

Saint Francis de Sales Parish

St. Francis de Sales Church, 535 Riverside Drive, Salisbury, Maryland 21801
Holy Redeemer Church, 501 East Chestnut St., Delmar, Maryland 21875
Parish School, 500 Camden Avenue, Salisbury, Maryland 21801; phone 410-749-9907



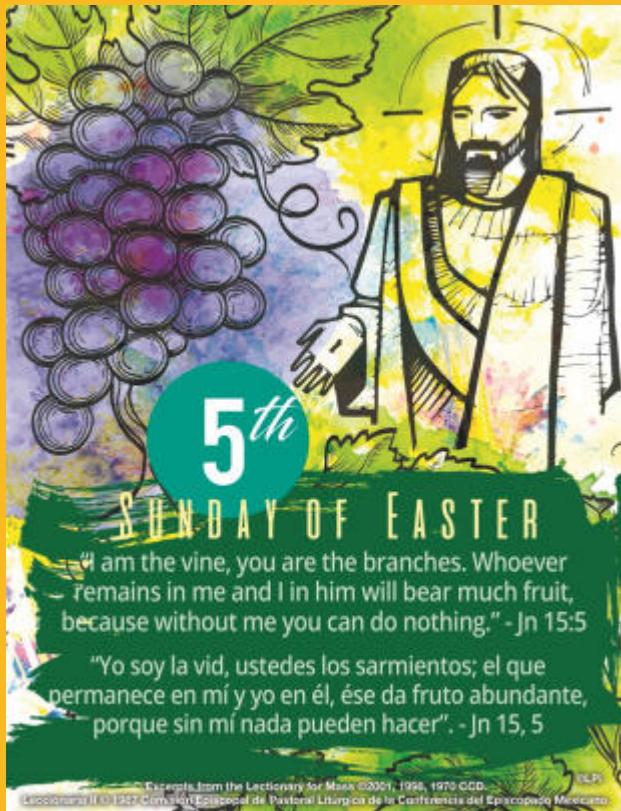
Parish Office, 514 Camden Avenue, Salisbury, Maryland 21801

Phone: 410-742-6443

Email: parish@visitstfrancis.org

Website: www.visitstfrancis.org

FAX: 410-742-9410



Pastoral Staff

Rev. Christopher LaBarge, Pastor
Rev. Idongesit A. Etim, Associate
Mr. Bruce Abresch, Deacon
Dr. William Folger, Deacon
Mr. Don Geaga, Deacon

Office Staff

Mrs. Susan Flanagan, Business Manager
Mrs. Angie Kiley, Administrative Assistant
Mr. Ed Weirick, Plant Manager

Liturgical Staff

Mrs. Michele Harris, Pastoral Minister

Parish School Staff

Mrs. Debra Traum, School Principal
Mrs. Sarah Passarell, Advancement Director

Faith Formation Directors

Mrs. Liza Alvarado, Youth and Young Adult
Mrs. Janet Hastings, Children and Families

Diocesan Ministries

Catholic Charities 410-651-9608
Joseph House Ministries 410-749-4239

Sacramental Life of Our Community

To receive the sacrament of anointing of the sick, please make arrangements through the parish office. Persons interested in celebrating the sacrament of baptism, confirmation, marriage or holy orders are invited to contact the parish office for information on preparation programs. The sacrament of reconciliation is available at St. Francis de Sales Church Saturday's at 9:00 a.m., at Holy Redeemer Church at 3:00 p.m. or by appointment.

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday 7:00 a.m. - church

Tuesday 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - church

Wednesday 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. - church

Thursday 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - church

Friday 7:00 a.m. - church

Saturday 8:30 a.m. - church

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Wednesday 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. - church

Weekend Mass Schedule

St. Francis de Sales Church: *Saturday* 5:30 p.m., *Sunday* 7:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 12:00 noon bilingual Spanish

Holy Redeemer: *Saturday* 4:00 p.m., *Sunday* 9:00 a.m.

The information and activities listed in this parish bulletin are provided to enable you to become more actively involved in our community's worship, education, outreach and social events.

