

Saint Francis de Sales Catholic Church

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 14, 2012

Parish Staff

Rev. Ronald S. Escalante, Pastor
Rev. Edwin Thayer Tewes, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Larry Hammel
Mrs. Diane Morano, Business Manager
Mrs. Cathy Mitchell, Director of Liturgy
Ms. Susan Khalil, Secretary
Mrs. Melissa Gobs, DRE
Mrs. Janice Rees, CRE, Weekly Bulletin
Mrs. Jane Treado, Director of Youth Ministry
Mr. Michael Galdo, Director of Music
Mrs. Sharon Liddicoatt, Sacristan

Contact Info

Parish Office - 540-338-6381
email - secretary@saintfrancisparish.org
Religious Education Office - 540-338-4497
In case of an emergency - 540-338-6440
Fax - 540-338-6431
37730 St. Francis Court, Purcellville, VA 20132-9600
www.SaintFrancisParish.org

Welcome!

Please register and become part of our parish community.
You may fill out a registration form in the parish office
during business hours.

Office Hours - M-F 8:30am-4:30pm

Sacraments

Reconciliation: Friday 10:45-11:45am;
Saturday 8 -8:30am and 3:30-4:30pm; nd anytime by appointment

Matrimony: Parish couples planning to be married must make arrangements with the Office at least six months prior to the intended date of marriage.

Baptism: The Sacrament is celebrated each month, the second Saturday at 9:30am and the third Sunday at 1:30pm. Baptism class is the last Friday of the month at 7pm. Call the office for details.

Anointing of the Sick: We are privileged to bring Holy Communion



YEAR OF FAITH 2012 2013

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil - 5pm

Sunday - 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm, 6pm (Teen Mass)

Daily Masses

Monday and Wednesday - 9am

Tuesday and Thursday - 6:30am

Friday - 6:30am and 12 noon; Saturday - 9am

Check the bulletin for Holy Days of Obligation

Adoration/Benediction

Adoration is on the 1st Friday of the month, following the 12 noon Mass. Benediction is 8:45am Saturday, followed by the 9am Mass. The Rosary is prayed at 12:30pm and the Divine Mercy Chaplet is at 3pm. A Holy Hour for Respect Life/Pro-Life is at 7am Saturday. A Scriptural Rosary is prayed at the 7pm Holy Hour.

Let us run to her, and, as her little children, cast ourselves into her arms with perfect confidence. - St. Francis de Sales

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2012
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

The word of God is living and effective,
 sharper than any two-edged sword.
 — *Hebrews 4:12a*

**Important Update on the
 Increased Offertory Program**

Our parish cannot operate effectively without the support of our parishioners. This week, the Stewardship Council will be mailing all parishioners important information about the financial administration of our parish. A detailed report has been prepared which includes the income and expenses of the church. An additional report reflects the average offertory contributions made by the parishioners of Saint Francis de Sales.

Please review and prayerfully reflect on this information. The Increase Offertory Program is an annual process that asks parishioners to review the financial obligations of the church, examine their own current weekly giving and make a commitment to give for the coming year.

Next weekend, during Mass, each parishioner will receive a card and will be asked to make a new commitment. Regardless of whether you give monthly, quarterly, etc., please indicate the amount that your gifts represent on a weekly basis. Your commitment allows the parish Finance Council to project the future income of our parish and develop a sound business strategy that supports our future goals.

In order to accurately track our parishioners' involvement, we ask that everyone please use envelopes, checks or online payments. Online giving may easily be set up by visiting www.saintfrancisparish.org. There is a link on the left side of the page labeled "Parish Giving".

The Stewardship Council sincerely appreciates every member's participation in our living church, and the support of those working for the Lord. We hope our parish families will reflect on financial priorities in light of the information being shared about the church's budget and expenses.

New offertory commitments will begin on Sunday, November 4.



