

# Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church

6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME      FEBRUARY 12, 2023



*Fifteen teens from our Youth Group at Mount 2000 with parishioner and seminarian Andrew Lewondowski*

## Parish Staff

Reverend James Gould, Pastor  
Reverend John Heisler, Parochial Vicar  
Mr. Larry Hammel, Deacon  
Mrs. Amy Harrison, Business Manager  
Mrs. Leslie Sheldon, Office Manager  
Mrs. Diane Taylor, DRE - Director of Religious Ed  
Mrs. Janice Rees, CRE, Sunday Bulletin, Website  
Mrs. Lindsay Glass, Director of Youth Ministry  
Mr. Michael Galdo, Director of Music  
Mrs. Laura Burgess, Sacristan  
Mr. Tim McGinn, Facilities Manager  
Mr. Jerry Jones, Custodian  
Mrs. Maria Alvarenga, Custodian  
Mr. Antonio Alvarenga, Custodian

## Contact Info

Parish Office - 540-338-6381  
office email - [l.sheldon@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.sheldon@saintfrancisparish.org)  
Religious Education Office - 540-338-4497  
RE email - [RE@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto: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](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)

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

## 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

## Benediction/Adoration

Friday - Adoration is held every Friday following the 12noon Mass through the evening and overnight until Saturday morning before the 9am Mass  
Wednesday Holy Hour at 7pm

## Sacraments

### Confessions:

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

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

Baptism: Baptisms are held on Sundays at 1:30pm. Baptism class is the Friday before the 3rd Sunday of the month 7pm. Call the office for details.

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

## 6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 12, 2023

"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow."

- Mt 5:33

### 2023 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA) Commitment Weekend

2023 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA): "My soul rejoices in the Lord." This weekend each household is asked to make a BLA pledge or gift. This appeal provides an opportunity to unite as a Catholic family to support programs, ministries and services helping tens of thousands of people.

After reflecting upon God's blessings to you, please consider a BLA pledge. You may complete a pledge card at Mass, mail in your pledge, go online to [www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/BLA) or scan the QR code below to make a gift.



Catholics believe marriage to be a sacrament. By this we mean that the faithful love of husband and wife is a sign of Christ's lasting love for us. On this World Marriage Day, let us pray that those who are married seek to bring each other closer to heaven each day.

SAVE THE DATE!

### Vacation Bible School - July 10-14

EGYPT Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace

Watch for the sign up for volunteers next week.

Registration for campers will begin May 1.

### This Week

Mon. Feb. 13	<u>Knights of Columbus Business Mtg.</u> 7pm, Knights hall <u>Catholicism 101</u> 5pm, Knights Hall <u>RCIA</u> 7pm, Room
Wed., Feb. 15	<u>SoulStitch</u> 9:30am, Knights Hall <u>TMIY</u> 7pm Room 202 <u>Holy Hour for Miraculous Medal</u> 7pm, Church
Fri., Feb. 17	<u>Women's Prayer Group</u> 7am, Chapel <u>Moms Group Playdate</u> 9:30am, OLVH
Sat., Feb. 18	<u>TMIY</u> 6:30am, OLVH

## Masses for the Week

+ deceased

Sat., Feb. 11

9:00 am

Sat., Feb. 11

5:00 pm

Sun., Feb. 12

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:15 pm

5:30 pm

Mon., Feb. 13

6:30 am

8:30 am

Tue., Feb. 14

6:30 am

8:30 am

Wed., Feb. 15

6:30 am

8:30 am

Thu., Feb. 16

6:30 am

8:30 am

Fri., Feb. 17

6:30 am

12:00 pm

Sat., Feb. 18

9:00 am

Sat., Feb. 18

5:00 pm

Sun., Feb. 19

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:15 pm

5:30 pm

**Weekday**

+ Ronald Rome

**Vigil: 6th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

+ Daniel Allan Coates

**6th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

+ Mr. John D. Farmer

Kathy Borowski

Glenn and Joanna Willard

People of the Parish

+ Eunice Weaver

**Weekday**

+ Tom Cousins

+ Jerome Miles

**Saints Cyril and Methodius**

+ Francis and Mary Power

Brendan Sheilds

**Weekday**

+ Fr. Tewes

William Beatty

**Weekday**

+ Sharon Liddicoat

+ Logan Alexander Files

**Weekday**

+ Cathy Mitchell

+ John Bischoff, Jr.

