

Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

05 February 12



SAINT
MARY

of the
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION
Roman Catholic Church

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"Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care,
that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace,
they may be defended always by your protection."

*-from the opening
prayer of today's Mass.*

Dear Good People of St. Mary,

First, I'd like to share with you a press release issued by Bishop Loverde this past week, in response to recent legislation.

Bishop Loverde of Northern Virginia: Obama Administration Contraceptive Mandate "Does Intolerable Violence to Our First Amendment Rights"

ARLINGTON, VA (January 24, 2012) – The Most Reverend Paul S. Loverde, Bishop of Arlington and spiritual leader of Northern Virginia's nearly half million Catholics, today commented on the decision by the Obama Administration to mandate sterilization and contraceptive coverage, including abortifacients, in health insurance plans offered by religious institutions, such as colleges and hospitals. He released the following statement:

"The decision by the Department of Health and Human Services is a direct attack against religious liberty. This ill-considered policy comprises a truly radical break with the liberties that have underpinned our nation since its founding. I have just returned from Rome, where I and my brother U.S. bishops discussed with Pope Benedict XVI and other Vatican officials the vital importance of religious liberty to human freedom and the proper functioning of a just society. While there, I was deeply troubled to learn of this terrible lapse in judgment by our civil leadership here at home.

"I am absolutely convinced that an unprecedented and very dangerous line has been crossed that goes to the heart of the freedom of religion, and that this action does intolerable violence to our First Amendment rights. Catholic hospitals, charitable organizations, colleges and other Church-affiliated entities, as well as individual Catholic employers who seek to follow their consciences in the provision of healthcare to their employees, will be required to cover sterilizations and artificial contraception, including abortifacients, in insurance plans, violating the clear teachings of the Church. The meager religious exemption grudgingly allowed by the Obama Administration is structured so narrowly that any Church institution that serves a considerable number of non-Catholics would not be protected, directly harming our various ministries throughout the community.

Bishop DiLorenzo explains it in more detail in his letter to his flock last Thursday:

"The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced last week that all employers, including Catholic employers, will be forced to offer their employees health coverage that includes sterilization, abortion-inducing drugs, and contraception. Almost all health insurers will be forced to include these "services" in the health policies they write. And almost all individuals will be forced to buy that coverage as a part of their policies... As a result, unless the rule is overturned, we Catholics will be compelled either to violate our consciences, or to drop health coverage for our employees (and suffer the penalties for doing so). The Administration's sole concession was to give our institutions one year to comply.

(continued on page 6)

looking forward february

5 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Coffee Shop after Morning Masses, Parish Life Center. (Preschool)
SCRIP Sales after Masses.

9am-12noon, St. Mary Preschool Open House, Parish Life Center.

1pm-3pm, Holy Cross Academy Open House.

12noon-2pm, English as a Second Language classes, 2nd floor, Parish Life Center.

3:30-4:30pm, 7th & 8th Grade Youth Group, Parish Life Center.

6 Monday, St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

10am, Legion of Mary, Room 100, Parish Life Center.

7:30pm, RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, church.

(Topic: Baptism, Confirmation)

7 Tuesday, Weekday

6:30pm, Parent Gathering Speaker Series, Parish Life Center.

8 Wednesday, Weekday (St. Jerome Emiliani, St. Josephine Bakhita, virgin)

6:30-8pm, YOUCAT Night, John Paul II House.

8pm, Legion of Mary, Room 100, Parish Life Center.

8pm, Adult Confirmation Class, Rm. 202, Parish Life Center.

9 Thursday, Weekday

9:30am, Craft Group, Room 100, Parish Life Center.

7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paul II House.

7:30pm, Parish Council Meeting, Room 204, Parish Life Center.

10 Friday, St. Scholastica, virgin

9:45am, St. Anne Sisters of Faith (Mom's Group), John Paul II House

11 Saturday, Weekday (Our Lady of Lourdes)

8am-12noon, Hispanic Ministry Morning of Reflection, Parish Life Center.

1:30pm-4pm, Women's Forum, Council of Catholic Women, Parish Life Center.

12 Sunday, Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Coffee Shop after Morning Masses, Parish Life Center. (CYM)

SCRIP Sales after Masses.

