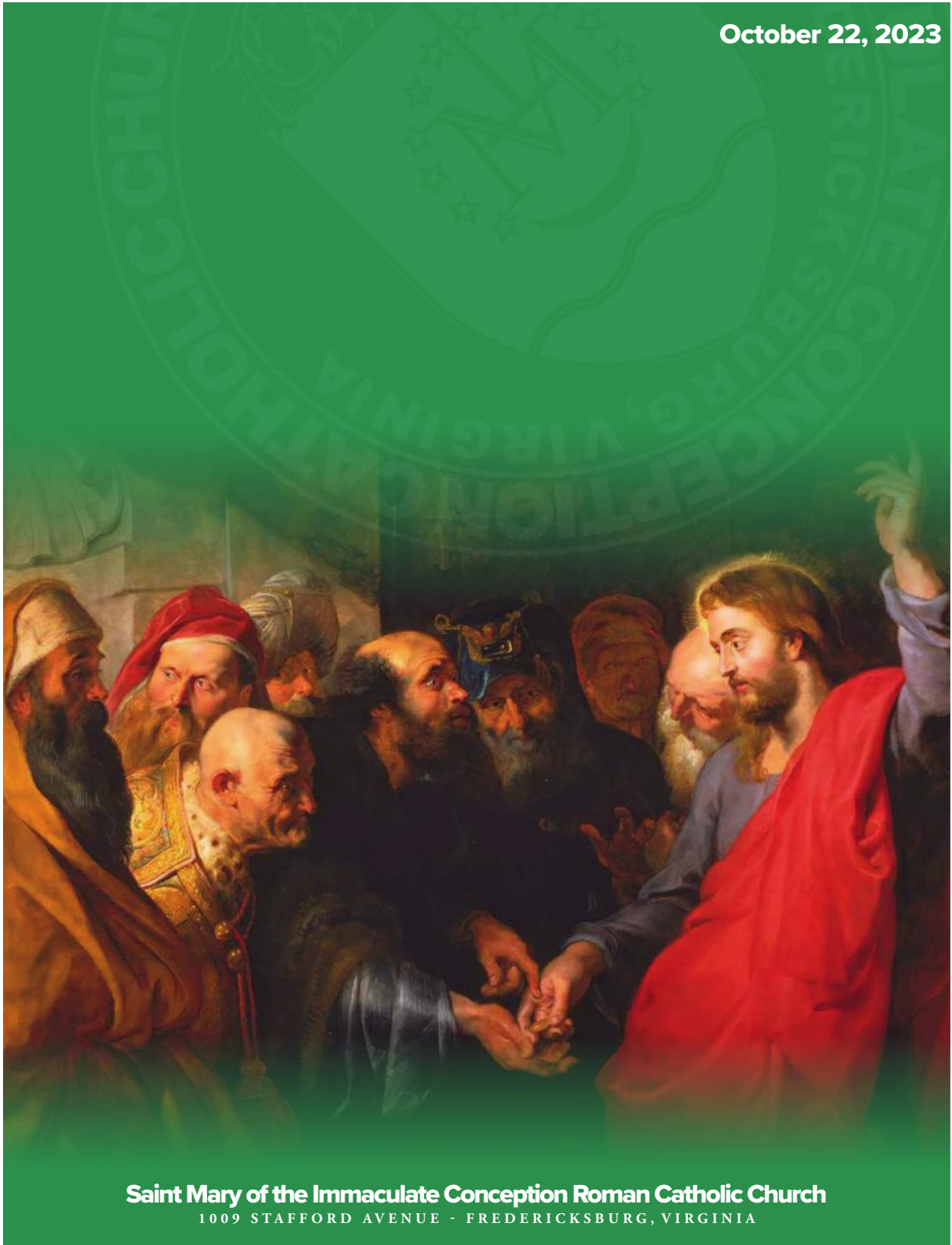


# **TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**October 22, 2023**



**Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church**  
1009 STAFFORD AVENUE - FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA

# capital campaign

# Growing Our Legacy of Faith

## "Loaves and Fishes" Commemorative Brick Wall



A commemorative brick wall will be displayed in the new Holy Cross Academy cafeteria for all to see for years to come. These bricks will serve as lifetime reminders of those generous families that desired to "Grow Our Legacy of Faith."

### 3 WAYS TO RECEIVE A BRICK

1. Make a five-year pledge or gift of \$1,000+ after 10/01/23
2. Any pledge or gift made prior to 9/30/23
3. Purchased brick in the 2016 sale

Our Loaves and Fishes wall allows you to be part of this expansion as you honor your family, memorialize loved ones or commemorate special events, such as graduation.

Please complete the form on the reverse side and submit it along with your completed pledge card on or before Commitment Weekend or drop it off to the parish office. Questions call 540-373-6491.