**Weekday**

+ Cynthia Ann Dixon

**Vigil: 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

+ Wanda Brown-Sloyer

**7th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

Lina Cahan

Nan Gingras

Glenn and Joanna Willard

+ Maureen McCarley

People of the Parish

## Readings for the Week

Sun:	Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34 (1b)/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37
Mon:	Gn 4:1-15, 25/Ps 50:1 and 8, 16bc-17, 20-21/Mk 8:11-13
Tue:	Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10/Ps 29:1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b and 9c-10/Mk 8:14-21
Wed:	Gn 8:6-13, 20-22/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 18-19/Mk 8:22-26
Thu:	Gn 9:1-13/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23/Mk 8:27-33
Fri:	Gn 11:1-9/Ps 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15/Mk 8:34-9:1
Sat:	Heb 11:1-7/Ps 145: 2-3, 4-5, 10-11/Mk 9:2-13

Dear Folks,

Please allow a sober note of concern. Three times in the last three years we have found Sacred Hosts, from Communion at Mass, left in a book, on the floor below a pew people were sitting and broken in multiple pieces and left in the book rack of a pew. The most recent setting for the desecration of a host took place in the eighth pew, on the St. Joseph side of the pews. In this case location is not everything. We don't know if the host was received by a Catholic and came from a recent Mass, or possibly a non-Catholic who attended a distant liturgical event like a wedding or funeral. In the first case there may have been malice and ignorance in the second case. It all falls back upon our firm conviction as Catholics... the host is the true body of Christ, body and blood, soul and divinity. Let us pray we never forget that and treat the Lord with utmost respect and devotion.

We are back to the annual Bishop Lenten Appeal, BLA. I have yet to notice what our parish goal is but I am sure it will be a pretty penny. I heartily encourage all our families to give to the collection. I will offer more on the subject in a coming parish letter. I am drawn back to my memories with Fr. Bertrand DeMargerie SJ when I served as his altar server. It is so important for the priest, in persona Christi, to know how to beg. An essential attribute to Christ who shows how He came to serve and not be served. I beg one and all to please be generous to this most important collection.

Speaking of begging, Lent is coming soon and we will start off with our annual parish Forty Hours Devotion. Fr. William Kuchinsky, administrator of St. Peter's Catholic church in Harper's Ferry will direct our Forty Hours devotions this year. It will start on Sunday February 19th, at 7:00 PM, following the 5:30 PM Mass. The Blessed Sacrament will be set on the altar for the next two days. Services will take place Monday and Tuesday Nights at 7:00 PM. A sign-up sheet will be placed in the front Fourier of the church for each family to pick an hour..

The origin of Forty Hours came around a thousand years ago with the threats imposed on the walled in city of Milan, Italy. An invading army threatened to attack so the Blessed Sacrament was placed on the altar for Forty Hours, representing the darkest hours in history when Christ was set in the Tomb. As we do not pray for from protection from outside invaders we pray the Lord to protect us from threats within our hearts and souls. Let us please pray for one another.

Heads up, as Lent comes with Ash Wednesday we will re-introduce Evening Confessions during the weekdays at 7:00 PM. On Wednesday the Confessions will be at 8:00 PM, following the weekly 7:00 holy hour. True to form, in honor of the Redemptorists who used to lead our local parishes in prayers and devotions they would remind us they would give ten dollars to anyone who could tell them a sin they have never heard before. Hmmm? Please bring yourselves to the box.

And lastly, you will notice a new emergency door is being set up at the front of the church. It won't be long now.

**Collegiate Question.** Where and when was the school fire that killed 92 kids and three Sisters many years ago. Good hunting. And yes Little Virginia, it was a Catholic school.