10am-12noon, Columbian Squires Business Meeting, John Paul II House.

12noon-2pm, English as a Second Language classes, 2nd floor, Parish Life Center.

1:30-3pm, Squire Roses Meeting, John Paul II House.

2pm, Korean Prayer Group, Upstairs, John Paul II House.

3-4:30pm, Work Camp Meeting, Parish Life Center.

6pm, Youth Ministry Dinner, Parish Life Center.

7-8:30pm, CYM Youth Group, Parish Life Center.

13 Monday, Weekday

10am, Legion of Mary, Room 100, Parish Life Center.

6:30pm, Sacraments Discussion in Spanish, Parish Life Center.

7:30pm, RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, church.

(Topic: The Last Seven Commandments; The Two Great Commandments)

8:15pm, "Preparing a Place for Unity and Peace," an ecumenical prayer service in the Taize tradition, church. All area Christians invited.

14 Tuesday, Saint Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop

10am, St. Mary Book Club, John Paul II House.

15 Wednesday, Weekday

6:30-8pm, YOUCAT Night, John Paul II House.

8pm, Legion of Mary, Room 100, Parish Life Center.

8pm, Adult Confirmation Class, Rm. 202, Parish Life Center.

16 Thursday, Weekday

9:30am, Craft Group, Rm. 100, Parish Life Center.

7pm, Spanish Prayer Group, John Paul II House.

parish information and staff

www.stmaryfred.org

1009 Stafford Ave., Fredericksburg, VA 22401

SUNDAY MASS Saturday Vigil 5 & 7pm
Sunday 7, 8:30, 10:30am, 12:30, 2pm (Spanish), 5pm
10:30am at Holy Cross Academy

DAILY MASS Mon.-Fri.: 6:30 & 9am; Sat., 9am
First Friday 8pm
Holy Days of Obligation, as announced

DEVOTIONS Adoration & Benediction, Wed., 7-9pm
Novena with Exposition, Mon., 7-7:30pm
All Night Adoration, First Friday
Miraculous Medal Novena, Mon., after 9am Mass
Divine Mercy, Wed., 3pm

CONFESSIONS Wed., 7-9pm; Sat., 8am & 3:30pm, or by appt.

PARISH OFFICE 540-373-6491, fax 371-0251
stmary@stmaryfred.org
Mon.-Fri., 8:30am - 4:30pm;
students staff office weekdays until 9pm,
Saturdays 9-5pm, Sundays 9:30-1:30pm

Pastor, Fr. Don Rooney
Fr. Bjorn Lundberg
Fr. Ed Bresnahan
Alberto Bernaola & Dick Delio, Permanent Deacons

Executive Assistant, Rick Caporali
Business Manager, Elaine Stanislawski
Administrative Assistant, Kelly Keiser
Secretary, Mary Fitch
Director of Sacred Music, David Mathers

HOLY CROSS ACADEMY 540-286-1600
250 Stafford Lakes Parkway
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22406-7234
Principal, Sr. Susan Louise Eder, O.S.F.S.

ST. MARY PRESCHOOL 373-7553
Director, Nanci Scharf

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE 373-6491
Director, Aristides Lucas
Associate Director, Karen Sturtevant

YOUTH MINISTRY 373-6491
Director, Leo Chavarria

BAPTISMS Parish registration (90 days) and class required.
Please notify the rectory to schedule the date at least four weeks in advance.

MARRIAGE Parish registration required; contact parish at least six months in advance to begin preparation.

JOIN US New Family Registration meetings are usually held in the church on the fourth Sunday of each month, following the 10:30 Mass. Please notify the parish office of any telephone/address changes.

WEEKLY OFFERTORY

Offertory Collection 1/29/12	\$36,651.
Church in Latin America (addl)	1,284.
Poor Box for St. Vincent de Paul	262.
SCRIP Profit	181.

Thank you for your continued generosity! Please remember to use your Offertory Envelopes to ensure the accuracy of your end of year statement. The "Children's Envelope" proceeds will not be recorded on family statements.

