

Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe November 25, 2018



Fun time at the Parish Autumn Harvest Hoe Down (November 17)

Parish Staff

Rev. Ronald S. Escalante, Pastor
Rev. Mark Mullaney, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Larry Hammel
Mrs. Amy Harrison, Business Manager
Mrs. Angela Baker, Secretary
Mrs. Laura Burgess, Sacristan
Mr. James Blankenship, DRE
Mrs. Janice Rees, CRE, Sunday Bulletin
Ms. Emily Glass, Director of Youth Ministry
Mr. Michael Galdo, Director of Music
Mr. William Gibson, Facilities Manager
Mr. Jerry Jones, Custodian
Mrs. Maria Alvarenga, Custodian
Mr. Antonio Alvarenga, Rectory Cook

Contact Info

Parish Office - 540-338-6381
office email - secretary@saintfrancisparish.org
Religious Education Office - 540-338-4497
RE email - RE@saintfrancisparish.org
In case of an emergency - 540-338-6440
Fax - 540-338-6431
37730 St. Francis Court, Purcellville, VA 20132
www.SaintFrancisParish.org

Welcome!

Please register and become part of our parish community. You may fill out a registration form in the parish office during business hours.

Office Hours - M-F 8:30am-4:30pm
(Office closed between 12noon and 1:15pm daily)

Moving? If you are leaving the parish, please let us know by calling or dropping a note.

Sacraments

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

Matrimony: Parish couples planning to be married must make arrangements with the Office at least six months prior to the intended date of marriage.

Baptism: The Sacrament is celebrated each month on the second and third Sunday at 1:30pm. Baptism class is the last Friday of the month at 7pm. Call the office for details.

Anointing of the Sick: We are privileged to bring Holy Communion and administer the Holy Anointing to the sick and homebound upon request. Please call the office to let us know your needs.

Sunday Masses

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

Daily Masses

Monday and Wednesday - 9am;
Tuesday and Thursday - 6:30am
Friday - 6:30am & 12 noon;
First Friday - 12 noon & 7pm Extraordinary Form (Latin Mass)
Saturday - 9am
Check the bulletin for Holy Days of Obligation

Adoration/Benediction

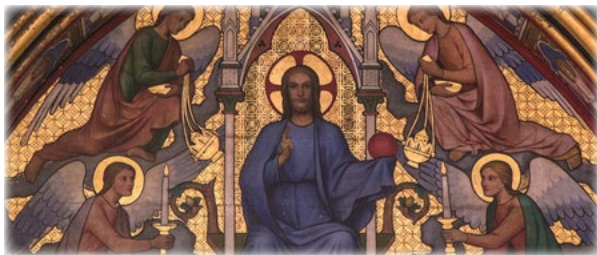
Friday - Adoration is held every Friday following the 12 noon Mass until 5pm. The Rosary is prayed at 12:30pm and the Divine Mercy Chaplet is at 3pm.

First Friday - Adoration follows the 12noon Mass and the 7pm Mass, and ends with Benediction at 8:45am on Saturday.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe November 25, 2018

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth.

- Revelation 1:5



CHRIST IS KING

On the final Sunday of the liturgical year we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. It's easy to understand today's scriptures as events that happened long ago and far away, or predictions that will come true somewhere, some day. But they invite us to claim Christ as our King here and now. Jesus' words to Pilate in the Gospel remind us that his kingdom transcends time and place. And the prophecies from Daniel and Revelation give us reason to be faithful to Christ our King right here and right now.

By concluding the year with this feast we are proclaiming our faith that Jesus Christ is the one and only King over all seasons, all peoples, and all of creation. No matter what nation we belong to or what language we speak, he "has made us into a kingdom" (Revelation 1:6)—one people united in love and peace for all eternity.