Below are the names of people who died during the month of February from our parish since the time St. Francis de Sales became a parish in 1967. Scripture tells us to pray for the living and the dead. Let us commend to the Lord's mercy the following:

*Shelby Decker, February 3, 2021*

*Thomas Francis Moorcones, February 9, 2020*

*Michael Frederick Konopa, February 9, 2019*

*Robert Francis Krill, February 26, 2016*

*Gertrude Heelan - February 24, 2014*

*Mary Mulvihill - February 7, 2013*

*John Hohenstein - February 6, 2013*

*Michael Mallen - February 21, 2012*

*Angelina Orndorff - February 28, 2012*

*Ines Carpenter - February 19, 2010*

*James Lanaghan - February 21, 2009*

*Jose Joaquin Vera Tudela - February 13, 2009*

*Janet Lorraine Law - February 7, 2009*

*Andrew Michael Wilson - February 6, 2009*

*Anthony Giuggio - February 3, 2008*

*Carl Niederpruem - February 16, 2005*

*William Walter Wolf - February 14, 2004*

*Charles Edward Lloyd - February 16, 2003*

*Jerome Joseph Butts - February 21, 2003*

*Thomas Michael Moran - February 24, 2003*

*Katharine Myer Tormey - February 1, 1999*

*Mary Margaret Rust - February 11, 1999*

*Elizabeth Ann Clapp - February 17, 1998*

*Betty MacCampbell - February 6, 1996*

*Hillary Anne Scannell - February 10, 1994*

*Lucy Bartoldus - February 17, 1994*

*Judith Ann Gunnells - February 10, 1993*

*Vera M. Kurtenbach - February 16, 1986*

*Ferrell Taylor Williams - February 18, 1986*

*Elizabeth Wise S. Case - February 20, 1980*

*Robert J. Carruthers - Feb. 13, 1978*

*Ruby G. Leffingwell - Feb. 1, 1970*

## Our thoughts and prayers are with ...



### Our Military Members:

SGT Peter Audi, MAJ Andrew Cahan, SGT Ernesto Castro, LCpl Paul Cotter, LT Scott Cypher, CPT Patrick Godfrey, CPT Ryan Patrick Grady, 2LT Patrick Gutierrez, CPT Jamie (Jovene) Liddle; SSG Joshua Jovene, CPT Rachel (Jovene) Mallets, CPT Vincent Jovene, MAJ Chuck Marshall; SSG Tim Marshall, CPT Ross Mentzer; LCpl John Owen Patterson; PFC Jorge Pedroza, GY Sgt Jose Pedroza; Joe Pultro, 1Lt Matthew Ryan, LCpl Frankie Thyson, 1LT Jared Willard, PFC Joseph Jovene, A1C Joshua Wilk, 2LT Alexandra Goodnow

**The Sick:** Dominic Corcoran, Mary Jane Arens, Mike O'Brien, Sarah Nolan, Liz Keller; Joanne Harrington, Charles Williams, Patricia Naomi Alvarenga, Joe Graber, Rodney and Christina Huth, Candace Daly, Melissa Jewel, Peggy Johnson, Frederick Campos, Grace Costello, Daniel Ramirez, Cynthia Ramirez, Silvia Vizcarra, Elaine Marshall, Olga Howard, Diane Shirley

**The Deceased:** Ann Forrest, Nick Spadaccini, Pasquale Spera, Susan Keelor, Bob Zurschmeide, Jean Pelkey, Jeanne Sweet, Michael Craig, Edward Konchan, Patrick Gaine, Judith Miller, Jean Young, Colette Baine, Ellen Sullivan, Nicholas Misiti, Timothea Rainey, Mary Kay Madigan Ledue, Joan Jasinski, Heather Miles, Salome Torrijos



## St. Francis de Sales Religious Education

**PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO WAIT IN OUR WARM BUILDING DURING CLASSTIME:** Please feel free to come in from the cold and enjoy a warm beverage during class time. Hot coffee and tea will be available for all parents in the library. You are welcome to stay while your child is in class.

