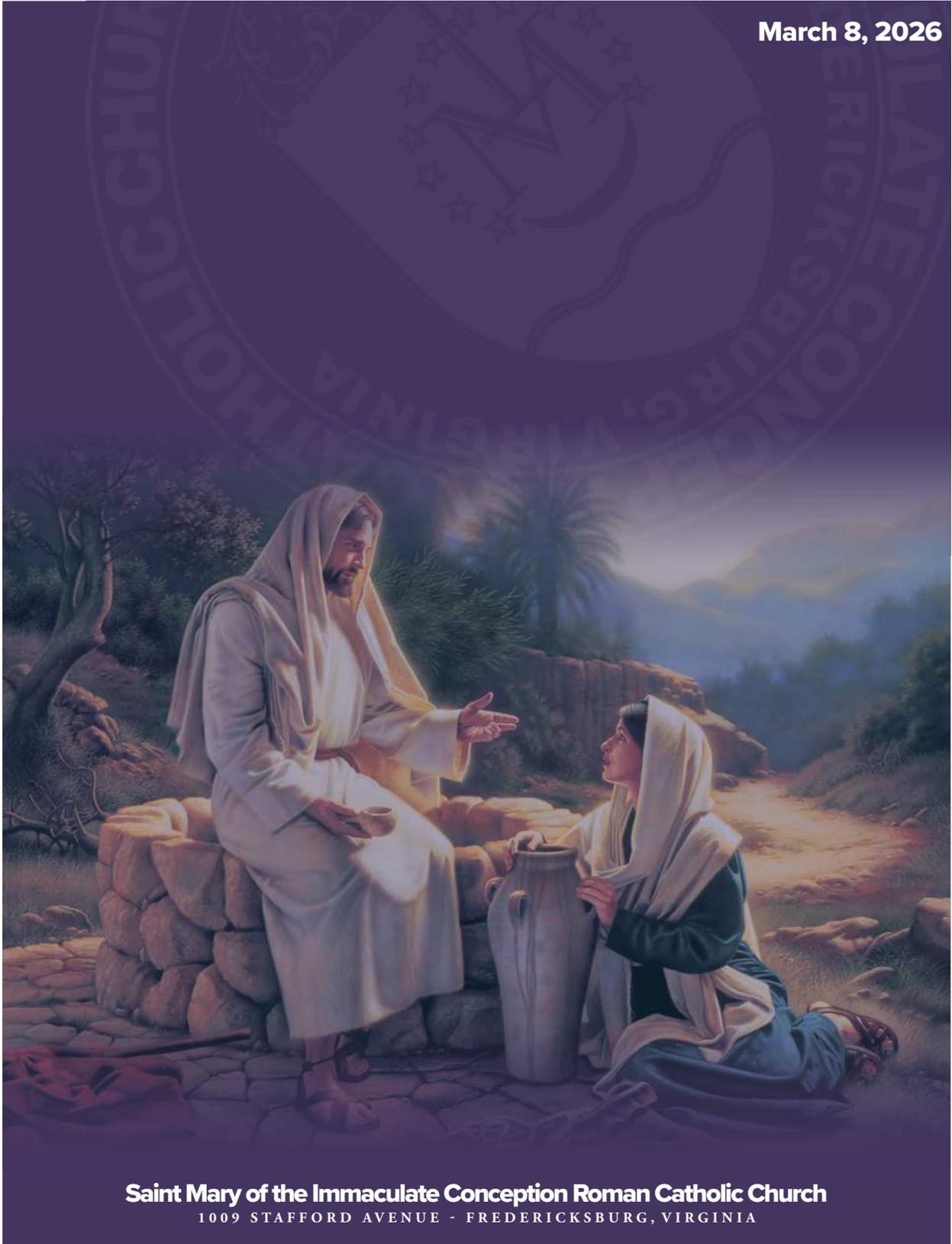


# THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

March 8, 2026



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

# capital campaign

## grow our legacy in faith

### Divine Mercy Chapel Update

One of the beautiful statues that will grace our Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel is of St. Thomas Aquinas and he just arrived from Patrick Demetz, the fine Italian woodworkers of sacred art! We are excited to share his picture and history today.

