



St. Theresa Catholic Church

21371 St. Theresa Lane, Ashburn, Virginia 20147

April 27, 2025
Sunday of Divine Mercy

Masses for the Week

Mon, April 28	6:15— Christopher Albano & Family 8:30— Myron & Evelyn Olson+ 12:15— Julius Lim Quimpo+ and Julius Glenn Quimpo+
Tues, April 29	6:15— Suzanne Miles 8:30— Monica Minh T. Duong
Wed, April 30	6:15— Brittany Mahan 8:30— Apryl Binder 12:15— Maureen O'Connor
Thurs, May 1	6:15— Linda & Greg DiMuzio 8:30— Jerome D'Souza+
Fri, May 2	6:15— Jerome+ and Lou Miles 8:30— Leonard & Mary Catherine Stevens+ 12:15— Mary Blake+
Sat, May 3	6:15— John Carlos Isdith+ 8:30— Julia Hays+
Sun, May 4	7:30— St. Theresa Parishioners 8:45— Frank Rinaldi+ 10:30— Shawn Soares 12:30— Mary Angela Tulloch 5:00— The Tellis Family

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: Kim Balaer, Michael Tabash, Mad-die N., Suzanne Miles, Martin Caplan, Gene Epperly, Patricia LeMay, Megan Brown, John Forbes, Ronald Lewis Cricks, Tom Poerstel, Mary Broderick, Mary Giebel, Esther Yager, Tori Edmonds, Daniel John Begley, Michael De-Cardona, Stephen Stahl, Steve Smith, Michael Williamson, Brenda Fitzpatrick, Barney Smith, Rick & Kathleen Mikszan, Jeffrey Miller, Raymond Humanik, Kelly Har-greaves, Ellen Russow, Patricia Fuechslin, Pranee Heinjar-ean, Nellie Gonzalez, Bernadette Valdez.

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.

Now That Lent is Over...

Here's a topic I have meant to address for a long time. Are Catholics required to do penance on Fridays? Most-everyone knows that Fridays in Lent are days of penance, (we are supposed to go "meatless" on Lenten Fridays as a common act of penance) but are we obliged to practice any particular penance on the other Fridays of the year? Elders among us will remember a time when every Friday was meatless, both during Lent and afterwards, but one day back in the 1960s, that penance suddenly vanished. Did anything ever replace it?

Let's take a closer look at what happened. The year was 1966. The Second Vatican Council had just ended, and confusion ran high as to what Vatican II would mean, practically speaking, in the lives of Catholics throughout the world. Some said Vatican II had gone "too far," and others said "it had not gone far enough." At this time the bishops of the United States, operating under the authority given them in the Code of Canon Law, voted to amend the "meatless Friday" penance which had been a benchmark of Catholic living for centuries.

After much debate, the U.S. bishops maintained "meatless Fridays" for Lent, but voted to allow each individual to substitute his own penance for the other Fridays of the year. Here's a quick look at their original words:

Friday itself remains a special day of penitential observance throughout the year. [Friday] should be, in each week, something of what Lent is in the entire year. Even though we hereby terminate the traditional law of abstinence [going meatless] as binding under pain of sin, [Catholics should still] freely make of every Friday a day of works of voluntary self-denial and personal penance in prayerful remembrance of the passion of Jesus Christ.

So if the meatless law was taken away, what obligation, if any, did the bishops put in its place? If we understand the term "obligation" properly, we must admit that no obligation was put in its place. The bishops "strongly urged" all Catholics to continue to give up meat on Fridays, but in the language of Church documents, "strongly urged" does not mean "morally bound." This created an entirely predictable problem. It left Catholics with the impression that Friday is the same as every other day of the week, although that was never the intention of the Church.

What should we do with Fridays? Consider the statement that Friday "should be, in each week, something of what Lent is." Lent is a special time of penance to unite ourselves with Jesus Christ crucified. Although there is no "obligation" to do something specific on Friday, it should be a time in which we try to keep the spirit of Lent. There should be some special attention to prayer, self-denial, and works of charity, but it is up to you to choose what they are. Most bishops thought that Catholics would continue to abstain from meat on Fridays. That is why, of all the possible penances we could choose, abstinence from meat should be high on the list.

Is Friday still a special day of penance? Yes, it is. As we continue the year, let's think of ways to make Friday a special day dedicated to Jesus, especially in his suffering and death.

