

Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2018



Welcome back, Father Sunny! Ash Wednesday Mass. Photo Credit: Lori Foulkes

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

upcoming events

February



**SAINT
MARY**
of the
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION
Roman Catholic Church

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

25 SUNDAY, SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Coffee Shop after morning Masses, Parish Life Center

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

Youth Group Retreat — No CYM Dinner or Meeting

26 Monday, Lenten Weekday

9:45-11:30am, Living in the Father's Love Bible Study, Fr Don Rooney Room

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

12:45pm, "The Prophets Call" Bible Study Class, Courtyard Meeting Room

27 Tuesday, Lenten Weekday

12pm, Daily Mass with Fr. Sunny, Church

6pm, Catechist Training, Parish Life Center

7:30-9:30pm, Parish Council Meeting, Courtyard Meeting Room

28 Wednesday, Lenten Weekday

12pm, Micah Ecumenical Ministries Lenten Prayer and Luncheon, See page 13 for more info

6:30pm, YOUCAT, Parish Life Center

March

1 Thursday, Lenten Weekday

9:30am, CCW Craft Group, Parish Life Center, Room 100

12pm, Daily Mass with Fr. Sunny, Church

7-8pm Nar-Anon Meeting, Parish Life Center, Room 204

7-8:30pm, Walking with Purpose, Parish Life Center

2 Friday, Lenten Weekday

9am, St Anne Sister in Faith, John Paul II House

6pm, Lenten Soup Supper sponsored by the Holy Cross Academy PTO, Parish Life Center

6:30pm, Middle School Youth Group

6:30pm, Spanish Junior Legion of Mary, Courtyard Meeting Room

7pm, Stations of the Cross, Church

7:30pm, Estaciones de la Cruz, Iglesia

3 Saturday, Lenten Weekday [Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin]

6-8:15pm, Knights of Columbus Family Dinner, Parish Life Center, More info on page 10

4 SUNDAY, THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Coffee Shop after morning Masses, Parish Life Center

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

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

5 Monday, Lenten Weekday

9:45-11:30am, Living in the Father's Love Bible Study, Fr Don Rooney Room

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

12:45pm, "The Prophets Call" Bible Study Class, Courtyard Meeting Room

6 Tuesday, Lenten Weekday

12pm, Daily Mass with Fr. Sunny, Church

6pm, Catechist Training, Parish Life Center

7:30-9:30pm, Parish Council Meeting, Courtyard Meeting Room

7 Wednesday, Lenten Weekday [Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs]

Micah Ecumenical Ministries Lenten Prayer and Luncheon, See page 13 for info

6:30pm, YOUCAT, Parish Life Center

express announcements

nota bene (note well, please):

- **The Bishop's Lenten Appeal** is in full swing and we are asking every household in our parish to support this appeal to the extent you are able. The BLA funds many programs, services and ministries that serve people in need.
- Please join us for our **Lenten Soup Suppers and Stations of the Cross each Friday** during Lent. Soup supper begins at 6pm in the Parish Life Center. English Stations begin at 7pm and Spanish Stations at 7:30pm. Bring the whole family to enjoy good soup and fellowship and then spend time walking the way of the Cross with Jesus.
- **The Micah Ecumenical Ministries** partner churches are coordinating a series of Wednesday noon services followed by a lunch at host parishes during Lent. St. Mary is the first host! More information on page 13.
- **The Manna Project Food Drive** is set for March 10 & 11, see details in next week's bulletin.
- February is the month to surprise your sweethearts with SCRIP. 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@holycross-web.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.**"

contact us

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;
students staff office weekdays until 9pm,
Saturdays 9-5pm, Sundays 9:30-1:30pm

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, 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!

stmaryfred.org

from our pastor

pax et bonum

Dear Folks,

As I was praying and googling for inspiration.... wait a second.... "Googling for inspiration?" Well sure, the words of the Saints are a great start to spot when looking for weekly inspiration! So I came across a catechesis that then Pope Benedict did on St. Catherine of Bologna back in 2010. In the "Treatise on the Seven Spiritual Weapons," St. Catherine teaches that to combat evil it is necessary:

- (1) to be careful always to do good;
- (2) to believe that we can never achieve anything truly good by ourselves;
- (3) to trust in God and, for His love, never to fear the battle against evil, either in the world or in ourselves;
- (4) to meditate frequently on the events and words of Jesus' life, especially His passion and death;
- (5) to remember that we must die;
- (6) to keep the benefits of heaven firmly in our minds,
- (7) to be familiar with Holy Scripture, keeping it in our hearts to guide all our thoughts and actions".

