Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church

The Epiphany of the Lord January 7, 2018

Authentic Gold, Frankincense & Myrrh on parish display for Epiphany Sunday

Parish Staff

Rev. Ronald S. Escalante, Pastor
Rev. Mark Mullaney, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Larry Hammel
Mrs. Amy Harrison, Business Manager
Mrs. Angela Baker, Secretary
Mr. James Blankenship, DRE
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.

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 and the7pm Mass, and ends with Benediction at 8:45am on Saturday.

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Friday 10:30am
Saturday 8am and 3:30pm; and anytime by appointment
Confessions are heard in Rooms 107 and 113 in Catholic Education Center

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.

The Epiphany of the Lord
January 7, 2018

All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him.
- Psalm 72:11

GOD'S PROMISE TO ALL PEOPLE

Today Isaiah reminds the people of God that the land shall be restored to their possession, they shall rejoice to see their people return from the bondage of exile, and that they shall be a light to the nations. In other words, through the people of Israel, the Savior shall come to all people who seek God with a sincere heart. This brings joy and the radiance of God's glory to all the world and to all people everywhere. Through the fidelity of the people of God, and through God's fidelity to them, all people shall become God's children and rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel.

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This Week

Sun., Jan. 7	Adult Basketball 8:30pm
Mon., Jan. 8	Epic Bible Study 7:30pm, Rm 113
Tue., Jan. 9	Adult Ed - Sacred Liturgy 7pm, Rm 206
	WWP Opening Your Heart 7:30pm
	WWP Touching the Divine 7:30pm
	RCIA 7:30pm, Rm 107
Wed., Jan. 10	Adult Ed - Sacred Liturgy 10am, Rm 206
	TMIY 7pm
	Bible Timeline 7:30pm, Rm 113
	WWP Touching the Divine 7:30pm
Thu., Jan. 11	WWP Touching the Divine 10am
	Rosary Group 7pm, Church
	WWP Opening Your Heart 7:30pm
	WWP Touching the Divine 7:30pm
Fri., Jan. 12	Divine Mercy Movie Night see next page for details
Sat., Jan. 13	TMIY 6:30am, Our Lady of Victory Hall

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Is 55:1-11 or Acts 10:34-38 or 1 Jn 5:1-9; Ps 29:1-4, 3, 9-10 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Mk 1:7-11
Tuesday:	1 Sm 1:9-20 or 1 Sm 1:1-8 and 1 Sm 1:9-20; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Mk 1:21-28 or Mk 1:14-20 and Mk 1:21-28
Wednesday:	1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10; Mk 1:29 39
Thursday:	1 Sm 4:1-11; Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25; Mk 1:40 45
Friday:	1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Ps 89:16-19; Mk 2:1 12
Saturday:	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a; Ps 21:2-7; Mk 2:13 17
Sunday:	1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

Masses for the Week

+ deceased

Saturday, Jan. 6	**Christmas Weekday; First Saturday**
9:00 am	+ Terry Matterazzi
Saturday, Jan. 6	**Vigil: The Epiphany of the Lord**
5:00 am	+ Dolores Lehr
Sunday, Jan. 7	**The Epiphany of the Lord**
7:00 am	+ Neal Brown
8:30 am	+ Nora Newman
10:30 am	People of the Parish
12:15 pm	+ James Obendorfer
5:00 pm	+ Alisa Acham
Monday, Jan. 8	**The Baptism of the Lord**
9:00 am	Isabel Lauderback
Tuesday, Jan. 9	**Weekday**
6:30 am	+ Josephine Buzzelli
Wed., Jan. 10	**Weekday**
9:00 am	Christopher Wingate
Thursday, Jan. 11	**Weekday**
6:30 am	Renza Bartlett
Friday, Jan. 12	**Weekday**
6:30 am	+ Virginia Szemborski
12:00 noon	Paula Bischoff
Saturday, Jan. 13	**Weekday**
9:00 am	Henry Misik
Saturday, Jan. 13	**Vigil: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
5:00 am	+ Leon and Gisela Henneberry
Sunday, Jan. 14	**2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**
7:00 am	Deceased members of the Butts and D'Elia families
8:30 am	+ Doris Brown
10:30 am	+ Richard Ralph
12:15 pm	People of the Parish
5:00 pm	+ Jack Gardiner