*How can I repay the Lord for all the good
 done for me? - Psalm 116:12*

This Week

- Tue., Oct. 16 Joshua Bible Study - 10am, Parish Hall
Acts Bible Study - 7pm, Parish Hall
RCIA - 7:30pm, Oratory
- Wed., Oct. 17 SoulStitch - 9:30am, Parish Hall
Charismatic Prayer Group - 7pm, Oratory
- Thu., Oct. 18 No Joshua Bible Study
- Fri., Oct. 19 Padre Pio Cenacle - 9am
Baptism Class - 7pm

Masses for the Week

+ *deceased*

- Sat., Oct. 13
 9:00 am
- Sat., Oct. 13
 5:00 pm

Weekday

Eunice Palm
Vigil: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 + For the deceased members of the D'Elia,
 Curran, Butt and Sommer Families
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- Sun., Oct. 14
 7:00 am
 8:30 am
 10:30 am
 12:30 pm
 6:00 pm

Leah Perdue
 + Stephen D'Elia
 + Stephen D'Elia
 People of the Parish
 Briggs Hurley

Mon. Oct. 15

- 9:00 am

Saint Teresa of Jesus

+ Marilyn Snyder Moffett

Tue., Oct. 16

- 6:30 am

Weekday

+ For the Deceased members of the D'Elia,
 Curran, Butt and Sommer Families

Wed., Oct. 17

- 9:00 am

Saint Ignatius of Antioch

+ Stanley Kogut

Thu., Oct. 18

- 6:30 am

Saint Luke

+ Karen Warlick Nelson

Fri., Oct. 19

- 6:30 am

**Saints John de Brebeuf and Isaac Joques and
 Companions**

- 12:00 noon

+ Loraine Rung

Sat., Oct. 20

- 9:00 am

Weekday

Joseph Krebs

Sat., Oct. 20

- 5:00 pm

Vigil: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

+ Annece Brown-Downing

Sun., Oct. 21

- 7:00 am

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:30 am

+ Stephen D'Elia

- 10:30 am

+ Patricia Howard

- 12:30 pm

The Fisher Family

- 6:00 pm

People of the Parish

+ Fred Meyers

Parish Financial Status

In-Pew Offertory - October 17	\$ 11,006
YEAR TO DATE	\$ 170,047
2nd Collection	\$ 1,988

Electronic Offertory for September	\$ 18,921
Building Our Faith for September	\$ 5,937

Readings for the Week

- Monday: Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31 — 5:1; Lk 11:29-32
 Tuesday: Gal 5:1-6; Lk 11:37-41
 Wednesday: Gal 5:18-25; Lk 11:42-46
 Thursday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Lk 10:1-9
 Friday: Eph 1:11-14; Lk 12:1-7
 Saturday: Eph 1:15-23; Lk 12:8-12
 Sunday: Is 53:10-11; Ps 33; Heb 4:14-16;
 Mk 10:35-45 [42-45]



The Year of Faith has begun

Pope Benedict XVI opened the *Year of Faith* on Thursday, October 11 and will last until November 24, 2013 on the *Solemnity of Christ the King*. This exciting year invites all of us to reflect on the beauty of our treasured Catholic Faith and how we may become closer in our personal relationship with Jesus Christ. One of the best ways to do this is to visit Our Lord during our newly established weekly Eucharistic Adoration. Every Friday we will have the Blessed Sacrament exposed in the Oratory from 12:30 PM until 10 PM Benediction. On First Fridays we still have the adoration overnight until Saturday morning just before the 9 AM Mass.

Increased Offertory Program Kickoff Weekend...plus the Big News!

I would like to invite you to reflect on the *Increased Offertory Program* that the *Saint Francis de Sales Stewardship Council* and I have been working on. It is our responsibility as an entire parish to maintain Our Lord's ministry here in our region of Loudoun County. One's obligation to partake in the stewardship of God's goods to financially support our parish will be highlighted this weekend. Please pray and reflect on what the stewardship council and I will present to you this weekend and how God is calling you to respond.

On another note related to the *Increased Offertory Program*, as I mentioned last week I have a big announcement to make to the parish. This coming Wednesday the

Your shepherd in Christ,
Father Escalante

Mass to Pray for Healing of Victims/Survivors of Sexual Abuse

In 2004, Bishop Loverde began a series of diocesan-sponsored Masses to pray for healing of victims/survivors of sexual abuse. The Masses are followed by a reception. The next Mass will be on Tuesday October 23 at 7:30pm at Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church in Potomac Falls. Bishop Paul S. Loverde will preside.