*Next weekend the
 Second Collection is for our
 Parish Building Fund.*

**CHILDREN'S OFFERTORY
 ENVELOPES FOR FEBRUARY**

The children's charity that will benefit from the offering in February is Hazelwild Farm's Therapeutic Riding Program. The program offers specialized horseback riding lessons for all ages of riders with a wide range of physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities. The lessons increase stability, flexibility, strength, motor skills, cognitive ability and confidence for the riders, along with providing many other physical and emotional benefits. For more information go to www.hazelwildfarm.com.

**LIVING STONES: THE LEGACY
 OF FAMILY NAMES**

We are building a "backbone" of "Living Stones" for our new courtyard, each featuring the last name of the family sponsoring it. It will be an historic record of the families whose generosity helped finish the parish renovations of 2008-2012.

Please contact Fr. Rooney if you are interested. The investment for each stone is \$500 and will help cover the costs of this final landscaping project. You may make installment payments. The courtyard will make walking from the back to the front of the property easier and safer.

Bishop's Lenten Appeal •

In mid-January the Diocesan Office of Development sent out information on the 2012 Bishop's Lenten Appeal. If you did not receive the mailing, there will be an opportunity for you to participate during our "in-pew Process" here at the parish.

Bishop Loverde asks that you prayerfully consider your pledge to the campaign. Stewardship is "practical spirituality." It is one way that we should respond to Jesus' call to be His disciple. We should offer to God the first and best portion of all we receive in an intentional, proportionate and thankful way, as God's Word teaches. Support of the diocesan programs and services is as necessary as being a responsible steward to our parish. We need to give in return for God's gifts.

Please participate. Every household in the diocese is asked to respond to the Appeal. Everyone is encouraged to pledge something. We are all in this together.

You are encouraged to take a few moments to pray for the success of the Bishop's Lenten Appeal as its success will strengthen our diocesan Church in unity and common identity. As we do so, we can express gratitude to God for what has been given to the individuals, the families, the parishes, and the schools of this Diocese.

Offices and ministries receiving funding from the 2012 Bishop's Lenten Appeal include the following:

Vocations The BLA currently supports 37 seminarians with room, board, tuition and health care expenses. The Office of Vocations coordinates awareness and discernment groups that assist men and women considering a religious vocation. Additionally, the BLA provides funding for the permanent diaconate program, as well for active and retired priests.

Office For Family Life, Respect Life and Young Adult programs and the Tribunal These programs include: Gabriel Project, Project Rachel, Marriage Preparation, Marriage Enrichment, Theology on Tap and Respect Life Programs. The Tribunal Office is a healing ministry that examines petitions for annulment.

San Damiano Spiritual Life Center The Center is a serene and peaceful retreat complex in White Post, VA offering opportunities for a variety of retreats and days of reflection.

Evangelization Efforts This program area includes ecumenical outreach, support of our Dominican Republic Mission Parishes, the Peace and Justice Commission, and college campus ministry programs.

Spanish Apostolate & the Office of Multicultural Ministries The Spanish Apostolate was founded to encourage and evangelize the Hispanic population and/or Spanish speaking Catholics in our diocese. The Office of Multicultural Ministries serves the pastoral needs of various ethnic communities. **Youth Ministry, Catholic Schools**



and Religious Education Our Office of Youth Ministry provides direction and guidance to parents, pastors, principals and parish youth ministers. Our Office of Catholic Schools provides support to principals, teachers, nurses, counselors, coaches and school staff so that students in our 45 schools are offered an exceptional curriculum in a Christ-centered environment. Our Office of Sacred Liturgy works with parishes to assist and guide them in their education programs for children, teenagers and adults.

Parish Programs and Other Services Programs and offices that assist 68 parishes, 6 missions and more than 3,000 parish, school and diocesan employees which include support in liturgical issues, parish financial guidance and audits, human resources and employee benefit programs.

Chancery Offices and the Virginia Catholic Conference The BLA funds chancery offices that assist the Bishop as he leads our parishes and the diocese. Additionally, the BLA supports the Virginia Catholic Conference, which represents the public policy interests of the two Catholic Bishops in Virginia.

Parish and Diocesan Development The Office of Development provides fundraising support and counsel for the diocese and parishes to help meet their pastoral needs.

Diocesan Communications Office The Office oversees media relations, and the TV Mass for homebound Catholics.

