



By the time you read this Sunday bulletin I will still be on my 'Journey of Saint Paul' pilgrimage and currently in Turkey. By now we would have visited Athens, Corinth and Ephesus. Be assured that all of us pilgrims are praying for you at all the holy sites we're visiting.

Last weekend we had a wonderful Confirmation retreat. It was very exciting for me to meet so many of our teens for the first time. I enjoyed their company very much especially while praying with them during the Eucharistic Adoration. And they were very good during the Q & A session so I treated them to a few magic tricks!

I want to thank you for your participation in the Bishop's Lenten Appeal. In a few weeks we'll find out how successful last weekend's plea for a substantial increase in parish participation in the BLA. Indications show that there's a very good chance of that happening. At the end of the 12:30pm Mass we practically ran out of BLA envelopes. One of our staff members had to 'beg' Saint John's parish in Leesburg to give us some of their envelopes so that we'll have enough for the 6pm Teen Mass! And I was very pleased to see the kids (and some grownups) look with amazement at the mysteriously appearing 'giant magic pencil' for the BLA promo.

Here's a brief update on building the new hall/gym. Last Thursday the diocesan director of Planning, Construction & Facilities met with me, our parish lawyer, engineer, finance council rep and pastoral assistant. The meeting went very well and our plan is now kicking in gear. I even met an architect over the weekend who came up with a very impressive proposal. The next step is for our parish to propose getting a mortgage approved by diocesan Finance Officer. We have accelerated working on this project because the county has already granted us the permit. However, if we do not build within the next two years, the mostly donated 11-acre land will be deeded back to the donor as previously agreed upon by my predecessors. So please let's pray a lot to Our Blessed Lord and our favorite Saints to help us complete our project very soon. You can bet that this will be one of my most important intentions I will be praying for at our pilgrimage.

Your shepherd in Christ,

Father Escalante

The 2009 Bishop' Lenten Appeal **"Be Rich in Good Works.....Ready to Share"** **(1Tim 6:18)**

This is an opportunity for us to unite with all Catholics in our Diocese to share our blessings and to show concern for one another. Please assist the works of vocations, Catholic Charities, family life and all the other programs carried out by our diocese. Please be as generous as God has been to you. Every gift is important. Please prayerfully consider Bishop Loverde's request for support and give generously to assist the work of our diocese.



Each Friday of Lent
6pm in the Parish Hall.

March 13 hosted by:
Respect Life Committee
Free Will Offering for The House of Mary
Soup donated by Tuscarora Mill

PRAY FOR PEACE AND SAFETY

If you have a family member serving overseas, please let us know. We will publish their names in the bulletin to remind everyone to ask for God's blessings on them, that they may return safely to their families. Let us join our prayers for peace and safety with yours. Also, please let us know when they return safely home so that we may also rejoice with you.

FREE COUPLES WORKSHOPS on

Communication, Finance and Blended Families
The Office for Family Life and Catholic Charities are offering workshops led by professional counselors for engaged and married couples. If you are engaged or married these workshops may be the answer to helping you develop a healthier, happier marriage and family life. All workshops will be held at 7pm at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Vienna. Workshops are free. Donations are appreciated. Write familylife@arlingtondiocese.org for more information. The next workshop is Wednesday, April 22 - **Second Union, Blended Families.**



Our parish has purchased an AED (defibrillator) to be installed on **Saturday, March 7**. We have arranged for ushers, mass coordinators,

staff, and representatives of other ministries to be certified in CPR and use of the AED by an instructor from Loudoun Rescue. A company representative will give an overview on the use of the defibrillator beginning at 9am. Immediately following this, those signed up for CPR instruction will proceed to the parish hall. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex for those who would be interested in a future CPR class.

Questions? Contact Nancy Grish at 540-338-8004 or nmg1298@aol.com.

USHERS Please note that there will be a meeting for all ushers and any members of the parish who wish to join this ministry on Monday evening, **March 16, 2009** from 7:30- 8:30pm. We will discuss safety, security, Usher Guidelines and use of the parish's new AED.

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.

CAMP ST. CHARLES - BOYS AND GIRLS CATHOLIC OVER-NIGHT SUMMER CAMP Open House - March 8, April 19 and May 17, 11am-4pm. Drop in during our Open house to see how your children can experience two fun filled weeks at Camp St. Charles for a reasonable price in beautiful southern Maryland. Camp St. Charles has been run by the Salvatorian Fathers and Brothers and Lay Salvatorians for over 57 years. We offer a get acquainted weekend and a volunteer weekend. For more info, see our website www.campstcharles.com or call 301-934-8799.