God bless you...and St. Theresa, pray for us!



Fr. Hudgins

Bulletin Deadline: Friday 2pm (9 days prior to publication)

Urgent Need for Committed Adorers

We have an urgent 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: 1:00am, 3:00am

Monday: 2:30am

Tuesday: 3:00am

Friday: 6:30pm

Saturday: 5:30, 7:30, & 9:30pm



Please 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.

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.

Wanting to hear Fr. Hudgins' homilies?

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

Youth Education and News



ymoffice@sainttheresaparish.com

April

Sun, 27th-Upper Room Squad, 6-8pm

May

Sun, 4th-Upper Room Squad, 6-8pm

Thurs, 8th-WorkCamp Prep Meeting, 7-8:30pm, Saint Louis Martin Room

Sat, 10th-Middle School Bash, 2:30-9pm – O'Connell High School, for all Parish Middle School students, 6th to 8th grade

Sat, 17th-WorkCamp Tool Training, 9am to 1pm, School Cafeteria

Sat, 17th-Middle School ROCK Squad, School Cafeteria & Gym, 6:30-8:30pm

Sun, 18th-Parish Food Drive (after 8:45am Mass & 5pm Mass)

Mon, 19th-Food Sort by Expirations Dates, 7-8:30pm

Tues, 20th-Load food for transport, 6:15-7pm

Sun, 25th-Upper Room Squad, 6-8pm

Calling All Middle Schoolers to the Diocesan BASH: BASH is the Diocese of Arlington's largest gathering of Catholic middle school students (6th-8th graders) every year! Students from all over the Diocese will gather on Saturday, **May 10th**, at O'Connell High School in Arlington for faith, fellowship, and fun! We will depart as a group from the upper parking lot at 2:15pm and return at 9pm. Adult chaperones will be the drivers.

This event includes music, games, free t-shirt, inspirational speakers, confessions, and Vigil Mass and transportation. Bishop Burbidge will be the principal celebrant and homilist for the Mass. BASH is open to any Middle School aged youth that want to attend. Please follow this link for more details and to grab a spot for your child - spots are first come - first serve so please act quickly! The cost of the

ticket is \$20. You can also sign up to be a chaperone & drive if you would like to be a part of this great afternoon. We could always use the help!

Signup Genius for the Middle School Bash: <https://tinyurl.com/STMSBash>

Or use this QR Code:



Office Hours:

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



**Living Stations
of the Cross**



Saint Theresa Catholic School

Educating Tomorrow's Catholic Leaders

www.stsashburn.com

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

Monday, April 28—

Students return from Easter break

Tuesday, April 29—

First Holy Communion rehearsal

Wednesday, April 30—

Battle of the Books meeting after school

Saturday, May 3—

First Holy Communion

Wednesday, May 7—

Dress out day to celebrate the Annual Auction

Friday, May 9—

Annual PTO Auction, "Bloom"

St. Theresa Catholic School is hiring for the 2025-26 school year!

STCS is accepting applications for the following positions: Fourth Grade Teacher, Middle School Math Teacher,

Middle School Language Arts Teacher, Music Teacher, Kindergarten full-time aide, and 3rd Grade part-time aide. To apply, please send your resume, cover

letter, and references to HR@SaintTheresaParish.com.

Apply to STCS! Would you like to learn more about our parish school and how Catholic education can make a difference in your child's life? Please visit our website for more information (click "Admissions") or email Admissions Director Denise Rotell, rotell@stsashburn.com.

Join our team!



News from our Parish

Meals For Priests Ministry—

Interested in serving pre-cooked dinners to our Priests? Our Meals for Priests Ministry is in need of loving and generous members. We serve dinners to our 4 Priests 3 times a week, on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. God sent us wonderful Priests. Fathers would appreciate a nutritious dinner after a busy work day. Interested in helping our Priests and Parish, please email Anh Wong at wong.anh@gmail.com or call 703.723.1308.

Join Our Joyful Team - St. Theresa Catholic School is hiring for the 2025-26 school year! STCS is accepting applications for the following positions: Fourth Grade Teacher, Middle School Math Teacher, Middle School Language Arts Teacher, Music Teacher, Kindergarten full-time aide, and 3rd Grade part-time aide. To apply, please send your resume, cover letter, and references to HR@SaintTheresaParish.com.

