SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT





capital campaign

Growing Our Legacy of Faith



2022 Capital Campaign

Growing Our Legacy of Faith

Campaign Principles

2022 Capital Campaign

PRAYER

Vital to the overall success of our campaign. We ask all to keep this endeavor close in prayer.

PERSONAL SOLICITATION

Every family who desires, will receive a personal visit from one of our volunteers.

PROPORTIONATE GIFT REQUESTS

A sacrificial gift, each family giving according to their blessings.

PLEDGED COMMITMENTS

Every family is asked to prayerfully consider pledging over 5 years. A pledge is a good faith commitment which enables us to budget and know what we can afford.

PHASE BY PHASE APPROACH

Quiet phase: Parish leadership pledges have laid a strong and generous foundation for us to build on.

Public Phase: All families are invited to participate.

ST.MARY & HCA FAMILIES HAVE PLEDGED

\$2,746,471.82

39% OF OUR IDENTIFIED NEEDS

CONTACT US:

To schedule an appointment or if you have any questions about the "Growing Our Legacy of Faith" Capital Campaign

540-735-4506 capitalcampaign@stmaryfred.org

capital campaign from our pastor

Dear Folks,

This week, we are announcing with enthusiasm that St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception is launching a Capital Campaign!! I am so proud of the hard work and beautiful success of this campaign being run entirely by the time and talent of our very own parishioners!!

During the last 6 months, a dedicated team of volunteers and I have secured \$2.7 Million in 160 pledges from parishioners during the quiet leadership phase! This is 39% of the the identified and discerned needs for our parish, and puts us on a trajectory for success.

Why?

When I arrived here six years ago, I inherited a plan that our parish school would be the beneficiary of the next expansion work! In consultation with parish leadership, an in-pew survey of the parish, and diocesan advisors, we discerned that the way forward to accomplish our goals requires a capital campaign. You have spoken clearly that we must "build what we can afford," and your generosity to parish offertory and this campaign is determining what we can afford.

What for?

HCA: new classrooms to include space for the pre-school, improved security, expanded chapel, and a new cafeteria!

St.Mary: Adoration Chapel, Adult Education Facility, Church Improvements, rectory expansion, and upgrades to the kitchen in the PLC.

How?

Personal and individual visits to each parish family, and five-year pledges from families after prayerful consideration.

The individual and personal visits are the foundation of the campaign. Because I am asking each family to prayerfully consider a pledge, that means giving you detailed information so that you can make a truly informed decision. There is enough information on discernment, priorities, and needs that I can easily spend an hour giving you a detailed understanding of How and Why! I haven't yet had someone say, "that was too much info Father."

Who?

I have personally already met with over 100 families! I try to block off at least two hours because I have treasured the conversations, laughter, fellowship, and complaints (yes, even those) that we have shared before even saying a word about the specifics of the campaign!

With more than six thousand families, as much as I would like to, it is not possible for me to visit everyone. Thus we have a growing team of trained volunteers to help accomplish our goal of sitting down with every family that is willing to receive a visit!

Where?

I have visited with parishioners in their homes, in my office, or even in restaurants! Don't feel you have to 'put on the ritz' to receive a visit, you can choose where the visit will take place.

What am I asking?

I am asking that you give me or one of our campaign visitors the chance to meet with you (and your spouse) to discuss the capital campaign.

When we call or email you, please answer! With more than six thousand families, you may not get a phone call until spring.

You WILL NOT be asked to make a pledge on the spot. You will be given time to prayerfully consider a gift and my answer is always "Thank You!"

Thank you for giving us your time, thank you for understanding the needs and necessity of a capital campaign, and above all thank you for being my brothers and sisters in Christ.

