

# Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church

1st SUNDAY OF LENT    MARCH 9, 2025



## Parish Staff

Reverend James Gould, Pastor  
Reverend Joseph Kenna, Parochial Vicar  
Mr. Larry Hammel, Deacon  
Mrs. Leslie Sheldon, Office Manager  
Mrs. Laura Burgess, Business Manager  
Mrs. Diane Taylor, DRE - Director of Religious Education  
Mrs. Lea Anne Kennedy, CRE  
Ms. Caitlin Orender, Director of Youth Ministry  
Mr. Michael Galdo, Director of Music  
Mr. Richard Smith, Facilities Manager  
Mr. Jerry Jones, Custodian  
Mrs. Maria Alvarenga, Custodian  
Mr. Antonio Alvarenga, Custodian  
Mrs. Janice Rees, Sunday Bulletin

## Contact Info

Admin and Religious Education Office- 540-338-6381  
Office email - [l.sheldon@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.sheldon@saintfrancisparish.org)  
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In case of an emergency - 540-338-6440  
37730 St. Francis Court, Purcellville, VA 20132  
[www.SaintFrancisParish.org](http://www.SaintFrancisParish.org)

## Welcome!

Please register and become part of our parish community. You may fill out a registration form in the parish office during business hours.

**Office Hours** - M-F 8:30am-4pm  
(Office closed between 12noon and 1:15pm daily)

## Sunday Mass

Saturday Vigil - 5pm  
Sunday - 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:15pm,  
5:30pm (Mass with contemporary music)

## Daily Mass

Monday through Thursday - 6:30am and 8:30am  
Friday - 6:30am and 12noon  
Saturday - 9am  
Check the bulletin for Holy Days of Obligation

## Benediction/Adoration

Friday - Adoration is held every Friday following the 12noon Mass through the evening and overnight until Saturday morning before the 9am Mass  
Wednesday Holy Hour at 7pm

## Sacraments

Confessions:  
Friday 11am  
Saturday 8am and 3:30pm; Wednesday 8pm;  
One-half hour before Mass on Sunday.  
Anytime by appointment. Confessions are held in the Church.

Matrimony: Parish couples planning to be married must make arrangements with the Office at least six months prior to the intended date of marriage.

Baptism: Baptisms are held on Sundays at 1:30pm. Baptism class is the Friday before the 3rd Sunday of the month 7pm.  
Call the office for details.

Anointing of the Sick: We are privileged to bring Holy Communion and administer the Holy Anointing to the sick and home-bound upon request. Please call the office to let us know your needs.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT  
MARCH 9, 2025**

Be with me, Lord, when i am in trouble. Ps 91

**Confessions in Lent**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday - 7pm  
Wednesday Night Holy Hour at 7pm, followed by  
Confession at 8pm

**Stations of the Cross**

Fridays at 7:30pm  
(Confessions will follow Stations as needed)  
**Fridays in Lent** are obligatory days of abstinence for  
Catholics. Every person 14 years of age or older must  
**abstain** from meat (and items made with meat).

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

<u>Week of February 15, 16</u>	
Pew/Mail	\$ 10,852.00
Parish Giving	\$ 19,555.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 30,407.50</b>
<u>Week of February 22, 23</u>	
Pew/Mail	\$ 11,325.00
Parish Giving	\$ 12,475.72
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 23,800.72</b>
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,896.00
<u>Month of January</u>	
Pew/Mail	\$ 45,783.00
Parish Giving	\$ 76,024.34
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$121,807.34</b>
Budgeted Monthly Need	\$125,225.00

**This Week**

Mon., March 10	<u>Book of Revelations</u> 10am, Room 107 <u>KofC</u> Rosary 7pm, Chapel <u>KofC</u> Business Meeting 7:30pm <u>OClA</u> 7pm, Room 206
Wed., March 12	<u>Catholic Biblical Sch</u> 9:30am & 6:30pm OLVH <u>Young Adult Group</u> 6:30pm, Room 107 <u>Holy Hour for Miraculous Medal</u> 7pm <u>That Man is You</u> 7pm, Room 202
Fri., March 14	<u>Women's Prayer Group</u> 7am, Chapel <u>Saint Peter Bible Study</u> 9am, Room 107
Sat., Mar. 15	<u>That Man is You</u> 6:30am, Room 202

**Masses for the Week**

+ deceased	
<u>Sat., Mar. 8</u>	9:00 am 5:00 pm
<u>Sat., Mar. 8</u>	5:00 pm
<u>Sun., Mar. 9</u>	7:00 am 8:30 am 10:30 am 12:15 pm 5:30 pm
<u>Mon., Mar. 10</u>	6:30 am 8:30 am
<u>Tue., Mar. 11</u>	6:30 am 8:30 am
<u>Wed., Mar. 12</u>	6:30 am 8:30 am
<u>Thu., Mar. 13</u>	6:30 am 8:30 am
<u>Fri., Mar. 14</u>	6:30 am 12:00 noon
<u>Sat., Mar. 15</u>	9:00 am
<u>Sat., Mar. 15</u>	5:00 pm
<u>Sun., Mar. 16</u>	7:00 am 8:30 am 10:30 am 12:15 pm 5:30 pm

