

Third Sunday in Lent

March 4, 2018



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

upcoming events

March



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

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

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

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

10am, St Mary Book Club, John Paul II House, Upstairs

12pm, Daily Mass with Fr. Sunny, Church

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

8 Thursday, Lenten Weekday [Saint John of God, Religious]

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

9 Friday, Lenten Weekday [Saint Frances of Rome, Religious]

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

6pm, Lenten Soup Supper sponsored by the Music Ministry

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

10 Saturday, Lenten Weekday

Easter Flower Sales after all morning Masses

Micah Food Project, Outside of Church after all Masses

11 SUNDAY, FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Coffee Shop after morning Masses, Parish Life Center

Easter Flower Sales, Outside of Church, after all morning Masses

Micah Food Project, Outside of Church after all Masses

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

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

12 Monday, Lenten Weekday

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

8:15pm, Taizé prayer service, Church

13 Tuesday, Lenten Weekday

10am, St Mary Book Club, John Paul II House, Upstairs

12pm, Daily Mass with Fr. Sunny, Church

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

14 Wednesday, Lenten Weekday

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. More information on page 13.

▪ **The Manna Project Food Drive** is next weekend! More details on page 15.

▪ 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.**"

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,

If you went to the Saturday 5pm Mass here over the last few years, then you know "God Bless America Man." Last year, he suddenly was no longer here leading the singing God Bless America before the Saturday Mass. Spontaneously I asked folks to pray for him last fall when we realized what we are missing. Well, I have tracked down that after a bout with health troubles, he moved to New Mexico to be with family. I have arranged that a Mass be offered here for him, and sent him a note. Even in a large parish such as ours, know that everyone is treasured and uniquely make us St. Mary's!

And recently I made the sign of the cross and then kissed my thumb which led to a question from someone, "huh? what was that about?" Well actually it is a little habit that slips out some times that I picked up from our hispanic brothers and sisters. You see, some hispanic cultures will make the sign of the cross with a little extra flair. They will place their index finger perpendicular to their thumb, thus forming a cross and make the sign of the cross on their bodies with this thumb / finger cross. Then to close the gesture, they will end with kissing the cross made by the thumb / finger! A little extra devotional gesture of love for the cross of Our Lord. Some will even repeat the gesture three times. Having offered Mass for years for our Spanish speaking brothers and sisters, this habit wore off on me and will occasionally slip out.

Just a little example of how cultural and devotional gestures can enrich our practice of the faith as we seek to remind ourselves of the meaning and purpose of all of our gestures.

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.

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.

From the Pews at St. Mary

Father M., I just want to thank you for stopping by to say hi to my son. You always make him smile and feel good. So many people treat him differently because they don't think he "gets it". Believe me when I say he is very aware what is going on around him and although he might not respond as "normal" people, he does react. When I mention it later, he always gets a smile on his face again. Sometimes it's the little things that makes a big difference. There is a couple who sits behind us in church who always help me get the guys out to the car. Today, with all the rain, two other men came and helped as well. Just overwhelming kindness going on there. I missed that when we left our former parish because there was a family there who always helped. It didn't take long for folks here to do the same. God is good to us.

- A grateful Mother and Spouse

education holy cross academy

National Digital Learning Day

Holy Cross Academy participates each year in National Digital Learning Day. This year each class studied and created a display on one aspect of the History of Technology. Students created timelines and displayed old and new technologies. Several staff members were able to blow off the dust on some impressive old-style phones, calculators and typewriters. All the classes worked together and created HCA's own Museum of Technology.

20th Day Celebration

In February, our 20th day celebration was a teacher and staff swap. We decided to have some fun mixing it up. Everyone received an assignment and taught a class or took on office, kitchen or custodial responsibilities for – you guessed it – 20 minutes! The students had a great time with their new teachers and the teachers and staff enjoyed mixing it up. It left everyone wondering what March 20th will hold.

Accepting Registrations

Saint Mary Preschool and Holy Cross Academy are accepting registrations for next school year. 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.



A National
Blue Ribbon
School of
Excellence



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
March						
4 3rd SUN	5 Extra Confessions 6:30-8:30pm	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						
1 EASTER SUNDAY	2	3	4	5	6	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.

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

Catechist Training

On Wednesday, February 21, another Catechist training session was held. After a delicious meal our pastor, Fr. John Mosimann, led the discussion. We primarily discussed paragraph 1131 of the "Catechism of the Catholic Church." It describes sacraments as "efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. The visible rites by which the sacraments are celebrated signify and make present the graces proper to each sacrament. They bear fruit in those who receive them with the required dispositions." It was a lively discussion with many personal and local stories that will help Catechists discuss sacraments with children.