All Women Welcome!—The ladies of Walking With Purpose Bible study invite all women of the parish to join us **April 30th** at 7pm for "Ordinary Life, Extraordinary Discipleship: Tapping into the Holy Spirit's Power". Mary Smith, of the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi, joins Walking With Purpose's Lela Heick to speak on the calling, joy, and import of discipleship in our every day lives. Join us in the

Zellie rooms for this impactful evening with fellowship and light refreshments to follow. The event is free to all women. Any monetary donations collected will be given to support the mission of Regnum Christi. For more information contact us at sttheresawwp@gmail.com

Red Cross Blood Drive—Please consider supporting the American Red Cross at our next St. Theresa blood drive on Friday, **May 2nd**, 10am-3pm. As always, your help will save lives!

Please call 1-800-RED-CROSS or go to www.redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code: "StTheresaChurch" to schedule your life-saving donation! If you have ANY difficulty, please e-mail Colleen Dwyer at colleen-home87@gmail.com or call/text 703.969.3667 & she will register you. The Red Cross is extremely grateful to the very generous St. Theresa parishioners for their continued support in these blood drives.

Saint Theresa Donut Sunday Program - Exciting News!—Save the Date for Donut Sunday - **May 4th**
Attendees Hours are from 8am-12pm



This isn't just Donuts..we serve Coffee, Apple Juice, Orange Juice, Bagels, Croissants, Muffins, Fruit, Yogurt Parfaits, Avocado Toast and much more! The Donut Sunday Program

Mission is to bring people together, create a community and serve others. Please come and join us!

We are in need of donations and volunteers for May 4th. This is a great way to help the community and serve others. Please sign up, if you can. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080F4EA4AA2D6-saint>

This program can't run without volunteers and donations. Thank you and God Bless. Any questions, please contact Angela Haberland angela.haberland@gmail.com or 703.407.1204

Young at Heart Social Club (YAH)—Men and Women (55 and over) Wednesday, **May 21st** after 12:15 Mass. We meet in the Admin. Bldg. Located across from the Church Spring Luncheon – Club will provide sandwiches consisting of Chicken salad, tuna salad, ham and cheese and roast beef on rolls. Homemade desserts, Drinks - Coffee, tea, lemonade, wine and beer. No Fee for PAID MEMBERS, please bring a side dish of your choice to share, Ex: vegetable, tossed salad, pasta salad, fruit salad. Non-members \$10. Activity: Bingo with cash prizes, \$5 for 6 games. 50/50 raffle. Any questions call Grace Breighner at 410.967.8888 or 703.729.7044. Email: gracejb18@aol.com. New members are always welcome.

Adult Education and Spiritual Enrichment

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. We are currently reading the book, "Jesus and the Jewish Roots of Mary" by Brant Pitre.

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? A great group of 30 or

more men meets every Saturday to build fellowship. Use the QR Code below or contact Jack Hayes at 703.537.6418 or jack.hayes422aol.com for more information.



How to Register to be a Parishioner of St. Theresa Catholic Church

In the sacramental life of the Church, Catholic faithful will need to prove residency in a parish. Registration with the parish office allows us to track your sacramental data and keep you connected with the life of the church.

In order to register, come to the parish office Monday – Friday 9:30am – 3:30pm (closed for lunch from 12-1) to fill out a registration card. Yellow registration cards can also be obtained at all of the Church entrances – these can be mailed to the parish or given to an usher during a church liturgy.



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.



Knights of Columbus

KOVAR: The Knights of Columbus will be collecting for KOVAR at all Masses April 26th and 27th. KOVAR is a Virginia charity and works to provide assistance through grants and home loans to special needs organizations. These organizations give training and assistance to persons with intellectual disabilities. We need your help through donations to fund this vital charity.

Thank you for your generosity in giving to KOVAR. You can also donate online using the following QR code.



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 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 parishioners Eric & Kathleen Ciliberti at kathleenciliberti@gmail.com and / or ciliber73@gmail.com for more information.

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.



Beneath The Surface

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini Reflection: It does sound unbelievable, the story of the Resurrection. But lots of things are unbelievable. That doesn't mean they're not true. Take Thomas' example: stay close to the people you trust. Be willing to recognize Jesus when he's in front of you.

Wonder, Don't Wander

My daughter recently asked me if it's okay to "wonder if all the Jesus stuff is true."

