

Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 24, 2019



Parish Staff

Rev. Ronald S. Escalante, Pastor
Msgr. John Cregan, Parochial Administrator
Rev. Mark Mullaney, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Larry Hammel
Mrs. Amy Harrison, Business Manager
Mrs. Angela Baker, Secretary
Mrs. Laura Burgess, Sacristan
Mrs. Janice Rees, CRE, Sunday Bulletin
Ms. Emily Glass, Director of Youth Ministry
Mr. Michael Galdo, Director of Music
Mr. William Gibson, Facilities Manager
Mr. Jerry Jones, Custodian
Mrs. Maria Alvarenga, Custodian
Mr. Antonio Alvarenga, Rectory Cook

Contact Info

Parish Office - 540-338-6381
office email - secretary@saintfrancisparish.org
Religious Education Office - 540-338-4497
RE email - RE@saintfrancisparish.org
In case of an emergency - 540-338-6440
Fax - 540-338-6431
37730 St. Francis Court, Purcellville, VA 20132
www.SaintFrancisParish.org

Welcome!

Please register and become part of our parish community. You may fill out a registration form in the parish office during business hours.

Office Hours - M-F 8:30am-4:30pm
(Office closed between 12noon and 1:15pm daily)

Moving? If you are leaving the parish, please let us know by calling or dropping a note.

Sacraments

Confessions: Friday 10:30am
Saturday 8am and 3:30pm; and anytime by appointment
Confessions are heard in Rooms 107 & 113 in Catholic Ed. Ctr.

Matrimony: Parish couples planning to be married must make arrangements with the Office at least six months prior to the intended date of marriage.

Baptism: The Sacrament is celebrated each month on the second and third Sunday at 1:30pm. Baptism class is the last Friday of the month at 7pm. Call the office for details.

Anointing of the Sick: We are privileged to bring Holy Communion and administer the Holy Anointing to the sick and homebound upon request. Please call the office to let us know your needs.

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil - 5pm
Sunday - 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:15pm
5pm (Mass with contemporary music)

Daily Masses

Monday and Wednesday - 9am
Tuesday and Thursday - 6:30am
Friday - 6:30am & 12 noon;
First Friday - 12 noon & 7pm
Saturday - 9am
Check the bulletin for Holy Days of Obligation

Adoration/Benediction

Friday - Adoration is held every Friday following the 12 noon Mass until 5pm. The Rosary is prayed at 12:30pm and the Divine Mercy Chaplet is at 3pm.

First Friday - Adoration follows the 12noon Mass until the 7pm Mass

7TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME February 24, 2019

Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger
and abounding in kindness.
- *Psalms 103:8*

DO NO HARM

We listen quite a while before we get to the “punch line” of the first reading today: even though it would be an easy thing to do, David will not harm the anointed one of the Lord. We, of course, know that Jesus is the Messiah, the anointed one of God, but the Bible uses this term for many different people. It is scripture’s way of indicating who has been chosen by God for a special place and mission in salvation history.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus presents a greatly enlarged list of those who, as children of God, we should not harm, but love instead: our enemies, those who curse us or do us harm, those who owe us money, the ungrateful, the wicked. The point of Jesus’ teaching is not to encourage these kinds of behaviors in others, but rather to form us in the image of our heavenly Father by increasing our opportunities to love unconditionally, expecting no return; to be merciful and forgiving, even when it would be easier not to.

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Ash Wednesday – March 6 Mass Schedule

6:30am – No music
9am – Children’s Choir
5pm – Cantor and Organ
7pm – Parish Choir

Parish Financial Status

In-pew Offertory - February 17	\$ 11,458
No 2nd Collection	
Parish Giving for January	\$ 26,738
YEAR TO DATE	\$ 689,842
This week’s 2nd Collection - Maintenance Fund	
Next week’s 2nd Collection - Parish Debt Reduction	