CRS RiceBowl: March 4 - 10

Week Three: God of the Journey, We Encounter You in Creation. Meet Safiata of Burkina Faso

The dry and dusty climate of Burkina Faso means farming can be difficult. It means water can be hard to come by. And it means Safiata and her family often face hunger. Even though she had

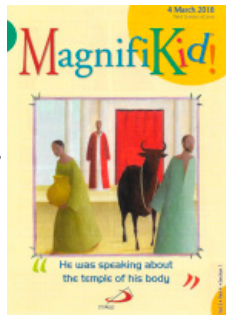


two plots of land to farm, the many months each year without rain made feeding her 9 children and 16 grandchildren a real challenge.

That's why Catholic Relief Services is providing farmers like Safiata with more land to grow crops—like onions—that thrive in dry climates. And thanks to a CRS-sponsored irrigation system, she knows she'll have access to water year-round. That means her crops will grow, and she'll be able to sell some at the market. "I pay school fees thanks to selling the vegetables. The vegetables help solve the problems my family faces," Safiata says.

Magnifikid

"The forty days of Lent are a time for repentance, sacrifice, and above all, an exceptional time to grow closer to God and to our brothers and sisters."



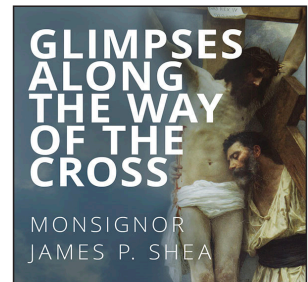
FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

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



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

WE WELCOME YOU HOME. 540-373-6491

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

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.

Tickets on Sale Now!

Tickets includes dinner, cash bar, and dancing to the music of the Andrew Thielen Big Band.

Gather friends or family to fill your table. Please contact Marty Bridi (540) 373-0259.

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!

WORKCAMP Flower Sale

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

**Purchase beautiful flower and
help support our youth.**

Stay Up-to-Date

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

StMaryCYM



parish life get involved

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.

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.

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.

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.

parish life get involved

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 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!

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 and their guests 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 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 3:00pm. Expect to go through X-ray security, so travel light--but photo taking is permitted! Please direct questions to StMaryCCWNews@aol.com.

Choose Life Reflection

"The mercy of God is his loving concern for each one of us. ... he desires our well being and he wants to see us happy, full of joy, and peaceful. ... Just as he is merciful, so we are called to be merciful to each other." *Pope Francis, Misericordiae Vultus, no. 9 © 2015 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission.*

We pray for women and men suffering after abortion that God may grant them courage to seek healing and peace through the Church's post-abortion healing ministry.

For information about Project Rachel and post abortion assistance, contact Project Rachel in the Diocese of Arlington at 703-841-2504 or projectrachel@arlingtondiocese.org or call the Helpline at 1-888-456-HOPE.



*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

Rite of Election

The Rite of Election closes the Period of the Catechumenate. This rite normally coincides with the first Sunday of Lent. At this rite, upon the testimony of sponsors and catechists and the catechumens' affirmation of their intention to join the Church, the Church makes its "election" of these catechumens to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. They now begin a Period of Purification and Enlightenment — the final, intense preparation for the reception of the Sacraments of Initiation. On the next five Sundays of Lent, three scrutinies (rites for self-searching and repentance) and the presentations of the Creed and Lord's Prayer take place. This period concludes with the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.

The RCIA is a spiritually moving process beneficial to the whole parish community. As we draw closer to the celebration of Easter, let us pray in particular for those elect who will be entering our holy Catholic Church this Easter.

Lent, the perfect time to join us for Adoration

In the vestibule you will find a **NEW** sign-up binder that allows anyone interested in Adoration to pick an hour in the coming weeks. Sign-ups in the binder are **NOT** permanent commitments and you simply sign up week by week for hours you would like. Confirmation teams **WELCOMED!**

At St. Mary we have a team of permanent adorers who are organized in teams according to their times. Permanent adorers should **NOT** sign up for the times they are already committed to. The book will provide our teams with additional support and subs for our permanent adorers.

We could not offer Adoration without the support of our permanent adorers and our coordinators. Thank you so much for your leadership and loving commitment to our Lord. If you are interested in making an ongoing commitment to Adoration, please email adoration@stmaryfred.org.

Adoration: Join us for Family Holy Hour

Looking for an opportunity to find more time with the Lord during Lent, but not sure how to manage it with the kids? Join us for Family Holy Hour Thursdays from 3-4 pm during Lent. Babies and children of all ages are welcome, and brief guided activities (Scripture reading, Stations of the Cross, the Divine Mercy Chaplet) will be offered to break up the Hour for children into more manageable portions of "silence." Come for 10 minutes, 30 minutes, or the full Hour. Questions? Contact Kara Horne at karahorne@gmail.com



parish life happenings

Council Of Catholic Women

The CCW thanks Christen Galik 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

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](https://www.eventbrite.com)

For additional autism community resources check autismva.org/resources

be held here at St. Mary's Parish Life Center on Saturday, April 7 from 10-11am.

Falls are a major medical risk today for many people and a leading cause of fatal and non-fatal injuries. The good news is most falls are preventable. Take this opportunity to educate yourself on how to prevent falls and improve balance. No sign up required. Just come! Prevention starts with awareness. Get started so that future accidents and disabilities can be avoided.

Strength and Balance Workshop

Your Health Ministry invites you and your loved ones to an educational presentation on Falls Prevention which will include opportunities for balance screening performed by Courtney Sanner, a parishioner and Doctor of Physical Therapy. The presentation and screenings will

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.

our parish happenings

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.

WISDOM: God's Vision for Life – Bible Study

"Wisdom is seeing with God's eyes." – Pope Francis
Scripture and the Tradition of the Catholic Church provide an abundance of wisdom, though

it can often be challenging to apply it to our lives. To help you learn to gather and live with greater wisdom, St. Mary's will begin **Wisdom: God's Vision for Life on Wednesday, May 2 or Thursday May 3 at 9:45am.** For more information or to register, call the Parish Office at 540-373-6491. You will not only benefit personally from being part of this adult Bible study; you will also help us to grow in fellowship as a parish as we grow closer to Christ together. Cost for study materials is \$17.00, collected at the first class.

Psalms: The School of Prayer

At the heart of the Bible are the Psalms, prayers from God that help us learn to pray. The Holy Spirit inspired them. Israel sang them. Christ himself prayed them, as did our Blessed Mother. These sacred hymns become our heartfelt response to God's

loving and wondrous deeds for us. Their words captivate the imagination and draw us into a deeply personal encounter with God.

Join Jeff Cavins, Sarah Christmyer, and Dr. Tim Gray as they show you how to establish a deeply personal dialogue with God through the Psalms.

Join Suzette Young on May 7 at 1pm and continuing every Monday until July 23. For more information or to sign-up, call the Parish Office at 540-373-6491.

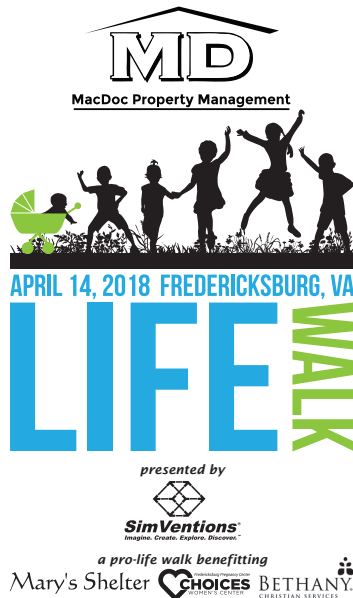
The \$20 cost for material will be collected at the first class. Registration required — class size is limited to 40 attendees. We will meet in the Father Rooney Community Room.

It's Time to Register for the Fall!

Join in the fun! St. Mary Preschool is now registering for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year. We have several options available for our 3 and 4 year old pre-K programs. Contact Mrs. Nanci Scharf at 373-7553 or email nscharf@stmaryfred.org. We would love to have your child join us!



our parish happenings



5k • Walk with us!
April 14, 2018
Old Mill Park, Fredericksburg, VA

After the walk, join us as we cheer on Fredericksburg's fastest babies in the **DIAPER CRAWL!**

Your'PER
VIRGINIA'S POSITIVE HITS
829-90.5fm

REGISTER FOR THE WALK • BECOME A SPONSOR

lifewalkfxbg.com

2018 marks the
inaugural
Life Walk event!

Acknowledging
that LIFE begins at
conception and is
worthy of protection,
the community of
Fredericksburg is
WALKING in support
of the various
LIFE-AFFIRMING
ministries that directly
sustain and offer
hope to those most
vulnerable.

Come out with your family, church
group, and neighbors for a fun
walk, food and music as we raise
awareness and funds together!

Every registrant will receive a t-shirt
and goody bag the day of the walk!



The Manna Project Food Drive is set for March!
Next week, March 10-11, Manna Project Vol-
unteers will collect non-perishable food and
monetary donations outside of Mass for the
Fredericksburg Regional Food Bank, a member
of Feeding America. 1 in 7 Americans turns to
Feeding America for food assistance and house-
holds often survive on limited budgets. Needed
items include: canned meat/fish, peanut butter,
pasta/sauce, canned goods, instant potatoes,
rice, and personal items such as paper towels.
The Food Bank currently feeds over 20,000
people monthly. For each \$10 donation, they are
able to provide 20 meals for hungry families.
Please help us feed the hungry, your support is
greatly appreciated.

The Summit Academy The Summit Forum: An Invitation to a Discussion on Families, Teens & Media

The average kid spends 6.5 hours a day looking at screens. Do you
believe that technology is neutral, or does it teach specific content?

Join us **Tuesday, March 6 from 6:30-8:30pm** for a special viewing
of the documentary **Screenagers**, followed by a conversation on how
families, social media, and our attachment to
devices —All are welcome to attend!

Tickets: \$3 each

Purchase online only: impactflow.com/event/6966

More info at thesummitva.org or 540-684-3989

The Summit Academy, 5888 Plank Rd., Fredericksburg, 22407

THEOLOGY ON TAP

featured speaker

DEACON MIKE STRAIN

Discussion Topic

RUN SO AS TO WIN BECOMING A SPIRITUAL ATHLETE

MONDAY, MARCH 19 | 6-9PM

Food, Drinks & Fellowship start at 6pm — Talk starts at 7:30pm

ALL ARE WELCOME — more info at fb.com/stmaryfred.youngadults



YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY
SAINT MARY FREDERICKSBURG

operations given in love

Weekly Offertory

Collections for February 25

Offertory Collection	\$32,109
Micah Ministries	\$5,471
Central & Eastern Europe (add'l)	\$117
Black & Indian Ministries (add'l)	\$1,717
St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box	\$608

Thank you for your generosity!

Catholic Relief Services Collection

"Help Jesus in Disguise"

March 10 - 11

The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC) works at home and abroad to give aid to victims of persecution and natural disasters, provide legal services to poor immigrants, and advocate for the powerless. By supporting six Catholic agencies, this collection offers an opportunity for each of us to help Jesus in disguise. Feed Jesus' hunger in suffering refugees...through the USCCB Department of Migration and Refugee Services (MRS). Give water to quench Jesus' thirst in the people of Syria and Niger...through the humanitarian work of Catholic Relief Services (CRS). Offer legal assistance to Jesus in struggling immigrants...through the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC). Reach out to comfort Jesus' loneliness in isolated workers...through the pastoral work of the USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church. Advocate on behalf of Jesus in the poor and marginalized...through the public policy work of the USCCB Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development. Send aid to Jesus in the victims

of natural disaster...through the Holy Father's Relief Fund. Please prayerfully consider contributing to the CRSC.

The Catholic Relief Services Collection (CRSC)

Trabaja en nuestro país y en el extranjero para ayudar a las víctimas de persecución y de catástrofes naturales, para dar servicios legales a los inmigrantes pobres y para abogar por los indefensos. Esta colecta, la cual mantiene a seis agencias católicas, nos ofrece una oportunidad a cada uno de nosotros para ayudar a Jesús con otro rostro. Se alimenta el hambre de Jesús en los refugiados que sufren...a través del USCCB Department of Migration and Refugee Services (MRS). Se le da agua a Jesús para calmar su sed en los pueblos de Siria y de Níger...a través de la labor humanitaria de Catholic Relief Services (CRS). Se le ofrece asistencia legal a Jesús en los inmigrantes que luchan por salir adelante. . . a través del Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC). Se acercan para consolar la soledad de Jesús en los trabajadores que se sienten aislados...a través de la labor pastoral del USCCB Secretariat for Cultural Diversity in the Church. Abogan a favor de Jesús en los pobres y los marginados...a través de la labor que hace en las políticas públicas el USCCB Department of Justice, Peace, and Human Development. Se le envía ayuda a Jesús en las víctimas de desastres naturales...a través del Holy Father's Relief Fund. Por favor, en oración, consideren dar una contribución a CRSC.

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.

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



liturgy

daily bread

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.**

Saint Mary Prayer List

Please pray for those who are sick or in need, especially: 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, Mary Ann Valentine, Mary Ann Maynard, Zachary Payne

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

March

5 MONDAY

6:30am Stella Rodgers Mullen+
9:00am Stanley Kozyra+
2 Kgs 5:1-15b/Lk 4:24-30

6 TUESDAY

6:30am Gerard Filzpatrick
9:00am Barbara Mertens+
Dn 3:25-43/Mt 18:21-35

7 WEDNESDAY

6:30am Sally Sarber+
9:00am Louis Florio+
Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19

8 THURSDAY

6:30am Katherine J. Napoli+
9:00am Charlie White+
Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23

9 FRIDAY

6:30am Layren Fikel
8:15am* Jeremy Strader+
9:00am Robert Derovin
Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34

10 SATURDAY

9:00am Justin Armitage+
5:00pm Zbrzezny & Shurick Families
7:00pm For Our Parish
Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14

11 SUNDAY

7:00am Oneta Shorter
8:30am George Graf+
10:30am Andrea Elizabeth Calascione+
10:30am*
12:30pm Mary Jo Medosch
2:30pm(sp) Daniel & Juan Cabrera
5:00pm Maria Osorio
7:00pm Albert Fanelli+
1 Sm 16:1b-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41

* 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.