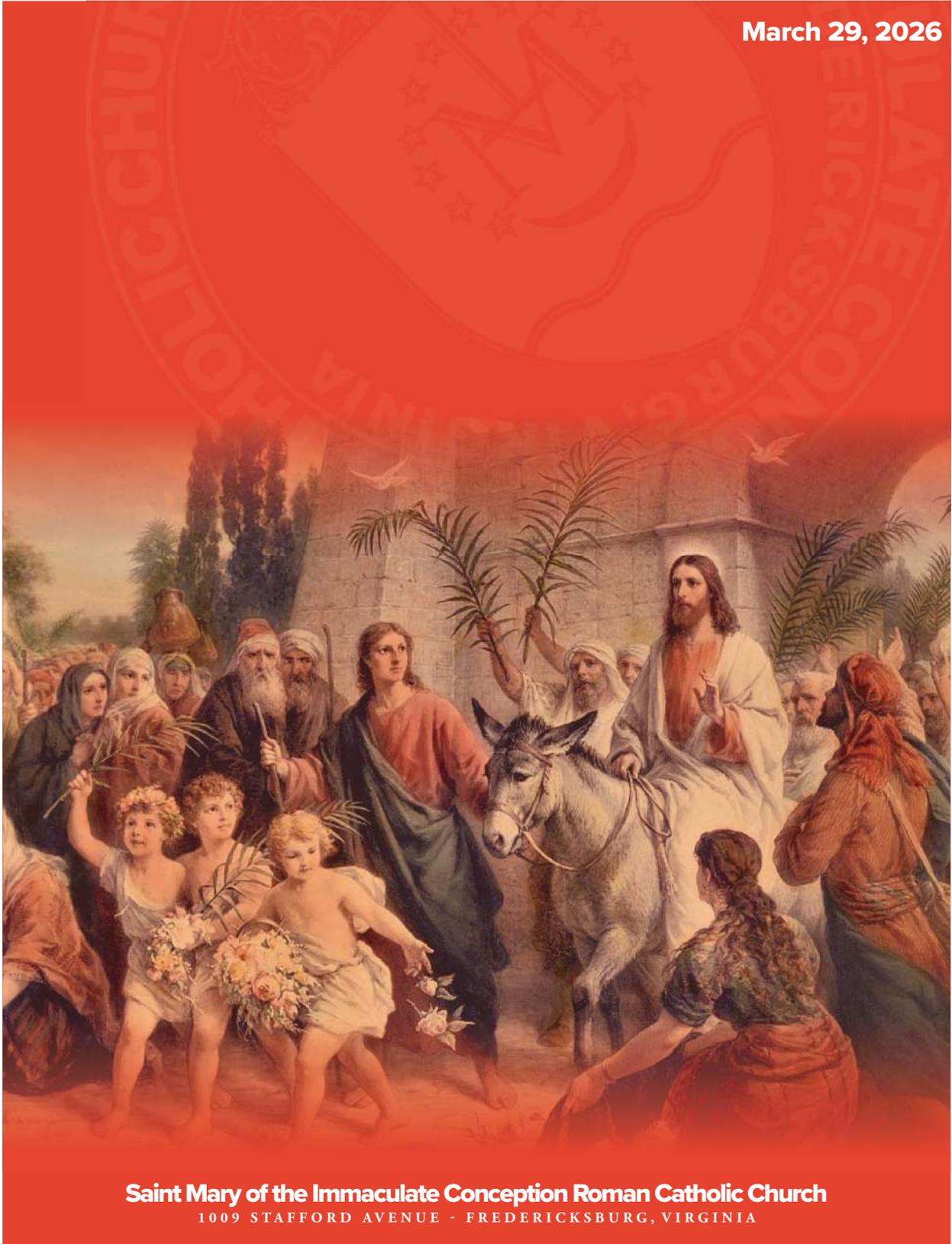


PALM SUNDAY

March 29, 2026



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

capital campaign

grow our legacy in faith

Nothing is Impossible for God!

Can you believe a year has passed?

