

St. Theresa Catholic Church

21371 St. Theresa Lane, Ashburn, Virginia 20147

February 22, 2026
First Sunday of Lent



Masses for the Week

Mon, Feb 23	6:15— Gabriel Thomas St. George 8:30— Justin & Anita Family Tree 12:15— Michael McGarry+
Tues, Feb 24	6:15— Pat Lough+ 8:30— Mary Byrne+
Wed, Feb 25	6:15— Joan Manfredonia 8:30— Anita & GJ Vitale Family Tree 12:15— Aley Manalel
Thurs, Feb 26	6:15— Fr. John O'Farrell 8:30— Justin & Anita Family Tree
Fri, Feb 27	6:15— Robert William Kin+ 8:30— Justin & Anita Family Tree
Sat, Feb 28	8:30— Mary Grace Ryan 5:30— Thomas & Meghan Gannon and Family+
Sun, March 1	7:30— Dr. Christopher Coker+ 8:45— Miles Family 10:30— Perry Banibasher+ 12:30— Loan Jella 5:00— St. Theresa Parishioners

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
Reverend Matthew J. DeForest, In Residence
Deacon Paul C. Konold
Deacon Anthony J. Renzette

Prayers For The Sick: Megan Brown, Katherine McCray, Maria Theresa Baric, Iris and Romeo Rigor, Jennifer Spurr, Luz Triana, Maddie 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 DeCardona, Stephen Stahl, Michael Williamson, Brenda Fitzpatrick, Barney Smith, Rick & Kathleen Mikszan, Jeffrey Miller, Raymond Humanik, Kelly Hargreaves, Ellen Russow, Patricia Fuechslin.

Prayers For Our Military: Joaquin Gabriel, Brady Carmical, Ify Nwabuoku, 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.

The Immaculate Conception? Where's That in the Bible?

In the Gospel of St. Luke, the Archangel Gabriel greets the Blessed Virgin Mary by crying out "Hail, full of grace!" (Lk 1:28). However, this is no ordinary greeting. Gabriel does not call the Blessed Mother by her given name ("Myriam," in Hebrew, which becomes "Mary," in English). Instead, Gabriel refers to her by an entirely different term, and uses it as if it were her name. In the original Greek text of the Gospel, the word Gabriel speaks to Mary is "kecharitomene." We translate that into English as "full of grace," but if we take a closer look, that one single word will teach us a lot about Mary, and prove what the Church teaches—that Mary is the Immaculate Conception.

"Kecharitomene" is a word used only once in the entire Bible, and when Gabriel speaks this unique word to Mary, he speaks it as if it were Mary's own name. Whenever a unique name is used in the Bible, it always tells us something about that person's identity and divine mission. We see this, for example, when Abram becomes Abraham (Gn 17:5); when Sarai becomes Sarah (Gn 17:15); when Jacob becomes Israel (Gn 32:28); and when Simon becomes Peter (Mt 16:18). To understand what "kecharitomene" reveals about Mary, we must take a bit of a deep dive into Greek grammar. The Greek word "kecharitomene" comes from the Greek verb "charito," which means "to endow with grace." The way St. Luke uses "kecharitomene" denotes an action that has both taken place in the past and has a lasting result throughout time. In other words, the term "kecharitomene" means that Mary has already been filled with grace, prior to Gabriel's visit, and that Mary's grace is an enduring quality, persisting throughout all history. Additionally, the word "kecharitomene" is spoken in the passive voice, meaning that Mary did not make herself "full of grace," but rather that she has been acted upon—God has filled her with His grace. Mary is the recipient of grace, not its source. Gabriel addresses Mary directly, by this word, in the vocative case. He is not merely describing a quality of Mary. He is calling her by a new name.

Yet, Gabriel does not announce anything "new." His greeting simply acknowledges reality—God has made Mary to be "full of grace," lasting forever, and beginning with the first moment of her existence. In other words, this single Greek term St. Luke uses in the Gospel ("kecharitomene") proves what the Church has taught all along—Mary is the Immaculate Conception.