Catholic Charities, Victim Assistance & other charitable efforts to support those in need Adoption, Foster Care, Counseling, Crisis Pregnancy Services, Services for the Elderly or Disabled, Prison Ministry, Transitional Housing, Refugee Support, Christ House on Wheels and Emergency Assistance programs are some of the programs coordinated by Catholic Charities.

Holy Cross Academy • It's About the Children

When you think of faculty meetings, what comes to mind? I doubt you picture teachers gathered together around a Kinect console but, at Holy Cross, that is exactly what you might see.

One of our school-wide initiatives this year is incorporating more twenty-first century learning opportunities into the curriculum for our students. During Catholic Schools Week, we participated in National Digital Learning Day. Each class showcased their most recent technology event during our Academic Fair. These will also be on display at our Open House this Sunday.

Our faculty is determined to embrace technology across the curriculum and throughout the grades. We are fortunate to have many resources to help us, including HCA parent, Jack Maye. At our most recent professional development day, teachers from St. Mary Preschool and HCA tried out Kinect to see how it can be used in our classes. It was the per-

fect lesson, very informative and lots of fun. This is just one more example of how our teachers and parents work together to provide each of our children with the best possible Catholic education.

Come see what we have to offer at our Open House on Sunday, Feb. 5th from 9:30am to 12noon at the Preschool and from 1 to 3pm at Holy Cross. You can also learn about the wonderful things happening at Holy Cross Academy, by calling us at 540-286-1600 or visiting our website, www.holycrossweb.com. For St. Mary Preschool, please call 540-373-7553. We would love to hear from you!



JOHN PAUL THE GREAT HS

Baseball Camp

Baseball players in grades 6 – 11 are invited to participate in the Third Annual Spring Training Baseball Camp at JP the Great HS. Coaches work with players on the fundamentals of hitting, throwing, and fielding. February 18-19 and 25-26. For more information, and to register, please visit www.jpthegreat.org or contact baseball coach, Brian Dunleavy: 703-445-0331 or brian.dunleavy@jpthegreat.org.



COLLECTING BOX TOPS AND SOUP LABELS

Please help support Holy Cross Academy by collecting Box Tops 4 Education and Campbell Soup Labels. Our school earns money for every box top or soup label collected which we in turn use to fund our special class needs. It only takes a moment to clip, and those moments add up for our school. There is a collection box located in the Parish Information Center cabinet across from the ladies room in the church. Thank you for your support!

SCRIP NEWS

Treat your sweetheart to a special night out at one of our local Scrip retailers, The Blue and Grey Brew Pub. Reserve your table now for the Brewpub's Valentine's Day dinner and beer tasting. This dinner will pair a different beer with each course of the meal. Don't forget to order your Scrip cards for the brewery at the Scrip table before you go! For reservations for the Brewpub call 540-371-7799.

To set up an account at www.shopwithscrip.com, use our school code, 7B876EBB188L2, so Holy Cross Academy gets credit for your purchase. If you have any questions about SCRIP please email Torie Baldwin at scripcoordinator@holycrossweb.com or 571-330-3448. Thanks for using SCRIP!

ST. MARY MEN'S GROUP

The St. Mary Men's Group meets on the last Thursday of each month. For information please contact Matt Muggeridge at 540-845-1126 or mmuggeridge@yahoo.com.

Faith. Academics. Service.
Catholic Schools

DE COLORES! CURSILLO

Our next *Ultreya* will be held on Saturday, February 11, from 7-9 pm for all Fredericksburg area *Cursillistas*. If you have already made a men's or women's *Cursillo* weekend or are interested in knowing more about *Cursillo*, please join us for an evening of small grouping, fellowship and food. Spouses are welcome. For more information, please contact Mary Corrigan at 540-479-3683 or corriganm@hotmail.com.