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Parish Financial Status

In-pew Offertory - November 18	\$ 11,669
2nd Collection - Campaign for Human Development	\$ 1,890
Parish Giving Offertory for October	\$ 31,827
YEAR TO DATE	\$ 402,776

This week's 2nd Collection - Parish Maintenance
Next week's 2nd Collection - Christmas Flowers

This Week

Sun., Nov. 25	<u>Adult Basketball</u> 8:30pm
Tue., Nov. 26	<u>Catholic Social Justice Class</u> 7pm, Room 206 <u>Women's Faith Ministry</u> 7:30pm Rms 201, 213 <u>RCIA</u> 7:30pm, Room 107
Wed., Nov. 27	<u>Catholic Social Justice Class</u> 10am, Room 206 <u>TMIY</u> 7pm, Room 202 <u>Bible Study</u> 7pm Room 113
Thu., Nov. 28	<u>Rosary Group</u> 7pm, Church
Fri., Nov. 29	<u>Baptism Class</u> , 7pm, conference room
Sat., December 1	<u>TMIY</u> 6:30am
Sun., December 2	<u>Adult Basketball</u> 8:30pm

Masses for the Week

+ deceased

Saturday, Nov. 24

9:00 am

Saint Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions

Maralan O'Neil

Saturday, Nov. 24

5:00 pm

Sunday, Nov. 25

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:15 pm

5:00 pm

Monday, Nov. 26

9:00 am

Tuesday, Nov. 27

6:30 am

Wed., Nov. 28

9:00 am

Thursday, Nov. 29

6:30 am

Friday, Nov. 30

6:30 am

12:00 noon

Saturday, Dec. 1

9:00 am

Saturday, Dec. 1

5:00 pm

Sunday, Dec. 2

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:15 pm

5:00 pm

Vigil: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

+ Mary Breiding

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

+ Jim Dueppen

+ Nicola Arduini

People of the Parish

Father Escalante

Father Mullaney

Weekday

Joann Kamp

Weekday

The Magin Kids

Weekday

Parish Widows and Widowers

Weekday

Tim Magin

Saint Andrew

Lottie Szemborski

+ Genara Gutierrez

Weekday, First Saturday

+ Margaret Pesavento

Vigil: First Sunday of Advent

Matthew and Maureen Szemborski

Vigil: First Sunday of Advent

+ Neal Brown

Leo Phillips

+ Robert Schilling

People of the Parish

Julia Drahzal

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5; Ps 24:1bc-4ab, 5-6; Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Rv 14:14-19; Ps 96:10-13; Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Rv 15:1-4; Ps 98:1-3ab, 7-9; Lk 21:12-19
Thursday:	Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 21:20-28
Friday:	Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
Saturday:	Rv 22:1-7; Ps 95:1-7ab; Lk 21:34-36
Sunday:	Jer 33:14-16; Ps 25:4-5, 8-10, 14; 1 Thes 3:12 — 4:2; Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Mass Celebrant Schedule

Saturday, November 24

5pm: Fr. Mullaney

Sunday, November 25

7am: Fr. Mullaney

8:30am: Fr. Mullaney

10:30am: Fr. Escalante

12:15pm: Fr. Escalante

5pm: Fr. Escalante

Saturday, December 1

5pm: Fr. Escalante

Sunday, December 2

7am: Fr. Escalante

8:30am: Fr. Escalante

10:30am: Fr. Mullaney

12:15pm: Fr. Mullaney

5pm: Fr. Mullaney



Successful Parish Hoe Down!

Last Saturday we had a very successful “Autumn Harvest Hoe Down” sponsored by the parish’s CHRSM Ministry (Catholic Homeschool Resource & Support Ministry). It was very well attended and the participants had loads of fun! It was so entertaining to watch parishioners and guests from all ages take part in square dancing. The chili cookoff was also very exciting as the parish “chefs” proudly competed against each other as to who will win the best chili of the night recognition. All the chili was reportedly very good but Amy Grady outdid them all. Congratulations, Amy! And thank you all who helped make this event possible and for the excellent clean up job afterwards.

New Homeless Ministry Coordinator

We thank Mark & Tracy Ippoliti for accepting the invitation to coordinate the Parish Homeless Ministry! And thank you so much to Meghan Christian for pioneering this new program and leading it to a very successful start. Meghan’s family recently moved to Leesburg but will remain active in the ministry. There are new plans being discussed including identifying and helping the homeless in our local area. For more info or to volunteer, please contact Mark & Tracy at Mark.ippoliti@gmail.com & Tracy.ippoliti@gmail.com.