**REMINDER ABOUT PICK-UP PROCEDURE:** Parents, please remember that we prefer that you pick up your child from their classroom at the end of the session. Sunday RE families, be aware of Pancake Breakfast on the First Sundays of the month. It is very busy in the building! You will need to go to your child's classroom for pick up. The safety of the children, especially on Monday evenings when the parking lot is dark and very busy, is a priority. Children are not permitted to walk across the parking lot to meet a parent. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

### REMINDER FOR CONFIRMATION II STUDENTS

Confirmation Interviews will be starting February 21 through March 14. Please sign up for an interview by February 17 to get a time that is best for you. We will be filling in the slots with students who do not sign up on their own. Be sure to write down your time! We will not send home reminders. Please arrive five minutes early to your appointment!

### LOST AND FOUND

We have acquired a large collection of hoodies, jackets, hats, sneakers, pants, umbrellas, books and a lunchbox. They are laid out in the lobby of our building, please take a look and see if something belongs to you. All items will be taken to the Hospice Thrift Shop by March 1st if not claimed. Thanks!

### First Penance

Saturday, February 25, 10 am – 12 noon  
Assigned times slots have been emailed and are posted on the website

## Religious Education Calendar

### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 12

Sunday Pre-K - 8th Grades - 9-10:15am  
RCIT - 11-1:15pm  
9th - 12th Grades (Fr. Gould) - 4-5pm  
11th-12th Grades (Fr. Heisler) - 4-5pm  
Monday K - 8th Grades 5-6:15pm  
Catholicism 101 Adult Class - 5-6:15pm  
Wed Pre-K-5th - 3:30-4:45pm

### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 19 - NO CLASSES



Lindsay Glass  
Director of Youth Ministry  
540-338-6381 or  
[l.glass@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.glass@saintfrancisparish.org)

## High School

**SUNDAY YOUTH NIGHT:** ALL high schoolers are invited to Youth Nights most Sundays after 5:30pm Mass in room 213. Deepen your relationship with God, learn more about Jesus, and grow your desire for life-long discipleship with Him. Friends are welcome! Our next meeting is February 12 from 6:30-8:00pm.

**SOUPERBOWL SUNDAY:** Teens will collect donations in soup pots this weekend for the annual "Souperbowl" Collection Drive to benefit the Loudoun Emergency Homeless Shelter. Once a month, teens gather to cook a meal for the shelter. The Leesburg location feeds about 40 people every night in the warmer seasons, but in the winter that number rises to 80, their maximum capacity. \$2 per parishioner would pay for all of the meals we'll cook for the shelter this year. Thank you for your generosity!



**WORKCAMP:** WorkCamp is June 17-23, 2023 in Frederick County, VA, and registration is closing soon on 2/17! If you are an adult or teen currently in grades 9-12 and are interested in attending, reach out to Lindsay Glass or Shahin Uddin ([fami-lyuddin@gmail.com](mailto:fami-lyuddin@gmail.com)) ASAP! Our next WorkCamp Formation meeting is February 26th from 6:30-

8:00pm in the gym. Those planning to attend WorkCamp are required to attend. Come bring your gift to the altar!

**SPRING RETREAT:** March 3-5th at the Northern VA 4-H Center. Details to come!

**COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP:** Are you a student heading off to college who is passionate about sharing the faith? The Michael Burke Sr. Memorial Scholarship aims to encourage and empower young adults to be active witnesses of the Catholic faith. This will be done through the execution of a project, developed by the awarded recipients. Awardees will receive \$5000 per school year (\$2500 per semester) to help offset costs of tuition. For more information go to [www.youthapostles.org/scholarship](http://www.youthapostles.org/scholarship) Applications are due March 31st, 2023.

**REMIND APP:** Sign up to receive text message reminders and updates. Go to <https://remind.com/join/a4d636> or text @a4d636 to 81010.

**FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM:** stfdsyouthministry

## Middle School

Sunday, February 19th 6:30-8:00pm in the gym

"Friends"



Dinner will be provided.  
Spread the word and bring a friend!

For more information, contact Dan and Lindsay Glass at [l.glass@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.glass@saintfrancisparish.org)

## St. Francis Council 11136 News



**THANK YOU:** Thank you to all those who volunteered their time last weekend to support both the annual Car Raffle envelope stuffing event Saturday and the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday. Both events were very successful. Thank you to those this weekend who are collecting the Share Sunday food donations.