Last year, on March 25, 2025, the feast of the Annunciation, the very first mass was celebrated by Fr. Mossiman at the St. Helena Chapel at our parish school, Holy Cross Academy. Principals Dr. Stephen Fry and Angie Tomayko gathered with faculty and staff to pray in thanksgiving for the newly completed chapel. A beautiful altar cloth, hand-sewn by parishioner Adele Faldereau, added to the solemnity of the occasion, marking the first expansion project completed.

In the school chapel, the hand-carved statues of St. Helena of the Cross and St. Francis of Assisi grace the two niches on either side of the main altar. They are simple reminders of Our Lord's life of service and his unconditional love for us, along with the stained glass windows- elegantly depicting the Child Jesus with St. Joseph and our Blessed Mother's "yes" at the Annunciation. If you have not seen the chapel, please visit after a Sunday Mass at HCA!

Did you know?

The special Jubilee Year of Saint Francis, proclaimed by Pope Leo XIV, will take place from 10 January 2026 to 10 January 2027, on the occasion of the eighth centenary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi (1226-2026)

While the primary feast day of St. Francis of Assisi is October 4th, in March 2026, there is a unique opportunity for devotion to him.

- **Open to the Public - Veneration of Relics (Feb 22 - March 22, 2026):** To mark the 800th anniversary of his death and for the first time, the bodily remains of St. Francis of Assisi are on display for public veneration in the Lower Basilica of St. Francis in Assisi, Italy, through March 22, 2026. This is an extraordinary, rare event: the relics are being moved from their tomb to the main altar. Although not a "memorial" on the liturgical calendar in March, this month-long display acts as a special time of prayer and remembrance for the saint.
- Brother Jimmy Zammit of Toronto, a Franciscan who works in Rome, offered some advice for Catholics unable to make the trip to Assisi but who would like to live out this wonderful **Jubilee Year of St. Francis**: *"If our heart becomes more Franciscan, we become makers of peace," Brother Zammit said. "We seek out those who are less fortunate than we are to help the poor, but also to help those who are suffering because they're feeling isolated and maybe even shunned in some way."*
- **Lent & St. Francis:** We know that Francis himself almost always retired for the season of Lent with a few brothers to a hermitage—his favorites were La Verna and Greccio—where he could step apart and reflect on how God was asking him to deepen his commitment in terms of the ever-changing situation of his life. "When blessed Francis stayed constantly in a place to pray . . . he was always anxious to know the will of the Lord, about how he could please him better" (Assisi Compilation, 118).
- The Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land in Washington DC, would be a beautiful and peaceful place for a pilgrimage of prayer, reconciliation and encountering God's Grace in this Jubilee Year.

"We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way". -St. Francis of Assisi

from our pastor

Dear Folks,

Palm Sunday and Holy Week begins with great crowds. During the first Holy Week, the crowds thinned at each successive event. While our crowds will be thinner than today on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, they will still be significant. For that reason, our celebrations for the Triduum will all be held at the Fredericksburg Convention Center (formerly The EXPO Center).

Giving you a heads up: for years I have been promising a pilgrimage to Greece and Turkey. Well, the very day I received pricing and the itinerary, the current unrest began in the Middle East. However, my contacts in Jerusalem and Turkey assure me that none of this has reached the areas where we would be traveling. The proposed dates are October 23 to November 6, and the trip would include the town of St. Nicholas and the home of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Ephesus. The cost is approximately \$5,500 per person with double occupancy. That price may come down depending on the number of pilgrims and the cost of flights, as it currently includes an estimate of \$1,500 for airfare. If you are interested, please email me for the itinerary and more information at frmosimann@stmaryfred.org. If there is more interest in delaying the trip until 2027, feel free to let me know that as well.

A resounding note of joy and gratitude for two wonderful retreats that took place here this past weekend. More than 30 couples attended a marriage enrichment retreat, where Margaret and David Bereit have elevated our program from good to great! At the same time, Gustavo and Kathryn Guzman organized a retreat with the Jesus Esta Vivo ministry for our Spanish-speaking brothers and sisters.

