

# Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time January 21, 2018



Great news: Pro-Life Groups vastly outnumber Planned Parenthood on campuses! (read Shepherd's Notes)

## Parish Staff

Rev. Ronald S. Escalante, Pastor  
Rev. Mark Mullaney, Parochial Vicar  
Deacon Larry Hammel  
Mrs. Amy Harrison, Business Manager  
Mrs. Angela Baker, Secretary  
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](mailto:secretary@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-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.

## 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  
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.

## Sacraments

**Reconciliation:** 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.

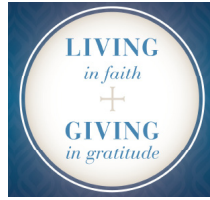
**Anointing of the Sick:** We are privileged to bring Holy Communion and administer the Holy Anointing to the sick and homebound upon request. Please call the office to let us know your needs.

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary time  
January 21, 2018**

The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.  
- Mark 1:15

**2018 Bishop's Lenten  
Appeal Begins**

This month many of us will receive a mailing from Bishop Burbidge regarding the 2018 Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA). The theme for the 2018 BLA is **"Living in Faith~Giving in Gratitude."** After reflecting upon the many blessings that God has given you, please prayerfully consider making a pledge to this important appeal that funds many programs and ministries that serve the people in our diocese. Together, through the BLA, let us renew our personal commitment to the Lord's work in our diocese.



**St. Francis de Sales Feast Day, Wednesday, January 24**

St. Francis's Feast Day is a Solemnity for our parish. You can receive an indulgence under the normal conditions: Mass, Confession and prayers for the Pope.

*The chains of grace are so powerful, and yet so sweet, that though they attract our heart, they do not shackle our freedoms.* —St. Francis de Sales

*This Week*

Sun., Jan. 21	<u>Adult Basketball</u> 8:30pm
Mon., Jan. 22	<u>Epic Bible Study</u> 7:340pm, Room 113
Tue., Jan. 23	<u>Adult Ed - Sacred Liturgy</u> 7pm, Rm 206 <u>WWP Opening Your Heart</u> 7:30pm <u>WWP Touching the Divine</u> 7:30pm <u>RCIA</u> 7:30pm, Rm 107
Wed., Jan. 24	<u>Adult Ed - Sacred Liturgy</u> 10am, Rm 206 <u>TMIY</u> 7pm <u>Bible Timeline</u> 7:30pm, Rm 113 <u>WWP Touching the Divine</u> 7:30pm
Thu., Jan. 25	<u>WWP Touching the Divine</u> 10am <u>Rosary Group</u> 7pm, Church <u>WWP Opening Your Heart</u> 7:30pm <u>WWP Touching the Divine</u> 7:30pm
Sat., Jan. 27	<u>TMIY</u> 6:30am, Our Lady of Victory

*Readings for the Week*

Monday:	2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20-22, 25-26; Mk 3:22-30, or any of a number of readings for the Day of Prayer
Tuesday:	2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7-10; Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday:	2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20
Thursday:	Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18
Friday:	2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 51:3-7, 10-11; Mk 4:26-34
Saturday:	2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17; Mk 4:35-41
Sunday:	Dt 18:15-20; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; 1 Cor 7:32-35; Mk 1:21-28

*Masses for the Week*

+ deceased

<u>Saturday, Jan. 20</u>	9:00 am
<u>Saturday, Jan. 20</u>	5:00 am
<u>Sunday, Jan. 21</u>	7:00 am
	8:30 am
	10:30 am
	12:15 pm
	5:00 pm
<u>Monday, Jan. 22</u>	
	9:00 am
<u>Tuesday, Jan. 23</u>	6:30 am
<u>Wed., Jan. 24</u>	9:00 am
<u>Thursday, Jan. 25</u>	6:30 am
<u>Friday, Jan. 26</u>	6:30 am
	12:00 noon
<u>Saturday, Jan. 27</u>	9:00 am
<u>Saturday, Jan. 27</u>	5:00 am
<u>Sunday, Jan. 28</u>	7:00 am
	8:30 am
	10:30 am
	12:15 pm
	5:00 pm

