

**Fourth Sunday  
of Easter**

**17 april 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

## april

### 17 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Coffee Shop after morning Masses, Parish Life Center. (American Heritage Girls VA4034)  
SCRIP on sale after all Masses except 2pm Mass.  
CYM Dinner and Youth Group meeting following the 5pm Mass.

### 18 Monday, Easter Weekday

7:30pm, RCIA/RICA class, Church and Parish Life Center.  
7:30pm, Catholic Divorce Survival Guide, Courtyard Meeting Room.

### 19 Tuesday, Easter Weekday

10am, CCW General Meeting, Courtyard Meeting Room.  
Noon, **Senior Luncheon**, Parish Life Center.  
7:15pm, "As by a New Pentecost," Week 2 of a 7-week series on the Holy Spirit, Church.

### 20 Wednesday, Easter Weekday

### 21 Thursday, Easter Weekday (Saint Anselm, Bishop, Doctor of the Church)

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

### 22 Friday, Easter Weekday

9am, St. Anne Sisters in Faith, John Paul II House.  
7pm, Bunco, Parish Life Center.

### 23 Saturday, Easter Weekday (Saint George, Martyr; Saint Adalbert, Bishop, Martyr)

9am, Spanish Prayer Workshop, Courtyard Meeting Room.  
SCRIP on sale after the 5pm Mass.  
5pm, **Holy Cross Academy Auction** - Holy Cross Academy.

### 24 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

### 25 Monday, Saint Mark, Evangelist

7:30pm, RCIA/RICA class, Church and Parish Life Center.  
7:30pm, Catholic Divorce Survival Guide, Courtyard Meeting Room.

### 26 Tuesday, Easter Weekday

### 27 Wednesday, Easter Weekday

### 28 Thursday, Easter Weekday (Saint Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr; Saint Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest)

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

### 29 Friday, Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor of the Church

9am, St. Anne Sisters in Faith, John Paul II House.  
6pm, **Parish Night Out**, Mary Washington University's Jepson Center.

### 30 Saturday, Easter Weekday (Saint Pius V, Pope)

9am, Spanish Prayer Workshop, Courtyard Meeting Room.  
SCRIP on sale after the 5pm Mass.

nota bene (*note well, please*):

✂ 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. For ticket information please contact hcauction@holycrossweb.com.

✂ **Saint Mary Parish Night Out 2016:** Join us for an evening of dinner and dancing to the Andrew Thielen Big Band, **Friday, April 29** at the UMW Jepson Center, Cash Bar 6-11pm, 7pm Dinner & Dancing. \$75 person. Last year tickets sold out! Reserve yours now—see page 8 for details—its time to step it up, Fred!

✂ We are putting the finishing touches on our **2015-2016 Parish Directory** and would like to hear from you! **If you wish to OPT OUT** from having your information listed the Directory, please contact the parish office no later than **April 22**. We only need to hear from you if you DO NOT want your information published. If you participated in the program, Lifetouch has your information and intention on file.

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. Thanks!

this week's bulletin:

4  
from our pastor

5  
holy cross academy

6  
education

7  
parish life

12  
operations

13  
liturgy



## from our pastor



SAINT  
MARY  
of the  
IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION  
Roman Catholic Church

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

Dear Good People of Saint Mary,

I hope everyone is having a wonderful Easter Season. It is right about now that I wake up in the morning and don't feel tired any more. I'm hoping that's tomorrow...

Also about this time, after we've had a lot of focus on events and reflection, we have written our thank you notes, before we look to the next projects on the horizon it is good to do some housekeeping and respond to some questions and concerns that seem to come up frequently. So, in no particular order of importance, here are some replies.