*Jesus took that small gift of five loaves of bread and two fish and He multiplied it by five thousand. Jesus can do the same with us too. We bring to Jesus our treasures, talents and abilities that we have and He makes our gifts grow, if we cooperate with the graces that He sends us.*

*"Honor the Lord with your wealth, and with the first fruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine." Proverbs 3: 9-10*

## COMMITMENT WEEKEND | OCTOBER 21-22: AN OPPORTUNITY TO PLEDGE YOUR SUPPORT

As we approach Commitment Weekend, we need your help! We are still \$1.2 M away from meeting **\$7M** in the Parish and School Needs. We kindly ask you to indicate your giving intentions on or before the weekend of October 21st.

### What are the Needs?

- **Watch** Fr. Mosimann's detailed Capital Campaign Presentation about how the Campaign for St. Mary's will help our parish family in the future at [youtube.com/@stmaryfxbg](https://youtube.com/@stmaryfxbg). At youtube, **type** stmaryfxbg.

### 4 WAYS TO HELP OUR PARISH to GROW OUR LEGACY OF FAITH

- **Please review the campaign materials that were sent to all parishioners.** We are inviting all families to make a sacrificial gift or five-year pledge according to your blessings.
- **Pray** with your family and use the chart below to discern what your sacrifice will be and how it reflects your gratitude for the blessings and benefits that you have received at St. Mary's.
- **New! Loaves and Fishes Commemorative Wall** The campaign will honor any commitment if made before 9/30/23. Moving forward, anyone that makes a five-year pledge or gift of \$1000 or more will receive a brick. If you need a **Loaves and Fishes Card**, you may pick one up in the church vestibule.
- **Lend Your Support!** This weekend, please help us to meet 100% of the need by completing a pledge card along with the Loaves and Fishes card and join your brothers and sisters in support of this transformative effort.

My Sacrifice Equals	Monthly Commitment	Yearly Commitment	Total Commitment Over 5 Years
Small Daily Coffee	\$50	\$600	\$3,000
Cell Phone Upgrade	\$100	\$1,200	\$6,000
Dinning Out Weekly	\$200	\$2,400	\$12,000
Vacation	\$300	\$3,600	\$18,000
Car Payment	\$1,000	\$12,000	\$60,000

# from our pastor

Folks,

Last weekend we prayed for the repose of the soul of Sister Susan Louise Eder, OSFS, the founding principal of our parish school who passed away suddenly after complications arising from her battle with cancer. Unfortunately the timing was such that we couldn't share in the bulletin the information about her funeral which was this past Friday. I am hopeful that you did get word when it was posted on the parish website, and sent out by school communications and flocknotes. The school was closed to give an opportunity to teachers and families to go to the funeral Mass. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Oblate sisters, in her memory. For that purpose a collection was taken up at a memorial Mass here on Friday, but you can send donations directly to the Oblates at the address on this page of the bulletin.

Also, included are two loving tributes to Sister's impact on the lives of the parish. The authors preferred to not have their names, only because they want to shine a light solely on Sister, May she rest in peace with the angels and saints.

Pax,



Very Reverend John P. Mosimann, V.F.  
Pastor

*Dear Fr. Mosimann:*

*My family has had the honor of being connected to Holy Cross Academy since its founding. We were so saddened to hear of the passing of Sr. Susan Louise, who served the school with so much love and dedication for so long. One thing that has stuck with me is Sister's love of the motto "Live Jesus". It taught me to see Jesus in every person and in every circumstance, and I am a better person for it. We are saddened by the loss of this faithful daughter of the Church, but are strengthened by the hope Sister taught us to have in the Resurrection. May God reward her for her good works and welcome her into his Kingdom.*

*Dear Fr. Mosimann:*

*The Sisters were a huge blessing for us when we moved to Fredericksburg from Richmond. They were a bright spot for me as I struggled to acclimate to our new home, and they continued to be there with prayers and guidance during the ups and downs of life over the years. Our family will be forever grateful for the love and kindness that Sister Susan Louise bestowed upon us during our time knowing her. She was humble, nurturing, and an extraordinary example of what it means to live your faith. We love you, Sister Susan Louise!*



*Sister Susan Louise Eder, OSFS*

Born Susan Rose Eder, age 69, entered eternal life on Friday, October 13, 2023. She was born in Elkton, Maryland on September 30, 1954, the daughter of the late James and Nancy (Beamer) Eder.

Sister professed vows as an Oblate Sister of St. Francis de Sales in 1974. Following profession, Sister began her educational career as a teacher and administrator. Sister's long teaching ministry included Mount Aviat Academy (Childs), St. Anthony of Padua (Wilmington), and St. Bernadette School (Drexel Hill).

In 1998 Sister became the founding principal of Holy Cross Academy, Fredericksburg, VA. Under Sister's leadership that spanned 21 years, the school earned Accreditation and was named a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence and a Virginia Distinguished Purple Star School. In 2019 Sister began her service as principal at Immaculate Heart of Mary in Towson, MD.

