

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 16, 2018



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

# upcoming

## December



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

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

### 16 SUNDAY, THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Scrip on Sale After All Masses Except 2:30pm*

*Coffee Shop after the 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am*

**11:30am, Evangelization Meeting, Courtyard Meeting Room**

6pm, CYM Dinner and Youth Group, Parish Life Center

### 17 Monday, Advent Weekday

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

12:45pm, Revelation Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room

**1pm, Additional Advent Confessions**

4:45pm, Religious Education Classes, Parish Life Center

**6:30pm, Additional Advent Confessions**

6:30pm, Religious Education Classes, Parish Life Center

7:30pm RCIA, Church

### 18 Tuesday, Advent Weekday

12pm, Senior Luncheon, Parish Life Center Main Hall

4:45pm, Religious Education Classes, Parish Life Center

6pm, Religious Education Classes at Holy Cross Academy

6:30pm, Religious Education Classes, Parish Life Center

**6:30pm, Additional Advent Confessions, Church**

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

### 19 Wednesday, Advent Weekday

**1pm, Additional Advent Confessions, Church**

3pm, Divine Mercy Devotions, Church

4:45pm, Religious Education Classes, Parish Life Center

6:30pm, Religious Education Classes, Parish Life Center

**6:30pm, Confessions, Church**

6:30pm, Bishop Barron Bible Study, Courtyard Meeting Room

6:30pm, YOUCAT, John Paull II House

7:30pm, Young Adult Meeting, Parish Office Library

### 20 Thursday, Advent Weekday

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

6pm, CYM Board Game Group, John Paull II House

6:30pm, Walking With Purpose, Parish Life Center

6:30pm, CYM ASL and CUED Group, John Paull II House

**6:30pm, Additional Advent Confessions, Church**

7pm, Nar-Anon, Parish Life Center, Room 100

### 21 Friday, Advent Weekday [Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church]

**1pm, Additional Advent Confessions, Church**

**6:30pm, Additional Advent Confessions, Church**

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

7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paull II House

### 22 Saturday, Advent Weekday

**6:30am, KofC Breakfast with Santa, Parish Life Center Main Hall**

**8am, Confessions, Church**

10am, Al-Anon, Parish Life Center, Room 204

10am, Baptisms, Church

**3:30pm, LAST CONFESSIONS BEFORE CHRISTMAS**

6pm, *Scrip on Sale, Parish Life Center*

### 23 SUNDAY, FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*Scrip on Sale After All Masses Except 2:30pm*

**No 2:30pm Mass, Church**

**3pm Spanish Mass followed by Posadas at Holy Cross Academy**

# pulpit announcements

## nota bene (note well, please):

- **Knights of Columbus Christmas Tree Sales** are on sale behind the Church! *More info on page 7*
- **Advent and Christmas Season schedules** are available on pages 10 & 11
- **Christmas Flowers — Remember someone you love, either living or deceased, with a donation for our beautiful Christmas Flowers. Envelopes are available in your envelope packets, in the Church and in the Parish Office.**
- **¡Nuevo! Sección de anuncios en español**  
— *Más información en la página 10*

## CHRISTMAS TREE SALES

Come find the perfect Christmas tree for your family through Sunday, December 23rd

The trees are being sold on **weekdays from 3-8pm and weekends from 8am-8pm**

### TREE LOT IS LOCATED BEHIND THE CHURCH

Please consider helping the **Knights of Columbus** with this important fundraiser by buying a freshly cut Fraser Fir Christmas Tree while supplies last

Questions? Please email Tim Fleming at  
**Trees@kofc4034.org**

## 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. Colin Davis  
Fr. Michael J.R. Kelly  
Fr. Michael Folmar  
Deacon Alberto Bernaola  
Deacon Dick Delio

Business Manager, Elaine Stanislawski  
Parish Secretary, Jachebel Rios  
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, Sheri Castellarin

**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,  
3rd Sunday of Advent.

This year the Panic Sunday for procrastinators when we realize there is only one more week until Christmas. No that isn't the real name, but I think I like it! In fact, I am celebrating procrastination by keeping this space to a simple reminder:

What preparations did the Lord make for His coming? Only one thing: the perfect Immaculate Soul of His Mother. That's it.

