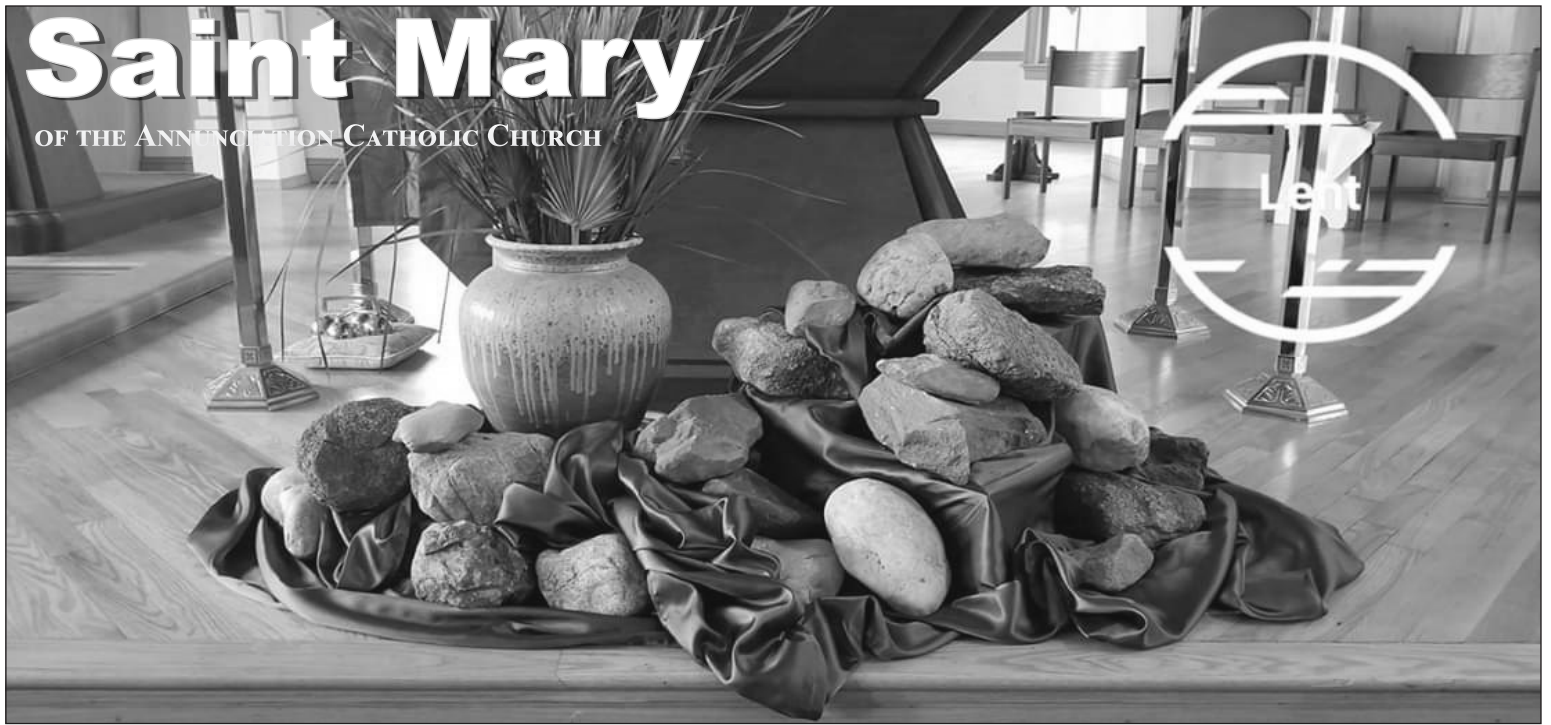


# Saint Mary

OF THE ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH



BIENVENIDOS

ALL ARE WELCOME  
TODOS SON BIENVENIDOS  
VŠETCI SÚ VÍTANÍ

VITANI

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**FEBRUARY 26, 2023**

**MASS INTENTIONS**  
**SATURDAY 5:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY 8:30 AM**  
**SUNDAY 11:00 AM**  
*(People of the Parish)*

