

Solemnity of the Lord

November 26, 2017



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

november

26 Sunday, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

No Coffee Shop this weekend due to the Thanksgiving Holiday

New Family Welcome and Registration after 10:30am Mass in the Parish Life Center

12pm, Spanish Legion of Mary, Parish Life Center, Room 100

No High School Youth Group

27 Monday, Weekday (Thirty-Fourth or Last Week in Ordinary Time)

10:15am, Legion of Mary Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Parish Life Center, Room 100

7:30pm, RCIA, Church

28 Tuesday, Weekday

7pm, Gospel of John Class with Deacon Dick in Parish Office Library

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

7:30-8:45pm, Walking with Purpose Class at Holy Cross Academy

7:30pm, Spanish Legion of Mary, Parish Life Center, Room 204

29 Wednesday, Weekday

9:45am, Bible Timeline Series, Courtyard Meeting Room

6:30pm, YOUCAT, Parish Life Center

30 Thursday, Saint Andrew, Apostle

9:45am, Bible Timeline Series, Courtyard Meeting Room

9:45am CCW Craft Group, Parish Life Center Room 100

6:30pm, Legion of Mary, Parish Life Center Room 201

7pm, NarAnon, Parish Life Center, Room 204

7:15pm Walking with Purpose, Parish Life Center, Rooms 201, 202, 203, and Courtyard

december

1 Friday, Weekday

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

8pm, First Friday Mass, Church

2 Saturday, Weekday

10am-1pm, Shred Event, Church Parking Lot

2pm, Spanish Baptism Class, Parish Life Center Room 204

3 SUNDAY, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Coffee Shop after morning Masses sponsored by CCW (Mini Bazaar)

12pm, Spanish Legion of Mary, Parish Life Center, Room 100

6pm, High School Youth Group, Parish Life Center - 6pm Dinner, 7pm Meeting

7pm, Candlelight Mass, Church

4 Monday, Advent Weekday [Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church]

10:15am, Legion of Mary Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Parish Life Center, Room 100

7:30pm, RCIA, Church

5 Tuesday, Advent Weekday

7pm, Gospel of John Class with Deacon Dick in Parish Office Library

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

No Walking with Purpose Class

7:30pm, Spanish Legion of Mary, Parish Life Center, Room 204

6 Wednesday, Advent Weekday [Saint Nicholas, Bishop]

9:45am, Bible Timeline Series, Courtyard Meeting Room

6:30pm, YOUCAT, Parish Life Center

nota bene (*note well, please*):

- ✂ **Shred Event** in the Church parking lot on **Saturday, December 2 from 10am-1pm.** Shred-it will be on site to shred any personal or financial documents. All are welcome to bring items to be shredded.
- ✂ **Advent Season information can be found on pages 10 and 11.**
- ✂ Complete some of your shopping by purchasing **SCRIP gift cards!** Set up an account today and earn rebates for HCA. Email **Christi Greenwell** at **scripcoordinator@holycrossweb.com** for the school enrollment code.
- ✂ **Subscribe to the Saint Mary website, stmaryfred.org** and receive important updates via email. The subscription box is on the homepage. Enter your email address, click "**subscribe.**"
- ✂ Stop by our **Coffee Shop every Sunday morning** to meet your fellow parishioners and enjoy coffee and donuts.