They didn't have a place to stay, they didn't have a fancy hospital, or a perfectly prepared baby-room. I wish that we could be likewise prepared.

This week confessions will be available:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday  
6:30pm to 7:30pm (we will try to finish all that come and arrive before 7:30pm....).

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 12:30pm to 1:00pm (After the Noon Mass) Expanding more daytime hours as a means of making sacrament more available.

Wednesday 6:30 to 8:30pm — (because they are normally scheduled here, this is the exception to the done at 7:30 listing above)

Saturday 8:00am to 9:00am — normal schedule

Saturday 3:00pm to 4:30pm — normal schedule with the bonus of starting an half-hour early to the normal schedule. (There is a 2pm wedding.... if you come for confessions, please wait in Narthex until wedding ends).

Find a spot and get ready for Jesus!!

But beware: the lines are much, much longer at the end of the week. That Saturday sessions will likely be the most packed by far.

Survey.

Thanks for your responses to the survey. We already have more than 1000 put into the database to crunch the number. And the initial responses confirmed what I guessed at when I decided to add the MWF mid-day confessions this week. At least one thing surprised me.... but more on that when all data is collected.

If you still haven't filled out the survey, you can find a link on the parish website. The link will expire on Christmas, so please check it out if you would like to voice your opinion.

pax et bonum,



Fr Mosimann

## 7pm Sunday Advent Candlelight Masses

Come and quiet yourself during this crazy busy season. Enjoy a candlelit Mass and celebrate the gift of the Eucharist in a unique and profound way! Ready your hearts and prepare for the birth of our Lord!



## Celebrate the Season of Christmas by singing some hymns & drinking hot chocolate!

CHRISTmas in the Park-SATURDAY, December 29th  
Please join us for Christmas Caroling at 6:30 PM at Hurkamp Park (500 William Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401).

ALL are welcome to join us after the 5PM Mass to celebrate the birth of Our Lord in song.

Hot Chocolate and Christmas Cookies to follow in the park and at Saint Mary's afterward.

Dress warmly!

For more information see <https://www.facebook.com/stmaryfred.youngadults> or contact Sara at [stmaryya@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryya@gmail.com).

# education holy cross academy

## The Advent Season is evident at Holy Cross Academy!

During this wonderful season, Holy Cross students have many ways to prepare for the birth of Jesus. Students are invited to donate baby items that are given to Catholic Charities, Mary's Shelter and Birthright during our annual Giving Tree celebration. Several classes adopted needy families to supply gifts for the children. In each classroom, the students celebrate Advent in a special way. Ms. Szabo's 4th grade class designed and created a cradle for the baby Jesus and each act of kindness earns a token of bedding for the cradle. They combined their STEM activities with their spiritual preparation for Christmas.

Mrs Strickland's 3rd grade class is building an advent wreath where each act of kindness is a leaf on the wreath. Middle school students created this beautiful peaceful bulletin board to celebrate the season while Mrs Olson's 5th graders learn the importance and the tradition of lighting the advent candles. At Holy Cross we like to remind our children that Jesus is the reason for the season and that both giving and receiving bring the same amount of joy.

## Our Schools Invite You

Saint Mary Preschool and Holy Cross Academy are a wonderful place to learn and grow. Stop in some time to see us or give us a call at 540-286-1600 and we will tell you all about our wonderful parish school where we learn each day to Live Jesus and to love and care for one another. *Come and see!*



**A National  
Blue Ribbon  
School of  
Excellence**



# parish life

# religious education

## Magnifikid

### Living in the joy of the Good News

Be like a ray of sunshine in your home, sharing all the joy inside of you with all your family as Christmas comes closer. You can take advantage of this time of advent to read the Bible story of Jesus' birth.

### Love means sharing

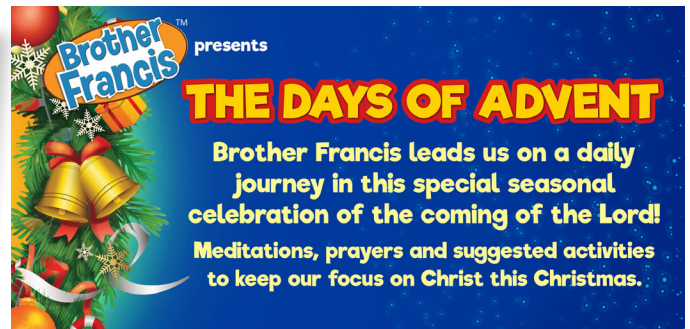
Happiness is not something we should keep to ourselves; we should share it with others! This week, try to share those things that make you happy with your brothers, sisters, and friends. You can invite them to join in your games or share a snack, a book, or a toy with them.

