FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 18, 2022



capital campaign

Growing Our Legacy of Faith



2022 Capital Campaign

Growing Our Legacy of Faith

Encouragement from the Pews

2022 Capital Campaign

"My family and I are parishioners of St. Mary's and our children are students at Holy Cross Academy. We are beyond grateful for the education and the Catholic foundation our children receive attending HCA. We also feel blessed to be part of St. Mary's parish!

My mother would like to make a donation to the 2022 Capital Campaign! My mom has a small amount of money in a Fidelity account that has a mandatory withdrawal requirement when she turns 90. My mom will celebrate her 90th birthday on October 27th!

My parents live in Pennsylvania and do not have a lot of money, but are grateful their youngest (2) grandchildren are attending Catholic school and are aware of how happy we are with HCA. I recently told my mom about the expansion plans and often share how my kids are doing and what's going on at the school and parish. She called this morning to tell me she had planned to send the Fidelity funds to another charity, but decided to send to St. Mary's after I told her about the Capital Campaign.

At this time, I will pledge over three years to match my mom's donation. Please feel free to reach out to me so I know how to make my pledge official. My husband is not Catholic, but loves the education that our two children are receiving!" ~KLB

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,

Twas the Sunday before Christmas and all through the parish, not a soul was stirring, not even the Amazon delivery person.... Ok, wait, they are always working and lucky for me too! So this year I'll offer to God: my panicked wait for last minute Amazon boxes, or my anxiety over not being ready. I can hear Jesus saying, "Ready or not, here I come!"

And what preparations did God Almighty make for His coming? 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. To that end, there are lots of confession opportunities this week. Monday to Friday 11:30am to Noon, and 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Friday are the last scheduled confessions. There are no scheduled confessions on Saturday the 24th.

Furthermore, I say every year: carefully pick your Christmas Mass! The Christmas Eve Masses are crazy packed! So what Mass are you going to for Christmas? Let me encourage you to consider the 6:30pm at Holy Cross, or even better... come on Christmas morning. The Masses on Christmas morning are far more prayerful than the ones on Christmas Eve! If you must come on Christmas Eve to the 4pm, please remember that the doors of the church will only open at 3pm. You will not be able to come earlier and save seats. And of the 4pm Masses, the one at our school should be less crowded.

pax,

Fr. Mosimann

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





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

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 & 6:30pm 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

Holy Cross Academy Preschool

The month of November passed in blur at HCA Preschool! We learned about community helpers, gratitude, and Thanksgiving. We collected food for Fredericksburg Regional Food Bank. We also had a special Friendship Feast! Our December is a busy one too. We have been learning about Advent, St. Nicholas, and the Nativity, and Jesus. Of course, no December at preschool would be complete without a visit from Santa! This is the first year since 2019 that we have had Santa visit in person! The children were so excited to see him. We will be finishing up 2022 with lots of fun crafts, making ornaments, and our four year olds will be performing Nativity plays for their families. MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR to our St. Mary community from the staff, students, and families of Holy Cross Academy Preschool!

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 HCA

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**.











A National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence



our parish ministry highlight

St. Vincent de Paul Society & Thrift Store

We are Seeking Volunteers to work in the store and/or assist with interviews and financial counseling on Thursday evenings.

We are an all-volunteer mission, sharing the love of Christ by helping those in need with necessities for a productive and safe life in the City of Fredericksburg and surrounding counties. Supported by St. Mary & St. Jude both financially and with volunteers, we are able to give financial aid to over 1,200 families annually for rent, utilities, medicine, transportation, clothing and food. 100% of the sales of items/donations from our store goes toward supporting those seeking assistance.

