting to be met

NEW menu, appetizers and  
three-course dinner with the  
same beauty and charm of the  
Jepson Center.

NEW door prizes: wine and  
champagne packages, gift  
certificates, theater tickets and  
more.

# operations given in love

## Weekly Offertory

March 13 Offertory	\$34,260.
Little Sisters of the Poor	15,302.
Catholic Relief Services (add'l)	2,110.
Poor Box for St. Vincent de Paul	404.

## March Faith Direct Deposit

Offertory	45,030.
Parish Building Fund	3,799.
Catholic Relief Services	2,310.
Little Sisters of the Poor	3,225.
Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land	1,526.
Easter	3,156.

**Our Second Collection on Easter Sunday is a Special Collection for Parish Development and Maintenance.**

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.

## Pontifical Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land

**800 Years of Franciscan Presence, Care, Service:** At this special time of year, the entire Catholic community participates in the support of Christians in the Holy Land. The daily news reminds us of the violence and instability plaguing the Middle East, but we rarely hear of the shrinking Christian community that struggles to remain in the land of Christ's birth, death and resurrection. Since the 13th Century, the Order of St. Francis has been walking in Jesus' footsteps, working not only to make Christianity's holiest sites accessible to all the faithful, but preserving the Holy Land's precious Christian community, the "living stones

of the Church", through education and scholarships, charity and assistance to the poor and pastoral ministry in 29 parishes. The Good Friday Collection is the primary means of support for this work. It is a Pontifical Collection requested by Pope Francis, and your generosity is truly appreciated. If you are unable to attend the Solemn Liturgy on Good Friday, you may contribute anytime, especially during Holy Week and Easter Week. **For more information, visit [www.myfranciscan.org](http://www.myfranciscan.org).**

## Children's Offertory Envelopes for March

The children's charity that will benefit from the offering in March is **Stafford Junction**, a faith-based nonprofit organization tasked with improving the lives of children and their families in low-income neighborhoods in Stafford County through programs focusing on education, nutrition, and healthy living. With the intervention of Stafford Junction, the crime rate in the Olde Forge neighborhood dropped by more than 50% within two years. Stafford Junction is a mission project of our parish and children's donations will assist the parish in providing much needed support for their programs. For more information visit their website at [staffordjunction.org](http://staffordjunction.org).

## Choose Life Reflection

The Passion of Christ was far more horrible than our crucifixes portray. He suffered to rescue the human life he had created, to snatch it from the kingdom of death and bring it into his kingdom of life. Let us remember this Lent that Jesus endured his Passion for every unborn child in the womb. He endured every pain that the

unborn might be saved as well as the born. *Lord, lessen my fear and increase my courage, that I may suffer with you for the sake of life.*

## Easter flowers

Remember someone you love, either living or deceased, with a donation for our beautiful Easter flowers. Envelopes are available in your envelope packets, in the Church and in the Parish Office.

## All Night Adoration for First Friday

All Night Adoration for First Friday on **April 1** will take place immediately following the **8pm First Friday Mass**. Please sign up today for All Night Adoration.

## Subscribe to receive weekly meditations on Sunday's scripture readings

**Did you know that Fr. Don has made his Sunday homilies available as an audio recording on the Saint Mary website?** Visit [stmaryfred.org](http://stmaryfred.org), hover over "Welcome" in the menu and then select "Meditations." Or, if you **subscribe to our website**, you will receive an email with a link when the audio has been posted on the site. To subscribe, scroll to the bottom of the page and **enter your email address in the text box above the purple "Subscribe" button**. Included in each post is the text to all of that Sunday's readings.

## Al Anon Surviving The Weekend Group

Al Anon is for those who have been affected by someone else's drinking. There is an Al Anon meeting every **Saturday at 10am in Room 204** of St. Mary's Parish Life Center.



# liturgy called in love

## Electronic Offertory

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## SCRIP gift cards

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## February Unscheduled Masses

Mass were offered in February for the following unscheduled intentions: For the Parish, +Le Thi Bich Dao, +Sister Marie Elizabeth, +Samantha Pereira, +Robert Van Kleeck, +Von Geldern, John Brennan, Chris Kuhl, +Kaycee Culberson, Fr. Rooney, Fr. Holmes, +Ceili Anne Leahy, +James Fegan, Fr. Lino, Fr. Cummings, +Antonin Scalia, +Sister M. Gregory, +Emilio Casellas, Holy Souls in Purgatory, +Mr. Hillandrand, +Betty O'Donnell, +Madonna Cote, +Anthony Vautier, and +Harriet Johnson.

## Saint Mary prayer list

**Please pray for those who are sick or in need, especially:** 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, 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, 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 Chewning, Mary Merrill, Richard Grunwald, 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, Gerald Gardiner, Carla J. Gomer, Patricia Russo, Marianne Ford, Richard Sadler, Diane Beverly, Duska Green, Nancy Sokolowski, John Gabriel, John Haas, Jim Matarese, Tommy Davis, Marianne Ford, Olen Bullard, Michael Kraljevich  
**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

### 26 March— SATURDAY

Saint Mary Church

8:30pm

All priests will concelebrate all Masses

### 27 March— SUNDAY

Fredericksburg Expo Center

8am

All priests

10:15am

All priests

12:30pm

All priests

## Daily Mass intentions and readings

### march

#### 21 MONDAY

6:30 +Thomasina DeCarbo

9am +Bon Van Than

Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11

#### 22 TUESDAY

6:30 Miguel Gardner

9am Abigail Ibarra

Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33,36-38

#### 23 WEDNESDAY

6:30 Lois Sullivan

9am Joseph Stanislawski

Is 50:4-9; Mt 26:14-25

#### 24 THURSDAY

7:30pm Bishop Loverde

Is 61:1-3,6-9; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21

#### 25 FRIDAY

No Masses

Is 52:13-53:12; Heb 4:14-16,5:7-9;

Jn 18:1-19:42

#### 26 SATURDAY

8:30pm RCIA Candidates

and Catechumens

Gn 1:1-2:2; Gn 22:1-18;

Ex 14:15-15:1; Is 54:5-14;

Is 55:1-11; Bar 3:9-15,32-4:4;

Ez 36:16-28; Rom 6:3-11;

Lk 24:1-12

#### 27 SUNDAY

8am Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life

10:15 For the Parish

12:30 Protection of Life and Liberty

Acts 10:34,37-43; Col 3:1-4;

Jn 20:1-9

*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