The Lord has brought forth talented and generous parishioners, even in difficult economic times, to prove that this is His work! Thanks be to God!

pax,

Fr. Mosimann

Immaculate Conception - Feast Day of Our Parish Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, December 7 Vigil Masses - 6pm & 7:30pm Thursday, December 8 Holy Day Masses - 6:30am, 9am, 12 noon, 4pm (Latin), 6pm, 7:30pm





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 December 23 at 7:30pm

Daily Mass

Monday—Friday 6:30, 9am, and 12 noon | Saturday 9am

Immaculate Conception - Feast Day of Our Parish Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, December 7 Vigil Masses - 6pm & 7:30pm Thursday, December 8 Holy Day Masses - 6:30am, 9am, 12 noon, 4pm (Latin), 6pm, 7:30pm

Candlelight Masses Every Sunday of Advent at 7pm in the Church

Regular Confession Schedule

Wednesdays in the Church from 11:30am-12pm & 6:30-8:30pm Saturdays in the Church from 8-8:30am & 3:30-4:30pm

Due to the sheer volume of Confessions, please be patient. *The priests will try to finish the line in a timely manner. Thank you.*

Additional Advent Confessions

Wednesday, December 14 at 11:30am-12pm and 6:30-7:30pm Friday, December 16 at 11:30am-12pm and 6:30-7:30pm Monday, December 19 - Friday, December 23 at 11:30am-12pm and 6:30-7:30pm





SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES4pm, 6:30pm (Spanish), 8:30pm, 12am (midnight) at Saint Mary Church4pm & 6pm at Holy Cross Academy

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm, and 2:30pm (Spanish) at Saint Mary Church No Evening or Holy Cross Academy Masses

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

SOLEMNITY of MARY, MOTHER of GOD

Vigil Mass 5pm, 7pm, and 12am (midnight) at Saint Mary Church

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

SOLEMNITY of MARY, MOTHER of GOD 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm, 2:30pm (Spanish), 5pm, and 7pm at Saint Mary Church 8:30am & 10:30am at Holy Cross Academy

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

FEAST of the EPIPHANY of the LORD7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm, 2:30pm (Spanish), 5pm, and 7pm at Saint Mary Church8:30am & 10:30am at Holy Cross Academy

announcements

St. Mary Giving Tree

Please consider taking a tag or two from the tree and purchasing the item requested. We will be supporting the good work of local ministries and a few members of our parish in need of assistance. Thank you!

The St. Mary Coffee & **Donut Shop**

Following ALL Morning Masses

Come and enjoy some fellowship!

contact us

SUNDAY MASS

Saturday Vigil 5 & 7pm Sunday 7, 8:30, 10:30am, 12:30, 2:30pm (Spanish), 5pm, 7pm 8:30 & 10:30am at Holy Cross Academy

DAILY MASS

Monday - Friday: 6:30am, 9am, & 12pm Saturday: 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, Monday, after 9am Mass Divine Mercy, Wednesday, 3pm

CONFESSION

Wednesday 11:30am-12pm, 6:30 - 8:30pm; Saturday, 8-8:30am & 3:30 - 4:30pm

PARISH OFFICE

540-373-6491 fax: 540-371-0251 stmary@stmaryfred.org stmaryfred.org Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 4:30pm; Students staff office weekdays until 9pm, Saturdays 9-5pm, Sundays 9:30am - 1:30pm

Fr. John Mosimann, Pastor Fr. Sean Koehr, Parochial Vicar Fr. Scott Sina, Parochial Vicar Fr. Phillip Cozzi, Parochial Vicar Fr. Robert Renner, Parochial Vicar Deacon Alberto Bernaola Deacon Dick Delio

Business Manager, Elaine Stanislawski Director of Operations, Chris Lanzarone Facilities, Late-Lawson Drackey Custodial Services, Carmen Sanchez Parish Secretary, Giovanni Camacho

stmaryfred.org

MUSIC

Director of Music, David Uschold Assistant to the Music Ministry, Malinda Jones

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

540-286-1600 250 Stafford Lakes Parkway Fredericksburg, Virginia 22406-7234 Principal - Dr. Stephen Fry, sfry@holycrossweb.com

HOLY CROSS PRESCHOOL

540-373-7553 Director, Sheri Castellarin

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Director. Aristides Lucas Associate Director, Mary Buer Administrative Asst, Lori Barlow

YOUTH MINISTRY

Director, Tatiana Beltran Assistant Youth Minister, Catie Espiritu

OUTREACH

Director, Elena Doyle

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 the parish six months in advance to begin preparation.