October Baptism Class

The October Baptism instruction class, normally held on the last Friday of the month, will be held on October 19 at 7pm. There will not be a class on October 26. Reservations are encouraged.

Ask the Priest

Q. How was the word "holy" invented? –Faith

A. Its origin comes from the Old English (450-1100 AD) "*hal* or *halig*" and from the Old High German (c. 1100 AD) "*heil*" which means *sacred, godly, health, happiness* or *good luck*. Later English formed the word "*holy*" that became exclusively used for describing something sacred or godly.

Q. What is the proper way to apply the holy water when entering or exiting the church? Should I always be facing the altar?

–C. White

A. It is not specified where we should be facing when we bless ourselves with holy water. When we enter the church it seems that the most reasonable way to do this is by facing the direction where the Eucharist is reposed in the tabernacle. The sign of the cross is a prayer acknowledging the Holy Trinity and our redemption on the cross by Jesus Christ. Using holy water when exiting evolved later as a habit but the original intent of the church was to have the people bless themselves as they entered the church.

Q. What do you say to a young man who says he wants to separate from his young wife because they are "growing apart" or "just needs some space/time apart"? –SBC

A. Any struggling married person should immediately resort to deep prayer and ask for God's guidance. I would suggest that he sees a priest (if Catholic) or a minister to discuss his marital problems and perhaps ask for a recommended marriage counselor if needed. Encourage him not to make hasty decisions until he has sought counsel.

Q. The Gospel on 9/30/2012 (Mark 9:38-48) said, "If you sin because of your hand, cut it off." So if you sin with your head, should you have someone cut your head off or should you not even take the Gospel seriously? –Anonymous

A. That's what guillotines are for! On a serious note, you may not have been at the Mass when I explained this so here's a brief summary of it. Jesus was only using a *hyperbole* (an obvious and intended exaggeration) to make a point about giving a very strong effort to avoid the near occasion to sin. An example of a *hyperbole* is when people say things like, "*I have been waiting 'forever' for you*" or "*I am so hungry I could eat a horse!*" So, if your hand causes you to sin, e.g., you have a problem with stealing, "*cutting your hand off*", means doing all you can to prevent your hand from taking other people's property. If your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. You don't literally pull your eyeballs out. A good example of this is for those who have a problem viewing pornography should take strong measures to keep their eyes from looking at immoral images. [Speaking of hyperboles, if someone tells me that *I scared him half to death*, what do you think would happen if I scared him again?]

Q. Even though Mary was born without sin did she still get baptized? –Anonymous

A. Though not specifically in scripture, Mary was likely baptized like the other Christians because that is the eternal sign of our Christianity and oneness with the Holy Trinity. We become in the image and likeness of Jesus Christ and an official member of his church through the sacrament of baptism. Jesus never had sin either at anytime of his life but underwent baptism anyway to set a good example for the rest of his followers.

POP Fund Appeals Being Accepted Now

Did you know that since 2001 the Preferential Option for the Poor Fund, POP Fund for short, has given away **more than \$400,000** to over 200 local, national and international organizations serving the poor? St. Francis de Sales sets aside 5% of the weekly offertory into the POP Fund. That money is to be used to support organizations in our community and around the world that are working to lessen the hardships of the poor. If you would like to nominate an organization for a POP Fund gift, please send a written request to the church office with the name of the organization and a suggested contribution amount, ideas for how the gift could be used, and some background on your personal connection to the group. A group may receive only one gift each year and parishioners can make only one nomination per year. Individual mission projects are not eligible for POP funds.

All appeals must be in by Friday, November 2.

NEW!!! Young Adult Group

18-30 year olds invited. Curious about what the Young Adults of St. Francis are up to?

Check out:

www.meetup.com/St-Francis-de-Sales-Young-Adults/

E-mail: Adonay.Jimenez@gmail.com

Scan:



Our thoughts and prayers are with ...

