



It's Holy Week!

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. One of the best ways to observe the beginning of Holy Week in our parish is to attend Monday's (April 6) special evening of prayer and adoration beginning at 7:30 PM. We are very blessed to have internationally acclaimed singer, Mark Forrest, lead us in an evening of meditation, prayer, music and healing before the Blessed Sacrament. I encourage everyone to come join us.

Holy Week is the most solemn time in the liturgical calendar. The Triduum, a Latin word meaning three days, are the holiest days in the Christian calendar. *Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday* leading up to the *Easter vigil* are three days combined into one continuous celebration of what is called the *Paschal Mystery* (the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus). We see the richness of our Divine Liturgy expressing God's love for his people as we recall our redemption brought about by Our Savior, Jesus Christ.

If you knew that the largest single religious denomination is Roman Catholic in the United States, do you know what is the second largest denomination? Believe it or not, the answer is *inactive* Catholics! A 2003 survey reports 77 million in the U. S. profess to be Roman Catholic. A total of 16.3 million belong to the Southern Baptist. But 17 million claim to be inactive in their practice of the faith. Holy week is also a good time to invite inactive Catholics to 'come home' permanently to their spiritual home away from home. If you are looking for a nice website to *re-introduce* the faith back to the Catholics, you might want to share with them catholicscomehome.org.

Have a great Holy Week!

Your Shepherd in Christ,
Father Escalante

VBS PLANNING MEETING

You can help make this the best Vacation Bible School ever. SUMMERTIME BLAST won't be a success without you! We are recruiting new volunteers now.

VBS DATES ARE JULY 13-17

There are many spots to fill and a variety of ways to get involved

- nursery workers • snack helpers • crafts • music •
- small group leaders • drama • set up and tear down •

NEXT MEETING IS WEDNESDAY APRIL 15

We are offering two opportunities to come to a meeting - 10am or 7pm. Hopefully the two meetings will encourage more attendance. Anyone interested in helping with VBS this summer should attend. Please RSVP with the meeting time of your choice to Melissa m.gobs@saintfrancisparish.org or Janice j.rees@saintfrancisparish.org. Thank you.

BLOOD DRIVE Sunday, April 19 in the Parish Hall.

The second drive of six scheduled for 2009 continues the great charitable tradition that our parish so generously maintains. 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.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

The annual training for this beautiful ministry is coming up in April and May. If you are interested in finding out more or in attending the training, please call 540-338-2471 or 540-454-0995.

St. Francis welcomes back

Mark Forrest

International Irish Tenor
for an evening of

Meditation • Music • Prayer • Healing

Monday, April 6th at 7:30pm

A wonderful way to begin Holy Week

All are invited!

Divine Mercy Sunday *April 19*

Join St. Francis de Sales Parish as we recognize Divine Mercy Sunday. Meet us in the church at 2:45pm for a short talk given by Father Escalante. Father will then lead us in praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet in song and the Holy Rosary.

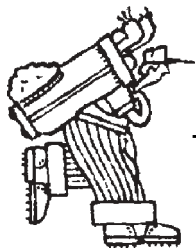


2009 WORKCAMP FUNDRAISERS

GOLF TIME!

6th Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Friday, May 8th at 9 am



Stoneleigh Golf Course
To sponsor a hole or to play in the
tournament, please contact Jane.

Join us as St. Francis de Sales welcomes
Corcoran and Bluemont Vineyards to our
parish for an evening of

Wine Tasting and Sales

SATURDAY, APRIL 18

after 5pm Mass in the Parish Hall

Wine will be available to purchase by the glass,
bottle or case - Tastings \$5

SOULSTITCH Meets in the hall: *TODAY, 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.

**SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL MEMORIAL
STATUE** We have collected a little over \$3000. We will
probably need at least \$1000 more with the installation
and plaque with the Prayer of St. Michael engraving and
dedication to Fr. Michael Kelly. Please send donations
to church office.