എംഗൈറ്റേജ് കെന്റ വെല്ലക്കും ¡Todos son bienvenidos! All are welcome! 모두 환영합니다 Lahat ay Tout moun invite

A people of prayer...



"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." — 15:1-2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1978, 1970 CCC

COVID-19 Times

Welcome home to those returning to in-person Mass! We continue to use the safe practices of mask wearing, hand sanitizing and safe distancing while in church. Bishop Malooly lifted the Sunday obligation when the pandemic began, and it continues for those who don't feel comfortable yet gathering in church.

Confirmation

This weekend the Sacrament of Confirmation will be conferred on our young people who have been in preparation and are ready to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Please pray for our young people as they live their faith in the challenges of their everyday lives.

Little Catholic Gift Shop

And the Parish Library

We Are Open!

The *Little Catholic Gift Shop* in the parish library will be open the first Sunday of each month from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. for shopping and browsing in our library. The library is located in the Parish Center Conference Room on the second floor of the Parish Center. The entrance is at the top of the concrete steps off the school parking lot. You will need to ring the bell to gain access and then take the elevator to the second floor. If you have questions about merchandise, please contact Michele Harris.

Parish Sacrificial Giving

Actual YTD April 18 to April 25	\$742,745.91	April 25 th Collection	\$13,015.00
Fiscal Year-to-Date Budget	\$672,000.00	April 25 th On-Line Giving	\$ 4,382.00
Amount of Difference from Budget	+\$ 70,745.91	Weekly Sunday Goal	\$16,000.00
		Amount of Difference for April 25	+\$ 1,397.00

Your contributions to help with special needs
Joseph House \$ 1,768.00

We are always grateful to all for your offerings each week. May the Lord continue to bless you and your family.
May 2nd Building and Maintenance May 9th Mother's Day

Be Prepared

Take time to reflect on God's Word in preparation for the Sixth Sunday of Easter:

First Reading: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-10

Gospel: John 15:9-17

Daily scriptures may be read or listened to at www.usccb.org.

Mother's Day

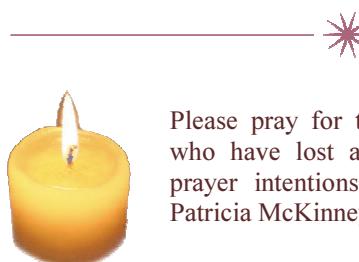
There will be a blessing for all Mothers at our Masses the weekend of May 8th and 9th. Mother's Day novena cards may be found in the vestibules of our churches.

Weekly Confession

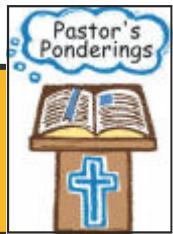
Our weekly times to go to confession and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation are Saturday 3:30 p.m. at Holy Redeemer Church and after the 8:30 a.m. Saturday morning Mass at St. Francis de Sales Church.

Low Gluten Communion

If you are gluten intolerant or allergic and would like to receive low gluten communion, please contact Michele Harris for our parish procedures. You may call the office at 410-742-6443 or email her at mharris@visitstfrancis.org.



Please pray for those who have died and those who have lost a loved one. Last week in our prayer intentions we prayed for June Barlage, Patricia McKinney and Margaret Luber.



Pastor's Ponderings

Father/Padre Chris LaBarge

How God Stops Evil

As we see in this Sunday's Gospel reading, all of us who belong to Christ are fruit-bearing branches of one vine. Jesus is the vine, and because we are all attached to him, we share the same calling: to bear good fruit. And not just any fruit that seems good, but the same fruit that Jesus produced. However, most of us underestimate how important this is! You are more valuable than you know. God wants you to produce Christ's fruit - and more of it. Today too many Christians are settling for mediocrity. As long as we get some personal satisfaction from being Christian, we feel all too easily satisfied. As long as we're helping some people with our kindness or generosity or love, we think God is satisfied with the good fruits we're producing. Have you ever asked why there's so much evil in the world? Why doesn't God raise his almighty hand against war, against corruption in government, against the greed of high-salaried managers who lay off their employees while giving themselves huge bonuses, against the perpetrators of physical and emotional abuse, against legislation that discriminates against Christian faith, against rising crime rates, or against any evil that's corrupting our world? Why doesn't God do something? Actually, *he does!* However, he does it the same way he grows grapes. The life-force of the vine (Jesus) travels through the vine to the little twigs (you and me and all Christians) that hold the grapes. The more open we are to receiving nourishment from Christ, the more fruit Jesus produces through us. But the grapes are not supposed to stay there! We're nourished by Christ in order to take his fruits abundantly out into the world. We must grow strong and healthy, branch out, and use everything we've received from Christ for the sake of others. Evil is stopped to the extent that we Christians continue Christ's earthly ministry. Victory over evil comes from Christ, that is, *through* us from Christ. Holiness in the world comes from Christ's Holy Spirit actively transforming it through our holiness. © 2018 Terry Modica, Catholic Digital Resources, www.catholicdr.com. Printed by permission.