SUNDAY MASS	Saturday Vigil 5 & 7pm Sunday 7, 8:30, 10:30am, 12:30, 2:30pm (Spanish), 5pm, 7pm 10:30am at Holy Cross Academy
DAILY MASS	Mon.-Fri.: 6:30am, 9am M/W/F: 12 Noon Sat.: 9am First Friday 8pm Holy Days of Obligation, as announced
DEVOTIONS	Adoration, Daily between 6:30am & 9am Mass, Wednesday 12:30pm - Friday 9am Miraculous Medal Novena, Mon., after 9am Mass Divine Mercy, Wed., 3pm
CONFESSION	Wed., 6:30-8:30pm; Sat., 8am & 3:30pm, or by appt.
PARISH OFFICE	540-373-6491, fax 371-0251 stmary@stmaryfred.org Mon.-Fri., 8:30am - 4:30pm; <i>students staff office weekdays until 9pm, Saturdays 9-5pm, Sundays 9:30-1:30pm</i> Pastor, Fr. John Mosimann Fr. Stephen Holmes Fr. Colin Davis Fr. Michael J.R. Kelly Deacon Alberto Bernaola Deacon Dick Delio Operations Manager, Jim Florio Business Manager, Elaine Stanislawski Parish Secretary, Elizabeth Tellez Director of Music & Organist, David Uschold
HOLY CROSS ACADEMY	540-286-1600 250 Stafford Lakes Parkway Fredericksburg, Virginia 22406-7234 Principal, Sr. Susan Louise Eder, O.S.F.S.
ST. MARY PRESCHOOL	540-373-7553 Director, Nanci Scharf
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE	540-373-6491 Director, Aristides Lucas Associate Director, Karen Sturtevant
YOUTH MINISTRY	540-373-6491 Director, Leo Chavarria Tatiana Beltran
OUTREACH	540-373-6491 Elena Doyle - outreach@stmaryfred.org
BAPTISMS	Parish registration (90 days) and class required. Please contact the parish office to schedule the date at least four weeks in advance.
MARRIAGE	Parish registration required; contact parish six months in advance to begin preparation.
JOIN US	New Family Registration meetings held in the Parish Life Center 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!

from the pastor

pax et bonum



HOLY CROSS ACADEMY



Dear Folks,

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and that your giving thanks lasts all year. This Sunday we begin the season of Advent and thus all of our frenzied preparations for Christmas. I hope you picked up a copy of the Magnificat Advent Companion that we set out for you to have a daily assist to your prayers.

I will share with you one of my favorite Advent books: *The Reed of God* by Caryl Houselander. She beautifully builds the image of the Blessed Mother as a reed: empty and open to becoming an instrument of God. How do we perceive emptiness? The virginity of the BVM is not barren emptiness, but a beautiful receptivity to the Lord. This Thanksgiving weekend we are grateful for the abundance of God's blessings, and let us move forward with an eye to avoiding the excesses of our culture by focussing on the life giving, virginal, receptivity of the Blessed Mother.

Candlelight Masses 7:00pm in December (Advent / Immaculate Conception / Holy Family): Just for fun, and because I love candles, I'll be bringing back the 7:00pm Sunday Night Candlelight Masses. Given the emphasis in Advent on "the people in darkness have seen a great light," it is an appropriate time. Candlelight Mass means that the lights will be off in the Church, and illumination will be mostly from the candles on the altar. Please check it out if you wish for a fresh and especially contemplative take on the Sacrifice of the Mass! This will begin next week!!

Because Christmas is a Monday, that means there will be no 7pm Mass on the 4th Sunday of Advent...and losing that potential candlelight Mass, I added another so that these Masses will be on:

7:00 pm December 3, (1st Sunday of Advent)
7:00 pm December 8, (Immaculate Conception)
7:00 pm December 10, (2nd Sunday of Advent)
7:00 pm December 17, (3rd Sunday of Advent)
7:00 pm December 31, (Holy Family)

Pax et Bonum,

Fr Mosimann

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 12:30pm - Friday 9am

Come and adore Our Lord in the most beautiful Blessed Sacrament of the Altar and honor His Holy Mother by saying the Rosary in His Divine Presence. We have continuous Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Wednesday after the 12 Noon Mass until Friday morning before the 9am Mass. We also have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7am to 9am.