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store 142 Olde Greenwich Drive Fredericksburg, Virginia 22408

Our Thrift Store is open for Shopping & Donations Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays Saturdays 10am-4pm



WE WELCOME YOU HOME. 540-373-6491

education religious education

Religious Education Upcoming Events:

Weekly Lectio Divina with Deacon Alberto

Tuesdays in English and Wednesdays in Spanish at 6:30pm on the Parish Facebook page

Monday to Wednesday, December 19-21 Religious Education Classes

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

Saturday, January 7 Baptism of Religious Education students at 10am in the church

Saturday, January 7 SPRED class in the Main Hall of the PLC from 10am to 12 noon

Monday to Wednesday, January 9 - 11 Religious Education Classes, Parents attend class with their children

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

Monday to Wednesday, January 16 - 18 No Religious Education Classes, Semester 1 ends

Tuesday, January 17 2nd Catechist Meeting

Thursday, January 19 Year 1 Confirmation Formation Night

Saturday, January 21 SPRED class in the Main Hall of the PLC from 10am to 12 noon

Monday to Wednesday, January 23-25

Religious Education Classes, Semester 2 begins, Report Cards issued.

Monday to Wednesday, January 30 to February 1 Religious Education Classes Understand Your Catholic Faith with The Catechism in a Year Podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz!

By listening to this podcast, Catholics will:

- Read the entire Catechism of the Catholic Church in 365 days
- Understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter
- Transform their relationship with the Church that Christ founded

Get the FREE Reading Plan!

Scan this QR code with your phone to learn more and get your free reading plan!

www.ascensionpress.com/ciy





Advent Reflection

An Advent activity that would benefit us is to spend time thinking about Sunday, as the Lord's Day. YOUCAT, Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church, can assist us by reflecting on its answer to two questions on Sunday.

"364. Why do Christians replace the Sabbath with Sunday? Christians replaced the celebration of the Sabbath with the celebration of Sunday because Jesus Christ rose from the dead on a Sunday. The "Lord's Day", however, does include elements of the Sabbath. [2174-2176, 2190-2191]

The Christian Sunday has three essential elements: (1) It recalls the creation of the world and communicates the festive splendor of God's goodness to the passage of time. (2) It recalls the "eighth day of creation", when the world was made new in Christ (thus a prayer from the Easter Vigil says: "You have wonderfully created man and even more wonderfully restored him."). (3) It includes the theme of rest, not just to sanctity of work, but to point even now toward man's eternal rest in God."

our parish happenings

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.

Christmas Flowers

Remember someone you love, either living or deceased, with a donation of our beautiful Christmas Flowers. Envelopes available in your envelope packets, Church, and in the Parish Office.

CALLING ALL BOYS & GIRLS 4th GRADE AND UP!

It's a special honor and privilege to serve as an Altar Server

> Join the team! ~ Altar Serving Training Tuesday January 3rd 4-7pm (week 1) Tuesday January 10th 4-7pm (week 2) Tuesday January 17th 4-7pm (week 3) Tuesday January 24th 4-7pm (week 4)

Installation Mass Sunday, February 5th at 8:30am Mass

To register for the training or if you have any questions, please email Lara Traylor **stmaryfxbg@gmail.com**

You must attend all training sessions in order to be ready to serve!

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.

Concerts at Saint Mary Jeffrey Palmer

On Friday, January 20, 2023 at 8pm, Concerts at Saint Mary is delighted to welcome back for a second time countertenor Jeffrey Palmer. Critically acclaimed for his performances across the globe, Jeffrey Charles Palmer



has been heard in concert at Marmorsaal of Mirabell Palace (Salzburg, Austria), the Hefei Grand Theatre (Hefei, China), and the Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall (NYC, USA), to name a few. Hailed as 'ethereal' by British journalist and Vogue International Editorat-Large Hamish Bowles, and known for his 'particular attractive timbre with more warmth to the tone than often found with countertenors' (Henry Fogel, Fanfare Magazine), Palmer's eclectic taste and flexible musicality have allowed him to be as comfortable in Purcell and Handel as he is in Britten and Björk. Mr. Palmer serves as vocal faculty for the annual Music in the Alps Festival in Austria and as the United States Correspondent for the Australian classical and new music magazine CutCommon. Concerts at Saint Mary is excited to welcome Jeffrey Palmer back for what is to be a concert not to miss!



our parish

happenings

Farewell Message - David Thielman

It is with much sadness that I announce that David Thielman, associate organist and director of the *Sursum Corda* Latin choir, will be leaving our parish family with the coming of the new year. Mr. Thielman will be joining the music ministry staff of Saint William of York in Stafford, where he will be leading the children's choir ministry and assisting in organist duties. On behalf of Fr. Mosimann, all priest, staff, and our entire parish family, I wish David best wishes and fruitfulness in his new endeavors.