Sister saw beauty in the world around her and in the majesty of her God. Sister fulfilled her greatest joy, passionately living her Oblate vocation espoused to Christ and sharing the spirit of her spiritual Founders. Collaborating with clergy, faculty, and staff, she eagerly shared her Salesian vision for the intellectual and spiritual growth of each one, as well as the children they were called to serve. Determined and resolute in her vision to create a school atmosphere with singular focus, she lived and shared her goal with unwavering joy: "It's About the Children."

This joy extended outside the classroom as she shared the Salesian spirituality of gentleness and compassion while living each moment in the presence of God. Sister was an active member of the North American Salesian Network, and a frequent presenter, mentor, and author on Salesian Spirituality. Her life of peace and gentleness was an example that guided many to walk more deeply in their faith and to come to know their God.

Sr. Susan Louise is predeceased by her parents Nancy and Jim Eder, her sister, Elizabeth, brother, Phillip, and her stepmother, Margie. She is survived by her brother Rusty (Joan), sisters, Sr. Anne Elizabeth, OSFS, Sr. Frances Carol, OSFS, Judy Pinder (Terry), and her nieces and nephews: Paul, Gail, Mary, Katherine, Arnold, Anna, Rebecca, and Thomas and many cousins and great nieces and nephews.

**Donations in honor of Sister Susan Louise may be made to:  
Oblate Sisters  
399 Childs Road, Childs, MD 21916**



# announcements

## St. Mary Coffee & Donut Shop

Following ALL Morning Masses

Come and enjoy some fellowship!

### New Parishioner Welcome

Welcome to St. Mary's! Fr. Mosimann and members of our Welcoming Committee are looking forward to spending time with you, to get to know you a bit and see how you (and your family) can share your gifts and talents with your new parish family.

Please sign-up for a time slot on **Sunday, October 29th from 9am-12** for yourself and/or family to spend time with our Welcome Committee Team and with your new pastor. Visit [bit.ly/46pMXhh](http://bit.ly/46pMXhh) to secure your 30-minute appointment.

Meetings will take place in the Courtyard Meeting Room (Fr. Rooney Room) behind the church - the room with all the crucifixes on the wall!

If you have any questions, please email Elena Doyle at [edoyle@stmaryfred.org](mailto:edoyle@stmaryfred.org) or call **540-373-6491**.

## contact us

[stmaryfred.org](http://stmaryfred.org)

### 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  
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  
First Friday 7pm Novus Ordo (Latin Mass)  
First Saturday 8:00am - Fatima Prayers & Rosary  
followed by 9am Mass

### 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](mailto:stmary@stmaryfred.org)  
[stmaryfred.org](http://stmaryfred.org)  
Monday - Friday, 8:30am - 4:30pm;  
Students staff office weekdays until 9pm,  
Saturdays 9-5pm, Sundays 9:30am - 1:30pm

Very Reverend John P. Mosimann, Vicar Forane, Pastor  
Reverend Phillip Cozzi, Parochial Vicar  
Reverend Robert Renner, Parochial Vicar  
Reverend Tim Courtney, Parochial Vicar  
Reverend Kevin Dansereau, 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

### 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](mailto:sfry@holycrossweb.com)

### HOLY CROSS PRESCHOOL

540-373-7553  
Director, Sheri Castellarin

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Director, Aristides Lucas  
Associate Director, Katherine Evans  
Administrative Asst, Lori Barlow

### YOUTH MINISTRY

Director, Tatiana Beltran  
Assistant Youth Minister, Catie Espiritu

### ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (OCIA)

Director, Katherine Evans

### 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](mailto:bulletin@stmaryfred.org). Thanks!

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

# education

# holy cross academy

## Sister Susan Louise Eder

Holy Cross Academy closed its doors on Friday, October 20 so that faculty, staff, and families could attend funeral services for Sister Susan Louise Eder. She and the Oblate Sisters of St. Francis de Sales took up the mantle of Catholic education in Fredericksburg from the Daughters of Wisdom, who had run Montfort Academy until the spring of 1998. In the fall of 1998, Sister Susan Louise became the founding principal of Holy Cross Academy and led our parish school for twenty-one years. We are so appreciative of the firm foundation she built for our school, including a Blue Ribbon of Excellence award in 2012.

Expanding Holy Cross Academy was a dream of hers and we are deeply grateful for her campaign efforts over the years. As we finalize plans for our expansion in this 25th anniversary year of Holy Cross Academy, we recognize Sister Susan Louise's dedication to our school and honor her legacy.

## Grandparents Day

Holy Cross Academy students welcomed their grandparents to campus for the annual Grandparent's Day. Grandchildren were proud to act as tour guides for their grandparents, showing off the beautiful Holy Cross Academy campus. Everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch, visited classrooms and enjoyed the beautiful day during recess. Thank you to all of the grandparents who visited and supported our student art fair.

