

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 20

7:30 a.m. For the People, 9:30 a.m. Eugene Conti †,
11:30 a.m. Sir Knight: John Germain †, 5:00 p.m. Vin Ott †

Monday, December 21

6:30 a.m. Andy Maceda †, 9:15 a.m. Art De Los Santos †

Tuesday, December 22

6:30 a.m. Steven Joseph Wenger †, 9:15 a.m. Bob O'Brien †

Wednesday, December 23

6:30 a.m. Tamara & Amanda Honeycutt (for healing),
9:15 a.m. Mason Haas (Birthday)

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24

9:15 a.m. Marvi Naval †, 4:00 p.m. Kerry Koller †,
7:00 p.m. For the People, 12:00 a.m. Patrick Coleman (Birthday),

Merry Christmas!

Friday, December 25

7:30 a.m. Thomas † & Fausta † Colantuono,
9:30 a.m. Floral Memorials,

11:30 a.m. Daniel † & Concetta † Bevilacqua

Saturday, December 26

9:15 a.m. Arthur Rutkowski † (15th Death Anniversary)

Sunday, December 27

7:30 a.m. Mary Tessitore, 9:30 a.m. For the People,
11:30 a.m. Patricia Brown †



READINGS

Sun: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-11, 16
Rom 16:25-27.....Lk 1:26-38
Mon: Sg 2:8-14.....Lk 1:30-45
Tues: 1 Sm 1:24-28Lk 1:46-56
Wed: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24.....Lk 1:57-66
Thu: 2 Sm 7:-15, 8b-12, 14a, 16.....Lk 1:67-79
Fri: Vigil: Is 62:1-5.....Acts 13:16-17, 22-25.....Mt 1:1-25
Night: Is 9:1-6.....Ti 2:11-14.....Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12...Ti 3:4-7.....Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10.....Heb 1:1-6.....Jn 1:1-18
Sat: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59.....Mt 10:17-22
Sun: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14.....Col 3:12-21.....Lk 2:22-40

DONATIONS

Donations for the Week of November 15th

Sunday Collection	\$41,397.48
Building Fund	\$35,753.50
All Saints	\$1,760.00
Capital Improvements	\$682.00
Heat	\$150.00

Additional Collections

Samaritan Fund	\$1,953.00
Retired Religious	\$2,323.00
Food Pantry	\$1,000.00
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	\$842.00
World Mission	\$35.00

The second collection on Christmas is to benefit the new church.

PARISH LIFE

Pastor's Corner . . .

My Dear Parishioners,

Every year we celebrate the great Christmas miracle of the God man being born of the Virgin. How important this year to do so in the midst of Covid and social distancing, and jobs, and family gatherings, and misunderstandings, and stress, and you get what I'm saying. Slow down and take a moment. We are celebrating the miracle of God being born. We are sometimes so used to amazing that we can easily take it for granted. As you reflect on this Christmas miracle in your particular situation which we all share in, let the Christ child help you to focus on what is lasting. Celebrate this year with confidence in the God man who came to save us. Your priests and deacons and staff wish you a very joyful Christmas and a happy new year.

In Christ through Mary,
Father Barkett

Christmas Mass Schedule

We are offering in-person and live stream Masses.

Thursday, December 24th



4:00 pm, 7:00 pm, and Midnight (New Church)
Overflow Masses are first come: 4:10 pm &
7:10 pm Masses (Worship Center w/Farrell Hall)

Friday, December 25th

7:30 am, 9:30 am, and 11:30 am (New Church)

If you plan to attend in person, we ask you to sign up to indicate the Mass you plan on attending, using this link <https://bit.ly/2knf1cXhttps://bit.ly/2knf1cX>

Parish Center Weekend Hours

The Parish Center Office will be closed from **December 24th** to **January 3rd**. It will reopen on **January 4th**.

Confessions

Confessions are Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. until the line ends.

Solemnity of Mary,

The Holy Mother of God, January 1, 2021

Masses on **December 31st** will be at 7:00 p.m. and Midnight in the New Church (preceded by a Holy Hour beginning at 11:00 p.m.). Masses on **January 1st** will be at 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. in the new church.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last Christmas, we never could have imagined that in just a couple months, our lives and our world would be forever changed by a global pandemic. In faith and love, we have striven to persevere through these difficulties. This year we have also been shaken once again by racial tensions in our nation. With trust in God, we continue to seek the transformation of our society, that it might more fully reflect God's Kingdom. Now, the celebration of Our Lord's birth renews us in the hope and peace that comes from him alone.

