



Greetings to everyone from the Holy Land! Remember the prayer intentions book that many of you signed? As of this writing, we've prayed for your intentions at St. Dionysius Catholic Cathedral in Athens; at Mars Hill, where St. Paul preached at the Aeropagus; in Ephesus where the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Apostle and St. Paul once lived; and at Perge where St. Paul preached and suffered persecution.

If my flight is not delayed, I should be back at the parish late in the evening on March 14. In that case, we'll see each other for Mass sometime this Sunday morning but not for the earliest morning Masses. Most likely at that time I will still be zzzzzzz...!

Father Escalante

VIRTUS TRAINING SEMINAR

Wednesday, April 22 at 6m in the Parish Hall. All volunteers in the parish who have significant contact with children, i.e. adults going to Workcamp, VBS helpers, Religious Education, Nursery, etc. If you not yet attended this seminar, this is the perfect opportunity! To register go to www.virtus.org, click on 'registration', and follow the prompts. There are only 32 spots available, please sign up now.

WHY PRAY FOR A PRIEST? Most of us have heard about the power of prayer. Many of us who pray regularly have experienced the powerful impact prayer can have on our lives. For those of you who pray for a priest, **THANK YOU!** You are performing a valuable task. Now come and join us, **every Friday** after the noon Mass for a Holy Hour offered for the priests. And please raise awareness, encourage more to do the same. Most of all, we want to focus the power of prayer, and pray for a priest, whomever he might be.

MINISTRY OF PRAISE Pray-ers throughout our parish pray everyday for individual and parish needs. Prayer requests **should be submitted each month** in the box on the wall in the narthex. Seniors, handicapped, and homebound who serve with intercessory prayer are the core of the Ministry of Praise. For emergency prayer needs, call Dottie Gessner at 338-4218 or Dorothy Cooper at 338-6381.



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

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

Monday, March 23 at 7:30pm

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS

Tuesday, March 31
Wednesday, April 1
Thursday, April 2
7:30-9pm

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.

FREE COUPLES WORKSHOPS on

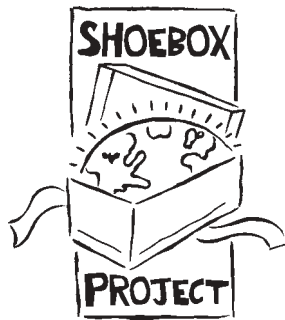
Communication, Finance and Blended Families
The Office for Family Life and Catholic Charities are offering workshops led by professional counselors for engaged and married couples. If you are engaged or married these workshops may be the answer to helping you develop a healthier, happier marriage and 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**.

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



Each Friday of Lent
6-7:30pm in the Parish Hall

March 13 hosted by:
Devout Life Homeschool Group
Please bring a non-perishable food item for
Catholic Charities



HAITI SHOEBOX PROJECT: STEP 2 During Lent we are working on creating care boxes for pediatric patients in Haiti to take home with them. Step 1: The collection of shoe boxes is over at this time - thank you! For Step 2, Session 1 Religious Ed students are bringing in the following new items for children during Lent: underwear, socks, crayons, pencils,

pens, soap bars, toothbrush & toothpaste, hairbrushes or combs. They are also bringing in gently used books from their grade level. If you would also like to contribute, boxes marked by age group (grade & age) will be in the narthex and high school during classes for the deposit of items. These boxes will be available during Lent. Washclothes are also being knit by Soulstitch. If you have any questions or would like to knit a washclothe, please contact Monica Deaver at 540-338-6057 or mojoknits@comcast.net. The 8th grade confirmation class (Mr. & Mrs. Deaver's) is sponsoring this project.

SOULSTITCH MEETS in the hall: 4th *Wednesday, March 25*, 9:30-11:30am & 1st *Sunday, April 5*, 1:30-3:30 pm. We are currently knitting washclothes for the Haiti shoebox project and mittens and blankets for Afghan children. Questions? Contact Monica Deaver at 540-338-6057 or mojoknits@comcast.net.

CAMP ST. CHARLES - BOYS AND GIRLS CATHOLIC OVER-NIGHT SUMMER CAMP Open House - 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. Fro more info, see our website www.campstcharles.com or call 301-934-8799.

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!



SOFTBALL SEASON APPROACHING! St. Francis de Sales parish plays in a multi-denominational co-ed league. The season runs from May thru June, games are mainly on Tuesday evenings. Practices begin on Sundays in April. All parishioners are invited to register to play. Please call Bill Buxton at (703) 431-2590 for more info.



EASTER TREE ORNAMENTS

All children are invited to make an ornament for the Easter Tree which will be in the Narthex at Easter. The Ornament should be a symbol of Easter such as, a lamb, a Cross, flowers, lilies, candles or Easter eggs. Please turn your completed ornament into the Religious Education Office by Thursday, April 9.

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 info, 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 thru 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, 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

For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly.

Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die.