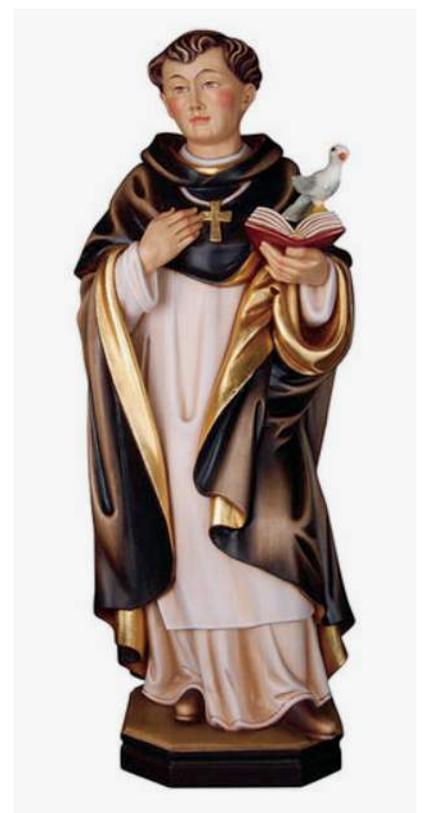
Today, we joyfully celebrate the feast of **St. Thomas Aquinas**, Dominican friar, Doctor of the Church, and one of the greatest minds in Church history. Born into a noble family in thirteenth-century Italy, Thomas heard God's call at a young age and courageously followed it, despite strong opposition from his family. He entered the *Order of Preachers*, dedicating his life to prayer, study, and teaching. *With unwavering faith, he believed that all truth comes from God and leads us back to Him.*

St. Thomas is renowned for his remarkable gift of uniting faith and reason. Drawing from *Sacred Scripture*, the wisdom of the *Church Fathers*, and the philosophy of *Aristotle*, he showed that faith and reason are not opposed but work together in the search for truth. His greatest work, *the Summa Theologica*, helped shape Catholic teaching on God, morality, and human nature for centuries.

For St. Thomas, theology was never an intellectual exercise—it was a way of loving God with the mind. Despite his brilliant intellect, Thomas lived with deep humility and devotion. His love for the Eucharist inspired him to write sacred hymns that are still part of the *Church's liturgy*.

Near the end of his life, after a profound encounter with God, Thomas humbly declared that all he had written seemed like straw compared to the greatness of God. He shows us that seeking truth is a sacred task — and that study, when rooted in prayer, can lead us on a path to worship God, ultimately, *bringing us closer to Him.*

***St. Thomas Aquinas, pray for us.***



# from our pastor

Dear Folks,

Frank Sheed's *Theology and Sanity* opens with a discussion of the will and the intellect. Salvation depends upon the will. We are saved or condemned according to what we love. If we love God, we receive God. If we love self in preference to God, we receive the self, apart from God.

But Sheed warns that even when our wills are pointed toward God, our minds may still be shaped by the world:

“When we look at the universe, we see pretty well what other people see, plus certain extra features taught us by our religion. For the most part, the same influences that form other people's minds form ours—the same habits of thought, inclinations, bodily senses, indolences—worked upon by the same newspapers, periodicals, best-sellers, films, radio programs. So that we have not so much Catholic minds as worldly minds with Catholic patches. Intellectually, we wear our Catholicism like a badge on the lapel of the same kind of suit that everyone else is wearing.”

Do we really think differently, or do we simply act differently when it's convenient?  
Is Friday the beginning of the weekend, or the day you remember the Lord's Passion?  
Is Sunday just family dinner, or truly the Lord's Day of Sabbath rest and re-creation?

These reveal what we truly value in our hearts and minds:

How we spend money.  
What we celebrate.  
What we doom-scroll.  
What we rearrange our schedules for.  
What we dress up for.

This is why I sometimes resist the steady encroachment of secular themes attached to months and days—quiet efforts to shape hearts and minds apart from God. We are not called to have “worldly minds with Catholic patches.” We are called to have Catholic minds and Catholic hearts—through and through.

*Jesus, meek and humble of heart,  
make my heart and mind like unto Thine.*

Pax,



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

## Extra Lenten Confessions

**Monday, March 23 - Friday March 27 | 6:30pm-7pm**

**Saturday, March 28 | 8am and 3:30pm**

**Monday, March 30 | 11:30am-12pm & 6:30pm-7pm**

**Tuesday, March 31 | 6:30pm-7pm**

**Wednesday, April 1 | 11:30am-12pm & 6:30pm-7pm**

## All Holy Week Masses at Expo Center

**Holy Thursday, April 2: 7:30pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper**

**Good Friday, April 3 | 12-3pm Tre Ore at Expo Center**

**3pm | Passion and Veneration of the Holy Cross**

**6:30pm | Stations of the Cross**

**7:15pm | Spanish Stations**

**Holy Saturday April 4 | 8am Easter Vigil**

**Sunday April 5 | 8am - 10:15am - 12:30pm Bilingual**

# announcements



**St. Mary Coffee &  
Donut Shop**

Following ALL Morning Masses

Come and enjoy some fellowship!