When we seek models of encouragement, especially in times of trial, we need look no further than the Holy Family. Mary and Joseph traveled a long and dangerous road to keep Jesus safe. They experienced exhaustion, and yet they remained strong in faith and trusted in God's plan for them.

As we celebrate this sacred season of Christmas, may we imitate Mary and Joseph and celebrate with reverence and joy the majesty and wonder of Christmas: "the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (Jn 1: 14). By taking on human flesh, he joined us in our earthly existence. Christ endured the pain, disappointment and struggle of this life but also sanctified those moments. This Christmas, may we become more fully a dwelling place of the Word by entrusting our challenges, crosses, and very lives to his infinite love and divine mercy. In him, we will find the strength and grace we need.

In this Christmas season, God invites us, through the words of St. Paul, to "let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body" (Col 3: 15). May we be instruments of his peace and compassion in a world that desperately needs the witness of our faith and unity. Let us encourage and support one another in faith with a renewed commitment to serve our brothers and sisters in most need, striving daily to imitate Christ.

It is my hope and prayer that Our Lord and Savior will bless you and your family with the peace that only he can give. May this precious gift be yours throughout the Christmas season and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael E. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington

LITURGY & MUSIC

Please Pray for the Sick

John Saunders, Lucy Lukacs, Raymond Remeika, Jeannette Godlewski, Mark Brennan, Irene Maria DiSanto, Charles Perks, Joan Sachs, Heide Cornwell, Lynn Jones, Cathy Jones, Debbie Guarrasi, Joseph Witter, Tiffany Banules, Maizie Lex, Greg Neifert, Diane Self, David Anderson, Julie Atkins, Kathleen Hall, Linda Depew, Maria Delobe, Andrea Baker, Maria Leitao, Laura Murray, Ed Reinsel, Bill Smith, Carol Stoffelen, Renee Davis, Lilly Morris, Pauline Merlo, Brendan Murphy, Diane Anderson, Rebecca Sullivan, Elissa Vavrinec, Connor Broussard, Barbara Alberse, Megan Gallagher, Makayla Mastal, Tim Dwyer and those in our book of prayers.

Mass Schedule

All Masses are in the new church! Masses are as follows: 5:00 p.m. Vigil on Saturday, 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Masses on Sunday. There will NOT be a 5:00 p.m. Mass on **December 27th**. Ushers will be on-site to direct parishioners to open seating. Remember that you will need to wear a mask, bring hand sanitizer for use before Communion, and your own Mass guides. Please allow the ushers to seat you and keep your mask on throughout Mass and during Communion. Bishop Burbidge has dispensed all from the obligation to attend Mass. We encourage all that do not feel safe in attending in person to live-stream Mass with us this weekend.

Livestream Ministry Volunteers Needed

We are looking for additional volunteers for the livestream ministry for the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses. This important ministry requires minimal training and allows many homebound parishioners to remain spiritually connected to our parish. You can see one of the sacristans for additional information during the week and leave your email address and/or sign up for livestreaming a mass through the "Weekend Ministry Volunteer Sign Up" at <https://stmaryofsorrows.org/>

"I delight greatly in the Lord;
my soul rejoices in my God.
For He has clothed me with garments of salvation
and arrayed me in a robe of His righteousness,
as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels." - Isaiah 61:10



Two thousand years ago, Lord, for the very first time, You became flesh.

Mary said, "Yes."

This is always the way I would like to receive You, the way she did.

Help me to have Our Lady's heart to say "Yes" to You. Help me to have her love to embrace You. Help me to have her faith to always welcome You.

Help me to always to have Mary as my Mother, to always have You,

St. Mary's Preschool



A huge thank you to all of our parishioners for their very generous donations of coats. In addition to the over 100 coats we sent to help our little ones in Fairfax City; we collected an additional 10 large bags of older children and adult coats to distribute to those in need in our community. We also received over 80 beautifully crochet hats for our littlest ones through elementary age children in need. This indeed will be a warm hearted Christmas for all.

Tuition Angels Scholarship Fund

Please consider giving the gift of "Catholic Education" by becoming a Tuition Angel to help families who do not have the financial ability to pay tuition for our Preschool Program. Thanks to the generosity of parishioners, tuition assistance can be offered to any family in need of financial assistance to start the education process for their children at St. Mary's Preschool. If you are interested in contributing to the scholarship fund, please contact Miss Michelle in the Preschool Office, 703-978-4557. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

PICK OF THE WEEK
December 20, 2020

WATCH

CHRISTMAS IN ROME: A CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY
Nowhere celebrates the birth of the Savior like Rome. This Christmas, marvel at the Holy City's festive celebration of the coming of the child Jesus in Bethlehem.

