

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 23, 2018



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

upcoming

December



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

23 SUNDAY, FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

No Coffee Shop

Scrip on Sale After All Masses Except 2:30pm

No 2:30pm Mass, Church

3pm Spanish Mass followed by Posadas at Holy Cross Academy

24 Monday, Advent Weekday

Parish Office closed, all meetings and activities canceled

4pm, Mass in English at St Mary

4pm, Mass in English at Holy Cross Academy

6:30pm, Mass is Spanish at St Mary

6:30pm, Mass in English at St Mary

8:30pm, Mass in English at St Mary

11pm Caroling in the Church before Mass at Midnight

25 Tuesday, THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (Christmas) Holy Day of Obligation

12am, Midnight Mass in English at St Mary

7am, Mass in English at St Mary

8:30am, Mass in English at St Mary

10:30am, Mass in English at St Mary

12:30pm, Mass in English at St Mary

26 Wednesday, Saint Stephen, The First Martyr

Parish Office closed, all meetings and activities canceled

27 Thursday, Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

Parish Office closed, all meetings and activities canceled

28 Friday, The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Parish Office closed, all meetings and activities canceled

29 Saturday, Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord [Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr]

8am, Confessions

3:30pm Confessions

30 SUNDAY, THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

No Coffee Shop

Scrip on Sale after all Masses except 2:30pm

pulpit announcements

nota bene (note well, please):

▪ Christmas Season schedule available on page 4

▪ 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 8



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 - edoyle@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 Parishioner Welcome meetings held
in the Parish Life Center on fourth Sun
days, 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,

'Twas the Sunday before Christmas, and all through the parish, not a soul was stirring, not even the ladies who change the candles.... Ok, wait, the candle ladies are always working.

I'll repeat last week's exhortation to carefully pick your Christmas Mass! The Christmas eve Masses are crazy packed, most especially (and worrisomely) the 4pm here at the church. So why not come on Christmas morning? The Masses on Christmas morning are far more prayerful than the ones on Christmas eve because you are not wrestling with the fire marshal!

But, you ask, what about our family traditions? Change is possible: the Mosimann family Christmas followed this same basic pattern going all the way back to my childhood — Masses at 9am, big feast breakfast, then the gift exchange one by one, big dinner, finally ending with birthday cake for Jesus and Christmas carols. But as we have grown, and I became a priest, and 23 nieces and nephews were born... it became too much family and gift giving to fit into one day without collapsing with exhaustion at 1am!

Two years ago, I finally managed to cajole a change in our Christmas schedule: the unmarried siblings, my parents, and I moved our the gift exchange to the AM of December 26th! We now have a few calmer minutes of rest and conversation before my parents house is taken over by 23 nieces and nephews and now their dozen+ children! It took several years of negotiations and bargaining, but this change to our day has stretched the celebration out longer, and made it much, much more enjoyable! Christmas really is an eight day celebration.

If I can change my Christmas traditions, anything is possible.

Oh, and yes, if you insist that 'early is the only way,' then in the words of the Christmas carol... "God Bless You."

pax et bonum,



Fr Mosimann

The Christmas SEASON at Saint Mary

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 HCA, 2pm Spanish, 5pm or 7pm Masses 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

education holy cross academy

Christmas Activities!

Our Christmas activities started with our Annual Giving Tree. Our students bring in "baby items" to support the Baby Closet, Mary's Shelter and Birthright. It is very fitting that, as we meditate on the birth of Jesus who came to live among the poor, we reach out to help Moms and babies who do not have what they need. Our families are very generous and give so willingly to others.

This beautiful activity is always followed by our 8th grade Nativity. Using the Scripture texts, our oldest students tell the story of the Birth of Jesus. Their simple piety touches our hearts and reminds us what a magnificent gift we received at Christmas, and how blessed

we are to prepare for this great feast with our children, from preschool through 8th grade.

On behalf of the Oblate Sisters, our Holy Cross and St. Mary Preschool faculty and staff, and all our families, we wish you a most blessed, peace-filled Christmas.

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

Blessed are you who believed!



We are about to celebrate one of the most important mysteries of our faith: that God became a baby! The Gospel this week tells us about two women who were waiting for the first Christmas. Mary, Jesus' mother, pays a visit to her cousin Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist. As Mary approaches, John shows his great joy by suddenly leaping in his mother's womb. With the help of the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth

understands that it is the Lord who has come to visit. ... Mary, for her part, is already living God's commandment of love. She has come to help Elizabeth for nearly three months. This is the spirit of Christmas. This is the Holy Spirit in our hearts!

Upcoming Events

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.

January 12—Baptism of Religious Education Students, 11am

Catechist Training

A catechist training session was held on December 11. The first part was a presentation by our pastor, Fr. John Mosimann on the topic "The Moral Life." Guided by the Catechism of the Catholic Church he helped us understand that "A morally good act requires the goodness of its object (what), of its end (why) and its circumstances (where, when) together" CCC 1760. The second part was a dry-run of the activity for Parents' Week.