Get ready for Advent

Our bulletin contains many ways you can offer your service to the church. Perhaps this Advent Season you’ll find a way to connect with Our Lord Jesus in a special way by giving some of your time to assist the various missions of the parish. Read the bulletin from cover to cover every week and perhaps there’s something there that will resonate with your mind and heart.

I hope you all had a wonderful celebration of *Thanksgiving* with your loved ones last Thursday!

Your shepherd in Christ,
Father Escalante

Keep CHRIST In Christmas

Evangelize this year with wonderful religious Christmas cards available in the Narthex after Sunday Masses beginning the weekend before Thanksgiving (Nov. 17 & 18). Buy then when purchases of \$30 or more will receive a free KCIC car magnet (value of \$4) while supplies last. To see a list of available cards go to: www.ChristisCHRISTmas.com. For more information contact Steve DeVita at sdevita@aol.com.

Ask the Priest

Q. Why is there a picture of Saint Jane de Chantal with Saint Francis de Sales in our church (sanctuary)? –Holly

A. The theme of the church interior is about the life and era of *Saint Francis de Sales*. That explains why our new church sanctuary has the late 16th century European French baroque for its design. *Saint Francis de Sales* co-founded the *Visitation Order* of nuns with *Saint Jane Frances de Chantal* in 1610. That’s why they are often painted together especially in churches.

Q. What makes the holy water...”holy”? –Leah

A. Once regular water is blessed, it is no longer just water. It becomes *holy water* and can be used for various blessings. Holy water is one of the many *sacramentals* of the church. It is important to bless one’s self with holy water because if we are in the state of grace some of the spiritual benefits we can obtain are: personal sanctification, remission of venial sins, protection from evil, avoidance of sin, etc.

Q. How did the Earth start? –Liam Seeley

A. God created the universe and the Earth was part of the component that was made to sustain life. A big massive explosion caused the universe to form stars surrounded by planets. Our star is the sun and the planet that formed around it where we are was named: *Earth*. It’s not wrong to believe that there may be life in other planets but the only one we’re aware of the presence of life is right here on Earth. It may sound strange to some believers of creation but the so-called *Big Bang Theory* is a very plausible theory as to how the universe began. What a lot of people aren’t aware of is that the *Big Bang Theory* was first scientifically proposed in 1927 by a devout and brilliant Belgian physicist and mathematician by the name of *Father Georges Lemaitre*. He collaborated with the famous *Albert Einstein* on various scientific theories. So contrary to popular opinion, belief in the *Big Bang Theory* is not an atheistic substitute for creationism. The theory was formulated by a Catholic priest who believed in God and celebrated Mass that miraculously changed bread and wine into the body and blood of Jesus Christ—who co-created the universe with God the Father & God the Holy Spirit! Recently, I was introduced to a writing by a 13th century Catholic theologian, *Robert Grosseteste*, who philosophically explained in his treatise, *De Luce (On Light, 1225 AD)*, that the universe began with a massive explosion that caused a crystallization that formed the stars and the planets. In summary, the big bang concept that began the creation of the universe has been taught and formulated for many centuries by God-believing philosophers and scientists.

COURAGE a group that assists individuals with same-sex attractions to live chaste lives according to the teachings of the Catholic Church, meets in the Diocese of Arlington. Meetings are for men and women and strict confidentiality is maintained. For more info: courage@arlingtondiocese.org and www.couragerc.net

HOLY FATHER’S PRAYER INTENTIONS - NOVEMBER 2017

Universal – In Service of Peace

That the language of love and dialogue may always prevail over the language of conflict.

2018 Annual Parish Christmas Collection for Catholic Charities is Coming Up. Your Generosity is Deeply Appreciated!

As you think about the many blessings you and your family have received, please consider making a special sacrificial gift to support those in need in our diocese by making a gift to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington. Look for a special insert/ contribution envelope in the parish bulletin next weekend. Please put a check in the collection basket and note Christmas Collection/ Catholic Charities on the memo line or make a gift online at www.ccda.net.

COAT DRIVE for KIDS

The Knights of Columbus are collecting Coats for Kids. Clean, gently used or new. Please deposit your items in the box located in the Narthex.