Huge thanks to Mrs. Beall and her team for a great meal, Mr. Ivey and Mr. Bielovitz for preparing our facility, and our amazing PTO volunteers for making our grandparents feel so welcome at HCA

We look forward to hosting our grandparents again next year.

## Holy Cross Open House - Save the Date!

Would you like to learn more about Holy Cross Academy, and how Catholic education can make a difference in your child's life? Please join us on Sunday, November 12 from 1-3pm, for our annual Open House! Details coming soon; in the meantime, please visit our website at [holycrossweb.com](http://holycrossweb.com) (click "Admissions") or email our Admissions Coordinator, Deena Lanier, [admissions@holycrossweb.com](mailto:admissions@holycrossweb.com) for more information.



*A National  
Blue Ribbon  
School of  
Excellence*



## World's Finest Chocolate Sale

The World's Finest Chocolate Sale has begun. The profits from this candy sale helps to provide funds for the many events planned by the HCA PTO. Students will be selling chocolate after mass on October 28th and 29th at St. Mary and HCA



# our parish religious education

## Upcoming Events

**Monday to Friday, Registration of Religious Education students at the Parish Office.**

**Monday to Wednesday, October 23 to 25**  
Religious Education Classes

**Monday, October 23**  
Meeting with parents of children to be Baptized on January 6, 2024

**Monday, October 30**  
Religious Education Saints Procession

**Tuesday, October 30**  
No Religious Education classes

**Wednesday, November 1**  
No Religious Education classes

**Saturday, November 4**  
SPRED classes

**Monday to Wednesday, November 6 to 8**  
Religious Education classes

**Thursday, November 9**  
Year 2 Formation Night 7pm in the church

**Monday to Wednesday, November 13-15**  
Religious Education classes

**Tuesday, November 14**  
Advent Confessions for Grades 3-8 RE students at HCA during classes

**Thursday, November 16**  
Year 2/Grade 2 First Penance & First Communion meeting, 7pm in the church

**Saturday, November 18**  
Diocesan Catechetical Conference 2023, Reston Sheraton 7:30am to 4:30pm

**Monday to Wednesday, November 20 to 22**  
No Religious Education classes, Thanksgiving Break

## Teaching Masses

On Tuesday, October 11 at 4:45pm and 6:30pm our two annual Teaching Masses were held. Father Kevin Dansereau helped us understand and appreciate the four parts of the Mass. The Introductory Rites gather us as an assembly and help us focus on why we are at Mass. The second, the Liturgy of the Word, is God speaking to us and us responding with faith and conversion of heart. The Third, Liturgy of the Eucharist, is when we as members of the assembly are called to do the public work of thanking God for his many gifts and especially for the gift of his Son Jesus. The fourth, the Concluding Rites, the assembly is blessed and sent into the world as Disciples of Christ. Even though the Mass ends, its impact and meaning continues in us.



# our parish happenings



Our parish family of  
St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception  
will be remembering all of our  
brothers & sisters who passed away this year

All families are invited to attend a  
**CANDLELIT MASS OF REMEMBRANCE**  
for your loved one

**THE FEAST OF ALL SOULS**  
Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 7:00pm  
St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church

Reception to follow in the Courtyard Meeting Room

Please RSVP by calling 540-373-6491  
or via email [stmaryfred.org](mailto:stmaryfred.org)

*"Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let  
perpetual light shine upon them.  
May the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God, rest in peace."*

## Parishioners Seeking Assistance

A married couple, both disabled veterans, are seeking help with housekeeping, cooking and assistance with transportation to medical appointments and with errands. Seeking to hire someone up to 30 hours weekly (but are flexible). Must be a legal resident of Virginia for at least 5 years, have a valid driver's license and transportation.

If interested, please email Elena at [edoyle@stmaryfred.org](mailto:edoyle@stmaryfred.org)

## Save the Date

Monday, November 6th @ 6:30pm  
Theology on Tap  
Strangeways Brewery  
Featured Speaker: Carrie Gress

## Don't Miss This Life-Changing Retreat!

33 Days to Morning Glory



Marian Consecration is a great weapon to fight the evils against the Church and in the world. Mary will obtain the grace for us to trust in God's Mercy, as she is the Mother of Mercy.

*Experience this extraordinary 33-day journey to Marian Consecration with four giants of Marian spirituality: St. Louis de Montfort, St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta and St. John Paul II.*

*Fr. Gaitley masterfully summarizes their teaching, making it easy to grasp and simple enough to put into practice. He weaves their thought into a user-friendly retreat that will bless even the busiest of people. So if you have been thinking about entrusting yourself to Mary for the first time or if you are simply looking to deepen or renew your consecration to her, 33 Days to Morning Glory is the right book to read and the perfect retreat.*

**We will make our consecration together at the December 8th Mass**

**Retreat Sessions to be held October 29,  
November 5, 12, 19, 26 & December 3rd  
(Court Yard Meeting Room ) Sunday 4-5:30pm**

**MUST REGISTER NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 27TH, 2023**

**Cost: \$13.00 for the book**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_



# our parish two become one



We are happy to share that David and Margaret Bereit will be assisting our priests in the preparation of couples seeking the Sacrament of Marriage. Together, the Bereits are launching the “Two Become One” marriage preparation retreat and mentorship program for engaged couples at our parish. This program offers a blend of Biblical guidance, Catholic teachings, practical relationship skills, personal growth exercises, and a structured weekend experience. It’s all designed to equip couples with the tools for a joyful, lifelong, Christ-centered marriage that benefits them, their families, the parish, our community, and the Church.