Our Military Members:

Capt. Chuck Marshall; PFC Brandon Badura; Spc Edward Regan Jr.; Gunnery Sgt. Robert Warner III; PFC Sean Milam; Lcpl John Owen Patterson; Airman 1st Class Pete Buxton; PFC Tim Marshall; PV2 Sean Zurschmeide; PV2 Ryan Badura; Cdr Bill Balding, USN; 2nd Lt. Patrick Gutierrez, Capt. Andrew Cahan; LCpl Gary Martz

The Sick:

Sofia Macaraeg

The Deceased:

Father Tom Cassidy, David Fournery, Marilyn Dueppen, Marian Welsh, Irene Taylor, Ruth Robinson, Joan Canan, James Sullivan, Grant Cain, Capt. Michael Quin, Angelina Orndorff, Ashton Mahnke, Steve D'Elia, Joe Pope, Gerald Harp, Richard Marks, Arline Beckstead, Hans Seeger, Tatiana Sacoto, Michael Mallen, Mildred Kirkland, Gail Kelley, John Kelly, Clair Fred Olson, Jim Gutierrez, Marilyn Mofett, Mary Sierzega



*** PASTOR'S WISH LIST ***

General List

- **Confessional box maker**—Is there anyone who knows how to make our flimsy confessionals better or even build us better ones? We also have been using background church music to provide extra “soundproofing” for our penitents. Paid, discounted or volunteer work will be considered.
- **New Vocations Promoter**—We need a new parish liaison to promote vocations to the priesthood, religious life and dedicated single and family life. Our volunteer for the past couple of years, Micah Willard, has accepted a new teaching job and now lives in Front Royal. We could use a new volunteer to coordinate events with our diocese and we graciously thank Micah for all the help he has given us.
- **New CONVERTS or just interested in learning why Catholics believe what they believe.** The new RCIA weekly class began on Tuesday, September 25 at 7:30pm in the Oratory. Catholics who want a faith refresher course during the *Year of Faith* are welcome to attend. It's not too late to join. *Just come and show up.*



Music Ministry

- **Adult Choir members** - No age restriction and *we need a lot of adult members!*
- **New Children's Choir members** (High School age and below)
- **Volunteer Cantors** (Adults & Young ones. Michael Galdo will train new ones.)



You can always contact me directly for your response by phone (540-338-6381 ext. 102), by email (countryparishpriest@gmail.com), by “snail mail” or in person.

Got 'em!

- *A kind parishioner who has masonry experience has offered to repair our “de-capitated” Saint Francis of Assisi statue.*
- *4 new cantors*
- *16 attending RCIA Class: 11 non-Catholics (4 from the personal letter invitation!) and 5 Catholic “refreshers”*
- *Children's choir now has 25 members ... and counting!*

SOULSTITCH

Meeting: October 17, 9:30-11:30am, Parish Hall

Knitters and Crocheters Needed for 2 Soulstitch Projects:

WORKCAMP: We need to provide 70 prayer shawls or lap blankets by June, 2013 for our Youth Group teenagers to give to their Workcamp residents. Please consider making one (or two) during the winter months. We currently have 7 completed with a 90% effort needed to reach our goal!

MOBILE HOPE: We provide warm items for Mobile Hope to distribute to homeless or in precarious housing youth in Loudoun County. We currently need hats and sweaters for babies to teens.

Religious Education

Melissa Gobs, DRE
338-4497 or m.gobs@saintfrancisparish.org
Janice Rees, CRE
j.rees@saintfrancisparish.org

Mandatory First Reconciliation Parent Meeting

Is just around the corner and you can choose to attend one of the following:

Sunday, October 14 @ 9-10 am or 10:45-11:45 am
at Woodgrove High School

or

Wednesday, October 17 @ 7pm St. Francis Parish Hall

Back From the Dead Cemetery Walk Teaching the faith in the cemetery

Free admission and Refreshments!

Sunday, October 28

Join us to experience an interactive evangelization drama "teaching the faith in the cemetery." As you walk through the original stone-walled cemetery, you will encounter martyrs, saints, and others who have come back from the dead to relay their stories about "The Last Things." This is a living catechesis based on Catholic faith, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and the living tradition of the saints.

