

# Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church

5th SUNDAY OF LENT    APRIL 6, 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, Communications  
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

## 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

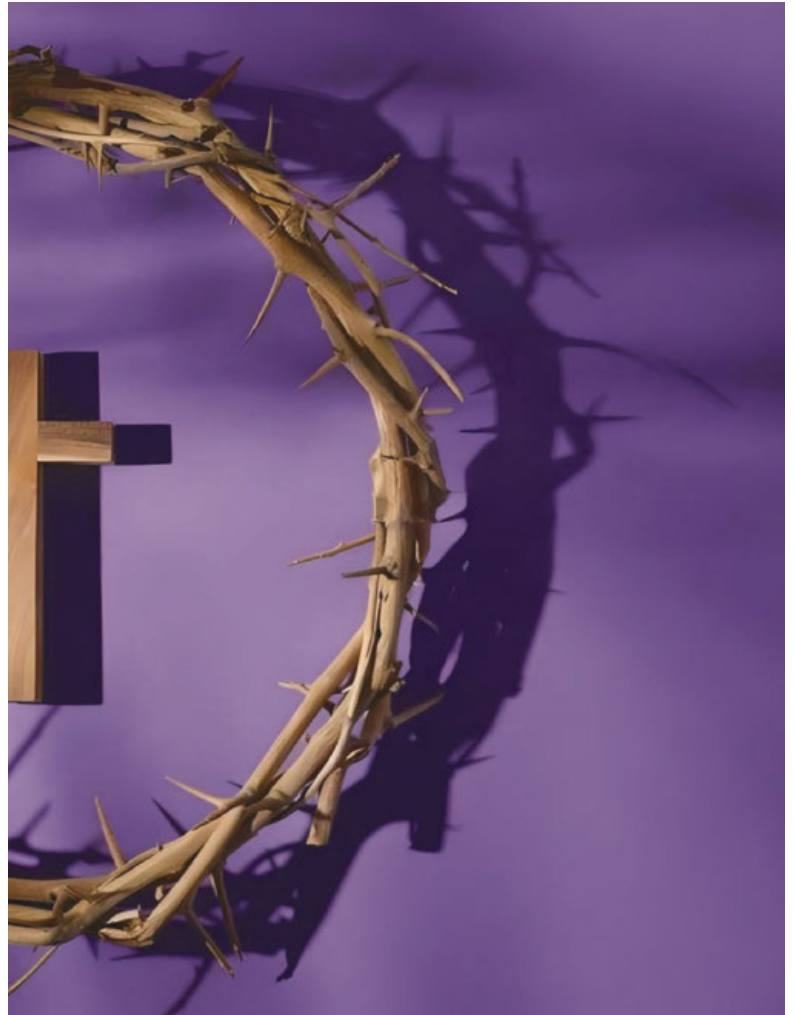
Saturday Vigil - 5pm  
Sunday - 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:15pm,  
5:30pm (Mass with contemporary music)

## 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



## 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.

**5th SUNDAY OF LENT  
APRIL 6, 2025**

"The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy. - Ps 126



**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 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  
**ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE FISH FRY  
SUPPORTS OUR PARISH!!!**

*Mass Celebrant*

**Saturday, April 12**  
5pm: Fr. Kenna  
**Sunday, April 13**  
7am: Fr. Gould  
8:30 am: Fr. Kenna  
10:30am: Fr. Frankline  
12:15pm: Fr. Frankline  
5:30pm: Fr. Kenna  
*\* note: subject to change*

*This Week*

Mon., April 7 OCIA 7pm, Room 206  
Wed., April 9 Catholic Biblical Sch 9:30am & 6:30pm OLVH  
Young Adult Group 6:30pm, Room 107  
Holy Hour for Miraculous Medal 7pm  
That Man is You 7pm, Room 202  
Fri., April 11 Women's Prayer Group 7am, Chapel  
Sat., April 12 That Man is You 6:30am, Room 202