This Week

Sun., Feb. 24	<u>Adult Basketball</u> 8:30pm
Tue., Feb. 26	<u>Senior Luncheon</u> 12noon, Parish Hall <u>Women’s Faith Ministry</u> 7:30pm, Rm. 201,213 <u>RCIA</u> 7:30pm, Room 107 <u>Catholic Social Justice class</u> 7pm, Rm. 206
Wed., Feb. 27	<u>Catholic Social Justice class</u> 10am, Rm. 206 <u>TMIY</u> 7pm, Room 202 <u>St. John Bible Study</u> , Room 205
Thu., Feb. 28	<u>Rosary Group</u> 7pm, Church
Sat., March 2	<u>TMIY</u> 6:30am
Sun., March 3	<u>Adult Basketball</u> 8:30pm

Masses for the Week

+ *deceased*

Saturday, Feb. 23

9:00 am

Saturday, Feb. 23

5:00 pm

Sunday, Feb. 24

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:15 pm

5:00 pm

Monday, Feb. 25

9:00 am

Tuesday, Feb. 26

6:30 am

Wed., Feb. 27

9:00 am

Thursday, Feb. 28

6:30 am

Friday, March 1

12:00 noon

7:00 pm

Saturday, March 2

9:00 am

Saturday, March 2

5:00 pm

Sunday, March 3

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:15 pm

5:00 pm

Saint Polycarp

+ C. Don Van Houweling

Vigil: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Maralan O’Neil

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

People of the Parish

Merle and Terry Garvis

+ Gary Kennedy

Liz Keller

Mary Ann Sacripanti

Weekday

Carolyn Woodland

Weekday

+ Salvatore Biscardi

Weekday

+ Arthur Colantuono

Weekday

Poppy Sellier

Weekday; First Friday

+ Dorothy Jean Hott

All victims of sexual abuse and their continued healing

Weekday; First Saturday

Compassionate Heart of Mary

Bereavement Group

Vigil: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

+ Michael Derby

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

+ Neal Brown

People of the Parish

The Fitzgerald Family

+ Verona McCarthy

+ Justin and Marilyn O’Donnell

Mass Celebrant Schedule

Saturday, February 23

5pm: Msgr. Cregan

Sunday, February 24

7am: Msgr. Cregan

8:30am: Msgr. Cregan

10:30am: Fr. Mullaney

12:15pm: Fr. Mullaney

5pm: Msgr. Mullaney

Saturday, March 2

5pm: Fr. Mullaney

Sunday, March 3

7am: Fr. Mullaney

8:30am: Fr. Mullaney

10:30am: Msgr. Cregan

12:15pm: Msgr. Cregan

5pm: Msgr. Cregan

Readings for the Week

Monday: Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40;
Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Sir 4:11-19; Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175;
Mk 9:38-40

Thursday: Sir 5:1-8; Ps 1A:1-4, 6; Mk 9:41-50

Friday: Sir 6:5-17; Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35; Mk 10:1-12

Saturday: Sir 17:1-15; Ps 103:13-18; Mk 10:13-16

Sunday: Sir:27:4-7; Ps 92:2-3, 13-16; 1 Cor 15:54-58;
Lk 6:39-45

SENIORS LUNCHEON

Join us for lunch and conversation on **Tuesday, February 26** at 12 noon in the Parish Hall. Who is a senior? Whoever wants to be - no age minimum!

Seniors Luncheon

We are looking for a new person who would like to take over as host of the Senior Luncheons that are held the last Tuesday of each month in the Parish Hall. We would like to acknowledge and thank Debra Perdue for the many fine meals she has prepared for the seniors for the past several years! If you would like to know more about the luncheons, please contact Debra at buddysp@verizon.net.

Overnight Eucharistic Adoration

Our parish will not be hosting overnight Adoration on 1st Fridays for the time being. Adoration will start after 12noon Mass and continue until Benediction before the 7pm Mass.

VBS KICK-OFF MEETING New Volunteers Welcome!

Our re-scheduled planning meeting for VBS is **Thursday, February 28**. If you are interested in learning about or participating in this summer's VBS please join us at the meeting! If you cannot come to the meeting, but are still interested, please call or email the RE office. This year's theme is ATHENS - Paul's Dangerous Journey to Share the Truth to be held week of July 8-12.

This meeting is for adult volunteers only, our youth volunteers will come to meetings at a later date. But if you are a youth volunteer, and know how you would like to volunteer, let me know and I'll save your spot. j.rees@saintfrancisparish.org. New volunteers are always welcome, join our fun, established team!