BOOK CLUB - FEB 14

The book club's February selection is *Scripture Matters: Essays on Reading the Bible from the Heart of the Church* (c. 2003) by Scott Hahn. Join us on Tuesday, Valentine's Day, in the John Paul II House at 10am. For more information, contact Kathleen Mahoney at 540-371-2073 or bmah761569@aol.com

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

St Vincent DePaul welcomes your support. Few can give a lot, but many can give a little. SVDP puts it all together and gives out financial support, clothing and household items, shelter and loving support. Please add to the poor boxes in the vestibule. Checks to PO Box 1493 College Station, 22402. The thrift Shop is located on Lafayette Blvd in the Greenwich Plaza. Mon-Sat. 10am-4pm. 540-898-9066



Purchase coffee, mugs and other products from Mystic Monk Coffee, using the link below and earn an 18% Rebate for our Parish! www.mysticmonkcoffee.com/store/?aid=181

TAIZE • MONDAY, FEB 13

We invite all Christians to gather in the peace of Christ at St. Mary on Monday, February 13 at 8:15pm, as we "prepare a place for unity and peace" in Fredericksburg.

Praying with one voice, let us ask God to bring healing to our world and end the divisions that separate peoples.



(Fr. Rooney's letter continues)

"In generations past, the Church has always been able to count on the faithful to stand up and protect her sacred rights and duties. I hope and trust she can count on this generations of Catholics to do the same. Our children and grandchildren deserve nothing less."

Realizing, of course, that even though our many Christian churches may weigh in on different sides of the contraception and abortion-inducing drug issues than we do, I have asked our ecumenical partner churches in the Commonwealth of Virginia to consider standing together with us to defend the deeper issue here, the issue of religious liberty. It is something that we as a family of communities must to defend, together. Ultimately, we see here not only a "Catholic" problem, but a truly "catholic" one.

I mentioned in my homily last weekend that my brother, Father John, was quick to add: history shows it is only a matter of time once one violation of religious liberty is allowed, that more follow. Remember the reflection of Rev. Martin Niemoller after his experience sharing a building with 2,300 Catholic priests in the Nazi concentration camp, Dachau: "Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak for me." Do a quick google search of this quote. It is quite sobering.

I don't think there is a particular plan, yet, of how to respond to this current situation, and I know that there is much being done by our American bishops. But I was thinking actively how this would be the perfect example of what we are able to do together as Christians -- even in the absence of perfect agreement -- in defending the foundation upon which we all stand with equal footing and upon which we all agree. A solution from ALL of us would be powerful. For now, prayer is prescribed.

God bless you.

Fr. Dan Rooney

2012 WOMEN'S FORUM

The Council of Catholic Women (CCW) here at St. Mary and St. Anne's Sisters in Faith (formerly Mom's Group) jointly sponsor the Annual Women's Forum on Saturday, February 11, from 1:30 to 3:30pm at the Parish Life Center. Topics to include:



- 1:30 - 2pm General Session
Stress Management (the Catholic Way) by Sr. Susan Louise Eder, O.S.F.S., Principal of Holy Cross Academy;
 - 2 to 2:30pm (Choose one break-out session)
Coming Home to Our Parish for the Divorced and Legally Separated by Rev. Bjorn Lundberg, Parochial Vicar of St. Mary
Adjusting Recipes for Healthy Living by Donna Hetrick
 - 2:30 to 3pm (Choose one break-out session)
Care Giving or Long Term Care for Loved Ones by Jim Schaefer, Director, Rappahannock Area Agency on Aging
Cake Decorating (Basic) by Wanda Cushing and Esther White;
 - 3 to 3:30pm (Choose one break-out session)
Floral Arrangement by Betty Scheuermann, Program Chair of the Lake of the Woods Garden Club
AED Demo/Instruction by Linda Kehn.
- Blood Pressure Check will be available from 1:30 to 3:30.

Parent Gathering Series • Tuesday, February 7

Praying as a Family: How Do We Do It?

In February we continue our parent gathering series. On Tuesday, February 7 at 6:30 pm in the Parish Life Center our second Parent Gathering Speaker Series continues. Our guest speaker will be Mr. Vaughn Treco. The topic: Praying as a Family: How Do We Do It?

Mr. Vaughn Treco will speak on the importance of praying as a family, as well as offer practical suggestions that we can implement within our homes. Vaughn is currently the Director of Youth Ministry at Our Lady of Angels in Woodbridge, VA and had previously served as the Program Director for Marriage Preparation and Enrichment in the Arlington Diocese's Office for Family Life. Vaughn is a common speaker at many Diocesan events such as retreats, conferences and training workshops. Vaughn is also heavily involved in Spiritual Direction to individuals and couples throughout the diocese. He is married with three children.