But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. *Romans 5:6-8*



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

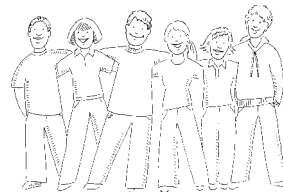
Questions? Contact Bernie and Bev Elero at (540)882-9707

email: belero@aol.com or Melissa Gobs (540)338-4497

email: dre.stfrancis@comcast.net

RE Calendar

Sun., Mar. 15	Gr. K-8 - Session 1 - 8:45am at LVHS Gr. K-8, RCIC - Session 2 - 10:30am at LVHS
Mon., Mar. 16	Gr. 1, 7, RCIC, and Special Needs - 4:15pm at the church
Tue., Mar. 17	Gr. K, 2, 4, 8 - 4:15pm, at the church
Wed. Mar. 18	Grades 3, 5, 6 - 4:15pm, at the church
Thur., Mar. 19	RCIT - 7pm, Oratory Room
Sun., Mar. 22	Gr. K-8 - Session 1 - 8:45am at LVHS Gr. K-8, RCIC - Session 2 - 10:30am at LVHS
Mon., Mar. 23	Gr. 1, 7, RCIC, and Special Needs - 4:15pm at the church
Tue., Mar. 24	Gr. K, 2, 4, 8 - 4:15pm, at the church
Wed. Mar. 25	Grades 3, 5, 6 - 4:15pm, at the church
Thur., Mar. 26	RCIT - 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.

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.

Youth Nights - Sunday nights in church hall from 7:15 - 9m. For all high school students, grades 9-12. March 22nd, join us for a great night called, "You Found Me, The Upper Room".

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.

Adult Workcamp Meeting - For all adults thinking about or planning on going to Workcamp, Tuesday, March 24th, 7:30-9pm. We will go over expectations and fill out registration papers.

Needed!!! High School Teens for the Living Stations of the Cross - To be held on Good Friday, April 10th at 3pm. No acting experience needed. Also needed a couple narrators, stage hands, and make up people. There will be a couple practices. If interested, contact Kevin Bills at kevin@kbills.com.

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

**Please join us.... Christian Moms Network
...Moms Praying For....**

Our Children and Our Public Elementary Schools
(Mountain View, Emerick, Round Hill)
2nd & 4th Fridays 9-10:30am
Dana Friedl at 540-338-2127 or jachtsfriedl@aol.com
Lord, I pray our children flourish, learn to love, and practice courage.

Lord, I ask our children prosper, know your peace and feel Your laughter. - John Frederick Zurn

MASSSES for the WEEK

† deceased

<u>Sat., March 14</u>	Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Lent The Ortmann Family
5:00 pm	
<u>Sun., March 15</u>	3rd Sunday of Lent
7:00 am	Deceased members of the D'Elia, Curran, Butts and Sommer families
8:30 am	The Parent Family
10:30 am	† Jean and Jim Smith
12:30 pm	The Proctor Family
6:00 pm	The Retaleato Family
<u>Mon., March 16</u>	Lenten Weekday
6:30 am	† Arlene Voss
9:00 am	† Gary Rutzel
<u>Tue., March 17</u>	Lenten Weekday
6:30 am	† Robert Michael Doyle
9:00 am	J.T. Krebs
<u>Wed., March 18</u>	Lenten Weekday
6:30 am	† Fr. Michael Craig Kelly
9:00 am	† Geraldine Gettelfinger
<u>Thurs., March 19</u>	St. Joseph
6:30 am	† Fr. Michael Craig Kelly
9:00 am	† Marilyn Chusano
<u>Fri., March 20</u>	Lenten Weekday
6:30 am	† Fr. Michael Craig Kelly
12:00 noon	In Thanksgiving for the Eucharist
<u>Sat., March 21</u>	Lenten Weekday
9:00 am	Michael J. Murphy
<u>Sat., March 21</u>	Vigil: 4th Sunday of Lent
5:00 pm	Matthew Smith
<u>Sun., March 22</u>	4th Sunday of Lent
7:00 am	People of the Parish
8:30 am	The Regnery Family
10:30 am	The Fisher Family
12:30 pm	The Stipancic Family
6:00 pm	The Thackaberry Family

This Week

Mon., Mar. 16	<u>RCIA</u> 7:30pm
Tues., Mar. 17	<u>Bible Study</u> - 10am-noon, parish hall <u>Bible Study</u> - 7:30pm, parish hall
Wed., Mar. 18	<u>"Living Life in the Spirit"</u> - 6:30pm <u>Charismatic Prayer Group</u> - 7:30pm Oratory Room

PARISH FINANCIAL STATUS: 3/8/09

OFFERTORY - this week	\$ 15,371
YEAR TO DATE	\$ 158,335
2nd Collection	\$ 2,389

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2009

3rd Sunday of Lent

I, the Lord, am your God . . . You shall not have other gods besides me. - *Exodus 20:2a,3*

KEEP HOLY THE SABBATH

There's no better way to deepen our Lenten practice than to review the Ten Commandments (not the movie, the book). The first three, having to do with our right relationship to God, get the most ink. The one we busy people probably have the most problem with is keeping holy the Sabbath.

If we take this commandment literally, babies will go undiapered and dishes will stay on the table, or perhaps meals will not be served. The sick will go unattended and nothing that has anything to do with physical labor will be done. Is mental labor really work? How about changing that dirty diaper (poor baby!)?

We need to depend on God to discern how to observe real Sabbath time in our lives. The point of this commandment is that God has given us a great gift: one whole day per week when we are free to rest, worship God, sing, feast, love, and rejoice. As Psalm 19 proclaims: "The law of the LORD is perfect, / refreshing the soul" (19:8). Our Sabbath rest is a great gift, to be received from God with joy, not with nitpicking.

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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.

Readings for the Week

Monday:	2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday:	Dn 3:25, 34-43; Mt. 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Dt 4:1, 5-9; Mt 5:17-19
Thursday:	2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
Friday:	Hos 14:2-10; Mk 12:28-34
Saturday:	Hos 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14
Sunday:	2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23; Ps 137; Eph 2:4-10; Jn 3:14-21