



Do you have a 'valid' marriage?

Were you married in a civil court or by a justice of the peace? Was the wedding held in a non-Catholic church without a permission or dispensation from a Catholic bishop? After divorce did you remarry without the benefit of annulling the previous marriage? Did you have an outdoor ceremony (i.e., beach, outdoor garden, mountaintop, floating down on a parachute, underwater wedding, etc.) officiated by a civil official or by a religious minister without a church dispensation? Were you 'coerced' to marry? Did you marry your first cousin without a dispensation (Yo, it happens! Edgar Allan Poe married his 1st cousin.)? Have you any doubt if the Catholic Church recognizes your marriage?

If you answered 'yes' to any of the questions above, please contact me immediately. You just might be in an invalid marriage and there is help available. In *most* cases, we can 'convalidate' the marriage in a simple marriage ceremony although an annulment may be needed before a convalidation can take place. If for some reason a previous marriage bond does not (or no longer) exist the church marriage ceremony can be arranged very quickly.

Here's the good news about annulments. I'm blessed to have another person in Saint Francis parish that can help me with the annulment process. One of our parishioners, Tara McIntosh, is a canon lawyer who works at the Arlington Tribunal and graciously offered to give me a helping hand processing the applicants. If you have any questions regarding annulments we'll be more than happy to help you. I can be reached by at 540-338-6381 (ext. 102) or by email at father.escalante@saintfrancisparish.org.

How important is it to have a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church? An 'invalid' marriage prevents a Catholic from receiving the sacraments. It is a serious sin for a Catholic to marry outside what the Catholic Church permits. And until the marriage is convalidated, a Catholic *may not* receive Holy Communion, be able to go to confession, qualify as a godparent or a Confirmation sponsor, nor be able to participate in the liturgical ministries (e.g., Lector, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, catechist). But let me make it clear that they are most welcome to continue to worship with us at Mass and participate in non-liturgical activities. The sole purpose of this message is to graciously invite them to be able to fully participate again in the sacraments by allowing us to help them *validate* their marriage. This is all about shepherding souls back to God that they may not be deprived of all the wonderful spiritual nourishment the Church offers.

'Have altar, will marry!'

Your Shepherd in Christ,
Father Escalante

Parish Nurse Health Wellness Ministry

Loudoun County Board of Supervisors has declared May, Lyme Disease Awareness Month. Loudoun County ranks third in the nation behind Connecticut and Rhode Island in the number of reported cases of this disease. Dr. Goodfriend, Director of the Dept. of Health, states that although the prevalence of reported cases is in the western part of the county, his department is getting reports from every ZIP code. With people spending more time outdoors in the warmer weather, Dr. Goodfriend is encouraging everyone to regularly check their bodies for ticks and to report any bulls-eye shaped rashes to a doctor. For more information on the disease and its prevention, you will find brochures from the Dept. of Health on a table in the narthex, or you may visit www.loudoun.gov/lyme.

Respect Life News

Baby Bottle Campaign - Once again we will be participating in the Baby Bottle Campaign to help support Life Line, a pro-life/crisis pregnancy ministry located in Loudoun. Please be sure to pick up a baby bottle after mass and fill it with you loose change. Please return your filled bottles to the crib located in the narthex by June 14.

Choose Life License Plates - Thank you all for your support by signing petitions and submitting pre-paid applications for the Choose Life license plates. Governor Kaine signed the license plate bill, so it will soon be issued. A portion of the revenue raised by the purchase of these soon-to-be-available plates will be sent to pregnancy resource centers in Virginia. None of the proceeds will be distributed to agencies involved or associated with abortion. Please read the press release at right on how you will be able to get the plate!

Choose Life Virginia License Plates to be issued on July 1, 2009

The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles will begin issuing Choose Life license plates on July 1, 2009, using the 481 pre-paid applications submitted by State Senator Ken Cuccinelli.

Anticipating fabulous demand for the Choose Life plate, DMV and plate sponsor Richmond Coalition for Life encourage Virginia citizens who have not applied to apply directly on the DMV website starting July 2. The Richmond Coalition for Life (P.O. Box 17902 Richmond, VA 23226-7902) will however receive pre-paid applications, review them for completeness, and submit complete applications to DMV after the first week of July.

The Choose Life Team expresses grateful appreciation for the tremendous support and encouragement of so many Virginians and advocacy groups who worked tirelessly to promote the plate, obtain the required pre-paid applications, lobby members of General Assembly to vote for the bill and encourage Governor Kaine to sign the bill. All of the dedication and hard work now make it possible for Virginians to proudly display their Choose Life license plate starting in July 2009.