**Saturday after Ash Wednesday**  
In Thanksgiving for prayers answered  
**Vigil: First Sunday of Lent**  
John Christian Prohaska  
**First Sunday of Lent**  
+ Guy Valvano  
People of the Parish  
Agnes and Jesse Eastman  
Jerry Paul  
Ray Sacramo  
**Lenten Weekday**  
+ Helen and George Rutzel  
+ Jacques Ajenstat  
**Lenten Weekday**  
+ Ana Funes  
+ Robert Hulse  
**Lenten Weekday**  
Reed and Christina Coffee  
+ Holly Fuller  
**Lenten Weekday**  
+ James Lippert  
+ Tom and Ethel West  
**Lenten Weekday**  
+ Gary Rutzel  
Rose Marie Silvestri  
**Lenten Weekday**  
Janet Harrison  
**Vigil: 2nd Sunday of Lent**  
+ Lily and Emilio Espinosa  
**2nd Sunday of Lent**  
John Thomas Krebs  
Eric and Suzanne Gunzelman  
People of the Parish  
+ Werner Wickenhauser  
+ Dr. Paul Schweisthal

**Mass Celebrant Schedule**

**Saturday, Mar. 15**  
5pm: Fr. Gould  
**Sunday, Mar. 16**  
7am: Fr. Gould  
8:30 am: Fr. Kenna  
10:30am: Fr. Kenna  
12:15pm: Fr. Frankline  
5:30pm: Fr. Frankline  
\* note: subject to change

**Readings for the Week**

Sun:	Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13, 14-15 (see 5b)/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13
Mon:	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46
Tue:	Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15
Wed:	Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32
Thu:	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 70c-8/Mt 7:7-12
Fri:	Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26
Sat:	Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-4

Dear Folks,

We now enter the first Sunday of Lent, 2025. It is a time the Church calls us all to a retreat with many facets. The standards are to enhance our strength character in the life of the Faith by our prayers, penance, and almsgiving. Let is a time when there is a rise in numbers of people going to Mass during the week. In a week two we will find an increase of those going to Confession. With Confessions every night of the week we often meet the meek and mild souls who frequent the box as well as the big fish. Big fish??? ... you know. And almsgiving with the Bishop's Lenten Appeal. Such a great idea indicating a concern for the poor souls none of us will ever meet. If we didn't have the BLA we would have to create one.



The Lenten Appeal is a trajectory to future embraces in the next world. People we never knew here but the same who will never forget us beyond the gates of Heaven. Of course that all assumes that we believe in the Gates of Heaven and a life beyond for the needy of this world. It reminds me a lovely old ditty about who we find beyond the gates, or look upon us with "Stunned Surprise."

#### *Stunned Surprise*

*by Anonymous*

*I dreamed death came to me one night,  
and Heaven's gates flew open wide.  
With kindly grace, St. Peter came  
and ushered me inside.*

*There, to my astonishment, were friends  
I had known on Earth.  
Some I had labeled as unfit  
and some of little worth.*

*Indignant words flew to my lips;  
Words I could not set free.  
For every face showed stunned surprise --  
No one expected ME!*

Lent is also a season that sets markers for our life in the Faith of God Almighty. One set of markers can be found in the sins of the world that distract us in a cultural darkness. They are the seven capital sins: Pride, Covetousness (Greed), Lust, Anger, Gluttony, Envy, and Sloth (Laziness).

On the positive side we have the actual virtues: Faith, Hope, Love, Prudence, Justice, Temperance, and Fortitude.

G.K. Chesterton, Catholic Convert and literary commentator once addressed the Church as a type of Green House with many different types of flowers with different colors and lovely scents of aroma. And so it is. Lent offers us time to wander through the stacks of stories of saints who can stir our hearts and affect our behaviors. For reference points you can find lists of saints at: [www.catholic.org/saints/sofd.php](http://www.catholic.org/saints/sofd.php) or [catholicsaints.info/](http://catholicsaints.info/)

Good Hunting. Let us pray for one another.