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. There will be an Info meeting on Jan 10 at 7pm in parish library

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.

Tuition Discount Available

Saint Michael the Archangel Catholic High School early enrollment discount available through December 31. Fully accredited, diocesan approved, faithful to the Magisterium. Learn more at **saintmichaelhs.org**.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

This year our tree sales have been outstanding! We've completely sold out this past week and are all so thankful for those who made it out to purchase a fresh cut Christmas tree from the Knights of Columbus.

With your continued support, we are able to continue to help those in need around our area this time of year.



our parish happenings

Supports Life

SAINT MARY'S

Virginia Society for Human Life Political Action Committee

What's Next for Virginia After Roe – There is Much Work to be Done!

The presentation will educate and encourage pro-life supporters to find the best ways they can participate in building a true Culture of Life at every level. Turner will cover facts about the impact of abortion on the health and well-being of women, the social damage done, and the way forward legislatively.

Now is the moment for faith communities to know the facts, where we stand in Virginia after Roe and how to respond to the current conversations in our community with truth and compassion. There will be an opportunity for discussion and questions following the presentation.

VSHL is a non-sectarian statewide organization defending human life from fertilization to natural death. VSHL opposes abortion, assisted suicide and euthanasia.

<image>

Virginia Society for Human Life

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4 7PM PARISH LIFE CENTER

our parish youth ministry



	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	тни	FRI	SAT	
	27	28	29	30	1	2 мs сум	3 FIGHT CLUB	
	4 нs сум	5	6	7 Youcat	8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	9	10 FIGHT CLUB	
4440 11/1 6 10 11/1	е ф нз сум	12 senior ministry	13	14 YOUCAT	15	16 мs сум	17	
UG SWEAT	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
PART				M	MERRY CHRISTMAS			
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
	AN	D HAPPY	NEW YE	AR! NO	CYM AC	TIVITIE	S	

HS CYM HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP (9th-12th)

Every Sunday, 6:00 - 8:30pm Parish Life Center Dinner, friends, and faith formation for high school!

MS CYM

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP (6th-8th)

1st and 3rd Fridays, 6:30 - 8:00pm Parish Life Center Dinner, friends, and faith formation for middle school!

YOUCAT (9th-12th)

Every Wednesday, 6:30 - 8:00pm John Paul II House Dive deeper into your Catholic faith!

NOTE: There will be no youth group activities December 21-January 1 due to the celebration of Christmas and New Years FIGHT CLUB (7th-12th BOYS) Every Saturday, 6:30-8:00am Parish Life Center Explore what it means to be a Man of God!

FEMININE GENIUS (6th-12th GIRLS)

2nd and 4th Thursdays, 6:30 - 8:00pm John Paul II House Explore what it means to be a Woman of God!

SENIOR MINISTRY (12th)

Monthly Potluck Dinner & Discussion John Paul II House (5:30-7:00pm) Prepare to live out your faith beyond high school!

LEADERSHIP MINISTRY (9th-12th)

Monthly Sunday Meetings, 2:00-5:00pm Parish Life Center Build your confidence and peer leadership skills!

vida parroquial

Requisitos para recibir los Sacramentos BAUTISMO

- Debe ser miembro de la Parroquia 90 días antes de solicitar el Bautismo
- Tomar las clases previo al bautizo
- Las clases son el primer sábado del mes a las 12 del mediodía

Llame a Gio a la oficina parroquial al (540) 373-6491, para programar la fecha del Bautismo al menos cuatro semanas por adelantado.