1. *Amoris laetitia*, the new apostolic exhortation of the Holy Father on the life of the family and marriage and sexuality is the most recent grist for the mill of popular media. I have been confronted by a number of people who have heard a little of this and a little of that about it, I ask them where they heard it. Well, CNN. MSNBC. FOX. Last I checked none of these had a concern for Church teaching, or even a vested interest in Truth without a spin. I would advise everyone to read the document (if he would only write a short document!) and we can talk. I will probably start a parish discussion group, as we did with *Laudato si'* last summer, to sift through it together and get to the bottom of what Pope Francis wants to say. The first thing people want you to think is that "it" is all changing. First we must determine what "it" is, and then evaluate change in the context of Tradition and the Church, removing the many misconceptions that often cloud the conversation from the outset. Not all change is bad, either; it wouldn't hurt us to try to be more compassionate, loving, welcoming. For now: study, prayer and discernment.

2. Lately when our Eucharistic Ministers go to the hospital to take Communion to the sick, they report back that the list of Catholics is very short. Many suspect that there are more Catholics than we know about. The only way we find out about you or your loved ones in the hospital is if you tell us. Please call our parish office and let us know you would like a visit on Sunday from one of our folks. Apparently, when you register at the hospital, it isn't enough to say you are Catholic, you must actually request to receive pastoral care. Then your name will be put on a list. But the best advice is just to call us to be sure.

3. A new family, at the New Family Welcome Meeting on one of the fourth Sundays of every month, told me the reason they wanted to join our church is that they heard we were so understanding about babies in church. On the one hand I'm glad to know we are kid friendly but I sure don't want us to get a reputation that we are promoting bad behavior during Mass! As I thought about it more and more, it isn't the children who are misbehaving, though: it's beyond their control. At the risk of sounding like a broken record (I'm dating myself), please use the cry room! It isn't a play room, it is a quiet place to go when children break out in song at the wrong time. When parents don't take their children out and it continues, and continues... it is so hard to concentrate (priest and congregation) and truly disrupts the purpose of why we all came. Remember the wise, old adage: "*Good intentions are like crying babies. They should be carried out immediately.*"

4. Maybe related to #1, but predating the arrival of *Amoris laetitia*, a number of people have asked about the nature of excommunication, particularly where marriage outside of the Church is concerned. In fact, it was one of the questions in the 8th grade question box the other day. The word "excommunication" conjures up movie scene memories of the Inquisition and people in black hooded robes stamping out the paschal candle upside down in the dirt, declaring somebody a heretic or declaring exile.

That is simply not the case. The word literally means "*from Communion*"—a situation where an individual's discipline of life and formation of conscience does not agree with the law of the Church, and therefore separates that individual from the sacraments.

You actually can't stop being a Catholic, you are *always* a member. Baptism can never be revoked. You still have your pew. Nobody is ever thrown out of the Church, though active participation may be limited for a time. For now, we must do what we can to stay alive in the sacraments. Priests, deacons and delegated laity are here to do what is necessary to heal and regularize these situations through the spiritual and canonical processes that form a part of the life of the Church. There is no sin too great that the love of God can't conquer! It is we who must draw near.

God bless all of you.

Fr. Don

# holy cross academy

## Tiny frogs and fuzzy caterpillars

Not only does Spring bring out the flowers, but it also brings out the bugs. Some of us may not like that very much, but Holy Cross Academy has some students who are budding entomologists and are thrilled to see the all the creepy, crawling creatures beginning to appear once again.

This year, a group of our fourth grade students banded together to create a Bug Club. In order to join, students had to pass a 'test' to insure that they could handle the tiny creatures without harming them.

Our beautiful setting provides many spots where tiny frogs and toads, fuzzy caterpillars and varied colorful insects can be spotted. Students solicit the assistance of a teacher so that they can venture on our nature trail and examine the tiny creeks which are veritable treasure chests.

Exploring nature is one more way that we can praise and thank God for all he has done for us.

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 or to let us tell you all about Holy Cross Academy, our parish school.



*A National  
Blue Ribbon  
School of  
Excellence,  
2012*





# education religious ed

## Help us teach our faith

Please consider volunteering in the Religious Education Program. Our children deserve the best Religious Education we can provide. For more information please call [540-373-6491](tel:540-373-6491) and ask for Karen.