*Our thoughts and  
prayers are with ...*



**Our Military Members:** SGT Peter Audi, PFC Stephen G. Beard, LTC Andrew Cahan, Mary Elizabeth Castaneda, SGT Ernesto G. Castro, LCpl Paul Cotter, LT Scott Cypher, CPT Ryan Patrick Godfrey, 1LT Alexandra Goodnow, Captain Ryan Patrick Grady, 2LT Patrick Gutierrez, PO2 Robin Hunt, Christopher Largent (Army), MAJ Jamie (Jovene) Liddle, PFC Joseph Jovene, MAJ Vincent Jovene, USAF Mary Catherine Kuegler, CPT Rachel (Jovene) Malletts, LTC Chuck Marshall, SFC Tim Marshall, Blaise Mason (Army), Sam A. Mason (Army), 1st LT Caleb Magowan, PFC Brian McWilliams, SPC Kenneth Kyle McWilliams (Army Reserve National Guard), CPT Ross Mentzer, Kyle Minogue (Air Force), Marine Nate Nelms, Kristin Ober (Air Force), Marine Anthony Oliverio, 1LT Jonathan Owen, Lcpl John Owen Patterson, PFC Jorge Pedroza, Gy Sgt Jose O. Ruiz Pedroza, Army John Pileulsley, CPT Brendan Printup, Joe Pultro, CWO Jason Runner, 1LT Matthew Ryan, LT Michael Tappe, LCpl Frankie Thyson, Shahin Uddin (Army), SSgt Marnie Wickman, A1C Joshua Wilk, 1LT Jared Willard, Col. Theodore White, Andrew Yevoli (Air Force), LT Colin Conahue; Seaman Ryan Knowles, COL Therese Kreutzberg, 2nd LT Seth R. McRoberts; LT Colin Donohue; WO Paul Adam; 2L Matthew Owen; LT Alex Bissell, PVT Teddy Bratrud

**The Sick:** Dominic Corcoran, Mike O'Brien, Sarah Nolan, Liz Keller; Joanne Harrington, Charles Williams, Patricia Naomi Alvarenga, Joe Graber, Christina Huth, Candace Daly, Melissa Jewel, Frederick Campos, Grace Costello, Daniel Ramirez, Cynthia Ramirez, Silvia Vizcarra, Olga Howard, Diane Shirley, Patrick Whipp, Barney Smith, Corinne McHugh, Pam Austrich, Bobby Decker, Maureen Sengpiehl, Jerry Franks, Anthony Gianino, Maria Madigan, Martha Ruiz, Judith Livingston; Jose Arias, William and Susan De Loziedr, Adam DeWitt, Neda Carpenter, Lisa Salicinas

**The Deceased:** Valerie Danet, Ruth McHenry, Brenda Vinton, Thomas Bradford, Richard King, Dr. Joel Madrid, Mary Anna Strov, Mary Louise Oliver, Mary Regina Meaney, Dr. Paul Schweisthal, G.E Corky Corcoran II, Barbara Curran, Alexander McMinn, Felisa Hight, Norma Jean Early; Charles Appel, Daniel Curtis, Lorenzo Osorio Rosa

### **Join Us For Our Lenten Fish Fry!**

Every Friday evening during Lent  
3:30 - 7:30 pm

Menu and Pre-orders will be  
available on our website

[saintfrancisparish.org/fish-fry/](http://saintfrancisparish.org/fish-fry/)

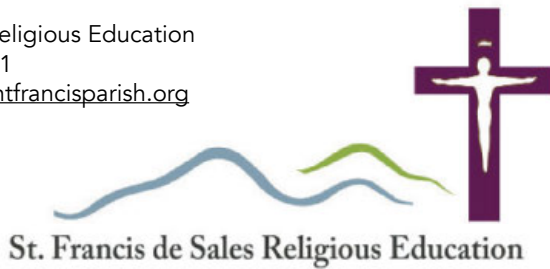
dine-in • take out • curbside available

### **Write your Dedication on a Brick**

You have an opportunity to place your permanent dedication etched on a brick on the church property in front of the parish center. Think of honoring someone for an anniversary or a birthday or to acknowledge a Sacrament.

[saintfrancisparish.org/commemorative-brick-campaign](http://saintfrancisparish.org/commemorative-brick-campaign)

Diane Taylor  
Director of Religious Education  
540-338-6381  
[d.taylor@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:d.taylor@saintfrancisparish.org)



**Attention Seventh Graders** An email recently was sent about the Spring Confirmation Reception. Please sign up to help host the Confirmation Reception on April 24, 2025

**Attention Confirmation II students** - If you are missing assignments, be sure to turn them in (saint report, sponsor paperwork, sponsor interview, and discipleship hours) to your teacher or the RE office. **Save the Date! Confirmation Retreat will be on April 5.** More details will be going out soon. If you cannot attend our retreat, you must attend a retreat at another parish. Contact Diane Taylor for information.