LEARN

THE STORY OF THE NATIVITY: THE TRUTH OF CHRISTMAS
Christmas is so much more than a humdrum story we've heard since childhood. Join top scholars, speakers, and authors as they explain the gravity of Christ's miraculous birth.

LISTEN

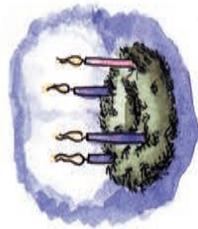
THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS BY FULTON SHEEN
This presentation combines recordings of Fulton Sheen's timeless reflections on the meaning of Christmas, mixed with Gregorian chant and seasonal music. It is sure to become a family favorite!

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

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Christmas is almost here!



Christmas is almost here! Isn't it exciting? It's like when it's getting really close to your birthday, except that people all over the world are going to be celebrating Christmas! We should help make Jesus' birthday as special as we can!

I CAN WASH



THE SINK
FOR MOM!
If your family has an Advent wreath, today all four of the candles will be lit.

This represents the light of Jesus coming closer and getting brighter. Jesus is the light of the world. If we want to make Christmas beautiful, then we should make our own lives shine with the love of Jesus.

HERE. I'LL HELP YOU PICK UP THE TOYS.



Does your family have a Christmas tree? Are there lights on it? Do you have Christmas lights on your house? All the little lights you see can represent all the people whose lives are lit up with the love of God. Or maybe they can represent all the good things you can do to brighten up other people's lives! Think of some things you can do this week to love God and bring His love to your family and your friends and neighbours.



HI DAD! I VACUUMED UNDER YOUR DESK!

Answers to True or False: 1. false; (Gabriel) 2. false; 3. true; 4. true; 5. false; 6. true; 7. true; (the baby was John the Baptist!)

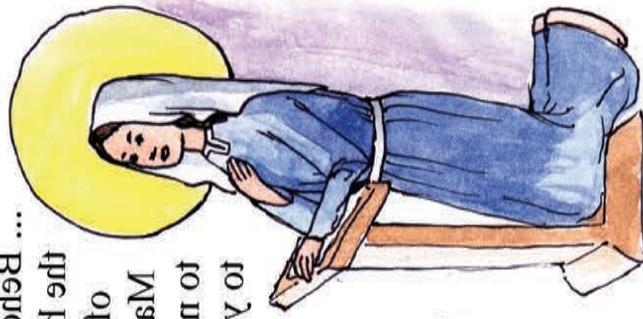
www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20th, 2020

to lift his
Behold, you will conceive in your
and bear a son, and you shall
name him Jesus.
He will be great
and will be called Son of the
Most High...

Behold, I am
the servant
of the Lord.
My soul is
in the hands
of the Lord.
Do not
bring me
into
trouble,
because
your
righteousness
is my hope.



What did the angel Gabriel say to Mary?
What did she reply to him?
Look in the mirror to find out!

SAINT HILDEGARD OF BINGEN

DECEMBER 17

ST. HILDEGARD OF BINGEN WAS BORN IN THE LATE 1000'S TO A WEALTHY FAMILY. AS A CHILD SHE WAS SICKLY BUT SHE WAS TAUGHT TO READ THE PSALMS IN LATIN.

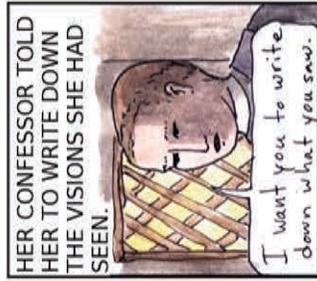


Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes...

AT THE AGE OF 18 HILDEGARD ENTERED A BENEDICTINE CONVENT, AND SOON BECAME SUPERIOR.

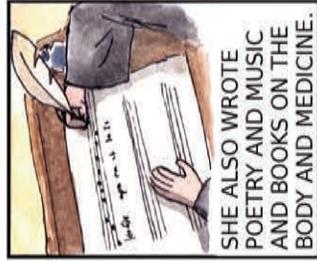


HER CONFESSOR TOLD HER TO WRITE DOWN THE VISIONS SHE HAD SEEN.



I want you to write down what you saw.

SHE ALSO WROTE POETRY AND MUSIC AND BOOKS ON THE BODY AND MEDICINE.



WHEN THE EMPEROR WAS SUPPORTING MEN WHO WERE NOT THE REAL POPE HILDEGARD CORRECTED HIM.



