

St. Theresa Catholic Church

21371 St. Theresa Lane, Ashburn, Virginia 20147

May 11, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Easter



Masses for the Week

Mon, May 12	6:15— Mother's Day Novena 8:30— Vernon & Ahn Wong and Fr. Sychala 12:15— Laura Maresca+
Tues, May 13	6:15— Mother's Day Novena 8:30— Athulya Venkat
Wed, May 14	6:15— Mother's Day Novena 8:30— Ben Joshua Cruz & Jen Vo 12:15— William O'Connor+
Thurs, May 15	6:15— Ann Taylor 8:30— Mother's Day Novena
Fri, May 16	6:15— Mother's Day Novena 8:30— Sosamma Chacko+
Sat, May 17	8:30— Mother's Day Novena 5:30— Cilinski Family
Sun, May 18	7:30— St. Theresa Parishioners 8:45— Mother's Day Novena 10:30— Justin McKay 12:30— Ronald Panaggio+ 5:00— Isabella Binder

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.

I Am Embarrassed to Admit It...But I Do Not Know How to Pray!

Many people say, "I do not know how to pray," because they fail to realize that they have already done it many times before. –Fr. Thomas Dubay

You have been praying all your life, sometimes when you did not even realize it. Prayer happens when you learn that a friend or family member has been hurt in an accident. Prayer happens the moment a student hears the words, "pop quiz today!" Prayer happens whenever things seem out of control, and your inner spirit spontaneously wells up as if to say, "God come and help me!" That's because prayer is simply the lifting of your mind and heart to God.

By "mind," I mean your attention, and by "heart," I mean your free will. As disciples of Christ though, we should pray not only in moments of emergency, but as a daily habit. Prayer is our relationship with God, and relationships die without regular communication. How do we pray? We offer God the very same "mind and heart" on a regular, daily basis that we have usually reserved for an hour of crisis.

Mother Teresa once said, "prayer is a dialogue, both sides speaking, both sides listening." What is on your heart at the moment—worries, concerns, relationships, anxieties, fears? Just bring them all to God. God already knows them, of course, but God can transform them when we bring them into his presence. Just as sunlight melts the snow, so too does God's presence transform our concerns and worries. The deeper your prayer, the deeper the work of God's transformation.

To begin to pray, just place yourself in God's presence. This will require time and stillness. You will need to create that time and stillness deliberately by finding a quiet place or a quiet time that makes prayer possible. Set aside a segment of time, even as little as ten or fifteen minutes, and persevere through it, even when you feel nothing is happening.

Now, to "listen" to God, you will often need to read scripture. Find a passage that you already like and understand. Don't choose something confusing. Think about your problem in light of the passage, and begin to hear the voice of God. A sort of dialogue now begins. When your mind "drifts off" in distraction, just go back to the text again, with no worries. Prayer is like planting a seed. It seems very small. It seems like nothing has happened, and it does not grow overnight. With perseverance though, there will be big changes. Changes in your life too big to ignore or dismiss.

You see, you already know how to pray. Now you simply need to be dedicated to making it part of each day. We will talk about how to do that, next week.

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



Fr. Hudgins

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

Upcoming Early Bulletin Deadlines

Take note of the following upcoming early bulletin deadlines:

June 1 bulletin--due by Monday, **May 19th** 12noon

July 6 bulletin--due by Tuesday, **June 24th** 12noon

Wanting to hear Fr. Hudgins' homilies?

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

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.

Youth Education and News



Office Hours:
Mon-Thurs. 9am-4pm; Fri. 9am-noon

Certification for RE Teachers - If you would like to develop a deeper understanding of our Catholic Faith, especially if you are or will be teaching Religious Education, please consider participating in one of the following series of Certification courses:

Summer 2025 - Our Lady of Good Counsel in Vienna, on Friday Evenings and Saturdays

Fall 2025/Winter 2026 - St. Theresa's, on Saturdays

Please contact the Office of Religious Education if you would like more information.

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.



ymoffice@sainttheresaparish.com

May

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

Attention Class of 2025! The Associates of St. John Bosco (ASJB), a Catholic non-profit in Northern Virginia, founded by Fr. Christopher Vaccaro,

will be hosting five free College Nights this summer for graduated seniors heading to college in the fall. One of these College Nights will take place at St. Theresa in the cafeteria on July 10, 2025. These events help rising college freshmen network with other Catholics heading to college, and give students the tools to navigate the transition from high school to college, keeping their Catholic faith strong. Students hear from upperclassmen who give their personal testimonies about how they transitioned to college and maintained a strong faith life. There are small groups divided by students' universities and students walk away with a free bundle of Catholic books called the "Bosco Bundle" to bring to college that will help them deepen their faith while away at school. The events come with a pizza dinner, too. Registration is FREE! For dates, locations, and more information, please visit: www.asjb.org/student-registration. Each night is capped at 50 students, so early registration is encouraged.