Our thoughts and prayers are with ...



Our Military Members:

MAJ Chuck Marshall; Lcpl John Owen Patterson; Sgt. Tim Marshall; 2nd Lt. Patrick Gutierrez, MAJ Andrew Cahan; 1st Lt Matthew Ryan, Capt. Patrick Godfrey, Cpl Zachary Gingras, LT Scott Cypher, Cap. Vincent Jovene, 1st Lt. Jamie (Jovene) Liddle, A1C Joshua Jovene, 1LT Jared Willard, Joe Pultro, LCpl Paul Cotter, 2dLt Rachel Jovene, GySgt Jose O Ruiz Pedroza, PFC Jorge A Lara Pedroza, LT Ross Mentzer, 2nd LT Ryan Patrick Grady; PFC Stephen G. Beard, Sgt. Ernesto G. Castro, LCpl Frankie Thyson

The Sick: Dominic Corcoran, Jack Lehtonen, Mary Jane Arens, Zach Miller, Phyllis Heller, Madeline Gonzalez, Mike O'Brien, Bill and Valerie Wieliczko, Sarah Nolan, Liz Keller

The Deceased: David Young, Philippe Laffitte-Smith, Shannon Stodlar, Edward Versprille, Nancy Anderson, Arthur Busher, Jim Duепен, Dorothy Gessner, Ellen Delaney, Daniel Duggan, Bud Nolan, Marilyn Cote, Michael Konopa

*** PARISH WISH LIST ***

• **Donate to our new Ambo (Pulpit)** You are invited to donate any amount for the new Ambo (Pulpit) and be a part of the "Book of Life Circle." Donations of \$1k or more will give you the option to add a dedication to our future Memorial Wall to be displayed in the narthex. We need \$35k for this important part of the sanctuary where we hear the Word of God proclaimed. As of November 2, 2018, we have received \$23,000. (See July 30, 2017 Shepherd's Notes re the Ambo.)

• **"Pipe Organ" donation**—Help us pay for the church organ that was installed in April 2017. We have received \$48,810 & now owe just \$68,890 for this beautiful organ!

• **Hosting the Pilgrim Virgin statue sign up**—You can schedule to sign up for hosting the *Pilgrim Virgin* in your home. Go to saintfrancisparish.org/hosting-the-pilgrim-virgin/ and pick a date. Then just sign up at j.rees@saintfrancisparish.org and pick up the statue in the narthex after the Sunday Mass you attend and return it no later than Saturday afternoon for the next person to host our *Blessed Mother*. Great blessings will come along your way when you invite *Our Lady* and pray the rosary in your home. She will not be outdone in generosity!

2019 BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL Together in the Light of Christ

The 2019 Bishop's Lenten Appeal Commitment weekend is next weekend. Once a year we are asked to make a commitment to support the work of our diocesan programs and ministries which provide services that no single parish could provide on its own. This important effort is a means by which we work together by sharing the gifts God has bestowed upon us. Our parish goal is 100 % participation. Please join us to continue God's work of spirituality, education and charity in our diocese through this appeal!

Attention Teachers!

The Catholic Homeschool Resource and Support Ministry (CHRSM) at St. Francis de Sales in Purcellville has had a wonderful first year of inception with over 150 students joining us for classes. Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the 2019-20 school year and include offerings from toddler to high school.

We are currently in need of TEACHERS for the following classes:

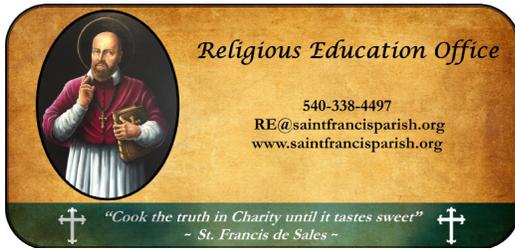
- Latin (elem, middle and high school levels)
- Art (elem, middle/high school levels)
- PreK/K class (ages 3-5)
- Theology (high school level)
- Hands on Science (ages 5-7)
- Physical and/or Earth Sciences (Middle School level)

If you are interested in sharing your teaching talents within this faithful, young Catholic community, please contact CHRSM directors at: sfchrsm@gmail.com. Thank you!