**Stations of the Cross  
in the Church**

EVERY FRIDAY IN LENT

6:30pm English

7:30pm Spanish

All are welcome!

## 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 and 9am  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday - 12 noon  
Saturday 9am  
Holy Days of Obligation, as announced

### DEVOTIONS

Adoration, Daily between 6:30am & 9am Mass,  
Wednesday 12:30pm - Friday 9am  
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  
stmaryfred.org  
Monday - Friday 8:30am - 9pm;  
Students staff office weekdays until 9pm,  
Saturdays 9-5pm, Sundays (Closed)

Very Reverend John P. Mosimann, Vicar Forane, Pastor  
Reverend Tim Courtney, Parochial Vicar  
Reverend Kevin Dansereau, Parochial Vicar  
Reverend Joseph Connor, Parochial Vicar  
Deacon Alberto Bernaola

Business Manager, Elaine Stanislowski  
Director of Operations, Chris Lanzarone  
Facilities, Late-Lawson Drackey  
Custodial Services, Carmen Sanchez  
Parish Secretary, Lori Barlow & Gio Camacho

## stmaryfred.org

### MUSIC

Joseph Ciskanik  
Director of Music, musicdirector@stmaryfred.org  
Assistant, Music Ministry, Emily D'Isidoro

### HOLY CROSS ACADEMY

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

### HOLY CROSS ACADEMY PRESCHOOL

Director, Allison Gardner  
540-286-1600

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Director, Dr. Katherine Evans  
Associate Director, Amy MacKinnon  
Administrative Assistant, Sonia Spencer

### YOUTH MINISTRY

Director, Tatiana Beltran

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

Director, Dr. Katherine Evans  
kevans@stmaryfred.org

### 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 or Margaret Bereit  
margaret@stmaryfred.org

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

# holy cross academy

## Holy Cross Academy – Forming Hearts and Minds From Preschool to Eighth Grade Since 1998

Holy Cross Academy has proudly served families in the Fredericksburg area for more than 25 years, offering a vibrant Catholic education for children from Preschool (age 3) through eighth grade. Rooted in faith and academic excellence, our mission is to form young men and women to be saints, scholars, and leaders in the image of our Lord Jesus Christ and His Blessed Mother.

At Holy Cross Academy, we believe in forming the whole child—mind, body, and spirit. Our students grow in confidence and character as they learn to live their faith joyfully and authentically. Through a rigorous Catholic academic curriculum, they are prepared not only for high school and beyond, but for lives of integrity, service, and leadership. Just as importantly, Holy Cross Academy is a place where friendships flourish and last a lifetime, strengthened by shared values, community, and faith.

## Enrollment Opportunities

Holy Cross Academy currently has openings available for **Preschool (age 3)** through **7th grade** for the upcoming school year. Families interested in learning more about our programs are invited to visit our website at [holycrossweb.com](http://holycrossweb.com) and are invited to schedule a tour. Please call **540-850-3462** and ask for Dina James to arrange your visit.

## A Joyful Celebration of Faith

Our school community was recently blessed to witness the baptism of eleven current and future classmates during a school Mass. Father Joseph beautifully guided the students through each step of the sacrament, helping them understand its meaning and significance. It was a truly special day—one we hope becomes a cherished tradition at Holy Cross Academy.

To honor the occasion, we celebrated with a schoolwide “feast day,” complete with treats for all 500 students, faculty, and staff. It was a joyful reminder of the grace that comes from welcoming new members into the Catholic faith and the strength of our community.



*A National  
Blue Ribbon  
School of  
Excellence*



# our parish religious education

## CHILDREN'S OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR MARCH

The Children's Charity that will benefit from donations in March is the Fairy Godmother Project. At the heart of Fairy Godmother Project (FGP) is a commitment to lighten the load for parents dealing with pediatric cancer. We understand that time is one of the most precious gifts we can offer these families. As we walk alongside them, we are able to offer tangible support in their most challenging times. By providing meals and professional house cleaning, along with financial support, we help free up time for our families to focus on what matters most. All donations received in March through our Children's Charities Program will be given to the Fairy Godmother Project. For families facing end-of-life, FGP ensures they receive the compassion and help they need during the most heartbreaking moments, offering both emotional and financial assistance. Children's Envelopes are available through our Religious Education Office. Call the Parish Office and we will be happy to send you a set of envelopes.



## ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: OCIA

On Sunday, February 22, nearly 100 members of St. Mary's OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) class and Adult Confirmation class participated in the Rites of Calling and Sending. In these rites, the Church publicly recognizes catechumens and candidates as ready for the Lenten period of purification and enlightenment. Catechumens and their sponsors that afternoon participated in the Rite of Election in which Bishop Burbidge formally declared them "elected" by the Church to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.