Mass Celebrant Schedule

Saturday, January 6
5pm: Fr. Mullaney
Sunday, January 7
7am: Fr. Escalante
8:30am: Fr. Escalante
10:30am: Fr. Mullaney
12:15pm: Fr. Mullaney
5pm: Fr. Mullaney

Saturday, January 13
5pm: Fr. Mullaney
Sunday, January 14
7am: Fr. Mullaney
8:30am: Fr. Mullaney
10:30am: Fr.. Escalante
12:15pm: Fr.. Escalante
5pm: Fr.. Escalante

Parish Financial Status

In-pew Offertory - December 31	$ 16,237
In-pew Offertory - January 1	$ 1,023
YEAR TO DATE	$ 606,302

Electronic figures for December not yet available

Shepherd's Notes

Next major project: Adding the Confessionals in 2018!

Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ blessed us with an incredible new church sanctuary in 2017 and we are most thankful for it. More people now including non-parishioners make visits to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and feel "extra" inspired while praying.

We have great spiritual plans this year to make the best of our sanctuary by offering the "Holy Triple Crown" that I mentioned a couple of columns ago in the next three months: 1) *40 Hours Eucharistic Adoration in honor of our patron, Saint Francis de Sales* (January 24-26) followed by an organ concert by Dr. Paul Skevington on January 26 (7:30pm); 2) *Parish Mission* led by Father James McCormack from the order of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception speaking on The Divine Mercy of God (February 25-27, evenings); 3) right after *All-night Eucharistic Adoration Benediction & Mass* (March 3, 8:45-9:30am), internationally renowned Catholic apologist, professor and scripture scholar, *Dr. Scott Hahn* will speak on two intriguing spiritual topics that morning: A) *"The Miracle of Mercy in Marriage"* and B) *"The Fourth Cup: The Miracle of Mercy in the Eucharist."* You don't want to miss any of these so please start making plans for the Holy Triple Crown to start off your spiritual year in 2018.

The amount of loan the diocese set for our church repair and renovation was $1.5M. Through your amazing generosity, we've paid about half of that already and only three months after re-opening the church. Many were amazed at what we could do with the money loaned to us but, unfortunately, we couldn't squeeze in $250k the architect and contractor quoted for the cost of the additional room to house the sacristy and the two confessionals. But there are two good news I can share about this dilemma.

First of all, Loudoun County approved our plan to extend the church area by about 800 square feet (right behind the 14th Station of the Cross). That should be plenty of room for the two handicap accessible confessionals we had preliminary drawn plus enlarging the current sacristy back there (it's very tight there if you've visited it). The second good news is someone already pledged $20k (and gave us $5k already) for the drawing and permitting cost for the project! Since we're not adding to the loan, we can work on building this much-needed room especially for our penitents (and confessors, of course) sooner than expected. We have to be optimistic that we can do this in 2018. After all, hardly anyone believed that the *Philothea Guild* could close the church for only three months and reopen with a complete overhaul—but with God's help we reopened right on time. The Guild credit their success from your numerous prayers and fasting.. Since so many are anxious to build the confessionals within the church, how about helping me raise the funds for the confessionals? Through electronic giving, you can go to DONATIONS and click on "BUILDING CONFESSIONALS" to donate. For traditional check writers, please mark the memo with "BUILDING CONFESSIONALS." I do believe that if we act now we'll have enough funds to start building the confessionals and finish in 2018.

Happy New Year and Happy Epiphany, everyone!!!