Now that is a serious Lenten reminder list!

Pax et Bonum,



Fr Mosimann

Stations of the Cross & Soup Suppers

Stations of the Cross take place every Friday evening during Lent. Stations are at 7pm in English and at 7:30pm in Spanish. On March 2 the First Friday Evening Mass will follow the Spanish Stations of the Cross.

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



Operation Rice Bowl - Encounter Lent Companions on the Journey

We encounter Cesia in Nicaragua, where, despite a lack of economic opportunity, young people pursue their dreams by building businesses to better their lives. How can you work to improve the lives of others this Lent? How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more information. Lenten Rice Bowls are available in the Church vestibule for your Lenten almsgiving.

holy cross academy

20th Anniversary Celebration

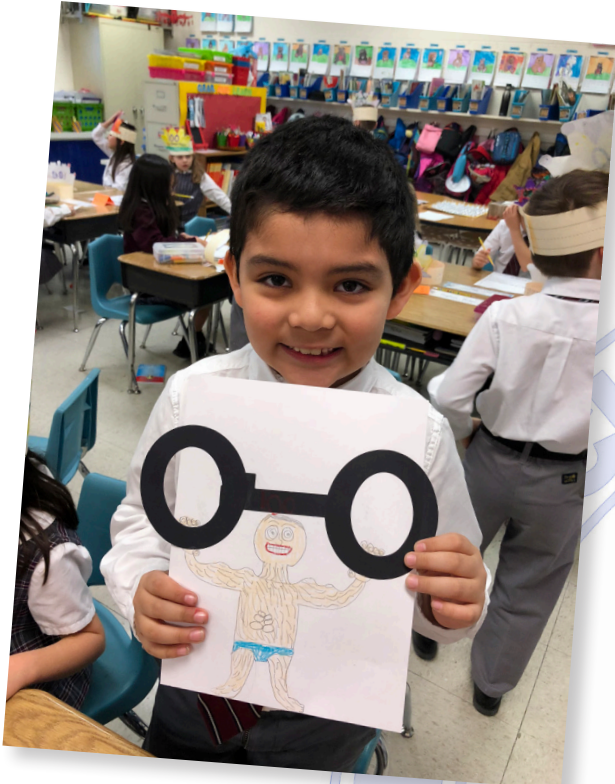
Please plan to join us on Sunday, February 25, 3-5pm, as we celebrate our 20th anniversary at Holy Cross. We are proud to be the parish school of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish. All are welcome and no RSVPs are required!

100th Day of School!

Students and teachers in the elementary grades celebrated the 100th day of school last week. Classes counted to 100, did jumping jacks for 100 seconds and created STEM projects focused on the number 100. Their constructions were amazing! Several classes worked together to read 100 books. The children enjoyed getting to know new books and new authors.

Interested in HCA?

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 our parish school.



lent & holy week calendar

Confession Schedule Lent and Holy Week



The complete schedule of confessions is found in the calendar to the right.



All Parishioners are kindly requested to please plan confessions as early as possible in the season of Lent in order to avoid overwhelming last-minute crowds.

Please note: There are no confessions during Masses in the church. Also, there will be NO confessions after 2pm on Good Friday, nor on Holy Saturday.

STATIONS of the CROSS in English are prayed on Fridays of Lent at 7pm.

Horario para Confesiones durante Cuaresma y Semana Santa



Puede encontrar el horario completo de confesiones en el calendario a la derecha. →

Favor de planificar sus confesiones lo más pronto posible para evitar dificultades a última hora.

Recuerde, que NO habrá confesiones después de 2pm el Viernes Santo, NI en Sábado Santo.