Micah Graduates Its First Community Café Trainees

Ten years in the making Micah has graduated its first class of café trainees this past Friday. Philip Arnold, Robert Kahley and Jasmine Moten received graduation certificates and personalized chef coats at an informal ceremony held at Fredericksburg Baptist Church. Mike Morrison, the café manger and trainer recounted the strides these individuals made throughout the six week process. One graduate commented, in a short impromptu witness talk, his journey and shared that he now feels "whole again" and is looking forward to getting back to being a place where he has hope for his personal future. The program hopes to build relationships with local food service organizations to place their new trainees soon. It has been a wonderful experience to watch their confidence grow as they have taken pride in learning how to prepare food and develop skills that will help them forever, says Meghann Cotter, Executive Servant Leader for Micah. "While they are still building the program, we would love to see more community support." Bring your friends for lunch one day. The café is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 to 2 but will add days as they build up our volunteer base and develop more "paying" customers. For more information about how you might become involved, or perhaps have employment opportunities available for graduates, contact the Micah Staff at 540-479-4116 they would love to talk to you or contact Elena Doyle at 540-373-6491 or outreach@stmaryfred.org.

holy cross academy

Celebrating Veterans Day

Our school community considers it an honor to celebrate our veterans every year. At our school Mass on Veterans Day, our 7th graders invited all veterans and active military personnel to come forward to lead our community in the Pledge of Allegiance. The students presented our guests with a certificate of appreciation for their service to our county and their commitment to peace and justice. After Mass, many of our veterans and military personnel visited our Wall of Heroes, a moving tribute to family and friends who served in the past or are currently serving our country.



*A National
Blue Ribbon
School of
Excellence,
2012*

Girl Scouts for Clean Air

Our 8th graders in Girl Scout Troop 522 have spent the past few months on a Breathe Journey, learning about the importance of clean air. They discovered that indoor air pollution, from things like cleaning products, adhesives, and pesticides, can be just as harmful as outdoor air pollution. Since plants clean the air, the girls decided to place green plants in all of the classrooms at HCA. Thirty indoor plants were generously donated by Lowe's in Massaponax and grower Costa Farms, and delivered to all the classrooms.



Little Guy, Lotta Love

Our 3rd grade students have reached out to help a three-year-old boy living in Florida whose family was previously part of our Saint Mary – Holy Cross family. The students painted and assembled a rosary and our Prayers and Squares Committee sewed a prayer quilt for this little guy. Our thoughts and prayers go with these beautiful gifts.



Save the Date

February 25, 2018. We will be celebrating our 20th anniversary at Holy Cross Academy and would love to have you join us.

We hope that you will consider our parish school for your children. To learn more, we invite you to visit our school website, 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.

Holy Cross Christmas Ornaments

Holy Cross Academy 20th anniversary ornaments are now on sale. These beautiful ornaments were created by Mrs. Christine Lush-Rodriguez, our former Art teacher. Each ornament is \$20. Ornaments can be purchased in the school office or at the preschool. You can download an order form from our school website or call the office at 540-286-1600. Just let us know how many ornaments you would like and where you would like to pick up your ornament.



education

religious education

Classes Resume

Religious Education classes resume this week, November 27-30.

Baptismal Certificates

Parents of Religious Education students preparing for First Holy Communion are reminded that a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate must be submitted to the Religious Education Office by the end of the year.

Deacon Alberto

Parents of the Religious Education students to be baptized on Saturday, January 13, 2018 are required to attend the Baptism class for parents this Monday, November 27 at 6:30pm in the Parish Life Center. Deacon Alberto Bernaola will conduct the class.

In 1591 Juan Diego found himself between two worlds, that of the Spanish conquerors and that of his own Aztec heritage. Because of his love for his people and his strong faith, Juan Diego turned to Jesus and His Mother, Mary for help in uniting his people. The answer to Juan Diego's prayers has become one of the greatest events in the history of the Americas.



Juan Diego: Messenger of Guadalupe is the true story of how the Blessed Mother chose a hero for a key role in a beautiful miracle that would unite diverse peoples and change the course of history. In the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, the miracle of the tilma of Juan Diego may still be seen, just as it was seen by the bishop in 1531.

JOIN FORMED 1. formed.org 2. **click register**
3. **enter parish code: F6F228**

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Prepare the Way of the King

by Dr. Scott Hahn

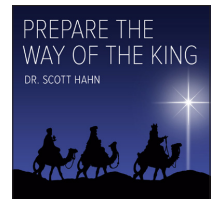
Make the Most of Advent

Your Advent journey will take on new meaning as Dr. Scott Hahn reveals what scholars now know about the shepherds, the mysterious Magi, and King Herod. Prepare your heart for the birth of our Lord with this captivating talk.



