

## Greetings to all the Parishioners of Saint Francis de Sales!

*My name is Father Ronald Escalante. Bishop Loverde has appointed me to be the new Administrator of the parish effective February 18, 2009. I consider myself very blessed to serve at God's little country in Purcellville.*

*Many of us are still saddened by God's unexpected call of Father Michael Kelly into eternal life. He was a very good and holy priest. I had known Father Kelly for 17 years and we were ordained together by the late Bishop Keating in 1995. In our diocese Father Kelly was a friend to all the priests and to everyone he served. No matter the length of time we spent with him, we will always remember that it was time well spent. As the Book of Wisdom says, "But the just man, though he die early, shall be at rest. For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time, nor can it be measured in terms of years" (4:7-8). I am both humbled and honored that the Lord has blessed me with the calling of continuing the great spiritual leadership that Father Kelly has handed on to me.*

*This past Monday I was also very blessed to meet the entire parish staff. What a great group of dedicated souls that serve the parish community! I also had a chance to meet a few of the parishioners who happened to be at the parish center. Visiting some of the Religious Education students was a 'bonus' highlight for me. Since the kids were so good in my brief class participation session, I treated them to a couple of magic tricks (In the tradition of Saint John Bosco, I kept up my hobby of doing magic).*

*I am very much looking forward to my first weekend Masses with you so that I can meet the rest of the parishioners. In the meantime, I must pack my belongings and figure out how I will move everything to Purcellville in such a short notice. You are in my prayers and please do keep me in yours.*

*In Christ,*

*Father Escalante*

## Love God and Love Others

### Women of St. Francis Luncheon

**TODAY, 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](mailto:6gugs@comcast.net) or Erin Bucci at 540-338-5402, [buccierin@comcast.net](mailto: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, 2LT Brendan McCormick



**The Sick:** Karen Ries, Norma O'Grady, Hannah Brown, Rich Marks, 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



## Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Shrove Tuesday  
February 24 at 6pm  
St. Francis Hall

The teens and the Knights of Columbus are joining up on Shrove Tuesday, February 24, to raise money for a memorial statue of St. Michael the Archangel in memory of Fr. Michael Kelly. Bring the whole family for this great evening of remembering Fr. Kelly. Donations will be accepted. Goal - \$4,000



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](mailto:ChuckforSpecialOlympics@rstarmail.com)

## Respect Life News

St. John the Apostle and Our Lady of Hope parishes invite you to a special Pro-Life event. Hosted by Our Lady of Hope on *Friday, February 27* all are welcome for the Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm and the event will begin at 8pm. Fr. Wilde has traveled to over 600 venues in 46 states delivering the Gospel of Life and supporting the local pro-life efforts of clergy and laity. Representatives from national pro-life organizations Silent No More and 40 Days for Life will also be on hand to discuss the devastation abortion continues to have on our society and what we all can do about it.

**REMEMBERING FATHER KELLY** Would anyone like to help work on compiling a book of Fr. Kelly's writings and words of wit and wisdom? If so, call Kathleen at 540 338-2471

**HOUSE BLESSINGS** One of many Catholic traditions is to have one's home blessed. If anyone would like their home blessed, please leave your name, address and phone number with the Parish Office. Deacon Larry will contact you to set up a time when he can come to bless your home and family.

**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](http://www.christendom.edu), or contact Lauren Clark, Assoc. Director of Admissions, at 800-877-5456, x 1293.

**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!

**HEALING MASS** The Catholic Healing Ministry of the Diocese of Arlington will celebrate a Mass and Healing service on Thursday, February 19 at 7:30pm at St. Timothy Church, Chantilly, VA. Fr. Tuck Grinnell, celebrant. For further information call 540-347-0809 or [www.healingministry.net](http://www.healingministry.net)

## LIVING LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Friday Night February 20, 7:30pm  
Saturday February 21, 9:00-9:30am Mass  
9:30am – 4pm Seminar

Come and join us as we begin a dynamic seminar on "Living a Life in the Spirit." This seminar will explain THE HOW TO concerning our walk in the Spirit, living by faith, fighting the battles of life, and experiencing Charismatic Gifts of the Spirit (Wisdom, Knowledge, Prophecy, Miracles, Healings, Special faith, discernment, tongues, and interpretation of tongues). If you have a desire to have deeper walk in the Spirit you don't want to miss study. At the end of the seminar we will pray for the impartation and activation of these gifts in your life. A Light Lunch will be served. For more information and to pre-register please Email Joe Curto at [JTCURTO@AOL.COM](mailto:JTCURTO@AOL.COM)

## Religious Education

Melissa Gobs, DRE  
338-4497 or [dre.stfrancis@comcast.net](mailto:dre.stfrancis@comcast.net)

### 2008-2009 The Year of St. Paul

"Although I am free in regard to all,  
I have made myself a slave to all  
so as to win over as many as  
possible.

To the weak I became weak, to win  
over the weak.

I have become all things to all, to save at least some.  
All this I do for the sake of the gospel,  
so that I too may have a share in it" - 1 Cor 9:22-23



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### 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.

### Adult Confirmation

There will be an adult Confirmation Mass at the Cathedral on May 30, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. and on Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2009 at 2:30 p.m. Any high school students or adults who have not yet received the Sacrament of Confirmation should contact Melissa Gobs in the Religious Education Office immediately to begin preparation.