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

(office hours 9 AM—1 PM Tuesday—Thursday)

Monday, February 27	OFFICE CLOSED; 8:45 AM CCM Coop - Homeschoolers
Tuesday, February 28	9:00 AM Adoration; <b>10:00 AM MASS</b> ; 11:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry; 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Food Pantry
Wednesday, March 1	9:00 AM Adoration; <b>10:00 AM MASS</b> ; 11:00 AM African American Cemetery Meeting
Thursday, March 2	9:00 AM Adoration; <b>10:00 AM MASS</b> ; 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Food Pantry
Friday, March 3	Church closed for cleaning in AM; 6:00 PM - Soup Supper; 7:00 PM Stations of the Cross
Saturday, March 4	4:00 PM - 4:50 PM Confessions; <b>5:00 PM Mass</b>
Sunday, March 5	<b>8:30 AM Mass</b> ; 9:30 AM - Religious Ed; 9:45 AM Spanish Rosary; <b>11:00 AM Mass</b> <i>(People of the Parish)</i>

# Upcoming Parish News/Events

## WEEKLY MASS READINGS

27 FEBRUARY 2023 - MONDAY : **Leviticus 19:** 1-2, 11-18; **Psalms 19:** 8, 9, 10, 15; **Matthew 25:** 31-46

28 FEBRUARY 2023 - TUESDAY : **Isaiah 55:** 10-11; **Psalms 34:** 4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19; **Matthew 6:** 7-15

1 MARCH 2023 - WEDNESDAY : **Jonah 3:** 1-10; **Psalms 51:** 3-4, 12-13, 18-19; **Luke 11:** 29-32

2 MARCH 2023 - THURSDAY : **Esther C:** 12, 14-16, 23-25; **Psalms 138:** 1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8; **Matthew 7:** 7-12

3 MARCH 2023 - FRIDAY : **Day of Abstinence from Meat (Age 14 and Up)**  
**Ezekiel 18:** 21-28; **Psalms 130:** 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; **Matthew 5:** 20-26

4 MARCH 2023 - SATURDAY : **Deuteronomy 26:** 16-19; **Psalms 119:** 1-2, 4-5, 7-8; **Matthew 5:** 43-48

5 MARCH 2023 - SUNDAY : **Second Sunday of Lent**  
**Genesis 12:** 1-4a; **Psalms 33:** 4-5, 18-19, 20, 22; **Second Timothy 1:** 8b-10; **Matthew 17:** 1-9

FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF  
THE FOLLOWING:



**INSTANT POTATOES  
and  
JELLY**



### Fasting Guidelines

Everyone 14 years of age or older is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday. \*Everyone 18 or older, and under 59 years of age, is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.



## LENT

### Lenten Schedule

Every Friday, Feb 14th– March 31st

Obligatory day of abstinence

6:00 PM Meatless Soup Supper Church Hall

7:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Thursday, March 23rd

7:00 PM **Reconciliation Service**

Sunday, April 2nd - **Palm Sunday**

Regular Mass schedule for Saturday and Sunday

Thursday, April 6th-**Holy Thursday**

7:00 PM Mass

8:00 PM to Midnight Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, April 7th -**Good Friday**

Obligatory day of fasting and abstinence

2:15 PM Stations of the Cross—outside, weather permitting

3:00 PM Veneration of the Cross

Saturday, April 8th - **Easter Vigil**

8:00 PM Saturday Mass

Sunday, April 9th - **Easter**

8:30 AM Sunday Mass

11:00 AM Sunday Mass

### Fridays Throughout Lent

Looking for a way to deepen your faith during the Lenten Season? Looking for a way to get together more often with your Parish family? Well consider spending your Friday evening here at St. Mary's



**Soup Suppers** - Each Friday throughout Lent starting at 6:00 PM there will be soup, salad and bread served in the Parish Hall. This is a pot-luck meal, so please watch for sign-up sheets starting after Masses on Ash Wednesday to let us know how many people you'll be bringing and what type of food. This is great meal spent with family and friends, so please consider attending! For questions, call Valerie Sparks at 804-572-1768.