**Weekday**

Leo Phillips

**Vigil: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

+ Richard McCarthy

**3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

+ Landen Warren

+ Taffie Healey

+ Gina Judith

+ Oliviero Lanni

People of the Parish

**Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children**

John Bischoff

**Weekday**

Emmalee Laing

**Saint Francis de Sales**

The family of Jody Warren

**The Conversion of Saint Paul**

+ Landen Warren

**Saints Timothy and Titus**

Deceased members of the Slivonik family

+ Buddy Fuoco

**Weekday**

+ Patricia Pizano

**Vigil: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

+ Ann Fowler

**4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Fr. George Limmer

People of the Parish

+ Nicole Anduini

+ Oliviero Ianni

Julia Drazal

*Mass Celebrant Schedule*

**Saturday, January 20**

**5pm:** Fr. Escalante

**Sunday, January 21**

**7am:** Fr. Escalante

**8:30am:** Fr. Escalante

**10:30am:** Fr. Mullaney

**12:15pm:** Fr. Mullaney

**5pm:** Fr. Mullaney

**Saturday, January 27**

**5pm:** Fr. Mullaney

**Sunday, January 28**

**7am:** Fr. Mullaney

**8:30am:** Fr. Mullaney

**10:30am:** Fr. Escalante

**12:15pm:** Fr. Escalante

**5pm:** Fr. Escalante

*Parish Financial Status*

In-pew Offertory - January 14	\$ 13,531
2nd Collection - Religious Education	\$ 1,746
<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>	<b>\$ 634,475</b>
Parish Giving for December	
Offertory	\$ 47,441
Building Funds	\$ 4,504



## Pro-Life's bright light on campuses

It has been 11-1/2 years since I spent my last day as the Catholic Chaplain at the *University of Mary Washington*. One of my great memories from there was the college students' inspiring *pro-life* activities on campus. The *pro-life* students would engage in spirited debates, but not lose their Christian composure, with their *pro-abortion* counterparts who self-identified themselves as "pro-choice." It was encouraging to see how our young intellectuals would do their research in defense of the sacredness of human life beginning at conception. I learned a lot just listening to their various presentations. So now I can't help but wonder how the *pro-life* ministries are doing today on college campuses. This Monday (January 22) marks 45 years since *Roe vs. Wade* legalized abortion on demand in the U.S.—the most tragic decision in our nation's history. By far, abortion, not heart disease, is the #1 cause of death of Americans [2014 data I found: **926,240** died of abortion & **614,348** died of heart disease].

A recent article from the *National Catholic Register* (1-16-2018) caught my attention and was delighted to read the success the *pro-lifers* are having despite a harsher campus environment than my era had to deal with just over a decade ago. In that article, the writer, *Justin McClain*, wrote that last year the *Students for Life of America* successfully launched close to 120 *Students for Life* groups in college campuses and now support over 1,200 student groups in all 50 states. They also trained almost 11,000 volunteers last year as compared to the opposition group, *Planned Parenthood*, that reported opening 50 groups in 2017 along with training 750 activists. The energized *Students for Life* have helped either shut down *pro-abortion* groups in high school and colleges that partner with *Planned Parenthood* and even won lawsuits to permit the *pro-life* groups to exist in schools.

It is no wonder that when we go to the annual *March for Life* in Washington, DC that the college students are the most spirited and vociferous in the crowd. They are also very pious and polite when you speak to them unlike what I find in *pro-choice* gatherings where the language is often vulgar and sometimes violent if you dare speak contrary to their strongly held views. Should we be surprised? Not really. Remember, if someone is fighting for the right to *kill* an innocent defenseless baby in the womb, why would you be surprised to get verbally or possibly physically abused? Whether they know it or not, if they have supported abortion in any way, they have in some form have *blood* in their hands. Abortion is murder! That's why we pray for them. God's grace can change their hardened hearts. It may not happen right away but in time they can still change. We just have to continue to persevere in our prayers for them. In the years I've come face to face with *pro-abortion* rights groups, I have never seen them gather in a peaceful prayerful manner to pray for the *pro-life* people's hearts to change from their error. They only have screamers and oftentimes cursers. On the contrary, in *pro-life* marches are where you'll find sanctity, humility, decency and intellectual honesty. The *March for Life* is where you'll find virtuous families, nuns, sisters, monks, bishops, clergy of all ranks, seminarians, blue & white-collar workers, and various sorts of backgrounds who truly understand that every person once conceived is made in the image and likeness of God and ought to be protected.