## Upcoming Events

**December 17-19:** Last week of Religious Education classes before Christmas Break

**December 24 - January 2:** No Religious Education classes

**January 7-9:** Religious Education classes, Family Week, Parents are expected to accompany their children to class.



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



About twenty children are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Baptism on January 12, 2019 and Deacon Alberto Bernaola had formation meetings with the parents and students.

# youth ministry



All children between the ages of 4-11 are invited to participate in creating crafts in the "St. Mary's Craft Club". We will be meeting two Saturdays each month at 3:30pm in the Parish Life Center, room 204. You're welcome to attend one or attend all club meetings if you choose! There is a small fee for each craft to offset the cost of materials.

Please Email Ms. Julia at [Julia.Apicella@gmail.com](mailto:Julia.Apicella@gmail.com) or call 540-394-1212 if you are interested in joining the craft group. Children may attend one or all the activities we have planned for the year.

## Upcoming Youth Events

**December 21 - Middle School Youth Group, PLC 6:30pm**

**December 22 - Youth Craft Group \$5 Christmas Ornaments**

**Saturday Mornings - Middle School Fitness Club - [lucianir@comcast.net](mailto:lucianir@comcast.net)**

**January 12 - Youth Craft Group Making Rosaries - \$5**

## Stay Up-to-Date

Be sure to stay in the know with St. Mary CYM by visiting [stmaryfred.org/youth-ministry](http://stmaryfred.org/youth-ministry)

**StMaryCYM**



**#GetInvolvedBeTransformed**

WE WELCOME YOU HOME. 540-373-6491

# our parish get involved

## Senior Luncheon

The next parish senior luncheon will be held in the Parish Life Center on Tuesday, December 18 beginning at 12 noon. All Seniors in the parish are invited and admission is free. Entertainment will be provided until 2pm. Come and enjoy the company of your fellow seniors in the parish. No reservation required. Questions? Call Maria D'Amico at 540-785-3580.

## Calling All Young Adults 21-39

Join the Verso l'Alto Young Adult Group at Saint Mary's for weekly discussions on faith and holiness on Wednesdays at 7:30pm in the Parish Office Library. Not on our email list? Email [stmaryya@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryya@gmail.com) to be added or if you would like more information!

## Gifting of Giving Back

Find gifts for everyone on your gift list while raising funds for Holy Cross Academy with the Scrip holiday gift guide. Shop gift cards from over 750 top brands, including Best Buy, Amazon, The Home Depot and more. Whether you buy the gift cards to give as presents to family and friends, or use them to buy your gifts – Holy Cross Academy earns with every gift card purchased. It's simple, it's thoughtful and it's truly the gift that keeps on giving. Start today and buy a couple of gift cards each week, it's a great way to budget for Christmas and avoid the last-minute rush. Check out the Scrip holiday gift guide at [ShopWithScrip.com/GiftGuide](http://ShopWithScrip.com/GiftGuide) or email questions and/or orders to [scripcoordinator@holycrossweb.com](mailto:scripcoordinator@holycrossweb.com)

## Micah Cold Weather Shelter

The Micah Cold Weather Shelter is open and will remain in operation until mid- to late-March. Teams of Saint Mary volunteers assist on Tuesday evenings by greeting and checking in clients, setting up sleeping areas, and providing hospitality for the 30+ individuals that utilize the facility. **Each participating church is asked to bring 3 dozen items (white socks, thermal underwear, boxer briefs and t-shirts).** Please consider how you might be able to support this need—all donations are gratefully accepted at our Parish Office. Although it is a good thing that the temporary shelter is available during the harsh winter months, it highlights the continuing need for sustainable housing and support mechanisms in our community. For more information about community efforts to help the homeless, please visit Micah Ecumenical Ministries, [dolovewalk.net](http://dolovewalk.net) or Thurman-Brisben Homeless Shelter, [thurmanbrisbencenter.org](http://thurmanbrisbencenter.org).

