

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 20

Theresa Eisele (†), For the People,
 Maryellen Rubel (†), Nickolas Pippin (†),
 Anthony Brocato

(HC Masses) Robert Perez (†), Kelley E. Baker (†)

Monday, December 21

Patrick Coleman's Birthday, Kathleen McNavin Tucker (†)

Tuesday, December 22

Ana Gelpi (†), Barbara Thayer Stevens (†)

Wednesday, December 23

Nena Victoriano (†), Victoria Leilani Silva

Thursday, December 24

Fr. John Oetgen, O.S.B. (†), Carl Spellaly (†),
 (5 pm) For the people who don't attend Mass regularly
 (7 pm) Christmas Floral Memorials

Friday, December 25

Midnight Mass: For the People,
 (7:30, 9, 11 am) For the intentions of Fr. Barkett, Fr. Stefan, Fr. Ephrem

Saturday, December 26

Alice Tolson (†), Bernadine Flaherty (†)

Sunday, December 27

Marie-Anne Dinh, Barbara Stevens (†),
 Mary Ellen Rubel (†), For the People,
 (HC Masses) Robert Perez (†), Edith Stephano (†)



READINGS

- Sun: Mt 5:1-4aHeb 10:5-10
Lk 1:39-45
- Mon: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a..Lk 1:39-45
- Tue: 1Sm 1:24-28Lk 1:26-56
- Wed: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24.....Lk 1:57-66
- Thurs am: 2Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16...Lk 1:27-79
- Vigil: Is 62:1-5Acts 13:16-17, 22-25
Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
- Christmas Masses
- Midnight: Is 9:1-6Ti 2:11-14
Lk 2:1-14
- Dawn: Is 62:11-12It 3:4-7
Lk 2:15-20
- Day Is 52:7-10Heb 1:1-6
Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
- Sat: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59.....Mt 10:17-22
- Sunday: Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or 1Jn 3:1-2, 21-24
Lk 2:41-52

PARISH LIFE

Pastor's Corner...

My Dear Parishioners,

As we celebrate Christmas with our families this year, let us also remember to celebrate it with one another. Can you smile at the person who cut you off in traffic? Can you say hello to the neighbor who annoys you? What about the person who was mean to you? Can you forgive them? What a great way to truly celebrate Christmas.

Know your priests pray for you everyday. Merry Christmas.

In Christ through Mary,
 Father Barkett

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Vigil Masses

5:00 and 7:00 pm

Tickets are needed for the Vigil Masses.

Christmas Day Masses

Midnight, 7:30, 9:00 and 11:00 am

All Masses will be held in the Worship Center.



Mass Schedule Changes

There will be no 6:30 am daily Masses **December 25** and **December 28 through January 1**. There will be no 5 pm Youth Mass on **December 27**.

Office Closed

The Parish Center Office will be closed on **December 24 - 25** and **December 28 - January 1**. There will be a weekend receptionist.

Christmas Cards

The Knights of Columbus will be selling boxed sets of Christmas Cards in Farrell Hall and Old St. Mary's Hall after all weekend Masses.

Oplatki

Christmas wafers are an Eastern European custom that is many centuries old. They may be obtained at the Parish Office.

St. Mary's Blood Drive



St. Mary's will hold a blood drive next Sunday, **December 27**, from 7:45 am - 12:45 pm in Farrell Hall. Contact Jay O'Connor at 703-978-2248 or jayoconnor@cox.net to sign up. Your blood donation would be a wonderful Christmas gift to someone in need.

Spanish Class

The Spanish Class will not meet on Saturday, December 26 or January 2. Please join us on Saturday, January 9 from 9 - 11 am in Room 8. We have new instructors and new students are always welcome. For more information, call Virginia, 703-273-6769.



St. Mary's Preschool Openings

St. Mary's Preschool has openings in their new afternoon Tuesday/Thursday Teddy Bear class (age 2-1/2 & up). Must be potty trained. Please call the Preschool at 703-978-4141, x35.

Widow to Widow Monday Group

Mondays' widow's group will meet on December 21 in the Apartment at 5 pm. Please bring a picture of your loved one with you if you have not already done so.