Donna Haring the Legion of Mary have also been doing beautiful work praying with our elderly parishioners, especially those in nursing homes. They recently worked with our Outreach Ministry to spearhead an initiative to provide crucifixes and images of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary to residents. (I know that many of you assisted with this act of mercy.) There were many smiles and even tears of joy as residents were able to enthrone Our Lord and Our Lady in their rooms. Keep an eye out after Easter for our family home enthronement initiative!

What makes St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception great? It is every member of the lay faithful using their gifts and talents, in harmony with the clergy, to welcome and love our Lord in every home and heart.

May your Holy Week slow down so that you can walk the mysteries of our salvation with our Lord in these most solemn liturgies.

Pax,



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

announcements



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 Stanislawski
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

our parish

easter season



Easter Triduum Schedule

All Triduum Masses will be held at:

The Fredericksburg Convention Center

(Formerly the Expo Center)

2371 Carl D Silver Pkwy.

Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Holy Thursday, April 2, 2026

- 8:00 am, Office of Reading & Morning Prayer in *the church at St. Mary*
- 7:30 pm, Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at the Convention Center
- 9:30 pm – Midnight, Adoration in *the Parish Life Center at St. Mary*
- 11:30 pm, Night Prayer in *the Parish Life Center at St. Mary*



*in the one
we are one*

Good Friday, April 3, 2026

- 8:00 am, Office of Reading & Morning Prayer in *the church at St. Mary*
- 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm, Tre Ore at the Convention Center
- 3:00 pm, Passion & Veneration of the Holy Cross at the Convention Center
- 6:30 pm, Stations of the Cross at the Convention Center
- 7:15 pm, Spanish Stations of the Cross at the Convention Center
- 8:00 pm, Night Prayer in *the church at St. Mary*

Holy Saturday, April 4, 2026

- 8:00 am, Office of the Reading & Morning Prayer at the Convention Center
- 11:00 am, Blessing of Easter Food in *the Church at St. Mary*
- 8:00 pm, The Easter Vigil at the Convention Center

Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026, at the Fredericksburg Convention Center

- 8:00 am, Mass
- 10:15 am, Mass
- 12:30 pm, Bilingual Mass

education

holy cross academy

St. Patrick's Day and Day of Giving

HCA celebrated St. Patrick's Day on March 17th—the traditional anniversary of his death—to honor St. Patrick as the primary patron saint of Ireland who brought Christianity to the Irish people in the 5th century. It is a feast day recognizing his missionary work, the establishment of the Church in Ireland, and his lasting legacy of faith. This meaningful background added depth to the celebration and helped students understand the significance behind the fun.

Students celebrated St. Patrick's Day with bright green outfits, festive accessories, and plenty of joyful spirit throughout the school. Classrooms and hallways were filled with creativity as students embraced the traditions of the day, turning the campus into a lively sea of green.

Parents and teachers helped make the day even more memorable by sharing stories, singing songs, and treating students to delicious St. Patrick's Day shakes. Their enthusiasm and participation brought warmth and community to the celebration, creating a joyful experience for everyone.

Together, our school community created a warm, joyful celebration that blended learning, faith, creativity, and togetherness. It was a beautiful reminder of how shared traditions—and the people who bring them to life—make days like this so memorable for our students.

Thanks to your generosity!

Parishioners, families, students, and friends helped make our Day of Giving a tremendous success, and thanks to their generosity, we officially reached our goal! In celebration—and in good humor—Dr. Fry kept his promise and moved his entire office outside for the day. From his desk under the open sky to students stopping by to check on his “outdoor headquarters,” the moment brought plenty of smiles and school spirit. It was a fun and memorable way to mark a milestone that reflects the strength and support of our community. Thank you!



our parish religious education

It's Holy Week!

Religious Education is not in session this week. However:
OCIT students are to attend class on Monday, March 30, at 6:30pm in the PLC

Be sure to bring your children to the many events that this special week will include.
Most of our events will be held at the Fredericksburg Convention Center:
2371 Carl D. Silver Pkwy, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

STARRED EVENTS ARE MANDATORY FOR ALL OCIT STUDENTS

Students are to check in with Tatiana Beltran upon arrival

MONDAY, March 30

6:30pm OCIT students attend a make-up class on "The Easter Story" in the PLC.