Registration occurs at event. Participants should dress for an evening outdoors and plan to spend about an hour at the Shrine. Children ages 14 and older please. Groups are welcome!

Admission is free, tickets are limited - Arrive early. First tour will begin at 6:45pm and run until 10 p.m.

Location: St. Joseph's Cemetery at the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

339 S. Seton Ave. Emmitsburg, MD 21727

Religious Ed Calendar

Sun., Oct. 14	<u>Grades K-8 Session 1</u> - 8:45am at Woodgrove <u>Grades K-8 Session 2</u> -10:35am at Woodgrove
Mon., Oct. 15	<u>Grades K, 2, 7 and Special Needs</u> - 4:15pm - at St. Francis RCIT - 7:15pm, Oratory Room
Tue., Oct. 16	<u>Grades 3,6,8</u> - 4:15pm, at St. Francis
Wed., Oct. 17	<u>Grades 1, 4, 5, 7/8</u> - 4:15pm, at St. Francis
Sun., Oct. 21	<u>Grades K-8 Session 1</u> - 8:45am at Woodgrove <u>Grades K-8 Session 2</u> -10:35am at Woodgrove
Mon., Oct. 22	<u>Grades K, 2, 7 and Special Needs</u> - 4:15pm - at St. Francis RCIT - 7:15pm, Oratory Room
Tue., Oct. 23	<u>Grades 3,6,8</u> - 4:15pm, at St. Francis
Wed., Oct. 24	<u>Grades 1, 4, 5, 7/8</u> - 4:15pm, at St. Francis

TEEN FAITH NEWS

TEEN MASS - at 6pm every Sunday.
All Teens are welcome. Join us in the front left 3 rows of church as we celebrate the Teen Mass together.



Youth Group - If you missed the Kick Off, No Worries!!! You can still come to Youth Group. We meet almost every Sunday at 7:15pm, after the Teen Mass. Youth Group is for all High Schoolers 9-12 grades. You can bring friends. If you're still not sure, check out the poster on the bulletin board in the narthex. You can get an idea of some of the activities that we do throughout the year.

Youth Group - Oct. 14, 7:15-9pm. Marky Mark!!! Come join the adventure.

Guitar Players & Singers - Looking for some teens who can play and/or sing.

Youth Rally - Sign Up Now!!! Oct. 21, Come celebrate the day with approximately 1000 teens from all over the diocese with 8 hours of music, inspirational speakers, and Mass with the Bishop at Bishop O'Connell High School, 10:45am-9pm. . The band Stellar Kart will be there!!! Sign-up this weekend at youth group.

JaneTreado Youth Director
540-338-6381 or Janedhs78@aol.com

A Family Prayer for the Year of Faith

O God our Father,
in Jesus you call all Christian families and homes
to be signs of living faith.
By the light of the Holy Spirit,
lead us to be thankful for the gift of faith,
and by that gift
may we grow in our relationship with Jesus, your Son,
and be confident witnesses to Christian hope and joy
to all we meet.
In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Clothing Drive



The Girl Scouts of western Loudoun and the Knights of Columbus are collecting clothing each weekend in October

and the first weekend in November. Clothes can be dropped off in St. Francis Hall. The Girl Scouts will accept any usable clothing, including coats, hats, gloves, boots, etc. We can also accept usable baby equipment, like cribs, high chairs, car seats, etc. We cannot accept toys, books, bedding, towels, furniture, etc. All clothes will be delivered to the Church of the Assumption in Keyser, WV for distribution. For more info, contact Pat Hayes (703-901-3615). **Please do not leave donations in the Narthex, take them to the**

Additional Adoration Beginning Oct. 12

Our Parish is beginning weekly Adoration times in addition to our normally-scheduled 1st Friday Adoration. It will begin this coming Friday, October 12th, after the Noon Mass and continue until 10pm. The schedule will be the same for all other Fridays (except the 1st Friday of each month when Adoration will continue until the Saturday morning Mass). This is a great way to kick-off the "Year of Faith" since the Eucharist is the very core of our faith. Please sign-up for an hour on the schedule in the Narthex or contact Mark Donofrio at 540-338-8133, SFDS.Adoration@comcast.net. You do not need to commit to a permanent set time every week (though you certainly can!) but we do need everyone's help with covering the hours each week so we have an idea of what times we need help with in advance. Thank you!