FORMED ON DEMAND

[Formed.org](https://www.formed.org)

Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year B)

Our readings today point towards this vision God has for us, particularly when Jesus gives us the image of the vine and the branches. He promises that if we remain in him, we will bear much fruit. If always staying connected to the Lord seems out of reach, then let's remember that when God gives a command, he always gives us the grace to respond. How can we stay attached to the vine and learn to pray always?

Refleciones del Parroco

Cómo Dios Detiene al Mal

Como vemos en la lectura del Evangelio de este domingo, todos los que pertenecemos a Cristo somos sarmientos de una vid. Jesús es la vid y, dado que todos estamos unidos a él, compartimos el mismo llamado: dar buen fruto. Y no cualquier fruto que parezca bueno, sino el mismo fruto que Jesús produjo. No obstante, ¡muchos de nosotros subestimamos qué importante es esto! Tú eres más valioso de lo que crees. Dios quiere que produzcas los frutos de Cristo – ¡y más aún! Hoy en día demasiados cristianos se conforman con la mediocridad. Mientras tengamos un poco de satisfacción personal por ser cristianos, nos sentimos satisfechos demasiado fácilmente. Mientras estemos ayudando a algunas personas con nuestra amabilidad o generosidad o amor, creemos que Dios está satisfecho con los buenos frutos que estamos produciendo. ¿Te has preguntado alguna vez por qué hay tanto mal en el mundo? ¿Por qué Dios no levanta su mano todopoderosa contra la guerra, contra la corrupción en el gobierno, contra la codicia de los gerentes con altos salarios que despiden a sus empleados mientras se otorgan a sí mismos grandes ventajas, contra los perpetradores de abusos físicos y emocionales, contra la legislación que discrimina la fe católica, contra los crecientes índices de criminalidad, o contra cualquier mal que esté corrompiendo nuestro mundo? ¿Por qué no hace algo Dios? En realidad *¡lo hace!* No obstante, lo hace de la misma forma en que hace crecer las uvas. La fuerza vital de la vid (Jesús) viaja a través de la viña hacia los pequeños sarmientos (tú y yo y todos los cristianos) que producen uvas. Cuanto más abiertos estemos al alimento que nos da Cristo, más frutos producirá Jesús a través nuestro. ¡Pero las uvas no deberían quedarse allí! Somos alimentados por Cristo para que llevemos al mundo sus frutos abundantes. Debemos crecer fuertes y saludables, ramificarnos y usar todo lo que hemos recibido de Cristo para el bien de los demás. El mal será detenido siempre que nosotros los cristianos continuemos el ministerio terrenal de Cristo. La victoria sobre el mal proviene de Cristo, es decir, *a través* de nosotros desde Cristo. La santidad en el mundo proviene del Espíritu Santo de Cristo transformándolo activamente a través de nuestra santidad. @2020 Terry Modica, Catholic Digital Resources, www.catholicdr.com.

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Quinto Domingo de Pascua

En la palabra de hoy, nos habla como Pablo y Bernabé compartían con los discípulos y los exhortaban a perseverar en la fe aun en las tribulaciones, dando en todo momento la Gloria al Señor. Esto también lo vemos en el momento en que Judas traicionó a Jesús y él en respuesta comenzó a glorificar al Señor. Sigamos pues estas enseñanzas y en los momentos difíciles o de tribulación glorifiquemos al Señor y dejémoslo actuar en ella.