“This is my fourth year as a catechist. In this day and age, with so many young people living in a confusing world, I think it is important to teach our children about Catholicism. They need to have hope and faith in Jesus Christ.”

—Beth Fitzgerald, Catechist on Monday at 6:30pm

# youth ministry



## Keep your kids Catholic in College

The Associates of St. John Bosco, an organization founded to help keep students Catholic in college, welcomes parents of sophomores, juniors and seniors in high school to a presentation about how to assist their children in looking for the right college for them and then transitioning to college. Join us **Thursday, May 5 at 7pm in the Parish Life Center** with suggestions on preparations for campus tours, understanding choices that will be made the first few weeks your child will be on campus, and tips on transitioning high school students to the freedoms they will have in college. The emphasis will be on how to keep our faith central in all

these decisions. Father Vaccaro, the current chaplain at the University of Mary Washington and Danielle Zuccaro, a recent graduate and the Director of the College Division of the Associates of St. John Bosco will conduct the presentation. More info on the Associates of St. John Bosco can be found at [www.asjb.org](http://www.asjb.org).

## April flower sale

Buy beautiful flowers to dress up your gardens from our WorkCamp teens. They will be selling flowers after Masses in April to raise funds for this year's two WorkCamps.



## Hiking trip: Prince William Forest

Join us **Saturday, April 23 from 10am–4pm** as we hike the Pyrite Mine Loop Trail in the Prince William Forest. This is open to all high school teens. Permission slip is required (see our website). **You must RSVP with your permission slip by Monday, April 18.**

follow StMaryCYM



**#GetInvolvedBeTransformed**

## happening here



### Join other HCA families for the Great Train Race

The 22nd running of the Great Train Race & Caboose Run will be held on **Sunday, May 1, 2016 and registration is now open!** The Great Train Race is a one-mile road race for youth 18 and under in downtown Fredericksburg and features the 1/2 mile George Dashington for ages 6-12 and the Caboose Run, a 400 meter race to the finish line for kids 5 and under. All participants receive a race shirt, a finisher's medal, and finish line refreshments. Proceeds are donated to FASL and directly benefit children's charities in the Fredericksburg Region. **Register online at [www.gtrfredericksburg.com](http://www.gtrfredericksburg.com).**

### CCW guest speaker

Noted author Melanie Rigney will be speaking at the next meeting of the Council of Catholic Women. She is a parishioner at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Arlington and has authored 2 books about women saints, *Blessed Are You* and *Sisterhood of Saints*. Her ministry, "Rejoice! Be Glad!" is about rejoicing in the Lord. Please join us **Tuesday, April 19 at 10am** in the Courtyard Meeting Room to hear this inspired speaker.

### Senior Luncheon with Bingo

Come on out to the Parish Life Center on this **Tuesday, April 19 at noon** and join us for a light lunch and Bingo. We've had so much fun at the last bingo events, so come on out and see what you've been missing. There will be prizes too! Best of all, it's free. **Questions?** Call Maria D'Amico **540-785-3580**.

### St. Mary Preschool openings

It's not too late! St. Mary Preschool still has a few openings for the fall preschool classes for 3 and 4 year olds. We would love to have you visit and see all we have to offer your child! Contact Mrs. Nanci Scharf for a tour or for more information. Please call **540-373-7553** or you may reach us at [nscharf@stmaryfred.org](mailto:nscharf@stmaryfred.org).