**Stations of the Cross** each Friday starting at 7:00 PM throughout the Lenten Season. There are books provided to follow along. Please consider joining with your Parish family to follow Jesus on his journey each Friday evening.

These events are separate from each other. You can attend either or both events each Friday during Lent.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

## SPECIAL MASS INTENTION

FOR THE PARISHONERS TO PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER SUPPORTING THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE PARISH IMPROVEMENTS.

## VOCATIONS

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, call Father Brian Capuano 804-359-5661 or e-mail: [vocations@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:vocations@richmonddiocese.org).

Dear all,  
In case you did not get chance to join us in the first town hall meeting for the anticipated parish capital campaign here comes another opportunity to visit

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AuCAHjEREGk&feature=youtu.be>



Biblical Reasons for Giving & Generosity:  
Exodus 35 - THE BUILDING OF THE TABERNACLE: The Israelite people were freed from Egyptian bondage and began the journey to the Promised Land. They were told to build a place of worship, the Tabernacle. When provided the opportunity to give, these former slaves gave so freely and abundantly that they were eventually asked to stop giving. They had completely met the needs for their place of worship.

I Chronicles 29- THE BUILDING OF THE TEMPLE: King David began preparing for this magnificent building that his son, Solomon, would actually construct. Beginning with his own sacrificial gift and challenging the leaders and people to give, he raised a great sum of money to provide for this temple.

Acts 4 - EARLY CHURCH EXPERIENCES THE SPIRIT OF GENEROSITY: At Pentecost, a spirit of generosity swept through the church to such an extent that it was reported in Acts 4 that "no one claimed private ownership of any possessions." Barnabas personified the spirit of giving by donating his personal property and giving the receipts to the church in order to meet the needs of other Christians.

II Corinthians 8-9 - A SPECIAL OFFERING FOR JERUSALEM CHRISTIANS: Paul instructed the first known donor consultant, Titus, to lead the Corinthian church in a giving campaign for the poverty-stricken Christians in Jerusalem. Using the example of the Macedonian Christians, these members of the Corinthian church were challenged to give joyfully and intentionally.

**I pray that we the parishioners prayerfully consider supporting the parish capital campaign to pay off the roof that was replaced, expansion of our meeting space for fellowship and classrooms for religious education, renovation of bathrooms in the narthex, expansion of the food pantry to serve the poor among other parish renovation needs.**

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

*"It is written: 'The Lord, your God, shall you worship and him alone shall you serve.'" MATTHEW 4:10*

Tempted between the riches and power of this world and service to God, Jesus chose service to His Father. If we wish to truly follow Jesus, we, too, must decide to turn away from worldly power and riches and put God at the center of our lives. Lent is our time to prune ourselves of earthly things, and develop and nurture heavenly things. Lent is time to repent and let go of the other "gods" we have put before God.

**\*\*DURING THE LENTEN SEASON, DEACON DAVE TO HAVE SHORT LENTEN PRESENTATIONS IN THE NARTHEX BETWEEN 8:30 AM AND 11:00 AM MASSES\*\***



Little church is scheduled to begin on 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent (March 5th) both 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Masses. If you would like to help with Little Church as a catechist or aide, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. All lessons will be sent to you along with activity. Please insure you provide an email address.

## Little Church School



## Altar Server Training

Altar server training will be conducted after the 11:00 AM Mass on Sundays. Training will last about 20 minutes. The training is for current and new servers and is focused on all aspects of altar server assistance at Mass and will also prepare servers for the Lenten and Easter season.