**Confirmation Robes** will be ordered soon. Parents, an email went out requesting the height of your son/daughter. Please email Lea Anne Kennedy with height (in inches). [l.kennedy@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:l.kennedy@saintfrancisparish.org)

*"Be assured that God's will for you is both just and merciful."*  
St. Francis de Sales

## TRINITY HOUSE COMMUNITY GATHERING

**Saturday, March 22, 2025**  
St. Francis de Sales Parish Center, Purcellville, VA

**Topic: Family Culture**



6:00 pm: Dinner & Fellowship

6:30-7:00pm: Parent Presentation & Small Groups Discussion while Virtus-trained volunteers supervise kids

7:00-7:30pm: Fellowship & Dessert

Free event for the whole family!  
Please bring a drink (juice, soda, beer, wine) or dessert – or both! – to share.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**VBS 2025 will be July 14-18, 2025**  
**The theme for this summer's camp is**  
**Babylon: Daniel's Courage in Captivity**

**VOLUNTEER NOW!** To sign up to volunteer go to [saintfrancisparish.org/vacation-bible-school-registration](http://saintfrancisparish.org/vacation-bible-school-registration)

Registration for campers will begin May 1.

## Religious Education Calendar

**WEEK OF MARCH 9 & 16**

Sunday Pre-K - 8th Grades, RCIT -9-10:15am  
9th - 12th Grades (Fr. Gould) - 4-5pm

Monday K - 8th Grades 5-6:15pm

Wed 1st Grade-5th Grade - 3:30-4:45pm

## How Are You Preparing for Lent?

**Lent Prep: on Fasting** - Spirit Juice/ Poco A Poco: this popular podcast can be found on You Tube, Spirit Juice, or on your favorite podcast app. In this episode, the friars discuss "Practical Spirituality". The friars break open the Gospel in light of their years of prayer, communal life, and work with the poor. It is a source of rest, encouragement, refreshment, and renewal for all pilgrims helping them to discern and make the next best step. Poco a Poco, little by little, step by step we're making our pilgrimage to the Father's house.

Why does the desert during Lent matter? Why do we journey there every year for three weeks, alongside our brothers in faith? The desert isn't just a place of physical challenge or adventure—it's a biblical invitation to encounter God in a profound way. It's a place where we can strip away distractions, face our vulnerabilities, and open ourselves to God's transformative presence. The desert is both a terrifying and purifying place, just as it is for Jesus. In this episode, we dive deep into the spiritual significance of the desert during the Lenten season. Join us as we explore the desert's deep spiritual meaning, and how this sacred journey is not just for the body but also for the spirit.



**Our parish has a FORMED subscription! It's FREE!**

### This Week on Formed:

**Week One | Restore** In the Week One video for the Restore Lent series, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, reflects on the theme of the week—the desert. She explains that Jesus is inviting you to move beyond your comfort zone and into the deepest places of your heart with him. It is Jesus who helps you root out the sin, sickness, and self-hatred in your life. Sr. Miriam assures us that we can look to him for comfort, love, and healing.

**St. Frances & Liturgical Living** Join the Tierney family as they celebrate the feast of Saint Frances of Rome, patroness of homemaking! Learn about practicing the corporal works of mercy in the home, the very Catholic Lenten history of pretzels and beer, and watch Kendra and three-year-old Barbara make something they like to call "trash can soup." Find this episode's feature recipes and more about liturgical living in the home at Catholic All Year. [catholicallyear.com/at-home/](http://catholicallyear.com/at-home/).

**Living Lent as a Family** Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Augustine Institute Graduate School Professor Dr. Sehorn and his wife, Sarah Sehorn, to discuss liturgical living during Lent.

### GET THE APPS

**AMEN App** on your phone for daily readings, reflections, prayer and inspiration.

**Ascension App:** Bible Studies, Bible in a Year, Catechism in a Year, Rosary in a Year, and more.

**FORMED App:** All the features of FORMED on your phone.

**Hallow App:** Improve your prayer time: *Lent Pray 40: The Way* and more.



Caitlin Orender  
 Director of Youth Ministry  
 540-338-6381  
[c.orender@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:c.orender@saintfrancisparish.org)

**SUNDAY YOUTH NIGHT:** ALL high schoolers and friends are invited to Youth Nights most Sundays from **6:30-8pm** in room 213. Deepen your relationship with God, learn more about Jesus, and grow your desire for life-long discipleship with Him. Friends are always welcome!  
 Our next Youth Nights is **March 16!** There is no Youth Night March 9.



**SPRING RETREAT** ALL high school teens are invited to retreat to Camp Highroad in Middleburg, VA **Friday, March 28 – Sunday, March 30.** We'll learn to trust in Jesus as He invites us to lean not on our own understanding, but on Him! We'll pray, play, discuss, sing, worship,

eat, laugh, learn, and grow! Grab a flyer in the narthex, on the Youth Ministry bulletin board, or online at [saintfrancisparish.org/youth-ministry](http://saintfrancisparish.org/youth-ministry). Return forms and payment to the Youth or Parish Office by **March 24.**



**CONFIRMATION RETREAT DINNER** Enjoy dinner with the Confirmation Candidates at their retreat on **Saturday, April 5** and invite them to be part of Youth Ministry in high school! **Your presence and encouragement are so influential!** Let me know if you can make it!