HOLY THURSDAY: Thursday, April 2

8am Morning Prayer and Office of Readings in the Church

7:30pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper at the Fredericksburg Convention Center followed by Adoration (optional) in the Parish Life Center (PLC)

11:30pm Night Prayer in the Parish Life Center

GOOD FRIDAY: Friday, April 3

8am Morning Prayer and Office of Readings in the Church

12pm-3pm The Tre Ore The Seven Last Words of Christ at the Fredericksburg Convention Center

3pm Passion and Veneration of the Holy Cross at the Fredericksburg Convention Center

6:30pm Stations of the Cross at the Fredericksburg Convention Center

7:15pm Stations of the Cross in Spanish at the Fredericksburg Convention Center

8pm Night Prayer at St Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church

HOLY SATURDAY: Saturday, April 4

8am Morning Prayer and Office of Readings at the Fredericksburg Convention Center

11am Blessing of Easter Food at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church

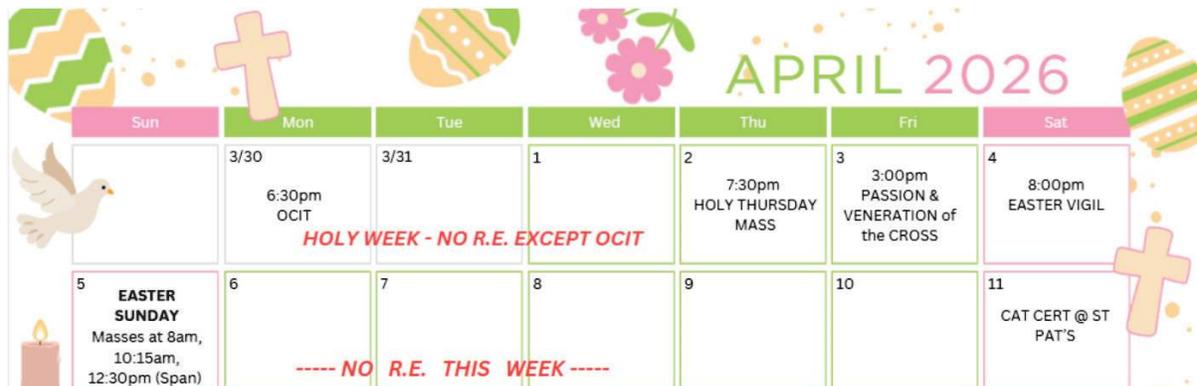
8:00pm EASTER VIGIL at the Fredericksburg Convention Center

EASTER SUNDAY: Sunday, April 5

8am Easter Mass at the Fredericksburg Convention Center

10:15am Easter Mass at the Fredericksburg Convention Center

12:30pm Bilingual Easter Mass at the Fredericksburg Convention Center



our parish
youth ministry



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 🎮 Inflation Games

🍕 Pizza 🍦 Ice Cream 🎉 Fun with Friends!



PLEASE EMAIL TATIANA FOR A PERMISSION SLIP - [TBELTRAN@STMARYFRED.ORG](mailto:tbeltran@stmaryfred.org)

JOIN US!

Old files & paperwork taking up space at your home or office?

Dispose confidential documents!



SATURDAY
APRIL 11th
10AM-1PM

- Community-wide event, open to all in the parish, small businesses, non-profits, and area residents.
- Deliver materials to the parking lot behind our Parish Life Center, where you will be assisted with unloading your vehicle.
- 5-box limit per vehicle, and we will continue to accept materials until the truck is full or 1 PM, whichever comes first.
- NO charge, but we are most grateful for **free-will donations**, which will benefit our **Youth Work Camp Program**.
- We will accept all office-based paper materials and small metal fasteners such as paper clips and staples.
- NO binders, hardcover books, newspapers, magazines, plastic, metal objects or electronic media such as CDs & DVDs.



(Helpful hint...best time to come to avoid a line is anytime after 11am!)