**OCIA INQUIRY GROUP**

*Anyone interested in starting the next OCIA class, on Thursday, September 17, 2026, is welcome!*

*Meetings*  
Fridays in Lent after 6:30 pm Stations of the Cross.  
Gather outside the church doors at 7:00 pm.  
After Easter, monthly meetings.

Contact: Dr. Katherine Evans, EdD  
Director of Religious Education  
(540) 373-6491 x230  
kevans.stmaryfred@gmail.com

our parish  
youth ministry



Mac-N-Cheese  
VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED!



WHO DO YOU SAY  
THAT  
I am?

Can you donate homemade Mac-N-Cheese to support our St. Mary youth attending WorkCamp?

Donations needed  
**MARCH 13**  
at 5:00pm at the PLC

Contact Tatiana at (540) 373-6491 or  
Tbeltran@stmaryfred.org



# BASH

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

**ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE INVITED!**



**AN EXCITING DAY FOR MORE THAN A THOUSAND MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS TO GATHER WITH BISHOP BURBIDGE TO CELEBRATE THEIR CATHOLIC FAITH!**

- Vigil Mass with Bishop Burbidge
- Message from Rachel Leininger
- Illusionist Giancarlo Bernini
- Inflatable Games
- Pizza
- Ice Cream
- Fun with Friends!

PLEASE EMAIL TATIANA FOR A PERMISSION SLIP  
TBELTRAN@STMARYFRED.ORG



# our parish happenings

## Marriage Masterplan

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception  
One-Day Marriage Enrichment Retreat

Saturday, March 21, 2026

*Led by Fr. Mosimann and David & Margaret Bereit*

**Saturday, March 21 Schedule:**

- 9:00 AM—Mass in the Church
- Breakfast—Parish Life Center
- Guided Activities, Private Couple Discussion, Prayer
- 4:00 PM—Conclusion

**FREE to Attend**

**Please RSVP:**

- Call St. Mary; 540-373-6491
- Email: [stmary@stmaryfred.org](mailto:stmary@stmaryfred.org)

**Bring Brown Bag Lunch**

Open to all married couples, whether married 1 year or 71.

*Space is limited.*

Wherever your marriage is today, this retreat will help you take it to the next level.

Through guided exercises, prayer, and quality time with your spouse, you'll reflect on the love story God has been writing in your lives, and build a plan for deeper love and greater joy in your marriage.

The day includes Mass, lots of time for private discussion with your spouse, and a couples roadmap to take home.

This is not a lecture. Think of it as a date with a purpose—and a plan.

**REDISCOVER** where you've been. **RENEW** where you are. **Build the ROADMAP** for where God is taking you—together.

### St. Mary Book Club

We will meet Tuesday, March 10, at 10am in Room 102 of the Parish Life Center.

Edith Stein was a young Jewish woman, a brilliant philosopher, who found what she longed for in the Catholic Church. She became a Carmelite Religious, and died in Auschwitz during the Holocaust. Please join us for a discussion of "Edith Stein - The Life and Legacy of St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross" by Maria Ruiz Scaperlanda.

If you cannot come in March, join us on April 14 for "The Context of Holiness: Psychological and Spiritual Reflections on St. Therese of Lisieux" by Father Marc Foley.

### The Guadalupe Free Clinic of Colonial Beach is seeking a Part Time Assistant Director

Established in 2005 by Fr. Jerome Magat, the Clinic serves uninsured residents in the Northern Neck of Virginia. It was the first Free Medical Clinic initiated in the Catholic Diocese of Arlington. Operated under Catholic healthcare principles, the Clinic aims to support the overall health of all patients through totally free medical care. The Clinic is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9am to 2pm and needs a Part Time Assistant Director. This part-time position may be paid or in a volunteer role. For further information, please contact the Clinic via email: [lcarrington@guadalupefreeclinic.org](mailto:lcarrington@guadalupefreeclinic.org) or phone at (804) 224-0571.

### Ushers Needed

St. Mary is in need of Ushers to help serve at ALL MASSES. What a great New Year's resolution to assist your brothers and sisters in this generous way! Contact Tom Fish TODAY at [headusher@stmaryfred.org](mailto:headusher@stmaryfred.org).

### Currently Collecting Items for the Homeless

White warm socks, undershirts in medium, large & XL and underwear for men & women. Please drop off at the Parish Office. Thank you!

