Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church

3rd Sunday of Lent **March 4, 2018**

Divine Mercy Parish Mission success!

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 the 7pm 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 & 113 in Catholic Ed. 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.

3rd Sunday of Lent
March 4, 2018

I, the Lord, am your God ...
You shall not have other gods besides me.
- Exodus 20:2a,3

Fridays in Lent

Friday Lenten Fish Fry 4:30pm-7:30pm
Stations of the Cross 7:30pm
First Friday Stations of the Cross follow the 7pm Mass

The Light is ON for You
Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Each Catholic parish in the Diocese of Arlington will have Confessions available every Wednesday evening from 6:30pm-8pm. If you have been reluctant to come to the Sacrament or have been away for some time, this is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Christ and His Church. Learn more at www.the-light-is-on.org. Confessions will continue to take place in the Catholic Education Center, Rooms 107 and 113

This Week

Sun., March 4	Women's Council 12noon, Parish Hall
	Adult Basketball 8:30pm
Mon., March 5	Epic Bible Study 7:30pm, Rm 113
Tue., March 6	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., March 7	SoulStitch 9:30am, Parish Hall
	Adult Ed - Sacred Liturgy 10am, Rm 206
	TMIY 7pm
	Bible Timeline 7:30pm, Rm 113
	WWP Touching the Divine 7:30pm
Thu., March 8	WWP Touching the Divine 10am
	Rosary Group 7pm, Church
	WWP Opening Your Heart 7:30pm
	WWP Touching the Divine 7:30pm
Sat., March 10	TMIY 6:30am, Our Lady of Victory Hall

Readings for the Week

Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42:2, 3; 43:3, 4; Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9; Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Lk 11:14-23
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14
Sunday:	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137:1-6; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21
	Alternate readings (Year A): 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38]

Masses for the Week

+ deceased

Saturday, March 3	**Lenten Weekday; First Saturday**
9:00 am	+ Elizabeth Dorsey
Saturday, March 3	**Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Lent**
5:00 am	+ Denis Dice
Sunday, March 4	**3rd Sunday of Lent**
7:00 am	+ Neal Brown
8:30 am	+ Verona McCarthy
10:30 am	Ida Santillan and family
12:15 pm	+ Noemi Isidro
5:00 pm	People of the Parish
Monday, March 5	**Lenten Weekday**
9:00 am	+ Richard Winterstine
Tuesday, March 6	**Lenten Weekday**
6:30 am	David Patrick Miller
Wed., March 7	**Lenten Weekday**
9:00 am	+ William Harman Jr.
Thursday, March 8	**Lenten Weekday**
6:30 am	John Prohaska
Friday, March 9	**Lenten Weekday**
6:30 am	Persecuted Christians
12:00 noon	+ Rudy and Cathie Bartoldus
Saturday, March 10	**Lenten Weekday**
9:00 am	+ Frank McGrath
Saturday, March 10	**Vigil: 4th Sunday of Lent**
5:00 am	Jim Hoffman and family
Sunday, March 11	**4th Sunday of Lent**
7:00 am	Deceased members of the Butts and D'Elia families
8:30 am	People of the Parish
10:30 am	Kathleen McCuistian and family
12:15 pm	Renee Hancher and family
5:00 pm	Siena Walus

Mass Celebrant Schedule

Saturday, March 3
5pm: Fr. Escalante
Sunday, March 4
7am: Fr. Escalante
8:30am: Fr. Escalante
10:30am: Fr. Mullaney
12:15pm: Fr. Mullaney
5pm: Fr. Mullaney

Saturday, March 10
5pm: Fr. Mullaney
Sunday, March 11
7am: Fr. Mullaney
8:30am: Fr. Mullaney
10:30am: Fr. Escalante
12:15pm: Fr.. Escalante
5pm: Fr.. Escalante

Parish Financial Status

In-pew Offertory - February 25	$ 13,298
2nd Collection - Maintenance	$ 2,809
YEAR TO DATE	$ 806,564

Parish Giving for February not yet available

Shepherd's Notes

Great response to the Parish Mission

Our first parish mission in years that was held last week was very well attended and the faithful were inspired by the talks given by *Father Jim McCormack* from the *Congregation of Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the Most Blessed Mary*. That's their long official name. They are also known as the *Marians of the Immaculate Conception*. One thing is for sure, many more parishioners are now aware of God's remarkable Divine Mercy after attending the four nightly mission reflections. Many of the talks quoted from *Saint Faustina's* Divine Mercy diary that highlighted the positive message of Jesus to the world. The most memorable line was likely Jesus' revelation that the greater the sinner, the greater one has the right to demand for God's mercy. We were also treated to a special presentation on the *Shroud of Turin*.