**COUNCIL DUES MAILED:** 2023 annual dues bills were mailed to all eligible members. Please look for the bill in your mail and please promptly provide your bill payment to the Council Financial Secretary.

**FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING:** We will hold our February Council Meeting on Monday 13 February at 7:30 in the Knights Hall, 7:00 pm we will pray the Rosary.

**VIRTUAL FRATERNAL BENEFITS NIGHT:** We will participate in a state level virtual Fraternal Benefits Night the evening of 23 February. More details to follow. To sign-up please email GK Jay Hallam at [gksf11136@gmail.com](mailto:gksf11136@gmail.com)

**COUNCIL SUPPORT TO YOUTH WORK CAMP:** The Council is supporting the Youth Work Camp in several ways. If you wish to volunteer to support please contact the GK Jay Hallam at [gksf11136@gmail.com](mailto:gksf11136@gmail.com) for more information.

### DID YOU KNOW:

Pope St. John Paul II sent many messages to the Knights expressing gratitude, solidarity, and pastoral guidance. Here is but one example: *"Whenever I think of the Knights of Columbus, I am reminded with joy of a rich heritage of faith, fraternity and service, and of a shining example of Catholic laity involved in the mission of the Church. And therefore, ... I encourage you to carry on the worthy traditions which are yours, even as St. Paul says, 'to make still greater progress' (1 Thes 4:1), seeking to be ever more attentive to the word of God and completely disposed to carry out God's will."*  
— Message to 101st Supreme Convention, Columbus, Ohio, July 21, 1983

It's easier than ever to join the KofC. For more information go to <http://www.kofc.org/join>

Jay Hallam, Grand Knight  
St. Francis Council #11136. [Knights11136@gmail.com](mailto:Knights11136@gmail.com);  
[www.facebook.com/knights11136/](http://www.facebook.com/knights11136/)

## Special Event- Community Mass for Special Needs

St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church and the *Joy of Life Apostolate* in coordination with the Knights of Columbus Council will be hosting a Mass for People with Special Needs on Saturday, March 4 at the 5pm Mass. People with special needs resulting from physical, emotional, mental, or cognitive conditions are all around us, whether at school, at work, or in our families. It can be challenging for these important members of our community to participate in church services due to physical and social barriers, or even family member anxiety.

As such, the *Joy of Life Apostolate* and the Knights of Columbus Council at St. Francis have designated the March 4, 5pm Mass for people with special needs and their families with a special reception to follow. Everyone is welcome to support our brothers and sisters. Please email [sfds11136@yahoo.com](mailto:sfds11136@yahoo.com) if you can attend, the number of people attending with you and if you need any special assistance so we can plan accordingly.

## Annual Men's Conference 2023 Saturday, March 4, 8:30am-2:30pm

### "My Soul Rejoices in the Lord"

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Herndon. Join Catholic men from around the Diocese for a day of prayer, fellowship and reflection. Keynotes include: Fr. Thomas Petri, OP, President of the Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception and prolific writer; and Tim Staples, Convert Apologist at Catholic Answers and author of *Behold Your Mother*. Sign-in begins at 7:30am with confessions, coffee and pastries. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Michael Burbidge at 11:15am. \$65 until February 1st; \$80 after. Register at [familylife@arlingtondiocese.org/men](mailto:familylife@arlingtondiocese.org/men).

## Annual Women's Conference Saturday, March 11, 8:30am-2:30pm

### "Love Rejoices in Truth"

Join women from around the diocese for an opportunity to be inspired, to connect with likeminded women and to raise our voices together in prayer. Come and hear Nikki Kingsley's remarkable conversion story. Hear how she, a devout Muslim, was guided by the voice of the Blessed Virgin Mary that would eventually lead her to Jesus and into the Catholic Church. Sign-in begins at 7:30am with confession, coffee and pastries. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Michael Burbidge at 11:15am St. Joseph Catholic Church, Herndon. \$65 until February 1st; \$80 after For inquiries, please email [familylife@arlingtondiocese.org/](mailto:familylife@arlingtondiocese.org/)

## Holy Father Prayer Intentions for February

### For parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

## SFDS MOM'S GROUP

Are you a mom with young kids looking to connect with other women in the parish? You are invited to join the Saint Francis de Sales Moms Group! We meet regularly for playdates, confession, and to study the Catholic faith together. Email Elise Daniel at [eliseannyx@gmail.com](mailto:eliseannyx@gmail.com) to get on the email list or for more info.