They Need Our Prayers And Material Help

Our typhoon ravaged brothers and sisters in the Philippines are in dire need of aid to help rebuild their lives. Be a part of the answer to their plea of help! Attend a fundraising concert featuring musical savant Carlos Ibay at St. Mary's on Sunday, December 27, at 4 pm. 100% tax deductible. Tickets are \$25.00. For tickets call: Luisa Robinson, 703-323-5834, or Gigi Allas-Espiritu, 703-250-0520. Please make checks payable to St. Mary's and write "Fil-Am Ministry" on the memo line.

St. Mary's Is a Tithing Parish

"...whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Thanks to your donations to Sunday and holy day collections, our parish is able to provide \$12,000 to FACETS (Fairfax Area Christian Emergency and Transitional Services) Home Connections. With these funds a homeless family receives shelter and the necessary services to become self-sufficient and settled in permanent housing. For information about becoming involved with this ministry, call Liz DeLuca, 703-352-5090.

COLLECTIONS

Parish Electronic Giving for the month of November

Regular Sunday Collection	\$13,004.00
Capital Campaign	\$73.00
Samaritan Fund	\$171.00
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	\$271.00
Retired Religious	\$465.00

Collections for the week of December 6

Regular	\$30,004.85
Capital Campaign	\$4,121.00
Samaritan Fund	\$360.65
Christmas	\$2,792.00
Heat	\$1,223.50
Christmas Floral Memorials	\$732.50
Holiday Fund	\$275.00

LITURGY & MUSIC



Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, December 31st

7:00 pm Vigil Mass at the Worship Center
11:00 pm Holy Hour at the Historic Church

Friday, January 1st

Midnight Mass at the Historic Church
9:15 and 11:00 am Masses at the Worship Center
The Solemnity is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Please Pray For The Sick

Lilly Morris, Madeline Badovinac, George Badovinac, Jeff Camilletti, Lt. Mark Wise, Tim Foreman, Mary Viccica, Chester Schuler, Joan Hickey, Joanne Benner, Christopher Benner, Pat Mizer, John Maskeny, Mason Shaffer, Martin Hauck, Carole Hauck, Helene Puerling, Mary Basile, and Austin Ruby. Names will be kept on the list for a month. Please call then and advise if you need an extended time.

Baptisms

We joyfully welcome into the Church Mikaela Grace Finnerty-Annagu and Delaney Elizabeth Fleming.

Christmas Floral Remembrances



Christmas Floral Memorials are a lovely way to remember deceased friends and relatives. The deceased will be remembered at all Christmas Masses. Your donation will help to defray the cost of our Christmas poinsettias. Please make sure that we have the names for the memorial this weekend so that we have time to include them on the list in the glass case in the foyer.

"Thanks" to our Liturgy Committee

As you look around the Church on Christmas and notice the trees, Nativity sets, Advent Wreath and decorative wreaths, please pray with gratitude for the Liturgy Committee that not only volunteered many hours to provide this for you but also work countless hours during the year to serve you. They schedule ministers for the various ministries, help plan the liturgies that are provided, sing in the choir, clean candle followers, set up Mass early in the morning, train parishioners for their various ministries, research liturgical protocols, take displays down, change altar linens, make sure our microphones are in good working order, collect money, proclaim the word, take communion to the sick, administer communion at Mass, arrange flowers, play the piano and I could go on and on. The point is, they are a group of people that donate hundreds of hours of their time and expect nothing in return; please join me in thanking them with your prayers. Cathy Wester

Save the Date

The "March for Life" is on Friday, **January 22**.

Save the Dates

Father Stefan will be presenting a series of three talks on the "Priesthood" **January 25, February 1 and 8**. Watch the bulletin for details.

YOUTH MINISTRY**High School Youth**

Email: briank@stmaryofsorrows.org
703-978-4141, x11

Check out our new website: www.smosyouth.org

This Sunday December 20**Mass and SIDEBURN IDOL 2K9**

Join us for Mass at 5 pm, followed by a party/dinner/talent show featuring all sorts of talents, kids, adults, teens, even robots. You're not going to want to miss this. This will end at 8:30 pm. EVERYONE IS INVITED AND ASKED TO BRING A SIDE DISH TO SHARE! TO SIGN UP FOR THE TALENT SHOW, EMAIL BRIAN.

