



St. Theresa Catholic Church

21371 St. Theresa Lane, Ashburn, Virginia 20147

December 22, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Masses for the Week

Mon, Dec 23	6:15— Bernadine Berry+ 8:30— Kim Mares 12:15— Joe Manalel
Tues, Dec 24	6:15— The Stucke Family, L&+ 8:30— Vincent Henry DeVito, III 4:00— John J. & Kathleen McLaine+ 6:00— Robert Mica+& Susanne King+ 8:00— Robert & Christina Dadovinac 10:00— St. Theresa Parishioners
Wed, Dec 25	8:00— Frances-Maria Pilaro+ 10:00— Ramos-Almeda Family Noon— Tellis Family
Thurs, Dec 26	6:15— Jianna & Janinna George 8:30— Justin Alexander
Fri, Dec 27	6:15— Bernadine Berry+ 8:30— Le Kha & All Souls_
Sat, Dec 28	8:30— Anita Vitale 5:30— Teodorico Dina+
Sun, Dec 29	7:30— Jerome+ & Lou Miles 8:45— St. Theresa Parishioners 10:30— McKay Family 12:30— Deceased Members of the Keane & Bianchet Families+ 5:00— Laura Dumouchelle

Parish Mass Schedule

Saturday:	8:30am, 5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday:	7:30, 8:45am & 10:30am 12:30 & 5:00pm
Weekdays:	6:15 and 8:30am, Monday through Friday 12:15pm, Mondays (except Federal Holidays) and Wednesdays
Holy Days:	As announced
Holy Hour:	Wednesdays, 7pm
Confessions:	Wednesdays, 9am (until line ends); Holy Hour, 7pm (until line ends); Saturdays, 4pm (until line ends); and by appointment

****Federal Holidays—6:15 and 8:30am Masses only**

Clergy

Reverend James C. Hudgins, Pastor
Reverend Paul Dudzinski, Parochial Vicar
Reverend Christopher T. Vaccaro, Parochial Vicar
Reverend John F. O'Farrell, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Paul C. Konold
Deacon Anthony J. Renzette

Prayers For The Sick: Suzanne Miles, Martin Caplan, Gene Epperly, Patricia LeMay, Megan Brown, John Forbes, Ronald Lewis Cricks, Tom Poerstel, Pamela Hoeft, Mary Broderick, Mary Giebel, Esther Yager, Tori Edmonds, Daniel John Begley, Michael DeCardona, Stephen Stahl, Steve Smith, Michael Williamson, Brenda Fitzpatrick, Barney Smith, Rick & Kathleen Mikszan, Jeffrey Miller, Raymond Humanik, Kelly Hargreaves, Ellen Russow, Patricia Fuechslin, Pranee Heinjarean, Nellie Gonzalez, Bernadette Valdez, Emma Ciaravino.

Prayers For Our Military: Cabell Early, Jack Williamson, Sabrina Sokol, Aidan Sullivan, Kyle Sullivan, Heather Hurley, Connor McCarthy, Kraig Broecker Jr., Victoria Carrick Caviston, Jack Ward, Michael Scully, Matthew Baba, Anthony Lupetaliaami, Tom Short, Bill Short, Sergio Mendez, Geoffrey Galasso, Logan Anna Davis, Stephen Holdorf, Jr. Daniel W. Beverly, Matthew Schierling, Eric Frames, Bill Freschi, Paul Schierling, Marshall Kellner, Eric Ciliberti, John Kesterson, Matthew Kesterson, Alexa Katharine Koenig, Russell Escalante.



DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Office of the Bishop

200 North Glebe Road, Suite, Suite 914 • Arlington, Virginia 22203 • (703)841-2511 • Fax (703)524-5028

Christmas 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christmas celebrates the reason for our hope, as Sacred Scripture proclaims: "For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord." (Luke 2:11) The coming of the Lord offers us a sure hope no matter our challenges or circumstances. Our hope for true peace in the world, for unity rather than division, and for a better future for ourselves and our loved ones- we draw all these hopes from Christ and our union with him.