SENIOR LUNCHEON

Because of the upcoming holidays, there will not be a Senior Luncheon on Tuesday, November 27 or Tuesday, December 28. The next Luncheon will be **Tuesday, December 4**, and we will return to our regular schedule on the last Tuesday of the month in January.

Our thoughts and prayers are with ...



Our Military Members:

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

The Sick: Dominic Corcoran, Jack Lehtonen, Mary Jane Arens, Zach Miller, Phyllis Heller, Madeline Gonzalez, Mike O'Brien, Bill and Valerie Wieliczko, Sarah Nolan, Liz Keller

The Deceased: Sophie and Pedro Macaraeg, Rita Hockenbury, Kim Castellano, David Young, Philippe Laffitte-Smith, Shannon Stodar, Edward Versprille, Nancy Anderson, Arthur Busher, Jim Dueppen, Dorothy Gessner, Ellen Delaney, Daniel Duggan, Bud Nolan

*** PASTOR'S WISH LIST ***

• **New Altar Guild members needed**—The *Altar Guild* volunteer crew prepares our beautiful new sanctuary ready for the Sunday & Holy Day Masses. No experience necessary and Altar Guild coordinator, *Laura Burgess*, will gladly train new members. The Saturday morning duty includes flower arrangements and light spot cleaning to prepare the altar and the sanctuary for the celebration of the Mass. Please contact Laura Burgess to volunteer for this very important duty and care for Our Lord's sacred house of worship: llburgess@verizon.net

• **Boxing Team for Boys being formed in the parish!**—There are at least three parishes in the diocese this year that have a boys' boxing team so we are now forming our own Saint Francis de Sales Boys' Boxing Team! No boxing experience is necessary and I now have at least two trainers who are willing to teach the kids the art of boxing. Gloves and headgear will be used during sparring. If interested in participating, including adult boxing trainers and monitors, please contact me directly. To comply with child safe and protection I will need a few adult monitors on hand. Monitors don't need to have boxing experience.

• **Oberammergau/Divine Mercy European Pilgrimage in 2020** -- There is a *Passion Play* that's held in a German town of *Oberammergau* once every ten years for nearly 400 years that pilgrims have been attending. Our parish trip is set for August 11-22, 2020. Included in this 11-day package is a visit to the *Divine Mercy Shrine* in Krakow, *Black Madonna* in Czestochowa, Prague, Salzburg, Vienna and Munich. *Nauvas International* customized our Oberammergau/Eastern Europe trip and offered us the early-bird discount rate of \$4699 per person (we depart from Dulles). So far **28** have signed up for the trip and if you're interested in joining us please return the bottom portion of the flyer to parish or contact me directly. To get the special rate I need your \$200 deposit. I've seen comparable rates costing nearly \$7k!

• **Looking for Ushers for the "New Ushering Ministry"**—*Pat Orender* is heading the new ushering ministry and we're looking for new ushers to serve the parish community to help the worshipers who come to Mass. This will be a great opportunity to volunteer in the parish. We need more adult volunteers but we also welcome *Junior Ushers* (young kids) to serve with the adults. Contact Pat to sign up: theorenders@gmail.com

• **Donate to our new Ambo (Pulpit)** I'm inviting you to donate any amount for the new Ambo (Pulpit) and be a part of the "Book of Life Circle." Donations of \$1k or more will give you the option to add a dedication to our future Memorial Wall to be displayed in the narthex. We need \$35k for this important part of the sanctuary where we hear the Word of God proclaimed. As of November 2, 2018, we have received \$23,000. (See July 30, 2017 Shepherd's Notes re the Ambo.)

• **Pipe Organ" donation**—Help us pay for the church organ that was installed in April 2017. We have received \$48,810 & now owe just \$68,890 for this beautiful organ!

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

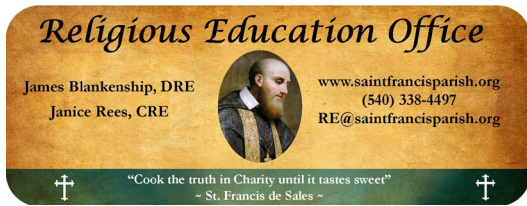
• **Hosting the Pilgrim Virgin statue sign up**—You can now schedule to sign up for hosting the *Pilgrim Virgin* in your home. Go to saintfrancisparish.org/hosting-the-pilgrim-virgin/ and pick a date. Then just sign up at j.rees@saintfrancisparish.org and pick up the statue in the chapel after the Sunday Mass you attend and return it no later than Saturday afternoon for the next person to host our *Blessed Mother*. Great blessings will come along your way when you invite *Our Lady* and pray the rosary in your home. She will not be outdone in generosity!