Tendremos **EL VIA CRUCIS** en español cada viernes durante la cuaresma a las 7:30pm (Primero Viernes, 10 de marzo, a las 7:30pm)

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
February			14 ASH WED	15	16	17 8am 3:30pm
18 1st SUN	19	20	21 6:30 - 8:30pm	22	23	24 8am 3:30pm
25 2nd SUN	26	27	28 6:30 - 8:30pm	March		
				1	2	3 8am 3:30pm
4 3rd SUN	5	6	7 6:30 - 8:30pm	8	9	10 8am 3:30pm
11 4th SUN	12 RE Confessions	13 RE Confessions	14 6:30 - 8:30pm RE Confessions	15 RE Confessions	16 Extra Confessions 6:30-8:30pm	17 8am 3:30pm
18 5th SUN	19 Extra Confessions 6:30-8:30pm	20 Extra Confessions 6:30-8:30pm	21 6:30 - 8:30pm	22	23	24 8am 3:30pm
25 PALM SUNDAY	26 Extra Confessions 6:30-8:30pm	27 Extra Confessions 6:30-8:30pm	28 6:30 - 8:30pm	29 HOLY THURS	30 GOOD FRIDAY	31
April			3	4	5	6
1 EASTER SUNDAY	2					7

The discipline of the Church includes abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent (solid purple days) and fasting and abstaining from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Fasting includes one regular meal, and the other two small meals are not to exceed a regular meal in quantity, with nothing between meals.



Holy Thursday

MARCH 29

(No 6:30 or 9am Masses)

8:00AM

Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours)

7:30PM

Mass of the Lord's Supper

The concelebrated Mass of the Lord's Supper commemorates the institution of the Eucharist and the Priesthood by Jesus at the Last Supper. The commandment of love is symbolized by the Mandatum, or footwashing, where Jesus teaches, "As I have done, so must you also do." Parishioners are encouraged to join in the ancient procession of the Blessed Sacrament to its place of repose in the Parish Life Center, where adoration will continue until midnight as we accompany Jesus in his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane.

11:45PM

Night Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours)

Night Prayer will conclude Eucharistic Adoration in the Activity Center.

Good Friday

MARCH 30

(No 6:30 or 9am Masses)

8:00AM

Office of Readings / Morning Prayer

12:00 - 2:30PM

"Tre Ore," The Seven Last Words

Although not a part of the formal observance of the Sacred Triduum Rites as such, this is a traditional custom of many churches. The seven last words of Jesus as he is crucified on the cross are presented every 25 minutes, each with a congregational hymn and choral selections. Clergy will give a reflection for each of the words of Jesus and the Three Hours will conclude with the public praying of the Stations of the Cross.

3:00PM

The Passion and Veneration of the Holy Cross (English)

We assemble in observance of Christ's saving death, by reading the narrative of his Passion, praying for the Universal Church, venerating his Cross in this ancient Rite and receiving Holy Communion which was consecrated on the previous evening at the Mass of the Lord's Supper.

The Good Friday collection assists the maintenance of the Shrines in the Holy Land.

7:00PM

Stations of the Cross

7:30PM

El Via Crucis (En Español)

10:00PM

Night Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours)

Holy Saturday

MARCH 31

(No 9am, 5pm or 7pm Masses)

8:00AM

Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours)

11:00AM

The Blessing of Easter Food

For those who practice the beautiful Eastern European custom of having Easter foods blessed, please place baskets of traditional foods on the steps along the front of the altar.

8:30PM

The Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord

What Sunday is to the week, Easter Sunday is to the year. This holiest of nights we celebrate the victory over death and promise of eternal life given to us by Jesus Christ in his resurrection from the dead. The Liturgy includes the Service of Light, the Vigil of Readings and Psalms, the Celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation for those who have prepared all year for initia-

tion in the Catholic Church, and Liturgy of the Eucharist. Please note the unusual time that we begin: it marks the end of twilight and the beginning of the Solemnity of Easter Sunday.

A reception welcoming new members of the Church follows in the Activity Center.

Easter Sunday

APRIL 1

8:00, 10:15AM, AND 12:30PM (BILINGUAL/BILINGUE)

The Resurrection of the Lord

ALL Masses will be at the Fredericksburg Expo Center

Please note: there will be NO 2pm nor 5pm or 7pm Mass on Easter Sunday!

Masses will not be held at the church or at Holy Cross Academy on Easter Sunday.

WORKCAMP

Flower Sale

Weekends of March 10-11, 17-18 & 24-25

Purchase beautiful flower and help support our youth.

Soup Supper Charity

Our parish is most blessed to have Father Sunny Joseph visiting us again from India. There are currently 200 seminarians studying for the priesthood for the Changanacherry Archeparchy (Archdiocese) where Father is from, and all proceeds from our Lenten Soup Suppers will be used to support the education of these seminarians.

parish life

religious education



CRS RiceBowl: February 18-24

Week One: Life and Dignity of the Human Person-Encounter Majd from Iraq

Eight-year-old Majd thought his family was going on a picnic. His mother, Lamya, said they would be back home in a week. But when ISIS attacked their home in northern Iraq, the family fled for good... Fortunately, the family found an apartment to rent with other displaced families. It is much smaller than the home they had, but it's safer. The children enrolled in a CRS-sponsored school, where the routine provides hope, stability and a sense of belonging. "Education is very important," says Lamya, especially in Iraqi culture.