+ deceased  
Sat., April 5  
9:00 am  
Sat., April 5  
5:00 pm  
Sun., April 6  
7:00 am  
8:30 am  
10:30 am  
12:15 pm  
5:30 pm  
Mon., April 7  
6:30 am  
8:30 am  
Tue., April 8  
6:30 am  
8:30 am  
Wed., April 9  
6:30 am  
8:30 am  
Thu., April 10  
6:30 am  
8:30 am  
Fri., April 11  
6:30 am  
12:00 noon  
Sat., April 12  
9:00 am  
Sat., April 12  
5:00 pm  
Sun., April 13  
7:00 am  
8:30 am  
10:30 am  
12:15 pm  
5:30 pm

**Lenten Weekday**  
+ Elton Jackson Killmon  
**Vigil: 5th Sunday of Lent**  
+ Peter DeCicco  
**5th Sunday of Lent**  
People of the Parish  
+ Agnes Borneman  
Mai Sylvester  
+ Sr. Mary Emmanuel Stahl  
+ John R. Robinson  
**Lenten Weekday**  
+ James and Rose Lippert  
+ Crane Hertz  
**Lenten Weekday**  
Mark Gaylord  
+ Cecile Dion  
**Lenten Weekday**  
+ Corky Corcoran  
+ Bernadine Dateno  
**Lenten Weekday**  
+ Edward Widzinski  
+ Gus and Nellie Hertz  
**Lenten Weekday**  
Bernadetter Sieple  
+ James Vincent Nigro  
**Lenten Weekday**  
Priests and Staff of the Parish  
**Vigil: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**  
+Daryl Tewell  
**Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord**  
+Mary K. Stinemeyer  
People of the Parish  
Andrew Sylvester  
The Junk Family  
Noah Magin

WEEKLY COLLECTION	
Week of March 22 & 23	
Pew/Mail	\$ 10,308.00
Parish Giving	\$ 12,661.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 22,969.00</b>

*Readings for the Week*

Sun: Is 43:16-21/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/Phil 3:8-14/  
Jn 8:1-11 Scrutiny: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4,  
5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17,  
20-27, 33b-45  
Mon: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps  
23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:12-20  
Tue: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30  
Wed: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn  
8:31-42  
Thu: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59  
Fri: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42  
Sat: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56

Dear Folks,

The weeks wind down as we move to Holy Week. The Confessionals grow ever more busy with those getting their wings dusted for the Triduum. Each week night at 7:00 except for Wednesday when confessions are heard at 8:00 PM, following the weekly holy hour.

Not to worry about forgetting the "Act of Contrition," a prayer card can be found in both boxes.

The other big news is that Michael Corrigan has finished the cross you can use for walking the distance of Calvary. It is made of cypress wood, of which the cross came from, and weighs about one hundred pounds... 1/3 the original weight to drag. For those would like to walk the cross with family and friends they will find it outside the education center on Sundays...when no one is working at the construction site behind the rectory/ church.

The ideal walk is up the trail (722) to the Crux Gloria Cross next to Rt. 7. Turn right and walk to the third building and back to the first building. When arriving at the first building look up to the roof of the church and that will mark the distance from Calvary to the Temple. Sunday is the only day for the walks and more than one group is welcome to take the walk... Catholics and Non- Catholics alike. Straps will be added to the sides in case multiple family member can help to carry it. Please be careful as you offer your prayers on the way. *Let us pray for one another.*

Enclosed is a note from the Bishop pertaining to the Good Friday Collection.

Dear Brother Priests,

I strongly encourage you to promote and place emphasis on the need for the Pontifical Good Friday Collection this year in your parishes. As you know, this collection supports our brother and sisters in Christ of the Holy Land who have suffered particularly as a result of the pandemic and the ongoing war in the Middle East. Digital resources are available at [www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday](http://www.myfranciscan.org/good-friday).