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS -FEBRUARY 2019

Human Trafficking

For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.



CONFIRMATION

Sponsor Eligibility Form – DUE March 1

- If your Confirmation sponsor is a registered member of Saint Francis de Sales, and meets the qualifications of a sponsor, you will need to fill out the Sponsor Eligibility Form, bring it to the Parish Office for Msgr. Cregan to sign and seal.
- All sponsors from other parishes need to fill out our form, present it to their pastor, and have it signed, sealed, and returned to the RE office.

We do our very best to ensure delivery of emails regarding registration, upcoming meetings, important Sacrament info, etc. Email filters will often block these messages due to the large volume of emails we send out, or perhaps we have an outdated email address. Please check your email, especially if you have a child preparing for a Sacrament. If you are not getting email notifications you need to let me know. Janice R.



**Middle Schoolers Acting for Christ
 Prayer Action Charity**

**KARAOKE NIGHT
 SUNDAY, MARCH 10
 following 5pm Mass**

This will be the last event hosted by Pat and Danielle Orender. We offer our sincerest thanks to Pat and Danielle for being the MAC-PAC directors these last several years. They hosted a lot of fun events for our middle-schoolers! Is there an individual or couple who would wish to take the reins of this ministry?? Gatherings are held the 2nd Sunday of each month. Please contact j_rees@saintfrancisparish.org if you would like to learn more.

Inclement Weather Cancellations

Weekday: When Loudoun County schools are closed or have early dismissal, or cancel after-school activities due to inclement weather, Youth and Adult Religious ed and classes are cancelled.

Sunday Classes: Sunday morning cancellations will be posted on emailed to families by 6:45am Sunday morning.



Emily Glass Director of Youth Ministry
 540-338-6381 or
e.glass@saintfrancisparish.org

TEEN WORKCAMP MEETING –The next Teen Workcamp Meeting is on March 24th from 6:15-8pm in the old parish hall. This meeting is for all current 8th-12th graders. Please note that all teens who plan to attend Workcamp must attend teen Workcamp meetings. \$150 deposits (checks made out to St. Francis de Sales) are currently due to reserve a space at Workcamp. Please bring them to the Parish Office or Education Center office during business hours. We can also take your deposits at Youth Night.

ADULT WORKCAMPER MEETING – There will be a Workcamp meeting for all adults attending Workcamp on Thursday, March 14th in room 213 from 7:30-9pm. Please contact Emily Glass if you are an adult interested in coming to Workcamp or if you have any questions.

SPRING RETREAT – Save the date! The Spring Retreat will be held March 15-17th at Brethren Woods in Keezletown, VA. E-mail Emily to sign up by March 10. Spend the weekend in the mountains with your friends! Come grow in your relationship with Jesus, take a break from the craziness of life, and have FUN! \$45 per person. ALL high schoolers welcome!

YOUTH NIGHT – Join us on Sundays from 6-8pm for fellowship, food, and fun. Bring a friend!! All high schoolers are welcome! Come to grow in friendship with Christ and one another.

BIBLE STUDY FOR HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS – Join us at Market St. Coffee on Wednesdays from 5-6pm for Bible study.

Please remember to settle your Religious Education Tuition balance this month if you have not yet done so. \$55 fee for Confirmation is due by March 1 and \$30 fee for First Holy Communion fees is due by April 1. Call the RE office if you have any questions regarding your balance.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS
 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
 Monday - Friday, July 8-12
 9am-12noon**

Religious Education Calendar

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 24

Sunday Grades 1st-8th Session 1 - 8:45am
Grades K-8th Session 2 - 10:30am
 Monday Grades K-8th - 4:45pm
 Wednesday Grades PreK, 1st-8th - 4:45pm