Magnifikid

"This month Magnifikid suggests centering your family prayer around the psalms. For three thousand years, Jews and Christians alike have used these beautiful songs in private and communal prayer."

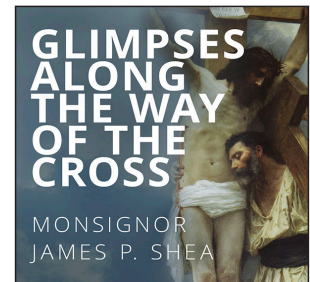
FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Glimpses Along the Way of the Cross

Enter More Deeply into the Mystery of Christ's Cross

In these three beautiful talks, Monsignor James Shea guides us along the Stations of the Cross. These powerful meditations take us into the depths of Christ's agony, and back out again into the relief and joy of what His sacrifice means for us.

[Listen on formed.org](https://www.formed.org)



"Fr. Shea knows how to relate to someone in the pew who has felt pain and needs the healing only Christ can give. These talks helped me to meet Jesus again!"

—David, Chicago, IL



FORMED | THE CATHOLIC FAITH, ON DEMAND.

JOIN FORMED

1. [formed.org](https://www.formed.org)
2. click register
3. enter parish code: **F6F228**

St Mary's Book Club

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday March 13 at 10am in the John Paul II House. Our selection is "That Nothing May Be Lost", by Fr. Paul Scalia, who was assigned to St Patrick's Church a few years ago, and is the son of late Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia. Fr. Scalia has a unique gift of taking stories from scripture that we've heard many times and casting them into a whole new light. He opens up Catholic teaching in fresh and sometimes surprising directions that will change the way you think about your faith.

For more info, call Mary Kenney at 898-0372.

parish life get involved

SAINT MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH NIGHT OUT

CELEBRATING OUR 160TH ANNIVERSARY

5.18.18

ANDREW THIELEN BIG BAND

JEPSON ALUMNI CENTER AT UMW

Walking With Purpose Women's Bible Study: Living in the Father's Love

Do you sometimes doubt if God really loves you? Are you searching for purpose? Do you struggle to measure up to our culture's definition of beauty? Is there someone you need to forgive, but you don't know how?

Living in the Father's Love, a six-week Bible study, is the ideal way to revive and refresh yourself this season. In this brief but powerful study, we discover just how much God loves us and how the Gospels are deeply relevant to our relationships, not only with God, but also with those we love.

Mondays during Lent
(February 19-March 26)
9:45-11:30am - Father Don
Meeting Room

Limited to 15 women. Please
register with the parish office.
Cost of the book is \$10.

For more information, contact
Lori Mattson at lmattson@acumen-ea.com.

Do you want to be- come a CITIZEN?

Apply now! Come to a citizenship application workshop hosted by Catholic Charities Hogar Immigrant Services. March 3, doors open 10am-1pm. St. Anthony Catholic School. Cost is \$110, cash or credit. Please contact (571) 208-1572 or hogarimmigrantservices.org/ workshop to pre-register.

Stay Up-to-Date

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

StMaryCYM    

Tickets on Sale Now!

Tickets are \$75.00 per person. This includes dinner, cash bar, and dancing to the music of the Andrew Thielen Big Band.

Take advantage of our "early bird" special- ten tickets for the price of nine. Gather friends or family to fill your table. Please contact Marty Bridi before February 28 to take advantage of this special (540)373-0259.