# our parish happenings

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #4034 PRESENT

## St. Patrick's Family Dinner

**SATURDAY, MARCH 14**  
5-8PM IN THE PARISH LIFE CENTER

Adults/Teens: \$15 ||| Seniors (60+) \$12 ||| Children (7 to 12) \$10  
MAXIMUM COST PER FAMILY: \$40

Cash Bar (beer and wine). Must be 21 years of age or older to purchase or consume alcohol. All alcohol must be consumed on premises.

**MENU**  
Irish Soda Bread, Corned Beef, Cabbage, Red Potatoes, Dessert

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE USED TO UPGRADE THE PARISH LIFE CENTER KITCHEN EQUIPMENT

† THE GUADALUPE FREE CLINIC INVITES YOU TO THE

10th Annual Roses of Castile Gala Fundraiser

MAY 2, 2026  
5:30PM TO 11:00PM

OLD HICKORY GOLF CLUB  
11921 CHANCEFORD DR.  
WOODBIDGE, VA 22192

[Guadalupefreeclinic.org/gala](http://Guadalupefreeclinic.org/gala)



## STATIONS OF THE CROSS + FISH TACOS & MAC-N-CHEESE!

**FIRST 500 TACOS ARE 3 FOR \$6 (1/2 OFF)**  
(ALL ARE FISH TACOS WITH CHOICE OF FLOUR OR CORN TORTILLA)

**MAC-N-CHEESE AVAILABLE IN THE PLC**  
(DONATIONS APPRECIATED FOR WORKCAMP)

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN THE CHURCH**  
6:30PM - ENGLISH | 7:30PM - SPANISH  
EVERY FRIDAY THIS LENT

**MARCH 13**  
**5:30-8:30PM**

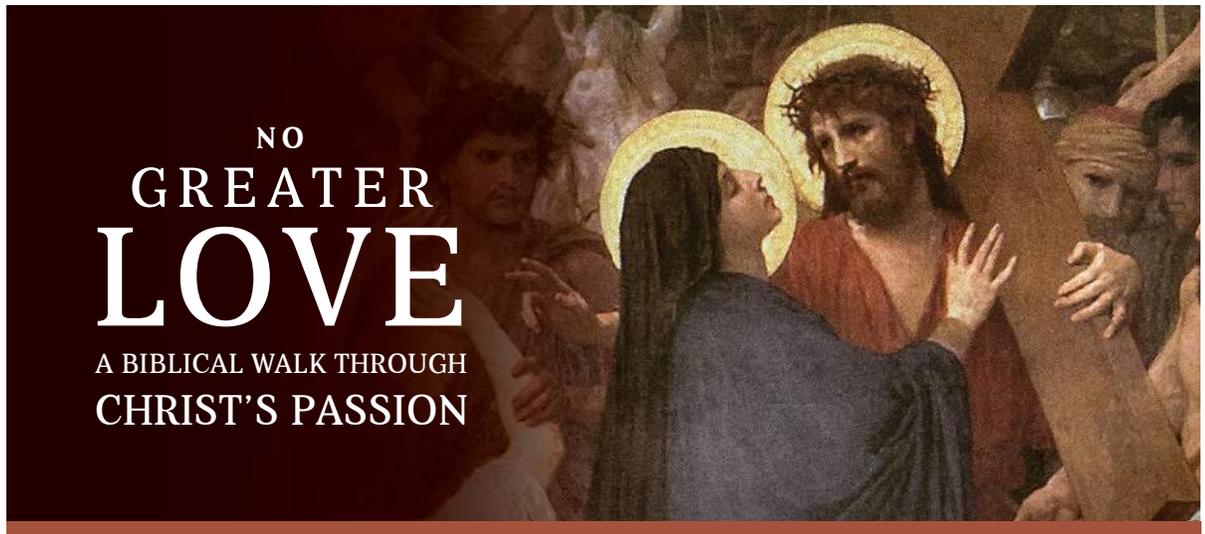
WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I am?



## Women's 160th Cursillo Retreat

The Women's 160th Retreat Weekend for the Arlington Diocese will take place at Mission Hurst Retreat Center, Arlington VA, on April 16 - 19, 2026. The theme for the retreat is "Women of grace and faith". Cursillo (cur See yo) is a Lay Catholic movement. It's about friends helping friends grow in Christ and shared Christian values in our challenging world. The Cursillo charism is rooted in an understanding that God, in Christ, loves us deeply just as we are. Through the Cursillo Movement we encounter Christ in the lives we live everyday, and especially, through friendship and community. Please contact Miguel Ayala at [miguel.a.ayala@gmail.com](mailto:miguel.a.ayala@gmail.com) for more information or visit [arlingtoncursillo.org](http://arlingtoncursillo.org)

# our parish happenings



## NO GREATER LOVE

A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH  
CHRIST'S PASSION

### Dates – Times – Location

This program will be offered on 4 different days/times for 5 weeks beginning in April!