Your shepherd in Christ,
Father Escalante

Ask the Priest

Q. What is that smoke thing you do at church? –*Alec*
A. You must be referring to the *incense*! Incense has been used in prayer and worship services for a very long time and predates the time of Jesus. The perfumed smell of smoke symbolizes our prayers rising up to towards God. In our faith history, Jews and Christians have used incense for our liturgy but other religions have been using them for a long time as well. This weekend we're celebrating the *Solemnity of the Epiphany*. This was the occasion when Jesus revealed himself as the Messiah (Savior) to the Gentiles from the far east and known to as the Magi or the wise men. Traditionally, the three wise men's names were *Melchior, Caspar* and *Balthasar*. The precious gifts they gave to Jesus were *gold, frankincense (type of incense),* and *myrrh*. [When I light up the incense in church, it's the only time you'll ever see me *smoking*!]

Q. How come you priests don't get drunk from all the wine you have? –*Leah*
A. That's because we don't guzzle them all at one time…LOL! While we keep a few bottles of wine in stock to make sure we'll always have wine for the Mass, we only consecrate very little for the Mass. I only use the bare minimum for the consecration because alcohol tends to make feel sick. When I celebrate three Sunday Masses, the total amount of wine I consecrate totals only about one fluid ounce. To minimize the taste, I even hold my breath before drinking from the chalice. Even though it becomes the Body and Blood of Jesus after the consecration and no longer wine in substance (that's what *transubstantiation* means), the physical effects (accidents) of wine to one's body remains. If a priest ever chugs a large portion of consecrated wine, he will get rather *tipsy*! [I've never been drunk in my life but I have an idea what it's like. I used to go to a dentist who would administer to me *nitrous oxide* (sort of like laughing gas) instead of Novocain. He said that taking this gas is the equivalent of me having about five cans of beer…without the hangover side effect.]

Q. Why are there no visible numbers for the hymns for the Mass? Also, we can't easily hear the hymn numbers from the announcement. –*Erin*
A. The new speakers have occupied the area where the hymn boards used to be. Future hymn boards to fit the two front corners of the church have been ordered and should be here in a few weeks. And thank you for singing the sacred hymns in church!

Divine Mercy Movie Night

Join us for a Divine Mercy themed Family Movie Night on Friday, January 12th! The evening will begin at in the church at 6:30pm with the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet. The movie will begin at 7pm in Our Lady of Victory Hall. A small discussion group will be held after the movie for anyone who wants to stick around. Bring snacks for your family; drinks will be provided. We will have door prizes and small giveaway's for the kids.

The Face of Mercy
Narrated by Jim Caviezel, The Face of Mercy explores the history and relevance of Divine Mercy in our turbulent times. Watch its story unfold, from an unpretentious Polish nun who experienced powerful visions of a merciful God, to her countryman Pope John Paul II who propelled the message of Divine Mercy onto the world stage. This stirring film creates a remarkable tapestry of what constitutes the face of mercy in our modern world.

Below are the names of people along with the date of death from our parish since the time St. Francis de Sales became a parish in 1967. Scripture tells us to pray for the living and the dead. Let us commend to the Lord's mercy the following:

Joan Ruscitella - January 22, 2016
David A. May - January 27, 2015
Edmund J. Bighouse - January 23, 2015
David A. Miles - January 14, 2015
Elizabeth Susan Biddle - January 22, 2013
Marian Welsh - January 7, 2012
John A. Bikowski - January 4, 2010
William G. Leonard – January 31, 2009
Stephanie Ann Jackson – January 12, 2009
Carroll Wells Lewis – January 18, 2008
Louise B. Caprio – January 21, 2008
Anastasia B. Barry – January 8, 2007
William Pierce Bragg – January 15, 2005
Grace Loretta Giuggio - January 18, 2004
Richard John Gessner – January 12, 2002
Donna Beth Haddock – January 13, 2002
Grace Maxine Bullick – January 27, 2002
Roger Frank Cressey – January 10, 2001
Robert F. Busher – January 18, 2001
Deborah DeAngelo – January 20, 2001
Catherine Maher – January 28, 2000
Thelma L. Chettle – January 17, 1999
William E. Caggiano – January 18, 1998
Mary Wildes Brown – January 30, 1997
Michaela A. Theerman – January 2, 1996
Anna Marie Gerken – January 3, 1991
Scott Laurence Kidwell – January 1, 1990
John Philip Holland – January 1, 1988
Cecilia E. Williams – January 17, 1988
Elizabeth J. Carruthers – January 18, 1985
George Tredick – January 16, 1984
Emily R. Austin – January 8, 1982
William N. Welsh – January 21, 1980
David C. Schwable – January 17, 1971
Vivian McKay Shrump – January 20, 1970