Christmas Break

High School Youth Ministry will be taking a break for Christmas from our Sunday night activities. Our Spring Kick-Off for High School will be on Sunday, **January 10**. We will be praying that you and your families have a blessed Christmas.

Junior High Youth

Email: jhyouth@stmaryofsorrows.org

Christmas Break

Junior High Youth Ministry has wrapped up for the year. Thanks so much for a great Fall Semester. Updates for next year's events can be found at www.smosyouth.org or you can receive email updates from NateS@StMaryOfSorrows.org. We hope you all have a great Christmas holiday.

St. Mary's Gift Cards

Gift Cards for: Giant, Safeway, Starbucks, iTunes, and more! This fundraiser is a great chance to support Youth Ministry at St. Mary's! You just buy the gift cards from us on sale after Mass on weekends and at the front desk Monday through Friday.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**Religious Education Classes Christmas Break**

Religious Education classes will not meet from **December 16 through January 3**. All classes resume Monday, **January 4**. May all our students enjoy a blessed Advent and joyful Christmas with their families.

FAMILY LIFE**Mothers' Group**

The Mothers' Group that meets on Thursdays at 10 am at the Historic Church Hall will not meet on **December 24 and 31**. We hope you will join us on **January 7**.

PARISH SOCIAL MINISTRY**Samaritan Fund**

This week your donations helped an unemployed woman with her rent. Please continue to donate to the Samaritan fund in the collection box or baskets, or give a check to the parish receptionist.

Parish Social Ministry Planning Group

7:30 pm, December 21 - The Apartment

Do You Have Extra Christmas Cards To Share?

Prison Ministry of the Diocese of Arlington needs Christmas cards to give to prisoners so they can send a Christmas greeting to their families; it is so important that they stay connected! Please place any unused Christmas cards/envelopes in the small box on the credenza in the foyer of the Parish Center. THANKS!

Employment and Financial Needs of our Bhutanese Refugee Family of 5:

Entry level employment positions of any kind are sought in the Falls Church, Tyson's Corner Route 7 corridor after **January 1**. Please contact Pat Holliday at pholliday@yahoo.com or 703-978-2155 if you know of some employment opportunities for eager workers. Financial contributions to help with the rent of \$1400.00/month, the \$79.03 current electric bill, the \$17.83 basic phone service, etc., and gift cards for personal items are urgently requested. Please make checks payable to St Mary's with "Family Assistance" in the memo line and give checks/gift cards to the parish receptionist. See the parish website at stmaryofsorrows.org for more information. Thanks!!!

Collecting Winter Hats, Gloves, Scarves

Our homeless neighbors in Fairfax County have a great need for protection from the cold weather when they are outdoors. You can help by taking inventory of your family's closets. If you have any gently used hats, gloves, mittens and scarves that you can donate, please place them in the marked box in Farrell Hall. Please call Pat White, 703-273-8438, if you have questions about this collection.

**Winter Coat Collection Reminder**

We will be conducting our annual coat and jacket collection on **January 9 - 10**. All items that you bring on that weekend will be distributed to needy children and adults in our community.

HAPPENING IN THE DIOCESE

2009 Tax Law ~ Tax Free IRA Gift

If you are 70 or older, you can make a gift tax-free from your IRA to our parish or the diocese thru 12/31/09. While this gift will not result in a tax deduction, the amount will be excluded from your taxable income. Other benefits and restrictions apply. For more information, please visit www.arlingtondiocese.planyourlegacy.org/ira.php or call 703-841-2516.

Catholic Charities Ball 2010



"All That Sparkles," Friday, **February 5, 2010**, at the Ritz Carlton, Tysons Corner, VA. Black Tie. Consider enjoying the evening with your fellow parishioners by reserving a Parish Table. For information and donation opportunities please e-mail Barbara Caudle, ccbball2010@yahoo.com or call 703-937-3988.