This past weekend, the “Two Become One” team offered its first retreat for the engaged at St. Mary. The retreat was an overwhelming success with ALL couples sharing that they felt blessed to have carved out this time to begin to intentionally focus and plan on what kind of marriage they truly want to build and how to put Christ in the center.



If you feel called to assist in this special ministry, please contact Margaret Bereit at [margaret@stmaryfred.org](mailto:margaret@stmaryfred.org)



# called & gifted workshop

# called & gifted

Our Called & Gifted Workshop was a wonderful success with over 100 parishioners seeking to identify their God given charisms! Thank you to our Stewardship Committee for organizing this beautiful day! Please keep the participants in your prayers as they continue to discern how to best use their gifts, remembering that every good gift comes from God and must be used for the good of all.



# our parish happenings



**ST. MARY'S**

## COAT DRIVE

**NOW ACCEPTING  
INFANT-CHILD SIZE 8 COATS ONLY  
Until Wednesday, November 1**

**We also have a need for  
NEW HATS & MITTENS**



Please leave your donations in the donations boxes  
located in the Parish Life Center & Holy Cross Academy

Families and individuals in need of coats are welcome  
to pick them up Sunday, November 5 following all  
Masses until 4pm

Questions? Call the Parish Office at 540-373-6491

### **Is Your Heart Broken by a Loved One's Addiction to Drugs?**

If so, please be aware that there is a program at St. Mary that offers support to family members and friends of loved ones struggling with a drug addiction problem. The program is called NAR-ANON.

At NAR-ANON meetings, you will have the opportunity to share your story, hear stories from other members, and develop positive coping mechanisms in dealing with your addict.

Compassion and understanding are ever present at the meetings. You are not alone in this struggle! Please take the first step and come to a meeting. Just listen if you want. There is no pressure to share.

The meetings are held at St. Mary Catholic Church in Room 100 in the Parish Life Center on Thursday from 7-8pm and are open to the public at large. For more information **call or text Wayne (540)840-5230 or Wanda (540)538-6978**



# our parish happenings



*Giorgio Frassati*

**RETREAT**  
for  
**Young Adults**

Ages 21-35

**\*NOV 10-12  
FRIDAY-SUNDAY**

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati was a young, vibrant, and wealthy man who loved life, God, and the mountains of Italy. He shared his wealth with the poor, savored friendships with a broad circle of men and women, and brought hundreds closer to Christ.

**COME CLIMB WITH US!**

**Verso l'alto** "on to the heights" means not only to climb the mountains before us, but also refers to scaling the peaks and navigating the troughs of the spiritual life and knowing Christ.

PGF

*\*For the more adventurous souls — come along on a Sunday afternoon excursion to the summit of a Blue Ridge Peak!*

Fr. Riley will guide us to the summit!

Email Deacon Mark Maines at:  
[Mark.Maines@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:Mark.Maines@arlingtondiocese.org)

RETREAT COST IS \$285. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE MAY BE AVAILABLE.

## Adult Confirmation Classes

We will begin Adult Confirmation classes for all those who have been Baptized and received First Communion, but have not had the opportunity to be Confirmed. There will be an introductory meeting, followed by seven (7) class sessions, each lasting about 1 hour. An informational meeting will be held Wednesday, October 25 in the parish office. If you would like to register for the class, please call or stop by the parish office 540-373-6491 or email [stmaryfred.org](mailto:stmaryfred.org) and include your name, phone number and address.

## International Week of Prayer & Fasting

The 31st International Week of Prayer and Fasting coalition, in collaboration with the Legion of Mary, Marian Fathers, and others are asking members of parishes to unite for nine days of prayer and fasting from **October 20-28**.

**The Closing day of the International Week of Prayer and Fasting will be held in-person on Saturday October 28, from 8:30am to 4pm at the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC, with Eucharistic Adoration, Mass at 12 noon, the Rosary, and guest speakers throughout the day. Confirmed speakers include Fr. Timothy Byerley, Ray Grijalba, Dr. Carlos Parellada, Sister Deirdre Byrne, and Ted Flynn. Our main celebrant Bishop Emeritus Robert J. Baker, STD.**

The week will begin with a Virtual Conference starting on October 20, 21, & 23 with the following speakers: **Fr. Chris Alar, Fr. Robert Altier, Nikki Kingsley, Fr. David Gunter, Dr. Peter Howard, Mark Houck, Karen Japzon, Fr. Ron Stone, and Maureen Flynn.** Registration is required for the Virtual Conference and watch FREE on Day of Presentation at [iwopf.org](http://iwopf.org) or call 888-478-PRAY.