At St. Mary in Room 101-  
Mondays 12:45-2:15pm; April 13- May 11  
Wednesdays 9:45-11:15am; April 15-May 13  
Thursdays 9:45-11:15am; April 16-May 14

At Holy Cross Academy in the Library-  
Wednesdays 6:30-8:00pm; April 15-May 13

### Cost – Registration

\$30.00 per person  
Registration will take place daily in the Parish Office.

Each class size is limited to 25 at St. Mary & 15 at Holy Cross, so register early!!!

### For More Information

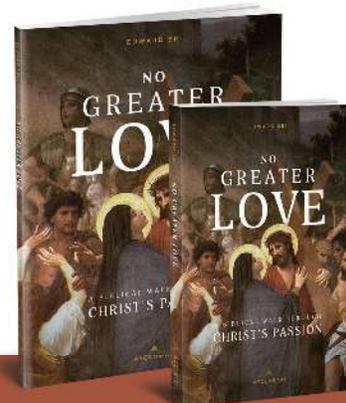
This is an opportunity to deepen your Lenten & Easter journeys, which we will have just completed at the start of this program.

For more information, please contact Jackie Ezersky - jezersky13@gmail.com.

**Thousands sought Jesus during his life.  
Only a few followed him to Calvary.**

### *What will you do?*

Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary. Every step of the way, Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death. Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you—and grow closer to Jesus.



  
ASCENSION

Visit [ascensionpress.com](http://ascensionpress.com) to learn more!

# our parish happenings

## The Coldest Night Of The Year

The Coldest Night Of The Year lived up to everything but its name.

The fourth annual fundraiser for Micah Ecumenical Ministries featured nearly 1,000 walkers, 95 different teams and 60° temperatures this past Saturday in downtown Fredericksburg.

Our combined effort raised more than \$217,000 for area homeless, exceeding this year's goal by nearly 10% and counting!

Team St. Mary's represented well with close to 50 walkers! Thank you to all those in the parish who walked and donated towards this most worthwhile cause. We raised almost \$4,000!



## Legion of Mary Auxiliary Members

The grace and peace of our Blessed Mother be with you! We are writing to share the exciting news that our 2026 Acies is quickly approaching. This beautiful annual ceremony is a time for us to gather as one body to renew our individual and collective consecration to Mary, our Queen.

### Acies Information

- When: Saturday, March 21st, 2026
- Where: St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church  
10299 Millbank Road, King George, VA 22485
- Schedule: 9:00 AM: Holy Mass; 10:30am:  
ACIES Ceremony Reception: To follow RSVP  
Not Required

We look forward to standing before our Lady's banner with you this March. *"I am all yours, my Queen, my Mother, and all that I have is yours."*

## CCW to Host Father Joseph

On March 17 the St. Mary Council of Catholic Women will welcome Father Joseph Connor as our special guest speaker. We will gather at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Life Center main hall—the wearing of green optional, but encouraged! There will be refreshments, a 50/50 \$\$ drawing, and a brief business meeting after Father's presentation. Please join us if you can!

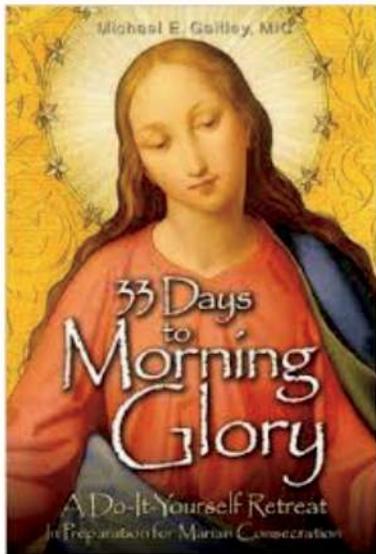
CCW is looking for a few good women--or men--to sit with prayer quilts made by our Prayers and Squares Ministry at Mass once a month, simply to invite folks to tie a knot and say a prayer for the person who will receive the quilt. It's easy! Help for the 12:30 Mass is especially needed. Is that the one you normally attend? Please contact Dian Epp at [dbep65@outlook.com](mailto:dbep65@outlook.com) or (703) 475-6232.

If you are a woman registered parishioner, you are a member of St. Mary CCW. If not, you are still welcome at our meetings (yes, guys too). Follow us on Facebook at [fb.com/StMaryCCW](https://www.facebook.com/StMaryCCW) and visit our website [stmaryccw.org](http://stmaryccw.org). Sign up for helpful emails at [StMaryCCWNews@aol.com](mailto:StMaryCCWNews@aol.com).