**6:30AM MASS FOR LENT** Meet Mrs. G in the front left rows of church every Tuesday morning during Lent starting **March 11!**

**ST. PATTY'S DINNER** Lend a helping hand at the St. Patrick's Dinner Party on **Saturday, March 15!** The Knights of Columbus have generously offered to donate proceeds towards WorkCamp 2025! Let's help set-up, serve, and clean-up. **SUG** coming soon!



Follow Us On **SOCIAL MEDIA**

@sfdsyouthministry  
 @sfdsyouthministry

WEBPAGE: [saintfrancisparish.org/teen-faith-youth-group/](http://saintfrancisparish.org/teen-faith-youth-group/)  
 REMIND: [remind.com/join/a4d636](https://remind.com/join/a4d636) or text @a4d636 to 81010 for text reminders and event updates.



Work Camp Formation Meeting  
 March 23rd 6:30-8:00 pm

**4 ADULT MALE CREW LEADERS and other roles NEEDED FOR WORKCAMP**

We have 27 teens registered to attend WorkCamp in Quicksburg, VA from June 21-27! In order for them to attend, the diocese requires us to attain the following volunteers:

- **4 male Adult Crew Leaders** – chaperone teens and model the faith for the **full week** of WorkCamp
- **5 Contractors** (license not required) – work on the job site with teens **Mon-Thurs**
- **5 Security volunteers** – work **one 2-7:30pm shift** during the week
- **Homebase volunteers** – assist the diocesan WorkCamp Logistics Team when available
- **Parish volunteers** – assist with Sunday night Formation Meetings and other preparation tasks

For more information, grab a flyer from the narthex, go to [saintfrancisparish.org](http://saintfrancisparish.org), [arlingtondiocese.org/youth-ministry/workcamp](http://arlingtondiocese.org/youth-ministry/workcamp), and [totalapexliving.com/workcamp-catholic-week-of-community](http://totalapexliving.com/workcamp-catholic-week-of-community) where parishioner and Homebase Volunteer, Kevin Sweeney, explains what WorkCamp is all about.



- MAY 4 – PANCAKE BREAKFAST** (to raise funds for WorkCamp)
- MAY 10 – BASH!** (for middle schoolers)
- JUNE 12 – SENIOR BACCALAUREATE** (for HS and college seniors)

**Women of St. Francis de Sales**  
**Calling All Young Ladies!**  
**Apply for the Women's Council Service Grant**

A \$600 Women's Council Service Grant will be given to a young woman attending Diocesan WorkCamp 2025 to cover tuition expenses!

Please visit the Women's Council website for instructions. Applicants are asked to express what our mission statement means to you and how you can live it out. **Apply by March 9th!**

## St. Francis Council 11136 News

THE KNIGHTS WISH OUR SFDS PARISH COMMUNITY A VERY BLESSED AND HOLY LENT SEASON.



### PANCAKE BREAKFAST - CALLING ALL

**CATHOLIC MEN:** Bring your families and come join your SFDS knights this weekend for some fellowship, delicious pancakes, and fixins'. Many knights will be there, so if you are interested in learning more about the knights and our programs, please come meet and talk to any of the knights at breakfast. We look forward to talking to you about the SFDS Knights wonderful, faithful, and inspiring programs; there's bound to be something that would appeal to any of our Parish Catholic Men. We look forward to meeting and talking to you.

**NOTABLE KNIGHT – CORNELIUS ALEXANDER MCGILLICUDDY –** Better known as Connie Mack, was born into a large Irish Catholic immigrant family in 1862. As we are now in major league baseball's spring training, it is only right to highlight one of the pioneers of our national pastime. He became the owner and manager of MLB's original "Bad News Bears" in 1901 by taking over the Philadelphia Athletics. Mack considered it a personal challenge and committed himself to making the team a winner. He had a reputation for treating everyone with fairness and respect and managed the team for an amazing fifty seasons and became the first manager to lead a team to three World Series titles. Mack was enshrined into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1937.

**KNIGHT OF THE MONTH FOR FEBRUARY –** The SFDS knights have voted Brother Gabe Butler as Knight of the Month for February. Please thank and congratulate this fine Catholic gentleman if you see them around the Parish; he is surely worthy!

**ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION (MARCH 15th) –** The SFDS Knights and Women's council are partnering to bring you the annual SFDS St. Patrick's Day Party on March 15th. This is a ticketed event – **Be On the Look Out (BOLO)** for details and link to purchase your tickets. Spoiler Alert: we will again have the amazing Irish Dancers performing at the party – they never disappoint!