On-demand replays of speakers' talks are available by registering online at [iwopf.org](http://iwopf.org) for an ALL-ACCESS PASS.

## Young Adults

Are you between the ages of 18 and 39 and looking to meet new friends in your community? Join the St. Mary's Catholic Young Adult Group! We strive to bring glory to God by serving the young adult population of our parish through faith building activities, opportunities to volunteer in the wider community and relationship building social events. To join us please contact Tyler at [stmaryyava@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryyava@gmail.com) - we would love to have you!

## Fall Bazaar & Bake Sale

The CCW's annual Fall Craft Bazaar and Bake Sale will take place Saturday, October 28 at the Parish Life Center, from 8am until 2pm, with lunch served by the American Heritage Girls! If you have handcrafted items to donate, drop them off at Room 100, PLC (the door on the courtyard) Thursday, October 20 between 9am and 11am, or bring them to the Parish Office the weekdays preceding the bazaar. Please bring your baked goods to the Rooney Room October 27, until 7pm. Questions or want to volunteer? Contact Wanda Cushing, 540-373-9184, or Esther White, 540-548-0779 for crafts, or Arlene Wilkinson, 540-785-7718, for the bake sale.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS TO COME, ENJOY & SHOP!

# our parish happenings

## We've got Scrip Gift Cards for That

Do you buy groceries at Giant, Publix, Target, Walmart or Weis? We have Scrip Gift cards for that. Buy breakfast or Lunch at Chipotle, Taco Bell, Wendy's, Burger King, Hardee's, Sonic, or Panera Breads? We have Scrip Gift cards for that. Enjoy fine dining at Red Lobster, Outback, Bravos, Bonefish, Carrabba's, Bob Evans, or Cracker Barrel. We have Scrip Gift Cards for that. Need a cup of Starbucks coffee, we have a Scrip Gift card for that also. Stop by the Scrip Gift Card table after mass and purchase gift cards or to review the list of all the Scrip Gift Cards that are available. Set up an account today and continue earning rebates for HCA! Email Scrip Coordinator at [scripcoordinator@holycrossweb.com](mailto:scripcoordinator@holycrossweb.com) for the school enrollment code so HCA gets credit for your purchase or with any questions. Thanks for using script gift cards and supporting HCA!

## Prayers and Squares

The Prayers and Squares ministry has distributed many prayer quilts to sick and troubled members of our parish family. There is no cost involved in requesting a quilt for a sick family member or friend. The comfort these prayer quilts provide is visible in the faces of those who receive them. Please consider stopping by our table after mass when we put a quilt out and say a prayer as you tie a knot for someone in need.

If you would like to request a quilt for someone, please pick up a request at the office or contact DianEpp at [dbpepp65@outlook.com](mailto:dbpepp65@outlook.com).

## ALL SOULS NOVENA

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the best way to remember your deceased loved ones. Our All Souls Novena will begin on Thursday, November 2, All Souls Day. An intention envelope is included with your bimonthly envelope packet; additional envelopes are available in the vestibule of the Church. There is no collection on All Souls Day. Envelopes should be turned in early and will be placed near the Tabernacle during the Novena.

## Catholic Charities Migration Refugee Services ~ Seeking Mentors

Making a difference in young refugee lives simply with your presence, knowledge and compassion is one of the most generous and rewarding acts you can take part in today. The opportunity to directly change the course of a young life is nothing short of inspirational when you look back on where they started to where they are today and where they may go tomorrow. Our MYVA program is an opportunity to have this type of unforgettable impact by helping young refugees navigate the many influences that surround them after arrival to the country. Having just one person to ask questions or who can help provide support and guidance is more valuable to a young refugee than you can imagine.

Please consider becoming a mentor – it requires no more experience than a giving heart and the desire to have fun while helping our youth find their way in our society. Tasks include helping with school information, college opportunities, job applications and many more. The opportunities for learning and discovery are endless. Refugee youth often have questions about our country, how to navigate community resources and even how to drive. We ask for a minimum of 6 months commitment and at least 2 hours a week as our youth are in need of stability and consistency in their relationships with new individuals. Studies show the longer the relationship the greater the impact and just a couple hours a week is enough to make a significant difference in their lives. Thank you for your consideration! Contact Kathleen Renfroe, Fredericksburg Site Supervisor at [kathleen.renfroe@ccda.net](mailto:kathleen.renfroe@ccda.net)

## New Altar Server Training

Interested in becoming an altar server? Training for new altar servers is open to any children of the parish who are in 4th grade or higher

The training schedule is below. All of these meetings take place in the church.