I wasn't surprised by her question. I've expected it, in fact. If you're raising a child to be a critical thinker, you don't want them to accept everything you tell them simply because it comes from your lips. I have promised my

children that I will always give them the truth about God. But that's all I can do — give it to them. Whether or not they accept it, ultimately, is their own choice.

"I know it's true," she told me. "But sometimes it just all sounds so... unbelievable."

She's not wrong. It does sound unbelievable that an all-powerful God could create us for no reason other than sheer love, that He could be generous enough to give us free will to accept that love, that he could be merciful enough not to destroy us when we reject that love, and finally that he could be faithful enough in that love to become flesh and die in order to save us from the consequences of our own poor choices.

But lots of things are unbelievable. That doesn't mean they're not true.

When Jesus says, "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed," he isn't calling Thomas a fool for questioning something that sounds a little outrageous. He's just highlighting the fact that Thomas is afforded a luxury that none of the Christians born after him, my daughter included, will have: he gets to see proof with his own eyes.

I told my daughter it's fine to wonder — just don't wander. Take Thomas' example. Stay close to the people you trust. Return to the warmth of the upper room. Be willing to recognize Jesus when he's in front of you. Never be afraid to believe.

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News Around the Diocese

Holy Year of Hope—As we journey through this Holy Year of Hope, we invite you to be a beacon of light and encouragement. Call us on the Holy Year Hope Hotline 703.778.9100 and share your personal messages and stories of hope. Your words may be featured in the Walk Humbly Podcasts throughout the year—uplifting others in both joyful moments and challenging times. By sharing your story, you're offering a gift to the community—a reminder that no one is alone, and that hope lives in all of us. Let's inspire one another with hope.

Finding Jesus with Mary & the Rosary Women's Silent Retreat—Catholics certainly recognize the power and preeminence of the Rosary in our Spiritual tradition. But most of us have a great deal of difficulty praying the Rosary and often feel as if we are just "going through the motions." Join Fr. John Riley at the San Damiano Retreat Center in White Post, VA to consider strategies that will help us pray the Mysteries with greater focus and recollection... and new ways to experience the Rosary as the "School of Prayer" in deep meditation and quiet contemplation that it is intended to be. This retreat will begin at 6pm Friday **May 2nd**, concluding Sunday **May 4th** at noon. Retreat cost is \$285. For further information, please contact Father John Riley at: john.riley@arlingtondiocese.org For more information about San Damiano and retreats being offered in the months ahead, please visit www.arlingtondiocese.org/retreat

Hallelujah!—This Easter season, on **May 4** at 3:30pm, experience the transcendence of Handel's Messiah as the Saint Thomas More Cathedral Choir and a chamber orchestra perform the latter half of this Baroque masterpiece. Beginning with the majestic "Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates" (and including the Hallelujah chorus, of course!), this less frequently performed section of the oratorio will immerse you in sublime sounds celebrating Christ's triumph over death and heralding the Resurrection of the Dead. Following the concert, the audience is invited to continue the celebration at a sumptuous Easter reception in Burke Hall. Location: Cathedral of St. Thomas More, 3901 Cathedral Lane, Arlington, Virginia.

Three to Get Married Marriage Prep in 2025—May 15-18; May 29-Jun 1; June 26-29. 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. ourladyofbethesda.org. Bethesda, MD.

Evening of Reflection for Married and Engaged Couples—May 14.

Marriage is a journey filled with seasons of growth and change. This evening will provide insights on navigating these stages together, strengthening your bond, and deepening your love through life's transitions. Married and engaged couples are invited to attend this special Evening of Reflection! The evening will begin with mass and includes dinner, talk, time for quiet reflection and the opportunity for confession. \$80 per couple (if registered by the early-bird deadline.) Visit us at www.ourladyofbethesda.org to register. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20187. Registration is required so that we can properly prepare.

Balance Work & Prayer! Super Spirits & Service Retreat Weekend—

Unique Retreat Experience for Men. **May 16-18.** (Free to attend*) Are you a man looking for more effective ways to balance work and prayer in your life? Look no further! Our Super Spirits & Service Retreat Weekend is just what you need! We are thrilled to invite you to a transformative retreat experience that combines prayer, physical activity, and inspirational preaching. Led by one of our premier retreat masters, Fr. Robert Presutti, LC, this retreat offers a unique opportunity to deepen your spiritual practice while also participating in critical improvement projects at the Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center. But it's not all work and no play - you will also get to enjoy lively fellowship with some great guys! Best of all, it's *free to attend! All we ask is for your sweat equity on projects to improve the retreat center. Don't miss out on this chance to renew your spirit and make a positive impact - sign up for our retreat today. Find more information and

links to register on the website www.ourladyofbethesda.org. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, A Place to Encounter Christ! 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817.