Serving in Love...

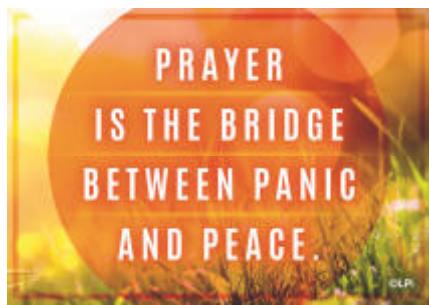
Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture
5th Sunday of Easter

“Spiraling out of control,” is a phrase that can easily describe the current display of human existence. In addition to the violence, unrest, uneasiness and turmoil that are common elements of our daily news, other essential pieces are misplaced or missing. Many lack an objective center around which to order and structure their lives or a clear set of definable goals or mores to act as guideposts and life directives. It appears that “feelings” have become a “new god” and traditional structures and ideals set aside. It is almost as if history only shows that we got this whole thing wrong and many are determined to finally set things right. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our often-checked past, it is hardly the case that all was wrong. It is not our task to rewrite the history of our lives, but to learn from mistakes that were made, and preserve the perennial wisdom at the root of our successes. Learning is an essential part of being human.

The question becomes, however, from whom do we learn? Some have such a hard time placing God in that position, but that is precisely where God needs to be. God is the Master Teacher from whom all of humanity learns and gets its cues. It is in and through this relationship with the Gardener of Life that we are fashioned and pruned into the people we are intended to be and can be. It is only in God that we are able to find our best selves. Sadly, many think that religion too, as well as history in general, has also gotten all this wrong. Yet, our resurrection faith tells us differently. We are reminded, today especially, that we are meant to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. We are also reminded that Jesus, the Incarnate God, is the vine upon which we grow, the branches that flow from the source of God’s life.

Giving up our will to God’s can be a painful endeavor. It is not easy to set our own desires and wants aside and allow God to step in and direct and guide our growth. But this is the only way to prevent deadly weeds from overtaking us and bringing us to a place of self-destruction. God’s commandments are the very guideposts and benchmarks we need, yet many seek to remove them from all public view because they appear to limit self-expression and suppress what is considered by many to be “human freedom.” They are the only way we can find freedom, however. And, until we learn this fundamental lesson, we will continue to spiral out of control, never really knowing who we are, what our potential can be or how life really can be lived. We will not know peace. ©LPi



Thoughts from the Principal

Debbie Traum

St. Francis de Sales Catholic School has been accredited by the Middle States Association Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools (MSA-CESS) for more than 25 years. The educational community considers this the gold standard for measuring and advancing school improvement.

“Accreditation is a powerful tool that helps schools identify priorities for growth and improvement, set measurable goals to address those priorities, and then establish a plan to achieve their objectives,” said Lisa Marie McCauley, Ed.D., president of MSA-CESS. “I commend our accredited schools and their leaders for their commitment to accreditation and for recognizing the value Middle States accreditation brings to their school communities.”

Middle States awards accreditation to preK-12 public, private, parochial, and charter schools. In addition, MSA-CESS accredits non-degree granting career and technical post-secondary institutions and learning services providers.

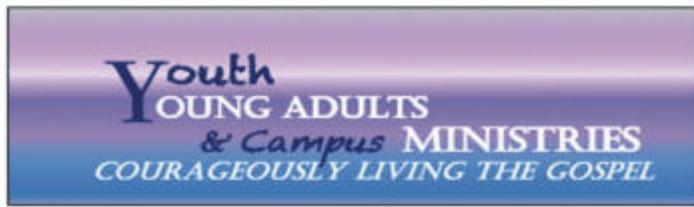
Middle States accreditation is a multifaceted evaluation process that schools and school systems voluntarily use to demonstrate they are meeting a defined set of research-based performance standards.

The twelve Middle States Standards for Accreditation are: mission; governance and leadership; school improvement planning; finances; facilities; school organization and staff; health and safety; educational program; assessment and evidence of student learning; student services; student life and activities, and information resources.