This Christmas, Pope Francis will inaugurate the opening of the Holy Year of 2025, a Jubilee Year in our Church, with the theme "pilgrims of hope" and strengthening us with the words of Saint Paul: "Hope does not disappoint" (Romans 5:5). As one family of faith, may our lives this Christmas and throughout the Holy Year be marked by the hope that does not fade, so that by God's grace, we may faithfully and lovingly journey with one another toward eternal happiness with our Father in Heaven.

May our Lord Jesus bless you and fill you with his peace at Christmas and always, and may the hope he inspires be shared with all those you encounter in the new year to come.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington

Parish Christmas Schedule

Christmas Mass Schedule



Tuesday, Dec. 24:
Vigil Mass:
4, 6, 8 & 10pm



Wednesday, Dec. 25:
8 & 10am & 12pm

**Solemnity of Mary,
Holy Mother of God
Tuesday, Dec. 31**
Vigil Mass: 5:00pm

Wednesday, Jan. 1:
6:15, 8:30 & 10:30am, 12:00

Committed Adorers Needed

We have a need for committed adorers who can spend a grace-filled holy hour every week with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament for the following vacant one hour adoration slots:

Sunday: 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:30, 3:00, 4:00 & 7:00am, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00 and 10:00pm

Monday: 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00 & 10:00am, 2:30, 3:00 and 4:30pm

Tuesday: 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 5:00, 5:30, 10:30 & 11:30am, 3:30,

4:30 and 11:00pm

Wednesday: 1:00, 2:00, 3:00 & 9:30am, 2:00, 6:30, 9:30, 10:30, and 11:30pm

Thursday: 12:30, 1:30, 3:00, 4:30 & 10:30am, 2:00, 4:00 and 7:00pm

Friday: 12:00, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:00 & 8:30am, 3:00, 8:30, 5:30, and 11:00pm

Saturday: 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30 & 10:30am, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 7:00, 9:00, 10:30 and 11:30pm

To sign up for one of our open Adoration time slots above, please go to <http://sainttheresa.letusadore.com> or come by the parish office.



Note: The Adoration Schedule online system allows users to cancel commitments from time-to-time to allow for vacation, sickness, or other possibilities that may prevent attendance. In those instances, you can vacate the slot in advance and substitute adorers will provide one-time coverage.

Youth Education and News



ymoffice@sainttheresaparish.com

January

Sunday, the 5th-Upper Room Squad, 6-8pm

Sunday, the 12th-Upper Room Squad, 6-8pm

Sunday, the 19th-Upper Room Squad, 6-8pm

Thursday, the 23rd-Life is VERY GOOD/Life Fest Evening of Prayer, Eagle Bank Arena, Fairfax, 5:30-10:15pm

Sunday, the 26th-Parish Food Drive (after 8:45am Mass & 5pm Mass)

Monday, the 27th-Food Sort by Expirations Dates, 7-8:30pm

Tuesday, the 28th-Load food for transport, 6:15-7pm

February

Sunday, the 2nd-Upper Room Squad, 6-8pm

Friday, the 7th to the 9th-Mount2000 – High School Retreat, Mt. St. Mary's University

Sunday, the 16th-Upper Room Squad, 6-8pm

Sunday, the 23rd-Parish Food Drive (after 8:45am Mass & 5pm Mass)

Monday, the 24th-Food Sort by Expirations Dates, 7-8:30pm

Tuesday, the 25th-Load food for transport, 6:15-7pm



Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs. 9am-4pm; Fri. 9am-noon

RE Holiday Office Hours:

Closed: Dec 23-Dec 27 for Christmas

Open: Dec 30 and 31, 9am-4pm

Closed: Jan 1 for New Years

Open: Jan 2, 9am-4pm and Jan 3, 9am to noon

Adults Plan Ahead to Volunteer
Want to volunteer at the many St. Theresa's children based programs/ events? We encourage and welcome your involvement however it requires that all volunteers be compliant. For details contact Connie Gilligan, Parish Child Protection Coordinator, at connie@sainttheresaparish.com or call 703.729.3714.