Our thoughts and prayers are with ...

Our Military Members:
Capt. Chuck Marshall; Lcpl John Owen Patterson; Sgt. Tim Marshall; 2nd Lt. Patrick Gutierrez, Capt. Andrew Cahan; 1st Lt Matthew Ryan, Capt. Patrick Godfrey, Cpl Zachary Gingras, LTJG Scott Cypher, Cap. Vincent Jovene, 1st Lt. Jamie (Jovene) Liddle, A1C Joshua Jovene, 1LT Jared Willard, Joe Pultro, COL Greg Cannata, LCpl Paul Cotter, 2dLt Rachel Jovene, GySgt Jose O Ruiz Pedroza, PFC Jorge A Lara Pedroza, LT Ross Mentzer, 2nd LT Ryan Patrick Grady

The Sick: Dominic Corcoran, Jack Lehtonen, Mary von Bergen, Mary Jane Arens, Zach Miller, Phyllis Heller, Madeline Gonzalez, Joyce Sparbanie, Kim Castellano

The Deceased: Sharon Liddicoatt, Nina Ogden, Liam Doherty, Mary Garvis, Lisa Dugan, Richard Ralph, Jon Hink,. Lewis Daniel Miller, Rudy Bartoldus, Mona Bakke, Sophie and Pedro Macaraeg

*** PASTOR'S WISH LIST ***

• **New Ministry for the Homeless**-- *"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me"* (Matthew 25:35). Would you like to work with others in our parish to offer comfort and hope to our homeless brothers and sisters? Let's work together to live the Gospel and show our love for God and neighbor! The 1st trip to DC to work with the homeless is on January 13, 2018. For more information, contact Meghan Christian at MeghanChristian1212@yahoo.com.

• **Junior Altar Women Society (JAS) Training coming up**—Rising 5th grade girls and up (who attend Mass *every* Sunday) are invited to join our elite liturgical team (currently 19 active members). Younger girls who feel ready to serve may also attend. Their important ministry consists of preparing the church for Sunday Mass. These specially trained young ladies wear a white scapular and a rank badge showing their years of service (number of crosses) and merits they've earned. Their uniform also means they have received the proper training on the *Liturgy of the Word* and the *Liturgy of the Eucharist* and are now qualified to arrange the sanctuary for the celebration of the Mass. They set up the sacred vessels and make sure that the *Roman Missal* and *Lectionary* are properly marked for the priest. They also reset the altar and the sanctuary after Mass. The *"JAS Team"* work closely with the priest and Mass coordinators. Since *Ash Wednesday 2017,* the JAS have been trained how to ring the church bells before and during Mass using a *secret* mechanism! Contact me or the parish office (540.338.6381) to register. Training date is scheduled for **January 7, 2018 after the 12:15pm Mass.**

• **Altar Boys training coming up**—Rising 4th Grade boys and up (who attend Mass *every* Sunday) are invited to register for the upcoming Altar Boys' training. Younger boys who feel ready to serve may also attend. Contact Father Mullaney, me or call the parish office to register (540.338.6381).). The training date will be in church on **Wednesday, January 17 @ 6pm and Sunday, January 21 @ 1:45pm.**

• **Donate to our new Ambo (Pulpit)—**I'm inviting you to donate any amount for our new *Ambo (Pulpit)* and be a part of the **"Book of Life Circle."** Donations of $1k or more will get the option to add a dedication to our Memorial Wall. See the July 30, 2017 *Shepherd's Notes* for more details.