His dedication to family prayer is inspiring. Be sure to come, listen, learn and be motivated to make family prayer an integral part of your family life.

Trumpet / Organ Concert • February 17

Trumpeter Matthew Misener, a member of the U.S. Air Force Band and Ceremonial Brass, and our own organist David Mathers, present a concert: Friday, February 17 at 8pm. The performance will feature the lyric, melodic beauty of the trumpet, including both familiar selections and masterworks that deserve to be heard more frequently. The concert is free and a voluntary donation for the support of concerts at Saint Mary will be accepted. For more information, contact David Mathers at the parish office or dmathers@stmaryfred.org.



Catholic Youth Ministry •

Sunday, February 5

No CYM Dinner or High School Youth Group tonight.

Middle School Youth Group will meet today from 3:30pm- 4:30pm. All 7th and 8th grade students are invited. Friends are welcome.

High School Lock-In: February 18-19

Join us at Holy Cross Academy for tons of games, movies, and food; mixed with friends, Mass at midnight all in one night! RSVP by Monday, Feb. 13. Cost is a permission slip, \$10 and a snack or drink to share.

Sacraments Discussion in Spanish

On Monday, February 13 at 6:30 pm in the Parish Life Center our second gathering for our Spanish speaking parents will be hosted by Deacon Alberto Bernaola. He will continue discussing the sacraments, especially the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist). Parents attending these discussions are benefitting tremendously and are motivated to improve their relationship with God and the Church. Since the discussions are in Spanish, it very easy for the participants to ask questions and develop a deeper appreciation our faith. Be sure to join this growing group of Spanish parents.

Parent Meeting for Year 2 RCIC

A required meeting for parents of Year 2 RCIC catechumenates will be on Thursday, February 23, at 7:30pm in the church. This is a very important meeting for the parents of those who will participate in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children Liturgy this year on Saturday, April 14.

SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES NEEDED - NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!!!

We are in need of judges for the Holy Cross Academy Science Fair on Friday, February 24. The fair is from 8:30 – 11:00am. If you are interested in Science and would enjoy spending some time with students who have been experimenting and studying various aspects of science, please consider being a judge. It is an interesting and exciting experience as you watch these young scientists who have explored the many wonders of Science.

If you would be willing to be a judge please contact Sr. Frances Carol at 540.286.1600 or oblatesisters@verizon.net. Thank you !

FEBRUARY FAMILY DINNER

The February Family Dinner, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, will be held on Sat., Feb 4 from 6 to 8:30pm in the Parish Life Center. The menu includes homemade pork bbq sandwiches, french fries, baked beans, cole slaw, and bread pudding. The profit will be donated to the Guadalupe Free Clinic in Colonial Beach. The dinner is open to the public and pay-at-the-door. Takeouts are available. The cost is Adults:\$7, Seniors (60&up):\$6, Teens:\$6, Children (7-12):\$5, Children (under 7): Free. The maximum cost per family in \$24.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

The first viewing/discussion/social involving the series "Catholicism" is scheduled for Friday, February 10 at 7pm in the JP II House. There will also be food!! Fr. Bresnahan will supply the main dish; others are asked to bring a side dish, dessert, or drink.

Afterwards, the group will head to downtown Fredericksburg for some fun at KC's Music Alley, which will be hosting our own Paul Guilloux's band Rebel Lake. The band starts playing at 9 pm. KC's is at 1917 Princess Anne St. There's no cover charge.

The Young Adult Group has social events on the first and third Tuesdays, and theology events on the second and fourth Fridays. Please contact Fr. Bresnahan if you would like to join the email list.