**Wishing our Priests, Deacons,
& all parishioners a very
Merry Christmas!**



The St. Theresa Catholic School Community



STCS Parents, please see the **Thursday Thunder Newsletter** for information on important dates and events, including:

Monday, Jan. 6—
School resumes
Thursday, Jan. 9—
Early dismissal for students

Can you help with a Year-end Gift? St. Theresa Catholic School's Annual Thunder Appeal – Rooted in Christ, Growing in Faith is underway! Your tax-deductible gift will impact students and faculty every day, and help us grow in our mission of Educating Tomorrow's Catholic Leaders. Scan the QR code or visit our website, www.stsashburn.com, to make a gift online, or mail a check to St. Theresa Catholic School ("Thunder

Appeal" in the memo). For more information, please email freschir@stsashburn.com or call the school office, 703.729.3577. *Thank you for your support!*

Apply to STCS! The application window for new families opens soon – don't miss it! Applications for new families will open on **January 6, 2025**. Please visit our website for more information (click "Admissions") or email Admissions Director Denise Rotell, rotell@stsashburn.com.



Wanting to hear Fr. Hudgins' homilies?

You can find all of Fr. Hudgins homilies recorded on Fatherhudgins.com

News from our Parish

The Knights of Columbus St. Louis Martin Council is hosting the second annual Father Daughter Dance on February 7th, 2025. This event is open to all St. Theresa Parish and School families. The dance will be from 7-9pm in the St. Theresa Catholic School Gymnasium. There will be a live DJ, photo booth, raffle prizes, snacks, and drinks.

\$30 per father and daughter duo, \$10 for each additional daughter. Raffle Tickets are 1 for \$10, 3 for \$25, 10 for \$50. Proceeds go to Divine Mercy Outreach. The QR code will be listed in next week's bulletin. You may also go to the KoC St Louis Martin website to buy tickets now.

Tickets are limited to gym capacity so get yours soon!

Please Make Note—New Year's Eve Mass (Vigil, Mary Mother of God) will begin at 5:30pm instead of 7:30pm.

Come and join our Catholic Fellowship while crocheting and knitting—You can bring your own projects and supplies to share creations in a team effort or individually for charity, or even simply for yourself. Whatever pleases you and brings you closer to virtues we all aspire to emulate in His name. We meet Wednesdays 9am-12pm and Fridays 3:30-5pm. Call Jennie Brusstar at 571.598.6854 for location and any other questions!

Hope. Love. Joy. Peace.—These are the gifts of the Advent season. The gifts you help share here in our community, throughout the year, with your thoughtful stewardship.

Advent is a meaningful time to reflect on your generosity. One special way to give is eGiving. It can simplify your stewardship and provide steady, consistent support to the parish – so we can be ready with programs, services, and ministries for church families and those in our community. Your recurring gifts will sustain our parish, even if you need to miss a Sunday service.

We prayerfully request that you consider signing up for eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet. You can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/VA14 or call their Customer Service team at 866.507.8757.

Special Election on January 7th – Virginia's 32nd Senate District

Parishioners of St. Theresa, please be reminded that a special election is set for January 7th to fill the seat of State Senator Suhas Subramanyam, who was elected to replace US Congresswoman Jennifer Wexton. This election is crucial, as it will likely be decided by a few thousand votes and will determine the balance of power in the Virginia Senate, impacting the legisla-

tive agenda for the next three sessions.

Bishop Burbidge has recently brought attention to significant legislative concerns, including a proposed amendment to Virginia's constitution that would create an extreme "right to abortion." This amendment could allow for virtually unrestricted abortion and potentially undermine existing protections such as parental consent laws and the ban on partial-birth abortion. The Bishop calls on lawmakers and citizens alike to advocate for policies that uphold the dignity and life of every mother and child.

As Catholics, we are called to be informed and active in civic matters, ensuring that our choices at the ballot box reflect our values and faith. The parishioners of St. Theresa have the unique power to influence this election. Your participation—whether through voting or abstaining—will play a role in shaping our Commonwealth's future.

We urge all parishioners to learn about the candidates running for this seat and to vote in a manner consistent with our shared values.

Mark your calendars for **January 7th**, and let your faith guide your civic engagement. Your voice and vote matter.



St. Theresa Catholic School's Thunder Appeal
Rooted in Christ, Growing in Faith

Curriculum & Classroom Resources | Faith Formation Opportunities | Recruit & Retain Outstanding Faculty | Campus Improvements | Bridge the Gap Between Tuition Revenue and the Cost to Educate Each Student

Thank you for supporting our students & faculty! Please scan the QR code or make a gift by check to St. Theresa Catholic School, noting "Thunder Appeal" in the memo line.