FORMED PICK



The Story of the Nativity

Explore the Birth of Christ

This fast-paced look at the true story of the Nativity clears away misunderstandings about Jesus's origin and is invaluable for learning more about the truth of Christmas. Explore the true story of Mary and Joseph, Jesus's miraculous conception, the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, the Star of Bethlehem, and more.

Watch on formed.org



★★★★★

"I LOVE the biblical referencing tying the Old and New Testaments together."

—Sandy S., Eustis, FL

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



youth ministry

3RD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

YOUTH CRAFT CLUB

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 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

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

January 26 - Making Rosaries - \$5

February 9 - Wooden birdhouses - \$5

Saturday Mornings - Middle School Fitness Club - lucianir@comcast.net

Stay Up-to-Date

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

StMaryCYM    
#GetInvolvedBeTransformed

WE WELCOME YOU HOME. 540-373-6491

our parish get involved

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 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 or email questions and/or orders to 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 or Thurman-Brisben Homeless Shelter, 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 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 20 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.

Celebrate the Season of Christmas with Friends, Hymns, and Hot Chocolate

CHRISTmas in the Park-SATURDAY, December 29. Please join us for Christmas Caroling at 6:30pm 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 facebook.com/stmaryfred, youngadults.org or contact Sara at stmaryya@gmail.com.

Guadalupe Free Clinic of Colonial Beach

The Clinic is in need of several part time paid positions, a Medical Clinical Program Coordinator and a Pharmacy Manager; to supervise, manage, and direct operations of the Clinic's volunteer medical, pharmacy, and administrative staff. For more information please email the Executive Director at lcarrington@guadalupefreeclinic.org or call the clinic at (804) 224-0571.

our parish happenings

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

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 contribution 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

Make a Gift of Parish History

Here Is the Church: A History of St. Mary Parish is a book about our Catholic heritage, from missionary days in Virginia through the Civil War to the present time. It makes a great gift! You may sample the book at donnaledavis.com, where a link to the publisher will ensure that 50% of the sale price goes to St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church.

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!

Noticias en Espanol

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.

Pregnant?

Feeling trapped and alone? Know someone who may be?

Make us your first call
Confidential
non-judgemental
Supportive
All services are FREE

Give us a call
it's confidential
540.898.8558
1.800.550.4900
24-hour help line

Free & confidential pregnancy tests

Birtheright
of Fredericksburg

2006 Lafayette Boulevard, Suite 202
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
birtherightoffredericksburg.com 540.898.8558

**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**

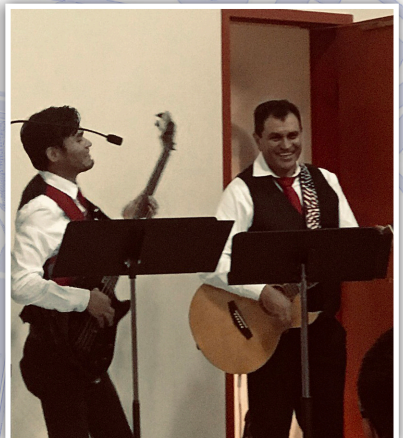
ITINERARIO
DÍA: 23 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2018
HORA: 3:00 PM SANTA MISA
DOMINICAL EN ESPAÑOL
LUGAR: HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

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

our faith celebration

Beautiful Celebration of the Feast Day of Our Lady of Guadalupe!

At St. Mary's we began with Mañanitas, a celebration honoring "The Empress of the Americas" (Pope Pius X) from 4am-6am with songs, rosary and a spiritual meditation. Just beautiful! A special Mass and celebration was held in the evening. Our Spanish brothers and sisters hold a very special and dear place for Our Lady of Guadalupe in their hearts and share this love and tradition with us. Our Lady appeared to St. Juan Diego in a small town near Mexico City in the 16th Century giving the world much hope in a very dark period of history. Our Blessed Mother continues to offer hope and love in our world today. Draw near to her!



our parish happenings



DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Office of the Bishop

200 North Glebe Road, Suite 914 • Arlington, Virginia 22203 • Office (703) 841-2511 • Fax (703) 524-5028

Christmas, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In hope, we rejoice this Christmas, for *a light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us*. On Christmas and each day this coming year, may we seek this Light before all else and allow it to radiate within our diocese, homes and communities.

Even in the midst of the darkness we experience within our world, nation and Church, we are filled with joyful hope as we celebrate the truth that Jesus, our Lord and Savior and the Light of the World, has dispelled the darkness. Therefore, with trust and confidence, we dare to pray for one another. We pray for all who lead and serve within the Church, that enlightened by the new radiance of God's incarnate Word, what we know in faith will shine through our deeds. We pray that God will show our civil leaders the way of truth, guiding them to defend the sacredness of all human life. We pray that the whole human family will imitate the Holy Family in practicing virtue and in the bonds of charity. We pray that those in need will experience the radiance of God's love in and through our generosity, goodness and sacrifices. Finally, we pray that we, who know God already by faith, may pass through the shadows of this world to reach the brightness of our eternal home.