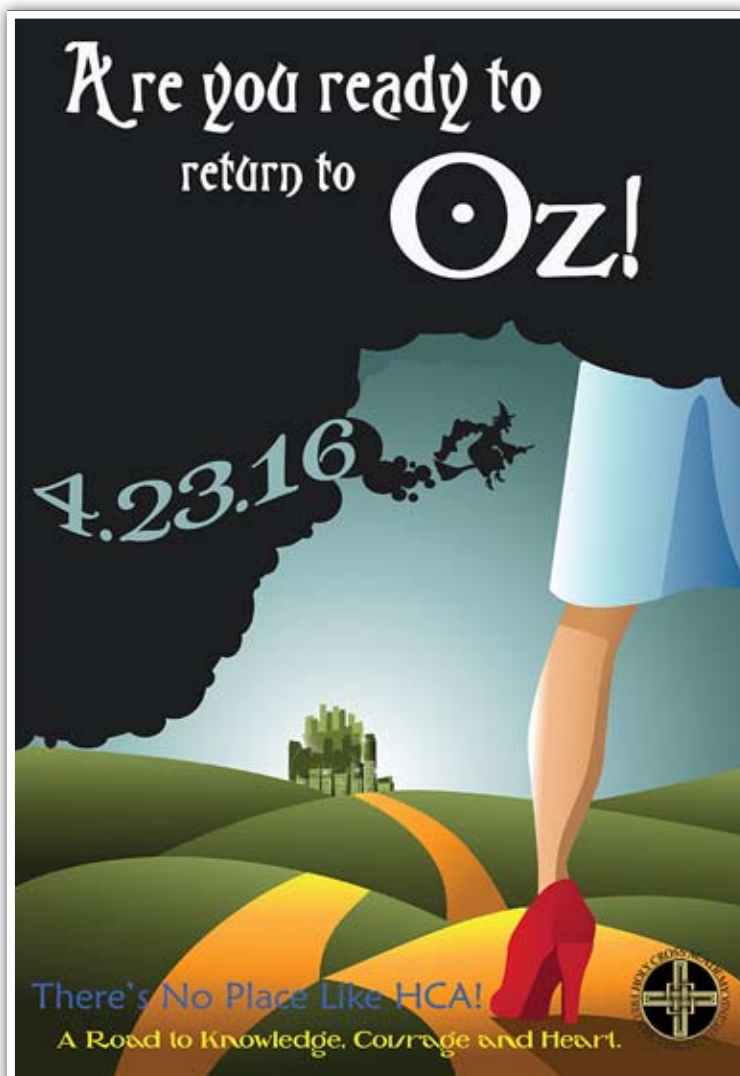
### Seeking donations for the construction of a music storage unit for St. Mary Preschool

One of the Patriots from our American Heritage Girls Troop VA0128 is working on her Stars and Stripes Project to benefit the St. Mary Preschool. She will build a storage unit for the music class. Donations are being accepted outside of Mass this weekend. Please help support her efforts.



*The female vocal ensemble, Voix de Femmes, and guest instrumentalists, performed at Saint Mary on Friday, April 8 as part of the "Free Concerts at Saint Mary" series.*

# parish life happening here



## Tickets are on sale, last week before auction!

Holy Cross Academy's 8th Biennial Benefit Auction and Dinner is next weekend, **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.

For more information visit [www.hcaauction.com](http://www.hcaauction.com). Tickets are **still available**. Please stop by the Holy Cross Academy Office or contact us at [hcauction@holycrossweb.com](mailto:hcauction@holycrossweb.com). Please join us!

## Saint Mary unveils plans to finish Holy Cross Academy facility

Holy Cross Academy is coming up on her 20th anniversary and Saint Mary has begun the work of raising money to complete the vision that was begun by our families in 1997.

*Not to grow the size of the student population, but to grow the space in which those students will accomplish the work of Catholic Education.*

### NEW CONSTRUCTION:

1. **CAFETERIA**  
expanded kitchen (G)  
additional restrooms  
Aviat Care office  
additional storage
2. **MUSIC ROOM**
3. **COMPUTER / IT LAB**
4. **SCIENCE LAB (6th Grade)**
5. **ART ROOM**
6. **Glass-covered COURTYARD**

### CHANGING/UPGRADING SPACES:

- A. **LIBRARY** (expanded)
- B. **Math Skills Room**
- C. **World Languages**
- D. **CHAPEL**
- E. **Teachers' Resource Room**
- F. **Counselor's Office**
- G. **Expanded Kitchen**
- H. **GYM** (new floor)
- J. **Foyer** (facelift)





# more room to learn & grow

Holy Cross Academy has met nearly every goal which we have set for her: a National Blue Ribbon School, we provide excellence in education and formation for children who excel beautifully wherever they go. Our students are articulate, compassionate and, we hope, have hearts formed by faith that will seek Christ and God's will in their lives for years to come.