PEOPLE NEARBY AND FROM OTHER COUNTRIES SOUGHT HER ADVICE.



There are seven letters for you today, mother!

HILDEGARD DEFENDED THE BURIAL IN THE CHURCH CEMETERY OF A MAN WHO HAD EARLIER BEEN EXCOMMUNICATED BUT REPENTED BEFORE HIS DEATH.



You can't keep him buried here! He was an enemy of the Church!

He changed! He received the sacraments before he died!

SAINT HILDEGARD KNEW A LOT ABOUT GOD FROM THE VISIONS HE HAD GIVEN HER, BUT SHE DID NOT BRAG OR TELL PEOPLE ABOUT IT. SHE JUST USED HER TALENTS TO BRING PEOPLE CLOSER TO GOD THROUGH MUSIC AND SCIENCE. SHE WAS VERY WISE AND USED HER INTELLIGENCE TO HELP SOULS TOO.

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

True or False?

Today's Gospel Reading: The Angel Visits Mary

How well do you know the story of the Annunciation? See if you know which are true and which are false:

1. God sent the angel Michael to bring His message to Our Lady. True or false?
2. When Mary saw the angel, she covered her eyes. True or false?
3. The angel told Mary, "Do not be afraid." True or false?
4. The angel told Our Lady that she would have a Son that she would name 'Jesus.' True or false?
5. Mary just said okay and the angel left right away. True or false?
6. When Mary said she didn't understand, Gabriel told her that the baby would be the Son of God. True or false?
7. Before he left, the angel told Mary that her old cousin, Elizabeth, was going to have a baby too. True or false?



Children's Spiritual Communion Prayer

The beautiful thing about a spiritual communion is that you don't have to make your First Holy Communion before you can make a spiritual communion. And so what a spiritual communion is where we just invite Jesus into our hearts with something like a prayer like this:

Lord Jesus, I love You, and I know You love me. Come to my heart now. Fill me with Your Holy Spirit, that You might be with me, that I may love You, because loving You is what will make me a saint, and becoming a saint is what gets me into Heaven. Lord Jesus, help me love you. Come to me now. Amen

Father James Barkett

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION K - 6th

Office Hours:

Monday: 11:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.,
Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.,
Friday - Saturday closed. Or by appointment.

JR & HS YOUTH MINISTRY

7th - 8th Grade Religious Education

There is no class today, Sunday, **December 20th** or Thursday, **December 24th**. There will be no classes the week of **December 27th**. Have a merry Christmas!

Classes resume as normal the week of **January 3rd**. If you have any questions, please contact Mark at: marks@stmaryofsorrows.org.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

There will be no youth ministry events this week.

Have a Merry Christmas!

No Ornament Sale

We will not be selling White House Ornaments at the parish this year due to concerns surrounding COVID-19. We hope to be able to participate in this youth ministry fundraiser next time.

PARISH OUTREACH MINISTRY

St. Mary's Samaritan Fund

St. Mary of Sorrows Samaritan Fund Program provides funding to programs that assist individuals and families struggling to meet basic needs for housing, utilities, and medical costs. ***Our goal is to assist low-income families through referral to these established local programs and services to help them move toward greater financial independence.*** You can help by continuing to pray for those in need. Also, please consider making a monetary donation to St. Mary's Samaritan Fund, so that we can continue responding through prayer and financial assistance.

The Holidays Can Be Difficult for Many

If you or someone you know is considering suicide, call 911, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or text "MHFA" to 741-741 for 24/7 confidential counseling from the Crisis Text Line. Suicide can impact anyone, and it is often unexpected. Numerous factors can put a person at risk, including family history of suicide, substance abuse, access to firearms, a history of trauma, loss, chronic illness, prolonged stress and isolation. And not everyone who is suicidal has a known mental health condition. <https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/external/2018/09/signs-of-suicide/>

Hypothermia Week

Our coming Hypothermia week is **January 17-24, 2021** (MLK week). This year we are only providing food. We will NOT host the homeless at St. Mary's; the county is providing the homeless a 24/7 site from **December 1st thru March 31st**. Also we share our week with St. John Neumann so we provide food only on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. We will provide hot restaurant dinners plus cold breakfasts and lunches, so our big need will be cash donations. Almost all our few volunteer roles can be filled by teens, but there are not many roles. One SignUp Genius site, (<https://tinyurl.com/StMarysHypo2021>) will list both Volunteer roles (Adult and Youth) and our Food needs. It is available today. The usual posting of sign-up boards will NOT occur this year. Email (stmaryshypo@gmail.com) if you are uncomfortable with SignUp Genius, but give it a try first. A box will be provided in the foyer of the Parish Center for donations of coats, new underwear and socks, and toiletries. Please do not leave anything at the New Church. Please pray for the homeless throughout this winter of Covid.