Parish Pilgrimage to Museum of Bible, DC Sponsored by Council of Catholic Women (CCW)

The Council of Catholic Women is pleased to sponsor the 2018 Parish Pilgrimage to the Museum of the Bible in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, April 14! The trip is open to parishioners 13 and older, on a first come, first served basis. The price, \$35 per person (checks preferred), includes motor coach transportation, driver tip, museum donation, pre-loaded digital docent, and 20% off at the gift shop. Payment is due upon reservation, no exceptions. To reserve your seat(s), place a check payable to "St. Mary CCW" in a sealed envelope marked "CCW" and deliver or mail it to the parish office before March 20. Be sure that your name, address, phone number and email are included in the envelope. In the event we are unable to fulfill our commitment (enough people to fill seats), your money will be returned to you immediately. We will leave St. Mary promptly at 7:30am. Bring a drink and snack and/or bagged lunch if you wish; food will be available at the museum, so you may purchase lunch and eat it there or buy it to go and eat lunch on the bus on the way home. We plan to be back to St. Mary by 2:30 or 3pm. Expect to go through X-ray security, so travel light--but photo taking is permitted! Learn about this new museum at museumofthe-bible.org. Please direct questions to StMaryCCWNews@aol.com.

parish life get involved

The Micah Furniture Bank

If you have furniture items to donate that are in good usable condition, the Micah Furniture Bank would be happy to receive them. Furniture items are given to previously homeless individuals who are now in housing. To donate items, please contact the Furniture Bank hotline directly at 540-693-0472 or schedule a donation on-line at dolovewalk.net.

Pilgrim Virgin Statue

Would you like to have the Pilgrim Virgin Statue visit your home? Please contact Mary Lou Felts, 571-723-3333 or mary-loufelts@gmail.com for more information. This is one of the works done by the Legion of Mary.

Plan Ahead to Attend a Lenten Weekend Retreat at Loyola

Loyola retreats are conducted in an atmosphere of prayerful silence and include generous amounts of time for prayer, personal reflection and the cultivation of a deep relationship with God. The retreat is open to anyone who is seeking a deeper relationship with God in prayer. It also provides for daily Eucharist and celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday and Saturday. Loyola on the Potomac is located in Faulkner, Maryland 20632.

This year's retreat theme is entitled: "Come, Follow Me!" The life of a disciple of Jesus is a life of commitment. This life is at once beautiful and challenging. Difficulties often arise, whether from success or failure. Nevertheless, Jesus always calls

us again. This retreat will invite us to hear Jesus' call to us now, and to respond to it.

Men's Retreat—March 2-4 (during Lent). **Women's Retreat—March 9-11** (during Lent). The retreats begin on Fridays with check in and Confessions from 5-6:30pm, an orientation at 6:45pm and dinner at 7pm and concludes with lunch on Sunday following Mass. The suggested offering for the Retreat is \$245. A payment plan is available. Special Retreat Fee of \$195 for any retreatant making their 1st retreat at Loyola and to "young adults" retreatants up to age 30. Contact Len or Sylvia Fontenot for more info: 540-663-2261 or email lensyl1966@verizon.net. To register, go to loyolaonthepotomac.com

Cursillo Weekend Updates!

Men and women from our local churches are invited to participate in the Arlington Diocese upcoming Cursillo Weekends. The next men's weekend will be held March 1-4 and the women's weekend will be April 12-15. Both weekends will be held at San Damiano Retreat House in White Post, VA. The cost is \$250.00. Contact Tammie or Doug Chute for information at 540-785-0570.

Men: Are You Ready to Accept the Challenge?

Our communities need strong Catholic men to answer the call to lead with faith, protection of families, service to others and to defend our values.

For over one hundred years, Knights of Columbus have done exactly that, standing up for the Church, serving the least among

us, and strengthening our parishes and families.

Eligible Catholic men can now join the Knights of Columbus online in a simple, streamlined process.

As a member, you join a worldwide community of nearly two million men, including tens of thousands here in Virginia, who stand together.

Men have a duty to lead, protect, serve and defend. The world needs more committed, unified Catholic men to answer the call. Will you answer?

Visit kofc.org/joinus to learn more about the many benefits of membership in the Knights of Columbus.

Knights of Columbus March Family Dinner

The Knights of Columbus March Family Dinner is scheduled for March 3 from 6-8pm in the Parish Life Center. The menu will consist of Beef Stroganoff, Glazed Carrots, Ambrosia Fruit Salad, and Pumpkin Pie. Net proceeds from the dinner will be used to support the Guadalupe Free Clinic. The dinner is open to the public and is pay at the door. The cost of the dinner is \$7 for Adults, \$6 for Seniors, \$5 for Children, and \$25 maximum cost per family



parish life get involved

The Road to Golgotha

This presentation answers some of the myths and misconceptions surrounding the Cross. Examining the customs and traditions, it will fill in some of the blanks and answer some of the questions that you may have about the final days of Jesus before he was put on the cross. The Road to Golgotha has been expanding each year Lenten season for the students of Religious Education. Now you have the opportunity to share in this experience. Join us this Lenten Season Furman McCormick gives this one-hour presentation at 7pm on Thursday, March 8 and Tuesday, March 20 in the Courtyard Meeting Room.

