

Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD APRIL 13, 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
RE email - RE@saintfrancisparish.org
In case of an emergency - 540-338-6440
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-4pm

(Office closed between 12noon and 1:15pm daily)

Sunday Mass

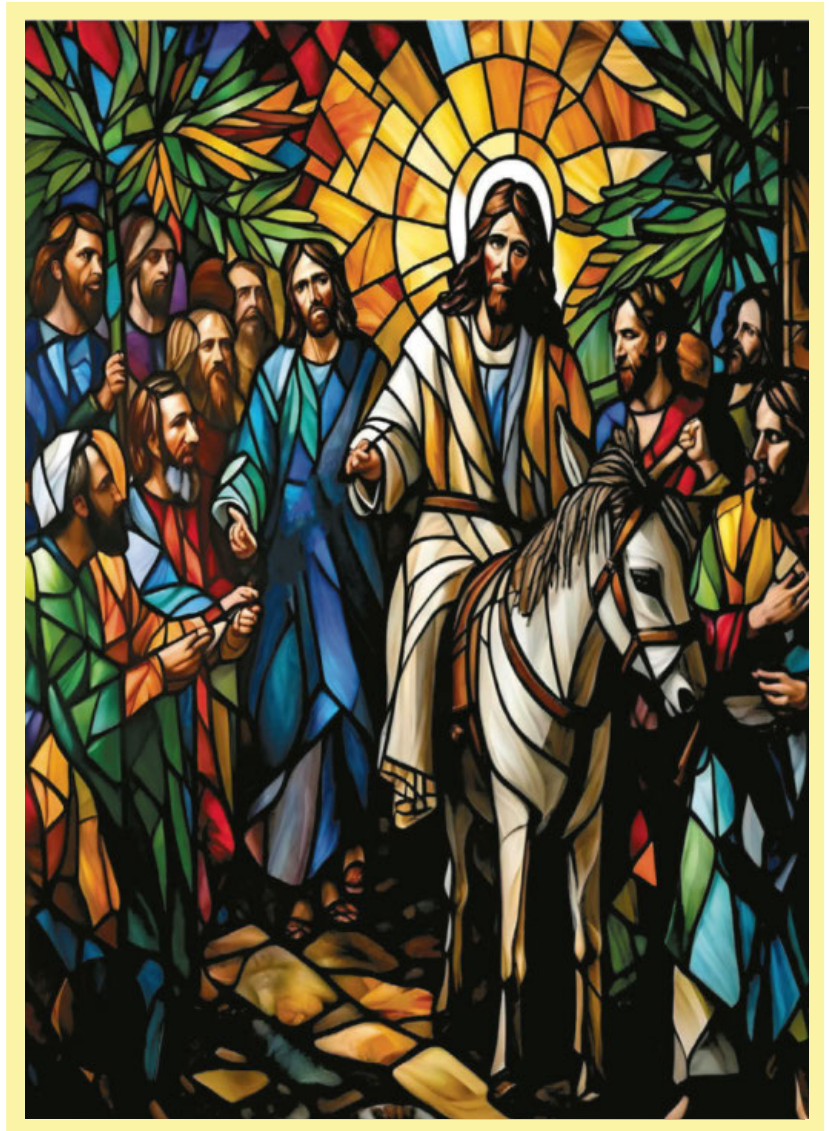
Saturday Vigil - 5pm
Sunday - 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:15pm,
5:30pm (Mass with contemporary music)

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.

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
APRIL 13, 2025**

"My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"
- Ps 22

**Holy Week
Schedule**



Monday

6:30 and 8:30 am Daily Mass
7:00 PM "Come Walk with Me"
Holy Hour with music
provided by Irish tenor, Mark Forrest
Confessions Available

Tuesday & Wednesday

6:30 and 8:30 am Daily Mass
7:00 PM Confessions

Holy Thursday

No morning Masses
7PM Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper Adoration
continues until midnight

Good Friday

No morning Masses
No Fish Fry
11:00 AM Confessions
3:00PM Liturgy of the passion of the Lord
7:00 PM Stations of the Cross followed by Confessions
8:00 PM Tenebrae