As is often the case, a single word of Scripture can truly speak volumes. When all evidence is taken together, Gabriel's greeting to Mary in Luke 1:28 is far more than any title, description, or compliment—it is a divinely revealed truth about Mary's very identity. Before she was proclaimed Mother of God (Lk 1:43), before she was Mother of the Church, before she was given any other title, Mary was the Immaculate Conception—full of grace, by her very identity. This is how Mary has always been in God's sight. She is the woman God prepared, preserved, and sustained, through His grace, for her unique role in the life of Christ, of ourselves, and of the whole Church. "Mary was given a singular privilege and grace, granted by God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the human race." (Ineffabilis Deus, Pius IX, 1854). As is always the case with Mary, even the Immaculate Conception points us right back to Jesus her Son. And as is always the case with our Church's teaching, it's right there in the Bible!

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



Fr. Hudgins

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

Upcoming Early Bulletin Deadlines

Due to the upcoming Holy Week and Easter schedules, please make note of these early deadlines

March 8 bulletin--due by Tuesday, February 24, 12noon

March 29 bulletin--due by Tuesday, March 17, 12noon

April 5 bulletin--due by Tuesday, March 24, 12noon

Lenten Soup Suppers 6 - 7:10pm in School Cafeteria

Feb 20 - Legion of Mary
Feb 27 - Parish/RE/School Offices
March 6- No Lenten Dinner due to
Consignment Sale
March 13 - Walking With Purpose
March 20 - Ladies of the Parish
March 27 - Knights
of Columbus

*Donations will be given to charity

Parish Lenten Activities

Daily Mass Times

6:15 & 8:30am
12:15pm Mondays & Wednesdays

Confession Times

Wednesdays 9:00am & 6:30pm
Saturdays 4:00pm
(All until the line ends)

Vespers & Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent:
Vespers at 7:15pm &
Stations of the Cross at 7:30pm

First Friday Mass Times - March 6

6:15 & 8:30am and 12:15pm

Pancake Breakfast - March 15

After 7:30, 8:45 & 10:30am Masses



Legion of Mary

Want to be part of something bigger than yourself, build community, serve others, and grow your relationship

with our Lord? There are two praesidium options: Saturdays at 9:15am and Wednesdays at 7pm. We invite you to join us in the St. Louis Martin room to say the Rosary with us and learn more.

Our Works

Invite Jesus into your home through a Sacred Heart Enthronement—a formal ceremony where Jesus is invited into your home and given authority over your family/household, bringing grace and blessings. Also, hosting the Pilgrim Virgin Statue is a beautiful way to invite God’s blessings into your home, unite your family in prayer, and a tangible reminder that Mary is truly present and active in your daily lives. To schedule, complete the request forms online at <https://sainttheresaparish.com/activity/legion-of-mary/>

Prayer Request - Are you in need of prayer?

Are you in need of prayer and would like the Legion of Mary to pray along with you? Email us at legionof-marysttheresa@gmail.com or scan the QR code to send us your prayer request.



Youth Education and News



ymoffice@sainttheresaparish.com

February

Sun, 22nd - Parish Food Drive (after 8:45am Mass & 5pm Mass)

Mon, 23rd - Food Sort by Expiration Dates, 7-8:30pm

Tues, 24th - Load food for transport, 6:15p-7pm

March

Sun, 1st-Upper Room Squad, 6-8pm – Showing the Movie ‘TRICKED’ as part of the Protecting Our Children efforts of the Diocese of Arlington – see below for more detailed information

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

Tues, 10th-WorkCamp Prep Meeting, 7-8:30 pm – St Zelig Martin Room 2&3

Sat, 14th-High School Line Dancing, 7-9:15pm – St. Theresa Cafeteria

Sun, 15th-Upper Room Squad, 6-8pm

Sun, 22nd - Parish Food Drive (after 8:45am Mass & 5pm Mass)