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## RE Calendar

Sun., Feb. 8	<u>Gr. K-8</u> - Session 1 - 8:45am at LVHS
Mon., Feb. 9	<u>Gr. K-8, RCIC</u> - Session 2 - 10:30am at LVHS <u>Gr. 1, 7, RCIC, and Special Needs</u> - 4:15pm at the church
Tue., Feb. 10	<u>Gr. K, 2, 4, 8</u> - 4:15pm, at the church
Wed. Feb. 11	<u>Grades 3,5,6</u> - 4:15pm, at the church
Thur., Feb. 12	<u>RCIT</u> - 7pm, Oratory Room
Sun., Feb. 15	<u>No Class</u>
Mon., Feb. 16	<u>No Class</u>
Tue., Feb. 17	<u>Gr. K, 2, 4, 8</u> - 4:15pm, at the church
Wed. Feb. 18	<u>No Class</u>
Thur., Feb. 19	<u>RCIT</u> - 7pm, Oratory Room



## 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.

**Mandatory Workcamp Meeting** - This 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. You can bring a copy of the letter to the meeting if you haven't already sent it to us.

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

**Mount 2009** - We will try to leave at 5pm on Friday, Feb 13 and return by 2 on Sunday, Feb 15.

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

**Steubenville** - If you signed up for Steubenville, you need to get your \$30 deposit in now!

**Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser** - The teens and the Knights of Columbus are joining up on Shrove Tuesday, Feb 24, to raise money for a memorial statue of St. Michael the Archangel in memory of Fr. Michael Kelly. Please sign up to help set up, serve dinner, or clean up. You can e-mail me to sign up.

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Jane Treado Youth Director  
540-338-6381 or [Janedhs78@aol.com](mailto:Janedhs78@aol.com)

### TO PARENTS OF 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.

VBS will be held the week of July 13-17 this year. We will participate again in the Purcellville 4th of July parade!

# MASSSES for the WEEK

† deceased

Sat., February 7

5:00 pm

Sun., February 8

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:30 pm

6:00 pm

Mon., February 9

6:30 am

9:00 am

Tue., February 10

6:30 am

9:00 am

Wed., February 11

6:30 am

9:00 am

Thurs., February 12

6:30 am

9:00 am

Fri., February 13

6:30 am

12:00 noon

Sat., February 14

9:00 am

Sat., February 14

5:00 pm

Sun., February 15

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:30 pm

6:00 pm

**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

**Weekday**

† Fr. Michael C. Kelly

† Miriam Moore

**St. Scholastica**

† Leon and † Felixa Rutzel

† Robert Witham

**Weekday**

† Fr. Michael C. Kelly

Jim and Cindy Bruno

**Weekday**

Charlie Ann Krebs

The Colvilles

**Weekday**

Alice Murphy

In Thanksgiving for the Eucharist

**Sts. Cyril and Methodius**

Kathy and Tom Murphy

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

† Wallace and † Helen Slivonik

**6th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

† Joseph A. Murphy

People of the Parish

† Jason Childers

The Anderson Family

The Lane Family

## This Week

Mon., Feb. 9 RCIA - 7:30pm, in the church

Tues., Feb. 10 Bible Study - 10am-noon, parish hall

Wed., Feb. 11 Padre Pio Cenacle - after 9am Mass

“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](mailto: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 resolve this problem.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2009**

**5th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

[The Lord] tells the number of the stars and calls them by name. - *Psalms 147:4*

### TIRELESS DISCIPLESHIP

The Gospel of Mark, unlike those of Matthew and Luke, has no infancy narrative, nor does it have a lengthy prologue to introduce it, as John's Gospel does. In Mark's account, one could say, Jesus hits the ground running. The stories we've been hearing these weeks come from the very first chapter of Mark, and they show us the public ministry of Jesus in its infancy. Today's account shows some of the strain or adjustment of his new life of preaching the reign of God, healing the sick, and casting out demons. Notice that after sunset, when darkness ended the workday, people brought the sick and possessed to Jesus. The following day he rose before dawn to get away by himself to pray, but to no avail. Simon Peter and the others don't just look for him, they pursue him, filled with the fervor that his ministry has incited. With the self-sacrificing example he gave until the end of his earthly life, he tells his followers that this is his whole purpose. Through Mark, he is also telling the early church, and he is telling us, that this is our purpose, our vocation: to be tireless in our pursuit of proclaiming the Good News, and in bringing the healing, reconciling touch of Christ to the world.

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### PARISH FINANCIAL STATUS: 2/1/09

Offertory - this week	\$ 15,577
YEAR TO DATE	\$ 83,743
2nd Collection	\$ 1,679

### Readings for the Week

Monday:	Gn 1:1-19; Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday:	Gn 1:20 — 2:4a; Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday:	Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mk 7:14-23
Thursday:	Gn 2:18-25; Mk 7:24-30
Friday:	Gn 3:1-8; Mk 7:31-37
Saturday:	Gn 3:9-24; Mk 8:1-10
Sunday:	Lv 13:1-2, 44-46; Ps 32; 1 Cor 10:31 — 11:1; Mk 1:40-45