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

Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception 1009 Stafford Avenue Fredericksburg, VA 22401

education holy cross academy

Thanksgiving Food Collection

Holy Cross Academy collected food bags to help support the Mary's Special Thanksgiving Food Drive Supporting Catholic Charities Migration & Refugee Services, those in our parish in need of support AND area school's social services. We would like to thank our teacher's, staff and families for their generosity.





A National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence



Next Open House January 29, 2023, 1-3pm

Holy Cross Academy will be hosting an open house on January 29 from 1pm until 3pm for families who are interested in learning more about our amazing school. Don't miss the opportunity to take a tour, talk to teachers and meet members of our school community. The online application link will open for new families at the end of January.

Open Positions at Holy Cross Academy

Interest in joining our team? Holy Cross Academy is looking for a Middle School Science teacher beginning January 2, 2023. For more information on this position and others in the Diocese of Arlington, please visit **bit.ly/32w7x3T**.

our parish ministry highlight

Catholic Charities Counseling Services

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington provides many essential services throughout the Diocese such as counseling, emergency assistance and refugee and immigration services. We focus on counseling because 1 in 5 people has a diagnosable mental health issue that impacts their ability to work, perform in school, or be in a healthy relationship. Bishop Burbidge has asked us to support the needs of the parishes around the Diocese, and to that end, we provide counseling in many different parishes, including St Mary's. Last year, we provided nearly 10,000 hours of counseling to 950 men, women, and children who needed support. This year, we continue to see an increased need for counseling with many individuals and families looking to address issues related to anxiety, depression, and trauma.

Through our partnership with St Mary's, we offer transformative counseling services grounded in a Catholic understanding of the human person to the poor of mind, body, and spirit in our community. Because the core of Catholic Charities is our Catholic faith and identity, we aim to serve all in need regardless of their faith, background or circumstances - always maintaining the dignity and respect for the human person.

Next week, St. Mary's will take up the annual Christmas collection to benefit Catholic Charities and we'd ask that you prayerfully consider a gift; any amount can help make a difference to a person or family in need. When you give, your donation goes directly to serving people in need here in our community.

Please keep us in our prayers and thank you in advance for your generosity.

Please visit our website, **ccda.net** if you wish to make a donation online.





WE WELCOME YOU HOME. 540-373-6491 8

education

religious education

Religious Education Upcoming Events:

Monday, December 5 Second Meeting with parents of children to be baptized at 6:30pm in the PLC

Monday to Wednesday, December 5 - 7 Religious Education Classes

Saturday, December 10 SPRED class in the Main Hall of the PLC from 10am to 12 noon

Monday, December 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Monday to Wednesday, December 12 - 14 Religious Education Classes

Saturday, December 17 Catechist Certification Classes in the PLC

Monday to Wednesday, December 19 - 21 Religious Education Classes

Monday to Wednesday, December 26 - 28 No Religious Education Classes Christmas Break

Saturday, January 7 Baptism of Religious Education students at 10am in the church SPRED class in the Main Hall of the PLC from 10am to 12 noon

Monday, January 9 Eucharistic Adoration in Spanish at 7pm in the church

Monday to Wednesday, January 9 - 11

Religious Education Classes, Parents attend class with their children



Week of December 04, 2022



Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message

Enjoy this film narrated by Jim Caviezel that walks us through our Mother's miraculous appearance to Juan Diego, an encounter that has influenced the conversion of millions of people.



FORMED Live: Do We Make Too Much of Mary? Why do Catholics think so highly of Mary? Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn as they discuss our Lady's esteemed place among the saints.



Marian Dogmas with Brant Pitre

Listen in as Matt Fradd and Dr. Brant Pitre explore the Church's understanding of Mary's role in the Church.

SIGN UP FOR FREE AT FORMED.ORG/SIGNUP CLICK REGISTER THEN ENTER PARISH CODE: F6F228

Catechists Honored at Catechetical Convention

The 2022 Diocesan Catechetical Conference was held on Saturday, November 19, 2022 at the Sheraton Reston Hotel in Reston Virginia. The Catechist Recognition included several catechists

from our parish. Those who were present received a certificate of recognition from the Bishop.