Please be assured of a special remembrance at the Masses I will celebrate on Christmas. Through the intercession of Mary our Mother and Saint Joseph, may Our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with the gift of his peace and favor this Christmas and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington

letra de la navidad

del obispo



DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

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Navidad de 2018

Estimados hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

Con esperanza, nos regocijamos en esta Navidad porque *una luz brillará sobre nosotros en este día: nos ha nacido el Señor*. Que en la Navidad y cada día del año venidero busquemos, ante todo, esta luz y dejemos que irradie dentro de nuestra diócesis y nuestros hogares y comunidades.

Aun en medio de las tinieblas que se han adentrado en nuestro mundo, nuestra nación y nuestra Iglesia, nos sentimos llenos de gozo y esperanza al celebrar la verdad de que Jesús, nuestro Señor y Salvador y la luz del mundo, ha disipado la oscuridad. Por lo tanto, con plena confianza nos atrevemos a rezar los unos por los otros. Pedimos por todos los dirigentes y servidores dentro de la Iglesia para que, al ser iluminados por el nuevo resplandor del Verbo encarnado de Dios, hagamos brillar a través de nuestras obras lo que sabemos en virtud de la fe. Rogamos para que Dios les muestre a nuestros dirigentes civiles el camino de la verdad y los guíe para defender el carácter sagrado de toda la vida humana. Rezamos para que toda la familia humana imite a la Sagrada Familia al practicar la virtud y mantener los vínculos de caridad. Elevamos nuestras plegarias para que los necesitados experimenten el resplandor del amor de Dios por medio de nuestra generosidad y bondad y de nuestros sacrificios. Por último, rezamos para que nosotros, quienes ya conocemos a Dios por medio de la fe, podamos pasar por las sombras de este mundo para llegar al esplendor de nuestra morada eterna.

Tengan la seguridad de que los tendré especialmente presentes en todas las Misas que celebraré durante la Navidad. Por intercesión de María, nuestra Madre, y de San José, que nuestro Señor Jesucristo los llene del don de su paz y su gracia en esta Navidad y siempre.

Cordialmente en Cristo,

Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge
Obispo de la Diócesis de Arlington

operations given in love

Weekly Offertory

Collections for December 16

Offertory	\$27,572
Parish Building Fund	\$8,179
Catholic Charities (add'l)	\$1,225
St Vincent de Paul Poor Box	\$189

Thank you for your generosity!

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

Thanks to Christmas, all the earth has seen the saving hand of God! A new and radiant vision of His glory has shone upon us, because human life has been joined to Him. He has raised human life to a greater dignity than it had before. Life was always sacred, because it is God's creation. But thanks to Christmas, human life is forever united to Divine Life in and through the Infant King of Bethlehem. Lord, may all Your people continue to marvel at Your love for human life and reverence this gift as You do.

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.

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 100 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 or Wayne at 540-840-5230.**

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. Volunteers **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

For more information contact Aaron Sawyer asawyer2@mail.umw.edu

Call to Evangelization

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

This small group's purpose is to support and encourage each other in our efforts to share our faith. We discuss opportunities we've had to evangelize, what worked and what didn't, or what prevented us from trying.

If you want to engage others in conversation about our faith, join us. **We meet every 3rd Sunday between the 10:30am and the 12:30pm masses** (except on holiday weekends) in the Courtyard Meeting Room. For more information contact Bryan Richardson at br22406@cox.net

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, 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.

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

December

24 MONDAY

6:30am Rosemary Finnegan+
9:00am Barbara Mertens+
4pm STM Celeste Obirle+
4pm HCA George Graf+
6:30pm STM David Semeglo
6:30pm HCA Patricia Gasper+
8:30pm John Prohaska
2 Sm 7:1-16/Lk 1:67-79

25 TUESDAY

12:00am For Our Parish
7:00am Gine Wingert Lenox+
8:30am Dominic Nguyen+
10:30am Janice Moore Holley+
12:30pm Elaine Wheeler+
Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18

26 WEDNESDAY

6:30am Dominick Delio+
9:00am Harold Ehrhart+
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22

27 THURSDAY

6:30am Gerald Doherty
9:00am Sambat Family
1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

28 FRIDAY

6:30am Margaret Clancy+
9:00am Maria Erlinda Ferrer+
1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Mt 2:13-18

29 SATURDAY

9:00am Wayne Chester Stamey+
5:00pm David Jobes
7:00pm For Our Parish
1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35

30 SUNDAY

7:00am Tiem Vu+
8:30am Lori Barlow
10:30am Jennifer Goonan
10:30am Evelyn Derouin
12:30pm Antonia and Santi Maraldo+
2:30pm Thelma Odilia Rivera+
5:00pm Annette Addorio+
7:00pm The Mellett Family
Sir 3:2-14/Col 3:12-21/Lk 2:41-52

* 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.

*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.