However, almost since the day Holy Cross Academy opened its doors in 1998, a lack of needed space was

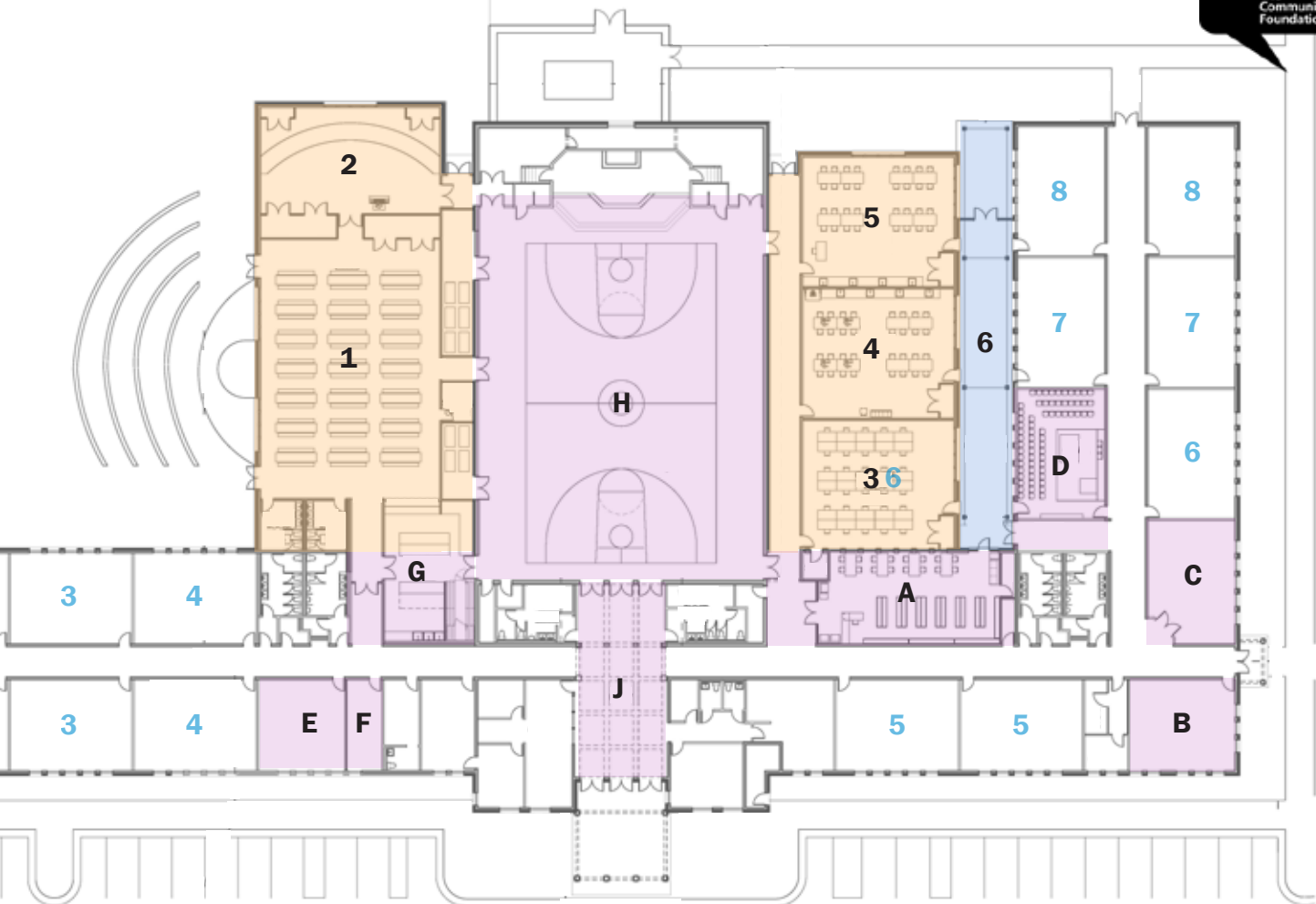
obvious. The most obvious daily situation is how gym classes, lunch shifts, the Aviat Care after school program and sports events all must happen in the gymnasium! A cafeteria, which was once thought of as a luxury item, is really a necessity. The cafeteria could also be the location for after school care, which would make after school athletic programs possible.