## PART TIME MUSIC MINISTRY/ ACCOMPANIST

We are seeking an ACCOMPANIST for Sunday morning Masses at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM, with one scheduled weekday rehearsal. Candidate will be comfortable on piano and organ, and will be versed in diverse musical repertory, from chant to classical hymnody to gospel to contemporary. Familiarity with Catholic liturgy is a plus. Could evolve into a Music Minister / Choir Director / Accompanist position. Interested candidates should contact Fr. Alexander Muddu 804-448-9064 or [amuddu@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:amuddu@richmonddiocese.org).

# Community/Diocesan Events

**Catholic  
Community  
Foundation**  
*of the Diocese of Richmond*

2023 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

In today's Gospel, Jesus claims, "One does not live by bread alone" (Matthew 4:4). Jesus forewent food in the wilderness for forty days to prove it was possible. Because he is so abundant,

God's spirit can sustain any need.

Our fasting shows us that this is possible in a personal, experiential way. Fasting is an act of faith that "No, I don't have to satisfy every urge." Relying on God, we aren't subservient to our urges.

Jesus tasked our parish with the mission to reach hungry souls with Jesus' sustaining bread of life. Through your generosity, you can help our Annual Diocesan Appeal feed those who hunger—physically and spiritually. Jesus' angels ministered to him at the end of his fast and we, too, need your help to minister to the weak. Some souls have been fasting from His love for far too long. This Lent let's work together to end that fast. They need to know His name. May the name of Jesus be glorified through our Appeal!

Bishop Knestout encourages anyone aware of sexual abuse of minors on the part of clergy or staff of our diocese to notify civil authorities, call the Attorney General's Clergy Abuse Hotline at 1-833-454-9064, and reach out to the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Jennifer Sloan at 1-877-887-9603.



Pray for the Sick of our Parish



*David Arnold, Rosemary Baez, Estelle Bareford, Monica Bell, Susan Bennett, The Biddulph Family, Robert Bingaman, Joe Blackburn, Jr., John Bolecek, Maria Bridge, Barry Carrington, Daniel Clarke, Nancy Coffield, Doreen Distensa, Brian Eckert, Levie Edmond, Michael Fisher, Jessica French, Andrew Fresler, Deacon Dave Geary, The Hannick Family, Paula Hass, Laura Harris, The Jayger Family, Alice Karkutt, Rodney Ketterman, Tony Ketrick, Deacon Frank Leaming, Nina Leaming, Barbara Litten, Dawn Long, Carly Max, Bette Moore, Andrew Newchok, Peggy Opel, Eva Ortiz, Robert Pecht, Bill Pickett, Marge Polivka, Makayla Prevost, Ritchie Rodebaugh, Kelly Searer, John Signor, William Simulcik, Isabel Sipe, Rodney Smith, Laurie Snowman, John Speck, Linda Stanton, Barbara Storen, Ron Summers, Julian Thomas, The Townsend Family, The Wheeler Family, Joan Williams, Judy Yanes*

As always, prayer is an important way Catholics can respond to any crisis as we express our dependence on God. We continue to stand in solidarity with all those affected by the COVID disease as well as those health care professionals who care for them. We ask parishioners to keep these people in mind in your daily prayers.

*Names will be removed after 6 months. If you would like to add/remove someone to the Sick of our Parish list, please call Chris Nowark at 804-448-9064 or email her at office@saintmarycc.org. Thank you.*

**GOD BLESS**

## PARISH OFFICE

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Phone: 804-448-9064\*Fax: 804-448-5464\*Email: office@saintmarycc.org