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

Got 'em!

• A big Thank You to **Mark & Tracy Ippoliti** for accepting God's call to lead the parish Homeless Ministry. This is a great act of love to the needy and there are plans now to seek the homeless in our local area & how we may help them.

• We reached our 3-year 100k goal for the *Rosary Challenge!* On **10.13.2018**, we have surpassed the **100k** goal of rosaries prayed when we received the final tally of **104,885!** Thank you so much for your participation and keep praying the rosary daily, faithful children of Our Lady. You and the parish will truly be blessed!



Small Change. Big Impact. Advent Baby Bottles

Please help us support those facing unplanned pregnancies through the 2018 Religious Education Advent/Christmas Baby Bottle Drive. We will have baby bottles in the classrooms on the first class of Advent, please take a bottle, fill it with your loose change, cash or check. This project will go through the Epiphany. All monies will directly support the free, life-affirming programs offered at Birthright of Loudoun County. It is a great way to get the entire family involved and goes a long way in reaching the women and babies within the community. Thank you for your participation.

Follow Bishop Burbidge

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

Euro-American Student Alliance, a local cultural exchange organization, is seeking host families for a group of Austrian and French teens who will be visiting Purcellville from March 30-April 8, 2019. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Francesca Contento, program coordinator, at 240-575-4898 or francesca@euro-american.net.

This is part of ongoing catechesis about the Extraordinary Form of the Mass, which is often times called the Traditional Latin Mass. Excerpt takes from EXPLANATION OF THE PRAYERS AND CEREMONIES OF HOLY MASS by Dom Gueranger. (www.liturgia-latina.org/benedictine/holymass.htm#pref)

Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam: We give thee thanks for thy great glory. The better to take in the deep meaning of these few words, let us remember that God vouchsafes to make it a glory to Himself to bestow His favors upon us. The greatest of these is the Incarnation; and the Incarnation is His greatest glory. Hence, the Church might well say to Him: We give thee thanks, because of Thy great glory; The homage paid by the Word Incarnate, even in what might be thought the least of his adorations, procures more glory to the Divine Majesty, than all created beings, unitedly, could do. Truly, therefore, the Incarnation is the great glory of God. And we His creatures give Him thanks for it; because if the Son of God became Incarnate, it was for us, it was because of us, that He did so. Yes, it is for us, that Thou, O God, achieved the mystery which gives Thee the greatest glory: it is most just, then, that we thank Thee for it. Gratias agimus tibi, propter magnam gloriam tuam!

MOUNT2000 – Sign ups are now open for Mount2000! February 8-10, 2019, hosted by Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD. Three days of nationally-renowned, teen-oriented Catholic speakers, Mass, Adoration, opportunities for Confession, getting to know seminarians, vocation exploration, awesome music and worship, and SO much fun! \$85 before 11/30, and \$90 after 11/30. E-mail e.glass@saintfrancisparish.org to sign up or get more info! All high schoolers are invited!

NO YOUTH NIGHT - There will be no Youth Night on November 25th, the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

HOMELESS SHELTER – We will be cooking for the homeless shelter on Monday, December 10th from 4:30-6pm, in the Education Center kitchen.

5PM MASS – Every Sunday at 5pm, join us in the front 4 left rows to celebrate Mass together. All high school students are welcome!

YOUTH NIGHT – Join us on Sundays from 6-8pm for fellowship, food, and fun. Bring a friend!! All high schoolers are welcome! Come to grow in friendship with Christ and one another.

BIBLE STUDY FOR HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS – Join us at Market St. Coffee on Wednesdays from 5-6pm for Bible study. There will be no Girls Bible Study on Wednesday, November 21st or December 5th.