Can you help with an End-of-Year gift?

Adult Education and Spiritual Enrichment

Looking for a great New Year's Resolution?

Beginning on January 1st 2025, you'll have the opportunity to join Catholics in listening to The Bible in a Year podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz. In 365 days, you'll read through the entire Bible, with Fr. Mike acting as your guide and offering insight and prayer along the way. Maybe you've always wanted to read through the Bible and never knew where to start—this podcast is the solution. Additionally, every Thursday from 7-8pm, you'll have a chance to meet in-person in the Parish Center to discuss the podcast. For more details email Maria Basu at maria_basu@yahoo.com.

Legion of Mary?—Want to deepen your faith, build community, increase in your relationship with our Lord and serve others? We have two praesidium options. Saturdays at 9:15am and Wednesdays at 7pm. Stop by the Saint Louis Martin room and learn more about it.

Women's Discipleship Group—Meets every Wednesday morning, 9:30-10:30am for Lectio Divina and 10:45-11:45am for spiritual book reading. Our focus for the Lectio Divina prayer is the Mass reading for the upcoming Sunday. Starting September 25th, we will be studying women in the Old Testament. Parish women of all ages

are cordially invited. For more information contact Dawn Garabito, 862.812.0039 or dmarie213@aol.com

That Man is You (TMIY)—Are you looking to strengthen your faith & family and meet other Catholic men at St Theresa's? We met on December 7 to study John's Gospel and how the symbolism helps our faith as Catholic men. Use the QR Code below or contact Jack Hayes at 703.537.6418 or jack.hayes422aol.com for more information.



Knights of Columbus

Pancake Breakfast: We had a fantastic Pancake Breakfast with Santa event on Sunday 12/8/24. It was very well attended by parishioners, and we collected over \$2,400 in cash and online donations. Profits from this breakfast will benefit Devine Mercy Outreach. Our next Pancake Breakfast is 12 January 2025.



Sweats for Vets: This upcoming Christmas season our council will again be doing the Sweats for Vets program. We will be collecting sweats for distribution to the Veterans at the Martinsburg VA hospital in January 2025.

Divine Mercy Outreach will also have sweats on the upcoming Christmas tree lights. Please consider donating a pair or two. The donation box will be set up in the St. Theresa Admin building lobby.

There will be a "wrapping party" at the American Legion in Leesburg, where we will package the sweats for delivery.

Are you a parishioner in need of a home repair? If you need help in completing a small home repair that you cannot complete yourself or that

may cause you financial hardship, we are here to help! We do not do outdoor yard or gardening work. Please submit your request on our website at: <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/handy-man-services>.

Interested in Joining? Guided by principles of charity, unity and fellowship, the Knights of Columbus work to strengthen our parish, our families and our community. FAQ: <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/faqs>. To be contacted, please scan the following QR code.



Legion of Mary

Want to deepen your faith, build community, increase your relationship with our

Lord, and serve others? Want to be part of something bigger than yourself? We have two praesidium options. Saturdays at 9:15am and Wednesdays at 7:30pm. Stop by the Saint Martin room and learn more about it.

Home Enthronement of the Sacred Heart

Our Lord revealed that wherever the image of His Sacred Heart is exposed and given special honor, great blessings, and graces would abound. One way to accomplish this goal is to do a formal enthronement of the Sacred Heart in your home. The enthronement is a ceremony where Jesus is invited into your home and is given authority over your family/household.

Please email sttheresalegionof-mary@gmail.com to schedule one.

Prayer Request - Are you in need of prayer?

Send The Legion of Mary a prayer request to sttheresalegionof-mary@gmail.com. Your prayer will be added to our list and kept confidential. Matthew 18: 20 For where two or three come together in my name, I am there among them.

News Around the Diocese

St. John Neumann Catholic Preschool Open House—Are you looking for a half-day Catholic Preschool for your 2 ½ to 4-year-old child with a nurturing environment where Catholic values are taught and integrated into the daily life of the students?