LIFE Runners

LIFE Runners pray and run or walk to defend Life from conception to natural death... All In Christ for Pro-Life! Sign up to get your "REMEMBER The Unborn, Jer 1:5" jersey and team updates/devotions. Join the local chapter by signing up at liferunners.org/signup and selecting "VA-Fredericksburg" for the chapter. Invite other runners and walkers to join us. For additional information contact your local chapter leader Pearl Esquibel at crypea@aol.com.

Calling all Crafters!

Boy Scout Troop 1410 is hosting a Spring 2018 No Frills Scrapbook Crop-A-Thon Saturday, March 3 from 9am-9pm at HCA. Only \$30 per person! You bring your photos and supplies and we will provide a 6ft. table, snacks/drinks (meals on your own), and Boy Scouts to carry your supplies to and from your car. Please contact Torie Baldwin at vebaldwin1@gmail.com.

Micah Cold Weather Shelter

The Micah Cold Weather Shelter opened for the winter season on November 15 and will remain open each evening until mid- to late-March. Teams of Saint Mary volunteers assist on Tuesday evenings by greeting and checking in clients, setting up sleeping areas, and providing hospitality for the 30+ individuals that utilize the facility. Each participating church is asked to bring 3 dozen items (white socks, small toiletries, etc.). Saint Mary is asked to collect donations of men's boxer underwear sizes medium and large. Please consider how you might be able to support this need—all donations are gratefully accepted at our Parish Office. Although it is a good thing that the temporary shelter is available during the harsh winter months, it highlights the continuing need for sustainable housing and support mechanisms in our community. For more information about community efforts to help the homeless, please visit Micah Ecumenical Ministries, dolove-walk.net or Thurman-Brisben Homeless Shelter, thurmanbrisbencentral.org

Join Global Prayer

With faith in the power of prayer, this Global Prayer Ministry acknowledges the Power of praying together. The Ministry works through social media to connect people to pray for a common intention. As a member of Global Prayer, you will receive the week's intention from the Coordinator each Wednesday and Friday. Then, at noon on Friday, wherever you happen to be, we ask that you spend 10 minutes or so with

our online community, praying for the week's intention. Our prayers are now being expanded beyond global faith concerns to include prayers for the health and healing of our local parishioners and faith community. We are reaching out for you to join. Become part of the Global Prayer Ministry with others throughout our Parish and community. For those that do not text but wish to join, you can do so via the internet. To sign up, please visit: app.flocknote.com/stmaryfredricksburg Select "Global Prayer", then select the green + to add your email or simply text "Prayer" to 845-76 to receive as a text.

eGiving

Thank you for being a part of our St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception family. As we begin a New Year, we hope you will consider enrolling in eGiving through Faith Direct so that your gift can reach us even when you cannot. Visit faithdirect.net and use our church code: **VA635**. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family



parish life get involved

2018 Bishop's Lenten Appeal

"Living in Faith - Giving in Gratitude"

The Bishop's Lenten Appeal is in full swing and we are asking every household in our parish to support this appeal to the extent that they are able. The BLA funds many programs, services and ministries that serve people in need and furthers the Gospel mission of Jesus Christ in our diocese. Let us join together to do the Lord's work – works that touch the lives and souls of thousands of people in our diocese. Thank you!

BLA Payments — Do NOT use Faith Direct

Thank you for supporting the 2018 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA). Please be aware that BLA pledge payments should NOT be made through the Faith Direct electronic giving program. We can't keep gifts current with the diocesan database if done this way. You may set up a recurring monthly payment for a BLA pledge, at:

arlingtondiocese.org. Thank you!

Community Resource - Autism

Paragon Autism Services hosts a Special Needs Family Fun Night every 3rd Wednesday from 5-7pm at KD's World. The event is open to all children with disabilities and their siblings. There is no admission fee for this event. Registration for the event is required.

Paragon also hosts a monthly Special Needs Lego Club at our Chatham Square office. The event is free and open to all special needs children and their siblings. We will have a variety of Legos to include standard Legos, Duplo Legos and Mega Blocks as well as trains for play. Our Lego club will be on the first Saturday of each month from 10am – 12pm at 417 Chatham Square Office Park, Fredericksburg. RSVP is required for the event.

