

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

December 25, 2019



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

upcoming

December



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

26 Thursday, Saint Stephen, The First Martyr
Parish Office Closed

27 Friday, Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist
6:30pm, Spanish Junior Legion of Mary
8pm, Spanish Legion of Mary

28 Saturday, The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
8am, Confessions in the Church
10am, Baptisms in the Church
3:30pm, Confessions in the Church

29 SUNDAY, THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
No Coffee Shop or Scrip Sales

30 Monday, Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
10am, Legion of Mary Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Parish Life Center, Room 100

31 Tuesday, Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord [Saint Sylvester I, Pope]
5pm, Vigil for Mary Mother of God in English
7pm, Vigil for Mary Mother of God in Latin

1 Wednesday, SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD [Holyday of Obligation]
Parish Office Closed
7am, Mass for Mary Mother of God in English
8:30am, Mass for Mary Mother of God in English
10:30am, Mass for Mary Mother of God in English
12:30pm, Mass for Mary Mother of God in English
2:30pm, Mass for Mary Mother of God in Spanish

2 Thursday, Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church
9:30am, Craft Group, Parish Life Center, Room 100
7pm, Baptism Class in the Church

3 Friday, Christmas Weekday [The Most Holy Name of Jesus]
6:30pm, Middle School Youth Group, Parish Life Center
6:30pm, Spanish Junior Legion of Mary in the Courtyard Meeting Room
8pm, Legion of Mary in the Courtyard Meeting Room
8pm, First Friday Mass in the Church

4 Saturday, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
8am, Confessions in the Church
10am, Baptisms in the Church
10am, Al-Anon, Parish Life Center Room 204
2pm, Spanish Baptisms Class in the Courtyard Meeting Room
3:30pm, Confessions in the Church
6pm, KofC Family Dinner, Parish Life Center

5 SUNDAY, THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Coffee Shop After 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, Mass
Scrip on Sale after all Masses except 2:30pm
6pm, CYM Dinner and High School Youth Group, Parish Life Center

pulpit announcements

nota bene (note well, please):

▪ Daily Advent Prayer

More information on page 4

▪ Christmas Season Calendar

See the calendar on page 8

▪ K of C Family Dinner January 5, 6pm

All Are Welcome!

▪ Noticias en Español

Más información en la página 12

▪ Christmas Flowers Still Available

More information on page 14

▪ Advent Happenings in the Church

Photos can be found on page 15

THANK YOU to Paul's Bakery for their generous donation for over 20 years of delicious donuts and pastries to our St. Mary's Sunday Coffee Shop! Your gift is appreciated and delicious!



Visit Paul's Bakery today for delicious treats!

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,

Merry, Merry Christmas!

Christmas, as a holiday holds such a powerful sway in our culture because of the emotional power of nostalgia. We can't help but recall the powerful memories of childhood. So much of our character and personalities are shaped in the heart of our families. It is no wonder that popes have called the Holy Family "the school of Nazareth." To quote Pope Emeritus Benedict, "The house of Nazareth is a school of prayer where we learn to listen, to meditate, to penetrate the deepest meaning of the manifestation of the Son of God, drawing our example from Mary, Joseph and Jesus."

May the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph help us to live the Mystery of Christmas with renewed gratitude to the Lord. In the midst of the frenetic activity of our day, may this Season give us some calm and joy and enable us to feel tangibly the goodness of our God, who became a Child to save us and to give new encouragement and light on our journey. I wish a most Blessed and Merry Christmas to each and every member of our parish family, to your relatives and to your friends, in particular to the sick and the suffering, as well those who have no one to celebrate this feast with.

Be assured of my prayers for you and my prayers of thanksgiving for the work that the Lord is doing in our lives.

pax et bonum,

Fr Mosimann

The
Christmas
SEASON *at*
Saint Mary

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31
VIGIL MASSES *for the SOLEMNITY of*
MARY, MOTHER of GOD
5pm & Latin Mass at 7pm
at Saint Mary Church

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31
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

**Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament**

O Come Let Us Adore Him in Eucharistic Adoration!!
"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.

education holy cross academy

Dear St. Mary Parishioners,

While this past weekend marked the shortest day of the year and the darkest, it is a time that reminds us that light will always overcome darkness. Our Lord and Savior entered our world in the humblest of settings to light the path for all of us to follow. There are so many passages in the Bible that refer to light never yielding to darkness:

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it."