St. Mary Catholic Church

Questions? Email: Tatiana Beltran at tbeltran@stmaryfred.org or call the parish office at 540-373-6491
1009 Stafford Ave., FXBG 22401

our parish outreach

Brisben Center Support

We are thrilled to be continuing our work at the Brisben Center in support of the children! St. Mary's hosts "The Kids Club" EVERY Wednesday from 4:30-5:30pm. Join us in crafting, playing games and having some outdoor fun as well as reading and giving some homework help to the children at the homeless center.

If you can encourage kids and like to have fun - this is the perfect ministry for you!

Looking for volunteers 18 years or older.

7th-8th graders students preparing for confirmation are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult.

*****IMPORTANT*** If signing up family members to help - please sign-up each person individually who is coming. Space is limited for each session. Thank you!**

Any questions, please reach out to Sydney McDonald sydjim92@msn.com or Elena Doyle at 540-373-6491. To sign-up scan or visit: <https://bit.ly/4bcgDE1>



Outreach Need

Parishioner in need of vehicle. We have a parishioner who is currently in need of transportation to get to work. If you have a vehicle to donate in working condition, please reach out to Elena at edoyle@stmaryfred.org or call the parish office 540-373-6491.

Micah's Love our Neighborhood - Week of Service (and the future neighbors of Jeremiah Community)

Come work alongside some of our neighbors in Housing to clean up the neighborhood adjacent to the Jeremiah Community property. Volunteers are needed from 9am - 1pm each day the week of April 6th. You are welcome to bring others with you to volunteer, and even if you're not able to stay the whole time we would love your help any time you are able to come in.

Gloves, and tools will be provided on site, make sure to bring water and wear comfortable clothing and closed-toe shoes.

You will be meeting at the Basketball Court on Kingdom Way (400 Kingdom Way) at 9am, look for the Micah Box Truck to check in and get started. Questions contact Elena edoyle@stmaryfred.org.

St. Mary's is Hiring!

St. Mary's is seeking a part-time Religious Education Administrative Assistant to work 20 hours per week. School-year responsibilities include providing administrative support for catechists; responding to parent inquiries and requests (in English and Spanish); maintaining volunteer compliance with child safety regulations; and helping RE sessions run smoothly and safely. Summer responsibilities include ordering curriculum and supplies; assisting with recruitment efforts; preparing catechist materials; supporting registrations; and collecting and recording student records.

During the school year, work hours will be Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings 4-8:15pm and all day Fridays. Summer schedule is flexible.

QUALIFICATIONS: Must faithfully adhere to all the teachings of the Catholic Church. Bilingual in English and Spanish is strongly preferred. The ideal candidate is warm, approachable, professional, and comfortable working with both children and adults. This person will foster positive and respectful relationships while demonstrating strong written and verbal communication skills. This role requires a self-motivated individual with a high level of independence, organization, personal accountability, and attention to detail.

Send resume and cover letter to Fr. John Mosimann at edoyle@stmaryfred.org.

our parish happenings



Camino de Santiago



THE ENGLISH WAY with Fr. Tim Courtney

There are a **limited** number of spots available for this pilgrimage!

Information will be provided at the interest meeting on Wednesday, May 20th, 2026 @ 6:00 pm in the PLC

- Approx. dates: May 24 - June 2, 2027
- Estimated cost: \$3,000
- Adults only (no exceptions)
- Must be able to hike rough terrain 8-18 miles/day for 6 days straight
- Open to registered St. Mary Parishioners only

Register to be added to the interest list & to attend the meeting!



**Not recommended for individuals with dietary or mobility issues*

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Fredericksburg

This month

Food for Thought: Theology of Food

Alexandra is a wife, mother, journalist, author, and speaker whose work covers politics, religion, culture, and the pro-life movement. Her writing has been published in The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, National Review, and many other outlets. Her talk will cover the spirituality of food, exploring its meaning and symbolism in Scripture and Catholic theology, and offer thoughts on how this deeper understanding can shape our attitude toward food in our daily lives.