Please be assured of my continued prayers for you and your priestly ministry. May Our Lord Jesus bless you with his peace and increased faith, hope, and love throughout the sacred Season of Lent, the Jubilee Year, and always.

*Fraternally in Christ,*  
Bishop Burbidge

Few people realize that all collections for the Holy Land are funnelled through the Franciscan Monastery in Washington DC. It offers a reflective atmosphere inside of the Holy Land experience including the height of cavalry above the church floor and a very very accurate view of the Tomb of Christ. Also, the tour of the catacombs is quite realistic. I think I will try to get the Young at Heart Group to make a pilgrimage to the Franciscan Monastery some time in the near future. <https://myfranciscan.org/>

Please count this as a spiritual understatement. One of the great sources of blessings at St. Francis De Sales Parish is the Adoration Hours that take place on Friday, following the Noon Mass, until Saturday morning, before the 9:00 AM Mass. If you are looking for the foolish pastor you will find him at the midnight hour. Though we have many blessings in the parish we still have much to pray for. Let us pray for the sick and suffering with physiological scourges as well as psychological scourges that can be most destructive to their loved ones. Let us pray for those who recently lost their jobs in the government shakeup and those collegians seeking employment when they finish their studies in a few weeks. Let us pray for young families who line the pews and more importantly pray for the kids in the CCD program who never go to church on Sunday. I can't blame the later because they don't drive the car. Let us pray for those haunted with the persecutions from others for their faith, orientation, or cultural heritages. Let pray for the broken marriages and rage that follows. A rage so destructive that can be worse than death itself. And lastly let us pray for our new converts and vocations to priesthood and religious life. (cont.)



Now the good news. Andrew Lewandowski has been called to priesthood and will be among the Arlington priests ordained on Saturday June 7th at St. Thomas More Cathedral. As the Jewish Philosopher, Neil Diamond, said "Pack up the babies and grab the old ladies, everyone goes." Andrew's first Mass will take place at St. Francis De Sales on June 8th. Stay tuned.

Mr. Emmanuel Carreno-Garcia

Mr. Joseph Connor

Mr. Jordan Evans

Mr. John Fimmuchime

Mr. Raymond Goins

Mr. Andrew Lewandowski

Mr. Richard Malebranche

Mr. John Meyerhofer

Mr. Christian Njodzela

Mr. Michael Sampson

Mr. Alfredo Tuesta

*Our thoughts and  
prayers are with ...*



**Our Military Members:**

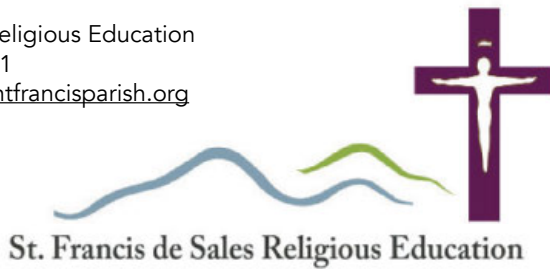
SGT Peter Audi, PFC Stephen G. Beard, LTC Andrew Cahan, Mary Elizabeth Castaneda, SGT Ernesto G. Castro, LCpl Paul Cotter, LT Scott Cypher, CPT Ryan Patrick Godfrey, 1LT Alexandra Goodnow, Captain Ryan Patrick Grady, 2LT Patrick Gutierrez, PO2 Robin Hunt, Christopher Largent (Army), MAJ Jamie (Jovene) 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 Printup, 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 Kreuztberg, 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 Strovoy, 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

Diane Taylor  
Director of Religious Education  
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d.taylor@saintfrancisparish.org



**Attention Confirmation II students- Confirmation is in 3 weeks!**

**Confirmation Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 6:30 pm**

**Rehearsal Wednesday, April 23 at 5:30 pm; Bring your sponsor.**

Proper dress attire: All confirmandi will wear a red robe provided by the parish. If you have not picked up your robe, please stop by the RE office ASAP!