Education • Parish • Service

Do you hunger to understand your Catholic faith? Do you have plenty of questions, but not enough answers? Enroll in Education • Parish • Service, which is offering Speaking God's Word: The Prophets, a study of the Old Testament prophets, and The Prophetic Mission of Today's Church, Wednesdays, **January 6 - 27** at 10:30 am, at St. Ann Church, 5300 N. 10th St., Arlington; and This We Believe, an introduction to the study of theology, drawing on the Creed and Catechism of the Catholic Church, Tuesdays, **January 5 - 26**, at 7 pm, EPS classroom, campus of Trinity (Washington) University, 125 Michigan Ave., NE. To register, contact Gregory Byrne at byrneg@trinitydc.edu or 202-884-9031. EPS offers courses in Scripture, theology, Church history, Catholic social teaching, as well as opportunities for spiritual growth through liturgy, prayer and theological reflection. It operates with the blessing of the bishop in each of the dioceses it serves. For details and information about additional upcoming EPS courses, see <http://eps.trinitydc.edu>.

Interested In Adopting?

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington will hold Adoption Information Meetings at 5294 Lyngate Court in Burke. The meetings will be from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on **January 14, February 11, and March 11**. The presentation will cover Catholic Charities' Domestic, International, Interstate and Parental Placement Adoption Programs with emphasis on the home study, placement and supervision of children as well as adoption resources. Please call 703-425-0100 to register as space is limited.

"It is by God's will that we have been sanctified."

How is God calling you to grow in holiness? If He may be inviting you to the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life, call Father Brian Bashista, 703-841-2514, or write: b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sun	20	Coffee & Doughnuts	8:00am	FH/OSMH
Mon	21	Widow's Group	5:00pm	Apt.
		Christmas Choir Practice	7:30pm	WC
		Boy Scout Troop 697 Committee	7:30pm	8L
		PSM Planning	7:00pm	Apt.
		Legion of Mary	8:15 pm	6L
Tues	22	Cursillo Prayer Group	9:45am	8L
		HoneyBaked Ham Pick-up	2:00pm	OSMH
		Knights of Columbus	7:00pm	OSMH
		Bell Choir	7:30pm	MR
Wed	23	AA	10:00am	OSMH
		RCIA	7:30pm	UR
		Charismatic Prayer Group	7:30pm	WC
		Joyful Noise	7:30pm	MR
Thu	24	Christmas Eve - Offices Closed		
Fri	25	Christmas Day - Offices Closed		
Sat	26	Baptisms	10:30am	WC
Sun	27	Blood Drive	7:45am	FH(B)
		Coffee & Doughnuts	8:00am	FH/OSMH

Employment Opportunities

The Catholic Diocese of Arlington is currently recruiting for available positions in our Central Administrative Office in Arlington. At the Diocese of Arlington, we are enriching the experience of following your faith through the commitment and exceptional performance of our most valuable resource: our employees. We are seeking innovative individuals with the talent, ability, and energy to excel with us. Visit www.arlingtondiocese.org for additional details about vacant positions

Unemployed? Under-Employed? We CAN Help!

Christians are Networking ("CAN") is a group of job-seekers who network with professionals who offer free career counseling, advice on resumes and practice interviews. Whether you're looking for your first job or an executive position, all are welcome. Bring a resume, even if it's a work in progress. Join us every Thursday evening, from 7 to 9 pm at the St. Martin De Porres Senior Center, 4650 Taney Ave., Alexandria, VA 22304. For more details, contact Elizabeth Lucas, 703-683-7704, elizabeth22305@verizon.net, or Bill Hummel, 703-830-5467, hummel830@cox.net.

Join Our Diocesan Community Online

Diocesan Church news and events are updated daily online! Stay informed by reading Bishop's homilies, listening to podcasts, watching video and accessing the diocesan calendar at www.arlingtondiocese.org. You can also join the over 1,000 people who follow the Diocese of Arlington on Twitter and Facebook. Find us at www.twitter.com/arlingtonchurch and facebook.com/arlingtondiocese.