"The loveliest masterpiece of the heart of God is the heart of a mother."
— St. Therese of Lisieux



Happy Mother's Day to all parish Moms!
St. Theresa Catholic School



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, May 12—

D.A.R.E. Graduation, 5th Grade

Tuesday, May 13—

May Crowning, 2nd Grade; Feast of Our Lady of Fatima

Wednesday, May 14—

Battle of the Books

Friday, May 16—

Band & Choir Concert

Thursday, May 22—

"Shakespeareance,"

Friday, May 23—

Field Day; Early Dismissal

Monday, May 26—

Memorial Day, No School

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, rotelld@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.

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.

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.

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 group of great men

meet every Saturday morning for fellowship and to grow in faith. Use the QR Code below or contact Jack Hayes at 703.537.6418 or jack.hayes422aol.com for more information.



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.

Pro-Life Corner

What you should know about the extreme abortion amendment to the Virginia Constitution. Part 5

In Parts 4 & 5 of this series, we've talked about what is meant by "every individual" in this proposed amendment. What is not discussed is, if there is a right to reproductive freedom, who will pay for it. Medical procedures and therapies aren't free. Abortions, transition surgeries, hor-

mone therapy, etc are not free. Those who perform the procedures, prescribe the drugs, and/or offer the counselling will expect to be paid. Although the bill's proponents may say insurance will pay for it, how will that work? Of course, we all know, that means we will all be footing the bill as the cost of our insurance policies increase, whether we agree with the policy or not. Again, Coloradans are facing the same kind of pressure to pay for such

procedures. These include operations which fall under the definition of cosmetic surgery. So, think of this scenario: women who have had mastectomies due to cancer often have to pay for their own reconstruction surgery, while a young man who wants to look like a woman would not have to pay for the same procedure. Check out this link: <https://www.foxnews.com/video/6371235580112>



Knights of Columbus

K of C Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, May 18, 2025: The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a pancake breakfast on Sunday, May 18 in the St. Theresa school cafeteria. Stop by after the morning Masses or at any time between 8 am and 12 noon, and enjoy a delicious breakfast of pancakes (regular, chocolate chip, and blueberry), scrambled eggs, sausage, tater tots, and roasted potatoes, along with coffee, orange juice and assorted Dunkin' Munchkins! Profits from this breakfast will benefit the Haiti Mission and You(th) vs. Hunger.

KOVAR: We collected \$5000 after all Masses this past weekend (April 26-27) for KOVAR. KOVAR is a Virginia KofC Charity that aids people with intellectual disabilities. Thanks to all our generous parishioners who supported this worthy effort. Over the past 8 years, our council has raised



over \$75,000 for KOVAR.



Food Drive: Many thanks to the parishioners, volunteers, youth group, and Knights for donating, sorting, and delivering food to the Catholic Charities Loudoun Food Pantry in Sterling last month. Your contributions and effort make this important program very successful.

Please keep up the generosity by taking a bag (or a flyer if bags are unavailable) on your way out and return it next weekend (May 17-18) with items on the attached flyer.

Please, no expired items. The pantry is unable to distribute expired items. Thank you for your help and generosity.



NOTE: Since bags go quickly, the food list can be found at <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/loudoun-food-pantry-2> or scan here:



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.



News Around the Diocese

Diocesan Retired Priests' Second Collection Next Weekend!—There will be a second collection for our diocesan retired priests on the weekend of May 18. This collection is an opportunity for you to give back to our retired priests who have given the greater part of their lives to serve each of you and our diocesan Church. Currently there are 29 retired priests and

an additional 22 diocesan priests who will retire in the next ten years. Please consider donating to this important collection. Thank you for your kind support.

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.

More News Around the Diocese

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.


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 visit www.ourladyofbethesda.org. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, A Place to Encounter Christ! 7007 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20817.

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.

Men's Evening of Reflection—

Looking to grow in your relationship with Christ? This evening provides Catholic formation with spiritual talks, reflection, prayer, and fellowship. Mass and opportunities for confession are also offered. **Wednesday, May 21,** 6:30-9. Divine Mercy University, 45154 Underwood Dr., Sterling. Register by scanning the QR code  For more information please contact rcmenssectionva@gmail.com

Upcoming ProRome Tours—

Monsignor Saunders - Catechists Pilgrimage - September 21 - 30, 2025, \$3630 land only, with group airfare available from Dulles for an additional \$1515. Monsignor Saunders' trip has been planned for catechists and those who work for the Church and their family members. It's been arranged to coincide with the Jubilee of Catechists in Rome. Webpage/Registration Portal: <https://prorometours.com/arlingtoncatechists/> Brochure: <https://prorometours.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Monsignor-Saunders-Pilgrimage-brochure-5.pdf>

Father Jeb Donelan - Spanish Speaking Pilgrimage - October 14 - 23, 2025, \$3390 land, with group airfare available from Dulles for an additional \$1274. Father Jeb Donelan's pilgrimage is a Spanish-speaking trip, although English speakers are welcome to attend. This pilgrimage includes a number of incredible cities and shrines, such as Rome, Assisi, San Giovanni Rotondo, Orvieto and Monte Cassino. Webpage/Registration Portal: <https://prorometours.com/cursillodecristiandad/> English Brochure: <https://prorometours.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Fr.-Jeb-Donelans-Brochure-6.pdf> Spanish Brochure: <https://prorometours.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Spanish-Fr.-Jeb-Donelans-Brochure-2.pdf>

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

Finding Jesus with St. Therese of Lisieux Women's Retreat—St.