Listen on formed.org

FORMED THE CATHOLIC FAITH, ON DEMAND.



"The speaker has done his homework and has a vast knowledge of the life and times of the ancient Jewish people. He was also so witty and funny, making it easy to listen to."

—Natalie, Ontario, CA

We invite all Christians to gather in the peace of Christ at St. Mary this **Monday, December 11** as we "prepare a place for unity and peace" together.

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

It is our hope that this monthly prayer brings together Christians of all churches, pastors and flocks, as together we realize a bit more each day that we must rely upon God's



power to bring about Unity among all who follow Jesus, "as he and the Father are one." It is something we are unable to do ourselves.

This Unity which embraces all people stands at the very heart of Christ's mission...and belongs to the essence of our community. Let us provide a place where his Spirit can come and fulfill his plan for us.

parish life youth ministry

Life is Very Good Rally

On January 19, Saint Mary Youth Ministry is heading to the Eagle Bank Arena and Washington, D.C. for a morning of prayer and praise at the Diocesan Life is Very Good Rally. We will have Mass with Bishop Burbidge, hear musical performances by Ben Walther Band. We will then head to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. in prayerful protest and March to the Supreme Court for an end to Roe vs. Wade. Permission slips are available on our website. Space is limited, sign up early!



Stay Up-to-Date

Be sure to stay in the know with St. Mary CYM by visiting stmaryfred.org/youth-ministry

StMaryCYM



#GetInvolvedBeTransformed



Giving Tree

Please take a tag and bring back the item(s) no later than **December 11**

Please return gift cards to the Parish Office

happenings

An Evening with Santa

Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1410 would like to invite you to an Evening with Santa on December 1 at Holy Cross Academy. The fun starts will be from 6-10pm. Come take a picture with Santa, eat lots of yummy treats, play games and make some crafts. Cost is \$7 per person. Email **Torie Baldwin** at keetongirl2@yahoo.com to register.

Adult Confirmation Classes

We will begin Adult Confirmation classes for all those who have already been Baptized and have received First Communion, but have not been Confirmed; as well as for those who might want a short refresher course on the Catholic faith. There will be an introductory meeting and then six class sessions led by Deacon Dick, each lasting about one hour on Tuesday nights. **The tentative**

schedule is: January 9, 2018 (introduction), 16, then April 3, for 5 weeks .. If you would like to sign up for these classes, or to just come to the introductory meeting to hear more, please call the Parish Office to register, leaving your name, phone number and email address.

Open Adoration Slots

There is ongoing adoration from noon on Wednesday through Friday at 6am. This is to make a special request for the **periods between 1-2am and 2-3am**

happenings

Thursday and Friday mornings. We are in need of people to cover these slots. If you are able to commit to a one-hour time period, please contact Christi Greenwell or Johanna Merino. Of course, if you can commit to an hour at any time that is very appreciated. Please contact **Christi at 703-994-2142 (text is okay) or greenwell1956@cox.net or Johanna Merino at 703-209-3124, johanna_merino@hotmail.com.** Your commitment to adoration will reap rewards beyond anything you can imagine. You will have time to spend alone with our Lord without any distractions. Your thoughtful consideration to adoration during this time is very appreciated.

Call to Evangelization

Empower your witness! Every day we have opportunities to share our story about why we love being Catholic, but do we? Or, do we hide our light under the proverbial bushel?

In July, Father Colin led an engaging series on evangelization. That gave birth to a small group whose purpose is to support and encourage each other in our efforts to share our faith. We discuss opportunities we've had to evangelize, what worked and what didn't, or what prevented us from trying. If you want to engage others in conversation about our faith, join us. We meet every 4th Sunday between the 10:30am and the 12:30pm masses (except on holiday weekends) in the Courtyard Meeting Room. **For more information contact Bryan Richardson at br22406@cox.net.**

Season of Giving

It's that time of year where each of us is thankful for all

the Lord has blessed us with. We at Stafford Junction would like to thank you for helping us support our communities low income families and as we all know, the holidays are a particularly difficult time of year for those without. Therefore, Stafford Junction will be putting together meals for families in need. We will be distributing them on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and we would love your help.