Holy Saturday

No morning Mass
8:00 AM Confessions
4:00PM Confessions

EASTER SUNDAY

7am
8:30am
10:30am
12:15pm
5:30pm

Mass Celebrant Schedule

Saturday, April 19

5pm: Fr. Gould

Sunday, April 20

7am: Fr. Gould
8:30 am: Fr. Frankline
10:30am: Fr. Gould
12:15pm: Fr. Kenna

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Week of March 29 & 30

Pew/Mail \$ 14,411.00
Parish Giving \$ 18,151.50
Total \$ 33,226.50

Catholic Relief Services \$1,995.00

Total March 2025

Pew/Mail \$62,338.00
Parish Giving \$84,367.00
Total \$146,705.00

Budgeted Monthly Need \$125,225.00

Masses for the Week

+ deceased

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

Mon., April 14

6:30 am

8:30 am

Tue., April 15

6:30 am

8:30 am

Wed., April 16

6:30 am

8:30 am

Sun., April 20

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:15 pm

5:30 pm

Lenten Weekday

Priests and Staff of St. Francis de Sales

Vigil: Palm Sunday

+Daryl Twell

Palm Sunday

+Mary K. Stinemeyer

+John R. Robinson

Andrew Sylvester

The Junk Family

Noah Magin

Monday of Holy Week

+ Ralph Gardiner

Isla Stansfield

Tuesday of Holy Week

+Marge Baxa

The Parker Family

Wednesday of Holy Week

+ Corky Corcoran

+ John Bischoff, Jr.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

+Rose Surak

Gerard Sylvester

People of the Parish

+John Bischoff

+Paul Schweisthal

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Lk 19:28-40/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/
Lk 22:14—23:56 or 23:1-49

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11T

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: Chrim Mass: Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/
Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27/Rv 1:5-8/
Lk 4:16-21
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:
Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/
Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18
(see 1 Cor 10:16)/
1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 (Lk 23:46)/
Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9
Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday: Easter Vigil: Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/
Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 or
Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/
Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/
Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15—15:1/
Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/
Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/ /Is 55:1-11/
Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/
Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn:68c)/
Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15,
18-19 (12a)/Rom 6:3-11/Lk 24:1-12

Dear Folks,

It is the beginning of the week we call Holy. And it is just that, but in so many ways a very lonely time lost in solitude shared with the Lord Himself. Allow one of my favorite unknown poems from the past. God bless the author and those who join them before the altar of God this Holy Week. Let us pray for one another.

"Monstrance of Silver and Gold"

Before the monstrance this night, in prayer, I sat all alone.

As next to a palm tree on the road to Egypt, in a desert shown

It was cold and dark with a silence wrenched by a scream.

Tw'as a child on an ass proclaiming to a world in need of a seam.

Before the monstrance this night, among a collective of strangers, I sat all alone.

As next to a dock beyond Capernaum, fraught with dangers yet bestown.

It was warm and bright with the smell of salt that gives purity to the sea.

Tw'as a man on foot with a call to "Come and See," in Persona Christi, our destiny

Before the monstrance this night, by the great city wall, I sat all alone.

As next to a Gate of Gold, among the cheers, the Messiah was soon to be known.

It was early and shouts filled the sky for all on earth and in heaven to hear.

Tw'as the Anointed come to His Castle, like a bold king, devoid of all fear.

Before the monstrance this night, in an upper room, I sat all alone.

As next to a window, where the curtains were drawn with a sense of doom.

It was cool, with an air of concern, there were rebels before me and all about.

Tw'as the Highest Priest, said, "Eat my Flesh and Drink My Blood," and then, go out.

Before the monstrance this night, among hatred and jeers, I sat all alone.

As next to a centurion, where all heads were turned, to a bloody deed yet shown.

It was hot and dry, with a miserable thirst for a Rebel nailed, clothed only with a stench.

Tw'as God abused by man, for the false privilege, to design a life to wrench.

Before the monstrance this night, among the blessed of a small chapel, I sat all alone.

As next to the Lord, not recognized, a whisper of gratitude for a devotion yet hewn.

It was the moment of avum where time and space, are gifts from above, and can't be sold.

Tw'as Jesus: child, man, messiah, priest, and God sitting on his throne, of silver and gold.



The food items in the Easter basket, as well as at the Easter Sunday breakfast when the blessed food is eaten, have special significance. Each family may have its own traditions, but there are some practices that are universal.

Basket Decorations

A lot of thought, time, and care are put not only into the foods that will go into the basket but also to how the basket is assembled. The basket is lined with an embroidered cloth or traditional folk fabric. Once the basket is filled, it is covered with a white linen cloth (some have a colorfully crocheted edging or embroidered design) representing the shroud of Christ. The basket can then be decorated with sprigs of boxwood (bukspan) or Polish "palms" made from dried flowers and colorful paper.

In rural Poland, the size and contents of a woman's basket (some used wooden bowls and even dresser drawers) was a matter of pride and standing in the community.