Girls wear a knee-length dress with sleeves (no spaghetti straps), closed-toe shoes (no flip flops).

Boys wear dress slacks, button-down shirt, tie, and dress shoes (no flip flops, no sneakers, no jacket)

First Holy Communion: Saturday, May 10 @10:30AM and 1:30PM

May Crowning, Sunday, May 18 @ 12:15PM Mass

**Registration for 2025-2026 School Year:** Registration for the next school year will begin at the end of May. All children are expected to successfully complete their current grade-level curriculum before registering for the upcoming school year.

Regarding registration for the first year of the Confirmation program (usually in the 7th grade): All students must successfully complete the 6th grade curriculum assessments (available on the parish website), know the basic parts of the Bible and how to look up Bible passages, and know basic prayers (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Act of Contrition, Apostles Creed) before beginning Confirmation preparation. Please contact Diane Taylor, Director of Religious Education, with questions about preparation for Confirmation.

**Become a Catechist:** If you are looking for a fruitful way to get involved in parish life, please join the religious education team. You do not have to be a Catholic scholar to teach, and your understanding of the Catholic faith will grow even more. Consider becoming a catechist, catechist assistant, hall monitor, or substitute teacher. Our program cannot run without our wonderful volunteers! Catechists with children registered in the RE program get free tuition. Please visit the RE office to get more information.

*"In the face of adversity, you must maintain your own inner peace."*  
~St. Francis de Sales

### Religious Education Calendar

#### WEEK OF APRIL 6

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

#### WEEK OF APRIL 13 - NO CLASSES

## How Are You Preparing for Lent?

**Lent Prep: The Exodus and Jubilee** - Spirit Juice/ Poco A Poco: this popular podcast can be found on YouTube, Spirit Juice, or on your favorite podcast app. In this episode, Dr. John Bergsma - Series on Jesus and the Jubilee (Part 6) What does Jesus want for us this Jubilee? This Jubilee year, Jesus extends a heartfelt invitation to us all to experience His boundless mercy, forgiveness, and love—to share in His life. Join us as we reflect on His call to renewal, reconciliation, and deeper faith. Let this sacred time be a journey of spiritual transformation and a reminder of God's grace in our lives. In this episode, with our special guest, Dr. John Bergsma, we will bring it home and discuss Jesus and the Jubilee and what He invites us to in this consecrated time.



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

The TRUTH About the Shroud of Turin w/Fr. Robert Spitzer | Chris Stefanick Show The Shroud of Turin is the subject of a lot of rumors, myths and controversies — maybe you've heard some of them yourself and don't know what to believe. In this episode, Fr. Robert Spitzer offers amazing facts and stories about the Shroud.

Preparing for Holy Week Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Mark Giszczak, professor of Sacred Scripture at the Augustine Institute Graduate School of Theology, as they walk through the liturgies of Holy Week, historical spots in the Holy Land, and how to prepare our hearts for the events of the Passion.

Saint John Baptist de la Salle Celebrate the feast day of St. John Baptist de la Salle, the patron saint of teachers, with this great movie on Formed. The inspiring story of a 17th century French priest who reluctantly became involved in educating poor children. In the process, he became the Founder of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, an order known today as the De La Salle Christian Brothers. Actor Mel Ferrer gives a heartfelt performance as St. John Baptist de La Salle, a priest from a wealthy upper-class family who gave up everything to serve the needs of educating poor children, facing tremendous opposition along the way. St. John Baptist de la Salle, pray for us!

Saint Teresa of the Andes: The Story of the First Chilean Saint - A beautiful, epic mini-series produced in Chile that tells the story of the inspiring life of the new young Carmelite saint who lived in the 20th century, died at the age of just 19 years old, and was canonized by Pope John Paul II in 1993. St. Teresa of Jesus of the Andes, known officially as "St. Teresa of the Andes", grew up in a close-knit, upper middle class Catholic family in Santiago, Chile, was very popular with her friends and relatives, entered Carmel at age 19, and died before her 20th birthday.

