

FATHER'S CORNER



"...all sins and sorrows spring from a certain fever of pride, which cannot enjoy unless it controls."
G. K. Chesterton

When was the last time you enjoyed something you had no control over? Do you remember yourself enthralled with the stars overhead on a clear night? Have you been entranced with the slow process of a bird building a nest in a tree near the kitchen window? Do the changes of seasons leave you feeling at once powerless and privileged?

A good measure of our growing up to become children of God is the measure by which our pleasures come from that which we have no power to make or change. Conversely, we are aging in a negative sense to the extent that nothing is perfect for us unless we had done something perfectly.

Try this the next time you pray. Pray where you can see as much as you can of God's creation – on a back porch or in a garden, or even walking through the woods. He will show you He is listening by giving you a sign. Please *don't* look for it, or decide what you would like to see. Let him show you in His way. It will be a chance for you to grow in awe and wonder – the characteristics of one who has lost control in the best way.

Fr. Kelly's column originally ran on September 10, 2006

Blessing of the Throats - Tue., Feb. 3rd

6:30 am and 9am Masses

Tuesday Evening at 6:30pm

St. Blaise was martyred in the persecution of Licinius early in the 4th century. He was also a Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia, and is associated with the healing of throats. He is also venerated in the Eastern Church as well.

In memory of St. Blaise, the Blessing of the Throats may be given on February 3rd. To honor St. Blaise, on February 3rd after the homily and General Intercessions at the 6:30 and 9am Mass, blessing of the throats will take place. It will also take place at Tuesday evening at 6:30pm. outside of Mass after a prayer service. Crossed candles will be placed over the individual throats saying this prayer of blessing: *"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every other illness. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit."*

Love God and Love Others **Women of St. Francis Luncheon**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

After 12:30 pm Mass, in the Parish Hall

All women of the parish are welcome to attend and join us in fellowship

Please bring a potluck dish to share

Gift Cards and Food Desperately Needed for the Leesburg Catholic Charities office and local Families!

- Please take a tag from the "Giving Tree" and leave your donation in the basket labeled "Giving Tree" and gift cards in the container labeled "Giving Tree."
- Catholic Charities is in dire need of the following food items: rice, beans, pasta, canned meats, canned fruits
- Catholic Charities is also looking for volunteers/groups to make a meal once a week for ~15 people at the homeless shelter. Meals can be delivered to the Leesburg office on Thursdays.

For more information, please contact Marilyn Gugliotta at 540-338-2712, 6gugs@comcast.net or Erin Bucci at 540-338-5402, buccierin@comcast.net. Thank you and may God Bless you for your continued support of local families as they struggle through these challenging times!

Our Thoughts and Prayers Are With ...

The Deployed: Christopher Palm, Kenneth Kyle McWilliams, Major Karl M. Wojtkun, John M. Cotter, Capt. Andrew Kellner

The Sick: Karen Ries, Norma O'Grady, Hannah Brown, Rich Marks, Joey Batchelder, Albert Cippel, Andrew Michael Wilson, Grover 'Corky' Corcoran

The Deceased: Fr. Michael C. Kelly, Raymond Morin, Isabella Hayes Isaacs, Chase Harrison, Maria Keran, Patricia Evelyn Weaver, Charlotte Wells, Robert Saunders, Miriam Moore, Stephanie Jackson



HOMESCHOOLERS: Who Are They and How Do They Do What They Do?

All are invited to attend a discussion panel consisting of Catholic homeschooling high-schoolers and parents on *Saturday, February 7*, 1-3pm, at St. Timothy's Catholic Church, Chantilly. Everyone is welcome; the event is free. For more info, or if you prefer to send questions to beforehand, please contact Mrs. Cathy Tulloch, 703-858-5848, tlc4amaj@aol.com, or Mrs. Melanie Poirier, 703-421-7420, mpoirier@bellatlantic.net.



The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a **Special Olympics Free Throw Competition** and Fund Raiser on *Saturday, February 14th*. Most of our special needs CCD class and

other parishioners will be participating. For more information and to make a donation, please email: ChuckforSpecialOlympics@rstarmail.com

SOULSTITCH MEETS: TODAY, February 1 from 1:30-3:30 pm. Meeting is held in the downstairs hall For information please contact Monica Deaver at 540-338-6057 or mojoknits@comcast.net.

CHRISTENDOM COLLEGE In March of 2008, US News and World Report boldly proclaimed, "*Christendom College embodies [Pope] Benedict's vision for education.*" Christendom invites junior students, their parents and their educators to Front Royal to learn more about the Holy Father's vision. Join us for Junior Visit Day, which is slated for Monday, February 16. The day includes an address by the College President, lectures by Christendom faculty, a celebration of the Mass, campus tours and a complimentary lunch. Visit the Christendom website, www.christendom.edu for more info, or contact Lauren Clark, Associate Director of Admissions, at 800-877-5456, x 1293.