The message emphasizes that God does not want to condemn the sinner but would rather see him or her return to the life of grace. Those who sincerely seek God's mercy would not be denied the grace of final impenitence (i.e., die in a state of mortal sin). In a nutshell, here's the **ABC** summary how to obtain God's mercy: **A** = *Ask for God's mercy;* **B** = *Be merciful to others;* **C** = *Completely trust in God.*

Honoring the sacred *Divine Mercy* image of Jesus also promises many blessings to the faithful. If you're wondering what this image looks like, we built a Divine Mercy shrine on the wall to the left of the altar where you can also light votive candles. The recitation of the *Divine Mercy Chaplet* (how to say this prayer is always available for you in the narthex pamphlet rack) will also bring tremendous blessings including changing a non-believer's heart to finally recognize God and his love especially at the point of death. All of the framed images of the *Divine Mercy* that Father Jim brought to the parish were all taken on the first night! An order form to obtain the image was available for those who unfortunately didn't get one. We are most thankful to Father Jim McCormack, MIC for leading us to a Lenten parish mission. Let us keep him in our prayers that he will continue to succeed in his apostolate to spread God's love and mercy wherever he goes.

Update on Dr. Scott Hahn's visit

Next weekend I'll give you an update on Dr. Scott Hahn's talk which has not yet occurred as of this writing. Of the 600 available tickets, more than 500 have already been sold one week before his arrival!

Your shepherd in Christ,
Father Escalante

Ask the Priest

Q. Our statue of Saint Joseph shows him holding white flowers. What do they symbolize? *–M.E.M.*

A. The white flowers or lilies in the hands of Saint Joseph symbolize his virtue of chastity. Of all the men in the world, God chose Joseph to be the foster father of Jesus because he led a most pure and worthy life to become the earthly spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Q. How can I get a scapular? –*Anonymous*

A. If you're referring to the brown scapular of *Our Lady of Mount Carmel*, ask me (Father Escalante, Ask the Priest author) and I will give you as many as you need for free. If you have not been enrolled in the *Our Lady of Mount Carmel Confraternity,* I'll gladly do that for you too. Once enrolled, you will automatically benefit from the thousands of daily Masses and prayers offered by the Carmelite community. I highly recommend that every person who wears the brown scapular should enroll in the confraternity. Other than devoutly wearing the scapular, you don't have any other obligation to be a member while at the same time you're piling up a large amount of daily graces that you can later claim as your treasures in heaven (Matthew 6:19-21).

Q. Am I required to say how many times I commit a sin in confession? –*Joey*

A. In general, yes. The number of sins allows the priest more insight to the seriousness of the sin. For example, there is a difference between confessing telling lies twice in a week to twice a day every day. Here's another example, let's say in a span of four months the first penitent may confess accidentally missing Mass once due to losing track of time and didn't make the last chance Sunday Mass in town (that's our 5pm Sunday!). A second penitent in the same time period missed eight Masses for no legitimate reason. The first penitent would likely be guilty of only a venial sin while the second would be guilty of eight mortal sins.

The Bishop's Lenten Appeal is in full swing and we are asking every household in our parish to support this appeal to the extent that they are able. If you wish to make a pledge or gift online, you may do so at www.arlingtondiocese.org. The BLA funds many programs, services and ministries that serve people in need and furthers the Gospel mission of Jesus Christ in our diocese. Let us join together to do the Lord's work – works that touch the lives and souls of thousands of people in our diocese. Thank you!

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS - MARCH 2018

Formation in Spiritual Discernment
That the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels.

Below are the names of people from our parish, along with the date of death, since the time St. Francis de Sales became a parish in 1967. Scripture tells us to pray for the living and the dead.

Sharon Liddicoatt, March 6, 2017
Liam Doherty, March 20, 2017
Mary Garvis, March 24, 2017
Neal Brown, March 15, 2015
Alice Poel, March 10, 2015
Colin Luck, March 16, 2014
William Grady, March 17, 2013
Lidia Kelley, March 27, 2013
Gerald Harp, March 28, 2012
Richard Marks, March 27, 2012
Joseph R. Pope, March 21, 2012
Stephen D'Elia, March 19, 2012
Mary Theresa Miles, March 6, 2011
Ruth J. Holland, March 6, 2011
Samuel Phillips, March 10, 2009
John David Lindsay, March 28, 2008
Virginia Moorcones, March 8, 2007
James Campbell, March 26, 2001
Mary Helen Moorcones, March 1, 2000
William R. Johnson, March 10, 2000
Stanley R. Henniksen, March 7, 1998
Peter Fr. Skarzenski, March 8, 1995
Lorraine Haske, March 21, 1996
Charles C. Diller, March 26, 1996
Thomas P. Quinn, March 20, 1994
Charles H. McDonnell, March 7, 1993
Ann Cleary, March 6, 1991
Mary Ricker, March 31, 1989
John J. Sheehan, March 7, 1980
Danny Hayes, March 15, 1978

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; PFC Stephen G. Beard, Sgt. Ernesto G. Castro
The Sick: Dominic Corcoran, Jack Lehtonen,Mary Jane Arens, Zach Miller, Phyllis Heller, Madeline Gonzalez, Joyce Sparbanie, Mike O'Brien
The Deceased: Lisa Dugan, Richard Ralph, Jon Hink,. Lewis Daniel Miller, Rudy Bartoldus, Mona Bakke, Sophie and Pedro Macaraeg, Rita Hockenbury, Kim Castellano, David Young

*** PASTOR'S WISH LIST ***

• **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion needed**—If you feel called to help administer Holy Communion at Mass and/or to the homebound, please contact me directly to apply. To see if you qualify, please read last weekend's (4.18.2018) *Shepherd's Notes.*

• **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! For more information, contact Meghan Christian at MeghanChristian1212@yahoo.com.

• **Donate to our new Ambo (Pulpit)—**I'm inviting you 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 is proclaimed. As of February 6, 2018, we have received $14,800. (See the July 30, 2017 Shepherd's Notes to read more about the Ambo.)

• **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.

•**Hosting the Pilgrim Virgin statue sign up** You can now schedule to sign up for hosting the *Pilgrim Virgin* in your home. Email our coordinator, Diane Waller, at dianewaller@msn.com. Go to our parish website and click under *Pilgrim Virgin Statue* and pick a date. Then just sign up and pick up the statue in the Narthex , left of the glass doors, 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! *[Note: No need to wait 6 months to repeat reserving the Pilgrim Virgin anymore.]*

• **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!

• Plenty of *Fish Fry* volunteers of all ages! Thank you all for giving Joe Schray a helping hand. It has been a very successful fish fry season & thank you very much for your support.

• Received $50k for the Holy Altar Circle & $60k donations for the *Ark of the Covenant Tabernacle* (just this past week!) to close out these donations for the sanctuary. Thank you very much for your amazing generosity! We are now working on getting donors for *The Book of Life Circle* (Ambo/Pulpit).

• 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 70% mark (70,074 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!

Religious Education Office

James Blankenship, DRE
Janice Rees, CRE

www.saintfrancisparish.org
(540) 338-4497
RE@saintfrancisparish.org

"Cook the truth in Charity until it tastes sweet"
~ St. Francis de Sales ~

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. Notices will be sent home.

CONFIRMATION REMINDERS

Sponsor Eligibility forms were 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 and present it to Father Escalante, and sign it in his presence. You can email him at countryparishpriest@gmail.com to make arrangements to meet.

• All sponsors from other parishes need to fill out our form, present it to their pastor, and have it signed and returned to the RE office.

Sponsor's letter to the Bishop will be mailed out to the Bishop's office on April 2, please get your letter to the RE office by then. Bishop Burbidge reads them all!!!

$55 Sacrament Fee was due March 1

Discipleship Hours - due April 2nd

MAC-PAC Middle-School Youth Group
Sunday, March 11 after 5pm Mass

MAC-PAC
Middle-schoolers Acting in Christ
Prayer • Action • Charity

All Middle school kids are invited!
Our MAC PAC leaders, Danielle & Pat Orender are looking forward to seeing you and enjoying fun MAC PAC activities.

Religious Education Calendar

WEEK OF MARCH 4 and MARCH 11

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

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.

BIBLE STUDY FOR HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS – Join us at Market St. Coffee on Wednesdays from 5-6 PM for Bible study. There will be no Girls Bible Study on Wednesday, March 7.

GUYS BIBLE STUDY – Mr. Michael Galdo will be leading a Lenten Bible Study for high school guys starting Thursday, February 15 at 7:30 AM in the Education Center.

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.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT VOLUNTEERS - We still need about 10 more high schoolers to help out with next Saturday's (3/10) 8th grade Confirmation Retreat. It is a lot of fun, and a huge help! Please contact Emily if you're interested in helping out.

HOMELESS SHELTER – We will be cooking for the homeless shelter on Monday, March 12 from 4;30-6:00 PM. We will serve the food on Tuesday, March 13 from 4:45-7:00 PM. All high schoolers are welcome!

MANDATORY TEEN WORKCAMP MEETING – Our next Workcamp 2018 meeting will be on Sunday, March 18 after the 5:00 PM Mass. Workcamp meetings are mandatory for all teens who would like to come to Workcamp; lots of important information and details are discussed!

ADULT WORKCAMPER MEETING – There will be a meeting on Wednesday, March 14 at 7:30 PM in room 213 for all adults who are interested in coming to Workcamp with us this summer. Contact Emily at e.glass@saintfrancisparish.org for more information.

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.

"We proclaim Christ crucified…the power and wisdom of God."
Could Jesus be calling you to proclaim His life, death and resurrection as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Call Father J.D. Jaffe at (703) 841-2514, or write: j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org.

St. Francis Council 11136 news

Next Business Meeting - March 12, Church Hall at 7:30. Rosary in the chapel at 7:05. Join us, shall you? Meetings average an hour now (last one was 39 minutes), so that's one less reason not to come.

Next Pancake Breakfast - March 4

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

1st ANNUAL SFDS BOOK DISCUSSION

Sunday, March 11th following the 5pm Mass (approx. 6:20pm-8pm) in the Catholic Education Center (Room 207). We will meet and discuss the book: BEAUTIFUL MERCY - Experiencing God's Unconditional Love So We Can Share It With Others (by Pope Francis, Matthew Kelly, Donald Wuerl, Larry Richards, Michael Gaitley, Donald Calloway, Allen Hunt, Kerry Weber, Olga Yaqob, Christopher West). This book was given out as a gift from the Church during Advent. Come share your thoughts and socialize with other parishioners during a guided group discussion. Reading the entire book is not a prerequisite, but is encouraged. We hope to see you there! -The Evangelization Committee of SFDS

BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, March 18th, 7am – 12 noon
Purcellville Fire and Safety Center, 500 N. Maple Avenue

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus of St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church and Inova Blood Services

Please register at inova.org/donateblood
Use Sponsor code #3026
Walk-ins welcome but appointments are preferred.

All blood collected is used locally

An Entering Canaan Day of Prayer & Healing

for women who have experienced abortion will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018. Come begin your healing journey and experience God's hope and mercy. You are not alone. There is hope. For more info and confidential registration, please contact Project Rachel Ministry: 888-456-HOPE (4673) or info@helpafterabortion.org.

Women's Council of St. Francis de Sales

Sunday, March 4 - Noon in the Parish Hall (church basement) - Monthly Meeting
Officer Election will be held at this meeting. Please consider serving as an officer for a 2 year term - three positions are available! E-mail us at womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com if you're interested and to find out more.

"The fruit of faith is love, and the fruit of love is service." *Mother Teresa*

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

Light the World! is a Summer Institute that takes place at The Catholic University of America. Rising Juniors and Seniors are invited to join us either June 24-July 30 July 8-14 as we explore how our faith is lived within the fields and careers of Art, Science, Sport, Business, and Politics. Visit lighttheworldcua.org for more information and application materials.

Friday Nite Lenten Fish Fry
4:30-7:30pm

Available for Carry-Out or Eat-In

Pre-orders can be emailed (use form on www.saintfrancisparish.org/fish-fry/ or phone in at 540-338-6381 by 3:30pm on Friday

Fried Fish Sandwich or Fish Platter - $10
choice of coleslaw and baked potato (russet or sweet) or french fries

Grilled Cheese Sandwich - $4
applesauce and cookie

Extra Fries or Baked Potato (russet or sweet) - $2

Mozzarella Sticks w/ marinara sauce - $6

Cannoli - $2

water, lemonade, sweet tea - free
Beer (Miller Lite, Yuengling) - $3
Wine - $4

CHECKS ACCEPTED (make check out to St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church)

All proceeds benefit the building fund. To volunteer please contact Joe Schray at joeschray@icloud.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Monday - Friday, July 9-13, 9am-12noon

We have many opportunities for adults & youth volunteer.
Please visit our VBS website for all of our volunteer opportunities and Volunteer Sign-Up Form
www.saintfrancisparish.org/vacation-bible-school/

Registration for VBS will begin in May

ADULT CONFIRMATIONS

One confirmation will be held at the Cathedral of Saint Thomas More on Sunday, May 20 at 2:30 p.m., and the other will be held at Saint Andrew the Apostle on Sunday, June 10 at 2:30 p.m. There will be receptions for both of these events, as we have for the Rite of Elections. Contact James Blankenship at j.blankenship@saintfrancisparish.org if you would like to learn more.

Huge Children's Consignment Sale

Little Flower Consignments is looking for consignors, volunteers and shoppers to help make this our biggest sale yet! The sale is being held Saturday, March 10th starting at 8am at St. Theresa's Catholic School in Ashburn. Consigning and shopping with us is easy and 100% of proceeds are donated to Divine Mercy Outreach, a Catholic Charity which serves local families in need by providing emergency housing payments, utility assistance, medical payments, bedding, food, clothing and so much more. For more information, visit us at www.LittleFlowerConsignments.org or at www.facebook.com/LittleFlowerConsignments .

SAT PREP CLASSES NOW FORMING AT ST. FRANCIS

Hunt Test Preparation will offer their SAT Prep Course beginning Sunday, April 8 from 1-5. Class dates are: April 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 1-4 and Monday April 30 from 5-8. Hunt has prepared Virginia students for the SAT since 1976. The Hunt Course is Virginia's oldest independently operated preparation program for the SAT.
St. Francis students will receive a tuition discount on a first-come first- served basis. Please call 703-425-7656 for registration information. Seating will be limited. Early registration is strongly suggested.

Cooke Tavern Soups

Our American Heritage Girls Troop 962 will again be selling delicious Cooke Tavern Soups after all Masses on March 3rd and 4th 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. Cash or Checks are accepted after Masses. The soups may also be purchased via credit card at Fish Fry Fridays. 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!

Parish Homeless Ministry

Our Homeless Ministry was blessed this past week with even more blanket drive donations, bringing the total number of blankets for the homeless to 120! Thank you for your charity and generosity!
Catholic Charities reported that the blankets delivered to the Shenandoah region were very well received, and volunteers plan to soon deliver some blankets to a homeless camp in our diocese. Other blankets will be handed out to homeless visitors at the Christ House shelter in Alexandria as well as placed on the shelter beds.
Some of our members volunteered recently at the Archdiocese of Washington's Cup of Joe Breakfast Bagging event in Landover, MD. The group assembled 1,120 breakfast bags that will be given to area shelter guests before they depart in the mornings; without these breakfast bags, guests would have no morning meal. Thank you for your kind and dedicated work!

Upcoming Events:

• On **Saturday, March 10,** from 8:30 to 11:15am, we will be serving breakfast and lunch to the homeless alongside the Missionaries of Charity in their DC soup kitchen. Our group will also be providing the meals. Contact Meghan Christian (e-mail below) to sign up for serving meals, donating food, and/or preparing dishes for the homeless guests.

• On **Monday and Tuesday, March 26 and 27** *(note date change)*, there are volunteer opportunities with the Diocese of Arlington's Catholic Charities to load donated items onto the Mobile Response Center Vehicle and deliver donations to those in need. Volunteers will be able to provide direct assistance to those living in the very remote and poorest areas of our diocese. Contact Meghan if you are interested.

If you would like information about the Homeless Ministry to be e-mailed directly to you, send a note to MeghanChristian1212@yahoo.com

Paul VI Catholic High School is hosting a P*review to Catholic High School* for all 7th and 8th graders and their families on **Wednesday, March 6th at 7pm**. This is an opportunity to learn about our new campus, academic, athletic, fine arts and special programs. No reservations are needed. Contact ehanley@pvipanther.net with questions.

Project Rachel Post Abortion Healing Ministry:
888-456-HOPE or visit: www.helpafterabortion.org.

Gabriel Project Pregnancy Assistance Ministry:
866-444-3553 or info@helpfor pregnantwomen.org