**KNIGHTS ALERT!! BE ADVISED –** Be on the lookout for your 2025 dues notification. You can pay your dues one of four ways: (1) Bring your dues to a knight's meeting; (2) mail your dues to the knight's P.O. box; (3) drop your dues in the knight's mailbox by the stairwell leading to knight's hall; or (4) via ZELLE.

**ROSARY PROGRAM.** Come join the Knights in praying the Rosary in the small chapel on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 7 pm. Everyone and anyone is welcome to pray the Rosary with the Knights! To quote Father Gould, "Let us pray for one another" -and- as we say, "let us pray with one another."

The SFDS Knights have many wonderful, faithful, and inspiring programs; there's bound to be something that would appeal to our Parish Catholic Men. If you are interested in finding out more about the Knights and our programs, please contact Grand Knight Michael Carducci ([gksf11136@gmail.com](mailto:gksf11136@gmail.com)). To become a Knight, contact either Grand Knight Michael Carducci or Brother Knight Richard Jacob ([jakeman58@aol.com](mailto:jakeman58@aol.com)). All Catholic men 18 years of age or older are eligible to become a Knight, and it is easier than ever - go to [kofc.org/join](http://kofc.org/join) or scan the QR code

Michael Carducci, Grand Knight  
St Francis Council # 11136,  
[gksf11136@gmail.com](mailto:gksf11136@gmail.com); [www.kofc11136.org](http://www.kofc11136.org)



## SAVE THE DATE



### VIRGINIA

April 2, 2025 in Richmond, VA



### FATHERS RAISING SAINTS

PREPARING OUR KIDS TO BATTLE SECULARISM

Join us for our March meeting!

**TOPIC: HOME ECONOMICS AND PAYING FOR POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**

Just like there are many ways to be Catholic and live out Catholic faith, there are many sensible, virtuous, and exemplary ways to manage money. The more you learn about money matters in a thoughtful and balanced way, the more you can make your own sensible financial decisions.

**WHAT:** A new group created for fathers to interact, network, and share knowledge to be strong examples of our Catholic faith and morals for their children.

**WHEN:** March 11th 7:30 PM

**WHERE:** SFDS - Knights Hall

"The plans of the diligent lead surely to plenty, but those of everyone who is hasty, surely to poverty." **Proverbs 21:5**

Sponsored by your SFDS Knights of Columbus, however you do not need to be a Knight to attend. To sign up to be on our emailing list about monthly events respond to: [knights11136@gmail.com](mailto:knights11136@gmail.com)



## Homeless Ministry

The homeless ministry is thankful for all the volunteers who have given time and talent to help the hungry and homeless.



### • Missionary Sisters of Charity in

**Anacostia** – Serve between 60 and 100 meals.

o We prepare and serve meals every 2nd Saturday of the month. All donated items are due to Knights Hall the preceding Thursday by 2pm.

o Items due **April 10**; meal delivered and served **April 12**

Join us in works of charity by signing up to purchase items, prepare the main dish, bake cookies and cakes, or to transport meals and supplies.

Contact one of us, and we will direct you to the Signup Genius

- Fran Beebe [franbeebe7@gmail.com](mailto:franbeebe7@gmail.com)
- Carie Losinski: [skigators@me.com](mailto:skigators@me.com)

## CATHOLIC WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Calling all women of the parish: you are invited to join the Catholic Women's book club at SFDS, a ministry for women to grow deeper in their faith and friendships in their parish community.

We meet once a month on Friday mornings 9:30am-11am. We offer childcare to accommodate moms with young children.

### Book schedule:

- Friday, April 11: Be Brave in the Sacred by Mary Lenaburg
  - Friday, May 9: No Greater Love by Mother Teresa
- To register or for more information, email Elise Daniel at [eliseamyx@gmail.com](mailto:eliseamyx@gmail.com).

## Women's Prayer Group

The purpose of the Women's Prayer Group is to reflect on Sundays Gospel Reading and to seek spiritual growth together as we pray, pray, pray. All prayers are welcome: thanksgiving, praise, forgiveness, parish and personal intentions. We hope you can join us Friday mornings, 7-8am in the Chapel. Contact Jean Stanley at [jeanmariestanley@gmail.com](mailto:jeanmariestanley@gmail.com)

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Women's Council is seeking volunteers to join our Executive Team for a 2-year term starting in July. The current Executives will work side-by-side with you to help ensure a smooth and thorough transition. If you are interested in finding out more, contact Sandy Regan at (540) 270-4411, email us at [womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com](mailto:womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com), or come to our next Business Meeting on March 24th



## Women's Council Corner

"...For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me and holy is his name". Luke 1:48-49



### Next Social Event Barbie Bunco Game Night

**Monday, March 10th @ 7pm**

Join us for a fun night of Barbie Bunco! Wear your favorite pink apparel and bring a snack to share! Be on the lookout for signup details in your email and see our website for information.