Mon, 23rd - Food Sort by Expiration Dates, 7-8:30pm

Tues, 24th - Load food for transport, 6:15p-7pm

Tricked – A video-based safe-training program that explores the dangerous realities of sexual trafficking. Upper Room Squad will be showing the movie ‘Tricked: Inside the World of Teen Sex Trafficking’ on Sunday, March 1st at 6pm in the school cafeteria. This is a part of the Youth Training Program established by the Diocese. While parents are the primary educators and caregivers of youth, the Diocese of Arlington enjoys the privilege of sharing in that ministry, in the world we live in today, youth too often are alone and unprepared for the dangers presented. This movie will help students understand and spot the scouting and manipulating techniques that are commonly used by traffickers. Using testimony from survivors of sex trafficking, as well as insider information from a former trafficker, they talk about how to avoid susceptible behaviors. They also provide insights on how to get help if students or their friends get trapped in this terrible situation. To get more information on the program just visit the Arlington Diocese webpage under ‘Protecting our Children’, follow the ‘Youth Training Programs’ tab, <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/child-protection/youth-training-programs/>. (the make-up date will be Tuesday, March 3rd at 6pm in the school cafeteria)

NVJCYO Volleyball Registration is now open:

The St. Theresa CYO Volleyball program follows the guidelines established by the NVJCYO. It is open to all female students currently enrolled in St. Theresa School in grades 3-8 or the St. Theresa Church Religious Education program in grades 3-8. The program is always looking for volunteers. All coaches & volunteers must comply with the Arlington Diocese Child Protection Program.. You can register at <https://reg.sportspilot.com/106557>

Registration will close on February 28th, 2026. Cost is \$75 to join a team. If you have any questions regarding the program or are interested in Coaching or volunteering, please contact Paul Dwyer at cyo@sainttheresaparish.com.



Office Hours:

Mon–Thurs. 9am-4pm; Fri. 9am-noon

Want to volunteer at St. Theresa’s children based programs? We encourage and welcome your involvement however it requires that all volunteers be compliant. Contact Connie Gilligan, Parish Child Protection Coordinator, at connie@sainttheresaparish.com or call 703.729.3714.

Wanting to hear Fr. Hudgins’ homilies?

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

More Youth Education and News

Thank You
to the Knights of Columbus
for hosting our parish
Father-Daughter Dance!



The **STCS Annual PTO Auction, "All In - A Casino Experience" is on Friday, May 1, 2026.** The Auction Committee is seeking support from parents, alumni families, and parishioners to make this event a success. **Kindly consider donating gift cards or tickets for experiences, including dining,**



Saint Theresa Catholic School

Educating Tomorrow's Catholic Leaders

www.stsashburn.com

games, concerts, and more! Further information and donation forms can be found on our school website, www.stsashburn.com. **THANK YOU!**

STCS Parents, mark your calendars for these important upcoming events & see the Thursday Thunder email for details:

- Stations of the Cross
- Weekly Rosary Group
- Math Clubs (Grades 3-5 & Middle School)
- Battle of the Books
- Career Day

Save the Date for the Diocesan Job Fair! Please join us on **Saturday, March 21, 9:00-11:00am** at St. Bernadette Catholic School in Springfield to learn more about teaching in the Arlington Diocese. Visit www.arlingtondiocese.org to register and find more details.

Calling all St. Theresa Catholic School Alumni & Alumni Families! We would love to hear from you, and add you to our **Alumni & Friends Newsletter** email list. Please send your news and contact information to alumni@stsashburn.com

We are hiring - join our team!

St. Theresa Catholic School is accepting applications for the following positions: Cafeteria/ Recess Monitor and Extended

Day Care Monitor. Please email hr@saintthereeparish.com for additional information.

Discover the Spirit of Learning at Saint Theresa Catholic School! Join us for a personal tour and experience our vibrant community where faith meets education. Visit our classrooms, meet our dedicated staff, and see how we nurture young minds in a joyful, faith-filled environment. Request your tour today and see firsthand what makes Saint Theresa Catholic School a special place for your child's education. To request a tour or to complete an application, visit our website, www.stsashburn.com (click "Admissions"). *We can't wait to welcome you!*

Applications for new families opened on January 5th - apply now! Siblings of current students may apply now!



Calling all St. Theresa Catholic School
ALUMNI!
Send us your news!
Email updates to alumni@stsashburn.com

Adult Education and Spiritual Enrichment

Young Adults—Fr. Vaccaro is giving a mini-series of talks on Morality.