So what is it about this young, modern American saint that caused the Church to recognize her heroic virtue and sanctity at such a young age? Though she was a Carmelite for less than a year, she possessed a refreshing sanctity and message that will resonate with all lovers of Christ, especially with the youth of today. That inspiring story of Chile's first saint, and America's newest and youngest saint, is revealed in this definitive film on St. Teresa of the Andes.

Need help getting set up with FORMED? See the instructions on the parish website.

**Get the Apps** These apps are free for most of the content with an optional paid subscription for access to more.

**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.



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



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 number of volunteers:

- **5 Contractors** (license not required) to work on the job site with teens **Mon-Thurs**
- **5 Security Volunteers** to work **one shift** Sunday June 22nd 3pm-8pm
- **Homebase volunteers** to assist the diocesan WorkCamp Logistics Team when available.



SPRING SAVE THE DATES

<b>6</b> APRIL	<b>YOUTH NIGHT</b> 6:30-8:00PM THE UPPER ROOM BRING A FRIEND
<b>7</b> APRIL	<b>SHELTER COOKING</b> 6:30-8:00PM SAINT MARTHA KITCHEN (RE BUILDING)
<b>4</b> MAY	<b>YOUTH NIGHT</b> 6:30-8:00 PM THE UPPER ROOM BRING A FRIEND
<b>12</b> JUNE	<b>BACCALAUREATE</b> GRADUATE CELEBRATION 7 PM, RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

Note: No Youth Night April 13 or April 20

*Parents* ARE INVITED TO  
 A WINE AND CHEESE EVENT  
 TO MEET  
**Caitlin Orender**  
 THE DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY  
 SATURDAY APRIL 12TH @ 6PM  
 JOIN US IN THE RECTORY

**STAY CONNECTED**

Join Remind:  
 Text @sfdsyg to 81010

<https://saintfrancisparish.org/teen-faith-youth-group/>

@sfdsyouthministry

**MAC-PAC**  
 Middle Schoolers Acting in Christ  
 Prayer - Action - Charity

**SPRING SAVE THE DATES**

<b>6</b> APRIL	<b>MONTHLY MEETING</b> 6:30-8:00PM OUR LADY OF VICTORY HALL (GYM)
<b>4</b> MAY	<b>MONTHLY MEETING</b> 6:30-8:00PM OUR LADY OF VICTORY HALL (GYM)
<b>10</b> MAY	<b>ARLINGTON DIOCESE BASH</b> 2-10PM BISHOP O'CONNELL HIGH SCHOOL
<b>8</b> JUNE	<b>MONTHLY MEETING</b> 6:30-8:00PM KNIGHTS HALL (CHURCH BASEMENT)



**6:30AM MASS FOR LENT** - Meet Mrs. G in the front left rows of church every Tuesday morning during Lent

## St. Francis Council 11136 News



**NOTABLE KNIGHT** – Father Robert Graham, SJ: Born in 1912, Jesuit Fr. Robert Graham was known as the “Vatican Spy Catcher” and spent his life both researching church history...and making it! With Soviet backed disinformation slandering Pope Pius XII as pro-Nazi, Graham was brought to the Vatican to research and report the truth. Although best known for making public Pope Pius XII’s efforts to save the Jews during the Holocaust, his research also uncovered anti-Vatican espionage by Nazi, Fascist, and Soviet entities. Disinformation and attempted manipulation of the Church were among the Soviet tactics, as was the use of moles, blackmail, surveillance, bugs, and infiltration of the Vatican using priests and seminarians groomed for the Soviet cause. Graham’s ability to detect and expose those spying for the Soviets became legendary. Although details were often kept secret, he became the Vatican’s unofficial “spy catcher” and its de facto head of counterintelligence. He was a member of Monsignor John T. Dwyer Council in Saratoga CA and passed away in 1997.