**Session 1** - Tue, 11/7 from 4-7pm

**Session 2** - Tue, 11/14 from 4-7pm

**Session 3** (choose one of these dates; we meet in smaller groups this week):

Mon, 11/20 from 4-7pm, Tue, 11/21 from 4-7pm, or Friday, 11/24 from 1-4pm.

**Session 4** - Tue, 11/28 from 4-7pm

All sessions are necessary to attend and will be held in the Church.

RSVP to Lori Mattson at [stmaryfxbg@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryfxbg@gmail.com). Please let us know the name of your child and what grade they are currently in school.





# our faith from the bishop



## *Preparing and Voting as Virginia Catholics*

*September 2023*

This year, voters will elect members to all 140 seats in the Virginia General Assembly – 40 in the Senate and 100 in the House of Delegates – as well as other offices in some localities. Early voting begins September 22. Election Day is November 7.

Much is at stake, and it is the sacred duty of each voter to form his or her conscience and participate in these critical decisions. To prepare:

First, register to vote if you are not registered already. A Virginia Catholic Conference bulletin insert explains how to register, eligibility and key dates. Registration ends October 16.

Second, locate your new districts. New General Assembly district maps are in effect for this year's elections. A VCC bulletin insert explains how to find your new state Senate and House of Delegates districts and who the candidates are.

Third, prayerfully form your conscience. The VCC's *Four Principles of Catholic Social Teaching* bulletin insert provides a helpful overview for reflection, in an easy-to-read format.

Visit [www.vacatholic.org](http://www.vacatholic.org) to view these materials.

As we have stated in previous pre-election letters, three foundational principles are essential to forming consciences and evaluating candidates:

- Many issues are important.
- Not all issues have equal moral weight.
- Protecting life is paramount.

Addressing the tragedy of abortion is the “preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed” (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, [\*Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship\*](#), Introductory Letter).

As a Catholic and a voter in Virginia, please respond to the call of faithful citizenship. Prepare and engage in these vitally important elections. Protect life to the fullest extent possible.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael F. Burbidge".

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
Bishop of Arlington

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barry C. Knestout".

Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout  
Bishop of Richmond

# our parish youth ministry

Month of the Holy Rosary  
**October 2023**  
Youth Ministry Calendar



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 HS YOUTH GROUP	2	3	4 YOUCAT	5	6 MS YOUTH GROUP	7 FIGHT CLUB
8 HS YOUTH GROUP	9	10	11 YOUCAT	12 FEMININE GENIUS	13	14 FIGHT CLUB
15 HS YOUTH GROUP	16	17	18 YOUCAT	19	20 MS YOUTH GROUP	21 FIGHT CLUB
22 HS RALLY	23	24	25 YOUCAT	26 FEMININE GENIUS	27	28 FIGHT CLUB
29 HS YOUTH GROUP	30	31	1	2	3	4

#### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP (9th-12th)

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

#### 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!

#### 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!

#### SAVE THE DATE!

WorkCamp Interest Meeting  
Sunday, Dec.3 at 12:00pm  
Parish Life Center



@stmarycym



flocknote

## WORKCAMP 2024

### MANDATORY INFORMATION MEETING

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3**  
**12:00PM - 1:30PM**  
**PARISH LIFE CENTER**

**ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS INTERESTED IN ATTENDING WORKCAMP THIS SUMMER MUST ATTEND WITH A PARENT IN ORDER TO APPLY!**

*WorkCamp is scheduled for June 22-28, 2024 in Frederick County, VA*

## CALLING ALL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS!

Join us every 2nd and 4th Thursday for our young women's group, Feminine Genius! Twice a month, girls meet to form strong bonds as Catholic women and lead one another to lives of greater virtue through prayer, accountability, and Catholic teaching! Middle and high schoolers meet separately in the John Paul II House.





# vida parroquial

# noticias en español



Gracias a todas las familias que asistieron al evento especial "El mundo necesita a Fátima" y rezaron el rosario en inglés y español en la escuela secundaria católica St. Michael. ¡Fue un día lleno de muchas gracias especiales!



**Descubrir el Misterio de la Biblia**  
**Tu viaje por la historia de la salvación**  
**¡Ahora dos sesiones! - Lunes a las 4:45 y 6:30 pm**  
**Iglesia St. Mary - Salón Padre Rooney**

Muchos católicos quieren leer la Biblia porque saben que es la Palabra de Dios, pero abandonan su propósito porque les parece muy algo muy complicado.

Descubrir el misterio de la Biblia te ayuda a captar el panorama general mostrándote cómo catorce libros narrativos de la Biblia cuentan la historia completa, desde Adán y Eva hasta Cristo y la Iglesia. Este curso te enseña a leer la Biblia de forma que puedas comprenderla.

Descubrir el misterio de la Biblia te ayudará a captar la historia de la salvación y a entender cómo entras tú en el plan de Dios. Este programa de estudio —de ocho sesiones— incluye videos de presentación, guía de estudio y material adicional.