• **Ark of the Covenant Benefactors [Received $49,984 out of $60k needed]**—This is your once in a lifetime chance to be a part of the *"Donors of the Lost Ark."* For a mere $1k you can be one of only 60 donors to sponsor the new *Ark of the Covenant tabernacle* and *Altar of Repose* to house Jesus in the Eucharist in our church. Contact the office or me directly to donate or go directly to the Parish Giving website under "Ark of the Covenant Benefactors." See May 5 & 14, 2017 *Shepherd's Notes* for more details.

• **Pipe Organ" donation**—Please help us pay for the church organ that was installed in April. To date we have received $45,310. We now owe just $72,390 for this incredible organ! [See *Shepherd's Notes* column (2/26/2017 issue) for organ details.]

• **Write your dedication on a brick…on church property!**—You now have an opportunity to place your permanent dedication etched on a brick on the church property: in front of the new parish center. Proceeds go directly to pay our center's mortgage. See enclosed flyer for details or go to our website: www.saintfrancisparish.org.

• **Parish Rosary Challenge continues** If you missed September 2015's pledge drive, you can still sign up online. Everyone in the parish is asked to make a pledge to pray the Rosary at least once a week. Go to our website www.saintfrancisparish.org and click on Rosary Campaign or just go directly to www.rosarygraces.com for more info.

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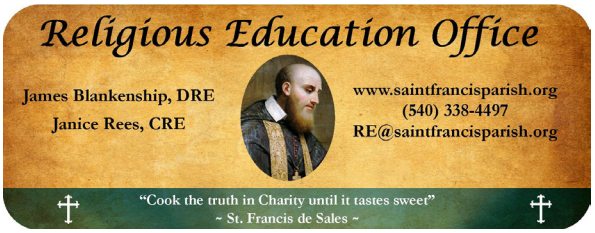
You may contact me directly for your response by phone (540-338-6381 ext. 102), by email countryparishpriest@gmail.com, by "snail mail" or in person

Got 'em!

• We now have the four additional Sunday collection counters. Thank you very much for your generous response!
• Received all 50 donors for the *Holy Altar Circle*! Thank you very much for your amazing generosity! We still need 10 more $1k donors for the 60 needed for the tabernacle (*Ark of the Covenant Benefactors*) & many more for *The Book of Life Circle* (Ambo).
• We received over 1,500 written pledges from the *Rosary Challenge* drive to pray a minimum of one rosary a week. As of this writing we have reached the 68% mark (68,046 total reported) of our goal (100,000) of the rosaries that have been reportedly prayed at our website since September 12, 2015. Keep it up, faithful children of Mary. We've been getting many nice blessings lately as a parish and we can only expect more!



Sponsor/Confirmation Candidate Potluck Supper

TONIGHT FOLLOWING 5PM MASS
Our Lady of Victory Hall
Feast of the Epiphany!

Our Confirmation Potluck supper is an evening dedicated to food, faith and fellowship, and a great opportunity to bring the sponsors and candidates together in preparation for the upcoming Confirmation in the spring.

We strongly urge our candidates and sponsors to attend this important fellowship supper!

This time together is an important part of Confirmation preparation. We understand that a sponsor may live out of state or may be unable to travel at this time, if that is the case, a parent of the candidate may attend in your place.
The candidate is requested to bring their favorite dish to share. Sponsors are our guests!
All are invited to attend the 5pm Mass before the supper. We look forward to seeing you.

1st Reconciliation Retreat - New Dates

Sat., January 20 9am-12noon
All Weekday Classes and Atrium

Sat., January 27 9am-12noon
All Weekday Classes and Atrium

At least one parent is required to attend the retreat!!
Please let us know in advance if you need to switch your child's scheduled retreat day.

Religious Education Calendar

WEEK OF JANUARY 7

Sun.	Gr. 1st-8th Session 1 - 8:45am
	Gr. K-8th Session 2 - 10:30am
Mon.	Gr. K-8th - 4:45pm
	RCIT, High School - 7pm
Wed.	Pre-School, Gr. 1st-8th - 4:45pm

WEEK OF JANUARY 14
NO CLASSES

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

5PM MASS – Every Sunday at 5pm. join us in the front 4 left rows to celebrate Mass together. All high school students are 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. There will be no youth night on 1/7/18 because we will be at the Epiphany Throw Down at St. Theresa's.

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

ROSARY GROUP – On Tuesday mornings, we will meet as a youth group in the chapel at 8am to pray the Rosary together before school. Awesome way to start your week! Come pray with friends for the graces to help you through the school week. We will have extra rosaries, as well as pamphlets on how to pray the Rosary. All high schoolers welcome! We do not meet on Tuesdays when Loudoun County is off school.

EPIPHANY THROW DOWN – Join us on Sunday, Jan. 7th as we head to St. Theresa's in Ashburn to compete in a fun evening of sports and games against the St. Theresa's and St. John's youth groups in celebration of Epiphany. Meet at St. Francis at 4pm, we will be attending St. Theresa's 5pm Mass. Please RSVP to Emily as soon as possible so we can coordinate rides.

HOMELESS SHELTER – We will cook for the homeless shelter on Monday, January 8th from 4:30-6pm and serve the food on Tuesday, January 9th from 4:45-7pm.

TEEN WORKCAMP MEETING – Our first Workcamp 2018 meeting will be on Sunday, January 21 in the old parish hall after the 5:00 PM Mass. This is for all current 8th-12th graders who are interested in coming to Workcamp this summer! $150 deposits can be paid at this meeting to guarantee a spot at Workcamp 2018. Deposits are due at the February Workcamp meeting.

YOUTH GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS – If you would like to receive text message announcements about time changes, event cancellations, etc., you can go to this link: remind.com/join/eglass16 and enter your information to be added to the recipient list! Also, follow the Youth Ministry Instagram account St.FrancisYouth for event updates and announcements.

CCD ADVENT SERVICE PROJECT

Please be sure to return your baby bottles for Birthright to class this week. We are happy to be supporting Birthright who has been providing assistance to women and babies of Loudoun County for 42 years! Love, friendship, and support are offered to women who are pregnant or think they may be pregnant. Your financial and spiritual support is very much appreciated!

St. Francis Council 11136 news

Happy New Year!

Next Business Meeting - January 8, Church Hall at 7:30. Rosary in the chapel at 7:05. Join us, shall you? Meetings average an hour now, so that's one less reason not to come.

Next Pancake Breakfast January 7 - To sign up, check the latest email from the council, or just come on out and help.

Sweats for Vets 2018 - A huge thank you to Seth McRoberts for spearheading this year's effort to support the John Paul II assembly. He collected 70+ sweats that will be delivered to the VA hospital in Martinsburg! The council sends its deepest and most heartfelt thanks. I also thank you, amazing job!

Why Are You A Knight? - Be more than a Knight in name only. We help in the parish, community, and world. Contact GK Ben Cox, and tell me what would it take for you to come help your church and community. Be active again.

Submit Your Prayer Requests - I want to send a weekly email digest of prayer requests to share to our families. Send all requests to grandknight11136@gmail.com.

Have You Ever Considered Becoming a Knight and Helping Others in Your Parish and Community? If so, contact Chancellor Forest Selby (forestselby@gmail.com), DGK Greg Cannata (armybrat.cannata@gmail), or just look for anyone wearing a KofC badge. The needs are many, but the laborers are few.

Have a great, big beautiful week!

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Ben Cox, Grand Knight; St. Francis Council #11136
grandknight11136@gmail.com

Psychological Counseling At SFDS

Struggling with issues of depression, anxiety or an unhappy family life? It may be that, in addition to the consolations of prayer and grace, psychological counseling can help. Counseling and assessment, consistent with the Catholic faith, is now available at St. Francis through Catholic Charities. Dr. Antony Bond, a licensed clinical psychologist, will work from a parish room on Monday in the afternoon/early evenings. Dr. Bond is a practicing Catholic who has worked in hospitals, schools aand even a seminary. He sees adults, children and families for many difficulties, such as anger management, eating disorders, scruples, marital problems, grief and struggles with pornography and compulsive sexual behaviors. The counseling will be confidential and appointments are made in advance via Catholic Charities Intake line (703 841 2531). These services are supported via many insurance plans as well as at reduced rates according to need and ability to pay. For further info please call 703 841 2531.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS - JANUARY 2018

Evangelization: Religious Minorities in Asia
That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practise their faith in full freedom.

Women's Council of St. Francis de Sales

The Arlington Diocese 2018 Women's Conference - From Darkness Into Light is on 3/10/18 - REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 3RD AT 9AM!! We'll have a carpool going so let us know if you're attending.

January Meeting of the Women's Council - MEETING POSTPONED - NOTE NEW DATE
January Meeting of the Women's Council - Elections Must Be Held For New Officers - **Sunday, January 14th** at 12pm in the Parish Hall - church basement. All women in the parish are urged to attend!

Are you a woman that comes to our church? If yes, then you are part of the Women's Council!! Feel free to e-mail us with questions or suggestions at womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com

Please Give to our Poor Box

Have you thought of practicing giving alms? Please remember to donate to our parish poor box located at the narthex. Proceeds help the needy people in our area. *"Give alms and everything will be clean for you"* (Lk 11:41).

GABRIEL PROJECT

Gabriel Project serves any expectant or new mom in need of support – rich or poor, married or unmarried, Catholic or not. Through friendship and support we seek to bring the love of God to her in her time of need and to proclaim the message of the Angel Gabriel: *Do not be afraid. God is with you. Nothing is impossible with God.* Mothers do not need to be in crisis to be served by the Gabriel Project. Some of our expectant moms are simply new to the area or just need some temporary support while welcoming a new baby. For help with meals for moms on bedrest or post-partum call Kati Pultro 717-817-3743, kathryn.pultro@gmail.com. Could you use some extra support during your pregnancy? Perhaps you would like to have a friend to accompany you on your journey to motherhood. Expectant or new moms in need of emotional, spiritual, or material support, can call our confidential helpline 866-444-3553 for assistance.

Friday January 19, Sign up starts now! The bus will leave from St. Francis around 11 am that morning and will proceed directly to DC for the March. There will be a Subway Lunch on the bus. How do I sign up? Please submit your name, email, and phone with a check for $8 to Angela Baker at the parish office. Make checks payable to St. Francis de Sales. Teens can give their sign up to Emily Glass at Youth Group nights. Let us be powerful witnesses to the value of life. If you have any questions direct them to Kelly Wakefield at kewake@yahoo.com or 703-975-0070.

Help give the church a new storage shed

My name is Matt Lanzer, a prospective Eagle Scout. My Eagle project is to build a new storage shed as the old one was in dire need of a refresh. The plan is to build a larger shed (approx. 14'x16') to house maintenance tools and future snow removal equipment. I will be available after each Mass on Sunday December 17th to answer questions and to receive any donations to help fund my project. I will also be looking for volunteers to help in any way. Donations are tax deductible and payable to Saint Francis de Sales Church. For more information, please see me after Mass next Sunday or contact me at matt.lanzer1300@comcast.net. Thank you and God bless!

Mornings of Mercy for Divorced Catholics

Join us for a series of morning retreats that deal with topics such as grief, parenting, suffering, and hope. The mornings are free to attend, but please register at www.arlingtondiocese.org/divorced. All dates are available online. Please contact the Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life at (703) 841-2550 with any questions.

PRISON MINISTRY

Deacon Larry is in need of several more parishioners who would assist in ministering to Inmates at the Loudoun County jail in Leesburg. This would be only a once a month commitment to assist Inmates as they reflect on the Sunday Readings that we use at Mass. As the number of cellblocks increases at the jail, we need a few more spiritually strong people to help the Inmates. Please contact Deacon Larry at lmhammel@verizon.net or by phone: 703-421-5815.

Weekly Diocesan TV Mass Brings the Mass to Homebound

Do you know someone who can't get to Mass? Invite them to join in the Sunday TV Mass filmed in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Every Sunday at 10:30am on WDCW-50, this Mass airs for the members of our Catholic family unable to be physically present for Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy.

Follow Bishop Burbidge

Bishop Burbidge has over 12,200 followers on Twitter! His daily reflections and posts are popular and insightful. Follow him @BishopBurbidge. Want to hear relevant, pastoral inspiration from our Shepherd? Selected homilies of Bishop Burbidge are posted on our YouTube page. Please visit youtube.com/arlingtondiocese.

New Parish Homeless Ministry

"as long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me." – Matthew 25:40

Join us in helping our homeless brothers and sisters in the DC Metro Area! Our ministry will concentrate on collecting comfort items, preparing and serving food, and working directly with the homeless. There are ways to serve for all ages!

Upcoming Events:

• Serve breakfast to the homeless alongside the Missionaries of Charity in their DC soup kitchen. The facility can support a few more volunteers on Saturday, Jan. 13th, from 8:30 to 11:15am at 3310 Wheeler Rd SE. Please also consider donating cleaning supplies for the soup kitchen.

• Also on Saturday, Jan. 13th, from 9 to 11:30am, work with Catholic Charities at the Cup of Joe Breakfast Bagging event assembling breakfast bags for the homeless. The location is at the SHARE warehouse at 3222 Hubbard Road, Landover, MD 20785. Please register at www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteercalendar/cup-joe-breakfast-bagging/2018-01-13/

• Volunteer at St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Reston during its Hypothermia Prevention Week. The parish hosts homeless guests from Sunday, January 14th, through Sunday, January 21st, and still needs volunteers for a number of positions. Contact sjnhypo@gmail.com for details.

To RSVP or for more information, contact Meghan Christian at Meghan Christian1212@yahoo.com

If you would like information about the Homeless Ministry's upcoming events and projects to be e-mailed directly to you, or to RSVP for the abovementioned events, please contact Meghan Christian at MeghanChristian1212@yahoo.com

"The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; . . ." Let your spirits be augmented by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend with your spouse. The next weekends are: Mar 2-4 and Sep 21-23, 2018 in Herndon. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: RenewMarriage-VANorth.org or contact us at applications@renewmarriage-vanorth.org or 703-646-1521.

This Week @ Trinity House Cafe

Kids: Story Hour - Tuesday, January 9, 9:30-10:30am
Kids: Moms' Morning Happy Hour - Thursday, January 11, 9:30-10:30am
Live Music: Nardo Lilly - Friday, January 12, 7-9pm
Game Night - Saturday, January 13, 5-7pm
Live Music: Bob Quinlan - Saturday, January 13, 7-9pm
Hours - Monday-Saturday: 8am-9pm; Sunday: Day of Rest

About Trinity House Cafe

Trinity House Café, on the corner of Church and Market Streets in the heart of historic Leesburg, VA, is an outreach of the John Paul II Fellowship, a Christian non-profit dedicated to renewing community and culture.

At the intersection of faith and culture, we provide warm hospitality and a delicious, moderately-priced menu of coffee, sandwiches, snacks, salads, soups, baked goods, wine and beer.

Besides serving top-quality food and drinks, the café also hosts a variety of community and culture-renewing events such as art classes, talks, concerts, theatrical performances, movie nights, craft circles, and children's programs.

For more information, please visit www.trinityhousecafe.com.