St. John Neumann Catholic Preschool in Reston will be hosting an Open House and tours for the 2025-2026 school year on **Wednesday, January 8th and Monday, January 13th** at 10am. (Please meet in the church narthex—just outside our parish office.)

We also have openings for the current school year. Please call 703.860.6158, visit saintjn.org/preschool, or scan the QR code for more information.



Three to Get Married Marriage Prep in 2024—Jan 9-12, Jan 23-26, Feb 20-23. The Three to Get Married Marriage Preparation Program is a Catholic Pre-Cana program for seriously dating and engaged couples. This marriage preparation course is an intensive preparation experience true to the teachings of the Catholic Church. Convenient one-weekend schedule. FOCCUS administration is included. \$398 per couple. Space is limited and these weekends fill up quickly, so reserve your spot today! Find more info on the website ourladyofbethesda.org. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, Bethesda, MD.

Give Your Spouse a Special Gift this Christmas—Sign up now for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend and receive the gift of a great marriage. Making a weekend will help you put a little Christmas in your marriage every day!

For more information or to register, go to WWME.org, click "Apply" and search for your desired location. Feel free to contact Donald and Helen Dudley at 757-690-1369 or donald.helen.dudley@wwme.org with any questions. Here are a few upcoming experiences:

January 7 - February 18, virtual (Tuesday evenings); January 21 - February 2 Myrtle Beach, SC; March 7 - 9 Rehoboth Beach, DE; March 14 - 16 Jessup, MD and Ocean City, NJ; March 21-23 Emerald Isle, NC

Continuing Education Spring 2025: "Called to Love: Theology of the Body"—Wednesdays 6:30-8:30pm, **Jan. 22 – April 30, 2025.** Jesus called the Samaritan woman to a conversion of the heart, to be able to live God's call to love in truth. This course will explore how John Paul II unfolded the Catholic vision of the person and the vocation of human love. For more information: information@johnpaulii.edu or 202.526.3799. Cost is \$150.

**Numerous high schools in the Archdiocese of Washington and the Diocese of Arlington accept this course toward VCEA licensure or CEU requirements for teachers. The cost is \$150, but we have scholarships available.

Life Fest – January 23-24, 2025—This January, all are invited to Life Fest at EagleBank Arena in Fairfax to prayerfully prepare for the March for Life! The Diocese of Arlington's Life is VERY Good is joining forces with the Sisters of Life and Knights of Columbus to offer two new events with one united vision. The Night of Praise will be on Thursday, January 23, from 7-9:45pm and the Morning Rally and Mass will be on Friday, January 24 from 8-11am. Tickets are on sale now! For more information please visit www.lifefestally.com

St. Therese of Lisieux Women's Silent Retreat Jan 24-26—St. Therese of Lisieux's spiritual doctrine is easily understood and can be applied in our day-to-day lives. Her counsel can ably assist us in enduring and embracing difficulties in prayer, overcoming scruples, and patiently putting up with challenging people. Join Fr. Jack Riley at the feet of Jesus at San Damiano to learn more about this great saint. The retreat begins at 5pm on Friday, January 24, and ends at 1pm on Sunday, January 26, 2025. Retreat cost is \$285 per person. For further information or to register, please contact Deacon Mark Maines at mark.maines@arlingtondiocese.org.

Join us for the 43rd Catholic Charities Ball!—Bishop Michael F. Burbidge and Catholic Charities invite you to join us **Friday, February 7, 2025**, for the 2025 Catholic Charities Ball. The annual winter event, beginning at 6 p.m. at The Ritz-Carlton in Tysons Corner, McLean, is an opportunity for

Catholics and friends to come together to celebrate the ministries of Catholic Charities and renew support for continuing its work. Purchase a table, a seat, or make a donation to help us reach our goal of \$1.6 million, by visiting ccda.net/ball. **Please RSVP by Friday, January 24.**

John Paul is now accepting applications for the 2025-2026 school year!—To apply please visit: https://www.jpthegreat.org/apps/pages/how_to_apply. For more information about scholarships and to see if your child will qualify please visit: <https://www.jpthegreat.org/apps/pages/scholarships>

Shadow a Wolf for a Day!—Shadow Days at John Paul are in full swing! Do you have an 8th-10th grader who is interested in seeing what it is like to be a JP student? Sign them up for a Shadow Day visit! For registration and more details, please visit: https://jpthegreat.schooladminonline.com/portal/new_inquiry Limited spots available!