## Drivers Needed for Micah Cold Weather Shelter

Volunteers are needed to pick up guests at 6:15pm on Tuesday nights from the community dinner downtown and transport them to the Cold Weather Shelter, using Micah's 15-passenger bus. Any number of nights you can help would be greatly appreciated. No special license or experience necessary. Micah will provide a short orientation and add you to their insurance. Please prayerfully consider this much needed role and contact Greg Wheatley at [stmary.cws@outlook.com](mailto:stmary.cws@outlook.com) if interested.

## WISDOM: God's Vision for Life – Bible Study

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 Monday, January 7, 2019 at 6:30pm in the library at Holy Cross Academy.

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 \$18, collected at the first class. Class size limited to 35 participants. For more information or to register, call the Parish Office at 540-373-6491.

## Pilgrim Virgin Statue

Would you like to have the Blessed Mother's statue visit your home for two weeks? Please contact Mary Lou Felts at 571-723-3333 or [maryloufelts@gmail.com](mailto:maryloufelts@gmail.com).



# our parish happenings

## For Unto Us a Child is Born, Christ the Savior! Give a Gift for Life

This Advent, include a Gift for Life on your Christmas List, by supporting Project Rachel or the Gabriel Project. It is easy to make a small, tax-deductible contribu-



tion as a gift in the name or memory of a family member or friend, and it will make a big difference in a woman's life. You have the opportunity to assist a frightened young woman who has just learned she is pregnant, or a woman

who opted to abort her child and is now experiencing the after effects of her choice. Your gift directly supports the cost of an expectant mother's prenatal vitamins, or counseling for a woman who is experiencing the emotional distress of an abortion.

Please pick up a flyer in the vestibule of the Church and follow the directions, or go to the following link to donate online at [arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife](http://arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife)

## Micah Café

Enjoy a delicious lunch with your family/friends/ministry groups at the Micah Café and know that you are engaging with the homeless and lonely in our community. The Café was created this year to offer food service training for our homeless population so that they can go on and secure a job in the food industry after receiving certification. The Café also serves as a vehicle to create community for many who are lonely. The Café is a "Pay-As-You-Can" and donations are accepted at the door. Located 1016 Caroline Street is open Tuesday and Thursday from 11am-2pm. Check it out!

**SAINT MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH,  
FREDERICKSBURG, VA**

**TE INVITA A VIVIR ARDUAMENTE EL ADVIENTO Y LA  
LLEGADA DE LA NAVIDAD A TRAVÉS DE LA  
POSADA PARROQUIAL**

**ITINERARIO**  
DÍA: 23 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2018

HORA: 3:00 PM SANTA MISA  
DOMINICAL EN ESPAÑOL

LUGAR: HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

**INMEDIATAMENTE DESPUÉS DE LA SANTA MISA REALIZAREMOS LA  
POSADA PARROQUIAL Y RECEPCION CON LA FELIGRESIA.**

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Wednesday 12:30pm - Friday 9am

*"The shepherds hastened to Bethlehem, where they found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger" (Lk 2:16). "We fall down in adoration before the Son of God. As we adore Christ, born in a stable.... we feel the shepherds' same amazement and their same joy" (Saint John Paul II).*

Please 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.

## Noticias en Espanol

### Fiesta de nuestra Virgen de Guadalupe el miércoles, 12 de diciembre de 2018:

Las mañanitas: en la iglesia, de 4am a 6am Seguido de una pequeña recepción en el Centro de Vida Parroquial.

La Santa Misa se celebrará en la Academia Holy Cross a las 6:00 p.m. Después de la santa Misa, habrá una comida internacional. Recuerden, en honor a la Virgen, de traer a sus niños vestidos de ropa típica.

Voluntarios favor de comunicarse con la Sra. Lorena Hernández, después de la misa en Español.

### Posadas

Las posada se llevarán a cabo desde el 15 hasta el 23 de diciembre de 2018. La última posada, se llevará a cabo el domingo 23 de diciembre de 2018 en la Academia Holy Cross después de la Santa Misa.

### Misa

Atención: la Santa Misa del domingo, 23 de diciembre de 2018, será a las 3pm en la Academia Holy Cross. No habrá misa en la parroquia ese día.