# our parish happenings

## You Have Waited for a Marian Consecration!

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



*You can 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 teachings. He simplifies their writings and makes it easy to understand and to apply practically in your daily life! This is a user-friendly retreat that offers numerous blessings for everyone. Whether you've been thinking about entrusting yourself to Mary for the first time, if you are looking to deepen or renew your consecration to her, or you are renewing your consecration, **33 Days to Morning Glory** is the perfect retreat leading to your consecration to Mary.*

**After completing weekly retreat sessions, we will make our consecration together attending noon mass and completing the consecration prayers following the May 13<sup>th</sup> (Our Lady of Fatima) Mass.**

### Retreat Specifics

1. Retreat Session Dates: March 30<sup>th</sup>, April 13<sup>th</sup>, April 20<sup>th</sup>, April 27<sup>th</sup>, May 4<sup>th</sup>, and May 11<sup>th</sup>
2. **Consecration:** May 13<sup>th</sup>
3. All sessions are held in the **St Joseph House** on St Mary's campus
4. **Time:** 1 – 3:30PM (except, consecration day follows 12:00PM mass)
5. There is **no cost** for the retreat, but **please purchase the book** (at Amazon), **33 Days to Morning Glory**, by Fr. Gaitley, before the first session on March 30<sup>th</sup>. For people with low vision, an audiobook is available, please contact Evelyn (below).

**MUST REGISTER NO LATER THAN March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Drop off your registration in the Parish Office No Later than 3/18/2026**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

For more information, email Evelyn Clingerman, at [emclinge@yahoo.com](mailto:emclinge@yahoo.com), noting 33 Days in the Subject of the email.



# noticias en español

Centro Católico de Formación JSV

## Retiro Tetelestai



*contemplaremos*

La gloria de Jesús en su pasión. Veremos los personajes y el escenario de la Última Cena, Pasión, Muerte y Resurrección de Jesús que manifiestan su gloria.

**21 y 22 de Marzo**  
Sábado 8am-5pm • Domingo 8am-5pm

**Holy Cross Academy**  
250 Stafford Lakes Pkwy.  
Fredericksburg, VA 22406

*Regístrate*



\$50

<https://bit.ly/4qBdT7b>

O en persona en la oficina con Giovanni  
540-373-6491 o [gcamamacho@stmarysfred.org](mailto:gcamamacho@stmarysfred.org)



*Adoración*  
**EUCARÍSTICA**

**10**  
DE MARZO

**7:00PM**

St. Mary  
of the  
Immaculate Conception

1009 Stafford Ave  
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

*Habrá confesiones*

# our parish happenings

## A Weekend to Remember for Engaged Couples

From January 30–February 1, ten engaged couples gathered at St. Joseph House for "Two Become One," St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception's signature marriage preparation retreat. By all accounts, it was a weekend they won't soon forget.

Seasoned married couples David & Margaret Bereit, Jake & Marsha O'Donnell, Scott & Caryn Vezina, and Blase & Josephine Radel walked alongside attendees with wisdom gained through experience, and genuine investment in each couple's future marriage. Fr. Tim Courtney, Fr. John Mosimann, and Fr. Joseph Connor provided rich spiritual grounding and sacramental depth throughout the weekend.

Couples explored the full landscape of married life together, from prayer and communication to intimacy, natural family planning, finances, and building a faith-filled family. But it wasn't just the content that moved them. One attendee reflected, "Thank you so much for the retreat this weekend! We were really glad that we did it. We were blown away — the flowers and candles, the food, hand-written letters, talks from multiple priests... the sense of support was unbelievably strong."

Please keep these couples in your prayers as they make their final preparations for marriage.

If you or someone you know is engaged and seeking a truly transformative preparation experience, "Two Become One" is open to you. The next retreat is coming up on April 24–26, 2026. For more information or to register, contact Margaret Bereit at [margaret@stmaryfred.org](mailto:margaret@stmaryfred.org).



# our parish happenings



# operations given in love

## Donations Received February 10-24

Sunday Offertory	\$32,490.00
Black & Indian Missions	\$8,718.00
Micah Love Your Neighbor	\$1,000.00
Central & Eastern Europe	\$12,636.00
Poor Box for St Vincent de Paul	\$204.00

*Thank you for your generosity!*

## Catholic Relief Services Collection - March 14 & 15 Reveal Christ's Love

Next week our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the collection and reveal Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection at [usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://usccb.org/catholic-relief).