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. We have joy, even in times of loss, because Jesus promised to love us and never leave us, to have good plans for our lives, to direct our steps, and to give us His peace. Jesus is Faithful and True (Revelation 19:11, Hebrews 6:18) and He always keeps His promises! (Hebrews 10:23)

Happening in the Diocese

#JustOneYes Advent Campaign

Join Bishop Burbidge and Catholics throughout the Diocese through Wednesday, **January 6th**, in prayer, acts of service and more! Help us turn #JustOneYes into countless yeses for the transformation of the world. In exchange for your commitment, you'll receive free daily email meditations during the seasons of Advent and Christmas courtesy of Magnificat:

<https://mailchi.mp/arlingtondiocese/joy2020>

New Year Save the Dates from John Paul the Great

Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School will be hosting a number of virtual community events, free and open to anyone interested in logging on! Check out jpthegreat.org for details on the following events:

- **January 8th**, JP priority application deadline
- **January 9th**, HSPT hosted at JP (in-person)
- **January 14th**, Middle School Game Night on Zoom
- **January 26th**, Evening Bioethics Webinar
- **February 6th**, Virtual "How to High School" Workshop
- **February 10th**, Virtual Photography Workshop
- **February 27th**, Virtual Super Science Saturday Workshop
- **Every Day**: Students studying in-person, growing as members of the Wolfpack!

Gift for Life

Please give a Gift for Life this season to help Gabriel Project fund a mother's maternity care. An expectant mother wrote: "I learned I was pregnant and knew that I needed support and prayer. Gabriel Project helped me with rent, and my 'Angels' helped with items for the baby and rides...They also provided much needed support, encouragement and prayer." For more information and/or to donate: www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife.

Celebrate World Marriage Sunday!

Join Bishop Burbidge for 12:30 p.m. Mass on **February 14, 2021** to celebrate Marriage at Saint Theresa Catholic Church in Ashburn. Couples and families are welcome. Please RSVP at arlingtondiocese.org/wms21!

Mornings of Mercy

Join other members of the Diocese who have gone through divorce in a series of morning retreats. The morning will include Holy Mass, talk, and Benediction. Next retreat is Saturday, **February 20, 2021**, at St. Veronica in Chantilly. Retreats are led by Very Rev. Thomas P. Ferguson, Pastor, Good Shepherd Catholic Church. There is no cost to attend, but please register at arlingtondiocese.org/morningsofmercy.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sun	20	K of C Christmas Meals	1:00 pm	FH-B
		HOL Community	3:00 pm	OSMH
Mon	21	Girl Scout Troop	11:00 am	OSMH
		MMOL Praesidium	6:00 pm	CR
		T697 Committee Meeting	7:30 pm	OSMH-F
Tues	22	Midnight Mass Practice	7:00 pm	NC
Wed	23	AA	10:00 am	OSMH
		Logs of Fire	11:30 am	WC
		OCA Set Up	4:00 pm	HC
		Legion of Mary	7:15 pm	CR
Thu	24	OCA Service	6:00 pm	HC
Fri	25	OCA Service	9:30 am	HC
Sat	26	Women's Sm. Group Bible Study	7:30 am	CR
Sun	27			

Mass in Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life

Join us for Mass in Thanksgiving for the Gift of Human Life with Bishop Burbidge as celebrant on Saturday, **February 27, 2021**, at 8:30 a.m. at St. James Catholic Church in Falls Church. Rosary to follow outside at the abortion facility on 900 S. Washington Street, Falls Church.

"Be it done unto me according to your word."

Obedience to the Lord's will is the fruit of humble prayer. If you think God is inviting you to a deeper consecration as a priest, deacon, brother or sister, contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org or (703) 841-2514.

Gifts for Education Endowment Fund (SEEF)

Please support our seminarians and SEEF, a permanent endowment fund established in 2011. SEEF's income provides funding for annual seminarian expenses such as room, board, tuition, health insurance and books, which total almost \$45,000 per seminarian. Please give generously! To donate, make checks payable to: "Foundation for the CDA - SEEF." Mail to: The Foundation, 200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 811, Arlington, VA 22203. Contact Gretchen Koch at g.koch@arlingtondiocese.org or 703-841-3819 with questions.

"Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" - LUKE 1:28

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.