MATRIMONIO

- Debe ser miembro de la Parroquia
- Contactar a la Parroquia seis meses antes para iniciar la preparación

PRIMERA COMUNIÓN

- Niños de 1ro y 2do grado
- Preparación de 2 años

Inscripciones abiertas julio 2022 llamar a la oficina parroquial

CONFIRMACIÓN

- Jóvenes de 6to -8vo grado
- y Secundaria (High School)
- Preparación de 3 años

Inscripciones en la oficina julio 2022

RECONCILIACIÓN

- Miércoles 11:30 am 12:00 pm, 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- Sábados 8:00 8:30 am y 3:30 - 4:30 pm

QUINCEAÑERA

- La quinceañera necesita tener el Sacramento de la Confirmación
- No hay misas privadas
- Sólo hacemos una Misa de quinceañera al mes

Para más información comunicarse con la oficina parroquial al 540) 373-6491





corazón y en nuestra comunidad para que nazca en esta Navidad.

VIERNES EN EL CENTRO DE VIDA PARROQUIAL **23 DE DICIEMBRE** (PLC) :00 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?



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

vida parroquial noticias en español

LA IGLESIA CATOLICA ST. MARY TE INVITA A Un paseo Biblico a través de La Misa

DESCUBRIRAS

La belleza, las riquezas y el profundo significado de la Misa

<u>EXPLORA</u> Las raíces bíblicas de la liturgia y lo que significan las palabras, los gestos y los rituales de la Misa.



TODOS LOS LUNES 4:45 pm y 6:30 pm En el centro de vida parroquial (PLC)

para mas información o para inscribirse: comunicarse con Tony Gibert: Tel: (540) 287-6067 e-mail: tonygibert61@gmail

operations given in love

Weekly Offertory

Donations Received November 29 - December 6				
Sunday Offertory	\$29,373.00			
Parish Christmas Charities Collection	\$11,337.00			
Parish Debt Reduction	\$342.00			
St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box	\$313.00			

Faith Direct Donations December 4

Sunday Offertory\$85,640.60Catholic Charities Collection\$4,452.00Parish Christmas Charities Collection\$4,605.00Parish Debt Reduction\$6,255.00

Thank you for your generosity.

Pro-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 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**.

Micah Cold Weather Shelter

The Micah Cold Weather Shelter opened for the winter season on November 14 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.



Now accepting applications for the 2023-24 school year



The Summit Academy exists to provide a rigorous liberal arts education rooted in the Catholic tradition, and to partner with parents to form their sons and daughters in Christian virtue so that they become mature, responsible young adults who are equipped to engage the world.

APPLY NOW at <u>www.thesummitva.org/apply</u> Application deadline - February 1, 2023

ROOTED IN FAITH \cdot EQUIPPED TO SERVE \cdot PREPARED TO LEAD

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, Joe Clay, George Dwyer, Justin Thacker, Eileen Geary

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

19 MONDAY

6:30am John Khalil+ 9:00am Ismael Collin+ Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

20 TUESDAY

6:30am Lance Schulte 9:00am Helen Novick 12:00pm Michael Shelton+ Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38

21 WEDNESDAY

6:30am Peter Fernandes+ 9:00am John Murphy+ Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45

22 THURSDAY

6:30am Eva Ortiz 9:00am Richard and Nancy Danby 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56

23 FRIDAY

6:30am Patrick Leo Petro Sr.+ 9:00am Dee Ann Williams Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66

24 SATURDAY

9:00amVince Himelright+4:00pmDr. And Mrs. Sambat4:00pm*George Graf+6:30pmManuel & Consuelo Rios Villagrana+6:30pm*Reymundo & Telma Odilia Rivera+8:30pmJoseph and Francis Cascio+2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79

25 SUNDAY

12:00am	Ana M. Cabanas+
7:00am	Gina Wingert Lenox+
8:30am	Karen Scanlon+
10:30am	Stephen Inguanti Jr. and
	Stephen Inguanti Sr.+
12:30pm	Maria Beltran
2:30pm	For the Priests, Deacons, and
	Staff of St Mary
ls 62:1-5/	Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25

* 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.