"You are like light for the whole world."

"Let your light shine before men."

And countless more!

At Holy Cross Academy, we have so many opportunities to let our light shine. From service projects and works of mercy, to welcoming new students and faculty members, to being patient in car line for the 100th time, we reflect our school's mission to all those we encounter. I continually feel blessed to be part of a school community that prepares faith-filled young men and women to go forth and make the world a better place than they found it. The outpouring of support demonstrated at our Advent Giving Tree Assembly was a recent example of our students demonstrating their power to be agents of God's love.

I would like to express my gratitude to our faculty and staff at Holy Cross Academy. I am humbled to be part of such an outstanding group of talented and dedicated educators. Our students warm my heart each day as I watch them grow in their faith and strive to reach their fullest potential. I want to thank Holy Cross Academy parents for their commitment to our school and for establishing a loving foundation for our students that allows them to flourish.

And I especially would like to thank the priests, staff, and parishioners at St. Mary for their steadfast commitment to Catholic education at Holy Cross Academy. Your generosity and prayers sustain us. Please know that you are in our prayers.

I pray everyone has a safe and joyous Christmas season. It is a blessing that our school calendar allows families two full weeks together to celebrate Christ's birth and ring in a new year full of hope and promise.

In Christo,

Stephen M. Fry, Ed. D.
Principal



***A National
Blue Ribbon
School of
Excellence***



SAVE THE DATE

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY & ST. MARY PRESCHOOL

Open House

Sunday, January 26



from the bishop christmas letter

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Psalm at Mass on Christmas proclaims: “A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us!” It is this truth that fills us with joyful hope even in the midst of the darkness we experience. There is no reason to despair. The Light has conquered the darkness! Our call is to allow this Light to guide us as we strive daily to grow in holiness, faithfulness and integrity.

We are also sent forth each day to radiate the presence of Christ to others. We do so by loving all people without exception, by forgiving those who have offended us and by sacrificially and generously serving those in most need.

Each year we hear the timeless story of the three wise men who set out on a long journey with only a star to guide their way. What tremendous trust they must have had in God, not to know where they were going, but to obey humbly and do as they were asked. What a powerful witness for each of us. May we follow God’s call in our life with trust and obedience, so that at the end of our journey here on earth, we may embrace Jesus Christ, the Lord of Lords, the King of Kings.

It is my hope and prayer that during this Christmas season and into the New Year, we place our relationship with the Lord as our highest priority and remain instruments of His peace, joy and light in our parishes, homes, workplaces and communities.

The Lord is born for us! May He fill you with abundant blessings this Christmas and always. Merry Christmas to one and all!

Sincerely in Christ,



Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington



del obispo carta de navidad

Queridos hermanos y hermanas en Cristo:

El Salmo de la Misa de Navidad proclama: ¡“Hoy brillará una luz sobre nosotros porque nos ha nacido el Señor”! Esta verdad nos llena de alegre esperanza aun en medio de las tinieblas en que nos encontramos. No hay motivo para desesperarse. La Luz ha conquistado las tinieblas. Se nos ha llamado a dejar que esta Luz nos guíe en nuestro esfuerzo diario por prosperar en la santidad, la fidelidad y la integridad.

También se nos envía cada día a irradiar la presencia de Cristo a otras personas. Lo hacemos al demostrar nuestro amor por todas las personas sin excepción, al perdonar a quienes nos han ofendido y al servir con sacrificio y generosidad a los más necesitados.

Cada año oímos la historia imperecedera de los tres Reyes Magos que emprendieron un largo viaje guiados solamente por una estrella en el camino. Qué profunda confianza han debido tener en Dios puesto que, sin saber hacia dónde iban, obedecieron humildemente e hicieron lo que se les pidió. Qué poderoso testimonio para cada uno de nosotros. Recemos para poder seguir el llamado de Dios en nuestra vida con confianza y obediencia para que al final de nuestro peregrinaje aquí en la Tierra podamos abrazar a Jesucristo, Señor de los Señores y Rey de los Reyes.