**¡Te esperamos!**

**Retiro En Silencio**

**Sábado 18 de Noviembre**

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## Pro-Life Reflection

"I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. ... But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. ... The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation." (Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*, no. 99. © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.)

We pray for women and men suffering after abortion: May the Church's abortion healing ministry, Project Rachel, help them find forgiveness and peace through Christ's endless mercy.

Help After Abortion (Project Rachel)  
Project Rachel is a diocesan post-abortion ministry that offers an integrated approach to healing for anyone affected by abortion with the compassionate support of trained staff, priests and licensed mental health professionals who understand this experience of unresolved sorrow, trauma and grief with the utmost care, compassion and sensitivity. For confidential help, please contact us:

Helpline Info: (703) 841-2504 (888-456-HOPE)

For Men: (703) 841-3833

Email: [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org)  
[info@ayudadespuesdelaborto.org](mailto:info@ayudadespuesdelaborto.org)

Other Resources: [helpafterabortion.org](http://helpafterabortion.org) |  
[facebook.com/HelpAfterAbortion](https://facebook.com/HelpAfterAbortion)

## October - Month of the Holy Rosary

By Apostolic Brief at the Eucharistic Congress of Bologna, in September 1927, a Plenary Indulgence is granted to all the faithful who recite the Holy Rosary in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, either exposed for veneration or reserved in the Tabernacle.

## Children's Charity - October

The children's charity that will benefit from Children's Offertory Envelopes in October is Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center in Spotsylvania. This organization strives to strengthen the coordinated community response to situations of child maltreatment, including sexual abuse, severe physical abuse, severe neglect and fatalities, by integrating the existing resources of law enforcement, child protection, prosecution, medical and therapeutic agencies so that perpetrators are held accountable for their actions and children are not further traumatized by the investigative process. Children's Offertory Envelopes are available through Religious Education. All proceeds from these envelopes go to a different children's charity each month.

## ALL SOULS NOVENA

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the best way to remember your deceased loved ones.

Our All Souls Novena will begin on Thursday, November 2, All Souls Day. An intention envelope is included with your bimonthly envelope packet; additional envelopes are available in the vestibule of the Church. There is no collection on All Souls Day. Envelopes should be turned in early and will be placed near the Tabernacle during the Novena.





# liturgy daily bread

## Saint Mary Prayer List - October

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

Ana Gabriela Puna Gutierrez, Chris Breth, Ethan Harring, Jason Stoker, Joanne O'Brien, Karl Eugene, Michael Fedowitz III, Pat Carroll, Shirley Bozicevic, Smetek family, William David Jackson-nickname Liam, Jim Palmer

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, Elijah Hornback

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](mailto: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.

### 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](mailto:Adoration@stmaryfred.org)

## Daily Mass Intentions

### October

#### 23 MONDAY

6:30am Steve Wilcox  
9:00am James and Kathryn Stark  
Rom 4:20-25/Lk 12:13-21

#### 24 TUESDAY

6:30am Mauricio Antonio Vasquez+  
9:00am Bernarda Comales & Salvador Bahena+  
12:00pm Jachebel Flores  
Rom 5:12, 15b, 17-19, 20b-21/Lk 12:35-38

#### 25 WEDNESDAY

6:30am Lee and Frank Mikalcius+  
8:15am\* Luke Engbert  
9:00am Providence Moeller+  
Rom 6:12-18/Lk 12:39-48

#### 26 THURSDAY

6:30am Victorio and Josefina Catolico+  
9:00am Jim Mosimann  
12:00pm Yesi Lemus  
Rom 6:19-23/Lk 12:49-53

#### 27 FRIDAY

6:30am Gary Rolla+  
9:00am Consuelo Villagrana Rivera+  
12:00pm Sister Susan Louise Eder+  
Rom 7:18-25a/Lk 12:54-59

#### 28 SATURDAY

9:00am Kiery Beltran  
5:00pm Frank Maciejczyk+  
7:00pm For Our Parish  
Eph 2:19-22/Lk 6:12-16

#### 29 SUNDAY

7:00am Michael A. Janoski  
8:30am Mary Holzworth  
8:30am\* Ed Paderon+  
10:30am Edward Mueller+  
10:30am\* Gelsomina DiLoretto+  
12:30pm Our Military Living and Deceased  
2:30pm Raymundo & Thelma Odilia Rivera+  
5:00pm Eli Marshall+  
7:00pm Alfonso Rodriguez+  
Ex 22:20-26/1 Thes 1:5c-10/Mt 22:34-40

\* 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.

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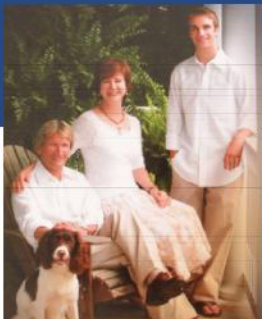
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