Catechists with 10 plus years of service

Julia Apicella, Carolyn Farrell, Patti Kaila, Furman McCormick and Judith Thielman.

Catechists with 25 plus years of service Louis Farrell, Chris Grazsko, Gail Ganz, Chris Kaila and Patricia McKnight





our parish

Public Rosary

Come join fellow parishioners to pray a public Rosary for Peace at the Statue of Mary at St. Mary church at noon on Saturday, December 10. For more info and to RSVP michaelgkasey@verizon. net.

Adult Confirmation

There will be an Adult Confirmation class led by Deacon Dick beginning in the new year. The class is for anyone who has been baptized and received First Holy Communion but not had the opportunity to be Confirmed. The Class will run about 8 weeks. It is also open to anyone who would like a refresher on the Catholic Faith. Please call the parish office if you wish to be part of the class.

CCW's Carol Sing Along

Please join your friends in the St. Mary Council of Catholic Women for a Christmas Concert and Sing-along, gathered around the organ in the church on Tuesday, December 13, after the 9am Mass. Our Music Director David Uschold and superb cantor Malinda Jones will treat us to seasonal selections and lead us in song. Refreshments will follow in the Rooney Room. Everyone is welcome! Learn more about your CCW at **stmaryccw.org** and follow us at **facebook**. com/StMaryCCW.

SPRED

Special Religious Education, SPRED, will meet on Saturday, December 10 at 10am until 12 noon in the Parish Life Center. Our topic will be "Growing Together". If you have any questions about our SPRED program, please contact Mary Buer at mbuer@stmaryfred.org.

Have a Scrip kind of Christmas

Christmas is coming! Have you placed your Scrip order yet?? Scrip is a great way to shop for all your holiday needs. Start pre-ordering your cards now so you can be ready bright and early for the Holidays. We have many great retailers like Walmart, Target, Macy's, Kohl's, Lowes, Home Depot, Bass Pro Shops, and many more in inventory now. We can order other cards from over 750 retailers. There are no activation fees on Scrip gift cards, and they don't expire. Check out the retailer list at raiseright.com. Scrip can help you budget your holiday shopping expenses and help HCA at the same time. Stop by the Scrip table today and find out how to use Scrip for all your shopping needs! Last day to order Scrip cards is 13 December to ensure Christmas delivery. The last weekend for Scrip sales after masses will be the 19/20 December. Shop early and support HCA!

To set up an account at raiseright.com, use our school code, so Holy Cross Academy gets credit for your purchase. If you have any questions about SCRIP or would like the school code, or to place an order, please email the Scrip Coordinator at scripcoordinator@holycrossweb. com. Thanks for using Scrip and supporting Holy Cross Academy.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's EVERY Wednesday following the 12 noon Mass ALL DAY - ALL NIGHT Wednesday & Thursday

Concluding on Friday Mornings at the 9am Mass.

"To be alone with Jesus in adoration and intimate union with Him is the GREATEST GIFT OF LOVE the tender love of Our Father in Heaven" - St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta



Contact: Serena Nguyen, Coordinator – Adoration@stmaryfred.org

our parish happenings



All parishioners welcome. No cost.

Parish Book Club

The parish book club will meet on Tuesday, December 13, and will begin with a brief discussion of The Canticle of the Creatures, written by St. Francis of Assisi. Also known as The Canticle of the Sun, the short work is widely available on the Internet. Attendees will next choose books for the 2023 year from the recommended titles submitted previously by members and supportive parishioners. After the selection process, the group will socialize and enjoy a cooperative luncheon. Reservations for lunch are required by December 10. For more details, including directions, contact Kathleen Mahoney at **bmah761569@aol.com** or 540-371-2073.

Adult Bible Study Opportunities

Join fellow parishioners for Bishop Robert Barron's six-part DVD series on The Mass. Classes will be held on Mondays beginning **January 9 at 12:45pm** in the Father Rooney Room at St. Mary and on Wednesdays beginning **January 11 at 6:30pm** at Holy Cross Academy library. The cost of the **workbook with the answers is \$30-40**. **Register by December 20 at the Parish Office**; fees may be paid at the time of registration or at the first class. Class sizes will be limited to 20 each session.