La próxima semana nuestra parroquia realizará The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Los fondos de esta colecta proporcionan alimento al hambriento, ayuda a los refugiados desplazados y llevan el amor y la misericordia de Cristo a los pueblos vulnerables aquí y en el extranjero. La próxima semana, por favor, contribuyan generosamente a la colecta y revelen el amor de Cristo a los más necesitados. Infórmense más acerca de la colecta en [usccb.org/catholic-relief](http://usccb.org/catholic-relief).

## Children's Charity - March

The Children's Charity that will benefit from donations in March is the Fairy Godmother Project. At the heart of Fairy Godmother Project (FGP) is a commitment to lighten the load for parents dealing with pediatric cancer. We understand that time is one of the most precious gifts we can offer these families. As we walk alongside them, we are able to offer tangible support in their most challenging times. By providing meals and professional house cleaning, along with financial support, we help free up time for our families to focus on what matters most. All donations received in March through our Children's Charities Program will be given to the Fairy Godmother Project. For families facing end-of-life, FGP ensures they receive the compassion and help they need during the most heartbreaking moments, offering both emotional and financial assistance. Children's Envelopes are available through our Religious Education Office. Call the Parish Office and we will be happy to send you a set of envelopes.

## Pro Life Reflection

Lent is a time to pray for the catechumens of the Church who are preparing to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. The rest of us will renew our Baptismal Promises. In these vows, we reject the empty promises of the devil. One of those empty promises is abortion. *Thank You, Lord, for the power of baptism in my life by which I am able to affirm life each day against the power of death.*

## Easter Flowers

Remember someone you love, either living or deceased, with a donation for our beautiful Easter Flowers. Envelopes are available in your envelope packets and in the Church.



# liturgy

# daily bread

## Saint Mary Prayer List - March

**Please pray for those who are sick or in need, especially:** Bonnie Kenney, Charles Boyer, Chris Breth, Drew LoRusso, Jack Smith, Jason Stoker, JoAnne O'Brien, Joseph Krieg, Logan Leslie, Maryann Carroll, Michael Fedowitz III, Shirley Bozicevic, Sue Moorefield, Susan Harvin, Teresa Lopez, Theresa & Keith Kovalefsky, William Pell III, Xavier Ronan, Maura Gabriel, Jacob R. Moser

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

Joseph Gardner, Glenn Dickinson, Paul Fischer, 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, 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, Dominic Marsillo, Fr. Sean Koehr, Staff Sergeant Sean Walker Brown, Matthew Sampson, Kenneth Linstrom, Lt. Gregory Odland, Andrew Doyle, Olav Brooks, Gabriel Sanger, Josh Lawson, David Brown, Annah Brown, Joshua Brown, Diego Esparza, Brian Inguanti, LCDR Jason King

**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.

Did you know.... Our parishioners gather every Wednesday at 3pm – The Hour of Great Mercy - to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet?

All are warmly welcome to spend time in Adoration in the church and join in this powerful devotion.

"Jesus, I trust in You"



## Mass Intentions

*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.*

## Daily Mass Intentions

### March

#### 9 MONDAY

6:30am Ray Landry+  
9:00am Robert Derouin  
2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Lk 4:24-30

#### 10 TUESDAY

6:30am Patrick Mulhern+  
9:00am Justin Armitage+  
Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35

#### 11 WEDNESDAY

6:30am John Clampitt+  
8:15am\* Father Kevin Dansereau  
9:00am The Romero Family  
Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19

#### 12 THURSDAY

6:30am Father John Mosimann  
9:00am Robert and Katherine Sheppe+  
Jer 7:23-28/Lk 11:14-23

#### 13 FRIDAY

6:30am Carolina Prohaska  
9:00am Barbara Allen+  
Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34

#### 14 SATURDAY

9:00am Anthony DeMaio  
5:00pm Mara Southworth  
7:00pm For Our Parish  
Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14

#### 15 SUNDAY

7:00am Larry Delaney+  
8:30am Joann Douglas+  
8:30am\* All Deceased Members of the O'Donoghue Family  
10:30am John Holzworth  
10:30am\* Teddy Kincaid+  
12:30pm Dick Clampitt+  
2:30pm Jose Estevan Bonilla+  
5:00pm Catie Epiritu  
7:00pm Deanna Andrews+  
1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41

\* Indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy.

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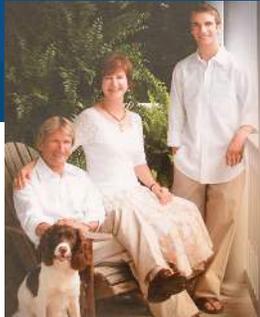
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