La ultima posada será el 23 de diciembre de 2018, después de la Santa Misa.

Voluntarios favor de comunicarse con la Sra. Lorena Hernández, después de la misa en Español.

# our faith happenings



## Pope Francis Explains Symbolism of Vatican Christmas Tree and Sand Nativity

As the Vatican illuminated its 65-foot Christmas tree in St. Peter's Square Friday, Pope Francis shared the deeper meaning found in the traditional festive spruce.

The signs and symbols found in Christmas traditions can "help us to contemplate the mystery of God made man to be close to each one of us," Francis said December 7.

"The Christmas tree with its lights reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world, the light of the soul that drives away the darkness of animosity and makes room for forgiveness," he continued.

The great height of this year's Christmas tree -- cut from Italy's Cansiglio forest -- symbolizes that the Son of God, who lowered himself in assuming the human condition to draw man up to himself, the pope explained.

God raises man "from the fogs of selfishness and sin" and invites him to "participate in his divine and incorruptible nature."

The Vatican also unveiled the annual nativity scene in St. Peter's square, this

year sculpted entirely out of sand. The 52-foot-wide sand sculpture of Mary, Joseph, the Child Jesus, and an angel was created by four international artists using around 700 tons of sand brought from the Dolomites.

The concept of a sand nativity originated from a tradition from the Northern Italian beach-town of Jesolo, where professional sand sculptors from around the world create original renderings of the nativity and other Christian stories for locals and visitors to enjoy each Christmas season.

Pope Francis reflected that sand is a humble, poor material that "recalls the simplicity, the smallness with which God showed himself at the birth of Jesus in the precariousness of Bethlehem."

"Contemplating the God child, who emanates light in the humility of the nativity scene, we can also become witnesses of humility, tenderness and goodness," Francis said.

Pope Francis encouraged families and communities come together to reflect upon the meaning of these Christmas traditions:

"The nativity and the tree, fascinating symbols of Christmas, can bring families and meeting places a reflection of the light and tenderness of God to help everyone to live the feast of the birth of Jesus."

*We invite all Christians to gather in the peace of Christ at St. Mary*

**Monday, January 14**

*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.



# The Advent Season 2018 at Saint Mary

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

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

## Daily Mass

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

## 7pm Sunday Advent Candlelight Masses: All Sundays of Advent

*Sunday, December 23: 3pm Spanish Mass moved to Holy Cross Academy followed by Posadas*

## Regular Confession Schedule

Wednesdays • 6:30-8:30pm

Saturdays • 8-8:30am & 3:30-4:30pm

*All are kindly asked to observe these times and arrive as near as possible to scheduled times, and to be patient if the line is not completed once Mass begins.*

*Due to the sheer volume of Confessions, it is sometimes physically impossible to finish.*

## Additional Advent Confessions

Monday, December 17 - Friday, December 21 at 6:30pm

Monday, December 17 at 12:30pm | Wednesday, December 19 at 12:30pm | Friday, December 21 at 12:30pm

# The Christmas SEASON at Saint Mary 2018



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23**

## **FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**

*7pm Candlelight Mass at Saint Mary Church*

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 24**

## **CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES**

*4pm & 8:30pm Mass at Saint Mary Church (English)*

*6:30pm Mass at Saint Mary Church (Spanish)*

*4pm & 6:30pm Mass at Holy Cross Academy (English)*

*Carols in the Church at 11pm before Midnight Mass*

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25**

## **CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES**

*Midnight Mass at Saint Mary Church*

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

*Please Note: There are NO 10:30am Holy Cross Academy,  
2pm Spanish, 5pm or 7pm Masses on Christmas Day*

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 31**

## **VIGIL MASSES for the SOLEMNITY of MARY, MOTHER of GOD**

*5pm & 7pm at Saint Mary Church (English)*

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 1**

## **SOLEMNITY of MARY, MOTHER of GOD (Holy Day of Obligation)**

*Mass at 7:00, 8:30, 10:30am, 12:30pm (English) - Spanish Mass at 2:30pm*

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 6**

## **SOLEMNITY of the EPIPHANY of the LORD**

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

# operations given in love

## Weekly Offertory

### Collections for December 9

Offertory	\$37,767
Catholic Charities Christmas Collection	\$9,971
Immaculate Conception	\$10,665
Parish Christmas for Special Charities (add'l)	\$3,054
St Vincent de Paul Poor Box	\$365