Join us for Epic: A Journey through Church History, beginning Wednesday, January 11 or Thursday, January 12, at 9:45am, meeting in the Father Rooney Community Room. The cost for materials is \$25-30. Register by December 20 at the Parish Office; fees may be paid at the time of registration or at the first class. Class sizes will be limited to 20 each session. Beginning with the lives of the apostles, continuing to the present day, Epic simplifies the immense history of the Church into 12 color-coded time periods. In the course of 20 sessions, learn about the major people, places, and events that comprise the captivating story of Christianity. Participants gain an understanding of Church history, giving them a greater sense of meaning and identity as Catholics.





Knights of Columbus

These are Virginia grown (Mt. Rogers), freshly cut premium Fraser Firs with beautiful long-lasting soft needles and that great memorable evergreen smell.

The best selection and freshest trees of course are when the trees arrive. The trees will be sold on weekends from 8am-8pm and weekdays (Wednesday through Friday, but not Monday or Tuesday) from 3-8pm.

our parish happenings







5:00 - 7:30pm Parish Life Center

menu

Salisbury Steak With onion gravy

Macaroni & Cheese

Sauteed Broccoli

Assorted Desserts

Adults & Teens - \$12 Seniors (60+) - \$10 Children (7-12) - \$8 MAX Cost per Family - \$20



All proceeds will be used to upgrade the Parish Life Center kitchen equipment





our parish youth ministry

Mou're Invited! ST. MARY YOUTH MINISTRY ALL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOLERS WELCOME!

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP (9th-12th) Every Sunday, 6:00 - 8:30pm Dinner, friends, and faith formation for high school!

> **YOUCAT (9th-12th)** Every Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:00pm

Dive deeper into your Catholic faith!

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP (6th-8th) 1st and 3rd Fridays, 6:30 - 8:00pm Dinner, friends, and faith formation for middle school! **FIGHT CLUB (7th-12th BOYS)** Every Saturday, 6:30-8:00am Explore what it means to be a Man of God!

SENIOR MINISTRY (12th) Monthly meetings TBD Prepare to live out your faith beyond high school!

FEMININE GENIUS (6th-12th GIRLS) 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:00pm *Explore what it means to be a Woman of God!*

Tatiana Beltran tbeltran@stmaryfred.org

Middle School Youth Group

1st and 3rd Fridays 6:30pm - 8:00pm Parish Life Center



] 🖸 @stmarycym

Catie Espiritu cespiritu@stmaryfred.org

MIDDLE SCHOOL DINNER TEAM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are in need of volunteers to help plan, prepare, and serve dinner to our **middle school** teens before CYM Youth Group. Volunteers will work in teams of 6-7 to plan and cook meals once every few months.

Contact Us for More Information!

tbeltran@stmaryfred.org

cespiritu@stmaryfred.org

vida parroquial noticias en español

Mañanitas a la . Virgen & de Guadalupe

 $\frac{\text{DE DICIEMBRE}}{1 \cdot 0 \cdot 0}$

LUNES

St. Mary Catholic Church

No temas, ¿no estoy yo aqui que soy tu

Madre?

La comunidad hispana de la parroquia St. Mary te invita a su

POSAD

Ven y preparémosle un lugar especial a Jesus en nuestro corazón y en nuestra comunidad para que nazca en esta Navidad.

EN EL CENTRO DE VIERNES VIDA PARROQUIAL (PLC) 23 DE DICIEMBRE **7:OO PM**

¡Te invitamos a traer algún platillo que desees compartir con los demás asistentes!

SAINT MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

¿QUIERES LA BENDICION DE UN MATRIMONIO SACRAMENTAL?