Symbolic Foods

A typical Eastern European Easter basket would include a variety of symbolic foods, although families can personalize to their liking. There is a special blessing for meat, egg, cake, and bread, so baskets will most likely include these ingredients.

- Bacon is a symbol of the abundance of God's mercy.
- Bread is usually a braided, representing the staff of life given by God.
- Easter bread is a round cake of rich, eggy yeast dough with raisins that is reminiscent of the risen Lord.
- Butter is one of the dairy products included to celebrate the end of Lent and the richness of our salvation. The butter is often shaped into a lamb, which is symbolic of the Paschal Lamb. Sometimes the bread is made of dough, wood, or even plastic. It can also be made of sugar.
- Candles symbolize Jesus, the "light of the world," and can be lit when the priest blesses the baskets of food.
- Cheese is a symbol to remind Christians of moderation.
- Colored eggs, as well as uncolored hard-cooked eggs, indicate hope, new life, and Christ rising from his tomb.
- Ham, as well as other meats, symbolizes great joy and abundance in celebration of Christ's resurrection.
- Sausage links (kiefbasa, kyehw-BAH-sah) are symbolic of the chains of death that were broken when Jesus rose from the dead, as well as of God's generosity.
- Horseradish is a reminder of the bitterness and harshness of the Passion of Jesus, and the vinegar it is mixed with symbolizes the sour wine given to Jesus on the cross.
- Salt is present to add zest to life and preserve us from corruption.
- Sweets suggest the promise of eternal life or good things to come.

Family Traditions

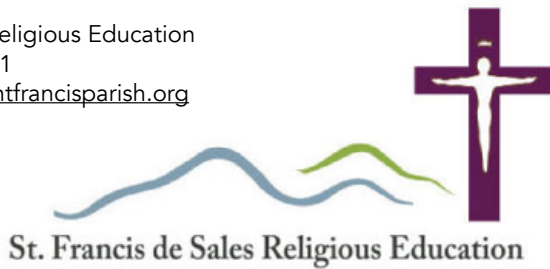
Although every family might have its own traditions when it comes to the Easter baskets, many make sure to include enough food so every family member can have a bite of all the blessed foods after Mass on Easter Sunday. This can be a taste of the Easter dinner foods, plus some daily staples.

The basket may hold a little bird's nest cake made with leftover batter from the lamb cake and hard-cooked eggs studded with cloves representing the nails of the cross, as well as kielbasa, ham, salt, and pepper. Also common are a butter lamb, or butter stuffed into a shot glass studded with a clove, and a small, round bakery rye bread topped with a paper decal in the shape of a purple cross. While in some families, greens, vegetables, and fruit are never included, other families make them a part of the basket.

In many Eastern European countries, it is a tradition to have a basket of food blessed on Holy Saturday or Easter Sunday. In Poland, for example, the blessing of the baskets is known as *święcenie pokarmów wielkanocnych*, a practice dating to the 15th century or earlier, and one which is still maintained by most families in Poland (and to some extent in other countries) on Holy Saturday.



Diane Taylor
Director of Religious Education
540-338-6381
d.taylor@saintfrancispark.org



Attention Confirmation II students- Confirmation is in 11 days!

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! Be sure to take the robe out of the bag and hang it on a hanger.

· 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.

"Nothing is so strong as gentleness, nothing so gentle as real strength." ~St. Francis de Sales

Religious Education Calendar

SCHEDULE

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 20 - NO CLASSES



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

Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage cinematically walks through the locations of the Holy Week story, representing the most important days of human history. Immersed in the Holy Land, the

pilgrim is brought tangibly nearer to the story, the landscape, and the reality of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Last Days: The Passion and Death of Jesus the Christ w/ Jonathan Roumie This filmed presentation of the theatrical production movingly recreates the final moments of Jesus' earthly ministry as a teacher through His crucifixion and death. The play has been seen by thousands worldwide, not only as a live performance but also in live streams and televised broadcasts.



How to make a Palm Sunday Cross Have you ever wondered how to make a cross with palms? Join Lyn Dam from the Archdiocese of Denver on how to make a palm leaf cross for Palm Sunday!

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.