Discover Oakcrest School!—Oakcrest School is an independent all-girls school for grades 6-12 guided by the teachings of the Catholic Church and the spirituality of Opus Dei. We invite families to our campus to learn more about our mission and academic program at an Admissions Information Session on Tuesday, December 3 from 8:00 to 9:30 am. Oakcrest School in partnership with parents combines a rich liberal arts curriculum, 1:1 mentoring, character development, and service to create a vibrant environment that graduates confident women who make a difference in all they choose to do.

Catholic Homeschool Fun!—New to homeschooling this coming spring semester, or, a homeschool veteran? Looking to build lasting friendships for your kids/teens (and you?) through a la carte weekly social, religious, and/or academic-enrichment activities, plus graduation? Look no further--check out Mayflower Homeschoolers @ www.mayflowerhomeschoolers.org!

Mayflower Homeschoolers is a Roman Catholic multi-chapter homeschool support group under the patronage of Our Lady of Fatima.

News Around the Diocese Continued

Volunteer Teachers Needed! Help teach adult refugees and immigrants in your community!—

Education and Workforce Development of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Arlington is seeking teachers and co-teachers for ESOL (English to Speakers of Other Languages), Citizenship, GED, Computer Literacy and ESOL for Childcare. We are urgently accepting volunteers for in-person classes in Manassas and online! In-person classes are held in Manassas, Sterling, Springfield, Woodbridge, and Falls Church. We provide training, curriculum, and resources. No second language necessary! If interested, call the Education and Workforce Development office at 571.208.1572, email us at ewd@ccda.net.

Interested in Becoming a Foster Parent in Loudoun County?—

Want to make a difference right here in your community? Loudoun County is always in need of additional families to join their network of foster care families. Foster parenting is caring for a child placed in your home through the local department of social services. The child placed in your care is unable to remain safely in their home with their parents or relatives. Foster parents are asked to provide a safe, stable, temporary and caring atmosphere for a child placed in their home. Interested applicants are not required to have prior parenting experience but must be able to work as part of a team and support the goal of reunification. For more information, contact parishioner Kathleen Ciliberti at kathleenciliberti@gmail.com or go to www.loudoun.gov/1004/foster-care-adoption for more information or at beth.mason@loudoun.gov or 703.771.5941.

Marriage Workshop: Strengthening Your Love Marriage Renewal Workshop, Feb 15-16, 2025—

A Christ-centered weekend designed to offer practical tools that can help foster effective communication and emotional closeness in your marriage. Make your marriage thrive, not just survive! The expert speaker team includes Catholic psychologists, therapists, and priests who will offer their expertise and experience, plus they will be on hand the entire weekend to offer indi-

vidual consultation, upon request. Please note: This is NOT an overnight program. Cost: Early-Bird rate: \$480 per couple, if registered by Feb 3rd. Seating is limited. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817. See our website for more details about the program and links to register: www.ourladyofbethesda.org.

New: Private Retreats at Our Lady of Bethesda! Mar 21-23, 2025 (Men & Women); Apr 3-6, 2025 (Men only); Apr 11-12, 2025 (Women only)—

Our Lady of Bethesda now offers Private Retreats! A unique opportunity, the Private Retreat allows your soul to explore your spiritual journey at a pace that suits your needs. It coincides with a preached retreat, offering the same access to the sacraments, meals and our facilities, while giving you the flexibility of a private, self-directed experience. Cost is \$226 per person, if registered by the early-bird deadline. Advance Registration is required. Don't wait, sign up now and embrace this sacred time to nurture your unique soul and strengthen your faith. Visit our website to register and to find more dates at ourladyofbethesda.org. Or call 301.365.0612. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817.

Watch "A Day in the Life of a Catholic Priest"—Ever want a glimpse into the life of a priest in our diocese? Now you can. We invite you to watch "A Day in the Life of a Catholic Priest" to follow Fr. John Paul Heisler from morning prayer to night prayer to see a window into the vocation of the priesthood. To view: <https://bit.ly/a-day-in-the-life-catholic-priest>

Separated or Divorced?—St. John's Separated and Divorced Ministry invites all separated or divorced Catholics to their meetings every third Thursday of the month, 7:30pm at St. John's in Leesburg. Email separated@stjohnleesburg.com for more information.