Inicia el camino de preparación en las clases de convalidac

FORMACIÓN PARA EL SACRAMENTO DEL MATRIMONIO PAI PAREJAS CASADAS CIVILMENTE O EN UNIÓN LIBRE

> Las clases comienzan el domingo 8 de enero de 2023 para registrarse o mayor información comunicarse con: Leticia Gonzales (703)473-7218 o llamar a la oficina parroquial (540)373-6491

El sacramento del matrimonio proporciona a la pareja las gracias necesarias para vivir en una relación segun el corazón de Dios y la pareja se convierte en un signo del amor de Dios para el mundo por la forma en que Dios obra en ellos, entre ellos y por medio de ellos.

WE WELCOME YOU HOME. 540-373-6491 **14**

st mary's special christmas collection

Parish Christmas Collection for Special Charity DECEMBER 3 & 4

Last year we took up our special Christmas Collection for Charity for the parish church in the City of Ahepe in Togo, West Africa. The church, Immaculate Conception of the Miraculous Medal of Ahepe, had lost its entire roof due to a violent storm in March 2019. Since then, all Masses and Church celebrations have taken place outside in the open air, under tents and trees, at the mercy of the weather. Due to your generosity last year, we were able to send them \$17,681.00 which assisted them tremendously in starting the replacement of the Church roof. As you can tell from the pictures, they have made much progress, but much work still needs to be done, and to make matters worse the Church's rectory was recently robbed.

The parish church of the Immaculate Conception of the Miraculous Medal of Ahepe will again be our special Christmas Charity for this year, in the hope that we will again be able to assist our brothers and sisters in completing the rebuilding of their Church.

St. Mary's has been taking up a special Christmas collection for 27 years, and all donations received are distributed as a gift from our Parish to different charities. Thanks to your generosity, we have given over \$330,000 to special charities over these past 27 years. We know you will be generous, as you have always been, and we thank you for sharing the joy of this holy season with those who are less fortunate.

Please make checks payable to "St. Mary" and include on the Memo Line: Togo Roof. Thank you!





operations given in love

Weekly Offertory

Donations Received November 11-16Sunday Offertory\$29,743.00Catholic Campaign Human Development\$6,691.00Retirement Fund for Religious\$297.00Parish Debt Reduction\$114.00St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box\$512.00

Donations Received November 22-28		
Sunday Offertory	\$23,992.00	
Catholic Campaign Human Development		
	\$134.00	
Retirement Fund for Religious		
	\$214.00	
Parish Debt Reduction	\$8,501.00	
St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box		
	\$160.00	

Faith Direct Donations November 15	
Sunday Offertory	\$15,516.60
All Saints Day	\$265.00
Parish Debt Reduction	\$855.00
Catholic Campaign Human Development	
	\$130.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$285.00
Military Archdiocese	\$70.00

Thank you for your generosity.

2022 Annual Catholic Charities Christmas Collection

December 10 & 11

As you think about the many blessings you and your family have received, please consider making a special sacrificial gift to support those in dire need in our Diocese by making a gift to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington. Please put a check, payable to the parish, in the collection basket and note Christmas Collection Catholic Charities on the memo line or make a gift online at ccda. net/donate. Your generosity is most appreciated!

Pro-Life Reflection

Mary was full of grace from the first moment of her conception. She was not exempt from the need of a Savior; He simply shared with her in a unique way the victory over sin that He offers all of us. For those tempted to abort, there is always sufficient grace to do what is right. *Mary, pray for us and for all tempted to abort, that they may say yes to life.*

Blessed be the holy and Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God!

O Virgin Immaculate, who, after the Ascension of thy Divine Son, didst console thy exile on earth by the Real Presence of Jesus in the Sacrament, and didst spend before the Tabernacle the greater part of thy days and even thy nights, make us comprehend the treasure we possess on the altar. Inspire us to visit often the God of Love in the Sacrament in which He abides to receive the homage that He deserves by so many titles, and to guide, protect, and console us in this exile! Amen.

Children's Offertory Envelopes - 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 arlingtondiocese.org/mrs.

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 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 arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife.

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.

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.