Spend a Personal Retreat Day with Our Lady!—Fri, May 16, 9am-4pm.

At Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, we are delighted to offer you a unique and transformative experience - a "Personal Retreat Day" with the Blessed Mother! This one-of-a-kind retreat is designed to provide you with a sacred space for spiritual renewal, encounters with Jesus Christ, and moments of deep reflection. Our experienced team will guide you through this meaningful day and help you connect with God in a deeper way. The retreat schedule allows for one-on-one spiritual direction (optional), quiet reflection, Mass, Confession and Eucharistic Adoration, plus lunch; so you will be nourished and cared for while Our Lord speaks to your soul about the depths of His love for you. Cost is \$108 per person, if registered by May 2nd. Advance Registration is required. So don't wait, sign up now and take this opportunity to honor Our Lady, the perfect model of faith and trust, rest in her loving presence and seek her intercession. Let her guide you to a deeper relationship with Christ. 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.

Come pray for Vocations—Join the Serra Club of Arlington for a Holy Hour offered for the priesthood, consecrated life, and the perseverance of all vocations. Saturday, **May 17, 2025**, starting at 9:45 am at St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church, 6720 Union Mill Road, Clifton, VA 20124-1115. We invite you to come pray with us! The Serra Club of Arlington are lay Catholics of all ages and from all walks of life who promote vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, support priests in their sacred ministry, and assist fellow members to recognize and respond in their own lives, to God's call to holiness in Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit. For more information, please visit serraclubarlington.org.

News Around the Diocese Continued

International Marian Tea—Hosted at Christ the Redeemer Catholic Church Ladies of all ages & from all parishes are invited! **Saturday, May 17**, 2-4pm. Cost is \$15 per person (Ladies under 6 and over 90 are free!) Tables for 6-8 Ladies Pay via Venmo (@little_way) to reserve your seat(s) or email TheLittleWay1873@gmail.com Have Questions? Call Marie Kennedy at 703.433.0864

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.divorced@stjohnleesburg.com for more information.

Scholarship Opportunity—The Associates of St. John Bosco (ASJB), a Catholic non-profit in the diocese founded by Fr. Christopher Vaccaro, has opened its scholarship application for all current and rising college students. This year, ASJB has more than doubled their scholarship offerings! ASJB will be awarding up to \$40,000 to up to five worthy recipients who seek to serve the Church in some way after they graduate from college. Applicants must be residents of the Diocese of Arlington. Students may apply by **May 19, 2025**, by visiting: www.asjb.org/scholarship-program.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati: Young Man of the Beatitudes—Saturday, **May 31**, 11am-5pm. The Summer Fun, Faith, and Food in the Park Young Adult Retreat is sponsored by the Legion of Mary to be held at Holy Trinity Jubilee Park Inc. located at 4407 Aldie Road, Catharpin, Virginia 20143. It is open to all Catholics from ages 18 - 39. Come and join us for an exciting day with holy Mass, Benediction, Confession, Eucharistic Procession, uplifting talks, skits, and three hours of exciting activities. The speakers are: Rev. John Melmer and Rev. Paul Berghout JCL

The fee is \$35 per person and \$45 for late registration after May 16, which includes refreshments. Bring water and rosary. Participants will have opportunities to meet new friends, have fun, learn strong Catholic values, and

more particularly, be drawn closer to God. Mark your calendar and register early. To obtain registration forms or to inquire about the retreat, call Dr. Seggy Acosta at 703.392.6420, Maureen Earner 703.622.9293, Irving Vargas 571.799.6968. Registration forms can be sent and received through email. See you there!