REMEMBERING FATHER KELLY

We are beginning to organize material for Father Kelly's book. If you have notes or stories you would like to share, you may send them by email to wyndoax@rstarmail.com. We can't guarantee all will be included, but all are welcome. Thanks. Questions? call Kathleen McCuiston at 338-2471.

SOULSTITCH meets 4th Wednesday, May 27th, 9:30-11:30am. Soulstitch will not meet on Sunday, June 7th due to the church picnic at that time. We meet downstairs in the hall. Please contact Monica Deaver 540-338-6057 or mojoknits@comcast.net with questions.

BLOOD DRIVE Sunday, June 14 in the Parish Hall. Our third of six drives scheduled for 2009 continues the St. Francis de Sales tradition of excellence that helps define our parish faith community. Join us 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.

Our Thoughts and Prayers Are With ...



The Deployed: Major Karl M. Wojtkun, Capt. Andrew Kellner, 2LT Brendan McCormick, LTC Michael F. Goodnow, Sr. Arm Yonatan Holz, Arm 1stC Brian Rickert, SSGT Sarah Wiest

The Sick: Norma O'Grady, Hannah Brown, Albert Cippel, Grover 'Corky' Corcoran

The Deceased: Fr. Michael C. Kelly, 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, Samuel Phillips, William Cooper, Frank Udy



Casino Night & Silent Auction *under the Stars*

Don't miss this spectacular event to benefit **WORKCAMP 2009!!**

Adults only! Join us on

SATURDAY, JUNE 6 ~ 7-11pm

at **St. Francis de Sales Parish under the big tent**

\$35/person or \$50 at the door

Includes a Grilled London Broil Dinner and
\$20 worth of Gaming Chips
Cash bar for beer and wine

Tickets on sale after all Masses, in the parish office & at the door

Retreat for Women at Dominican Retreat House in McLean

Treat yourself to a weekend on the weekend of June 5-7, to experience God's peace and presence. Retreat director is Fr. Jude Winkler, OFM, Conv. For reservations or information, contact Jean Fenwick at 540-338-2884 or jbfenwick@aol.com or Dominican Retreat at 703-356-4243 or see www.dominicanretreat.org.

An Evening of Charismatic Prayer and Praise Wednesday, May 27, 7:30-9pm

St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church, 5222 Sideburn Rd, Fairfax. All are invited to unite with Catholics across the diocese to intercede as we come together for a special time of Prayer & Praise this Pentecost. Sponsored by the Charismatic Renewal Service Committee, worship music by Dave Bentz. During the evening we will be praying for the needs and healing for all who attend. More info www.arlingtonrenewal.org, or contact Terry Riggins, tgr56@aol.com, (703)569-5470.

Western Loudoun Relay for Life LIFE IS A CELEBRATION

May 30th and 31st at Heritage High School

Please join the St. Francis team, Walking in Faith. One day. One night. For more information, please contact Sheila Cowling at 571-216-3024 or e-mail Sheila@flythrough.com. To access the team website, you will find a link on the St. Francis website, or Google: Western Loudoun Relay for Life, go to Teams and choose team 'Walking in Faith'.



Religious Education

Melissa Gobs, DRE
338-4497 or m.gobs@saintfrancisparish.org

The Year of St. Paul

“May the eyes of your hearts be enlightened, that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing greatness of his power for us who believe, in accord with the exercise of his great might, which he worked in Christ, raising him from the dead and seating him at his right hand in the heavens, far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion, and every name that is named not only in this age but also in the one to come”
Ephesians 1:18-23



Let us join in prayer for the adults/high school students of our parish who are preparing to receive gift of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, May 31 at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More.

Shea Cordell	Nathaniel Mason
Tara Edne	Veronica Mason
Alexandra Ludtke	Jose Munoz
Alexander Mason	Gerald Pfeifer
Dominic Mason	Douglas Rickert

Confirmation Summer Workbooks

All rising eighth graders are to be completing a summer workbook based on their seventh grade text as part of their knowledge requirement. Workbooks are available to download online from the parish website www.stfrancisdesalescatholicchurch.org/reEdConfirmation.asp or can be picked up from the Religious Ed Info Center in the hallway outside of the office.

Certificates

Certificates of promotion were handed out at the end of classes, and First Holy Communion Certificates were also handed out after the First Communion Masses over the weekend. Anyone who did not pick up their certificate can stop by and pick it up from the Religious Education Info Center. All certificates that are not picked up will be handed out in class when we meet in September.

HEY CATECHISTS!

Let's celebrate the end of another successful year of Religious Education!



Wednesday, June 17 at 7pm @ the pavilion ~ Bring the whole family!

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 Group - Sunday, May 24th. Have a wonderful Memorial Day Weekend.