Please check our website for more details on each event. Also visit our website for a list of useful spiritual references.  
[saintfrancisparish.org/womens-council](http://saintfrancisparish.org/womens-council)

**St. Patrick Party Saturday, March 25** - Decorators Wanted, to sign up, go to [www.signupgenius.com/go/409044CA4AA2CAAF58-55118464-2025#/](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409044CA4AA2CAAF58-55118464-2025#/)

### Next Planning Meeting

**Monday, March 24th, 6:30pm**, Parish Education Center, Library

All women are invited to our business meeting where we plan our spectacular socials & special events and discuss current news. We welcome your ideas. Join us and Fr. Gould for the Rosary for Ukraine in the Church after the meeting.

New to the parish or not getting our emails? Email us at [womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com](mailto:womenscouncil.sfds@gmail.com) to be added to our directory.



## Women of St. Francis de Sales

# Barbie Bunco GAME NIGHT



**MONDAY MARCH 10TH @ 7PM**  
**Parish Education Center**

Join us for a fun night of Barbie Bunco!

**Wear your favorite pink apparel  
and bring a snack to share!**

**Visit our website for more details**



## SFDS YOUNG ADULT GROUP

18-35 year old

Grow in faith and fellowship!

Upcoming Fellowship Adventures:

- March 9th - Booth at Pancake Breakfast (Volunteers Needed)
- April 21st - Hike to Buzzard Hill

Meetings Room 107  
March 12th at 6:30 PM

Email [clare.mjk@gmail.com](mailto:clare.mjk@gmail.com)  
with any questions or to RSVP



THE 8TH ANNUAL  
FATHER DAUGHTER  
DANCE FOR GIRLS OF THE  
PARISH WILL BE HELD ON  
MARCH 29TH.

TICKETS WILL GO ON SALE IN  
THE BEGINNING OF MARCH.

We will meet on Wednesday  
Mar 5th @ 9:30am in the church  
basement. Yes I know it is Ash  
Wednesday! I will be at the 8:30  
Mass :-)





WorkCamp would like shawls,  
they are estimating 30-35 shawls will be needed. June  
18th will be our due date. I did send an email with  
some easy patterns and ravelry also has some. Please  
email and let us know if you are making one as that  
does help us know where we are with the count. [wind\\_ingwoodsfarm@gmail.com](mailto:wind_ingwoodsfarm@gmail.com)  
Our next meeting is March 19 from 9:30am to 11:30pm



### Pilgrim Virgin Home Visitation Program

Have Mary bring graces into your home!  
Our Blessed Mother asked during her apparitions  
at Fatima:

- 1 - Return to God
  - 2 - Pray the rosary every day for Peace
  - 3 - Make reparations for our sins and the sins of others by some form of penance and sacrifice.
- If interested in hosting the Pilgrim Virgin Statue  
you may sign up at the table in the narthex by the  
statue of our Blessed Mother (or  
[www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4CABAA2BA7FB6-48752496-pilgrim#](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4CABAA2BA7FB6-48752496-pilgrim#))



Inova Blood Donor Services

## St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church Blood Drive

Sunday, March 16, 2025

8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Knights of Columbus Hall  
37730 St. Francis Ct., Purcellville, VA



Contact  
Mark Furman  
[furmanma@outlook.com](mailto:furmanma@outlook.com)

Donate and receive a St. Patrick's Day  
t-shirt\*.

Photo ID required. Allow one hour for your donation.  
\*While supplies last. Sizes may vary. Must complete screening process to receive giveaway.



Book your appointment today!

Visit <https://bit.ly/SFDS0316>

Call 1.866.256.6372, use code 3026

### Calling All Contractors and Tradespeople: Join Our Parish Resource List!

Dear Parishioners,

As a parish, we are blessed with many talented and skilled individuals, and we are looking to compile a list of **contractors, tradespeople, and skilled professionals** who would be willing to offer their time and expertise when needed.

Whether your talents lie in **plumbing, electrical work, carpentry, painting, landscaping, general maintenance**, or any other trade, we would love to be able to call on you for advice, consultation, or assistance with parish projects as they arise. By joining this resource list, you would help ensure that **Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church** continues to maintain its facilities in a cost-effective way, allowing us to focus more of our resources on serving our community and living out our mission.

If you are interested in being added to this list, please contact **Rick Smith, Facilities Manager** at [r.smith@saintfrancisparish.org](mailto:r.smith@saintfrancisparish.org) or by phone at **540-338-6381 Ext 133**. Whether you can occasionally offer your time or simply provide valuable guidance, your contribution would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your consideration and for being part of our parish family!