Also, as we intend to remain relevant and competitive in all areas, especially technology, we have

determined that larger instruction spaces are needed for computers, science, art and music. The average classroom size (or less!) just isn't enough. By adding these additional spaces (yellow, below) we can free up previous spaces to allow for special classes in Math, world language, education resources, and a chapel, something that has only been a dream for so long.

**Please help us make this a reality.** And don't forget the Community Give program on May 3!

*The Community Give is a way you can give to the school through the Community Foundation and we can qualify for additional awards and matching gifts. See [www.communitygive.org](http://www.communitygive.org).*



# parish life happening here



ST. MARY  
of the  
IMMACULATE  
CONCEPTION  
Roman Catholic Church

HEALTH MINISTRY

## Building and maintaining healthy self-esteem for teens, parents, grandparents, and interested adults

Do you have difficulty with self-esteem? Are you concerned about a loved one and the way they treat themselves? Do you want to learn ways to build healthy self-esteem?

Join us Saturday, **May 14, from 12:30pm-3pm in the Parish Life Center** and learn about current topics of interest to all families

including the impact of positive and negative self-esteem on mental health, identity development and supportive parenting. This program is open to teenagers, parents and all family members interested in learning more. Additional resources will be provided.

Call the Church Office at **540-373-6491** or email [stmary@stmaryfred.org](mailto:stmary@stmaryfred.org) to **reserve your spot in this free seminar**. Seating is limited.

This seminar is sponsored by Saint Mary's Health Ministry in conjunction with Catholic Charities Family Services.

## Cancer Support Group forming

Saint Mary's Health Ministry is forming "Believe Group," a peer-to-peer discussion group for those who are facing a cancer diagnosis and for those sharing this experience with a loved one. Group meetings

will focus on living the spiritual journey that comes with the challenges of having a cancer diagnosis, as well as the blessings of survivorship.

**The facilitator for this program is Regina Kenner, RN**, long-time parishioner of Saint Mary and the Cancer Navigator Program Coordinator at Mary Washington Healthcare. Together with the Saint Mary staff, this program was developed to provide a safe, confidential and Catholic faith-based environment of support. Our goal is to offer prayer and reflection, small group discussions, relevant speakers, and the opportunity to connect with others through shared experiences.

The first meeting will be **Sunday, May 15, 2016 from 9:30-11am** in the Courtyard Meeting Room. Please contact the Parish Office at [stmary@stmaryfred.org](mailto:stmary@stmaryfred.org) or **540-373-6491** to join this new group.

## WE'VE ADDED A SECOND BUS IN SPAIN

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

Join Fr. Don and Saint Mary to tour Fatima and Spain this fall. Dinners included, Mass in a wonderful place everyday. We had 16 people on the waiting list—we can now add another 20 people who may wish to join us.

You are welcome.

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

**Please call Margaret Ford, 373-6900 for information.**



# parish life called in love

## Independent Living Expo May 7

### What is Assistive Technology?

Assistive technology is anything that helps someone lead a better life. It could be as simple as a mobility walker or as complex as a robotic exoskeleton to help paraplegics walk. There are mobile apps to help individuals with anxiety, autism, depression and PTSD. Service animals are another form of "technology."

Fredericksburg's disAbility Resource Center presents the **2016 Independent Living Expo on Saturday, May 7, from 9am-5am at the Fredericksburg Expo Center.** Service providers for in-home care will be available to speak with you about their services. State and local agencies will be on hand to help you learn about the services available to you or your loved one. **Register for free at [www.drcexpo.eventbrite.com](http://www.drcexpo.eventbrite.com).** For more information about The disAbility Resource Center, visit [cildrc.org](http://cildrc.org) or call 540-373-2559.