Connect with us! fredericksburgtot@gmail.com

Presenter
Alexandra DeSanctis



MONDAY, APRIL 6

Strangeways Brewing

350 Landsdowne Rd, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Doors open at 5pm
Presentation at 6:30pm



our parish happenings

CCW Annual Charity Baby Shower

The St. Mary Council of Catholic Women will again sponsor a “Baby Shower” the weekend of April 18-19 to benefit Mary’s Shelter, Birthright, Paul Stefan Home for Expectant Mothers, and the Baby Closet at St. Matthew Church.

Gifts will be accepted before and after all Masses at Holy Cross Academy and St. Mary Church.

Much needed items include new baby clothing (newborn through 12 months, boys and girls), onesies, HALO sleep sacks (all sizes), small packages diapers (newborn and 1, but especially sizes 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and pull-ups), Diaper Genie refills, receiving blankets, bibs, baby formula, baby wipes, baby wash, baby shampoo, diaper rash cream, bath towels and washcloths for babies/toddlers, pack-n-plays and pack-n-play bedding, crib size sheets, toddler clothing, twin size solid color comforter sets for moms, twin bedsheet sets, twin size mattress protectors, twin size foam mattress padding, small bedside table lamps, ladies bath towels/washcloths, Tupperware, kitchen towels, dishcloths, oven mitts, toilet paper, tissues, paper towels, laundry detergent, dryer sheets, tall kitchen trash bags, all-purpose cleaner (liquid and spray), dish/dishwasher detergent, liquid hand soap, sponges, scrub pads, cleaning wipes, foil, gallon size bags..

If you would like to make a donation by check, please make payable to St. Mary Church with “Baby Shower” on the memo line.

Gift cards from Walmart, Target, Lowes, and Uber will gladly be accepted.

Of course, cash is always welcome!

Thank you for supporting these pro-life organizations!

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.

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 for more information or visit arlingtoncursillo.org



our parish happenings

NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME

Are you a new parishioner or wanting to register in the parish? If so, Fr. Mosimann and members of our Welcoming Committee want to meet you (and your family) and introduce you to the many fantastic ministries at St. Mary's!

Sign-up for a time slot on Sunday, April 12th 10am-1pm for yourself and/or family. We are looking forward to meeting you!

Meetings take place in the parish office located behind the church.

If you have any questions, please contact Elena Doyle at edoyle@stmaryfred.org.

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



Shred Event

Saturday, April 11, 10am-1pm

Do you have any old files and paperwork taking up space at your home or office? Plan to join us on Saturday, April 11 from 10am to 1pm for our Shred Event, to dispose of your confidential documents. (Helpful hint ... best time to come to avoid line anytime after 11am!)

Recycling is an essential part of any commitment to sustainability, and we here at St. Mary are responding by offering this community-wide event, which will be open to all in the parish, small businesses, non-profits and area residents. Deliver materials to the back parking lot behind our Parish Life Center where you will be assisted with unloading your vehicle. There is a 5 box limit per vehicle, and we will continue to accept materials until the truck is full or 1pm, whichever occurs first. There is no charge, but we are most grateful for free-will donations, which will benefit our Youth Work Camp Program.

We will accept all office-based paper materials, and small metal fasteners such as paper clips and staples. NO binders, hardcover books, newspapers, magazines, plastic or metal objects and electronic media such as CDs and DVDs.