ACYA Speaker Series:

2/23 - Moral Theology: Understanding Truth and Goodness

Talks are 6:15-7:30pm in St. Theresa School Cafeteria. Pizza after!

ACYA Bible Studies:

The ACYA Bible Study--Salvation history, through the lens of covenant.

3/4-Adamic Covenant:The Fall (Part 2)

3/18 - Noahic Covenant
Sessions held from 6:30 - 8pm at Barnes & Noble in One Loudoun on alternating Wednesdays. The study is designed so that anyone joining in partway through the year or missing

sessions will be caught up.

Contact st.theresas.ya@gmail.com for more info.

Women's Discipleship Group—

Welcome all women of St Theresa Catholic Church. Our Group meets every Wednesday morning from 9:30-10:30 for Lectio Divina and 10:45-11:45 for reading of a selected book that provides daily encouragement, spiritual guidance and personal growth for women. Our focus for the Lectio Divina is the Mass readings for the upcoming Sunday. On September 3, 2025 we will be starting the book "Imitation of Christ" written by Thom-

as a Kempis, and translated by Ronald Knox and Michael Oakley. For more information contact Dawn Garabito 862.812.0039 or dmarie213@aol.com

That Man is You (TMIY)—TMIY is starting Lent with reflective videos and inspirational fellowship. If you are looking to strengthen your faith, become a better husband and father, and/or just get to know other men in the parish, we invite you to join us by using the following QR Code, or by contacting Jack Hayes at jack.hayes422@aol.com.



News from our Parish

Job Opportunity—We are hiring - join our team! St. Theresa Catholic School is accepting applications for the following 2 part-time positions starting at \$16/hr: Cafeteria/Recess Monitor: M & Wed 11:30-1:30; Extended Day Care Monitor: M-F 2:30-5pm. Please contact the Principal, Danny Costa at hr@stsashburn.com for more info.

Young At Heart (Over-50) Club—We will meet on **Wednesday, Feb. 25** after the 12:15 Mass. Please join us in the Admin building for PIZZA, dessert and hot beverages, RSVP required, \$5 (\$8 for nonmembers.) We will have a fun trivia game. Annual dues (\$20) will be collected. New members are welcome! RSVP Freddie 703.625.5715 wallflower64@gmail.com

Lenten Soup Suppers—You are all invited to our Parish Lenten Soup Supper this coming Friday, **February 27** from 6-7:15pm in the Parish School Cafeteria. Come and enjoy free meatless soups, sandwiches, pasta, and various delicious dishes prepared by members of the Parish Office, Religious Ed, School Office, and Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministry. Come meet our Staff, your fellow Parishioners and their families. Supper will be followed by Stations of the Cross in the Church. Our heartfelt thanks to all Parishioners for supporting our first Soup Supper last Friday and to members of the Legion of Mary for graciously hosting it.

GriefShare—Starting, Wednesday, **February 25** thru May 27, from 7-

9pm, St Theresa's will begin its first GriefShare program, a grief support group for people grieving the death of a loved one. No matter what the circumstances, grief is a painful process. GriefShare is a safe, welcoming place where people understand the difficult emotions of grief.

For more information or to register for the GriefShare program visit: <https://find.griefshare.org/groups/287951/registrations/new> upon registering, participants will be required to purchase the GriefShare workbook, which is available for \$20.00.

Red Cross Blood Drive—Please consider supporting the American Red Cross at our next St. Theresa blood drive on **Thursday, February 26th** from 10am-3:15pm. 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 colleenhome87@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. Thank you!!

Save the Date for the Diocesan Job Fair! Please join us on Saturday, **March 21**, 9-11am at St. Bernadette Catholic School in Springfield to learn more about teaching in the Arlington Diocese. Visit

www.arlingtondiocese.org to register and find more details.

The 2026 Mass Intention Book—Second Half will be opened on **Tuesday, March 10th, at 9:30am**. For those requesting multiple Masses for the year, **you can request 2 per week and only on Tuesdays and Thursdays**. If you are requesting just one Mass you may come any day of the week.