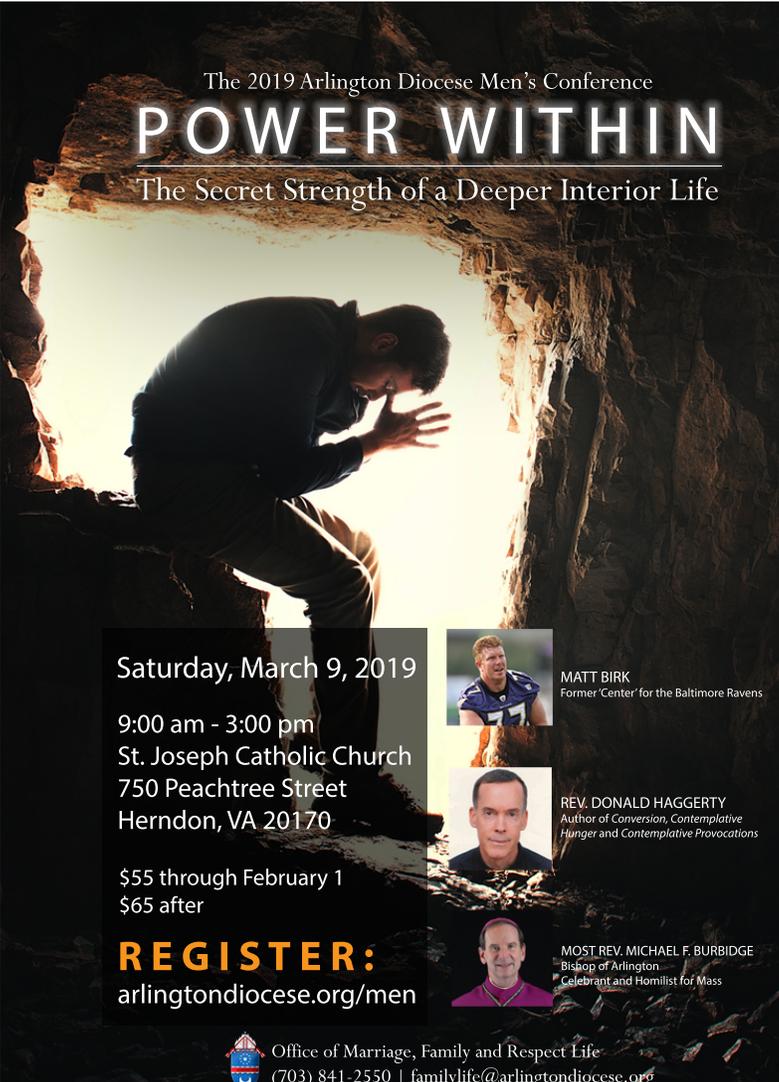
WEEK OF MARCH 3

Sunday Grades 1st-8th Session 1 - 8:45am
Grades K-8th Session 2 - 10:30am
 Monday Grades K-8th - 4:45pm
 Wednesday **NO CLASSES**

The 2019 Arlington Diocese Men's Conference

POWER WITHIN

The Secret Strength of a Deeper Interior Life



Saturday, March 9, 2019
 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
 St. Joseph Catholic Church
 750 Peachtree Street
 Herndon, VA 20170

\$55 through February 1
 \$65 after

REGISTER:
arlingtondiocese.org/men



MATT BIRK
 Former Center for the Baltimore Ravens



REV. DONALD HAGGERTY
 Author of *Conversion, Contemplative Hunger and Contemplative Provocations*



MOST REV. MICHAEL F. BURBIDGE
 Bishop of Arlington
 Celebrant and Homilist for Mass



Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life
 (703) 841-2550 | familylife@arlingtondiocese.org

Pilgrimage to IRELAND

Take this opportunity to accompany our own Father Mullaney on a 10-day pilgrimage to the Emerald Isle. Tentative dates are scheduled for October 1-11. Highlights of the trip may include a tour of the Shrine of Knock where Our Lady, St. Joseph and St. John the Evangelist appeared in 1879, the Cliffs of Moher, Blarney Castle, Trinity College with its Book of Kells in Dublin and much more. For further itinerary and cost information, please contact Mary and Chris Miller at Emarym0304@gmail.com or at 760-622-9177.

Cooke Tavern Soups

American Heritage Girls Soup Sales

Our American Heritage Girls Troop 962 will again be selling delicious Cooke Tavern Soups after all Masses March 9th/10th in the Narthex. The soup mixes are preservative-free, salt-free, and non-GMO, and are made from all natural ingredients. Many of them are gluten free as well. They are wonderful to have on hand during Lent, and make great gifts! Prices are \$8 each, or 4 for \$30. Checks are accepted after Masses. The soups may also be purchased via credit card at Fish Fry Fridays (March 15 and 22). You may also place orders through individual Troop members. Contact TCAHG962@gmail.com with any additional questions. Thanks for supporting our Troop, and our Parish!