What to Know About the Annulment Process—Want to Learn More about the Annulment Process? Join us for a presentation at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Warrenton, VA on **June 14th** beginning with 9am parish Mass and ending with a rosary. Fr. Thomas Ferguson, Judicial Vicar, will be the keynote. The event is free but to register and learn more visit arlingtondiocese.org/annulmenthealing. For questions call the Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life at 703.841.2550

Weekend Discernment Retreat for Young Women—How do we make our "Fiat" like Mary's, not just a one-and-done proposition but a way of life? Join the Salesian Sisters of St. John Bosco to explore embracing God's plan with hope and joy at the annual diocesan discernment retreat for young women (ages 18-40). The retreat is **June 20-22** at San Damiano Spiritual Life Center and will include tools to aid your prayer and discernment, opportunities for prayer and confession, and Q&A with the sisters. Cost is \$150 and includes single room and bath and all meals (financial assistance is available). For more information or to register, contact the Office of Vocations, vocations@arlingtondiocese.org or 703.841.3829. Space is limited; deadline to register is Monday **June 9**.

Marriage Workshop: Strengthening Your Love Marriage Renewal Workshop—Jun 21-22, 2025: Our Lady of Bethesda, Bethesda, MD. A Christ-centered weekend designed to offer practical tools that can help foster effective communication and emotional closeness in your marriage. 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 individual con-

sultation, upon request. Please note: This is NOT an overnight program. Cost: \$650 per couple (early-bird pricing may be available.) Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center is located at 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817; St. Andrews by the Bay Catholic Church is located at 701 College Pkwy, Annapolis, MD 21409. Registration is required and Seating is limited. See our website for more details about the program and links to register: www.ourladyofbethesda.org.

Blessed Carlo Acutis: A Techie Saint for Teens—Saturday, **June 28**, 8am-5pm. The Teenage Enrichment for the Apostles of Mary (T.E.A.M. Retreat) is sponsored by the Legion of Mary to be held at Holy Trinity Jubilee Park Inc. located at 4407 Aldie Road, Catharpin, Virginia 20143. It is open to all Catholics from ages 12 - 17. Come and join us for an exciting day with holy Mass, Benediction, Confession, Eucharistic Procession, uplifting talks, skits, and three hours of exciting activities. The speakers are: Rev. Francis Peffley and Rev. John Heisler.

The fee is \$35 per person and \$45 for late registration after June 20, which includes refreshments. Bring a bag lunch, water and a rosary. Participants will have opportunities to meet new friends, have fun, learn strong Catholic values, and more particularly, be drawn closer to God. Mark your calendar and register early. To obtain registration forms or to inquire about the retreat, call Dr. Seggy Acosta at 703.392.6420 or Irving Vargas 571.799.6968. Scholarships are available based on financial needs. Registration forms can be sent and received through email. See you there!

April 27, 2025 Sunday of Divine Mercy "Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'" (JOHN 20:21) Peace – the first gift of the risen Lord. Just as Jesus sent the apostles out into the world, so too, He sends us. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to be compassionate and merciful; and not with just those who are our friends, but also with our "enemies." Think of someone in your life who you need to reconcile with. Call them right now or better yet, go visit them.

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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

Divine Mercy Sunday

Join us for a special Holy Hour from **3pm-4pm today**. Exposition, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Meditation & silent prayer. Blessing of Divine Mercy Images will be after Holy Hour.

RAFFLE ANNOUNCEMENT -Tickets due back to All Saints by April 29th for guaranteed entry!

Please return your sold and unsold tickets to All Saints by April 29th

Consignment Sale- Our proceeds were \$26,000. to help families in need. Thank you to all who consigned, volunteers and shopped the sale. God bless you all!

Did you know?—We assisted with over \$14,000.00 in financial help in March? 99 percent of the funds you donate go directly to families in need! Your donation makes 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 dropping 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.

Friends in Need—Provides meals on a short-term basis for those families or individuals 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.

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.

Bed Ministry—Volunteer for the Bed Ministry—volunteers with trucks or

Large SUVs needed especially! Great to do this with your teenager too! We have had an increase in bed requests. It's rewarding to assist families in need. Consider taking a short time out of your day to bring some light into another's life. We need extra helpers to bring new beds and bedding from our storage to families moving out of the shelters and other families and children in need. Interested in helping contact Bea Craig at 571.439.0364 or beds@sainttheresaparish.com

Do you have furniture items to donate?—Consider donating to help families in need that are moving out of the shelter. Your donation makes a difference. 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

Looking for more ways help? Consider signing up to receive our Outreach email to get up to date information on needs and volunteer opportunities. If you would like to sign up to be placed on our Outreach email 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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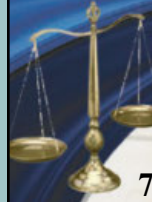
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