You(th) vs Hunger Sign Ups—This year's You(th) vs Hunger food packing event will be in the St. Theresa School gym on **Saturday, March 28**. We will be packing 50,000 meals this year and will send them overseas to the poorest of the poor. **Sign ups will open on Sunday, March 1 at 9pm**. Sign up here: <https://youthvshunger.wordpress.com/sign-ups/> or email Rachel Revelle at rmrevelle@gmail.com

VIRTUS training at St. Theresa—St. Theresa Parish will be hosting the mandatory VIRTUS training for those who still haven't attended a session on **Saturday, March 14th** at 9am, located in the Admin Bldg in Zelle rooms 2 and 3. Please arrive early as doors will be locked by 9am. Please go to www.virtus.org to register and sign up. Seating is limited.

April Baptism Class—Please take note, the April Baptism class will be the 3rd Thursday, **April 16th**.

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: 12:30 & 7am; 4:30pm

Monday: 1:30am; 2, 3, 4, & 9:30pm

Tuesday: 1:30, 3, & 5pm

Wednesday: 7am; 12:30, 2, 3, & 4:30pm

Thursday: 12:30am; 3 & 10pm

Friday: 12, 8:30 & 11:30am; 3:30pm

Saturday: 11:30am; 2, 7, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, & 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.



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.



Knights of Columbus

Quarterly Coffee & Service Hour:

The Knights of Columbus are excited to announce the first Quarterly Coffee & Service Coffee Hour! We invite all military Veterans, active duty or reserve service members, and family members to join us at Blend Coffee Bar on Saturday, March 14th at 1:00pm for coffee, connection and community. Our goal is to provide a space for fellowship and to show our appreciation for those who have served. Whether you are currently serving, have served in the past, or simply want to offer your support to our military and their families, please join us!

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. Your contributions and effort make this program a successful one.

Please keep up the generosity by returning your bag this weekend (February 21-22) with items in the attached flyer. If you were unable to pick up a blue bag, you can always return food in a reusable, paper, or plastic bag. Please, no expired items. The pantry is unable to distribute expired items.



Dinner & Discussion: Catholic Investing and Tax-Advantaged Charitable Giving: On Thursday, February 26th, there will be a free barbecue dinner and seminar catered by Rescue Barbecue, on the subject of Catholic Investing for Retirement and Tax-Advantaged Charitable Giving at St John the Apostle Parish in Leesburg, VA. Speakers include Peter de Keratry from the Diocese of Arlington, executives flying in from Knights of Columbus headquarters in New Haven, Connecticut, and Soren Johnson from Trinity House. Registration is required. Scan the QR code to register or call 804.547.2373.



Are you a parishioner in need of a home repair? If you are physically or financially unable to complete basic home repairs, we can help. Our Handy-Man team skills include Plumbing, Electrical, Carpentry, and Painting but exclude outdoor yard or gardening work. If you are in need of repairs, or would like to be part of the Handyman Team, please visit this website to submit your repair project request or to join the team <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/handy-man-services>.

Foster Care Information Sessions: Loudoun County's Department of Family Services (DFS) is holding foster care information sessions in early 2026:

•Monday, March 16, 6-7:30pm
In these virtual information sessions, they will discuss: General information on foster care needs; Who is eligible to become a foster parent; The process of becoming a foster parent, including training requirements; and Support provided to foster parents by DFS. Attendance is free, but registration is required. Scan the QR code or visit loudoun.gov/FosterCare to register.



Answer the Call to Serve. Guided by principles of charity, unity, and fraternity, the Knights of Columbus are men of faith and action - supporting our parish, our families, and our community. Join us as we put our faith into action. Check out our FAQs at <https://www.st-louismartin-kofc.org/faqs> - or scan the QR code learn more about becoming a Knight.



Status of Adult Children of Parishioners -- Upon reaching adulthood, children of registered parishioners must register again (if they reside within St. Theresa boundaries), separately and independently, as members of St. Theresa parish, even if they continue to live at home with their parents. These new registrations are valid until adult children move to another address. Upon moving elsewhere, they should register at the local parish in which they reside. Adult children of parishioners who no longer live within the parish will not be able to continue to claim parish membership.