A SCOUT IS REVERANT Scout Sunday will be celebrated at here at St. Francis de Sales at the 12:30 Mass on *Sunday, February 8*. Cub scouts, Boy scouts, and adult leaders please attend in uniform. You are welcome to display your Pack/Troop flag or banner in the narthex. If your son has earned a Catholic Scouting award and would like it presented at this Mass, and/or you can help with light refreshments please contact Marilyn Gugliotta at 338-2712 or email 6gugs@comcast.net



**BOY
SCOUT
SUNDAY**

Please mark your calendars for Girl Scout Sunday, March 8, 12:30pm Mass.

RIDE TO FAIRFAX HOSPITAL Thank you to all who have so generously offered their time, cars, and gasoline for the couple in need of transportation to Fairfax Hospital. I have called some of you and have you all on my list. Mr. U. has been home for the past several weeks, but is due to return to the hospital in about two more weeks. He is expecting to undergo a bone marrow transplant. We may need to call on you at that time. Even though we have not needed to call on all of you, just the fact that you are willing has warmed the hearts of this dear couple. God bless you all! We are St. Francis!

ANNUAL PARISH SHOVE TUESDAY DINNER The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring the annual parish Shrove Tuesday (Feast before the fast!) dinner on *Tuesday, February 24* at 6:30pm. Bring your family and friends and come out for spaghetti and meatballs, and good company. A free will offering will be collected for pro-life charities.



TODAY, February 8 in the Parish Hall. The first drive of six scheduled for 2009 will be conducted to provide needed blood products for our parish faith community and friends and neighbors in distress. Please sign up on the list posted in the narthex or call Rachel Brill at 540-338-6313.

Below are the names of people along with the date of their burial 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.

Anthony P. Giuggio, February 6, 2008
Carl J. Niederpruem, February 16, 2005
William W. Wolf, February 14, 2004
Thomas M. Moran, February 24, 2003
Jerome J. Butts, February 21, 2003
Charles E. Lloyd, February 16, 2003
Katharine M. Tormey, February 1, 1999
Mary Margaret Rust, February 11, 1999
Elizabeth Ann Clayp, February 17, 1998
Betty Mac Campbell, February 6, 1996
Hillary Anne Scannell, February 10, 1994
Lucy Bartoldus, February 17, 1994
Judith Ann Gunnells, February 10, 1993
Ferrell T. Williams, February 18, 1986
Vera M. Kurtenbach, February 16, 1986
Elizabeth Case, February 20, 1980
Robert J. Caruthers, February 13, 1978
Ruby G. Leffingwell, February 1, 1970
James C. Hammes, February 17, 1969

Religious Education

Melissa Gobs, DRE
338-4497 or dre.stfrancis@comcast.net

2008-2009 The Year of St. Paul

I tell you, brothers and sisters, the time is running out. From now on, let those having wives act as not having them, those weeping as not weeping, those rejoicing as not rejoicing, those buying as not owning, those using the world as not using it fully. For the world in its present form is passing away.
1 Cor 7:29-31



Inclement Weather Policy

Class cancellation will be recorded on the Religious Education voice mail (540-338-4497) a cancellation announcement will also be on WTOP 103.5FM. In addition, we will try to send an email to all of the Religious Education Families whose email addresses we have. Weekday classes will be cancelled if school is cancelled or in the event of early dismissal.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

This study titled 1st Corinthians - The Church and the Christian Community explores the book of Corinthians and the development of the early Church. This Bible study meets from 10am to noon Tuesday mornings. More details and sign-ups coming soon! For more information, please contact Lisa Doseff (540) 822-3026 or Jean Fenwick (540) 338-2884.

Babysitting will be available at this new session. Please call Lisa or Jean at the above numbers if you are in need of a babysitter.

RE Calendar

Sun., Feb. 1	<u>Gr. K-8 - Session 1 - 8:45am at LVHS</u> <u>Gr. K-8, RCIC - Session 2 - 10:30am at LVHS</u>
Mon., Feb. 2	<u>Gr. 1, 7, RCIC, and Special Needs - 4:15pm</u> at the church
Tue., Feb. 3	<u>Gr. K, 2, 4, 8 - 4:15pm, at the church</u>
Wed. Feb. 4	<u>Grades 3,5,6 - 4:15pm, at the church</u>
Thur., Feb. 5	<u>RCIT - 7pm, Oratory Room</u>
Sun., Feb. 8	<u>Gr. K-8 - Session 1 - 8:45am at LVHS</u> <u>Gr. K-8, RCIC - Session 2 - 10:30am at LVHS</u>
Mon., Feb. 9	<u>Gr. 1, 7, RCIC, and Special Needs - 4:15pm</u> at the church
Tue., Feb. 10	<u>Gr. K, 2, 4, 8 - 4:15pm, at the church</u>
Wed. Feb. 11	<u>Grades 3,5,6 - 4:15pm, at the church</u>
Thur., Feb. 12	<u>RCIT - 7pm, Oratory Room</u>



TEEN FAITH NEWS

TEEN MASS - at 6pm every Sunday, All welcome-please bring friends. Teens are welcome to sit in the front left 3 rows of church.