NEW WAY TO SERVE - AUXILIARY USHER PROGRAM

In order to better facilitate our Masses and assist and greet our Mass goers, the Parish has an Usher Ministry. The Usher ministry currently is in need of additional members and anyone who is interested should contact John Metrey. It is realized that some people's schedules prohibit them from committing to attending a particular Mass on a regular basis and are not able to serve as ushers. For people in this situation, a new program, the Auxiliary Usher Program, is being initiated. The Auxiliary Usher Program will allow those who want to serve, but whose schedules prevent them from committing to a regular Mass, to serve as usher when they are available. If interested and for additional details on this new program, please contact Jon Metrey jon.metrey@gmail.com or Pat Orender Theorenders@gmail.com

Gaelic (Irish) Mass

In honor of St. Patrick, at St. Thomas More Cathedral, 3901 N. Cathedral Ln., Arlington on Monday, March 11 at 7:30pm. Fr. Keveny is the celebrant, and a choral group will sing in Gaelic accompanied by harp. Hosted by AOH divisions. Join us for this beautiful Mass. The AOH is an Irish-American Catholic organization that promotes Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity. Visit our website www.aohloudoun.org for contact info.

GIVE A PINT ON ST. PATRICKS DAY SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 7am-12noon

Purcellville Fire and Safety Center
 Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus of
 St. Francis de Sales and Inova Blood Services
 Please register at inova.org/donateblood
 Use Sponsor code #3026

Walk-ins welcome but appointments are preferred.
 The need for blood is real. Thank you.

Our last blood drive was cancelled because of inclement weather. Sorry. I hope "you all" were not terribly inconvenienced. Wear your green but donate your red blood. For those that signed up for the past cancelled drive I will put you in for the 17 March Drive at the same appointment time. Should you wish make any change to the next drive email: charliebaldi77@gmail.com.

COUNSELING OFFERED AT SFDS

Jennifer Barry, LCSW from Catholic Charities' Family Services will begin taking appointments offering Individual, Family or Couples Counseling on Wednesdays at St. Francis de Sales. Jennifer is a licensed clinical social worker who received her Master of Social Work (MSW) from the Catholic University of America. If you would like to schedule an appointment with her, please contact Family Services at 703-425-0109.

Initial consultations are available without charge at both St. Francis on Wednesdays and St. Theresa in Ashburn on Thursdays. If you are interested in scheduling a consultation with Jennifer, please contact her at 703-772-4022.

Ladies Auxiliary

Ongoing Events: *(All are invited to most events, not just ladies!)*



Sunday - 3/3/19 - **Cake Walk Fun during the Pancake Breakfast** - Join the fun and win some yummy treats! \$1 per round per player - children and adults can play!

Monday - 3/4/19 - **Monthly Business Meeting** - 7pm Chapel for the Rosary, 7:30pm Parish Hall (church basement) for the meeting. Join us to find out what the Ladies Auxiliary is doing in & for the Parish Community and come see how you can be a part of it!

Tuesday - 3/5/19 - **SHROVE TUESDAY** - ITALIAN DINNER - in the Parish Hall (church basement) - FREE WILL OFFERING; adult beverages sold separately. E-mail ladiesaux11136@gmail.com to let us know you're attending and how many are in your group. **Since this is our first time hosting Shrove/Fat Tuesday, we need to have a count for food preparation!**

ON-GOING - Funeral Reception Helpers Wanted!

We're creating a team to handle this very special task! If you can help set-up, break-down, decorate, prepare food, etc. please let us know so we can add you to our team! Email ladiesaux11136@gmail.com to join the team.

Become a Project Rachel Parish Promoter

Project Rachel, the Catholic Church's ministry to those who have been involved in abortion, is a diocesan-based network of specially trained priests, religious, counselors, and laypersons who provide a team response of care for those suffering in the aftermath of abortion. In addition to referring for Sacramental Reconciliation, the ministry provides an integrated network of services, including offering a confidential helpline, spiritual support, retreats and referrals to licensed mental health professionals.