News Around the Diocese

Quo Vadis and FIAT Camps Registration Lottery—Quo Vadis Days and FIAT Camps are great opportunities for Catholic high school students (current freshmen through seniors) to have fun while deepening their faith and exploring their vocations. Quo Vadis Camp (for boys) is staffed by Arlington seminarians, priests and religious, and runs **July 12-16**. FIAT Camp (for girls) is staffed by religious sisters runs **July 19-23**. Both are held

at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg, MD. The registration lottery will be open **February 2-28**; only one entry per person is needed, and it can be done anytime between Feb. 2-28. Get more information and register for the lottery at ArlingtonDiocese.org/QuoVadis or ArlingtonDiocese.org/FIAT, or contact the Office of Vocations at vocations@arlingtondiocese.org or 703.841.2514.

First Sunday of Lent - February 22, 2026

Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days of prayer and fasting. Are you open to being led by the Holy Spirit into the state in life God has prepared for you? If you are considering a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at 703.841.2514 or via email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org

More News Around the Diocese

In Christ, We Are One—Thank you to everyone who participated in the BLA last weekend! If you haven't yet had a chance to make your gift, we still need your help. Every family matters in helping our parish reach goal. No gift is too small. Your participation supports vital ministries our parish depends on: seminarian formation, religious education, youth ministry, Catholic Charities, and more. Consider a monthly recurring gift to spread your generosity throughout the year. You can also give a one-time gift or pledge. Give today at arlingtondiocese.org/bla or scan the QR code:



Scan Me

Three to Get Married Marriage Prep in 2026: Feb 26-Mar 1 (Virtual) Mar 12-15 (In-Person); Apr 23-26 (In-Person)—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. \$525 per couple. Website: ourladyofbethesda.org.

God Chose You for Me: A Day Long Enrichment for Married Couples—Come join us on Saturday **February 28th** from 8am-4pm for an immersive journey that reveals the spirituality within the Sacrament of Matrimony. Couples will create a personal couple prayer that can become a part of their daily prayer life. The day will include a blend of theological reflection, storytelling, and guided prayer to help couples discover the sacredness of desire, love, and commitment in marriage. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. Cost: \$125 per couple. Location: St John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Warrenton VA. To register: contact Ron and Pam Bishop at 571.344.1313 or Ron.Pam.Bishop@wwme.org or visit: <https://renewmarriage-vanorth.org/enrichment.php>

Save-the-Date - John Paul the Great Open House on March 5th—Planning for high school? Join us at John Paul the Great for a special Preview Open

House for younger students on Thursday, March 5th from 4:00-5:30 PM! Learn more about our rigorous college-preparatory curriculum, competitive athletics, inspiring visual and performing arts, and abundant extracurricular opportunities! Click here to register!

Finding Meaning After Loss—Sacred Heart Counseling, a local faith-based therapy practice, is offering an 8-week therapy group for women who have experienced child loss. This group will be exploring grief and continuing to live a meaningful life after loss. The group will meet at our office in Leesburg Saturdays mornings from **March 7th- May 2nd**. Cost is \$60/session. If you are interested, please reach out via our website: www.sacredheartva.com/contact

2026 Peace & Justice Conference: Immigration and the Church's Prophetic Voice—You are invited to the 2026 Peace & Justice Conference, Immigration and the Church's Prophetic Voice, sponsored by the Diocese of Arlington Peace & Justice Commission. Join us for an evening of reflection and dialogue rooted in the Church's teaching on human dignity and the common good, inspired by the U.S. Bishops' message: "Human dignity and national security are not in conflict. Both are possible if people of good will work together." The conference will take place Saturday, March 7, 2026, at Nativity Catholic Church, and will feature Bishop Evelio Menjivar-Ayala, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Washington. Come learn, pray, and engage in faithful conversation on this timely issue.

Catholic Charities is holding Classes for Adults in Sterling— ENGLISH: Catholic Charities is offering English & Citizenship classes for adults at Christ the Redeemer parish in Sterling. English is \$80 & Citizenship is \$125. To register, visit the parish Tuesday, **March 10th** at 7:30 p.m. or call 571.208.1572.