No Youth Night - Sunday, February 1st. Go Steelers!

Adoration Holy Hour for Teens - Adoration Holy Hour for Teens Friday, Feb. 6th, 10-11pm.

Mandatory Workcamp Meeting - Sunday, February 8h. All teens going to Workcamp should be at this meeting. A Non refundable Deposits of \$150 is due at this meeting. You should be working on your appeal letters by now.

Youth Night - Sunday, February 15th, What Makes Us Catholic?

Mount 2009 - Registration is full.

Steubenville - Registration is full.

High School Ski Trip - Feb. 20-22 to Wisp, MD. Sign up now. Space limited.

Jane Treado Youth Director
540-338-6381 or Janedhs78@aol.com

TO PARENTS OF 2nd AND 8th GRADERS

Letters have been mailed out to parents of our 8th grade Confirmation candidates. These letters detail the final preparations for Confirmation, due dates, plans for the mandatory retreat, and rehearsal and mass times. Please contact the RE office if you have not received your letter in the mail.

VBS PLANNING MEETING

We will hold our first meeting in preparation for this summer's VBS on **Tuesday, February 17** in the Conference Room at 7pm. Anyone interested in learning more about VBS, helping this year, or sharing ideas should attend.

The Vacation Bible School Program is a week of creative educational and fun activities based on a Biblical theme. The program is designed for children ages kindergarten through grade six.

Discover how much fun it can be to help with VBS! Adults and teens are all invited to volunteer.

MASSSES for the WEEK

† deceased

Sat., January 31

5:00 pm

Sun., February 1

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:30 pm

6:00 pm

Mon., February 2

6:30 am

9:00 am

Tue., February 3

6:30 am

9:00 am

Wed., February 4

6:30 am

9:00 am

Thurs., February 5

6:30 am

9:00 am

Fri., February 6

6:30 am

12:00 noon

Sat., February 7

9:00 am

Sat., February 7

5:00 pm

Sun., February 8

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:30 pm

6:00 pm

Vigil: 4th Sunday of Ordinary Time

† Gary Rutzel

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time

† Miriam Dwyer

† Rosemary Pham

† Barbara and † David Donzel

People of the Parish

The Gargiulo Family

The Presentation of the Lord

Domenico

† Marilyn Chusano

Weekday

John Krebs

† Rita Taylor

Weekday

James McElroy

The Plezia Family

St. Agatha

Maggie Krebs

James McElroy

First Friday

Special Intention

In Thanksgiving for the Eucharist

First Saturday

Corky Corcoran

Vigil: 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time

† George and † Helen Rutzel

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time

† Mary Therese Heidkamp

Joanna Willard

† Sr. Imilda Travis

Tara McIntosh

People of the Parish

This Week

Mon., Feb. 2

RCIA - 7:30pm, in the church

Tues., Feb. 3

Bible Study - 10am-noon, parish hall

Wed., Feb. 4

"Living Life in the Spirit" - 6:30pm

Charismatic Prayer Group - 7:30pm

Oratory Room

IMPORTANT TAX NOTICE If you would like acknowledgment of donation for your tax returns, please email your request to Alicia Holz in the parish office at alicia@stfrde.org.

OFFICE PHONE SYSTEM Thank you for your patience while we have problems with our phone voice mail system. If you need to contact us during off hours, please email. We are making every effort to solve this problem.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2009

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the Lord who made us. - *Psalm 95:6*

TRUE PROPHETS

In Deuteronomy today we hear that God's very words will fill the mouth of a true prophet, but a false prophet will, in a manner of speaking, put mere mortal words into God's mouth. In Mark's Gospel, we see Jesus teaching and healing as a true prophet, one filled with the authority of God's own voice, the Holy One of God. There are, no doubt, both false and true prophets around us today. The whole history of our church is filled with both. Some false prophets were extremely popular and quite well-versed in scripture, and even held positions of church authority. But in today's Gospel we learn that Jesus' fame spread because he taught with authority; he wasn't an authority because he was popular or famous. Elsewhere, we also learn from him, in his desert temptation confrontations with Satan, that anyone can quote scripture, even against God's purposes. Today we hear that his authority was not like that of the scribes, who held the official positions of religious authority in his day. Our work is to do our best to discern the true prophets in our midst, and to be true prophets as well. The psalmist tells us how to do this: by not hardening our hearts when God speaks. If we truly listen to God, it will be God's very words filling our mouths.

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PARISH FINANCIAL STATUS: 1/25/09

Offertory - this week

\$ 14,133

YEAR TO DATE

\$ 68,166

Readings for the Week

Monday:

Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24; Heb 2:14-18;

Lk 2:22-40 [22-32]

Tuesday:

Heb 12:1-4; Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday:

Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Mk 6:1-6

Thursday:

Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Mk 6:7-13

Friday:

Heb 13:1-8; Mk 6:14-29

Saturday:

Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Mk 6:30-34

Sunday:

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; Ps 147; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39