**FATHER GOULD’S NIGHTLY ROSARY FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE FUN FACTS** –for the past 3+ years, the nightly Rosary has been facilitated by the SFDS knights. *These fun facts were provided by Br. Mark Gaylord:* At the 3-year mark (Feb 24th), there have been 1,095 days the Rosary has been prayed with (conservative estimate) 50 people participating each night (combined in-person and logged in for the Rosary live stream) which resulted in at least 54,750 Rosaries being said during that time. Considering we recite 54 Hail Marys per Rosary per person, at least 2,956,500 Hail Marys have been recited and the 7 Our Fathers per Rosary, equate to approximately 383,250 Our Fathers recited.

**DID YOU KNOW?** – In November 2024, the Knights of Columbus local councils have surpassed \$100 million in financial support for seminarians, postulants, and novices through its Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP). The RSVP program was founded in 1981 and provides aid to seminarians and entrants into religious life so that they can continue to discern their vocations. Financial support for vocations is a special cause for the knights, whose founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, had almost been forced to leave the seminary due to financial pressure in the wake of his father’s death. RSVP and our other vocation scholarships are really our way of paying it forward and supporting the next generation of priests and religious. Your SFDS knights support 2 seminarians and 1 novitiate with our RSV.

**KNIGHTS ALERT!! BE ADVISED** – Your dues are critical to the SFDS knights continuing to serve our SFDS Priests, Parish, and Parish Community. 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.

**YOU CAN BECOME A KNIGHT** - 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). To become a Knight, contact either Grand Knight Michael Carducci or Brother Knight Richard Jacob (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 below and with just a few entries you will be a member of the Knights of Columbus!

**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.”

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



Volunteers Needed for the  
St. Francis Homeschool Ministry (CHSRM)

CHSRM is a ministry of St. Francis that supports homeschool families of our parish, diocese and local community. CHSRM meets Tuesdays-Thursdays in the Parish Education Center from August through May. We are in need of volunteers to greet families at our welcome desk, assist our teachers in the classroom and to serve as hall monitors, for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year. We are reaching out to our parish community to ask for your help. If you enjoy children, social interaction and serving your parish, you will love being part of CHSRM.

Please see the note below from our beloved and long time volunteer BJ Szemborski:

*I was retired and bored. I asked Fr. Escalante if he knew of any volunteer opportunities in the parish and he suggested I check with the new parish homeschooling ministry, CHSRM. Volunteering as a greeter every week for CHSRM has literally changed my life. The students and their parents have brought me new friendships, laughter and best of all, a chance to evangelize our beautiful Faith.*

Your wisdom and dedication are invaluable assets to our homeschool ministry and we would love to have you join us in making a difference. If you have some time to give and would like to make a positive impact, please consider volunteering! For more information or to sign up, please contact Amy Grady at [sfchrs@gmail.com](mailto:sfchrs@gmail.com). Your involvement would be greatly appreciated! Thank you for your support!



### FATHERS RAISING SAINTS

PREPARING OUR KIDS TO BATTLE SECULARISM

### SAVE THE DATE!

### TOPIC: VOCATIONS

### SUPPORTING OUR CHILDRENS VOCATIONAL JOURNEY

**WHAT:** Join our panel discussion with local Parish Priests, Deacons, Sisters, and Consecrated to discuss how we can support our children discovering their vocation.

**WHO:** All Parish Parents

**WHEN:** May 2nd 7:30 PM

**WHERE:** SFDS - Knights Hall



*"A good vocation is simply a firm and constant will in which the person who is called must serve God in the way and in the places to which almighty God has called him." St. Francis de Sales*

Sponsored by your SFDS Knights of Columbus, however you do not need to be a Knight to attend. To sign up to be on our emailing list about monthly events respond to: [knights11136@gmail.com](mailto:knights11136@gmail.com)

## 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)

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



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 April 13!**



ALTAR FLOWER  
DEDICATION

Would you like to donate an altar flower arrangement in someone's memory or to honor a loved one?