## Parish Homeless

*"We ourselves feel that what we are doing is just a drop in the ocean. But if that drop was not in the ocean, I think the ocean will be less because of that missing drop."*

- Mother Teresa



**A heartfelt thank you to all parishioners doing "ordinary things with extraordinary love" (Mother Teresa). The homeless ministry relies on your time and talent to help the hungry and homeless in our community.**

- We prepare and serve meals and provide necessities to the Missionary Sisters of Charity in Anacostia every 2nd Saturday of the month. All donated items are due to the Knights Hall the preceding Thursday by 2pm.

- Items due, February 9; meal delivered and served, February 11.

- We prepare and serve dinner at the Loudoun Homeless Shelter every 4th Thursday of the month. All items are due to the Knights Hall the preceding Wednesday by 5pm.

- Items due, February 22; meal delivered and served January 23.

- We prepare "blessing bags" for needy and homeless at the shelters and in the community. Watch for email updates for our upcoming blessing bag event!

Join us in works of charity by signing up to purchase items, make casseroles, bake cookies and cakes, or to transport meals and supplies. Contact one of us, and we will direct you to the Signup Genius lists:

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

## GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOOL

A Classical school, rooted in the Catholic Tradition and serving children PK through 8th grade in Purcellville. Our 2023-24 Admissions Season has begun, we are currently accepting applications for the 2023-2024 academic year. If you would like to learn more about the school, please join us for an open house:

- Tuesday, February 21, 3:30 pm

Please email our Admissions Director, Cathy Struder at [admissions@goodshepherdschoolva.com](mailto:admissions@goodshepherdschoolva.com), if you plan on attending.

## Women's Council Corner

*"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth." 1 Corinthians 13:4-6*



### Shrove Tuesday volunteer cooks needed

**Sunday, February 19th**

1:15pm in the PEC Kitchen

Give us a helping hand to prepare a HOMEMADE Italian Cuisine dinner with fresh meatballs, rolls & sauce. Signup Online.

### Next planning meeting-Monday, February 20th

6:30pm Rosary in the chapel | 7pm meeting in the Library.

All women of the parish are welcome to join to help create and plan our community events. Please join us as we could use your help!

### Shrove Tuesday Dinner - Tue., Feb 21st

5pm in the Knight's Hall

All parishioners are invited to the Shrove Tuesday Italian Cuisine hosted by the Women's Council. Join us for food & fellowship before lent. Fill your belly like it's your last as Ash Wednesday begins your fast! RSVP Online. Volunteer if you can!



### Next social- Garden Chit Chat & Seed Share - Monday, March 6th

7pm Room 207 Parish Education Center

Getting ready to plan your spring garden? Come share your expert knowledge with others just learning the basics. If you have any seeds or gardening items to trade, bring them for our seed share.

Please check our website for more details on each event.

[saintfrancisparish.org/womens-council](http://saintfrancisparish.org/womens-council) All women of the parish are members of the Women's Council. No dues or membership forms are required.

New to the parish or not getting our emails? Contact us: [womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com](mailto:womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com)



## Help for Troubled Marriages

Marriage Help -- Retrouvaille has helped thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. For confidential information about how to register for the program beginning on the weekend of February 17. Please call 703.351.7211 or visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org).

## COUNSELING OFFERED AT SFDS

Jennifer Barry, LCSW from Catholic Charities' Family Services will take appointments offering Individual, Family or Couples Counseling. Jennifer is a licensed clinical social worker who received her Master of Social Work (MSW) from the Catholic University of America. Jennifer can be reached for teletherapy or for a free consultation. If you are interested in scheduling a consultation, please contact her at 703-454-1004.