Let us pray for the conversion of heart of our *pro-abortion*, aka *pro-choice*, brothers and sisters in Christ. Catholics especially need to know that one cannot be a Catholic in good standing and at the same time support abortion. The term "pro-choice Catholic" is a total myth. Many of them are misled by the intellectual dishonesty they've been fed all these years especially by our wayward politicians and even theologians pretending to stand for the rights of women. We must not forget that some of the most active and effective members of our *pro-life* cause were one-time *pro-abortion* and some had even performed abortions. The many prayers of the faithful people allowed them to cooperate with God's grace to turn away from the sin of supporting a very sinful and murderous cause. God has forgiven them and has now called them as apostles and defenders of innocent life.

As followers of Christ, we don't just condemn and preach against the sin of abortion ("Thou shalt not kill"), we also provide the means to help the mother and the child in need.

It is important for others to know that we also provide help for those who are suffering because they have had abortion(s). We're here to help them especially thru *Project Rachel*. We also have crisis pregnancy centers to keep mothers from aborting their child. There are also programs to help pregnant college students such as *Pregnant on Campus Initiative* where students don't have to choose between abortion or quitting school. There are a few homes for unwed mothers and there are tons of parents willing to adopt your baby should you decide to give up your child for adoption and even pay for your expenses! Remember, there is no such thing as an "unwanted baby" in the U.S.

Your shepherd in Christ,  
Father Escalante

## Ask the Priest

**Q. When you die, does your Guardian Angel stay with you or go with someone else? –**

*Anonymous*

**A.** We don't know for sure but Guardian Angels are meant to guide us to God here on Earth so we have to presume that they won't need to follow us around after we die. It is possible that they may stay with us while we're in purgatory because we haven't made it to heaven yet. They certainly won't follow those who rejected God and spending eternity in hell. If God needs the Guardian Angels who once watched other people to "guard" the newly-born persons, that's most likely especially if people born in the history of the world outnumber the total number of Guardian Angels.

**Q. Why did we start singing the "Our Father" at Sunday Masses? –***Julia M.*

**A.** Because it is optional to sing it and the parishioners seem to prefer it that way!

**Q. When you have a Mass intention offered for a family, who is included to benefit from the graces of the Mass? Is that for the immediate family members only or are ancestors included? –***Anonymous*

*Anonymous*

**A.** Unless you intended to specifically request that their "ancestors" are included, normally, the Mass intention is only for the immediate family that you are offering it for.

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An Entering Canaan Day of Prayer & Healing for women who have experienced abortion will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2018. Come begin your healing journey and experience God's hope and mercy. You are not alone. There is hope. For more info and confidential registration, please contact Project Rachel Ministry: 888-456-HOPE (4673) or [info@helpafterabortion.org](mailto:info@helpafterabortion.org)



*Compassionate  
Heart of Mary*  
Bereavement Support Group  
Saturday, February 3  
10-11:30am

If you are grieving a spouse, family member, or friend, whether recently or some time ago, or you know someone who is grieving, please call us for more information, Bev at 540-882-9707 or Laura at 703-727-7117.

**WELCOME**

We warmly welcome new parishioners who have joined St. Francis de Sales during the months of December and January

Hamilton

Robyn **Thomson**, Aynsley, Brynnly  
Matthew & Alessandra **Clark**, Benjamin

Lovettsville

Greg & Megan **Ratner**

Purcellville

Patrick & Tara **Masterson**, Justin, Nathan, Ryan

Round Hill

Walt & Laura **Sides**  
Anthony & Elizabeth **Saporito**, Augustino, Gianna

Waterford

Thomas & Cathleen **Royals**, Thomas, James,  
Richard, Colette, Genevieve, Vivian

*Our thoughts and  
prayers are with ...*

**Our Military Members:**

Capt. 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, LTJG Scott Cypher, Cap. Vincent Jovene, 1st Lt. Jamie (Jovene) Liddle, A1C Joshua Jovene, 1LT Jared Willard, Joe Pultro, COL Greg Cannata, LCpl Paul Cotter, 2dLt Rachel Jovene, GySgt Jose O Ruiz Pedroza, PFC Jorge A Lara Pedroza, LT Ross Mentzer, 2nd LT Ryan Patrick Grady

**The Sick:** Dominic Corcoran, Jack Lehtonen, Mary von Bergen, Mary Jane Arens, Zach Miller, Phyllis Heller, Madeline Gonzalez, Joyce Sparbanie, Kim Castellano

**The Deceased:** Sharon Liddicoatt, Nina Ogden, Liam Doherty, Mary Garvis, Lisa Dugan, Richard Ralph, Jon Hink, Lewis Daniel Miller, Rudy Bartoldus, Mona Bakke, Sophie and Pedro Macaraeg



\*\*\* **PASTOR'S WISH LIST** \*\*\*

• **Take part in this week's 40-Hour Eucharistic Adoration to honor our patron, Saint Francis de Sales! (January 24-26)**—See parish website for details.