WE WELCOME YOU HOME. 540-373-6491 **16**

liturgy daily bread

Saint Mary Prayer List - December

Please pray for those who are sick or in need, especially:

Chris Breth, Chris Meeks, Elizabeth Kelley, Gary Rolla, George Dwyer, Jason Stoker Mark & David Smetek, Joanne O'Brien, John Zarcone , Joseph Krieg, Kelly McNichol Hargreaves, Larry & Linda Dillman, Linda Schmidt , MAJ Sean Fessenden, Marion Skinner, Maureen Bunn, Michael Fedowitz III, Peggy Denue, Richard Shearer, Sean Smith, Shirley Bozicevic, Stefanie Fell, Teresa Bui, Theresa & Keith Kovlefsky, Robert & Margaret Hein, Beth Rivera

Please pray for all the men and women in our military and civilian support services overseas, especially:

Joseph Gardner, Glenn Dickinson, Paul Fischer, John Moring, Jamal Williams, Lance Schulte, Brian Hellman, Patrick Fenton, David James, Shawn Tupta, Vincent Petillo, Christopher Johnson III, Patrick Desmond, Andrew M. Smith, Mindy Hakenson, Xavier Alas, Anthony Howell, John Anthenor, Andrew Dowdy, Sean McCullum, Josue Bermudez, Julio A. Alarcon, Gabe Gonzalez, David Oechslein, Shawn Herr, Logan Mullins, Greg Feroldi, Tyler Wood, Frank Spatt Jr., Thomas Wickham, Hunter Keiser, Sean Jobes, Michael Scott, Samuel Hoffman, Andrew Qualls, Matt Gioia, Jennifer Brothers, Jack Merker, Lieutenant Ashton Briganti, 2nd Lieutenant Tazman Briganti, Davon Bare, John Fartro, Michael Fedowitz Jr., Eric Menser, Sean Penczak, Will Atkins, LT Scott C. Boyd

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

St. Mary Prayer List

As a reminder, we will update our prayer list in the bulletin as a monthly listing. If you would like to include a person on the prayer list, please email **stmary@stmaryfred.org** or call the office at **540-373-6491**.

Your intention will be included for the month. If you would like your intention to remain, please reach back out and we will happily include it for an additional month.

Thank you.

Are You Affected By A Loved Ones' Addiction to Drugs?

If you are, please be aware that there is a program at St Mary that offers support to family members and friends of loved ones struggling with this problem. The program is called Nar-Anon.

One of the best benefits of Nar-Anon is that you will find compassion and support from others who are experiencing similar problems and struggles as well as people who have made it through these struggles. You will have the opportunity to hear stories from other members who have addicts in their families as well and see what coping mechanisms worked for them.

All information and discussion at the meetings are non-judgmental, informative, and strictly confidential. The meetings are in Room 100 in the Parish Life Center on Thursday from 7-8 pm and are open to the community at large. For more information, contact Wayne at **cushingwr@gmail.com**/540-840-5230 or Wanda at **wandasj823@gmail.com**/540-538-6978.

Daily Mass Intentions

December

5 MONDAY

6:30am John Doherty+ 9:00am Steve Sherba Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26

6 TUESDAY

6:30am Donna Folmar 9:00am Jane Cavallaro+ Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14

7 WEDNESDAY

6:30am Julia Halisky 9:00am Leonard Barlow+ 6:00pm Elaine Wheeler+ 7:30pm Daniel Hernandez+ Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30

8 THURSDAY

6:30am Louis Farrell 8:15am* Patricia and Michael Maronne 9:00am Katrina and Eric Dimarcantonio 12:00pm For Our Parish 6:00pm Paul Lysher+ 7:30pm Luis Pacheco+ Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

9 FRIDAY

6:30am Alan Cascio+ 9:00am Harry Noon+ Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19

10 SATURDAY

9:00am Alan Cascio+ 5:00pm Andrew Mullady+ 7:00pm Alan Cascio+ Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

11 SUNDAY

7:00am Matthew Payne+ 8:30am Sylvia and Len Fontenot 10:30am Frances Conn+ 10:30am* Julianne Kelsey+ 12:30pm Sarah King 2:30pm Fabian Estrada & Francisa Jaimes+ 5:00pm Donn Hart+ 7:00pm Michael Fedowitz III Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

* Indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy. Please remember, Mass intentions may be requested at the parish office for any remaining Masses of the year. If a desired date is no longer available, 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.