Contact Laura Burgess,  
(540) 338-6381, x104  
[l.burgess@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.burgess@saintfrancisparish.org).

## 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 21st, 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, April 28th, 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.



## Easter Pew and Parking Raffle

Wouldn't it be nice to have a reserved front pew for you and your family at a morning Easter Mass?



**Participate in our fundraising raffle and you just might win one!**

Winners won't need to stress about finding parking as you will get your own VIP spot right near the door.

Being raffled are one pew & parking spot at each the 8:30 and 10:30a.m. Mass on Easter Sunday.



**Only \$1 per chance!**

All proceeds go to funding the Women's Council's initiatives throughout the year.



Look for ticket sales in the Narthex after Mass on: April 5th & 6th and again on April 12th & 13th





## 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-pilgrim#](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4CABAA2BA7FB6-48752496-pilgrim#))



# INTERNET SAFETY

Information for Seniors on Internet Scams

April 8 at 2pm  
Knights Hall

RSVP to Leslie Sheldon at [Lsheldon@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:Lsheldon@saintfrancisparish.org)



## 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!

### 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)

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

Youth volunteer opportunities have been filled  
Contact [L.kennedy@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:L.kennedy@saintfrancisparish.org) to get on waitlist.

*We need adult volunteers!*

To Volunteer, go to [saintfrancisparish.org](http://saintfrancisparish.org) and click on the Babylon logo



Registration for campers will begin May 1

## SFDS YOUNG ADULT GROUP

18-35 year old

Grow in faith and fellowship!

Upcoming Fellowship Adventures:

- April 21st - Hike to Buzzard Hill

Next Meeting April 9th at 6:30 PM, Room 107

Email [clare.mjk@gmail.com](mailto:clare.mjk@gmail.com) with any questions or to RSVP

## 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 APRIL

For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



## 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)



### Holy Year of Hope Hotline

As we journey through this Holy Year of Hope, we invite you to be a beacon of light and encouragement. Call us on the Holy Year Hope Hotline 703-778-9100 and share your personal messages and stories of hope. Your words may be featured in the Walk Humbly Podcasts throughout the year—uplifting others in both joyful moments and challenging times. By sharing your story, you're offering a gift to the community—a reminder that no one is alone, and that hope lives in all of us. Let's inspire one another with hope.

### 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 information 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.

### 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/)



**New Name-Same Mission**  
Birthright of Loudoun County is now  
**Agapé Pregnancy Center of Loudoun**



### 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)

### Local Adult Mission Trip

Join Commissioned By Christ, chaplain Fr. Rich Miserendino and other adult missionaries to help complete necessary home repairs for individuals in need in Shenandoah County, VA! June 28–July 1. \$415 — Cost includes registration fee, lodging, CBC T-shirt, bag, and journal. [www.cbc-missions.org](http://www.cbc-missions.org)

### Project Rachel: Hope & Healing After Abortion

Project Rachel is the Diocese's post-abortion healing ministry, offering compassionate support to anyone affected by abortion. Our mission is to reach all women wounded by abortion with a message of hope, healing, and forgiveness, inviting them back into a loving relationship with Jesus Christ.

We provide confidential care from trained staff, priests, and licensed mental health professionals who understand the deep sorrow, trauma, and grief that can follow abortion. **You are not alone.** Project Rachel offers a path to healing with sensitivity, compassion, and understanding. If you or someone you know is in need of post-abortion healing, reach out today. **Confidential help is available.**

For more info, visit [arlingtondiocese.org/projectrachel](http://arlingtondiocese.org/projectrachel).