20th International Week of Prayer & Fasting: Imploring God's Mercy Oct. 20-Nov 6

In October of this year, we are uniting for 18 days of prayer and fasting leading up to the election to pray and fast for the conversation of nations, for world peace, and to promote the culture of life. This 18-day period consists of two novenas (nine days each). The first novena will be to petition for God's mercy on our world, our country, our leaders, our families, our youth, and the unborn. The second novena will be in thanksgiving for hearing and answering our prayers. We will begin with an all day EUCHARISTIC ROSARY PRAYER VIGIL at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC, from 9am-4pm on Saturday Oct. 20th. Registration is free. For more info please visit our website at www.iwopf.org or call 1-888-478-PRAY (7729) or 703-707-0799.

Faithful Families by Barbara Curtis

In God Daniel Trusts

When we saw the offering envelopes for children in the narthex one Sunday, Tripp and I snatched up four boxes for our Downzers (our politically incorrect but loving family name for our four special boys). Always looking for ways to give them a little push, we thought this would be a great way to make giving a habit.

Each Sunday, Tripp helps them put their money in their envelopes, they put the envelopes in their pockets and – if all goes well – the envelopes are there when the basket comes around. Each week we are reinforcing the concept of surrendering back to God what was never really ours to begin with.

If you've ever sat near our family during Mass, you may have heard my son Daniel when he places his wrinkled envelope in the basket say loud and clear: "Thank you!"

While we taught Daniel to put his envelope in the basket, we never taught him to say anything. And since thank you is something we say when we receive rather than when we give, even the first time it struck me that – as often happens with my special sons – there was a spiritual lesson in his sweet and innocent attitude.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Though not recorded in the gospels, in Acts 20:35 St. Paul tells the early church that Jesus said these words. Not only can we trust Jesus said these words, but we know He lived those words – holding back nothing as He gave everything that we might share in eternal life.

The problem is that as earthly beings, we tend to become so mired in daily cares that we forget. Every Sunday, Daniel reminds me. As he simultaneously gives and thanks I can see the connection myself.

In addition to their responsibility to shepherd and guide us, parish priests also have a responsibility as stewards of our place of worship. This cannot be an easy task, but what can make it worse is the grumbling of those who take offense when the needs of the parish are brought to their attention. May I suggest that the discussion of money in church is completely biblical?

The fact is:

- Jesus talked about money more than He did Heaven and Hell combined.
- Jesus talked about money more than anything else except the Kingdom of God.
- 11 of 39 parables talk about money.
- 1 of every 7 verses in the Gospel of Luke talk about money.

Why would Jesus talk so much about money? Because He knows us so well. Knows that our attitude toward money is an important indicator of our trust in God – which makes it even more interesting that our currency reminds us as we hold it and let it go: In God We Trust.

As followers of Jesus, we are all in process. I have to admit that it was in finally being stripped of the things I thought were essential – financial security, home ownership – that I have finally felt free of the worry I had when our family had more.

I also know that as our finances were shifting, Tripp and I often sat down to discuss with our children the sacrifices we needed to make. Today I appreciate being part of a larger family whose spiritual shepherd humbles himself when necessary to ask for our help in seeing our church become a place that can meet the needs of others – including future families.

As our parish embarks on our new Offertory Program – "Reflect on Your Blessings" – will you join me in praying that we all might become more like Daniel? Not just giving thanks, but giving thankfully.

Environment Committee: *We need help!!*

Have you ever wondered who took care of the flowers on the altar or what an Environment Committee is about? Every weekend we get flowers for our altar and during the week they get thirsty? We are in need of someone to water them a couple of time per week to keep them looking fresh for the daily Masses. We would like to start a committee of parishioners to help us do this. Teens are invited and families are very welcome. At Christmas and Easter, flowers are delivered and the Environment Committee helps in arranging and watering the poinsettias and lilies. Being on the committee also means helping our narthex look welcoming and decorated according to the different Liturgical Times of the Liturgical Year. All the information you need can be gotten by calling Cathy Mitchell, Director of Liturgy at 540-338-6381. Think and pray about joining our committee and making St. Francis look nice each week.