• **New Ministry for the Homeless**— *"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me"* (Matthew 25:35). Would you like to work with others in our parish to offer comfort and hope to our homeless brothers and sisters? Let's work together to live the Gospel and show our love for God and neighbor! For more information, contact Meghan Christian at [MeghanChristian1212@yahoo.com](mailto:MeghanChristian1212@yahoo.com).

• **Altar Boys training coming up**—Rising 4th Grade boys and up (who attend Mass *every* Sunday) are invited to register for the upcoming Altar Boys' training. Younger boys who feel ready to serve may also attend. Contact Father Mullaney, me or call the parish office to register (540.338.6381). ). The 2nd training date will be in church on **Sunday, January 21 @ 1:45pm**.

• **Donate to our new Ambo (Pulpit)**—I'm inviting you to donate any amount for our new *Ambo (Pulpit)* and be a part of the **"Book of Life Circle."** Donations of \$1k or more will get the option to add a dedication to our Memorial Wall. See the July 30, 2017 *Shepherd's Notes* for more details.

• **Ark of the Covenant Benefactors [Received \$516,484 out of \$60k needed]**—This is your once in a lifetime chance to be a part of the *"Donors of the Last Ark."* For a mere \$1k you can be one of only 60 donors to sponsor the new *Ark of the Covenant tabernacle* and *Altar of Repose* to house Jesus in the Eucharist in our church. Contact the office or me directly to donate or go directly to the Parish Giving website under "Ark of the Covenant Benefactors." See May 5 & 14, 2017 *Shepherd's Notes* for more details.

• **Pipe Organ" donation**—Please help us pay for the church organ that was installed in April. To date we have received \$45,310. We now owe just \$72,390 for this incredible organ! [See *Shepherd's Notes* column (2/26/2017 issue) for organ details.]

• **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. See enclosed flyer for details or go to our website: [www.saintfrancisparish.org](http://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. Email our coordinator, Diane Waller, at [dianewaller@msn.com](mailto:dianewaller@msn.com). Go to our parish website and click under *Pilgrim Virgin Statue* and pick a date. Then just sign up and pick up the statue in the Narthex, left of the glass doors, 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! [Note: No need to wait 6 months to repeat reserving the *Pilgrim Virgin* anymore.]

• **Parish Rosary Challenge continues** If you missed September 2015's pledge drive, you can still sign up online. Everyone in the parish is asked to make a pledge to pray the Rosary at least once a week. Go to our website [www.saintfrancisparish.org](http://www.saintfrancisparish.org) and click on Rosary Campaign or just go directly to [www.rosarygraces.com](http://www.rosarygraces.com) for more info.

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

**Got 'em!**

• We have a new Lenten Fish Fry Friday volunteer manager: *Joe Schray!* He has been working with *Joyce Sparbanie* to transition the duties and if you're interested in volunteering please email him at [joeschray@icloud.com](mailto:joeschray@icloud.com). Thank you, Joe, for taking on this important parish service!


• Eight new girls were trained to join the JAS ministry on January 7! Thank you, young ladies, for your great liturgical service!

• Received all 50 donors for the *Holy Altar Circle*. Thank you very much for your amazing generosity! We only need two more \$1k donors for the 60k needed for the tabernacle (Ark of the Covenant Benefactors) & many more for The Book of Life Circle (Ambo).

• We received over 1,500 written pledges from the *Rosary Challenge* drive to pray a minimum of one rosary a week. As of this writing we have reached the 68% mark (68,046 total reported) of our goal (100,000) of the rosaries that have been reportedly prayed at our website since September 12, 2015. Keep it up, faithful children of Mary. We've been getting many nice blessings lately as a parish and we can only expect more!