The accreditation process begins with a self-study that is conducted by the school or school system and requires input from school leaders, teachers, parents and students. Following the self-study, a team of volunteer educators from Middle States member schools conducts a peer review visit. The coming school year, 2021/22, will be our self-study year for re-accreditation with a peer review visit in either the spring of 2022 or the fall of 2023. The re-accreditation process is performed every seven years.



Caring for One Another...



[Contact Liza, lalvarado@visitstfrancis.org](mailto:lalvarado@visitstfrancis.org)

YOUTH MINISTRIES Grades 7-12

Stay connected on Social Media for updates at SFDS CYM Facebook & Instagram. For the Appalachia Service Project stay connected at SFDS ASP Facebook & Instagram.

Youth Gathering Outside, Wednesday, May 19th 6:30-8:30 p.m. Parish Center Grounds. Bring a chair and wear a mask.

Blessing of Graduates during services on June 5th and 6th.

YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adults – Meet us at the Assateague Island Visitor Center Parking Lot on May 21st at 6:00 p.m. for a relaxing evening and beach camp fire! (Rain date May 22nd same time.) Please RSVP so we can wait for you at the center. catholicyoungpeople@visitstfrancis.org.

Young Parents – Do you want to connect with other young adults starting families? Contact Elaina at eiosue@live.com.

CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY

Facebook: Salisbury University Catholic Campus Ministry
Sunday Masses 5:00 p.m. at Scarborough. Last Mass and Graduate Blessing, Sunday, May 2nd 5:00 p.m. Confessions will be heard from 4:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. God bless all our 2021 graduates!

YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Sacrament of Confirmation will be received on Sunday, May 2nd



Children and Family Ministry

Joyfully Living the Gospel

Janet Hastings, jhastings@visitstfrancis.org

The last year has been very difficult for many people to feel connected. We have been learning from home, having remote work, meeting with clubs on Zoom, and Facetiming our family instead of meeting in person. The gospel for this week is about our connection with Christ. It is through our relationship with Jesus that we can bear the good fruit God blesses us with. How are you connecting to Christ? Our students this weekend will be playing games about connection with others or creating crafts with the image of the vine.



First Reconciliation and Eucharist

There are still a few families who will be receiving their first communion in the month of May. They will be part of our regularly scheduled Masses. What a wonderful reminder of our very first communion and the day we got to receive this special gift! Please continue to pray for our students who are receiving first communion. If you have not yet scheduled your first communion, please contact Janet Hastings.

Do you know a student in kindergarten or older who needs to prepare for Reconciliation and Eucharist? Please have them register for next year's religious education program through the parish or the parish school. Doing this ensures they are ready to prepare for sacraments by second grade or in two years. If you are interested in preparing for sacraments please email Janet Hastings or call the parish office, 410-742-6443. Thank you!

Growing in Faith...

FORMED

You are invited to access this Catholic resource as a free gift to you from our parish! FORMED has movies, books, podcasts, courses of study with new resources being added on a regular basis! They have great children's videos, too!

Go to <https://visitstfrancis.formed.org>

1. Click "Create a New Account".
2. Enter our zip code, 21801, click on our parish name then click on "next".
3. Enter your name and email address and click on "sign up".
4. You are now ready to access all of the inspiring and engaging content on FORMED!

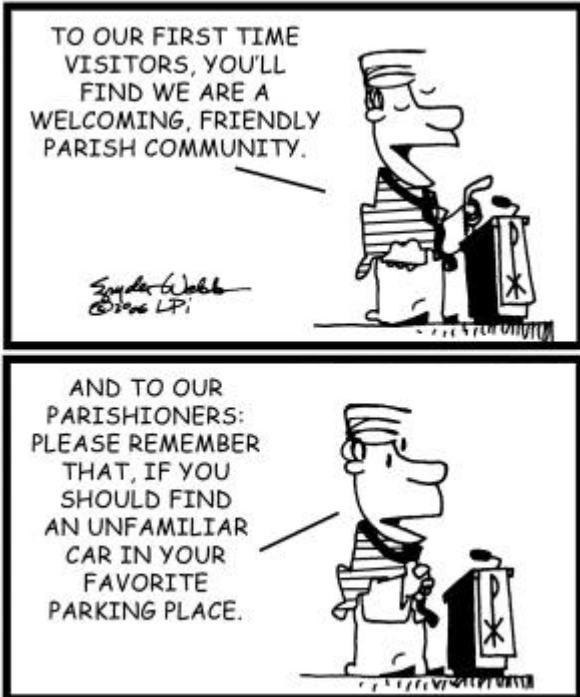
Our Parish App Stay Connected!