INSURANCE MAILING ALERT

In recent weeks parishioners may have received a solicitation mailing from an insurance company. PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT THIS MAILING WAS DONE WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OR CONSENT OF THE DIOCESE or PARISHES. The diocese never releases the names of parishioners to outside organizations. The insurance company purchased a mailing list of Catholics from a direct marketing company.

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.

John David Lindsay, March 28, 2008
Virginia Moorcones, March 8, 2007
James Campbell, March 26, 2001
Mary Helen Moorcones, March 1, 2000
William R. Johnson, March 10, 2000
Stanley R. Henniksen, March 7, 1998
Peter Fr. Skarzenski, March 8, 1995
Lorraine Haske, March 21, 1996
Charles C. Diller, March 26, 1996
Thomas P. Quinn, March 20, 1994
Charles H. McDonnell, March 7, 1993
Ann Cleary, March 6, 1991
Mary Ricker, March 31, 1989
John J. Sheehan, March 7, 1980
Danny Hayes, March 15, 1978

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE Many thanks to all those who have answered the request for dishes to be delivered and served at the various bereavement receptions that have been held at our church in the past several months. We are in great need of more names to call so we do not continually call on the same people. Would you consider being on our calling list? If so, please contact Sharon Austin at (540) 338-4741. Thank you!



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, 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, William Leonard, Andrew Michael Wilson, Janet Law, Jose Vera Tudela, James Emmet Lanaghan



Religious Education

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

2008-2009 The Year of St. Paul

"Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him?" Romans 8:31-32



DOES THIS DESCRIBE YOU???

"I'd like to study the Bible with a group but I am not sure how to do so."

"I have a lot of questions about the Bible as a whole or about certain passages in it that I would like to have answered clearly & confidentially."

"Among the many questions I have are concerns about the scriptural basis, if any, for various rituals and sacramental liturgies in Catholicism."

"If I don't like it, I want to be free to leave without any pressure to stay."

"Oh, yeah, I almost forgot... I also want it to be free and fun, too."

IF SO, THEN... come join us in our latest study:

SUNDAYS (8:45AM), at Loudoun Valley High School
Dates: March 15 thru May 3

Questions? Contact Bernie and Bev Elero at (540)882-9707
email: belero@aol.com or Melissa Gobs (540)338-4497 email: dre.stfrancis@comcast.net

Please visit the Religious Education page of the parish website to stay up-to-date with the RE Schedule, Curriculum, Sacramental Preparation Requirements and more! A direct link to our site is www.stfrancisdesalescatholicchurch.org/ReligiousEd.asp

RE Calendar

Sun., Mar. 8	Gr. K-8 - Session 1 - 8:45am at LVHS <u>Gr. K-8, RCIC</u> - Session 2 - 10:30am at LVHS
Mon., Mar. 9	<u>Gr. 1, 7, RCIC, and Special Needs</u> - 4:15pm at the church
Tue., Mar. 10	<u>Gr. K, 2, 4, 8</u> - 4:15pm, at the church
Wed. Mar. 11	<u>Grades 3, 5, 6</u> - 4:15pm, at the church
Thur., Mar. 12	<u>RCIT</u> - 7pm, Oratory Room
Sun., Mar. 15	Gr. K-8 - Session 1 - 8:45am at LVHS <u>Gr. K-8, RCIC</u> - Session 2 - 10:30am at LVHS
Mon., Mar. 16	<u>Gr. 1, 7, RCIC, and Special Needs</u> - 4:15pm at the church
Tue., Mar. 17	<u>Gr. K, 2, 4, 8</u> - 4:15pm, at the church
Wed. Mar. 18	<u>Grades 3, 5, 6</u> - 4:15pm, at the church
Thur., Mar. 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.

Youth Nights - Sunday nights in church hall from 7:15 - 9m. For all high school students, grades 9-12. March 8th, join us for a great night as we continue our discussions about Lent and Sacrifice.

Next Mandatory Workcamp Meeting - March 15th. All teens going to Workcamp should be at this meeting! We will hand out registrations. You should have already paid your Deposits of \$150. Paying your deposit puts you on the list to go. 95 teens are already on the list to go. We will take 135 teens. Spots are filling up fast. If you are having trouble coming up with the deposit, please see me. 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.