**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)

## We invite you to get involved in our Parish Ministries

### SPIRITUAL LIFE

<b>Adoration/Benediction</b>	Emily Lauderback	sfds.adoration@gmail.com
<b>Adult Faith Studies</b>	Jeanne Lamana	jeannelamana@gmail.com
<b>Charismatic Prayer Ministry</b>	Joe Curto	jtcurto@aol.com
<b>Homebound Visitation</b>	Michael Galdo	m.galdo@saintfrancisparish.org
<b>Ministry of Praise</b>	Vicki Stark	victoria.stark@gmail.com
<b>Women's Prayer Group</b>	Jean Stanley	jeanmariestanley@gmail.com
<b>Teams of Our Lady</b>	Scott and Maryann Harrison	harrison.tool.loudounsc@gmail.com
<b>That Man is You (TMIY)</b>	Rae Edmonson	sfdsmen@gmail.com

### SOCIAL OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY GROWTH

<b>Blood Drive</b>	Mark Furman	furmanma@outlook.com
<b>Compassionate Heart of Mary Bereavement</b>	Laura Burgess	l.burgess@saintfrancisparish.org
<b>Funeral Reception Ministry</b>	Hershey Youngblood	sfds.funeralreceptions@gmail.com
<b>Gabriel Project Pregnancy Support</b>	Kati Pultro	sfds.gabrielproject@gmail.com
<b>Giving Tree Social Justice</b>	Erin Bucci	buccierin@comcast.net
<b>Homeless Ministry</b>	Fran Beebe	franbeebe7@gmail.com
<b>Mother Teresa's Garden</b>	Mary Ann Winner	mawinner@gmail.com
<b>Project Rachel After Abortion Help</b>	Amy Grady	pajsc05@hotmail.com
<b>Respect Life</b>	Carie Losinski	skigators@icloud.com
<b>Share Sunday</b>	Michael Corrigan	Knights11136@gmail.com

### WORSHIP / LITURGY

<b>Altar Servers</b>	Nan Gingras	vazo_g@yahoo.co
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Carie Losinski	skigators@me.com
<b>Junior Altar Womens Society (JAS)</b>	Danielle Orender	mrs.obethanyps@gmail.com
<b>Sacristan; Mass Coordinator</b>	Laura Burgess	l.burgess@saintfrancisparish.org
<b>Ushers</b>	Pat Orender	SFDS.ushers@gmail.com

### PARISH LIFE

<b>American Heritage Girls</b>	Heather Frakes	heather@frakesmont.com
<b>CHRSM Catholic Homeschool Ministry</b>	Amy Grady Emily Lauderback Holly Smith	sfchrsm@gmail.com
<b>Communications</b>	Lea Ann Kennedy	l.kennedy@saintfrancisparish.org
<b>Joy of Life</b>	Monica Seeley	joyoflifefds@gmail.com
<b>Knights of Columbus</b>	Mike Carducci	gksf11136@gmail.com
<b>Library</b>	Katie Beatty	katie@thebeattys.org
<b>Loaves and Fishes Friday Lent Fish Fry</b>	Joyce Sparbanie	loavesandfishesSFDS@gmail.com
<b>MAC-PAC Middle School Program</b>	Caitlin Orender	c.orender@saintfrancisparish.org
<b>Men's Group</b>	Rae Edmonson	sfdsmen@gmail.com
<b>Mom's Group</b>	Elise Daniels	eliseamyx@gmail.com
<b>SoulStitch</b>	Karen Gaylord	windingwoodsfarm@gmail.com
<b>Trail Life</b>	Michael Shields	mjcshields@gmail.com
<b>Women's Council Wine &amp; Wisdom</b>	Sandy Regan	womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com
<b>Young Adult Group</b>	Clare King	Clare.mjk@gmail.com
<b>Young at Heart for Seniors</b>	Leslie Sheldon	l.sheldon@saintfrancisparish.org

Learn more about Saint Francis de Sales Parish Ministries at [saintfrancisparish.org](http://saintfrancisparish.org) click on "Sacraments/Ministries"



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