*Religious Education Office*

James Blankenship, DRE  
Janice Rees, CRE



www.saintfrancisparish.org  
(540) 338-4497  
RE@saintfrancisparish.org

✠ "Cook the truth in Charity until it tastes sweet" ✠  
~ St. Francis de Sales ~

**1st Reconciliation Retreat**

Sat., January 27 9am-12noon  
All Weekday Classes and Atrium

**At least one parent is required to attend the retreat!!**

**VBS Kick-Off Meeting**

Please come to the a meeting in the Catholic Education Center Library on Thursday, February 1 at 7pm if you are interested in learning about or participating in this summer's VBS. If you cannot come to the meeting, but are still interested, please call or email the RE office. This year's theme is **Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity**, to be held July 9-13.


**BLESSING BAGS FOR THE HOMELESS**

Everyone is invited to be a participate in this project for our new Homeless Ministry! Let's try to make 500 hundred bags! The bulk of the bags will be given to the homeless organizations we are in contact with as part of our new ministry. We encourage you take bags to keep in your car and give to the needy people you may run into. Think about what you would want if you were broke and living on the streets ... These are suggestions, bring whatever you can:

- Gallon size Ziplock bags • chapstick • packages of tissues
- rain poncho • toothbrush and toothpaste • comb • trail mix
- peanut butter crackers • granola bars • packs of gum
- beef sticks/beef jerky • bandaids • hand sanitizer • baby wipes
- Hand and feet warmer packets • thermal socks and gloves
- Fast food, Starbucks gift cards
- and anything else you can think might be good to add!

Bring your items to the Our Lady of Victory Hall on **Saturday, February 3** at 10am for a **"Group Stuffing"**! We'll keep working until all the bags are filled.

7th and 8th graders can earn service hours by accumulating these items. You can still participate if you can't be here on the 3rd by making your own bags at home and bringing them when you come to class, or dropping off loose items by the 3rd.

Emily Glass Director of Youth Ministry  
540-338-6381 or e.glass@saintfrancisparish.org

**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 5-6 PM for Bible study.

**ROSARY GROUP** - On Tuesday mornings, we will meet as a youth group in the chapel at 8am to pray the Rosary together before school. Awesome way to start your week! Come pray with friends for the graces to help you through the school week. We will have extra rosaries, as well as pamphlets on how to pray the Rosary. All high schoolers welcome! We do not meet on Tuesdays when Loudoun County is off school.

**TEEN WORKCAMP MEETING** - Our first Workcamp 2018 meeting will be on Sunday, January 21 in the old parish hall after the 5pm Mass. This is for all current 8th-12th graders who are interested in coming to Workcamp this summer! \$150 deposits can be paid at this meeting to guarantee a spot at Workcamp 2018. Deposits are due at the February Workcamp meeting.

**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](https://remind.com/join/eglass16) and enter your information to be added to the recipient list! Also, follow the Youth Ministry Instagram account [St.FrancisYouth](https://www.instagram.com/St.FrancisYouth) for event updates and announcements.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP - MAC-PAC** (Middle Schoolers Acting in Christ - Prayer, Action, Charity) meets for a social activity on the 2nd Sunday of each month after the 5PM Mass. MAC-PAC 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. Watch this page for announcements of upcoming meetings.

**Inclement Weather Cancellations**

**Weekday:** When Loudoun County schools are closed or have early dismissal, or cancel after-school activities due to inclement weather, Youth and Adult Religious ed and classes are cancelled.

**Sunday Classes:** Sunday morning cancellations will be posted on the website [www.saintfrancisparish.org/](http://www.saintfrancisparish.org/), and emailed to families by 6:45am Sunday morning.

*Religious Education Calendar*

**WEEK OF JANUARY 21 & 28**

Sun. [Gr. 1st-8th Session 1](#) - 8:45am  
[Gr. K-8th Session 2](#) - 10:30am

Mon. [Gr. K-8th](#) - 4:45pm  
[RCIT, High School](#) - 7pm

Wed. [Pre-School, Gr. 1st-8th](#) - 4:45pm

**CCD ADVENT SERVICE PROJECT**

It's not too late to turn in your baby bottles for Birthright!!

## ST. FRANCIS COUNCIL 11136 NEWS



**Next Business Meeting** - February 12, Church Hall at 7:30. Rosary in the chapel at 7:05. Join us, shall you? Meetings average an hour now, so that's one less reason not to come.