Our app is available to give you information about our parish community at your fingertips. The parish calendar, bulletin, sacrament information, daily readings, Sunday prayer intentions and last-minute changes in the schedule are all accessible on our app!

To download, go to your app store and search *WeConnect Parish App*. Once the app is downloaded you will need to select our parish by typing in *Salisbury*. If you would like help with this, please contact the parish office. The app is a great way to stay connected to what is happening in our parish.

5th SUNDAY OF EASTER



Everyday Stewardship

Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments

Branching Out Isn't Always What It's Cracked Up to Be

"That's a really beautiful tree branch. Man, would you look at the bark on that thing? The others are real duds, but that low-hanging branch has really got it all together."

I've never heard anyone say this. Maybe I just need to hang out with more arborists, but I can't recall ever hearing someone admire the particular beauty of a single branch. When someone comments on a tree, it's usually the whole tree — perhaps a visual element of it, like the color of the leaves or its height. But people don't usually zero in on one branch.

Maybe that's because usually, if one branch is looking a little weak, chances are every other branch is, too.

The Bible tells us that when we bear fruit as good everyday stewards, it is for the Father's glory. We are the branch on His magnificent tree. What we have is from Him, and what we do likewise points back to Him. We also tend to reflect how well the other branches around us are incorporating the nutrients coming their way. That's all fine and good in theory. In practice, it can be an arduous exercise in humility.

When I do something virtuous or charitable or kind, there is a part of me that wants to stand out for it. I think that's true for all of us. We've given of ourselves in some way or overcome some human temptation to accomplish a little bit of good in this world, and even though we know God sees us, we'd really love for everyone else to see it, too.

It's a struggle, for sure. But we need to remember that our fruit belongs to the whole tree.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
©LPi

Thank You to our sponsors

Our sponsor of the week is
Bounds Funeral Home.

Our Parish Celebrations

Mark your calendar and save the date for these celebrations in our community:

May 16 Boy Scout Drive-Thru Spaghetti Dinner



5th “Almost” Annual St. Francis de Sales Boy Scouts Troop #185 Drive-Thru Spaghetti Dinner

Sunday, May 16th from 4:00 p.m. — 7:00 p.m.

Philip & Barbara Long Parish Center
535 Riverside Drive, Salisbury, MD

Adults - \$9.00 Children Under 10 - \$5.00

Includes: Salad, Spaghetti & Meatballs and Garlic Bread
(Gluten free available)



The Scouts of Troop 185
Thank you for your
support!

Tickets available after Mass as follows:
St. Francis de Sales: May 8th at 5:30 p.m.; May 9 at ALL Masses
Holy Redeemer: May 9th at 9:00 a.m.

By calling:
Tim Ketcham 443-880-7166
Brent Wilson 443-944-7006

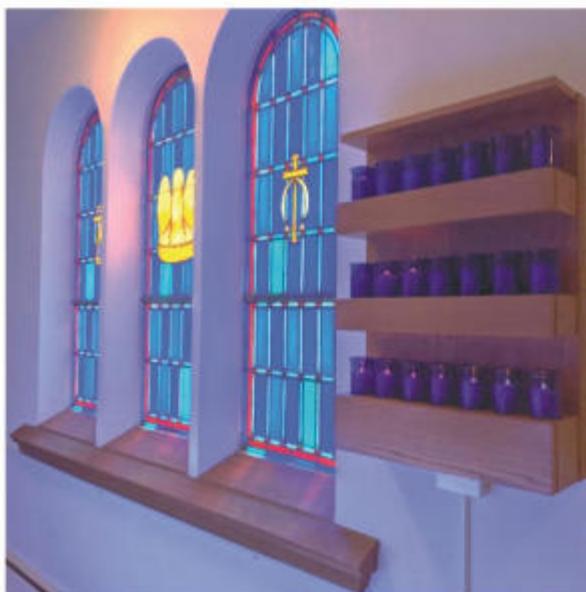
Online with credit card:

<https://visitstfrancis.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/BoyScoutTroop185SpaghettiDinner>

Memorial Wall of Candles

Light a candle for a year

In memory of or in tribute to a loved one.