En espíritu de oración, abrigo la esperanza de que durante esta temporada de Navidad y en el Año Nuevo podamos dar a nuestra relación con el Señor la máxima prioridad y sigamos siendo instrumentos de su paz, alegría y luz en nuestras parroquias y en nuestros hogares, sitios de trabajo y comunidades.

¡Nos ha nacido el Señor! Ruego para que Él los colme de abundantes bendiciones en esta Navidad y siempre. ¡Feliz Navidad para todos!

Fielmente en Cristo,



Monseñor Michael F. Burbidge
Obispo de Arlington

We Welcome Your Unique Gifts!



Are you seeking...

- ... a way to deepen your relationship with Christ?
- ... to feel connected to your parish family?
- ... to be a part of something greater than yourself?

You are needed at St. Mary!

With over 80 ministries, there is something for everyone... so many ways to *grow* and *share* your faith. NOW is the time to become an active participant in your parish family!

How does one even begin to discern how or where to serve? We can help! Members of the Stewardship Committee are happy to meet with you and discuss your gifts and talents, and how they match up with current needs within the many ministries and opportunities here at St. Mary's.

Take the first step by filling out the form below. Return it to the parish office or put it into the collection basket so that we can schedule a time to meet with you and help you decide!

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Best Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Preference to Meet (i.e. day of the week/morning/afternoon/evenings)

Identify below any area(s) that you can relate to:

___ I like teaching/evangelizing

___ I am drawn to pro-life work

___ I feel drawn to working with the poor/homeless

___ I am organized and like planning

___ I have and/or yearn for a deeper prayer life

___ I love music

___ I am a writer and like to encourage others

___ I like spending time with the elderly

___ I am outgoing and welcoming

___ I like spending time with children

___ other (write below)

___ I am crafty

St. Mary Ministries within Identified Charisms

TEACHING & ENCOURAGEMENT

Adult Religious Education
RCIA/RCIC
Vacation Bible School
HCA
Prison Ministry
Letter Writing
Home Schoolers
Catholic Charities
St Anne Sisters in Faith
Book Club
CCW
Confirmation Leaders

POOR & HOMELESS

Shelter Dinners
Community Dinners
Refugee Services
Refugee Assistance
Manna food Project
SVDP
Micah Ministries (6)
Work Camp
Outreach

MUSIC

Choirs (6)
Senior Luncheons
Cantors

ELDERLY

EM to Sick & Homebound
Senior Luncheons
Nursing Home Visits
Outreach

PRO LIFE

Respect Life
Birthright
Mary's Shelter
Paul Stefan Home

CRAFTS & FOOD

HCA
Youth Ministry
Work Camp
Seasonal Decorators
Prayers & Squares
CCW
Parish Food Chain
Senior Luncheon
Shelter Dinners
Community Dinners
Funeral Committee
Garden Committee
Parish Life

ORGANIZATION

Faith Formation
Called & Gifted
BLA
Lenten Small Groups
Development

OUTGOING/ WELCOMING/ HOSPITALITY

CYM
Greeters
Ushers
Lectors
CCW
Circle of Love
Prayers & Squares
Parish Life
St. Anne's Sisters in Faith
Funeral Committee
Senior Luncheons
Outreach
Shelter/Community Dinners
New Parishioner Welcome
Young Adults
Over 40
Mens Group

WRITING

Prison Ministry

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Vacation Bible School
St. Anne's Sisters in Faith
HCA
Faith Formation
CYM
Youth Ministry
GSA/BSA Trail Life
American Heritage Girls
Confirmation Leaders
Outreach

SERVICE/HELPS

KOC/AOH
Refugee Assistance
Confirmation Leaders
Work Camp
Script
Garden Committee
CCW
Operation Committee

PRAYER LIFE

Adorers of the Lamb
Cursillo
Legion of Mary
Magdalenes
Global Prayer
Spanish Prayer Group
Reparation and Healing
Life in the Spirit
Seven Sisters
Prayers and Squares
Secular Franciscans
Retreats
Mens Group
Vocations Committee

MERCY

Catholic Charities
SVDP
Shelter Dinners
Community Dinners