Candles in Memory of a Loved One

Do you have a loved one or friend who has died during this past year or before? Wouldn't it be a lovely way to remember this loved one with the purchase of a Special Memory Votive Candle. During the last three weeks of October, on the 14th, 21st, and the 28th, after all the Masses, we will be offering beautiful large votive candles for sale in the Narthex for \$10 each which you can purchase in their memory. Then, on November 2nd, the candles that you have gotten can be brought to church where they will be lit, and placed on the window sills of the church during the Masses each weekend. When you purchase a candle, a card and a label will be filled out with your loved one's name and put in a basket to be placed on the Sanctuary floor during November. We will gather these cards through the month of October on the dates above for the November 2, 7 pm Mass on All Souls Day

Blood Drive Sunday is TODAY, from 7am -12:30pm and we encourage you to donate. Join us with an Awesome Act of Kindness, your donation of the Gift of Life. Inova Blood Donor Services shows a significant shortage of blood products. The demand for blood is increasing while blood donation levels are decreasing. You are needed more than ever!



BOOK-DRIVE DONATIONS

The MAC PAC is accepting donations in the Narthex of gently used or new children's book (Pre-K to 6th Grade book) to donate to needy children at the inner-city school in Frederick MD where Coach McRoberts teaches. These books will go towards underprivileged children who have little or no books of their own. Our goal is 550 books. Please help us reach that goal.



The Fall Campaign for **40 days for Life** is here through November 3. Let us join in with cities through the world in a focused effort to end abortion. We can participate in daily prayer and fast during this time of spiritual warfare. All our prayers make a difference! Each week we can fast from a different item in our lives.

Sep. 30-Oct. 6	TV
Oct. 7-13	Snack Foods
Oct. 14-20	Soda/coffee/energy drinks
Oct. 21-27	recreational computer time such as FB
Oct. 28-Nov. 3	Sugar desserts

Baby Bottle Campaign There will be baby bottles in the Narthex from Life Line Woman's Health Center. Take a bottle home and fill with your spare change/money over the month of October. Return the bottle by November 6th. The donations help support the Life Line, an organization assisting women and giving them hope. Your generosity is appreciated.



Ultrasound Machine The St. Francis Knight of Columbus is leading the charge to raise funds for a much-needed ultrasound machine for LifeLine Pregnancy Center in Leesburg. LifeLine opened in 1994 with a focus on women facing unwanted pregnancies striving to meet their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs from a Christian perspective. Studies have shown that 90% of women considering an abortion choose to have their baby after seeing an ultrasound image. The St. Francis KofC, along with six other councils in our district, have committed to raising funds to help purchase a new ultrasound machine to replace the aging machine currently on site. All money collected during the 2nd collection on the weekend of October 27 and 28 will go towards the purchase of the new machine. A special envelop was included in the mailing to all registered parishioners. The St. Francis KofC and the board of directors of LifeLine ask that you be as generous as you can. Together, we can take this real, practical step towards preserving a culture of life in Loudoun County.

Holy Hour with Guided Meditations led by Singer/Songwriter Michael John Poirier

The Office for Family Life is hosting a special Holy Hour featuring recording artist Michael John Poirier. His guided musical meditations allow for a deep, healing encounter with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Join us on Tuesday, October 16 from 7-8:30pm at St. Mary of Sorrows, 5222 Sideburn Road in Fairfax. For a printable flier, click here. For more information on this FREE event, please call (703) 841-2755 or info@helpafterabortion.org.

A Weekend Retreat for Healing after Abortion for Women is scheduled for November 2-4. This retreat offers a beautiful opportunity for women who have struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion to experience the mercy and compassion of God. It offers a supportive and confidential environment where you can begin the process of healing. For more info or to register please call: (888) 456-HOPE (4673) or email: info@helpafterabortion.org.