Rev. Alexander Muddu, Pastor.....804-448-9064

.....amuddu@richmonddiocese.org

Deacon Dave Geary.....540-710-3364

.....djgeary4531@comcast.net

Deacon Frank Leaming.....804-761-5714

.....fnleaming@aol.com

Karen Weil, Office Bookkeeper.....804-448-9064

.....bookkeeper@saintmarycc.org

Chris Nowark, Office Manager.....804-448-9064

.....office@saintmarycc.org

Pastoral Council Chairperson, *Jim Lepp*.....540-841-2345

Finance Council Chairperson, *Tina Sebak*.....540-842-4608

Food Pantry, *Barbara & Don Logan*.....804-449-1811

Knights of Columbus, *Ron Wisniewski*.....804-448-4348

Children's Liturgy of the Word, *Annette Jewell*.....804-305-7566

Religious Education Coordinator, *Deacon Dave*.....804-448-9064

.....djgeary4531@comcast.net

Music Ministry, *Valerie Sparks*.....804-572-1768

RCIA, *Deacon Frank Leaming*.....804-761-5714

Prayer Shawl Ministry, *Penny Geary*.....honeybepenny@comcast.net

Liturgical Ministries, *Deacon Frank Leaming*.....804-761-5714

St. Mary and Sts. Cyril and Methodious.Cemetery Inquiries,  
*Gloria Bolecek*.....804-633-4320

African American Cemetery Inquiries, *Joan Cormier*.....804-466-0458

Sacraments of Baptism, Matrimony (a minimum of 6 months prepara-

tion is typical), and Anointing of the Sick, or to receive a home visit

or home blessing, Call the office at 804-448-9064.

10306 Ladysmith Road P.O. Box 396 Ladysmith, VA 22501

www.saintmarycc.org

As we embark on this capital campaign together, please keep in mind that many of our next steps are dependent on the pledges you make and how quickly you return them.

With this in mind, we are asking that you please return your capital campaign pledge commitments by the weekend of March 11 and 12 so we can plan for those next steps as soon as possible.

This **does not** mean you need to have all of your money in by that date, we only need YOUR PLEDGE letting us know that you plan to donate.

We will have a collection area in the narthex for you to turn in your pledges.

Your generous support will help to ensure that we take care of the needs of our parish now and well into the future.

I thank you for your prayerful consideration.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAKE THE PLEDGE PACKAGE IN THE NARTHEX

Capital Campaign Q&A's:

1. Am I locked into whatever tier of donation I choose?

Pledges to the campaign can be changed at any time. We realize that your circumstances may change over time. You can increase, decrease or cancel your pledge at any time by contacting the Parish Office.

2. Can I give a different amount than what is suggested?

Absolutely, you are encouraged to pray about your pledge decision and make a pledge that is comfortable for you and your family. You can refer to the gift chart in your packet to review monthly giving amounts over a five-year period. Know whatever decision you come to, that the parish is grateful for your faithful generosity.

3. Can I give digitally, or must I write checks each month? How would that work?

You can make a decision on whether you want to give online or write a check to the parish. Online giving does allow you the option to set reoccurring contributions to fulfill your pledge and is often more convenient for many families. Donors who would like to write a check will receive a reminder notice from the parish either on a monthly, quarterly or yearly basis depending on your preference. Checks can be returned with the reminder notice, or you can simply put in the memo section of your check that it is designated to the capital campaign.

4. I am on a fixed income. Is it okay for me to reduce my weekly offering so I can give more to the capital campaign?

A weekly offertory is critical to the parish and the operational budget. We would encourage families to continue their weekly offerings to the parish. We ask that you prayerfully consider a pledge to the capital campaign that is within your budget in addition to your weekly contributions.

5. Why do you need our pledges returned so quickly? Does that mean you need all of our money turned in quickly as well?

We are encouraging families to consider making a pledge to the campaign over the next few weeks so the parish leadership team can continue advancing the construction timeline and put into place the next steps for the projects.

Your money does not need to be returned as quickly. We will be collecting the money from the campaign over the next five years. However, this does not mean construction will begin five years from now. Our goal is to begin construction once we have secured the final go ahead from the Diocese and we have selected a contractor for our project.

6. What if I don't want or have the means to support the capital campaign?

We recognize some families may not have the means or desire to support the campaign. Please pray for the success of the campaign. You can also consider volunteering to help with some of the campaign activities.