Workcamp Fundraising Committee - We are starting up a fundraising committee to help organize the fundraiser's. I need your help. I cannot do this on my own! Please join us Sunday, March 15th 4:30 - 5:30 pm in church hall. No experience necessary!! Last year we raised \$100,000. This year we only need to raise \$80,000.

St. Francis Teen Faith Community Outreach meeting to begin planning and organization of efforts to assist the Loudoun Emergency Homeless Shelter and the Loudoun Transitional Housing Shelter. If you want to participate please attend this meeting, Sunday, March 8th at 4:30pm in the Hall. If you have any questions contact Matt Bowe @ 540-454-7037 or matthewbowe@yahoo.com

Jane Treado Youth Director

540-338-6381 or Janedhs78@aol.com

VBS 2009

K4J Summertime Blast - July 13-17

Come to our next planning meeting on **Tuesday, March 10** at 7pm in the Conference Room.

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.

MASSSES for the WEEK

† deceased

Sat., March 7

5:00 pm

Sun., March 8

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:30 pm

6:00 pm

Mon., March 9

6:30 am

9:00 am

Tue., March 10

6:30 am

9:00 am

Wed., March 11

6:30 am

9:00 am

Thurs., March 12

6:30 am

9:00 am

Fri., March 13

6:30 am

12:00 noon

Sat., March 14

9:00 am

Sat., March 14

5:00 pm

Sun., March 15

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:30 pm

6:00 pm

Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Lent

† Wallace and † Helen Slivonik

2nd Sunday of Lent

† Rev. Stanley Slivonik

The Martin Family

People of the Parish

The McLaughlin Family

The Moortgat Family

Lenten Weekday

Frank Cucurullo Family

† Judy Merritt

Lenten Weekday

† James Francis Thompson

† Rose Marie Fagerli

Lenten Weekday

† Adrian McAuley

† Bill Hayes

Lenten Weekday

† Lily and Alex Petrovsky

Patricia Griffin

Lenten Weekday

† Richard Moore

In Thanksgiving for the Eucharist

Lenten Weekday

† Fr. Michael Kelly

Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Lent

The Ortmann Family

3rd Sunday of Lent

Deceased members of the D'Elia, Curran, Butts and Sommer families

The Parent Family

† Jean and Jim Smith

The Proctor Family

The Retaleato Family

This Week

Mon., Mar. 9 RCIA 7:30pm

Tues., Mar. 10 Bible Study - 10am-noon, parish hall
Bible Study - 7:30pm, parish hall

Wed., Mar. 11 Padre Pio Cenacle - after 9am Mass
"Living Life in the Spirit" - 6:30pm
Charismatic Prayer Group - 7:30pm
Oratory Room

PARISH FINANCIAL STATUS: 3/1/09

OFFERTORY - this week	\$ 15,151
YEAR TO DATE	\$ 142,964
2nd Collection	\$ 1,688

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2009

2nd Sunday of Lent

If God is for us, who can be against?

Romans 8:31b

THE OBEDIENCE OF ABRAHAM AND JESUS

God tested Abraham by asking not for an ordinary sacrifice, which would have been a partial burning with the meat divided between God and the people and eaten by those who sacrificed, but for a holocaust, a total burning of the sacrificial animal. This type of sacrifice consecrated the entire offering to God alone. This is what God was asking of Abraham in offering his only son, Isaac. When Abraham demonstrated his obedience, that was enough. This story from today's scriptures foretells the completion of the blood sacrifices of the old covenant in the new covenant: the blood of God's own Son, offered to us on the cross and in the Eucharist. Abraham's obedience foreshadows the obedience of Jesus to God's promise of salvation. The obedience of Abraham is rewarded in the birth to him, through Isaac, of many nations. The obedience of Jesus is rewarded in the salvation of all people for all time.

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FRIDAYS IN LENT

Masses 6:30 am and 12 noon
Confessions 10:45am and 8pm
Soup Supper 6-7:30 pm
Stations of the Cross 7:30pm

Everyone over 14 years of age is bound to observe the law of abstinence. ABSTINENCE from meat is to be observed on all Fridays within the season of Lent.

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38
Tuesday:	Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12
Wednesday:	Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28
Thursday:	Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31
Friday:	Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a; 17b-28a; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
Saturday:	Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
Sunday:	Ex 20:1-17 [1-3, 7-8, 12-17]; Ps 19; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25