daily readings
& Mass intentions
february

- 6 MON:** 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Ps 132 or Mk 6:53-56
6:30 Deacon Alberto Bernaola
9am +Arnulfo Grossett
- 7 TUES:** 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13
6:30 +Autumn Hoelft
9am +Peter & +Peggy Stanfar
- 8 WED:** 1 Kgs 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23
6:30 +Robert Joe Campbell
9am +Salvatore Kiwall
- 9 THU:** 1 Kgs 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30
6:30 +John J. Powers
9am +Shirley Mayers
- 10 FRI:** 1 Kgs 11:29-32, 12:19; Mk 7:31-37
6:30 Father Don Rooney
8:30* +Camillo Coletti
9am +John Doherty
- 11 SAT:** 1 Kgs 12:26-32, 13:33-34;
Mk 8:1-10
9am +Jennie Curch
5pm +Joseph DeTrane
7pm Amante Marinas
- 12 SUN:** Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 32; 1 Cor 10:31-11:1; Mk 1:40-45
7am Kenneth Harder Family
8:30 +Barbara Mertens
10:30 +John Arvai
10:30* +Addie Comerford
12:30pm +John Ryan
2pm +Angelo Mario Sacco
5pm For the Parish

*indicates Mass at Holy Cross Academy

PRO LIFE REFLECTION

Abby Johnson's final decision to reject contraception, like her change of mind on abortion, occurred suddenly, and because of something she saw. An experience in a Catholic church, she said, finally made her understand the fullness of the Church's teaching on sexuality. "One day, we were sitting in Mass . . . I was sitting behind this woman, who I don't know, and this little infant." Gazing at that child, she finally understood the Church's insistence on marriages remaining open to new life. (Abby Johnson is a former director of a Planned Parenthood Clinic in Texas. She is now working in the pro-life movement, and converted to the Catholic Church on December 4, 2011

Parish Night Out

SKIP THE CHOCOLATE
GIVE EACH OTHER A TICKET TO ST. MARY'S
"PARISH NIGHT OUT" FORMAL DINNER AND DANCE
FOR VALENTINE'S DAY.

Our annual formal dinner/dance is scheduled for Saturday, March 24, 2012 at the Jepson Center of UMW.

Our annual Parish Night Out has become a favorite tradition for parishioners as we gather in the spring for a fun, formal evening together with great food and great music and dancing. This year we will welcome back the diverse repertoire of the Andrew Thielen Big Band, with dance classics from many generations of popular music. The cash bar opens at 6:30pm, and dinner begins at 7:00pm, followed by dancing until 11:30pm.

Tickets at \$75 each are now on sale to make the perfect Valentine gift, one that you will look forward to using in the spring. Buy one for each other, or for your neighbors who might look forward to getting to know other parishioners.

For more information, contact the parish office, or speak with Marty Bridi (373-0259) or Gail Russell (899-2999). And thank you.

2012 March for Life •

St. Mary Parish sent four busses to the March for Life last month. Two full busses of youth participants went early for the Youth Rally. About 70 parishioners boarded busses after the 9am Mass.





Thank you for your donations to the Baby Shower for Catholic Charities, Birthright, Paul Stefan Homes & Mary's Shelter. The CCW collected and delivered: over 5000 diapers(!); approx. 70 boxes of baby wipes, 130 outfits & sleepers; blankets; formula; maternity clothes; and other baby items. In addition to the baby items, we also received about \$1,080. Each of the charities accepted the gifts with exuberance, joy and gracious thanks to St. Mary Parish.

Annual Scout Mass • St. Thomas More Cathedral, Feb. 11

Come and celebrate Catholic Scouting with the Most Reverend Paul Loverde, Bishop of Arlington at the Annual Scout Mass at the Cathedral on Saturday, February 11. Assemble and check in at Burke Hall at 9:30am, Mass at 10:30am. Reception and photo opportunities following Mass. For more information: www.arlingtondiocesescouting.org

Recognizing Catholic Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire, and American Heritage Girls.

Diocesan Conferences and Retreats •

Men's Conference

The third annual diocesan Men's Conference will be March 3 at St. Joseph, Herndon, and this year's theme is Evangelization & Apologetics. How can you share Christ with people who don't want to know Him? How do you defend your faith against common attacks and misconceptions? Come find out from this year's speakers: Dr. Paul Thigpen, a former Evangelical pastor and one-time atheist, now on the USCCB's Advisory Council; Msgr. Stuart Swetland, convert to the faith and now Flynn Chair of Christian Ethics at Mount St. Mary's Univ.; and our own Fr. William Saunders, pastor of Our Lady of Hope and professor of Theology. Mass to be celebrated by Bishop Paul Loverde. For more details, visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/men.