## The Community Give



On May 3, our community will come together for the Community Give: 24 hours of non-profit giving. Each donation

of \$25 or more creates an entry for that organization into hourly drawings. Many groups in the community are seeking donations in the Community Give program.

- Holy Cross Academy's expansion fund
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Birthright
- Interfaith Council's School Dressing Days
- Mary's Shelter
- Micah Ecumenical Ministries
- Thurman Brisben Homeless Shelter



## 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

April 10 Offertory	\$35,494.
Parish Building Fund	9,182.
Easter Second Collection (add'l)	1,251.
Poor Box (Vincent de Paul)	102.

## Faith Direct April Deposit:

Offertory	\$45,258.
Building Fund	4079.
Catholic Home Missions	1,490.

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.

## Catholic Home Missions Appeal, April 23-24

**"Strengthen The Church At Home"**—There are 88 home mission dioceses in the United States – in areas like the Deep South, Appalachia, the Rocky Mountains, the Southwest and Alaska – all characterized by a lack of resources to provide basic pastoral care for their faithful. Most are unable to adequately provide Mass, religious education, evangelization and ministry training, and often struggle with priest shortages, parishioner poverty, unemployment, difficult terrain, religious hostility and other circumstances that impact the practice of the faith. This Appeal helps keep the doors of schools and parishes open, which otherwise would be forced to close and helps educate seminarians in poor dioceses. Your help and support is vital. Please give generously and help strengthen the Church at home. It's one way our parish can be a good steward of God's gifts and make a difference. **To learn more** about the home missions

appeal, please visit [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions). Thank you and God bless you for your continued support.

## Children's Offertory Envelopes for April

The children's charity that will benefit from offerings in April is the **Operation Purple Program of the National Military Family Association**. When you hear "Operation Purple camp" you should think: Kids Serve Too! The camps are a time for having fun, making friends, and reminding military kids that they are the Nation's youngest heroes. For more information, visit their website at [militaryfamily.org/kids-operation-purple/camps/](http://militaryfamily.org/kids-operation-purple/camps/).

## Pro-Life reflection

"All of us are called to offer others an explicit witness to the saving love of the Lord, who despite our imperfections offers us his closeness, his word and his strength, and gives meaning to our lives."

—Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 121, © 2013 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission.

*We pray for the Church worldwide, that the Lord may strengthen each member, so that we may faithfully care for those who are most vulnerable.*

## Mothers' Day Novena

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the best way to remember your mother, living or deceased—or your grandmother, godmother or someone who is like a mother to you. Beginning May 8, a Novena of Masses will be offered for all intentions placed in front of the altar. These intentions will remain before the altar throughout the Novena.

Mothers' Day Cards and novena envelopes are available in the vestibule of the Church and in the Parish Office.



## Donation Drive for local Pro-life Charities

A donation drive to benefit four local, pro-life charities (Mary's Shelter, Birthright of Fredericksburg, Catholic Charities Baby Closet and the Paul Stefan Home) will be held **at all Masses on April 30–May 1.**

**Items needed include:** diapers (all sizes), wipes, formula (especially Similac Advance), bottles, new/gently used kids' clothing (especially sleepers, onesies, layette sets up to 12 months and summer clothes up to 5T), receiving blankets, bibs, socks, women's shampoo/conditioner/soap, batteries, paper towels, trash bags, laundry detergent, pillows, twin bed-in-a-bag sets, mattress covers, and bath towels (baby and adult). Consider using SCRIP to purchase a Walmart or Target gift card, as many of these organizations have storage constraints. No cash can be accepted that weekend. Should you wish to write a check as your donation, it must be made out to the charity of your choice.