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



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

MAC-PAC (Middle Schoolers Acting in Christ – Prayer, Action, Charity) is for 6th, 7th and 8th graders. The goal is to inspire, to grow our love for God and neighbor, and to provide fellowship for the Middle School youth of St. Francis De Sales. We usually meet the 2nd Sunday of the month. Watch this column for upcoming events!

Religious Education Calendar

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 25

Sunday **NO CLASS**
Monday [Grades K-8th](#) - 4:45pm
Wednesday [Grades K-8th](#) - 4:45pm

WEEK OF DECEMBER 2

Sunday [Grades 1st-8th Session 1](#) - 8:45am
[Grades K-8th Session 2](#) - 10:30am
Monday [Grades K-8th](#) - 4:45pm
Wednesday [Grades K-8th](#) - 4:45pm

ST. FRANCIS COUNCIL 11136 NEWS



Next Council Meeting: Our next Council Business Meeting will be on Monday, December 10, at 7:30pm. We will pray our Rosary in the chapel beginning at 7pm. Any parishioner is welcomed to join our Rosary!

Keep Christ in Christmas Cards on Sale: The Keep Christ in Christmas Cards went on sale Sunday, November 18th. They are on sale after every Mass in the narthex of the church. The Knights are looking to sell every card in their stock by December 9th. Please help us out with this worthy fund raiser.

Share Sunday Pickup from OLOH: The St. Francis Food Warrior team picked up from Our Lady of Hope parish in Sterling and transferred to Catholic Charities in Leesburg a total of 2,340 pounds of donated food on November 7th. Well done Food Warrior team!!!

Share Sunday Collection the Weekend of November 10/11: The St. Francis Food Warrior team delivered a total of 1,341 pounds of food to Catholic Charities in Leesburg that was collected over the second weekend in November. Thank you to all the parishioners who donated the food.

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, December 2nd, the Knights of Columbus will have their first Sunday of the Month Pancake Breakfast. The breakfast will begin after the 7:00 am mass and run through the end of the 10:30 am mass. As before, the Knights accept free-will donations.

Have You Ever Considered Becoming a Knight and Helping Others in Your Parish and Community?: Find out how you can be a part of the largest Catholic men's organization in the world. With nearly 2 million members and growing, discover how the Knights can support you, your family, your faith and your community. Contact GK Tracy Beglau or Chancellor Scott Grimard (Grimster845@gmail.com), or look for any man wearing a Knights of Columbus name badge. The needs are many, but the laborers are few.

May God bless you!

Tracy Beglau, Grand Knight
St. Francis Council #11136

knightsofcolumbusfrancis11136@gmail.com

Oplatki Christmas Wafers (Oplatek)

Oplatki (blessed by Fr. Escalante) are once again available this year, FREE (one per family - donations are accepted). Stop by the Knights' Christmas Card table and start or continue your own family tradition. The tradition of the Oplatki originated in 10th century Poland. Just as we share in the Eucharist as one body in Christ and receive Jesus and His love through the Eucharist, Oplatki allows for family and friends to come together and to share the love they have for one another. This is a heartwarming tradition that will complete your family's time together during the Christmas season.

The Ladies Auxiliary News



Sunday, December 2 - Join us as we help the Knights with the pancake breakfast. We're adding a fun Cake Walk and entertaining the children in the rear of the gym!

Saturday, December 8 - More baked goods will be needed at the Bake Sale during the Christmas Market Village.

Email ladiesaux11136@gmail.com! if you have questions or comments.

COUNSELING OFFERED AT SFDS

Jennifer Barry, LCSW from Catholic Charities' Family Services will begin taking appointments offering Individual, Family or Couples Counseling on Wednesdays at St. Francis de Sales. Jennifer is a licensed clinical social worker who received her Master of Social Work (MSW) from the Catholic University of America. If you would like to schedule an appointment with her, please contact Family Services at 703-425-0109.



We delivered 14 bins of food and gift cards to purchase turkeys and fresh produce to 14 local families for Thanksgiving. All were so very appreciative. Our upcoming Advent Service Project will be the baby bottle campaign for Birthright. Thank you to our generous Religious Education families!