**First and Second Degree Ceremonies** - Here at St. Francis on January 22. If interested in either joining or gaining your Second Degree, contact Chancellor Forest Selby (email address below).

**Next Pancake Breakfast - February 4**

**Blood Drive January 21** - Give the gift of life. Give blood. Join the Knights in saving lives at the Purcellville Firehouse on January 21

**Why Are You A Knight?** - Be more than a Knight in name only. We help in the parish, community, and world. Contact GK Ben Cox, and tell me what would it take for you to come help your church and community. Be active again.

**Submit Your Prayer Requests** - I want to send a weekly email digest of prayer requests to share to our families. Send all requests to [grandknight11136@gmail.com](mailto:grandknight11136@gmail.com).

**Have You Ever Considered Becoming a Knight and Helping Others in Your Parish and Community?** If so, contact Chancellor Forest Selby ([forestselby@gmail.com](mailto:forestselby@gmail.com)), DGK Greg Cannata ([armybrat.cannata@gmail.com](mailto:armybrat.cannata@gmail.com)), or just look for anyone wearing a KofC badge. The needs are many, but the laborers are few.

**Have a great, big beautiful week!**

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Ben Cox, Grand Knight, St. Francis Council #11136  
[grandknight11136@gmail.com](mailto:grandknight11136@gmail.com)

## Women's Council of ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

**The Arlington Diocese 2018 Women's Conference** - From Darkness Into Light is on 3/10/18 - REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 3RD AT 9AM!! We'll have a carpool going so let us know if you're attending.

Are you a woman that comes to our church? If yes, then you are part of the Women's Council!! Feel free to e-mail us with questions or suggestions at [womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com](mailto:womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com)

### Organ Dedication Concert Friday, January 26 at 7:30pm

Come celebrate the new Viscount Organ with organist Paul Skevington. Paul will present a program of works by J. S. Bach, Samuel Barber, Dan Locklair, and others. It will be exciting to hear the organ played to it's fullest range of sounds in a concert setting. During the concert we will also formally bless the organ, and join in song to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Paul Skevington is in his 25th year as the Minister of Music and Liturgy at Saint Luke Catholic Church in McLean, Virginia. Under his direction, Saint Luke has become renowned as a superior site for concerts, with the Saint Luke Music in McLean concert series hosting 18 musical events per year. Known for his artistic skill in supporting choral voices, he has accompanied many of the major choruses in the Washington, D.C. area at venues such as The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Music Center at Strathmore, the Washington National Cathedral, and the National Presbyterian Church. As a soloist, Paul has been a featured artist for the American Guild of Organists and the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. He has recorded five compact discs under the Naxos, Summit, and Gothic labels.



### 2018 MEN'S CONFERENCE

ALL MEN are invited to the 2018 Men's Conference "**Marked Men: Made For Greatness**" on March 3 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Herndon. The conference will feature one of the most celebrated Catholic speakers in the world of social media: Fr. Mike Schmitz, who will be joined by Bishop Burbidge and Billy Atwell, Chief Communications Officer of the Diocese. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served. To REGISTER, go to [www.arlingtondiocese.org/men](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/men). Registration is open. Ticket price is \$55 through Feb. 1; \$65 after. Make sure to register ASAP as slots get filled quite easily!

### HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS - JANUARY 2018

#### **Evangelization: Religious Minorities in Asia**

That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practise their faith in full freedom.

**Women's Conference**  
FROM DARKNESS INTO LIGHT

Featuring:  
Diane Foley, mother of slain Journalist, James Foley  
& Sr. Grace Dominic, writer and national speaker

3.10.18

ST. JOSEPH'S  
750 PEACHTREE ST., HERNDON, VA

**REGISTER**

[www.arlingtondiocese.org/women](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/women)  
\$55 before February 1; \$65 after

8:45 am to 2:15 pm

SPONSORED BY:  
THE OFFICE OF MARRIAGE, FAMILY AND RESPECT LIFE  
& THE ARLINGTON DIOCESAN COUNCIL FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN

For inquiries, please call: (703) 821-2550



## Friday Nite Fish Fry Volunteers Needed!!

We thank **Joyce Sparbanie** and her wonderful team of volunteers for making the Friday Nite Fish Fry happen for the past seven years. Joyce will be stepping back this year and turning operations over to new volunteer, **Joe Schray!** We need to build up a new team of volunteers to support Joe. If you would like to be part of the team, email Joe at [joeschray@icloud.com](mailto:joeschray@icloud.com). Help is needed preparing on Friday mornings and/or serving Friday afternoon. There will be a meeting held on **Friday, February 2** at 7pm in the kitchen. Consider joining the team and get a purple tee-shirt! You'll get hooked!!!