19th Annotation Retreat—Rolling Admission / Apply Today. Are you serious about deepening your spiritual life and getting closer to God? Then, Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center

invites you to consider our new program, "Living the Spiritual Exercises in Daily Life, AKA: the 19th Annotation!" Based on the 19th introductory note in the text of the Spiritual Exercises, this program allows anyone the opportunity to make a Spiritual Exercises retreat in their daily life, amidst their ordinary occupations. This program is intended for anyone who is serious about deepening their spiritual life and is willing to dedicate time, daily and weekly, to a personally tailored regimen of prayer and self-examination. The participant will: meet weekly with a Spiritual Director (on-line or in-person); follow recommended readings and program of prayer tailored to your daily life. The duration of the retreat is determined in conversation with your Spiritual Director, but most people engage in the program for 9-12 months. Program Fee: \$1,000 per person (includes \$30 application fee.) Find more information and links to register on our website www.ourladyofbethesda.org. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817.

Holy Hour for Encounter Every First Thursday—

All you who are burdened by sin, grief, loneliness, shame, addiction, self-hatred, abortion, or any other wound, come and place all your cares on the Heart of the Eucharistic Lord who desires to free you and restore you to new life. The Holy Hour, every first Thursday at 7 p.m. at St. Thomas à Becket in Reston, will include a Eucharistic Procession, opportunities for confession, as well as worship music led by a different musician each month. The celebrant will be Fr. Rich Dyer, Pastor, St. Thomas à Becket. If you have questions, contact us at 703.841.2550.

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) - December 22, 2024—

"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled." (Luke 1:45) Like Mary, you are called to trust in God's plan for your life. If you feel that God is asking you to serve as a priest or religious brother or sister, believe in His promise and follow with courage. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 703.841.2514 or via email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

Parish Offices

Secretary: Kelly Cosenke, 703.729.2287
Office Manager: Christine Young, 703.729.2287
Business Manager: Angelita Lupetaliaami, 703.729.2287
Facilities Coordinator: Tom Balint, 703.729.2287
Outreach Coordinator: Marianne Guidos, 703.729.2334
Website: www.sainttheresaparish.com
Email: office@sainttheresaparish.com
Fax: 703.729.9036

Religious Education Offices

Director: Larry Bayne, 703.729.3714
Youth Activities: Paul Dwyer, 703.729.0426
Secretary: Connie Gilligan, 703.729.3714
Secretary: Myriam Perez, 703.729.3714
Email: reoffice@sainttheresaparish.com
Fax: 703.729.9036

School Offices

Principal: Erin O'Malley, 703.729.3577
Assistant Principal: Danny Costa, 703.729.3577
Admin Asst: Lisa Ralston, 703.729.3577
Receptionist: Denise Oriti, 703.729.3577
Website: www.stsashburn.com
Email: schooloffice@stsashburn.com
Fax: 703.729.8068

All offices located at 21370 St. Theresa Lane, Ashburn, VA

Sacraments

Sponsor Certificates

Please contact the Parish Office to obtain a sponsor certificate prior to a Baptism or Confirmation.

Baptisms

Parents desiring Baptism for their child must attend a class (preferably before the child's birth) held the first Thursday of each month at **7pm (note the time change)** in a Conference Room in the Administration Bldg. You may schedule your child for the Sacrament of Baptism (held all Sundays 1:30pm) by visiting the Parish website under Faith, Sacraments, Baptism. Date is confirmed once all paperwork is received in the office (at least 2 weeks prior to the date of desired Baptism.)

Matrimony

The priest must be contacted at least six (6) months prior to the wedding date.

Visit the Parish Website under Faith, Sacraments, Marriage and fill out the Marriage Preparation Questionnaire prior to contacting the Parish Office. A priest will contact you.

RCIA

Adults desiring instruction in the Catholic Faith should visit the website to register for RCIA classes.

Hospitalized/Homebound

Please contact the Parish Office to ask for Holy Communion or the Anointing of the Sick.