2012 Women's Conference

Ladies, steal some time away with the Lord this Lent at the Annual Diocesan Women's Conference on Saturday, March 10. Dr. Ralph Martin, President of Renew-

al Ministry, who was recently appointed by Pope Benedict XVI to the Pontifical Council on Evangelization, will lead each of the talks centering on "Holiness and Interior Healing." The conference will be held at St. Raymond of Peñafort in Springfield. For more details on how to register go to www.arlingtondiocese.org/women.

Healing for those Hurting after Abortion

A Day of Prayer and Healing retreat will take place on Saturday, February 11 for those seeking healing after abortion. This day of prayer offers a beautiful opportunity for women who have struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion to experience the mercy and compassion of God. It will offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where you can begin the process of healing. More information is online at www.helpafterabortion.org or call: 888- 456-HOPE / 888-456-4673.

prayer list

Please Pray for those who are sick or in need, especially: Peggy McGuire, James Samuel, Tony Maululicci, Margaret Donald, Anna Castagna, Daniel Dobson, Christopher G. Fleming, Josephine Hahn, David Arnold, Javier Gibert, Priscilla Savchuk, Daniel Bustamonta, Cathy Thompson, Pam Hickman, Inge April, Sylvia Marks, Karren Stefano, Diane McFall, Molly Dalton, Carol Babineau, Bill Driskill, Javier Gibert, Mary Gibbons, Joseph Blanford, Gavin Menteer, Maria Marche, Barbara Wallace, Ervin Wible III, Helen Kozyra, Marjorie Schutt, Amelia McDevitt, Cathy Baldwin, Robert Busch, Bob DeMeyer, Christine Evans, Allyson D'Ostilio, Emma D'Ostilio, Josephine DiVita, Pat and Carol Eggleston, Diane Gallagher, Faye Griffin, James Correia, Kelly Dickinson Vincent, Ludovic Marcelin, Liz Tilitsky, Linda Kaila, Pauline Cross, Dorothy Sullivan, Chika Dittmer, Nathan Horner, Jordan Rizer, Vel Velez, Ed Costa, John and Marie Wellington, Raywood Dartz, Carl Ferguson, Stephen Geitz, Harold O'Keefe, Lois Michell, Theodore Yantiss, Martha Clements, Ree Messer, Patricia D'Amico, Ken Byers, Larry Bonaime, Bonnie Gelwicks, Josephine Kreider, Robert Lyman, Virginia Rose, Eleanor Mitchell, Helen Weber, Zoila Nulanz

Please Pray for all the men and women in our military and civilian support services overseas, especially: Javier Acosta, Leah April, Joel Asher, Miguel Ayala, Matthew Biedenbender, Crystal Black, John Bone, Ned Brownell, Jr., Derek Brostek, Matthew Campos, Bruno Carrero, Jonathan Catalano, Frank Creamer, James Cook, Brad Cowan, Sam Del Grande, Glenn Dickinson, Aaron Doble, Anthony Dowden, John Dussault, Sandy Dussault, Travis Eades, Doug Ebenal, Christopher Eckert, Tim Evan, Christopher Ewers, Paul Fischer, Jonathan Fleming, Roberto Fuentes, Jason Geary, Ramon Guerra, Jr., Andrew Hamilton, Harry Hamilton, Ronnie Hamilton, Andy Haskell, Raymund Haskell, Michael J. Herbek, James Helm, James Hoffnagle, Jr., Robert Horner, Danny L. Howard, Jr., Anthony Howell, Daniel Kramer, Chris Lammers, Stephen Lammers, Jeffrey Lawrence, Dan Lester, Kenneth Linstrom, Ryan Lynch, Brian Mahoney, Sean Malloy, Josh Martin, Samantha Martin, Justin McClelland, Patrick McGroarty, Nathaniel McNamara, Roger Mitchell, Joseph Moore, Robert Mosier, Joseph Muldoon, Mindy Niemann, James Kevin O'Donnell, Joshua K. Pastell, Dominick Joseph Petro, Scott Price, Nick Schulz, Duayne Scott, Tim Smetek, Douglas Stransky, Thomas Tellson, Jr., Heidi Urben, Tania Vega Espinosa, Christopher Williamson and Daniel Zeytoonian.

Please pray for all the faithful departed, especially all the benefactors of St. Mary Parish.