Please RSVP for either event at eventbrite.com

For additional autism community resources check autismva.org/resources

Council Of Catholic Women

The CCW thanks Christen Gallick for sharing ways that we can serve our community. Father Kelly will share his thoughts about "Prayer and Meditation" during our March 20 General Meeting. Please join us!

Be sure to mark your calendar so you will not miss any upcoming events:

March 20

Deadline for signing up and paying \$35 for our Pilgrimage to the Bible Museum in D.C. On Saturday, April 14

March 23

Lenten Soup Supper -- Share your Favorite meatless soup with the church community

March 24/25

Baby Shower Help gather gifts after a chosen Mass

April 7

Annual Yard Sale -- All donations are welcomed

April 14

Trip to The Bible Museum



*We invite all Christians to gather in the peace of Christ at St. Mary **Monday, March 12** 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 happenings

Celebrate New Life... Will you say "Yes!" like Mary did?

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 after all Masses the weekend of the Solemnity of the Annunciation of our Lord (Saturday and Sunday, March 24 and 25). Items needed include: diapers, wipes, formula, baby food, bottles, onesies, sleepers, socks, hats, booties, bibs, blankets, baby soap / shampoo and lotion, washcloths and towels, diaper rash cream, laundry detergent, toilet paper, twin bedding and pillows, baby gates, toothpaste, women's shampoo and conditioner. 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. All checks 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. Thank you in advance for your generosity, on behalf of the Council of Catholic Women!

2018 Red Cross Blood Mobile

Save the dates for the upcoming donation opportunities:

**June 6, August 8, and
November 28**



Lenten Luncheons

The Micah Ecumenical Ministries partner churches are coordinating a series of Wednesday noon services followed by a lunch at host parishes during Lent:

February 28: The Presbyterian Church

810 Princess Anne St., Fredericksburg, VA

Preaching: The Rev. Aaron Dobynes, Shiloh Baptist Church (Old Site)

March 7: St George's Episcopal Church

905 Princess Anne St., Fredericksburg, VA

Preaching: The Rev. Anthony Parrish, Shiloh Baptist Church (New Site)

March 14: Shiloh Baptist Church (Old Site)

801 Sophia St., Fredericksburg, VA

Preaching: The Rev. Kent Rahm, Trinity Episcopal Church.

March 21: Fredericksburg United Methodist

308 Hanover St., Fredericksburg, VA

Preaching: Father John Mosimann, St. Mary Catholic Church.

World War I Headed Our Way

We invite the Parishioners of St. Mary to join us February 28 at the Knights of Columbus Hall (4724 Harrison Road) for another great monthly social meeting. Jonathan Doblix, a University of Mary Washington graduate and teacher for the Fredericksburg City Public School System, developed a true love and appreciation of history during his high school years. A hobby transformed into a lifelong goal to help preserve and present the past through his extensive and ever-growing collection of World War I artifacts. Jonathan currently resides in Locust Grove and is pursuing his Doctorate in Education at Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts. He is also a member of Fredericksburg Council 4034, as well

as a Fourth Degree Knight in Rappahannock Assembly 1613. Jonathan will be discussing the arms and equipment of soldiers in the Allied Expeditionary Forces (AEF) in the First World War, as well as the armament of the Imperial German Army. Additionally, Jonathan will be displaying part of his collection, which includes Knights of Columbus World War I artifacts and medals.

Dinner starts at 7pm with the entrée by Brother Paul Scott, pork roast, rice and gravy, and the dishes you bring to share. Brother Jonathan's program runs from 7:30-8:30pm.

Let us know if you can join us by emailing Brother Paul Scott at pscottsis@aol.com, or call 540-891-9331. Your timely RSVP allows us to set the room and have sufficient food and set ups. See you there!

our parish

lent is here...



our parish ...repent



operations given in love

Weekly Offertory

Collections for February 18

Offertory Collection	\$36,847
Parish Building Fund (add'l)	\$2,465
Central & Eastern Europe	\$7,203
Black & Indian Missions	\$6,227
St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box	\$437

Thank you for your generosity!

Little Sisters Of The Poor Collection

March 3-4

During the weekend of March 3 and 4, a second collection will be taken to help the Little Sisters of the Poor, who have provided a home and compassionate care for Virginia's elderly poor since 1874. The Sisters will be present at all the Masses to explain their mission and to ask for your support. Because their residents are of limited financial means, the Little Sisters depend upon the charity of friends and benefactors to operate their Home. Your generosity will enable the Sisters to continue welcoming the needy elderly and providing them with the love and dignity they deserve. For more information, visit their website at littlesistersofthepoorvirginia.org.