Mandatory Workcamp Meeting - Sunday, May 31st, 7:15 - 9pm.

Casino Night & Silent Auction - Saturday, June 6th, 7-11pm. Seepage at right for details.

Youth Labor Auction - Silent Auction to be held during the Church Picnic near the Dunk Booth, on June 7th.

Senior Graduation Dinner Party - Friday, June 12th at the home of Chris and Jane Treado, 7pm

College Students home for summer? Interested in a Small Group? Coming soon!! For more info call Jane.

Golf Tournament - Thanks to all those who sponsored or played in the Charity Golf Tournament. It was a great success. All of the Workcampers really appreciate your generosity.

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

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

You can help make this the best VBS ever
SUMMERTIME BLAST

won't be a success without you!

We are recruiting new volunteers now; please sign up to help and enjoy a fun, faith-filled week with the children of our parish. Pick up a volunteer form in the Narthex and return it to the RE office.

All rising 7th and 8th graders can earn service hours by helping with VBS

VBS is JULY 13-17 - 9am - 12noon

Questions? Contact

Melissa m.gobs@saintfrancisparish.org or
Janice j.rees@saintfrancisparish.org

A VBS NURSERY IS PROVIDED FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS WITH BABIES THRU 4YEAR OLDS

We hope to see a lot of new volunteers!
NEXT MEETING IS
WEDNESDAY, MAY 27 AT 10AM OR 7PM

MASSSES for the WEEK

† deceased

Sat., May 23

9:00 am

Sat., May 23

5:00 pm

Sun., May 24

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:30 pm

6:00 pm

Mon., May 25

6:30 am

9:00 am

Tue., May 26

6:30 am

9:00 am

Wed., May 27

6:30 am

9:00 am

Thurs., May 28

6:30 am

9:00 am

Fri., May 29

6:30 am

12:00 noon

Sat., May 30

9:00 am

Sat., May 30

5:00 pm

Sun., May 31

7:00 am

8:30 am

10:30 am

12:30 pm

6:00 pm

Easter Weekday

† Fr. Michael C. Kelly

Vigil: The Ascension of the Lord

† Fr. Michael C. Kelly

The Ascension of the Lord

† Raquel Canales

† Carolyn Miller

The Fisher Family

Jesse Curtis

† Richard Hughes

Easter Weekday

† Fr. Michael C. Kelly

† George Titus

Philip Neri

† George and † Helen Rutzel

† Fr. Michael C. Kelly

Easter Weekday

† Sylvia Brennan

† Norma Elms

Easter Weekday

† Leon and † Felixa Slivonik

Marianne Higgins

Easter Weekday

† Walter and † Lorraine Murphy

In Thanksgiving for the Eucharist

Easter Weekday

† Fr. Michael C. Kelly

Vigil: Pentecost Sunday

† Wallace and † Helen Slivonik

Pentecost Sunday

† Catherine R. Murphy

† Francis DeCataldo

† John Patton

† Fr. Michael C. Kelly

People of the Parish

PARISH FINANCIAL STATUS: 5/17/09

Offertory - this week	\$ 14,665
YEAR TO DATE	\$ 327,874
2nd Collection	\$ 3,858

May Envelope Project

During the month of May, the parish office will be doing some Spring Cleaning in an attempt to update our parish database and go green! The office is requesting that everyone who is currently receiving offertory envelopes to please put them in the collection basket whether or not they contain an offering.

We are trying to reduce the number of mailings to people who no longer participate in the parish.

For those who take advantage of the electronic giving program, we already have your information so you will not need to do anything.



SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2009

If God so loved us, we also must love one another.

- 1 John 4:11

Church Picnic



Sunday, June 7th

after 12noon Mass

WE WILL PROVIDE

hamburgers, hotdogs, bbq chicken, italian sausages
iced tea, lemonade, beer & wine

YOU CAN BRING

side dish or dessert or
bring a cake for the Cake Contest

Fun for the Whole Family!!!

50-50 raffle, music, talent show, games for adults and children, moonbounce & dunk tank

Volunteers or questions -

call Alicia 338-6381 or Ray Latka 703-777-7365

PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX TO HELP WITH FOOD PLANNING. THANK YOU!

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Acts 19:1-8; Jn 16:29-33
Tuesday:	Acts 20:17-27; Jn 17:1-11a
Wednesday:	Acts 20:28-38; Jn 17:11b-19
Thursday:	Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Jn 17:20-26
Friday:	Acts 25:13b-21; Jn 21:15-19
Saturday:	Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Jn 21:20-25
Sunday:	<u>Vigil:</u> Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5; Ps 104; Rom 8:22-27; Jn 7:37-39 <u>Day:</u> Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Gal 5:16-25; Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 15:26-27; 16:12-15