We are specifically In need of the following items; stuffing, gravy, instant potatoes, yams, canned vegetables, canned cranberries, and desserts.

Keep Christ in Christmas (KCIC) Campaign

The annual Knights of Columbus' Keep Christ in Christmas Campaign (Christmas card sales) will occur outside all Masses. The Knights of Columbus will use all proceeds gained to support our Religious Education Assistance Program for our local religious education schools, for Vocations, and for other local charities. Help "Keep Christ in Christmas" by sending religious cards as an evangelization message from you!

Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree Sales

The Knights of Columbus St. Mary Council 4034 is kicking off our Christmas Tree sales fundraiser in partnership with St. Jude Council 13599. Sales will continue through Sunday - December 24.

Trees will be sold at St Jude Catholic Church - 10725

Courthouse Rd. (rte. 208).

These are Virginia grown, freshly cut Fraser Firs with beautiful

long lasting soft needles and that great evergreen smell. Tree prices will continue to remain the same as last year and are based on tree height.

The trees will be sold on weekends from 8am-8pm and weekdays from 3-8pm, but not during Mass.

We also will be glad to work with anyone interested in volunteering to help with fulfilling your individual or group's community service requirements. Questions, contact Tim Fleming (trees@kofc4034.org). Please help us support the churches and the community through helping the Knights of Columbus with your live Christmas Tree purchase.

CCW Updates

Do not pack your handcrafted creations away, because they are important additions to our Christmas Mini Bazaar! Also, we ask you to share your delicious holiday cookies for our much-anticipated Christmas Cookie Bake Sale. This exciting event will be at the Parish Life Center on Sunday, December 3 after morning Masses! We will see you there.

At our next General Meeting, our fellow parishioner Ed Kenney will share stories from his FBI days to entertain and inform us. Do not miss this special treat on Tuesday, December 19 at about 10:30am, after our General Meeting.

Dates to Remember:

December 3 - Mini Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale 7:30-12pm

December 19 - General Meeting at 10am, Fr. Rooney Room, followed by Christmas carols in church!

parish life happenings

Teams of our Lady

"The couple that prays together, stays together" - The Teams of Our Lady (teamsofourlady.org) are a fantastic way for couples to deepen their spirituality in marriage. Each couple takes time to pray and prepare spiritual material together, and then meet monthly to pray and share with the other couples over dinner.

The second Fredericksburg team is almost complete! Contact us to learn more, **Helene** (540 361 5662) and **Gonzague** (540 361 5673) de Bonfils, or hdebonfils@gmail.com.

Health Ministry

Community Resource – Cancer Support Group

General cancer support for patients, survivors, caregivers and

families facing the issue of cancer. Discussion is an open forum that provides support, encouragement, understanding and sharing of information and experiences. No registration required. 1st Mondays - 7pm, Radiation Oncology Lobby - 1300 Hospital Drive, Suite 101 Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Pray with Health Ministry for the sick in our Parish Community as we pray from Psalm 147:3

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Senior Luncheon

The next parish senior luncheon will be held in the Parish Life Center on Tuesday, December 12. Doors open at noon and lunch is served at 12:15pm. All Seniors in the parish are invited and admission is free. Entertain-

ment will be provided till 2pm. Come and enjoy the company of your fellow seniors in the parish. No reservation required. **Questions, call Maria D'Amico at 540-785-3580**

Saint Mary's Book Club

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 12, at 10am in the JPPII House. Please select a book of interest from either our parish library, public, or home library to share with us. For further information, please email Maureen Guilfoyle at maureenpsg@verizon.net.