## Looking for a way to help support Women who Choose Life?

Birthright of Loudoun, a crisis pregnancy center in Leesburg, maintains an Amazon Gift Registry with a wish list of reasonably priced items most wanted by new moms in need. Access the registry at [www.amazon.com/registries/custom/JIJ2X48CEMTI/guest-view](http://www.amazon.com/registries/custom/JIJ2X48CEMTI/guest-view) or by going to Amazon.com, "Find a Gift", "Custom Gift List" and entering "Birthright of Loudoun".

If you prefer, cash donations can be sent to:  
Birthright of Loudoun, 16 Royal St, SE, Leesburg, VA 20175

## Seeking a New Executive Director

**Birthright of Loudoun**, located in historic Leesburg, VA, is a non-profit organization that provides counseling, resources, and material support for any woman who finds herself in an unexpected or crisis pregnancy.

The Director heads daily operations; recruits, trains and manages volunteers; cares for the needs of our clients; is responsible for fundraising and marketing initiatives; reports to the Board of Directors; and attends regional meetings and an annual international convention. A complete job description available upon request. Position available immediately.

For inquiries or to submit a resume, please email [birthrightoflo@gmail.com](mailto:birthrightoflo@gmail.com)

- 20 hour part-time paid position
- Salary commensurate with experience
- Conversational Spanish a plus but not required



## Day of Prayer and Healing After Abortion Retreat for Women

After Abortion Retreat: A Day of Prayer and Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be on Saturday, March 25, 2023. This group healing event is held in a private and peaceful setting, based on the Entering Canaan model. There will be an opportunity to hear from a past participant and others who have found healing. You are not alone. Take the first step. For confidential inquiries, please contact Project Rachel Ministry: (703) 841-2504 or [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org).

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

**Gabriel Project Pregnancy Assistance Ministry:**  
866-444-3553 or  
[info@helpforpregnantwomen.org](mailto:info@helpforpregnantwomen.org)

## UPCOMING BIBLE STUDIES

Bible Studies are held in Room 107 and are facilitated by Mrs. Jeanne Lamana. If interested, please contact Jeanne to register for the study and for further information.  
[jeannelamana@gmail.com](mailto:jeannelamana@gmail.com)

### Divine Mercy Part Two - starting March 1

8 sessions Wednesday, 7-8:30 pm; and Friday, 10-11:30am  
The Divine Mercy study will examine aspects of historical and political events, biblical prophecies, lives of Saints, and the timing of Pope John Paul II's declaration that "now is the time of God's Mercy". We will draw from Scripture, Church teachings, and the Diary of St. Faustina to reveal what is at the heart of Divine Mercy. God offers us the overflowing love from the Holy Trinity. We will come to a better understanding of why God has to be Trinitarian and that mercy is the highest form of love. We will analyze the deeper meaning of the Divine Mercy image and learn how sin interrupts our own "image and likeness" to God. Divine Mercy's relevance to our daily life will become clear as we find new ways to more fully respond to the Merciful love of God. All of our relationships will benefit from this discovery as we learn to accept it and imitate it.

### Consoling the Heart of Jesus - starting Feb. 27

10 sessions. Monday 10-11:30 am & Tuesday\* 7-8:30 pm  
(\*Tuesday women only)

How often do you ask God for something? Have you ever wondered if there was a way to give back to Him more than thanks for our many blessings. All of us can offer something significant back directly to Jesus for all he has given to us. Then, over time, watch how His grace increases and our soul begins to overflow with God's very essence as He empties himself out upon us. The result? Love, goodness, mercy and joy all increase as does our spiritual growth and union with the Body of Christ thru the Eucharist. The study, "Consoling the Heart of Jesus", gives us an awareness of God's infinite mercy and how we can give Him joy in return. We will learn the way to console His Sacred Heart by accepting His love, learning to love Him back and trusting in Him completely. The study also focuses on what to do with the suffering we all encounter, as well as the pain we experience in family members who have drifted from the faith.

### St. John's Separated and Divorced Ministry

This ministry at St. John's the Apostle invites all separated or divorced Catholics in the area to join us for fellowship, support, and spiritual growth. The group meets on the third Thursday of the month from 7:30-9:00pm in the Garden Room at the church. Please email [separated.divorced@stjohnleesburg.com](mailto:separated.divorced@stjohnleesburg.com) for more information.

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