## St. Therese Society Morning of Reflection On the Eve of World Day for Consecrated Life

St. Therese was known for praying for priests and her desire to be "an apostle to apostles." She inspires us to join together in prayer and sacrifice for the men and women of our diocese who are preparing for the priesthood and consecrated religious life.



Join us to pray in her name on the weekend of  
World Day for Consecrated Life.

Saturday, February 3, 9am-12noon

Speaker: Fr. Anthony Pinizzotto

St. Luke Catholic Church, 7001 Georgetown Pike, McLean

A continental breakfast will be provided after 9am Mass.

*All are welcome!*

There is no cost, but please RSVP by Monday, January 29:  
(703) 841-2514 or [vocations@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:vocations@arlingtondiocese.org)

The St. Thérèse Vocation Society was formed to foster and encourage vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, as well as pray for, support, and affirm those already committed to the consecrated life and priesthood.

[ArlingtonVocations.org](http://ArlingtonVocations.org)

## GIVE BLOOD...

*it's safe, it's easy, and it saves lives!*

**Sunday, January 21, 7am to 12:30pm**

St. Francis de Sales Blood Donor Program Blood Drive  
@ Purcellville Fire and Rescue Station  
500 North Maple Avenue

Please register at [inova.org/donateblood](http://inova.org/donateblood)

Use Sponsor Code #3026

All blood collected is used locally

Walk-ins welcome but appointments are preferred.

## Parish Homeless Ministry

Join us in helping our homeless brothers and sisters in the DC Metro Area! The Homeless Ministry is open to everyone in the parish. Our ministry will concentrate on collecting comfort items, preparing and serving food, and working directly with the homeless. There are ways to serve for all ages!



Thank you to those who volunteered at the Missionaries of Charity soup kitchen in DC, cooking and serving breakfast and lunch to the homeless! Your donations of cleaning supplies were much appreciated too. Thank you also to those who volunteered at St. John Neumann's hypothermia prevention shelter in Reston!

### Call for Donations:

Our parish is hosting a blanket drive for the homeless and destitute in our diocese. All donated blankets should be new, and we are collecting both regular blankets as well as emergency/rescue blankets. Please place all blanket donations in the Homeless Ministry box located in the narthex by Sunday, Feb. 11th. Thank you for your charity and generosity!

### Upcoming Events:

On Saturday, Jan. 27th, and Saturday, Feb. 10th, from 8:30 to 11:15am, we will be serving breakfast and lunch to the homeless alongside the Missionaries of Charity in their DC soup kitchen (3310 Wheeler Rd SE). Our group will also be providing the meals. Contact Meghan Christian ([MeghanChristian1212@yahoo.com](mailto:MeghanChristian1212@yahoo.com)) to sign up for serving meals, donating food, and/or preparing dishes for the homeless guests.

Please continue to pray for the homeless and the success of our ministry! If you would like information about the Homeless Ministry's upcoming events and projects to be e-mailed directly to you, or if you have any questions, please send a note to [MeghanChristian1212@yahoo.com](mailto:MeghanChristian1212@yahoo.com)



*Some of our Homeless Ministry volunteers last weekend at the Missionaries of Charity soup kitchen in DC and St. John Neumann's hypothermia prevention shelter in Reston.*

## CHELSEA ACADEMY MEET AND MINGLE

Please join us for a glass of wine, soft drinks, and light hors d'oeuvres. Come learn more about Chelsea Academy and what it can offer your child. Chelsea is located in Front Royal, Virginia and is a Catholic independent school that offers a college preparatory education to students in grades 4 through 12. Friday, January 26 from 7-9pm at Thomas and Kristina Wilk's Residence - 16822 Chestnut Overlook Dr., Purcellville, RSVP [wilkshire6@gmail.com](mailto:wilkshire6@gmail.com) or 540-338-0268.