Please note that this collection will be taken up after the Sisters speak at the end of Mass, while the announcements are being made.

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.

Choose Life Reflection

"Christians know that suffering cannot be eliminated, yet it can have meaning and become an act of love and entrustment into the hands of God who does not abandon us; in this way it can serve as a moment of growth in faith and love."

—Pope Francis, *Lumen Fidei*, 56

We pray for all families concerned with how to provide for their loved ones, especially expectant mothers: May they turn to the Lord, trusting in His providence, and experience the support of the Christian community.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 12:30pm to Friday 9am

"Jesus speaks in the silence of the mystery of the Eucharist and reminds us each time that following him means going out of ourselves and making our lives not something we 'possess,' but a gift to him and to others." – Pope Francis

Come and adore Our Lord in the most beautiful Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. We have continuous Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every

Wednesday after the 12 Noon Mass until Friday morning before the 9am Mass. At least two people must be present with Our Lord at all times during Adoration.

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.**

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.

liturgy

daily bread

Helpful Hints & Reminders

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

When you receive your 2017 contribution statement, did you notice that one or more of the collections may have shown only a penny as your contribution? That's because when the envelope was received for posting in our database, no amount was written on the envelope, so a penny was entered to show that an envelope was received but the amount was unknown. Don't forget to write the amount of your contribution on the outside of your contribution envelope. Also, due to a database change from desktop to online, the posting of contributions to each parishioner's record was delayed several months...in case you're wondering about the later dates for some contributions.

From time to time we receive contributions in envelopes from other parishes in the Diocese. If there is no notation, it is our policy to send these contributions to the parish indicated on the envelope. If your contribution is actually meant for St. Mary, please be sure to use St. Mary envelopes, or a plain envelope with your name and address indicated, or cross out the name of the parish on the envelope and clearly write St. Mary on the envelope so that we can process your contribution properly.

Saint Mary Prayer List

Please pray for those who are sick or in need, especially: Theresa Petrill, 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 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, 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, 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, Frank Spatt, Micheal Chen, Joseph Stefano, Fred Becker, Chuck Boyer, Maria Celia Brandao Lage, Leah Sapphire, Felicity Stanfield, Michael Kraljevich, Steve Zawisa, Casey Roby, Calvin Mills, Mary Jean Mills, Elise Velez, Tracey Hansen, Elizabeth Ames, Aleisa Barber, George Dittmer, David Arnold, Maryann Greatsinger, Antonio Ferrara, Wilson and Joan Parker, Emma Gilbert, Virginia Gannon, Maureen Guilfoyle, Daniel Burke, Katherine Perusi, Dorie Lee, Christopher Szynal, Joy Zerby, Mariah Ceidlinger, Kelly Carperter-Silvers, Suzi Eggleston, Bernad Castillo, Nancy Buhite, Michael Durant, Matthew Gomer, Tricia Davis, Dolores Renninger, Martha Clements, Dolores Renninger, Donna Long

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, Shawn Herr, Logan Mullins, Greg Feroldi

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

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

February

26 MONDAY

6:30am Sister Mary Bertha, OSFS
9:00am Ruth Quade+
Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38

27 TUESDAY

6:30am Rosa Anita Vasquez+
9:00am Jessica & Matthew Wolski
Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12

28 WEDNESDAY

6:30am Joseph Haythorn
9:00am Michael Reyes
Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28

1 THURSDAY

6:30am Barbara Olivia+
9:00am Bev Primmer+
Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31

2 FRIDAY

6:30am Joanne James+
8:15am* Stephanie Cook
9:00am William Novick+
8:00pm Miguel Gacita+
Gn 37:3-13a, 17b-28a/Mt 21:33-46

3 SATURDAY

9:00am Grace Sherry
5:00pm For Our Parish
7:00pm Stella Mullen+
Mi 7:14-20/Lk 15:1-32

4 SUNDAY

7:00am Stella Rodgers Mullen+
8:30am Bette Kennedy
10:30am Those who died in February
10:30am* George Graf+
12:30pm Danielle Richards+
2:30pm(sp) Tamesi & Juan Cabrea
5:00pm Peter S. Castellarin+
7:00pm Telma Rivera+
Ex 20:1-17/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25

* Indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy

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.