### Faith Direct Collections

Offertory	\$62,379
Building Fund	\$5,122
Parish Collection for Special Charities	\$3,453
Catholic Charities Christmas Collection	\$2,635
Immaculate Conception	\$2,089
Christmas Offertory	\$5,019

*Thank you for your generosity!*

**Masses were offered in November for the following unscheduled intentions:**

+Bob Essary, +Mary Lou Schuster, +Lori Blackhurst, +Greg Mayott, +Teri Rose, +Mr. Fiori, +Mr. Dougherty, +Ralph Wagner, +Sid & Frank, +Mary Maiden, +Bill Snyder, +Michelle Rae Kari, Anna Miller & Bill Geist, +Jose Espinoza, August Gillis, Fr. Sunny Joseph, +Sybil Cavel, Richard Casaldi, +Erwin Fitzgerald, Lawrence J. Finkel, +Annette Addorio, +Helen & Norm Porter, +Gary & Eileen Ochs, and +Frances Cascio.

## Daily Advent Prayer

O Jesus, little child, come into my heart on Christmas morn, to wash away my sins and remain there in eternity. O Mary, Mother of my Savior, prepare for Jesus a cradle in my heart. Amen.

## Choose Life Reflection

*Christmas, for which we are now preparing, is not simply the feast of the birth of Christ; it is the feast of His*

*becoming human, the reality called the Incarnation. Jesus was an embryo, a fetus. Life in the womb, which was already sacred because it comes from God, is now made even more holy and worthy of our every sacrifice. Lord Jesus, You lived for nine months within the body of the Virgin Mary. Give success to the efforts of all who believe in Your Incarnation to protect every life in the womb.*

## Children's Charity for December

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

## Help Needed at Homeless Shelter

The Thurman Brisben Homeless Shelter has a program called Bridges. This program operates every Monday from 7-8pm and is designed to provide fun activities for the children staying at the homeless shelter. We are seeking volunteers to lead the kids in activities such as ball, tag etc. and if the weather isn't cooperating, to lead indoor activities (provided by the shelter). A Sign-Up Genius allows groups or individuals to sign-up easily for evenings available. Please consider helping our community.

Please note, this program requires all participants to arrive early. Vol-

unteers MUST complete a registration form and provide a photo ID in an effort to protect the children staying at the shelter.

[m.signupgenius.com/#/showSignUp/70a0f4facaf2aa3f85-bridges](https://m.signupgenius.com/#/showSignUp/70a0f4facaf2aa3f85-bridges)

For more information contact Aaron Sawyer [asawyer2@mail.umw.edu](mailto:asawyer2@mail.umw.edu)

## Al Anon Surviving the Weekend Group

For those 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. Especially at this time of year, it's important to know that you are not alone and there is help. **There is an Al Anon meeting 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 703-201-8821, [burgh757@gmail.com](mailto:burgh757@gmail.com) or Wayne at 540-840-5230.**