Gift Cards and Food Desperately Needed for 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." We
need a few people to take the tags for sweatsuits for
the Heritage Hall residents. These residents are ones
who do not have families helping them with special
needs. Thank you!!
- Catholic Charities is in dire need of the following food
items: rice, beans, pasta, canned meats, canned fruits
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.

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. Workcamp, Vacation Bible School, Religious
Education, Nursery. If you not yet attended this seminar,
now is the time! To register go to www.virtus.org, click on
'registration', and follow the prompts. There are only 21
remaining spots available, please sign up now.

PLEASE MAKE NOTE OF OUR NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES

Fr. Escalante father.escalante@saintfrancisparish.org

Dorothy Cooper d.cooper@saintfrancisparish.org or
secretary@saintfrancisparish.org

Alicia Holz a.holz@saintfrancisparish.org

Diane Morano d.morano@saintfrancisparish.org

Melissa Gobs m.gobs@saintfrancisparish.org

Janice Rees j.rees@saintfrancisparish.org

Cathy Mitchell c.mitchell@saintfrancisparish.org

Cindy Cummins c.cummins@saintfrancisparish.org or
music@saintfrancisparish.org

Jane Treado j.treado@saintfrancisparish.org

Paul Lions p.lion@saintfrancisparish.org



Our Thoughts and Prayers Are With ...

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

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

The Deceased: Fr. Michael C. Kelly, 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, Samuel Phillips

Religious Education

Melissa Gobs, DRE

338-4497 or m.gobs@saintfrancisparish.org

2008-2009 The Year of St. Paul

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. *Phil 2: 6-8*



For Everyone on Spring Break

He rests well who works well and, in his turn, he who works well must rest well.

Enjoy your holidays!

But make them also a period of constant and courageous effort to become better.

Let you play, your stay in the mountains or the seaside, your trips, your carefree joyfulness, always be united with the resolution to be good, in friendship with Jesus in the Eucharist.

May my prayer and my blessing accompany you.

Take advantage of this period of rest to strengthen your spirit too.

Try with the help of divine grace always to be good, joyful and generous.

Pope John Paul II speech in St. Peter's Square, Vatican City

Adult Confirmation Meeting - Sunday April 5 7-8pm

Easter Vigil Reception

There will be a reception immediately following the Easter Vigil to celebrate the newly initiated and the Resurrection of our Lord. Anyone able to assist with set up, serving, or clean up, please contact Melissa Gobs.

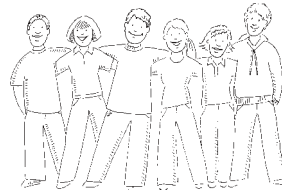
Parents of First Communicants

Please contact the Religious Education Office if you did not attend one of the meetings held last week in preparation for First Communion in May. Important details surrounding the celebration of the sacrament were covered.

RE Calendar

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|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Sunday, April 5 | <u>No Class</u> | Sunday., Apr. 12 | <u>No Class</u> |
| Monday, April 6 | <u>No Class</u> | Monday, Apr. 13 | <u>No Class</u> |
| Tuesday, April 7 | <u>No Class</u> | Tuesday, Apr. 14 | <u>No Class</u> |
| Wed., April 8 | <u>No Class</u> | Wed. Apr. 15 | <u>No Class</u> |
| Thursday, April 9 | <u>No RCIT</u> | Thursday, Apr. 16 | <u>RCIT - 7pm</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.

Youth Night - Sunday, April 5th. We watch and talk about the movie *The Passion Of Christ*. We will go till after 10 pm since there is not school on Monday.

Needed!!! 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 only one practice. If interested, contact Kevin Bills at kevin@kbills.com.

Also Needed Teen Lectors!!! Please contact me if you are interested in lecturing at the Teen Mass.