SPANISH: Caridades Católicas ofrece clases de inglés y ciudadanía para adultos en la parroquia Cristo Redentor en Sterling. El precio de las clases de inglés es \$80 y de ciudadanía es \$125. Para registrarse, visite la parroquia el martes **10 de marzo** a las 7:30 p.m. o llame al 571.208.1572.

The Mystery of Christ's Death & Resurrection—Women's Retreat—Gather at the midpoint of Lent and retreat to our Arlington Diocese's San Damiano Retreat Center in White Post, Virginia. Join Msgr Mangan from Mt. St. Mary Seminary as we renew our sorrow for our sins, and we express our gratitude to God for the new life that comes to us through the Mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection. We will listen to His Holy Word, and we will participate in His grace-filled Sacraments. This retreat begins at 6 pm Friday **March 13th and concludes Sunday March 15th** at noon. Retreat cost is \$299, and financial assistance may be available. For further information, please contact Deacon Mark Maines at: mark.maines@arlingtondiocese.org. Visit our website at www.arlingtondiocese.org/retreat for more information about San Damiano and retreats being offered in the months ahead.

Ladies, do you desire to live in greater freedom? Are you longing for an authentic encounter with your true feminine identity? **Join us for the Undone Women's Conference**—Undone: Freedom for the Feminine Heart will be held at St. Mary's Church, 7301 Annapolis Rd., Landonver, MD on **March 26-28, 2026**. (Thursday, March 26 and Friday, March 27, 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm and Saturday, March 29, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm). This event is being offered in person OR virtually via livestream! Register online for either experience at www.jpuihealingcenter.org. Scholarships, student and missionary discounts available. Contact JPIIretreatDMV@gmail.com for more information.

Lenten Retreats for Men—Mar 26-29 (Thu-Sun). Enter into Lent with a weekend of silence, prayer, and guided meditation rooted in the Ignatian Spiritual Exercises. Retreats will be offered on Feb 20-22, 2026 and Mar 26-29, 2026. Cost to attend this preached retreat: \$368 per person for the Fri-Sun retreat, \$424 for the Thu-Sun retreat. For those seeking solitude and self-directed prayer, the private retreat option is available: \$276 per person. Find more details on our website www.ourladyofbethesda.org. Our Lady of Bethesda Retreat Center, Bethesda, MD 20187.

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

Before contacting the Parish Office, visit the Parish Website under Faith, Sacraments, Marriage. **You must be registered at least 3 months** prior to filling out the Marriage Preparation Questionnaire. A priest will contact you.

OCIA

Adults desiring instruction in the Catholic Faith should visit the website to register for OCIA 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

Save the Date—Next Little Flower consignment sale is March 7th. Do you have children's items to donate if you don't want to consign? Contact Jean Nowakowski at john.jean90@verizon.net

Consign, volunteer, shop or donate items. Proceeds go to families in need through Divine Mercy Outreach. Go to www.littleflowerconsignments.org for more information.

Raffle Announcement—All Saints Church (Manassas, VA) has invited our parishioners to participate in their Multi Car Raffle. Prizes include four 2026 vehicles from Ourisman Ford of Manassas (Ford Escape, Mustang, Maverick Truck (Hybrid) and Bronco Sport). One \$5.00 ticket offers the purchaser a chance to win all four vehicles plus \$42,000 (including one for \$20,000) in cash prizes. You will be receiving tickets in the mail within the next weeks. Please consider selling/purchasing the tickets mailed to you. \$29,000 was raised last year to help us assist families.

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—volunteers with trucks or Large SUVs needed especially! 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? Brian Dwinell at beds@sainttheresaparish.com

Friends in Need—Provides meals on a short-term basis for 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 know someone in need of help with meals.

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

Did you know?—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 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 bring Christ's love to others of need.

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 Myriam Perez 703.729.2334 or dmoutreach@sainttheresaparish.com

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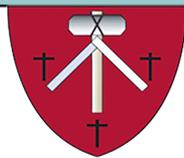
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