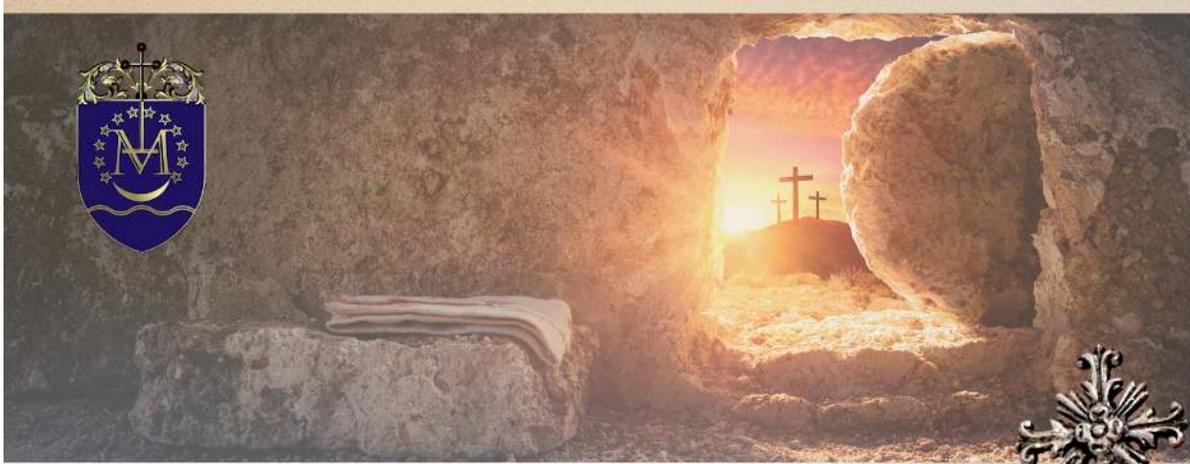
This year the shred truck will be parked in front of the trash dumpster in the rear parking lot. All those coming to the event are asked to enter the parking lot from the WILLIAM ST DRIVEWAY. Please do not use the Stafford Ave. driveway to form a line.

Questions? Email Elaine Stanislowski at estanislowski@stmaryfred.org or call the parish office at 540-373-6491.



vida parroquial

noticias en español



Adoración EUCARÍSTICA

MARTES

7

DE ABRIL

7:00PM

St. Mary
of the
Immaculate Conception

📍 1009 Stafford Ave
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Habrà confesiones



our parish marriage retreat

30 COUPLES, 1 PURPOSE: STRONGER MARRIAGES

On Saturday, March 21, thirty married couples gathered in the Parish Life Center for the Marriage Masterplan retreat: a day of prayer, guided conversation, and strategic planning for their marriages. Led by Fr. Mosimann and David & Margaret Bereit, couples spent the day working through three sessions: **Rediscovering** where they've been, **Renewing** where they are, and building a **Roadmap** for where God is taking them together.

Unlike a typical lecture-based retreat, the majority of the day was spent in private, guided conversation between spouses, with written exercises, prayer, and Eucharistic Adoration available throughout the afternoon. Couples left with a written Marriage Masterplan: a concrete set of commitments including a shared vision, mission, goals, and daily practices for their marriage.

By the Numbers:

30 Couples Attended | 4.95 out of 5 Overall Rating |
98% "Definitely" Would Recommend

In Their Own Words:

"You have that time you always talk about. You put it all out there and you get those butterflies again."

"As parents of 4 young kids, having the guidance and time to reflect, discuss and plan was so life-giving to us and our relationship."

"Taking a deeper look into our marriage — a different perspective after 46 years of marriage than being newlyweds."

"Taking time to create a meaningful plan for our marriage that we can start tomorrow!"

"THIS WAS AMAZING! Thank you!"

"Very helpful to our marriage. Really enjoyed all three speakers. Thankful we weren't made to share to the whole group."

"This was our first marriage retreat and we are inspired and look forward to future gatherings of spiritually-minded couples."

"Honest conversation was very meaningful and valuable."

"Thank you for uniting us as a married couple & uniting us with God."

If you are interested in learning about upcoming marriage enrichment retreats and activities at St. Mary's, please



contact Margaret Bereit at margaret@stmaryfred.org

"Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain." — Psalm 127:1



our parish
marriage retreat



operations given in love

Donations Received March 10-17

Sunday Offertory	\$30,630.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$9,221.00
Parish Debt Reduction	\$875.00
St Vincent de Paul Poor Box	\$953.00

Our Second Collection for Easter is our Annual Parish Appeal for Development and Maintenance. Thank you for your generosity!