Next Mandatory Workcamp Meeting - April 19th. All teens going to Workcamp should be at this meeting! We already handed out the registrations for workcamp and you should bring the filled out registration to this meeting. By now, your deposit should be paid, your appeal letters should be written, and bring your item for the auction to this meeting. If you weren't assigned an item or can't remember what you are to bring, e-mail me at Janedhs78@aol.com. If you don't have your registration papers, you can pick them up in the office.

Golf Tournament - Friday, May 8th. Contact me if you are interested in sponsoring a hole or playing in the tournament.

Auction Items Needed And Talent Needed!!!- For Talent Show and Auction. The workcampers are hosting a Talent Show and Auction on June 6th and will need talent for the show and items for the auction. Please contact Jane if you wish to donate auction items or sign up for the talent portion of the show.



J.A.M. is Back!!! - Let's get together for J.A.M. this month, April 17th, 7pm-9pm, for all middle schoolers.

J.A.M. Field trip - On Saturday May 16th 3pm-11pm, we have a special J.A.M. trip planned. We will be going down to JP II in Dumphries for a Middle School Bash with *special guest, Chris Stefanick*. All Middle Schoolers are invited and need to sign up before May 9th. Parents, we will need drivers for this event.

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

MASSSES for the WEEK

† deceased
 Sat., April 4
 9:00 am
 Sat., April 4

Lenten Weekday - First Saturday
 † Emily Olszewski
Vigil: Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

5:00 pm
 Sun., April 5
 7:00 am
 8:30 am
 10:30 am
 12:30 pm
 6:00 pm

† Clinton Humphries
Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion
 Cahan Family
 People of the Parish
 † Sylvia Brennan
 Hoffman Family
 Palmieri Family

Mon., April 6
 6:30 am
 9:00 am

Monday of Holy Week
 † Mrs. Viviano
 † Gary Rutzel

Tue., April 7
 6:30 am
 9:00 am

Tuesday of Holy Week
 † Doug and Mary Jo Coleman
 † Walter Risceck

Wed., April 8
 6:30 am
 9:00 am

Wednesday of Holy Week
 † Roger Willard
 † Marilyn Chusano

Thurs., April 9
 7:30 pm

Holy Thursday
Mass of the Lord's Supper
 People of the Parish

Sat., April 11
 8:30 pm
 Sun., April 12

Vigil: Easter Sunday
 Newly Initiated
Easter Sunday

7:00 am
 8:30 am
 10:30 am
 12:30 pm
 6:00 pm

Borowski Family
 Zalewski Family
 † Miriam Moore
 People of the Parish
 Don and Kathy Vore

This Week

Mon., Apr. 6 RCIA - 7:30pm
 Tues., Apr. 7 No Bible Study
 Wed., Apr. 8 "Living Life in the Spirit" - 6:30pm
 Charismatic Prayer Group - 7:30pm
 Oratory Room

UNIVERSAL LENTEN REQUIREMENTS

On Good Friday, everyone over 18 and up to the beginning of their 60th year is also bound to observe the law of FAST. On this day, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs; but together they should not equal another full meal.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2009

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

[Christ Jesus] humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
 - Philippians 2:8



HOLY WEEK AND THE TRIDUUM

Daily Mass

Monday-Wednesday 6:30am and 9am

Holy Thursday

7:30pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday of the Lord's Passion

3pm - Living Stations of the Cross
 7:30pm - Liturgy of the Word,
 Veneration of the Cross, Holy Communion

Holy Saturday

8:30pm - Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday

Masses at 7am, 8:30am (church and parish hall),
 10:30am (church and parish hall),
 12:30pm, 6pm Teen Mass

Readings for the Week

Mon.: Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11
 Tues.: Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
 Wed.: Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25
 Thu.: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15
 Fri.: Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42
 Sat.: a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a];
 b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18];
 c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; d) Is 54:5-14;
 e) Is 55:1-11; f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4;
 g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28;
 h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Mk 16:1-7
 Sun.: Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7 or (at an afternoon or evening Mass) Lk 24:13-35