Our Arlington Diocesan Project Rachel Ministry operates under the Office of Family, Marriage and Respect Life and was founded on August 15, 1995. Our goal is to enlist a representative in every parish in our Diocese to serve as a liaison between the Diocesan Project Rachel office and the parish. Help us share the Good News of God's merciful love with anyone who seeks reconciliation and healing after abortion.

The Role of the Parish Promoter is to pray and promote:

- **Prayer:** integral part of the ministry and essential to serving as a parish promoter.
- **Promotion:** Learn the Top 5 Ways to turn your parish into a "model" Rachel parish.

If you are interested in serving as a Parish Promoter for our St. Francis parish please contact: Elaine Marshall at (703)727-7302 or elaine.marshall@verizon.net

Couples, Singles, Men and Women are invited to:

CONSOLING THE HEART OF JESUS

10-Week LENTEN Retreat

A devotion to the Sacred Heart by Fr. Gaitley.

This retreat will give you:

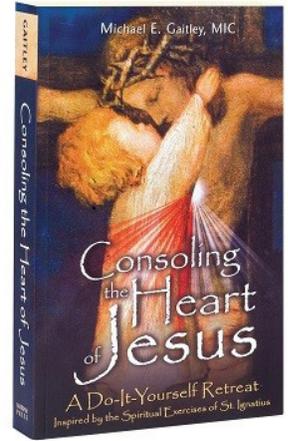
1. Greater awareness of God's infinite mercy
2. How we can give Him joy
3. Shows us the way to console His heart by accepting His love and trusting in Him completely

Starting the 2nd week of LENT:

* Wednesdays at 10am beginning on March 13th

* Thursdays at 7pm beginning on March 14th

If you're interested in this 10-week Lenten Retreat, please contact us by February 27th! Email ladiesaux11136@gmail.com or call 571-278-6700 with your name and contact information.



American Heritage Girls Diaper Drive collection for Birthright

Our American Heritage Girls Troop 962 will be conducting a Diaper Drive for the Leesburg Birthright throughout Lent. There are collection boxes for your donations in the Narthex and in the Religious Education building. All items should be new.

Items needed are:

- + Size 4 diapers,
- + Size 3 diapers,
- + baby wipes,
- + baby wash,
- + new onesies size 0-3,
- + diaper rash cream.

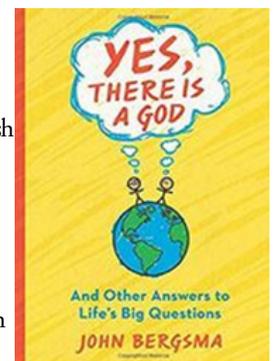


Lenten Book and Author to Speak at Saint Francis May 9, 7pm in Parish Center

For our Lenten journey this year, Saint Francis de Sales Parish is giving out a short and easy to read book on the Existence of God and Life's Big Questions after Mass the weekend of March 2nd/3rd. The book is called YES, THERE IS A GOD by Dr. John Bergsma, a Professor at Franciscan University. Dr. Bergsma is a former Protestant Calvinist Pastor who came into Full Communion with the Catholic Church in 2001 while working on his PhD from Notre Dame.

The book uses simple step by step logic to discuss basic philosophy and science including the purpose of our existence, the creation of the Universe and scientific proofs from the telescope and microscope. It also touches on other world religions and their beliefs and why our Christian Faith is different. The book discusses the historical person of Jesus and whether he is just a prophet, a good man or God Himself and what happens if I say YES to Jesus? The book will help you, your family, friends and ESPECIALLY your older children from Middle School to young adult understand from Science and sound judgment how to strengthen your Faith, stay Christian and REMAIN in the Church Jesus started, our Holy Catholic Church.

Dr. Bergsma will speak at our Parish after Easter on Thursday, May 9th at 7pm at the Parish Center to reinforce what we learned from his Book and how to keep all our loved ones faithful Catholics. Please sign up for the talk by emailing Janice Rees at j.rees@saintfrancisparish.org.



St. Francis Council 11136 news



Next Council Meeting: Our next council business meeting will be on Monday, March 11th, at 7:30 pm. We will pray our Rosary in the chapel beginning at 7:00 pm. Any parishioner is welcomed to join our Rosary!