The memorial wall is located in the entrance way to our Chapel of the Saints off the main vestibule of our St. Francis de Sales Church.

Light a candle for one year and an engraved plaque will be placed on the candle with the name of your loved one.

Please contact the parish office for more information.
410-742-6443



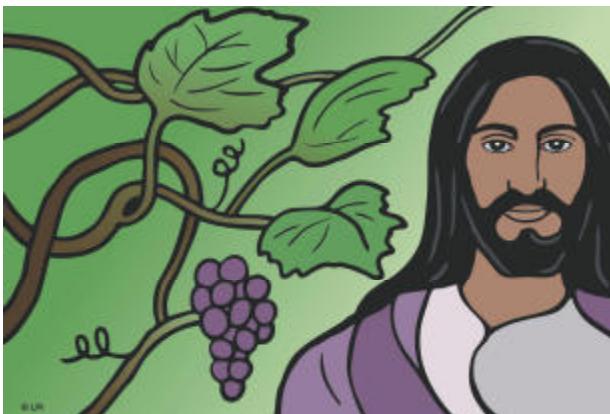
Special Prayer Intentions

These are the people for whom the priests will be praying at Masses the week beginning May 3rd:

	Sanctuary Sanctuary	Candle SFdS Candle HR	
Monday	May 3	7:00 a.m.	James Vincent Melton
Tuesday	May 4	7:00 a.m.	Elizabeth Bujak
		11:00 a.m.	For an Increase in Vocations
Wednesday	May 5	8:30 a.m.	Fr. Eugene Hackert
		5:30 p.m.	Ruth Daly
Thursday	May 6	7:00 a.m.	John Rosenwald
		11:00 a.m.	For an Increase in Vocations
Friday	May 7	7:00 a.m.	Edward Korman
Saturday	May 8	8:30 a.m.	For an Increase in Vocations
		4:00 p.m.	All Mothers living and deceased
		5:30 p.m.	All Mothers living and deceased
Sunday	May 9	7:30 a.m.	All Mothers living and deceased
		9:00 a.m.	All Mothers living and deceased
		10:30 a.m.	All Mothers living and deceased
		12:00 p.m.	All Mothers living and deceased

Calendar Items

Sunday, May 2	9:00 a.m. Religious Education Classes 10:30 a.m. Baptism Class in Spanish 4:00 p.m. Haitian Community Prayer Group	SFdS School/Parish Center Mercy House Mercy House
Monday, May 3	6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts	Parish Grounds
Tuesday, May 4	7:00 p.m. Loving Life Committee 7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts	Parish Center Conf. Room Parish Grounds
Wednesday, May 5	9:00 a.m. Adoration 6:00 p.m. Baptism Class in Spanish	SFdS Church Mercy House
Thursday, May 6	5:30 p.m. Bear & Wolf Pack 6:00 p.m. Webelos 6:00 p.m. Liturgy Committee	Scout House Scout House Parish Center Conf. Room
Friday, May 7	No Meetings	
Saturday, May 8	10:00 a.m. Calix Society 11:00 a.m. Sacramental Prep in Spanish 7:00 p.m. Marriage Prep in Spanish 7:00 p.m. Korean Community Mass	Chapel Mercy House Mercy House Holy Redeemer
Sunday, May 9	8:30 a.m. Mystagogy 9:00 a.m. Religious Education Classes 10:30 a.m. Baptism Class in Spanish 4:00 p.m. Haitian Community Prayer Group	Mercy House SFdS School/Parish Center Mercy House Mercy House





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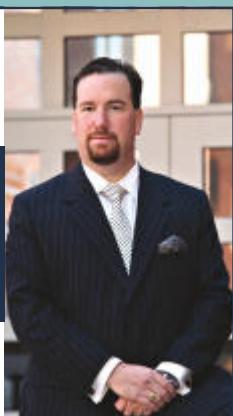
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