God bless,  
Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church  
Rick Smith, Facilities Manager



# around the Diocese ...



## Holy Year 2025 Pilgrims of Hope

Resources on the Jubilee Year

[www.usccb.org/resources/Indulgence\\_Vatican\\_Bollettino.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/resources/Indulgence_Vatican_Bollettino.pdf)

[www.arlingtondiocese.org/the-holy-year-tour/](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/the-holy-year-tour/)

[www.arlingtondiocese.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Holy-Year-2025-Plenary-Indulgence59.pdf](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Holy-Year-2025-Plenary-Indulgence59.pdf)

## PARISH BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT the Caring and Sharing Program of the Womens' Guild of St. Bridget, including St. Bridget Religious Education Program, WATTS, Winchester Rescue Mission and Operation Remember.

Please share your favorite baked goods with fellow parishioners on March 22 and 23. Deliveries accepted at Hobert Hall on Saturday, March 22 from Noon to 5pm and before all Masses. Sale begins after 5:30pm Mass and continues on Sunday after both Masses. This year there will be a savory table with frozen pierogis and Italian pasta. Make your favorite: Pie, cake, bread, cookies, muffins, or frozen savory dish! Fudge (any variety), candies, chocolate pretzels, etc. If you would like to share your recipe, please attach to your baked item.

Once again, there will be a .50 table for "Little Parishioners!" and a cheesecake table.

For those of you that do not bake, no problem, please come to enjoy all the fun and purchase some delicious homemade baked goods. Thank you in advance for your contribution and/or participation to this worthy cause.

## Spiritual Date Night

Join with married and engaged couples for an evening highlighting the practical aspects of Living Forgiveness in Marriage and emphasizing Healthy Conflict Resolution. The Saturday, March 29th, 7-9 pm event will be held at Divine Mercy University located at 45154 Underwood Lane; Sterling, VA 20166. Kindly go to [regnumchristidc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2768954](http://regnumchristidc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2768954) to register.

## Pastoral Resources for Those Suffering After Miscarriage, Infertility & Infant Loss

For those who are suffering the cross of infertility and miscarriage, you are not alone. Visit the diocesan website for a list of resources to support you and your family during your most difficult days.

[www.arlingtondiocese.org/find-support/miscarriage-and-infant-loss/](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/find-support/miscarriage-and-infant-loss/)

### Holy Father Prayer Intentions for MARCH

#### For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.



**New Name-Same Mission**  
Birthright of Loudoun County is now  
**Agapé Pregnancy Center of Loudoun**

## UPCOMING DIOCESAN CONFERENCES

### WOMEN'S CONFERENCE 2025 – "Journey of Hope"

All women of the Diocese of Arlington are invited to join us on March 15th at the 2025 Women's Conference, with the theme "*Journey of Hope*". The Conference will feature speakers Laura Phelps, speaker and author from "Walking with Purpose", and Sr. Mary Elizabeth Albers, SOLT, vocations servant for the SOLT sisters, as well as Mass celebrated by our shepherd, the Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge. The day will end with a Q&A featuring the Bishop and the two speakers.

Register today at [arlingtondiocese.org/event/women](http://arlingtondiocese.org/event/women).

Early-bird price for the conference is \$85 (after Feb. 7th)



## Finding Jesus with the Wisdom of Years

A retreat for Seniors. Isn't it a challenge, living in the midst of our "throwaway culture," for those who are elderly and "full of years" to understand our place in the world--and in our Church? Although many of those about us may think that we are irrelevant, it is actually an opportune time to bring grace into the world and prepare for the Adventure ahead. Join Fr. John Riley at the Arlington Diocese's San Damiano Retreat Center in White Post, VA, to "rest and pray" with Christ. We will search the Scriptures and savor the wisdom of the Gospels as we consider the Crosses and the Consolations of our Senior Years. Our retreat begins at 6 pm Friday May 9th and concludes Sunday May 11th at noon. Retreat cost is \$285. For further information, please contact Father John Riley at: [john.riley@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:john.riley@arlingtondiocese.org).

**Project Rachel Post-Abortion Healing Ministry:**  
888-456-HOPE or visit: [www.helpafterabortion.org](http://www.helpafterabortion.org).

**Gabriel Project Pregnancy Assistance Ministry:**  
(703) 841-3810 or  
[info@helpforpregnantwomen.org](mailto:info@helpforpregnantwomen.org)

## Prayer

Dear God, help me not to be selfish. Help me to be more like Jesus.

## Mission for the Week

God has given you special talents to share with others. If you enjoy drawing, make a picture for someone else. If you enjoy singing, sing songs that make God smile.

## Sharing the Gospel

Jesus was powerful, and the devil knew it. Jesus could have used the power he had selfishly, to get whatever he wanted - food, land to rule, or even angels to come running. Instead, Jesus chose to save his power to do what God wanted.

Now color  
the picture! →

Help Jesus to avoid the devil by staying on the path that leads to God!

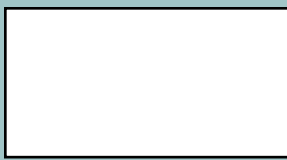


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