Knights of Columbus Annual 5 Car Raffle: The tickets for the annual 5 Car Raffle will be mailed on Tuesday, February 19th. This is the same raffle that we have participated in for the last number of years. Like last year, the ticket returns are being processed at All Saints again this year. This is a requirement by the Department of Charitable Gaming. The raffle continues to benefit our parish and many other charitable causes throughout the diocese, as it has in the past. Last weekend, we had one of the vehicles for the 5 Car Raffle on display here at the parish, the Honda Odyssey. We will have another vehicle on display in mid-March and a third vehicle on display in mid to late April. We hope that you will support our efforts by buying your tickets.

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, March 3rd, the Knights of Columbus will have their first Sunday of the Month Pancake Breakfast. The breakfast will begin after the 7:00 am mass and run through the end of the 10:30 am mass. As before, the Knights accept free-will donations.

Share Sunday Collection the Weekend of March 9/10: As a reminder to everyone, our Share Sunday Collection is the second weekend of each month. Please bring to church any non-perishable food in boxes and cans. Thank you for your monthly support of this project.

May God bless you!

Tracy Beglau, Grand Knight
St. Francis Council #11136

knightsofcolumbusfrancis11136@gmail.com

PVI Close Up Night at St. Paul VI Catholic High School

This is a special evening for all students accepted into the Class of 2023 and 8th graders and their families who are considering a Catholic High School Education. Join us at 7pm on Tuesday, March 5th at 10675 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax, and experience all PVI has to offer your high school student. Questions: chanley@pvipanther.net

HUGE CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT SALE

Consign and shop for baby and children's clothing, accessories, toys, books, videos, games, baby gear, furniture, maternity and much more at Little Flower Consignments. The sale is Saturday, March 9th starting at 8am at St. Theresa's Catholic School in Ashburn. All proceeds are donated to Divine Mercy Outreach. For more information, visit us at www.LittleFlowerConsignments.org or at www.facebook.com/LittleFlowerConsignments.

Faithbooking/Spiritual Retreat March 22-24

San Damiano Spiritual Life Center, White Post, Virginia
Come and reflect on God's blessings in your life.

Refresh your soul by gifting yourself this time of solitude.

For more information: www.legacylife.photo

Contact: MaryBeth Piccinino 703-560-1149

Colleen Duffy Kiko kiko.colleen@gmail.com

Parish Homeless Ministry



"Do you know what a Food Desert is? It is an area, in rural areas, that are more than 10 miles from grocery stores. Lack of protein sources, and fresh fruits and vegetables, contribute to our obesity epidemic. Even though most of us are fortunate to be surrounded by grocery stores, there are food deserts not too far away. We, the Homeless Ministry, successfully provided another healthy meal in Anacostia last Saturday, hot pasta casseroles, fresh salad greens, warm rolls and desserts at the Sister's of Charity Soup Kitchen. Thank you to each and every one of you for your contribution, the best food is homemade food! This is in addition to the hot meal provided by the Youth Ministry, one time per month, and taken to the Leesburg Homeless Shelter. The Blessing Bag group bagging effort last Sunday was great! Many hands bagged many gallon bags, protein bars, peanut butter crackers, trail mix, hand warmers, small soaps, toothbrushes, socks were some of the many items donated. These are for some of the homeless in our area, that are given shelter overnight, but then have to leave in the morning with no breakfast. These Blessing bags go a long way to sustain these folks until they are able to get back in to the shelters in the evening. We will plan to hold another sometime in the next few months. We are looking for volunteers, 13 years old and up, to be servers for our next Soup Kitchen, Saturday March 9, from 8:30am until 12:30pm in Anacostia. Please join us, let us know if you need a ride.

A Sign-Up Genius is on the parish website saintfrancisparish.org. Join us on March 9!!!

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Please contact us if you have any questions to be added to our mailing list.

Project Rachel

Post Abortion Healing Ministry:

888-456-HOPE or visit:

www.helpafterabortion.org.

Gabriel Project

Pregnancy Assistance Ministry:

866-444-3553 or

info@helpforpregnantwomen.org