STAY CONNECTED



Join Remind:
Text @sfdsyg to 81010

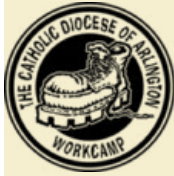


<https://saintfrancisparish.org/teen-faith-youth-group/>



@sfdsyouthministry

Caitlin Orender
Director of Youth Ministry
540-338-6381 x103
c.orender@saintfrancisparish.org



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

WORK CAMP 2025

Quicksburg, VA June 21- June 27

2 Males 25+ to join us all week as **Crew Leaders**

4 volunteers 21+ to serve Mon-Thurs as **contractors**

Contact: Caitlin Orender, Director of Youth Ministry at c.orender@saintfrancisparish.org for help registering.

DIocese of Arlington Presents

BASH

SATURDAY, MAY 10

SFDS Contact: Caitlin Orender, Director of Youth Ministry at c.orender@saintfrancisparish.org

AN EXCITING DAY FOR MORE THAN A THOUSAND MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS TO GATHER WITH BISHOP BURBIDGE TO CELEBRATE THEIR CATHOLIC FAITH!

- FUN WITH FRIENDS!
- VIGIL MASS
- INFLATABLE GAMES
- PIZZA & ICE CREAM
- MESSAGE FROM OSCAR RIVERA

\$15 per person

Registration forms in the narthex

Work Camp Reminders

- April 21st
Drop deadline
- April 27th
Formation Meeting
- May 4th
Pancake Breakfast
- May 18th
Car Wash/Formation meeting
- June 1st
Tool training

Go to Work Camp
June 21-June 27

SPRING SAVE THE DATES



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



| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 4 MAY | YOUTH NIGHT 6:30-8:00 PM THE UPPER ROOM BRING A FRIEND |
| 12 JUNE | BACCALAUREATE GRADUATE CELEBRATION 7 PM, RECEPTION TO FOLLOW |

Note: No Youth Night April 13 (Palm Sunday), April 20 (Easter), or April 27 (Work Camp meeting)

St. Francis Council 11136 News



NOTABLE KNIGHT – CAPTAIN ALFREDO “AL”

FUENTES: During the terror attack on September 11th, 2001, Capt. Fuentes of the NY Fire Department was among the first responders to the south tower. He led fireboat rescue teams from the Brooklyn Naval Yard to lower Manhattan to ferry survivors to hospital across the Hudson River. When he went to the north tower in search of more survivors, the building suddenly began to collapse around him and a steel girder pinned him to the ground. Eventually, he was extricated and transported. Unfortunately, he sustained near-fatal injuries to his skull, lungs, and ribs and lay pinned beneath a steel girder for over two hours; he claims that prayer – the Hail Mary in particular – was his constant companion and gave him the strength to survive. After his rescue, Capt. Fuentes remained in and out of a coma for weeks due to the crushing injuries he suffered. Capt. Fuentes is a member of the George W. Hudson Council #3701.

UPCOMING KNIGHTS ACTIVITIES – The SFDS Knights are purchasing Bibles for Fr. Frankline to send back to his home country.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT (BOLO) – The SFDS Knights are once again bringing a Holy Relics program/presentation to SFDS. Once the date is locked down (July time frame), Be On The Lookout for announcements. The Holy Relics will be of St. Padre Pio!

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 <https://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; www.kofc11136.org



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) Mallets, 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 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

FATHERS RAISING SAINTS

PREPARING OUR KIDS TO BATTLE SECULARISM

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 Families

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



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. Your involvement would be greatly appreciated! Thank you for your support!

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level I Training
The Joyful Child Atrium is hosting a training course this summer

for those who would like to get involved in the amazing work of sharing our beautiful Catholic faith with children.

For more information about CGS or the training, please visit

our website at:

www.thejoyfulchildatrium.com

or send an email to

thejoyfulchildatrium@gmail.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!

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

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 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



YOUNG @ HEART LUNCHEON

Wednesday, April 30
at Noon in Knights Hall

RSVP to Leslie at lsheldon@saintfrancisparish.org



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#)




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.



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

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

Youth volunteer opportunities have been filled
Contact l.kennedy@saintfrancisparish.org to get on waitlist.

We need adult volunteers!

To Volunteer, go to 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 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 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

www.arlingtondiocese.org/the-holy-year-tour/

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.

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/



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

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

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.

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

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

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to be my king.

Mission for the Week

Make Jesus king of your life. Ask him to help you spend your time doing the things that would make him happy.

Sharing the Gospel

The friends of Jesus made a special parade just for him. The people liked Jesus. He fed them. He healed them. They wanted to crown him king. They were sure that with Jesus in charge, they could live in peace. When you praise God, and when you put Jesus in charge of your life, you really can live with peace in your heart!

Now color
the picture!



Jesus is the King, so here is a maze inside of his crown.





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