# liturgy daily bread

## Saint Mary Prayer List

**Please pray for those who are sick or in need, especially:** Casey Roby, Calvin Mills, Mary Jean Mills, Elise Velez, Tracey Hansen, Elizabeth Ames, Aleisa Barber, David Arnold, Maryann Greatsinger, Antonio Ferrara, Wilson and Joan Parker, Emma Gilbert, Virginia Gannon, Daniel Burke, Katherine Perusi, Dorie Lee, Christopher Szynal, Joy Zerby, Mariah Ceidlinger, Kelly Carperter-Silvers, Suzi Eggleston, Bernad Castillo, Michael Durant, Matthew Gomer, Tricia Davis, Martha Clements, Donna Long, Mary Ann Maynard, Zachary Payne, Margaret Krebbel, Adrianna Pruitt, Deanna Pruitt, Montgomery Wood, Gail Russell, Patricia Russo, Charles Dittmer, Bruce Mattern, Dorothy Simmons, Lillian Kendall, Nikolai Sherba, Sharon S., Barbara Clarke, Roseanne Nash, Jeanne Burke, Prudy Tarpe, Maureen Mizzles, Miles Wood, Mary Ellen Kearney, Kay Simmons, Robert Meyer, Marc and Susan Wood, Lita Mary Mamboyo, Nathan Apicella, Timothy Travis, Kaden Sabo, Robert Nathan Servetnick, Dianne Clancy, The Chevchuc Family, Christina Bolt, Bruce Bates, Richard Casaldi, Alex Tonn, James Evans, Larry Dillman, Theresa Kovalefsky, Amber Moser, Erin Krieg, Matthew Meyer, Brittany Meyer, Sara Meyer, Douglas & Dorothy Meyer, Karla Dorsey, Mary Jean & Don Williams, Linda & Frank Walter, Cathleen Mihalaki, Re Macarthur, Jordan Tackett, Bridget Sherba, Randy McNulty, Riley Horstick, David A., Marty T., Janet Yerkie, Brittany Yerkie, Elizabeth Stoehr, David Semeglo, Robert L Gomer, Carla J Gomer, Lorena Hernandez, Thomas Moeller, Lorraine Becker, Gerald Gardiner, Larry Delaney, James Keddie, Lorena Hernandez, Miguel Hernandez and Edgar Giovanni Castro, Julio Diaz, Kelly Murray, Marianne Ford, Ortiz Family, James Derouin, Karen Danis, Jim Mann, Muriel Bovat, Gina Wood, Michelle & Lawrence Hudson, Monica White & Patrick White, Betty McKee, Arturo Mendoza Sanchez, Vickie Coburn, Susana Rios- Villagrana, Jeff Shinrock, Mary Ulmer, John Michaelides, Joyce Tally, Dona Tally, Thomas Biddulph, Pat Tholen, Fernando Guadarrama, Margaret Dougherty, Fred Becker, Betty Gil, Adrienne Menjivar, Deanna White, David Mares, Linda Burrell, Margaret Craig, Mary Dudash, Chuck Boyer, Daniel Bustamonte, Hector Rios-Villagrana & Family, Miguel Correa & Family, Tamlyn Leaf, Gordon Leffel, Graciela Chavez, Nico Luiggi, Vickie Coburn, Ana B. Rojas, Maria Mangini, Melanie and Chris Koumentakos, Maryanne Schram, Jackie Davia Johnson, Jenna Cappello, Matt Seidlinger, Benjamin Grillo, Gavin Menteer, Jim Seidlinger, Mary Ellen Kearney, Kurt Gutzmann, Lois Michell, Albert Lemanski, Frank Pollack, Leslie and Charlotte Heagney

**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 Haken-son, Xavier Alas, Anthony Howell, John Anthenor, Andrew Dowdy, Sean McCullum, Josue Bermudez, Monica Hannan, Julio A. Alarcon, Gabe Gonzalez, David Oechslein, Shawn Herr, Logan Mullins, Greg Feroldi, Tyler Wood, Jason Cullinan, Estrella Bernaola, Frank Spatt Jr., Major Matthew Molino, Thomas Wickham

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

**Pregnant?**

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## Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

### December

#### 17 MONDAY

6:30am Catherine Sturtevant  
9:00am Late Lawson Drackey  
Gn 49:2-10/Mt 1:1-17

#### 18 TUESDAY

6:30am Raymond Corpe+  
9:00am Annette Addorio+  
Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

#### 19 WEDNESDAY

6:30am Karen Elizabeth Boyle+  
9:00am Roberto Costeas+  
Jgs 13:2-25a/Lk 1:5-25

#### 20 THURSDAY

6:30am Annette Addorio+  
9:00am Helen Novick+  
Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38

#### 21 FRIDAY

6:30am Father Richard Kuhn+  
8:15am\* Lori Jeffers  
9:00am Megan Hellmann  
Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-4

#### 22 SATURDAY

9:00am Addie Comerford+  
5:00pm For Our Parish  
7:00pm Dr. And Mrs. Sambat  
1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56

#### 23 SUNDAY

7:00am Joseph and Francis Cascio+  
8:30am Alma Bonner+  
10:30am James Clark Judkins, Jr.+  
10:30am\* Roseanne Burke+  
12:30pm Anna Ban Thi Nguyen+  
2:30pm Ascension Alvarez+  
5:00pm Patrick Leo Petro, Sr.+  
7:00pm Thelma Odilia Rivera+  
Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

\* 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.