St. Mary 2018 Holy Land Pilgrimage with Father Holmes

February 2 - 13, 2018

Come and see where Christ saved the world! Join Rev. Stephen Holmes for this exciting Parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Price is \$3250 per person, with round trip airfare from Washington Dulles to Israel, 10 nights hotel accommodations (4 nights in Nazareth and 6 nights in Jerusalem), breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily, English speaking tour guide, deluxe transportation around Israel, all entrance and portage fees, an audio guiding system, and a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Contact Margaret Ford at 540-373-6900





The advent season 2017

at saint mary

*One additional week of Confessions is added to the regular schedule in preparation for Christmas. All are encouraged to plan to celebrate the Sacrament of Confession **early** in the season to avoid the last-minute rush and crowded lines, and the risk of coming too late.*

Please note well: There will be no additional Parish Confessions after **Saturday, December 23.**

Daily Mass

Monday—Friday • 6:30 & 9am - Noon (M,W,F); Saturday • 9am

December 3—14: Regular Confession Schedule

Wednesdays • 6:30-8:30pm

Saturdays • 8am & 3:30pm, or by appointment.

All are kindly asked to observe these times and arrive as near as possible to scheduled times, and to be patient if the line is not completed once Mass begins. Due to the sheer volume of Confessions, it is sometimes physically impossible to finish.

Holy Day of Obligation: Immaculate Conception, December 8

Our Parish Feast! December 7: Vigil at 6pm & 7:30pm

December 8: 6:30am, 9am, 12noon, 6pm, & Bi-Lingual Candle Light at 7:30pm

Additional Parish Confessions

Thursday & Friday, December 14-15 • 6:30-7:30pm

Saturday, December 16 at 8am & beginning at 3:30pm until Masses begins

Monday through Friday, December 18-22 • 6:30-7:30pm

Saturday, December 23 • 7:30-9am & 2:30-5pm

Please note: there will be NO confessions on Sunday, December 24.

Sunday Advent Candlelight Masses

7pm Candlelight Masses will be offered during the first **three** Advent Sundays

The Christmas SEASON at Saint Mary 2017



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASSES

4pm & 6:30pm Mass at Holy Cross Academy

4pm and 8:30pm Mass at Saint Mary Church

6:30pm Spanish Mass at Saint Mary Church

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Midnight Mass at Saint Mary Church

7:00, 8:30, 10:30am, & 12:30pm Mass at Saint Mary Church

Please Note: There are NO

10:30am Holy Cross Academy, 2pm en español/in Spanish, 5pm or

7:01pm Masses on Christmas Day at Saint Mary Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

FEAST of the HOLY FAMILY

Candle Light Mass at 7pm

Please note there will be no vigil Masses for The Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God, due to the Sunday Masses taking precedence.

MONDAY, JANUARY 1

SOLEMNITY of MARY, MOTHER of GOD

Mass at 7:00, 8:30, 10:30am, 12:30pm, Spanish Mass at 2:30pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

SOLEMNITY of the EPIPHANY of the LORD

We will follow the regular Saturday Vigil / Sunday schedule of the parish

MONDAY, JANUARY 8

SOLEMNITY of the BAPTISM of the LORD

We will follow the regular Monday Weekday schedule for the parish

operations given in love

Weekly Offertory

Due to early bulletin deadlines because of the Thanksgiving Holiday, the next Financial Report will be published in the December 3 bulletin.

Thank you for your generosity!

Parish Christmas Collection for Special Charities December 2 & 3

As many of you know, every year at Christmas we take up a special collection for charity. None of the money collected stays at St. Mary, but is distributed as a gift from our Parish to special charities. The collection this year will be taken up on December 2 and 3. We know you will be generous, as you have always been, and we thank you for sharing the joy of this holy season with those who are less fortunate.

Children's Charity for December

Our Children's Charity for the month of December is the Office of Migration & Refugee Services (MRS) in Fredericksburg, which assists refugee families and children, who have fled their homeland in fear of persecution and in fear for their lives. After a lengthy resettlement process through the US Government, approved families arrive with no material possessions other than the clothes on their back. With only 1 to 2 weeks' notice, MRS "Welcomes the Stranger" and assists families with housing, food, employment, schooling for their children and many other urgent needs. For more information, visit arlingtondiocese.org/mrs.

Pro Life Reflection

Jesus is Lord, not only of individuals, but of nations and the entire universe. All history finds its fulfillment in Him. The Dominion of Christ over all creation is shown in the fact that He has conquered death. That is why His followers are pro-life. They bear witness to His Kingdom and look forward to His Second Coming. *Lord Jesus, continue to extend Your victory over death throughout the work of Your disciples.*

Al Anon Surviving the Weekend Group

All who have been affected by someone else's drinking, and members come together to learn a better way of life and how to find happiness. It's important to know that you are not alone and there is help. **Al Anon meetings are every Saturday at 10am in Room 204 of St. Mary's Parish Life Center.**

Nar Anon Support Available

Nar Anon is a program that offers support to family members and friends of loved ones struggling with substance abuse. All information and discussion is non-judgemental, informative and strictly confidential. Our meetings are in **Room 204 in the Parish Life Center on Thursday from 7-8pm** and are open to the community at large. **Contact Cathy at 703-2018821, burgh757@gmail.com or Wayne at 540-840-5230.**

Grow for Your Neighbor - Spotsylvania Farmers Market

Since we began hosting a drop off location at the Spotsylvania Farmer's Market on Route 3

West in June of 2017, volunteers have collected 6,800 pounds of fresh produce - equivalent to 5,667 meals this growing season.

Many thanks to the teams of volunteers at St. Mary, in collaboration with the Fredericksburg Regional Food Bank, for the generous gift of their time and making the program a success.

Advent Day of Prayer

Saturday, December 9 – Held at San Damiano in White Post, VA. The retreat will once again be led by Fr. John Cregan. The day begins at 9:30am and ends with Mass at about 3pm. The cost for the day is \$30, which includes lunch. To register contact **Heather, 540-868-9220 or h.esparza@arlingtondiocese.org**



SCRIP Helping HCA

SCRIP provides wonderful financial support for Holy Cross Academy. The support the SCRIP program provides has averaged over \$9,400.00 for the past six years. Even if you do not have children who attend HCA you are encouraged to participate. These funds go directly to HCA for such costs as assistance for books, supplies, and our upcoming school expansion.

How it works: Most of us shop at various local vendors that are supported through SCRIP. These include Giant, Weis, Wawa, Starbucks, Wal-Mart, Target as well as popular restaurants like Olive Garden, Red Lobster, IHOP and Outback. Complete list at shopwithscrip.com

There are several ways you can order/purchase gift cards through the SCRIP program. One is to visit a SCRIP table after most Masses (including HCA). There is a volunteer who will provide info and help you purchase gift cards. Checks or cash accepted. You can also order online for delivery to either HCA (after 10:30am Mass or during school hours when school is in session) or for pickup after Saturday or Sunday Masses at the Church. And the most convenient way, set up a Presto Pay account and order gift cards online. You will need St. Mary's enrollment code to set an account. For the enrollment code and assistance, please contact Christi Greenwell at scripcordinator@holycrossweb.com or 703-994-2142. She will help get you started.

Your thoughtful consideration for this wonderful program is much appreciated. Remember, your shopping can provide direct benefits for HCA.

Saint Mary prayer list

Please pray for those who are sick or in need, especially:

Anna Marie Johnson, Emma Gilbert, Tracey Hansen, Bill Herr, Richard Fadden, Michelle Williams, Mike Pabrinkis, Zachary Payne, David Nimmer, Keri Nelson, Marc Wood, Jack Brush, Sandra Frietas Smith, Elise Velez, Virginia Gannon, Daisy McGuiney, Russell McGuiney, Kari Nelson, Ellen GilHool, Patricia Russo, Gail Russell, Urbano Negre, Nimfa Cloud, Daniel Burke, Prudy Tarpey, Barbara McCoy, Lee Bishop, Nora Ellen Lloyd, Tanh Lam, Joseph Mikulka, Lillian Kendall, Martha Clements, Judy Diehl, Terry Givens, Rose St. John, Jason Sully, Danny Thiebolt, Mary Rau, David Phillips, Re MacArthur, Theresa Petrill, Bob Rekowski, Gerard Fitzpatrick, Christina Wiley, Maureen Mizzles, Charles Dittmer, Bernice Douglas, Miles Wood, Bruce Mattern, Maria Wood, Shannon Triola, David Marcs, Roseanne Mash, Jeanne Burke, Indira Murillo, Christie Greenwell, Holly Smith, Anthony Yantiss, Larry Dillman, James Evans, Gabriel Galarza-Torres, Keith Kovalefsky, Joaquin Perez, Amber Moser, Stan Guzik, Barbara Butler, Mary Walsh, Elizabeth Murray, Jacqueline Murray, Robert Gomer, Carla Gomer, Robert Wayne Thompson, Robert Arthur Ouellette, Douglas Meyer, Betsy Murray, Monica Hannan, Eldon Ulmer, Linda Jamison, Karla Dorsey, Maria Eliza Franca Maciel, Eileen Bourne, Marty T., David A, Pedro Rios, Cathy Burgh, Roger Dewayne, Rose Anne Sharpe, Angus Johnson, Peter Wood, Jude Murphy, Paula Snellings, Mary Jean & Don Williams, Harold Gardiner, Gerald Gardiner, Tina Ott, Michael Carr, Stephen Daley, Deanna White, Maria Stein, Elizabeth Davis, Jeanette Williams, Deborah June King, Ann Gallagher, Robert & Brittani Horner, John D. Zaloudek, Roger Sharpe, Mary Ulmer, Antonio Christianson, Thomas Moeller, Marianne Ford, Ortiz Family, Maryann Seidlinger, William Hackbarth, John Michael Ides, Sylvia Pressley, Tamlyn Leaf, Matthew Roberts, Deanna Uperti, Gabriela Mason, Maria Stine, Joy & Larry Kligman, David Duke, Dennis Morris, James Murphy, Joan Cheek, Ted Mayor, Tim Conway, Billy LaPietra, Bob Rekowski & Family, Daniel Bustamonta, Maryann Devenas

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, Christopher Johnson III, Patrick Desmond, Andrew M. Smith, Nelly Garcia, Mindy Hakenson, Xavier Alas, Anthony Howell, John Anthenor, Andrew Dowdy, Sean McCullum, Josue Bermudez, Monica Hannan, Brian Mahoney, Julio A. Alarcon, Gabe Gonzalez, David Oechslein

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

Daily Mass intentions and readings

november

27 MONDAY

6:30am Nathaniel Tombes

9am Deceased Legion of Mary+
Dn 1:1-20/Lk 21:1-4

28 TUESDAY

6:30am Royal Schmidt+

9am The Sambat Family
Dn 2:31-45/Lk 21:5-11

29 WEDNESDAY

6:30am Juan Expedito Barrios+

9am Rafael Bemaola+
Dn 5:1-28/Lk 21:12-19

30 THURSDAY

6:30am James O'Toole+

9am Leo Chavarria
Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22

1 FRIDAY

6:30am Barbara Ann Keller+

8:15am Mike Harwich+

9am Joe O'Connor+

8pm William Marlow+
Dn 7:2-14/Lk 21:29-33

2 SATURDAY

9am Nanette Santillana+

5pm Mark and Bill Lenzi+

7pm Robert Grossman+
Dn 7:15-27/Lk 21:34-36

3 SUNDAY

7am Nichole Clark+

8:30am Royal Schmidt+

10:30am Eve Muggeridge

10:30am* Deceased of November+

12:30pm Chad Thomas Avery

2:30pm Gloria Galdamez+, Dag Gollopp

5pm For Our Parish

7:01pm Mary Twat Thi Nguyen+

Is 63:16b-19b;64:2-7/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

*Please remember that Mass intentions may be requested at the parish office for any remaining Masses of the year. If dates are no longer available for the date you desire, you are welcome to request an intention that is "unscheduled," and one of the priests will gladly celebrate Mass for your intention at an extra Mass during the week or as a concelebrant.
* Indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy*