Fifth Sunday in Lent



upcoming events

March



CONCEPTION Roman Catholic Church

IMMACULATE

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

18 SUNDAY, FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Coffee Shop after morning Masses, Parish Life Center 11:30am, Evangelization Meeting, Courtyard Meeting Room 12pm, Spanish (Adult) Legion of Mary, Parish Life Center, Room 100 6pm, High School Youth Group, Parish Life Center - 6pm Dinner, 7pm Meeting

Monday, Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

6:30pm, Confessions with Fr. Sunny, Church

6-9pm Theology on Tap, Adventure Brewing South - Sponsored by the St. Mary Young Adults

20 Tuesday, Lenten Weekday

6:30-7:30pm, Confessions, Church

7:30pm, Life in the Spirit Prayer Gathering, Courtyard Meeting Room 7:30pm, Walking with Purpose, HCA Library

Wednesday, Lenten Weekday

Micah Ecumenical Ministries Lenten Prayer and Luncheon, See page 13 for info (Fr. M is preaching!) 6:30-7:30pm, Confessions, Church 6:30pm, YOUCAT, Parish Life Center

22 Thursday, Lenten Weekday

6:30-7:30pm, Confessions, Church

7-8pm Nar-Anon Meeting, Parish Life Center, Room 204 7:15pm, Walking with Purpose, Parish Life Center

23 Friday, Lenten Weekday [Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop]

6pm, Lenten Soup Supper sponsored by the Council of Catholic Women 6:30-7:30pm, Confessions, Church 6:30pm, Middle School Youth Group 7pm, Stations of the Cross, Church 7:30pm, Estaciones de la Cruz, Iglesia

24 Saturday, Lenten Weekday

8am, Confessions 2:30-4:30pm, Confessions, Church 6-8:15pm, Knights of Columbus Family Dinner, Parish Life Center, More info on page 10

25 SUNDAY, PALM SUNDAY

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

26 Monday, Monday of Holy Week

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 6:30pm, Confessions with Fr. Sunny, Church

27 Tuesday, Tuesday of Holy Week

10am, St Mary Book Club, John Paul II House, Upstairs 6:30-7:30pm, Confessions, Church No Life in the Spirit Prayer Gathering this Evening

No Walking with Purpose this Evening

express nnouncements

nota bene (note well, please):

- 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.
- Our Monthly Family Dinner sponsored by the Knights of Columbus has been rescheduled to March 24th, 6-8:15pm in the Parish Life Center.
- 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.
- 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. Father Mosimann will be speaking this week!
- 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. Find more info on page
- 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 Mon.-Fri.: 6:30am, 9am

M/W/F: 12 Noon **MASS**

Sat.: 9am First Friday 8pm

Holy Days of Obligation, as announced

DEVOTIONS Adoration, Daily between 6:30am &

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

stmaryfred.org

HOLY CROSS 540-286-1600 ACADEMY 250 Stafford Lakes Parkway

Fredericksburg, Virginia 22406-7234 Principal, Sr. Susan Louise Eder, O.S.F.S.

ST. MARY 540-373-7553 **PRESCHOOL** Director, Nanci Scharf

RELIGIOUS 540-373-6491
EDUCATION Director, Aristides Lucas
OFFICE Associato Director Karon Si

Associate Director, Karen Sturtevant

YOUTH

540-373-6491

MINISTRY Director, Leo Chavarria

Tatiana Beltran

OUTREACH 540-373-6491

Elena Doyle - outreach@stmaryfred.org

BAPTISMS Parish registration (90 days) and class

Please contact the parish office to schedule the date at least four weeks in

advance.

MARRIAGE Parish registration required; contact parish six months in advance to begin

preparation.

JOIN US

New Family Registration meetings held in the Parish Life Center on fourth Sundays, following the 10:30 Mass. Please notify us

of any contact changes.

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

from our pastor

ax et bonu

Dear Folks,

Today I want to address 3 liturgical points, as I like for you to know the 'whys' behind the many options that are available to pastors, and specific selections for the parish.

"Father, why are the statues covered up?" Well the origins of this seem a little obscure, but it seems traceable to a 9th century custom in Germany, or to the even more ancient practice of public penance. With public penance, the entire congregation was received into the order of penitents with Ashes symbolically placed on the head (remember Ash Wednesday?) The penitents were expelled from the church, kneeling at the door asking for prayers (glad we don't do that anymore!), and also the entire congregation would be symbolically expelled by the veiling of the statues. Sin separates us from God, from our friends and from the saints in heaven, but Jesus will fix that with everything he does in Holy Week! Thus the statues in our churches can be veiled, to echo in a symbolic way this separation from God and his saints until we can be reconciled with Him through His suffering death and resurrection. Veiling statues is an option, and one that only more recently seems to be chosen in a variety of parishes. Just another way our Church draws us into the mystery of salvation by her symbols.

"Father, why are the candles on the front of the altar?" There are many options for candle placement. Pope Emeritus Benedict 16 favored and encouraged the very placement that I have become very comfortable with. The purpose of this is to center the Liturgy on Jesus Christ. We gather to celebrate the paschal mystery of His suffering, death, and resurrection. Every Mass is directed to the worship of God and movement towards the East from whence the glorious resurrected Lord will come at the end of time. This arrangement serves to emphasize visually and in symbol the common direction of priest and people towards Christ.

Some folks receive as a distraction, as it visually interrupts their line of sight. For those who are affected thus, I am glad that our church is sufficiently round and large so that they can find a seat with unimpeded sight lines. On this point, Ben16 wrote, the "common turning to the East during the Eucharistic Prayer remains essential. This is not a case of accidentals, but of essentials...What matters is look-

> ing together at the Lord...Is the cross disruptive during Mass? Is the priest more important than Our Lord?"

With you I am on a journey towards fuller union with Jesus Christ in ever Mass. For you I stand in service at the altar to offer in persona Christi. Together let us always seek Him.

> If you'd like to read more on this topic, google, "Putting Christ at the Center: On the Benedictine Arrangement."

"Father, why are we using Latin in Mass?" Did you

know that the second Vatican Council said that the faithful should be encouraged to know these parts in latin? Here is the relevant quote from the Vatican Two document pertaining to the vernacu-

In Masses which are celebrated with the people, a suitable place may be allotted to their mother tongue [=vernacular]....Nevertheless steps should be taken so that the faithful may also be able to say or to sing together in Latin those parts of the Ordinary of the Mass which pertain to them. (Sancrocansctum Concilium

Notice that by occasionally encouraging you to know/learn these parts, I am trying to be obedient to what Vatican Two actually said. I know that this has long been ignored by pastors. I know that many folks were told otherwise by well-meaning folks justifying the change to the vernacular.But as recently as 2009 this was reemphasized in a Vatican document on Latin in the Liturgy: "nor should we forget that the faithful can be taught to recite the more common prayers in Latin, and also to sing parts of the liturgy to Gregorian chant."

Learning these parts can be a challenge, but one that stretches us beyond our own limited spaces to the wider world of the Church.On arriving here, I was pleasantly surprised to learn that the parish has long prayed some parts in Latin. However, I try to be judicious in our planning and use of Latin.

I hope that helps you to better understand some of the choices I have made from the many possible liturgical options.

Pax et Bonum, Fr Mosimann ta J. Moria

Stations & Soup Suppers

Stations of the Cross will take place on Friday, March 23rd, at 7pm in English and at 7:30pm in Spanish.

Our last Lenten Soup Supper will take place in the Parish Life Center on Friday, March 23rd 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.

education

holy cross academy

Read Across America!

Holy Cross Academy is proud to be a part of this program that encourages children of all ages to read for pleasure and to explore books to learn information and grow in knowledge and understanding of the world around us.

Students in the primary grades celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday with special Cat in the Hat and Green Eggs and Ham snacks. They shared their favorite Dr. Seuss books and camped out in their classrooms to read together.

Book Character Dress-Up Day

For our Book Character Dress-Up Day, our teachers and staff went all out as Snow White, the evil queen and the 14 dwarfs. Cruella Deville and the Cat in the Hat led the parade throughout the school. Students dressed up as Dr. Seuss characters and special people from their favorite books. We all had a wonderful time celebrating reading!

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



El calendario completo de confesiones se encuentra 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

SUN	MON	IUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAI
March						
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
5th SUN	Fr. Sunny Confessions 6:30pm	6:30 - 7:30pm	6:30 - 7:30pm	6:30 - 7:30pm	6:30 - 7:30pm	8am & 2:30 - 4:30pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
PALM SUNDAY	Fr. Sunny Confessions 6:30pm	Extra Confessions 6:30-8:30pm	Last Confessions Before Easter 7pm	HOLY THURS	GOOD FRIDAY	
April		3	4	5	6	7
1 EASTER SUNDAY	2					

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.

From the Pews at St. Mary

Dear Padre,

Here I come with one of my long e-mails.

Thank you so much for giving my Mary a chance to make her first confession. It means a lot to us. She was very happy.

It's been a very emotional and stressful week for me. Joseph got accepted to a Computer Science program. He has Aspergers, so it is a big deal for him. I was visiting the college this past weekend. We moved from northern VA to Fredericksburg because we were told not to expect much of him. He has proven them wrong. Here in Fredericksburg, he had teachers that believed in him.

Mary's autism has been different. She has more meltdowns and we are always on the edge of expecting the worst since people are quick to assume that she is a disobedient kid and not somebody that gets overwhelmed by sounds or whatever is at that moment, like not touching the money basket.

God knows how our love for you keeps increasing.

Thank you!!

And as you say, "Thanks be to God!!"

Grateful Mom

(Names changed for the sake of anonymity).







Holy Thursday

(No 6:30 or 9am Masses)

8:00_{AM} Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours)

7:30_{PM}

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.

11:45_{PM} 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)

8:00_{AM} Office of Readings / Morning Prayer

12:00 - 2:30_{PM}

"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.

3:00_{PM}

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.

7:00_{PM} Stations of the Cross

7:30_{PM}
El Via Crucis (En Español)

10:00_{PM}
Night Prayer (Liturgy of the Hours)

Holy Saturday

(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.

8:30рм

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.

religious education

Easter Break

This is the last week of classes before Easter Break and Catechist Training. It will also be held on Wednesday, April 11 at 6pm in the Parish Life Center. Classes resume the week of April 16-19.

CRS RiceBowl: March 18-24

Week Five: God of the Journey, We Encounter You in Farmers like Alefa from Malawi

Alefa is a mother, grandmother and farmer. She provides for her three children, three grandchildren and husband by selling her crops. If they fail during one of Malawi's rainy seasons—or in



a drought—her family goes hungry. One particularly difficult year, Alefa was forced to sell some of her land to make ends meet.

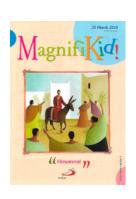
She knew she had to start planting crops that could withstand Malawi's changing climate. So, she attended a CRS-sponsored seed fair, where farmers learn the best crops to plant for the upcoming year, and receive vouchers so they can choose the seeds and supplies they need. Besides rice, Alefa bought corn, cabbage and tomato seeds

Magnifikid

Magnifikid: Fifth Week of Lent: Grow in Friendship

"Lord, we have been working on our friendships with you and others. We unite our efforts with your cross, on which you restored our friendship with the Father. We offer all that we have and are. Thank you for the happiness that comes from your friendship"







FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Catholic Answers: Ready Reasons

Is the Holy Spirit the Same as the Force?

Learn Your Faith in 3 Minutes or Less!

Hear expert apologists from Catholic Answers respond to popular objections with short, easy-to-understand teachings. In this Ready Reasons, Karlo Broussard considers our faith in light of themes from the Star Wars movies to show that the Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Trinity, not an impersonal force.







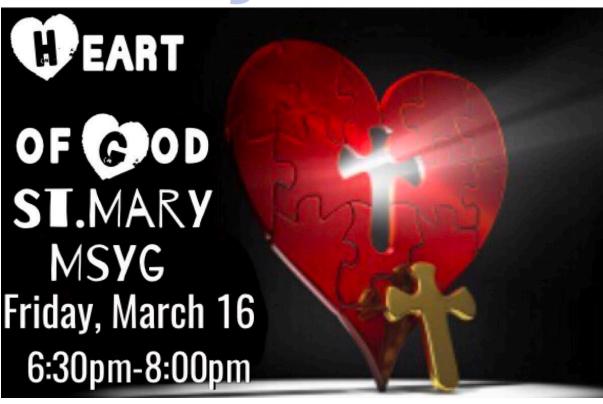
"Way to go Karlo... Loved the answer! Keep up the good work."

-Rick C., Guthrie, OK



JOIN FORMED

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





Stay Up-to-Date

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







Some beautiful artwork from our little ones at St. Mary Preschool

get involved

Men's Group. Fellowship & Formation

Looking for a chance to strengthen your faith while enjoying some good fellowship? Come join with other men of the parish to discuss issues relevant to work, family, and friendship in a casual environment just around the corner from the Church.

This month we will meet and discuss free material from the Knights of Columbus' Catholic Information Services (CIS) Building the Domestic Church series. We will discuss "The Good Life, God's Way" which is described as "an introduction to the good life—the really good life—for Roman Catholics. Jesus Christ is Himself the Way (John 14:6), and to follow Him means to take up a holy manner of life and to become the kind of wise, strong, pure, and good men and women that God wants us to

We will meet on March 23rd at 7:30pm at the Highmark Brewery right across the river on Route 3/Kings Highway in Stafford. The address is 390 Kings Highway Fredericksburg, VA 22405. Questions? Contact Mike Bostain at mrbostain@gmail.com or 540-834-3893 for more information.

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!

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

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 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.

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 Tuesday, March 20 in the Courtyard Meeting Room.

Knights of Columbus March Family Dinner

The Knights of Columbus March Family Dinner is rescheduled for March 24 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 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 3pm Expect to go through X-ray security, so travel light--but photo taking is permitted! Please direct questions to StMaryCCWNews@aol. 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.



We invite all Christians to gather in the peace of Christ at St. Mary Monday, April 9 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.

get involved

Council Of Catholic Women

Spring has sprung! As usual, spring brings a myriad of activities. If you have not already done so, take a moment to mark your calendar so you will not miss anything. Remember to reserve your place before March 20 for our trip to the new Bible Museum in D.C. It promises to be an enlightening experience! Remember to bring your check for \$35 made out to St. Mary CCW when you sign up in the office or at our next meeting.

Listed below are opportunities to help and share in our community activities. Please join us!

It is now time to gather your "good stuff" that you are ready to share at our annual Yard Sale to benefit our charities.

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

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.

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.

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 world-wide 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.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be offered the week of June 18–22, 9am-12noon. VBS is open to Rising Kindergarten through Rising 5th grade students. Volunteers are needed, so please call the parish office if you are interested in helping. 540-373-6491.

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.

our parish

happenings



healing.

Day of Prayer & Healing for Women Saturday, March 24, 2018

For Confidential Help after Abortion and/or to Register: **888-456-HOPE (4673)** • helpafterabortion.org

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:

March 21: Fredericksburg United Methodist 308 Hanover St., Fredericksburg, VA Preaching: Father John Mosimann, St. Mary Catholic Church.

SAINT MARY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

PARISH NIGHT OUT

CELEBRATING OUR 160 ANNIVERSARY

5.18.18

ANDREW THIELEN BIG BAND

JEPSON ALUMNI CENTER AT UMW

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.

our parish



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!



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!

"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!



our parish

vocations corner

66 Years Strong

In honor of World Marriage Month, we are highlighting the vocation of marriage and family and how important it is to keep God in these beautiful relationships. Parishioners Ed and Mary Kenney, who have

been married for 66 years, know a thing or two about marriage. From their Choose Life license plate to their frequent presence at daily Mass they are wonderful examples of faith and commitment. They recently discussed how important faith and the church have been in their marriage and offered some suggestions for young couples. The most important advice they have is to make getting married in the church a priority. Couples need the sense of commitment that the church instills in them through the Sacrament of Marriage. As Ed

said, on the night before his wedding his mother told him, "Marriage is for life... if you have an argument, talk it through and work it out because you can't come back here." The Kenney family includes six loving, successful children and 13 grandchildren. With each child Mary and Ed always felt God was blessing them with

a great gift and that it was a privilege to raise His children. They said they can't begin to measure the joy that their family has brought them but they stress that you have to work hard at being good parents. The first thing they did whenever they moved was to find a



church and a Catholic school for their children. These places provided a wonderful support system to a young family away from their extended family and friends. Marriage and family involve self- sacrifice, whether it be putting your spouse's needs first, raising your kids or helping with your elderly parents. It isn't easy but putting your wants and needs on hold at times can lead to much happiness and pride when you look back and see how that helped your spouse or your children. They say there is no 50/50 in marriage you have to give 100% in order to

have a successful marriage. If you are always willing to give, you will receive much more in return. Ed and Mary have had their share of disappointments along the way but their strong faith always helped them through the hard times. They are grateful for their spiritual family at St. Mary and encourage everyone to get involved so they too can find the same support and spiritual home. Mary always give glory to God for keeping them together for all these years and anyone who knows them can see their devotion to each other is what keeps their marriage strong as well. We thank

God for giving St. Mary such a wonderful example of marriage and how God intended it to be.

operations

given in love

Weekly Offertory

Collections for March 11

Offertory Collection \$32,230 Catholic Relief Services \$6,565 Little Sisters of the Poor (add'1)

\$4,892

St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box

\$611

March Faith Direct Deposit:

Offertory \$52,904
Building Fund \$4,312
Little Sisters of the Poor \$4,173
Catholic Relief Services \$2,481

Thank you for your generosity!

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 lowincome 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 www.staffordjunction.org.

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.

SCRIP Helping HCA

How it works: Most of us shop at various local vendors that are supported through SCRIP. These include Giant, Weis, Wawa, Starbucks, Wal-Mart, Target as well as popular restaurants like Olive Garden, Red Lobster, IHOP and Outback. Complete list at shopwithscrip.com There are several ways you can order/purchase gift cards through the SCRIP program. One is to visit a SCRIP table after most Masses (including HCA). There is a volunteer who will provide info and help you purchase gift cards. Checks or cash accepted. You can also order online for delivery to either HCA (after 10:30am Mass or during school hours when school is in session) or for pickup after Saturday or Sunday Masses at the Church. And the most convenient way, set up a Presto Pay account and order gift cards online. You will need St. Mary's enrollment code to set an account. For the enrollment code and

assistance, please contact Christi Greenwell at **scripcoordinator@ holycrossweb.com** or 703-994- 2142. She will help get you started.

Parish Council Express Minutes

February 2018
Liturgy Committee: The incidents of the flu have reduced and we will continue to celebrate communion with only the Host and skip the Sign of Peace until the season is truly over. Contact Father Mosimann at frmosimann@stmaryfred.org if you are interested in joining the Liturgy Committee.

Education Committee: Now registering new families for the 2018-19 school year at Holy Cross Academy. Auction tickets will be available soon for purchase. Save the date for April 21st! We are also working on more adult education programs and ways to keep cost low. Contact Sister Susan Louise at principal@holycrossweb.com if you would like to be involved in the Education Committee.

Operations Committee:

Working on gathering bids for the keypad locks at the church doors for more security during the late night hours of Adoration. Also, discussed the sound system at Holy Cross Academy during mass. We will be training more people in how to press the right buttons so the system will always be on! Contact Mike Anastasio at mikeanastasio1@mac.com if you are interested in joining the Operations Committee.

Outreach Committee: The Souper Bowl was a big success. Thank you to everyone who donated. We collected about 1200 cans of soup. We will be

collecting donations of clothing and school supplies for School Dressing Days soon. Contact Connie Wiley at msceejay29@ gmail.com if you are interested in joining the Outreach Committeee.

Communications Committee:

We are bringing back the Adoration sign up book to make it easier for people to sign up for Adoration. The binder is located at the entrance of the church (by the men's room). Contact Lori Fowlkes at Lori.fowlkes@ gmail.com if you are interested in joining the Communications Committee.

Finance Committee: We are 58% through the fiscal year and our total expenses are below budget so far. The loan balance is \$2.93mm.

Saint Mary Prayer List
Please pray for those who are sick or in need, especially: Larry Dillman, James Evans, Gabriel Galarza-Torres, Keith Kovalefsky, 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, Margaret Krebbel, Adrianna Pruitt, Deanna Pruitt, Montgomery Wood, Gail Russell, Patricia Russo, Reywood Dartez, Charles Dittmer, Bruce Mattern, Dorothy Simmons, Lillian Kendall, Nikolai Sherba, Sharon S.

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

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

March

19 MONDAY

6:30am Kristen Chase 9:00am Peter & Erika Paquette 2 Sm 7:4-16/Rom 4:13-22/Mt 1:16-24a

20 TUESDAY

6:30am Thelma Odilia Rivera+ 9:00am Christopher Ducic+ Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30

21 WEDNESDAY

6:30am Dori Lee 9:00am Ruth Stellino+ Dn 3:14-95/Jn 8:31-42

22 THURSDAY

6:30am Frank Clancy Sr.+ 9:00am David Phillips Gn 17:3-9/Jn 8:51-59

23 FRIDAY

6:30am Diane Seile+ 8:15am* Mary Tuat Thi Nguyen+ 9:00am Joseph Stanislawski Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42

24 SATURDAY

9:00am Paula Kelly+ 5:00pm Daniel Corbett 7:00pm Edward Holzworth Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56

25 SUNDAY

7:00am Kenneth Derenthal+ 8:30am For Our Parish 10:30am Christina L. Martinson+ 10:30am* William Strader 12:30pm Our Military Living & Deceased 2:30pm(sp) Maria Tejada 5:00pm Michael Yardner 7:00pm Michael Colughlin+ Mk 11:1-10/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1-15:47

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

^{*} Indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy