

# Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT    MARCH 16, 2025



## Parish Staff

Reverend James Gould, Pastor  
Reverend Joseph Kenna, Parochial Vicar  
Mr. Larry Hammel, Deacon  
Mrs. Leslie Sheldon, Office Manager  
Mrs. Laura Burgess, Business Manager  
Mrs. Diane Taylor, DRE - Director of Religious Education  
Mrs. Lea Anne Kennedy, CRE  
Ms. Caitlin Orender, Director of Youth Ministry  
Mr. Michael Galdo, Director of Music  
Mr. Richard Smith, Facilities Manager  
Mr. Jerry Jones, Custodian  
Mrs. Maria Alvarenga, Custodian  
Mr. Antonio Alvarenga, Custodian  
Mrs. Janice Rees, Sunday Bulletin

## Contact Info

Admin and Religious Education Office- 540-338-6381  
Office email - [l.sheldon@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.sheldon@saintfrancisparish.org)  
RE email - [RE@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:RE@saintfrancisparish.org)  
In case of an emergency - 540-338-6440  
37730 St. Francis Court, Purcellville, VA 20132  
[www.SaintFrancisParish.org](http://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-4pm  
(Office closed between 12noon and 1:15pm daily)

## Sunday Mass

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

## Daily Mass

Monday through Thursday - 6:30am and 8:30am  
Friday - 6:30am and 12noon  
Saturday - 9am  
Check the bulletin for Holy Days of Obligation

## Benediction/ Adoration

Friday - Adoration is held every Friday following the 12noon Mass through the evening and overnight until Saturday morning before the 9am Mass

Wednesday Holy Hour at 7pm

## Sacraments

### Confessions:

Friday 11am  
Saturday 8am and 3:30pm; Wednesday 8pm;  
One-half hour before Mass on Sunday.  
Anytime by appointment. Confessions are held in the Church.

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: Baptisms are held on Sundays at 1:30pm. Baptism class is the Friday before the 3rd Sunday of the month 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 home-bound upon request. Please call the office to let us know your needs.

**2ND SUNDAY OF LENT  
MARCH 16, 2025**

Jesus took Peter, John and James and went up the mountain to pray. While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white. - Lk 9:28b-29



**Confessions in Lent**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday - 7pm  
Wednesday Night Holy Hour at 7pm, followed by  
Confession at 8pm

**Stations of the Cross**

Fridays at 7:30pm  
(Confessions will follow Stations as needed)

**Fridays in Lent** are obligatory days of abstinence for Catholics. Every person 14 years of age or older must **abstain** from meat (and items made with meat).



Join the Choir for Vespers  
**Wednesday, March 19 at 5pm**  
to celebrate the Feast Day of  
**Saint Joseph**

Potluck reception in  
**Our Lady of Victory Hall**

**This Week**

- Mon., March 17 Book of Revelations 10am, Room 107  
Women's Council Business Mtg. 6:30, Library  
QCIA 7pm, Room 206
- Wed., March 19 Catholic Biblical Sch 9:30am & 6:30pm OLVH  
SoulStitch 9:30am, Knights Hall  
Holy Hour for Miraculous Medal 7pm  
That Man is You 7pm, Room 202
- Fri., March 21 Women's Prayer Group 7am, Chapel  
Saint Peter Bible Study 9am, Room 107
- Sat., Mar. 22 That Man is You 6:30am, Room 202

*Masses for the Week*

- + deceased
- Sat., Mar. 15 9:00 am **Lenten Weekday**  
Janet Harrison
- Sat., Mar. 15 5:00 pm **Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Lent**  
+ Lily and Emilio Espinosa
- Sun., Mar. 16 7:00 am **2nd Sunday of Lent**  
John Thomas Krebs
- 8:30 am Eric and Suzanne Gunzelman
- 10:30 am People of the Parish
- 12:15 pm + Werner Wickenhauser
- 5:30 pm + Dr. Paul Schweisthal
- Mon., Mar. 17 6:30 am **Lenten Weekday**  
The Ed Corcoran Family
- 8:30 am + Sr. Mary Pat Donnelly, SND deN
- Tue., Mar. 18 6:30 am **Lenten Weekday**  
+ Michael McMahon
- 8:30 am + Robert Slingsby
- Wed., Mar. 19 6:30 am **Saint Joseph**  
Chris and Joanne Benthall
- 8:30 am + Kermit Hartley
- Thu., Mar. 20 6:30 am **Lenten Weekday**  
+ Raymond Aumiller
- 8:30 am + Marianne Hammel
- Fri., Mar. 21 6:30 am **Lenten Weekday**  
+ Corky Corcoran
- 12:00 noon + Jim Mark Gallagher
- Sat., Mar. 22 9:00 am **Lenten Weekday**  
Carol Krebs
- Sat., Mar. 22 5:00 pm **Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Lent**  
+ Rose Surak
- Sun., Mar. 23 7:00 am **3rd Sunday of Lent**  
Daniel Prentiss Steele
- 8:30 am Maralan O'Neil
- 10:30 am Deidre King
- 12:15 pm People of the Parish
- 5:30 pm + Joseph Goyanko

*Readings for the Week*

- Sun: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14/Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1/Lk 9:28b-36
- Mon: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
- Tue: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 23:1-12
- Wed: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
- Thu: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31
- Fri: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
- Sat: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-3

Dear Folks,

I must say, the daily readings offered during Lent are quite interesting and informative. Today's first reading from Isaiah 55 speaks of the Lord offering rain upon the earth to produce the seed and crops to nourish us before returning to the sky. The focus on nature applies to our view of God's graces, our personal lives, and ultimately the world we live. The reading could be seen to emulate the coming of a wide variety of spiritual schools in the life of the Catholic Church.

At the morning Mass I held up a Road Atlas for the United States, mentioning a simple cost of fifteen or twenty dollars... until the electricity goes off or the internet goes down. Should that happen it will be worth much much more as it can lead us through all the territories of America, Canada, and Mexico without the internet. The atlas offers a very good analogy for our spiritual life. Stepping away from the life of the Church may well blind us to God's availability.

The great schools of spirituality in the Church serve as an atlas where we can go in any direction and enjoy the adventure of being a Catholic. Such schools, listed below, are but a few which shape our lives as follows. All of us would do well tap on our computers for Google, or other research engines, to review our wonderful heritage in spirituality. (Good hunting.)

The Franciscan school of spirituality in its focus on God's life and glory found in nature well reflects the thoughts of Isaiah's reference to rain, seed, and crops. No small wonder in that since the Franciscan Order from its early days were in charge of the Holy Land and would have been aware of Isaiah's writings.

Perhaps the Jesuit agenda focusing on the discernment of spirits. Not a bad option for those who see themselves wrapped in a World/Church of great volatility. With the Jesuit perspective we can well understand that we are not alone in the dynamics of the world of spirits. From the missions to the classrooms the agenda has served the world well. Not many people realize it but Mother Therese of Calcutta designed her Missionaries of Charity on the Jesuit agenda. The trick is to understand the dynamics of this world and be confident in God's oversight for each of us.

The Benedictine option, with a call to set ourselves in place with a monastic mentality. Not a bad option that reminds us of the strength found in poverty, chastity, and obedience as well as service to the community. St. Bernard of Clairvaux is the spiritual voice admonishing to search the scriptures with the tools of reflection, meditation, and contemplation. Such a model helped to stabilize Europe in the era following the fall of the Roman Empire.

Possibly, Dominican spirituality, with its advocacy of the Rosary, a gift from the Blessed Mother to St. Dominic, or focus on principles of education that influence the eastern and western worlds.

And yes, there is nothing like a good Carmelite spirituality, with St. John of the Cross, St. Theresa of Avila, and St. Therese of the Little Flower.

- **Prayer:** Carmelites pray unceasingly and in silence and solitude.
- **Contemplation:** Carmelites turn their gaze to God, who is present within every heart.
- **Union with God:** Carmelites seek to live in God's presence and consent to God's will.
- **Community:** Carmelites live in community with other followers of Christ.
- **Service:** Carmelites serve others with a pure heart and clear conscience.
- **Discipleship:** Carmelites live a life of radical discipleship.
- **Allegiance to Jesus Christ:** Carmelites live a life of allegiance to Jesus Christ.
- **Devotion to Mary:** Carmelites have a special devotion to Mary, the mother of Jesus.



In the Gospel of Matthew, Christ sets the "Our Father," as the prayer that reaches into all the schools of thought. In all that we pray for and for all that we do let us remember the call of the Lord's prayer. Thy Kingdom come, the Will be done. Let us pray for one another.

## WEEKLY COLLECTION

### Week of March 1, 2

Pew/Mail \$ 13,027.00  
Parish Giving \$ 21,475.50

Total \$ 34,502.50

Parish Debt Reduction \$ 3,575.00

### Month of February

Pew/Mail \$ 55,386.00  
Parish Giving \$ 63,638.00

Total \$ 119,024.00

Budgeted Monthly Need \$125,225.00

## Join Us For Our Lenten Fish Fry!

Every Friday evening during Lent  
3:30 - 7:30 pm

Menu and Pre-orders will be  
available on our website

[saintfrancisparish.org/fish-fry/](http://saintfrancisparish.org/fish-fry/)

dine-in • take out • curbside available

## Mass Celebrant Schedule

**Saturday, Mar. 22**

5pm: Fr. Frankline

**Sunday, Mar. 23**

7am: Fr. Frankline

8:30 am: Fr. Gould

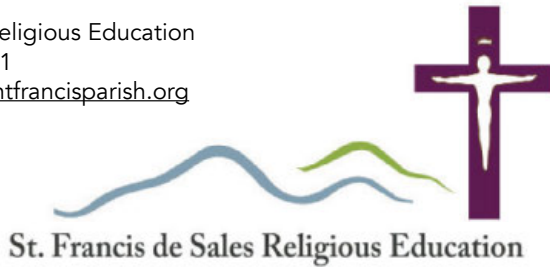
10:30am: Fr. Gould

12:15pm: Fr. Kenna

5:30pm: Fr. Kenna

\* note: subject to change

Diane Taylor  
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540-338-6381  
[d.taylor@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:d.taylor@saintfrancisparish.org)



Attention Seventh Graders An email recently was sent about the Spring Confirmation Reception. Please sign up to help host the Confirmation Reception on April 24, 2025.

Attention Confirmation II students - Confirmation is in 6 weeks **Save the Date! Confirmation Retreat will be on April 5.** See the email for details.

Confirmation Robes will be ordered this week. Parents, an email went out requesting the height of your son/daughter. Please email Lea Anne Kennedy with the measurements.  
[l.kennedy@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.kennedy@saintfrancisparish.org)

Attention First Holy Communion Parents: Thank you for participating in the recent retreat. Stop by the RE office if you need to pick up a folder, felt pieces, or a baggie of unconsecrated hosts.  
First Holy Communion is on Saturday, May 10.

Here are the resources shared during the retreat this past weekend.

- Dresses: Sandy's Boutique located 18 W Market St Leesburg. (downtown).
- Boy's suits: Burlington 2 locations: 1041 Edwards Ferry Rd NE Leesburg, and 47100 Community Pl Dr Ste 101 Sterling.
- Ideas for photos: [www.capturinghisglory.com](http://www.capturinghisglory.com)

"Lean on the mercy of God." ~St. Francis de Sales

## TRINITY HOUSE COMMUNITY GATHERING

**Saturday, March 22, 2025**

St. Francis de Sales Parish Center, Purcellville, VA

Topic: Family Culture



6:00 pm: Dinner & Fellowship

6:30-7:00pm: Parent Presentation & Small Groups Discussion while Virtus-trained volunteers supervise kids

7:00-7:30pm: Fellowship & Dessert

Free event for the whole family!  
Please bring a drink (juice, soda, beer, wine) or dessert – or both! – to share.

## Religious Education Calendar

### WEEK OF MARCH 16 & 23

Sunday Pre-K - 8th Grades, RCIT -9-10:15am  
9th - 12th Grades (Fr. Gould) - 4-5pm  
Monday K - 8th Grades 5-6:15pm  
Wed 1st Grade-5th Grade - 3:30-4:45pm

## How Are You Preparing for Lent?

**Lent Prep: The Garden and Jubilee** - Spirit Juice/ Poco A Poco: this popular podcast can be found on You Tube, Spirit Juice, or on your favorite podcast app. In this episode, Dr. John Bergsma - Series on Jesus and the Jubilee (Part 3) discusses, what is restored during the Jubilee? The Jubilee reminds us that hope is available to us, a hope that we can be restored to our original state and roles as it was in the Garden of Eden before sin came into the world. In this episode, together with our special guest, Dr. John Bergsma, we will discuss the Jubilee's gift and invitation and how it relates to the reality of the Garden of Eden.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription! It's FREE!

**Joseph of Nazareth:** Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!

**The Trials of Saint Patrick:** The Trials of Saint Patrick, a powerful journey through hardship, loss, mercy, and forgiveness. With skilled actors and cinematic elements, this captivating story comes to life, stirring the imagination and sparking inspiration.

**St. Joseph Our Spiritual Father:** While the Gospel has not preserved any of his words, his actions have resounded through the ages. St. Joseph stands out as the model par excellence of Christian virtue. Encounter St. Joseph in a new way with St. Joseph: Our Spiritual Father.

### GET THE APPS

**AMEN App** on your phone for daily readings, reflections, prayer and inspiration.

**Ascension App:** Bible Studies, Bible in a Year, Catechism in a Year, Rosary in a Year, and more.

**FORMED App:** All the features of FORMED on your phone.

**Hallow App:** Improve your prayer time: *Lent Pray 40: The Way* and more.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL July 14-18 ~ 9am-12noon

Most Youth volunteer opportunities have been filled  
Please contact [l.kennedy@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.kennedy@saintfrancisparish.org)  
to get on waitlist.

There are still Drama slots open for Youth Volunteers  
We have plenty of Adult slots open

To Volunteer, go to  
[saintfrancisparish.org/vacation-bible-school-registration/](http://saintfrancisparish.org/vacation-bible-school-registration/)  
Registration for campers will begin May 1





Caitlin Orender  
 Director of Youth Ministry  
 540-338-6381  
[c.orender@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:c.orender@saintfrancisparish.org)

**SUNDAY YOUTH NIGHT:** ALL high schoolers and friends are invited to Youth Nights most Sundays from **6:30-8pm** in room 213. Deepen your relationship with God, learn more about Jesus, and grow your desire for life-long discipleship with Him. Friends are always welcome. Our next Youth Night is **March 16!**



**SPRING RETREAT** ALL high school teens are invited to retreat to Camp Highroad in Middleburg, VA **Friday, March 28 – Sunday, March 30.**

We'll learn to trust in Jesus as He invites us to lean not on our own understanding, but on Him! We'll pray, play, discuss, sing, worship,

eat, laugh, learn, and grow! Grab a flyer in the narthex, on the Youth Ministry bulletin board, or online at [saintfrancisparish.org/youth-ministry](http://saintfrancisparish.org/youth-ministry). Return forms and payment to the Youth or Parish Office by **March 24.**



**CONFIRMATION RETREAT DINNER** Enjoy dinner with the Confirmation Candidates at their retreat on **Saturday, April 5** and invite them to be part of Youth Ministry in high school! **Your presence and encouragement are so influential!** Let me know if you can make it!



**MAY 4 – PANCAKE BREAKFAST** (to raise funds for WorkCamp)  
**MAY 10 – BASH!** (for middle schoolers)  
**JUNE 12 – SENIOR BACCALAUREATE** (for HS and college seniors)

Follow Us On **SOCIAL MEDIA**

@sfdsyouthministry  
 @sfdsyouthministry

WEBPAGE: [saintfrancisparish.org/teen-faith-youth-group/](http://saintfrancisparish.org/teen-faith-youth-group/)  
 REMIND: [remind.com/join/a4d636](https://remind.com/join/a4d636) or text @a4d636 to 81010 for text reminders and event updates.



**4 ADULT MALE CREW LEADERS and other roles NEEDED FOR WORKCAMP**

We have 27 teens registered to attend WorkCamp in Quicksburg, VA from June 21-27! In order for them to attend, the diocese requires us to attain the following volunteers:

- **4 male Adult Crew Leaders** – chaperone teens and model the faith for the **full week** of WorkCamp
- **5 Contractors** (license not required) – work on the job site with teens **Mon-Thurs**
- **5 Security volunteers** – work **one 2-7:30pm shift** during the week
- **Homebase volunteers** – assist the diocesan WorkCamp Logistics Team when available
- **Parish volunteers** – assist with Sunday night Formation Meetings and other preparation tasks

For more information, grab a flyer from the narthex, go to [saintfrancisparish.org](http://saintfrancisparish.org), [arlingtondiocese.org/youth-ministry/workcamp](http://arlingtondiocese.org/youth-ministry/workcamp), and [totalapexliving.com/workcamp-catholic-week-of-community](http://totalapexliving.com/workcamp-catholic-week-of-community) where parishioner and Homebase Volunteer, Kevin Sweeney, explains what WorkCamp is all about.

**Thank you to all the teens who came to volunteer for the Knight of Columbus St. Patrick's day dinner.**

**Women of St. Francis de Sales**  
**Calling All Young Ladies!**  
 Apply for the Women's Council Service Grant

*Please note: Applications are due by April 13!*

A \$600 Women's Council Service Grant will be given to a young woman attending Diocesan WorkCamp 2025 to cover tuition expenses!

Please visit the Women's Council website for instructions. Applicants are asked to express what our mission statement means to you and how you can live it out. Apply by March 9th!

## St. Francis Council 11136 News



### NOTABLE HISTORY – WW 1 AND THE KNIGHTS

– During World War 1, with grateful permission from President Woodrow Wilson, the order established hospitality centers to serve the troops which became known as “the KofC Hut Program.” Under the banner “Everybody Welcome,” the Knights provided soldiers with a wide range of amenities. Unlike other service organizations, everything the Knights provided was free with the slogan being “Everybody Welcome, Everything Free,” serving the troops regardless of the soldier’s faith or race. For his efforts, Supreme Knight Flaherty was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal in recognition of the Order’s contributions during the war. *“Of all the organizations that took part in the winning of the war, with the exception of the military itself, there was none so efficiently and ably administered as the Knights of Columbus.”* - General John J. Persing; Commander-in-Chief of the American Expeditionary Forces.

### SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE SFDS WOMEN’S COUNCIL

– The SFDS Knights would like to thank the members of the Women’s Council for partnering with us to bring you Shrove Tuesday, the annual SFDS St. Patrick’s Day Party, Octoberfest, and any other time we request their assistance.

**SPECIAL THANK YOU #2** – The SFDS Knights would like to thank the members of the St. Patrick’s Party Team: planners, grill chefs, kitchen chefs, food servers, decorators, ticket sales, DJ, among many other volunteers. You are the best.

**KNIGHTS ALERT!! BE ADVISED** – Our Worthy Financial Secretary is sending out a second notification to those who have not paid their dues yet. You can pay your dues one of four ways: (1) Bring your dues to a knight’s meeting; (2) mail your dues to the knight’s P.O. box; (3) drop your dues in the knight’s mailbox by the stairwell leading to knight’s hall; or (4) via ZELLE.

**ROSARY PROGRAM.** Come join the Knights in praying the Rosary in the small chapel on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 7 pm. Everyone and anyone is welcome to pray the Rosary with the Knights! To quote Father Gould, “Let us pray for one another” -and- as we say, “let us pray with one another.”

The SFDS Knights have many wonderful, faithful, and inspiring programs; there’s bound to be something that would appeal to our Parish Catholic Men. If you are interested in finding out more about the Knights and our programs, please contact Grand Knight Michael Carducci ([gksf11136@gmail.com](mailto:gksf11136@gmail.com)). To become a Knight, contact either Grand Knight Michael Carducci or Brother Knight Richard Jacob ([jakeman58@aol.com](mailto:jakeman58@aol.com)). All Catholic men 18 years of age or older are eligible to become a Knight, and it is easier than ever - go to [kofc.org/join](http://kofc.org/join) or scan the QR code

Michael Carducci, Grand Knight  
St Francis Council # 11136,  
[gksf11136@gmail.com](mailto:gksf11136@gmail.com); [www.kofc11136.org](http://www.kofc11136.org)



SAVE THE DATE

RICHMOND VIRGINIA

APRIL 2, 2025

Join us for the Virginia March for Life in Richmond, VA on Wednesday, April 2, 2025. We will meet at St. Francis de Sales church at 8:30am for mass and board the bus right after. We plan on returning to SFDS before 5:45pm.

If you are interested in joining us, please use link or QR code to sign up. We only have 50 seats available, so don’t miss out!

*May God bless you all for all you do to protect all babies and mothers.*



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0444AAAF2DA0FB6-55080076-virginia>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Carie Losinski at [skigators@icloud.com](mailto:skigators@icloud.com)

*Our thoughts and prayers are with ...*



**Our Military Members:** SGT Peter Audi, PFC Stephen G. Beard, LTC Andrew Cahan, Mary Elizabeth Castaneda, SGT Ernesto G. Castro, LCpl Paul Cotter, LT Scott Cypher, CPT Ryan Patrick Godfrey, 1LT Alexandra Goodnow, Captain Ryan Patrick Grady, 2LT Patrick Gutierrez, PO2 Robin Hunt, Christopher Largent (Army), MAJ Jamie (Jovene) Liddle, PFC Joseph Jovene, MAJ Vincent Jovene, USAF Mary Catherine Kuegler, CPT Rachel (Jovene) Malletts, LTC Chuck Marshall, SFC Tim Marshall, Blaise Mason (Army), Sam A. Mason (Army), 1st LT Caleb Magowan, PFC Brian McWilliams, SPC Kenneth Kyle McWilliams (Army Reserve National Guard), CPT Ross Mentzer, Kyle Minogue (Air Force), Marine Nate Nelms, Kristin Ober (Air Force), Marine Anthony Oliverio, 2LT Jonathan Owen, Lcpl John Owen Patterson, PFC Jorge Pedroza, Gy Sgt Jose O. Ruiz Pedroza, Army John Pileulsley, CPT Brendan Print-up, Joe Pultro, CWO Jason Runner, 1LT Matthew Ryan, LT Michael Tappe, LCpl Frankie Thyson, Shahin Uddin (Army), SSgt Marnie Wickman, A1C Joshua Wilk, 1LT Jared Willard, Col. Theodore White, Andrew Yevoli (Air Force), LT Colin Conahue; Seaman Ryan Knowles, COL Therese Kreutzberg, 2nd LT Seth R. McRoberts; LT Colin Donohue; WO Paul Adam; 2L Matthew Owen; LT Alex Bissell, PVT Teddy Bratrud  
**The Sick:** Dominic Corcoran, Mike O’Brien, Sarah Nolan, Liz Keller; Joanne Harrington, Charles Williams, Patricia Naomi Alvarenga, Joe Graber, Christina Huth, Candace Daly, Melissa Jewel, Frederick Campos, Grace Costello, Daniel Ramirez, Cynthia Ramirez, Silvia Vizcarra, Olga Howard, Diane Shirley, Patrick Whipp, Barney Smith, Corinne McHugh, Pam Austrich, Bobby Decker, Maureen Sengpiehl, Jerry Franks, Anthony Gianino, Maria Madigan, Martha Ruiz, Judith Livingston; Jose Arias, William and Susan De Loziedr, Adam DeWitt, Neda Carpenter, Lisa Salicinas  
**The Deceased:** Valerie Danet, Ruth McHenry, Brenda Vinton, Thomas Bradford, Richard King, Dr. Joel Madrid, Mary Anna Strov, Mary Louise Oliver, Mary Regina Meaney, Dr. Paul Schweisthal, G.E Corky Corcoran II, Barbara Curran, Alexander McMinn, Felisa Hight, Norma Jean Early; Charles Appel, Daniel Curtis, Lorenzo Osorio Rosa



## Homeless Ministry

The homeless ministry is thankful for all the volunteers who have given time and talent to help the hungry and homeless.



### • Missionary Sisters of Charity in

**Anacostia** – Serve between 60 and 100 meals.

o We prepare and serve meals every 2nd Saturday of the month. All donated items are due to Knights Hall the preceding Thursday by 2pm.

o Items due **April 10**; meal delivered and served **April 12**

Join us in works of charity by signing up to purchase items, prepare the main dish, bake cookies and cakes, or to transport meals and supplies.

Contact one of us, and we will direct you to the Signup Genius

- Fran Beebe [franbeebe7@gmail.com](mailto:franbeebe7@gmail.com)
- Carie Losinski: [skigators@me.com](mailto:skigators@me.com)

## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Calling all women of the parish: you are invited to join the Catholic Women's book club at SFDS, a ministry for women to grow deeper in their faith and friendships in their parish community.

We meet once a month on Friday mornings 9:30am-11am. We offer childcare to accommodate moms with young children.

### Book schedule:

- Friday, April 11: Be Brave in the Sacred by Mary Lenaburg
  - Friday, May 9: No Greater Love by Mother Teresa
- To register or for more information, email Elise Daniel at [eliseamx@gmail.com](mailto:eliseamx@gmail.com).

ST FRANCIS DE SALES 7TH ANNUAL  
**BOOTS and Beauties**  
FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE  
DINNER, DANCING, CRAFTS, AND MEMORIES!  
ST FRANCIS DE SALES RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BUILDING  
**SATURDAY MARCH 29TH 6:15-8:15PM**  
37730 ST. FRANCIS CT PURCELLVILLE VA  
TICKETS ON SALE NOW  
**\$20-DADS, \$15-DAUGHTERS**  
Every adult ticket includes a \$5 raffle ticket  
DINNER PROVIDED BY:  
THE POLISHED FOXX  
ACCREDITED FARM DRIVEN CATERER  
Scan the code to purchase your tickets!  
FOR ANY QUESTIONS  
TASHADAU@GMAIL.COM

## Women's Council Corner

"...For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me and holy is his name". Luke 1:48-49



### Next Social Event - Paint Sip and Dip

Monday, April 7th, 9:30am or 6:30pm  
Location Parish Education Center



Join us and our talented artist Diane Waller, who will guide us through creating a beautiful work of art. Bring a dip to share! See our website for registration details, sign up by March 31st.

Please check our website for more details on each event. Also visit our website for a list of useful spiritual references.  
[saintfrancisparish.org/womens-council](http://saintfrancisparish.org/womens-council)

### Next Planning Meeting

**Monday, March 24th**, 6:30pm, Parish Education Center, Library  
All women are invited to our business meeting where we plan our spectacular socials & special events and discuss current news. We welcome your ideas. Join us and Fr. Gould for the Rosary for Ukraine in the Church after the meeting.

New to the parish or not getting our emails?  
Email us at [womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com](mailto:womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com) to be added to our directory.



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Women's Council is seeking volunteers to join our Executive Team for a 2-year term starting in July. The current Executives will work side-by-side with you to help ensure a smooth and thorough transition. If you are interested in finding out more, contact Sandy Regan at (540) 270-4411, email us at [womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com](mailto:womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com), or come to our next Business Meeting on March 24th



## Women's Prayer Group

The purpose of the Women's Prayer Group is to reflect on Sundays Gospel Reading and to seek spiritual growth together as we pray, pray, pray. All prayers are welcome: thanksgiving, praise, forgiveness, parish and personal intentions. We hope you can join us Friday mornings, 7-8am in the Chapel. Contact Jean Stanley at [jeanmariestanley@gmail.com](mailto:jeanmariestanley@gmail.com)

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner was a wonderful celebration to begin Lent. The Women's Council would like to send a big THANK YOU to the wonderful women who decorated and to the Knights who cooked a delicious meal!



## Pilgrim Virgin Home Visitation Program

Have Mary bring graces into your home!

Our Blessed Mother asked during her apparitions at Fatima:

- 1 - Return to God
- 2 - Pray the rosary every day for Peace
- 3 - Make reparations for our sins and the sins of others by some form of penance and sacrifice.

If interested in hosting the Pilgrim Virgin Statue you may sign up at the table in the narthex by the statue of our Blessed Mother (or

[www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4CABAA2BA7FB6-48752496-pil-](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4CABAA2BA7FB6-48752496-pil-)



WorkCamp would like shawls, they are estimating 30-35 shawls will be needed. June 18th will be our due date. I did send an email with some easy patterns and ravelry also has some. Please email and let us know if you are making one as that does help us know where we are with the count. Karen Gaylord [windingwoodsfarm@gmail.com](mailto:windingwoodsfarm@gmail.com)

Our next meeting is March 19 from 9:30am to 11:30pm



## Mother Teresa's Garden

It's getting warmer outside, time to think about our Mother Teresa Garden! Thank you for all your hard work in making the garden so successful last year! This year we will be utilizing the rest of the planters, installing an irrigation system and putting up a Mother Teresa sign!

### CLEAN-UP

We'd like to do a garden clean up on **March 22 from 9am-11am**. We will be weeding, tilling and planting root vegetables. If anyone has a tiller we can borrow for the day, we would really appreciate it!

### GROUP VOLUNTEER

**Trellis:** We need volunteers to work with Woodgrove Capstone Project students do design and build trellises in the trellis garden.

**Flowers:** Flowers to be planted in the Prayer Garden Easter flowers from Mass can be planted in addition to summer flowers.

**Irrigation:** Constructed as an Eagle Project, assisted by Woodgrove Capstone Project students, supervised by Vern Conaway from View of Heaven Farm.

Thank you for all you help. We look forward to another big harvest this year!

Bountiful Blessings,

Mary Ann Winner and Beth Creighton

To be added to the email list, or for more information about the garden, please contact Mary Ann or Beth at [mother.theresas.garden@gmail.com](mailto:mother.theresas.garden@gmail.com)



Inova Blood Donor Services

## St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church Blood Drive

**Sunday, March 16, 2025**

**8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**Knights of Columbus Hall**

37730 St. Francis Ct., Purcellville, VA

### Contact

**Mark Furman**

[furmanma@outlook.com](mailto:furmanma@outlook.com)

**Donate and receive a St. Patrick's Day t-shirt\*.**



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Visit <https://bit.ly/SFDS0316>

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## Calling All Contractors and Tradespeople: Join Our Parish Resource List!

Dear Parishioners,

As a parish, we are blessed with many talented and skilled individuals, and we are looking to compile a list of **contractors, tradespeople, and skilled professionals** who would be willing to offer their time and expertise when needed.

Whether your talents lie in **plumbing, electrical work, carpentry, painting, landscaping, general maintenance**, or any other trade, we would love to be able to call on you for advice, consultation, or assistance with parish projects as they arise. By joining this resource list, you would help ensure that **Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church** continues to maintain its facilities in a cost-effective way, allowing us to focus more of our resources on serving our community and living out our mission.

If you are interested in being added to this list, please contact **Rick Smith, Facilities Manager** at [r.smith@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:r.smith@saintfrancisparish.org) or by phone at **540-338-6381 Ext 133**. Whether you can occasionally offer your time or simply provide valuable guidance, your contribution would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your consideration and for being part of our parish family!

God bless, Rick Smith, Facilities Manager

## Holy Father Prayer Intentions for MARCH

### For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.



# around the Diocese ...

## Holy Year 2025 Pilgrims of Hope

Resources on the Jubilee Year

[www.usccb.org/resources/Indulgence\\_Vatican\\_Bollettino.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/resources/Indulgence_Vatican_Bollettino.pdf)

[www.arlingtondiocese.org/the-holy-year-tour/](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/the-holy-year-tour/)

[www.arlingtondiocese.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Holy-Year-2025-Plenary-Indulgence59.pdf](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Holy-Year-2025-Plenary-Indulgence59.pdf)



## PARISH BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT the Caring and Sharing Program of the Womens' Guild of St. Bridget, including St. Bridget Religious Education Program, WATTS, Winchester Rescue Mission and Operation Remember.

Please share your favorite baked goods with fellow parishioners on March 22 and 23. Deliveries accepted at Hobert Hall on Saturday, March 22 from Noon to 5pm and before all Masses. Sale begins after 5:30pm Mass and continues on Sunday after both Masses. This year there will be a savory table with frozen pierogis and Italian pasta. Make your favorite: Pie, cake, bread, cookies, muffins, or frozen savory dish! Fudge (any variety), candies, chocolate pretzels, etc. If you would like to share your recipe, please attach to your baked item.

Once again, there will be a .50 table for "Little Parishioners!" and a cheesecake table.

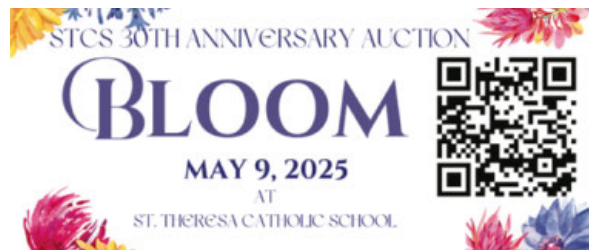
For those of you that do not bake, no problem, please come to enjoy all the fun and purchase some delicious homemade baked goods. Thank you in advance for your contribution and/or participation to this worthy cause.

**Spiritual Date Night** Join with married and engaged couples for an evening highlighting the practical aspects of Living Forgiveness in Marriage and emphasizing Healthy Conflict Resolution. The Saturday, March 29th, 7-9 pm event will be held at Divine Mercy University located at 45154 Underwood Lane; Sterling, VA 20166. Kindly go to [regnumchristidc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2768954](http://regnumchristidc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2768954) to register.

**FIAT Day with the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist** (For high school girls) What do sisters do all day? Sometimes they garden! In the spirit of St. Francis, spend a day working in God's creation with the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist and gets some good insights to prepare for Holy Week. It's Saturday April 12 from 9am – 3pm at their convent in Falls Church. Day will include Mass, talk, lunch and gardening. Bring gardening gloves and tools if you have them. Cost is \$15. For more info and to register visit [ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT](http://ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT), or contact [vocations@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:vocations@arlingtondiocese.org). Deadline to register and submit permission form is April 6.

**Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Ministry:**  
888-456-HOPE or visit: [www.helpafterabortion.org](http://www.helpafterabortion.org).

**Gabriel Project Pregnancy Assistance Ministry:**  
(703) 841-3810 or  
[info@helpforpregnantwomen.org](mailto:info@helpforpregnantwomen.org)



## Finding Jesus with the Wisdom of Years

A retreat for Seniors. Isn't it a challenge, living in the midst of our "throwaway culture," for those who are elderly and "full of years" to understand our place in the world--and in our Church? Although many of those about us may think that we are irrelevant, it is actually an opportune time to bring grace into the world and prepare for the Adventure ahead. Join Fr. John Riley at the Arlington Diocese's San Damiano Retreat Center in White Post, VA, to "rest and pray" with Christ. We will search the Scriptures and savor the wisdom of the Gospels as we consider the Crosses and the Consolations of our Senior Years. Our retreat begins at 6 pm Friday May 9th and concludes Sunday May 11th at noon. Retreat cost is \$285. For further information, please contact Father John Riley at: [john.riley@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:john.riley@arlingtondiocese.org)

## Pastoral Resources for Those Suffering After Miscarriage, Infertility & Infant Loss

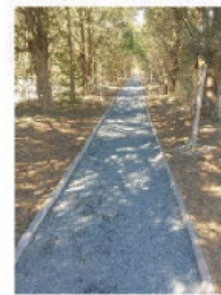
For those who are suffering the cross of infertility and miscarriage, you are not alone. Visit the diocesan website for a list of resources to support you and your family during your most difficult days.

[www.arlingtondiocese.org/find-support/miscarriage-and-infant-loss/](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/find-support/miscarriage-and-infant-loss/)

## Worried about the road ahead?

### Women's Day of Reflection

April 5, 2025 - Cathedral of St. Thomas More, Arlington



Change can be hard, even when it's good change. What to do with that newfound time after the kids move out or you retire? Or, how to deal with the challenge of caring for aging loved ones, or confronting our own physical issues?

Join us for the Future with Hope Women Day of Reflection April 5. Highlights include:

- Two talks by best-selling author Maria Moteza Johnson, whose new book, *A Beautiful Second Act*, contains wisdom and encouragement from the likes of Hildegard of Bingen, Dorothy Day, Grandma Moses, and others who experienced challenges in their transition to midlife and beyond. Maria also will present on her book *Our Lady of Charity: How a Cuban Devotion to Mary Helped Me Grow in Faith and Love*.
- Mass with the St. Thomas More community, and a guided tour of the renovated cathedral.
- Catered breakfast and lunch.
- Small-group discussion with women like you!



All for just \$74!

For more information and to register, please visit [bit.ly\\_FVHW2025](http://bit.ly_FVHW2025) or scan the QR code.



*The Arlington Diocese Council of Catholic Women is the sponsor of this event.*

## Prayer

Lord, help me forgive those who hurt me.

## Mission for the Week

I will not whine and beg when my parents say "No."

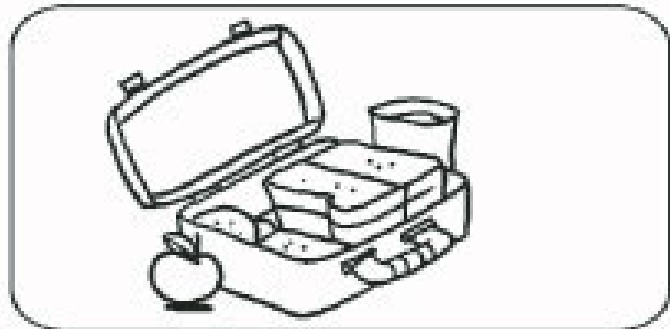
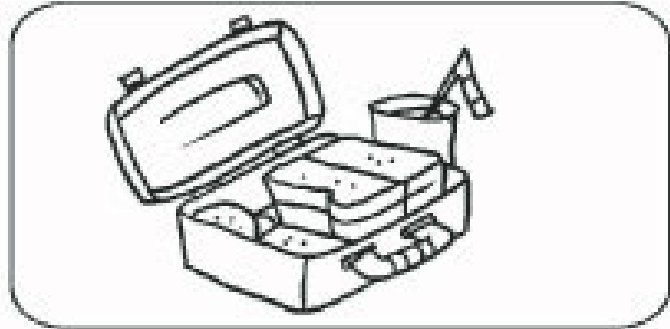
## Sharing the Gospel

Peter, James, and John saw white rays of light glow all around Jesus. When you are baptized, God's light of forgiveness glows from your soul. It erases all the sin. Every morning, God sends his grace to help you start each day as a new person. God's grace helps you to stay away from evil. It's like a lunch box God gives you every day of your life. Pick it up on your way out the door.

Now color  
the picture!



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