THE MINISTRY OF PRAISE

St. Francis de Sales' group of dedicated people of prayer, is on its third decade of service. The faithful team of seniors and the homebound pray fervently for the needs of our parish with amazing results. We are currently inviting anyone interested in joining our team to contact Angela at the St. Francis de Sales office (please designate Ministry of Praise on e-mail). Those who wish to have concerns prayed for may write their prayers and slip them into the Ministry of Praise box attached to the wall in the Narthax. You can also visit our webpage at www.saintfrancisparish.org/prayer-requests/ and fill out the form and send the request on-line.

Diocesan Resource Page on Recent Events Available

The Catholic Diocese of Arlington website includes a resource page where parishioners can access information regarding the recent events affecting the Church. Read the policies on child protection and responses to the crisis from Bishop Burbidge and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops at www.arlingtondiocese.org/childprotection

Come ponder the mysteries of the Rosary Tuesday Nights from 7:30 – 9pm. Join us for one or all of the Mysteries! The resource we are using is Take Up & Read's PONDER, which is available on Amazon.



We will begin with the Luminous Mysteries
 November 27th – The Preaching in the Kingdom
 December 4th – The Transfiguration
 December 11th – The Institution of the Eucharist
 To sign up email katiemagin@gmail.com or jen@thehouses.us

Another Successful Blood Drive

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we would like to acknowledge and thank all the blood donors from the St. Francis de Sales parish and also our wonderful neighbors in the community for their generous donations this past year. The Blood Drive from this past Sunday, November 18th had 63 donors and finished our 6th Drive for 2018. This is the 25th year of the St. Francis de Sales Blood Drive and many dedicated people have worked together to keep the Blood Drive flourishing. The next Drive is on Sunday, January 13th at the Purcellville Fire and Rescue Station. Thank you to everyone who donates the gift of life!

Weekly Diocesan TV Mass Brings the Mass to Homebound

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



November is Feed the Hungry Month Share Sunday Fall Harvest Collection

Because of the ongoing urgent need for food, we are challenging each family of Saint Francis to do the most they can in terms of donating food. The "Fall Harvest" is a Diocesan-wide effort to come together as a diocese, as a community of faith, to fight hunger.



Parish Homeless Ministry



In this Holiday season, we all have much to be thankful for if we look in our own backyards! Thank you to the ladies of Soulstitch for the beautiful baby blankets, given to unwed mothers the Sisters of Charity care for. With so many of your food donations for the Soup Kitchen as well as the sheets, blankets, pillows and towels (new please!) for the Christ House men's shelter, we do make a difference. Monday November 26 will be the last day for collection of these items. Our next Soup Kitchen day is Saturday December 8, 8:30-12:30, come join us!

Upcoming Service Opportunities:

Many thanks to all of the new volunteers, husbands and teens alike, for their help at the St. Teresa of Calcutta D.C. Soup Kitchen on November 10. The guests were very appreciative of our healthy lunches, and the Sisters are most grateful for all we do. Our next serving will be on **Saturday, December 8** from 8:30 to 11:15am. There are several ways to help: you may prepare food in your home, casseroles, muffins, salads and rolls etc for us to take to the Soup Kitchen to serve; and or join us in the kitchen in DC to prepare and serve on site. We can carpool!" .

On **Saturday, December 8**, join the Archdiocese of Washington's Catholic Charities at the Cup of Joe Breakfast Bagging events in Landover, MD, assembling breakfast bags for the homeless from 9 to 11am. Without these bags, homeless guests at area shelters would have no morning meal. Enjoy working the fast-paced assembly line for a great cause! Register at www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteercalendar/cup-joe-breakfast-bagging/all/

Tracy Ippoliti - Tracy.ippoliti@gmail.com 703-727-4125
 Mark Ippoliti - Mark.ippoliti@gmail.com 571-748-8584

Please contact us if you have any questions to be added to our mailing list.

St Francis de Sales Catholic Church
 Our Lady of Victory Hall
 37730 Saint Francis Court, Purcellville

Christmas Market Village

Saturday, December 8th
 10am-5pm

Shop! Eat! Music! Fun for Kids!

Vendors welcome! Contact Cheryl Rider at chercher4@gmail.com
 Visit website saintfrancisparish.org for vendors Contract and Rules

Project Rachel Post

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

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