Therese is a magnificent manifestation of "the Feminine Genius" and a "Wise Woman" in the fullest sense of the words. Pope St. Pius X called her "the Greatest Saint of Modern Times" and Pope St. John Paul the Great declared her a Universal Doctor of the Church. St. Therese's spiritual doctrine is easily understood and can be practically applied in our very occupied, day-to-day lives. Her counsel can ably assist us in enduring and embracing difficulties in prayer, overcoming scruples, and patiently putting up with people who challenge us. Join Fr. John Riley at the San Damiano Retreat Center in White Post, VA in silence and solitude to learn about this great Saint. This retreat begins at 6pm **Friday June 13th and concludes Sunday June 15th** 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

Married Couples—Does gardening give you a sense of wonder and fulfillment? On your wedding day, you lovingly planted the seeds of a lifelong relationship. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience will give you the "gardening tools" you need to help your marriage grow and blossom to live your best life in love. Upcoming experience are: June 20-22 - Raleigh NC; September 12-14 - Richmond VA; October 24-26 - Jessup MD; November 7-9 - Rehoboth Beach DE For more information please call 757.690.1369 or to register, go to WWME.org, click "Apply" and search for your desired location.

News Around the Diocese Continued

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 consultation, 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. Registration is required and Seating is limited. See our website to register: www.ourladyofbethesda.org.

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 p/p: \$45 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. To register or questions, call Dr. Seggy Acosta at

703.392.6420, Maureen Earner 703.622.9293, Irving Vargas 571.799.6968. Registration forms through email. See you there!

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**.

Join Us for Summer Camps at St. Paul VI Catholic High School!—St. Paul VI Catholic High School is excited to offer a variety of engaging summer camps for students entering grades 2 through 9! This summer, we are hosting camps in band, baseball, basketball, cheer, football, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, theatre, and more — all conveniently located on our beautiful Chantilly campus at 42341 Braddock Road, Chantilly, VA. Led by our dedicated faculty, staff, and head coaches, these camps provide a fantastic opportunity for students to grow, learn, and have fun in a supportive and faith-filled environment. For more information and to register, visit: www.paulvi.net/summercamps.

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, VA 20143. 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 p/p: \$45 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. For registration, or questions, call Dr. Seggy Acosta at 703.392.6420 or Irving Vargas 571.799.6968. Scholarships are available based on financial needs.

Attention Class of 2025! The Associates of St. John Bosco (ASJB), a Catholic non-profit in Northern Virginia, founded by Fr. Christopher Vaccaro, will be hosting five free College Nights this summer for graduated seniors heading to college this fall.

2025 College Night Dates & Locations
July 1 - St. Mark (Vienna); **July 10** - St. Theresa (Ashburn); **July 15** - Holy Trinity (Gainesville); **July 22** - Basilica of St. Mary (Alexandria); **July 29** - St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception (Fredericksburg)

These events help rising college freshmen network with other Catholics heading to college, and give students the tools to navigate the transition from high school to college, keeping their Catholic faith strong. Students hear from upperclassmen who give their personal testimonies about how they transitioned to college and maintained a strong faith life. Students walk away with a free bundle of Catholic books called the "Bosco Bundle" to bring to college that will help them deepen their faith while away at school. The events come with a pizza dinner, too. Registration is FREE! For dates, locations, and more information, please visit: www.asjb.org/student-registration. Each night is capped at 50 students, so early registration is encouraged.

May 18, 2025 5th Sunday of Easter
“I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.” (JOHN 13:34) “As I have loved you,” this is the hard part – Jesus’s love is unconditional; our love usually comes with strings attached. It is easy to love someone when they love you back. But it takes mercy and compassion to love someone when you feel unappreciated, feel used or feel like your opinion doesn’t matter. It takes courage and the grace of God to “love my neighbor” when they may be someone you don’t like, someone you don’t know, or someone that doesn’t look like you.

Parish Offices

Secretary: Kathy Fitzpatrick, 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

Raffle—We had one monetary winner here at St. Theresa's. Congratulations to Michael Lasik. Look for the list of all winners at www.allsaintsva.org. Thanks to all who participated in the raffle. Proceeds will be posted at a later date.

Did you know?—We assisted families in need with \$13,230. financially plus 12 beds in April. 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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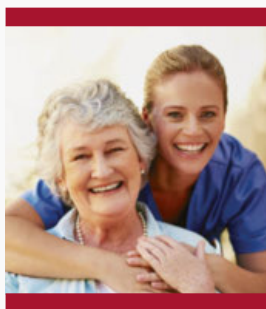


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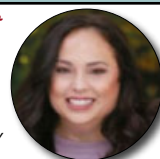
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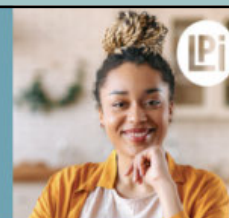
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