**Any questions** can be directed to Jessica Stewart at (540) 656-7108 or [hokiegirl07@gmail.com](mailto:hokiegirl07@gmail.com). Thank you in advance for your generosity, on behalf of the Council of Catholic Women!



# liturgy called in love

## Grow for Your Neighbor

Grow for Your Neighbor (GFYN) is a program that provides fresh produce to the Fredericksburg Regional Food Bank. It provides opportunities for families to experience the joys of gardening, to experience the intrinsic value of giving back to their community, and to foster an appreciation of nature and the value of healthy eating.

### Saint Mary will once again support Grow for Your Neighbor's summer program during the June to October growing season and is looking for volunteers.

Last year, Saint Mary volunteers collected in excess of 2,000 lbs. of fresh produce. This year, **volunteer opportunities include** receiving donations at the Fredericksburg Food Bank Tent at the Spotsylvania Farmer's Market on Route 3 West (commuter lot) and the pick-up and delivery of donations to the food bank. Collection days and times are Saturdays 8am–noon. Pick-up is at noon and drop off to the Food Bank must be made by 1pm. We are looking to organize small teams of 2-3 persons, once a month for a 2-4 hour commitment—it's a perfect service opportunity for Scouts, youth groups and Outreach Ministries. **If you would like to volunteer**, please contact Rick Caporali at the Parish Office, **540-373-6491** or by email [rcaporali@stmary-fred.org](mailto:rcaporali@stmary-fred.org).

For more information on this local community effort, please visit [growforyourneighbor.com](http://growforyourneighbor.com). We are planning a parish plant give-away to kick start the growing season, in hopes that we can create a **parish-wide community garden** that can be shared with our neighbors. More details in the upcoming weeks.

## Saint Mary prayer list

**Please pray for those who are sick or in need,**

**especially:** D.J. Smetek, Jim Evans, Megan Ramsey, Robert and Tenya Mosier, Josh Oltman, Donelda Wellwood, Keith Kovalefski, Bruce Bates, 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 Chewing, 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 Saddler, Diane Beverly, Duska Green, Nancy Sokolowski, John Gabriel, John Haas, Jim Matarese, Tommy Davis, Marianne Ford, Olen Bullard, Michael Kraljevich, Dawn Miller, Ortiz family, Linda Kaila, Charles Boyer, Amy Gilkerson, Sadie Harder, Elizabeth Grant, Wayne Culbertson, Providence and Thomas Moeller

**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 M. Smith, Nelly Garcia, Mindy Hakenson, Xavier Alas

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

## Masses next week

### 23 April— SATURDAY

5pm Fr. Cummings  
7pm Fr. Vaccaro

### 24 April— SUNDAY

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

## Daily Mass intentions and readings

### april

#### 18 MONDAY

6:30 The Royce Family  
9am +Josephine Sumpolec  
Acts 11:1-18; Jn 10:1-10

#### 19 TUESDAY

6:30 Eliza Stewart  
9am Olivia Tan  
Acts 11:19-26; Jn 10:22-30

#### 20 WEDNESDAY

6:30 +Mary Louise Crooks  
9am Anne Devine  
Acts 12:24–13:5; Jn 12:44-50

#### 21 THURSDAY

6:30 Kristen Symonds  
HCA +Anne Costis  
9am +Bon Van Than  
Acts 13:13-25; Jn 13:16-20

#### 22 FRIDAY

6:30 +Madonna Cote  
9am Rita Clancy  
Acts 13:26-33; Jn 14:1-6

#### 23 SATURDAY

9am +John Schlosser, Jr.  
5pm +Joseph Di Pretore  
7pm +William Marlow  
Acts 13:44-52; Jn 14:7-14

#### 24 SUNDAY

7am +Anthony Than Nguyen  
8:30 +Marjorie Ann Asher  
10:30 +Hortensia Carter  
10:30\*+John Lynch  
12:30 Our Military Living and Deceased  
2pm +Francisca Jaimes  
5pm For the Parish  
7:01 Thai Vu  
Acts 14:21-17; Rv 21:1-5;  
Jn 13:31-35

*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*