Pontifical Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land

800 Years of Franciscan Presence, Care, Service

At this special time of year, the entire Catholic community participates in the support of Christians in the Holy Land. The daily news reminds us of the violence and instability plaguing the Middle East, but we rarely hear of the shrinking Christian community that struggles to remain in the land of Christ's birth, death and resurrection. Since the 13th Century, the Order of St. Francis has been walking in Jesus' footsteps, working not only to make Christianity's holiest sites accessible to all the faithful, but preserving the Holy Land's precious Christian community, the "living stones of the Church", through education and scholarships, charity and assistance to the poor and pastoral ministry in 29 parishes, 4 homes for orphans and 3 academic institutions. The Good Friday Collection is the primary means of support for this work. It is a Pontifical Collection and your generosity is truly appreciated. For more information, visit myfranciscan.org/good-friday.

Children's Charity - April

The children's charity that will benefit from offerings in April is the Operation Purple Program of the National Military Family Association. When you hear "Operation Purple Camp" you should think: Kids Serve Too! The camps are a time for having fun, making friends, and reminding military kids that they are the Nation's youngest heroes.

The Operation Purple program was created in 2004 to fill a need identified by military parents to "help us help our kids." The mission of the Operation Purple program is to empower military children and their families to develop and maintain healthy and connected relationships, in spite of the current

military environment. We do this through a variety of means, including the healing and holistic aspect of the natural world. The program is joint or "purple"—encompassing all Service branches, including the National Guard and Reserve.

Since its creation in 2004, the Operation Purple program has grown to serve nearly 70,000 military children and teens. The Operation Purple program also includes family retreats at national parks and specialized family camps geared to address the needs of children and families of our nation's wounded service members.

For more information, visit their website at militaryfamily.org/programs/operation-purple/

Pro Life Reflection

Jesus endured crucifixion out of love for us, giving Himself away that we might have life. Abortion, on the other hand, is the opposite of love because it takes life. Love says, "I sacrifice myself for the good of the other person." Abortion says, "I sacrifice the other person for the good of myself." *Father, fill me and all people with the same love by which Your Son gave Himself away on the Cross. Grant that we may sacrifice ourselves and never sacrifice others.*

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.

Join Us April 22

Virginia
MARCH for LIFE

Join Bishop Burbidge and fellow marchers from across the Commonwealth at this year's Virginia March for Life in Richmond! St. Mary will have a bus going to the March for parishioners only. The bus will leave the parish at 8:30am, and will leave Richmond at 1pm to return to St. Mary.

Please call the parish office to reserve your seat on the bus! For more information, visit marchforlife.org/virginia

Schedule:

10am: Rally at the Bell Tower (101 9th St., Richmond, VA)
11am: March for Life



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, Maria Norma Funes

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

Joseph Gardner, Glenn Dickinson, Paul Fischer, Jamal Williams, Lance Schulte, Brian Hellmann, 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 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

30 MONDAY

6:30am Rosa Maria Mercado Villanueva
9:00am Zenona Trinidad and Josephina Hernandez+
Is 42:1-7/Jn 12:1-11

31 TUESDAY

6:30am George Flick+
9:00am Joel Walor+
Is 49:1-6/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

April

1 WEDNESDAY

6:30am John and Linda DeRosa
8:15am* Patricia Dolan+
9:00am Teddy Kincaid+
Is 50:4-9a/Mt 26:14-25

2 THURSDAY

7:30pm For All Priests
Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21

3 FRIDAY

Is 52:13-53:12/Heb 4:14-5:9/Jn 18:1-19:42

4 SATURDAY

8:00pm OCIA Catechumens & Candidates
Gn 1:1-2:2, 26-31a/Gn 22:1-18/Ex 14:15-15:1/Is 54:5-14/Is 55:1-11/Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4/
Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Rom 6:3-11/Mt 28:1-10

5 SUNDAY

8:00am Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Life
10:15am For Our Parish
12:30pm For World Peace, Religious Freedom, and Sanctity of Life
Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4/Jn 20:1-9

* Indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy.

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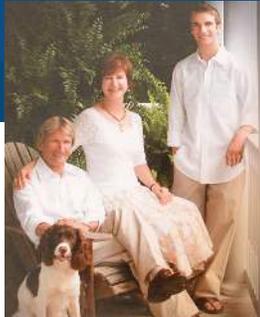
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