Learn more, visit
www.sainttheresaparish.com

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas!—Thank you for making many families feel loved by your help this Christmas. They are so grateful! God bless you!

Festival of Trees—Thank you again to all who donated trees, wreaths and baskets, those who volunteered or participated in the Festival of Trees especially to our committee: Mary Maguire, Ann Cantwell, Anh and Vernon Wong & Mary Sinnott, for their dedication to making this such a wonderful event. Thank you to Troop 997 who were such a great help in the clean up! The proceeds from the event are \$23,500.00 to help families in need. God bless you all!
Are you interested in becoming part of next year's committee? Contact Marianne at dmoutreach@sainttheresaparish.com

The Visitation Ministry —Are you HOMEBOUND? We have wonderful parishioners who would love to visit you or if you are not comfortable with a home visit at this time, they will call you! If you need help with an errand or would like someone to pray with you, let us know. If you are looking to

volunteer, please contact us as well. Claudia Lewis at 703.431.8670 or email her at clewis825@gmail.com.

Did you know?—99 percent of the funds you donate go directly to families in need! Your donation make a difference in the lives of struggling families by preventing evictions and keeping utilities on! We assist struggling veterans, individuals and families due to domestic violence, disabilities, layoffs, medical issues and unforeseen circumstances. The families are so grateful!

Donations accepted online, or by mail or drop off to the parish office. Please indicate DMO in the memo of the check or on the envelope. To donate online go to the parish website <http://www.sainttheresaparish.com> and click on "Donate" tab to make a monetary donation online! Thank you for helping us to bring Christ's love to others by helping them in their time of need

Volunteer needed--Sale Donation Coordinator- Please prayerfully consider! We are in need of a new coordinator to take donations for those who don't want to consign at the twice a year children's consignment sale. We do have a storage unit that the items can be stored in. We will train if interested. Contact Marianne Guidos dmoutreach@sainttheresaparish.com

Special thanks to Elisa Mitchell who has been our sale donation coordinator for many years. She has to step done at this time. God bless you!

Do you have furniture items to donate?—Consider donating to help families in need that are moving out of the shelter. We partner with McLean Bible church to assist families coming out of the shelter. Contact Matthew Broderick at 703.966.0791 or mebroderick1@gmail.com

Friends in Need—Provides meals on a short-term basis for in the parish who are unable to cook for themselves due to arrival of a new baby, illness or a medical situation in the immediate family...Contact Emily Wilsey at emwilsey@aol.com or 703.585.5435 to volunteer to make meals or if you or a loved one need of help with meals

Looking for more ways help? Sign up to receive our Outreach email to get up to date information on needs and volunteer opportunities. If you sign up you will learn about what we do and how you can become more involved in touching the lives of families who are struggling. Contact Marianne Guidos 703.729.2334 or dmoutreach@sainttheresaparish.com.

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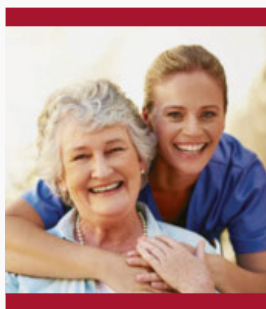
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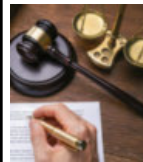
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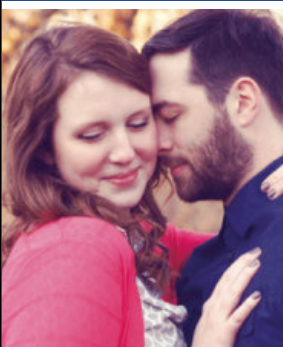
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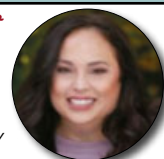
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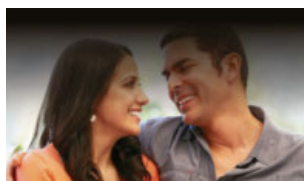
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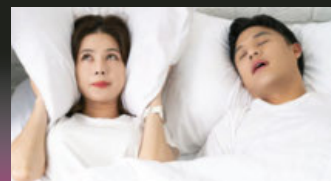
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