

Parish Staff

Nancy Caro	Sacristan	
Sr. Janet Siepker	Head of School	703-759-4129
Danielle Lussier	Assistant Principal	703-759-4129
Anson Groves	Dir. Religious Ed & CYO	703-759-3530
Rick Webb	Gen. Mgr./Financial Dir.	703-759-4350
Dr. Kimberly Hess	Director of Music	703-759-4350
Judy Wood	Parish Secretary	703-759-4350
Guillermo DeLeon	Director of Facilities	
Emiro Soto	Maintenance	
Rosa Hernandez	Support Staff	

Mass Intentions

Sunday, November 27

8:00 a.m.	Pro Populo
10:00 a.m.	Elizabeth Znidorka †
12:00 noon	Milagros Magat †

Monday, November 28

9:00 a.m.	David Gorlinsky
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Tuesday, November 29

9:00 a.m.	Maria Tuat Nguyen
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Wednesday, November 30

9:00 a.m.	Carmel Hoban †
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Thursday, December 1

9:00 a.m.	Brendan Duff †
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Friday, December 2

9:00 a.m.	Kevin Duffy †
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Saturday, December 3

9:00 a.m.	Bill Byrne †
5:30 p.m.	Jack Burns †

Readings and Celebrations for the Week

Sunday, The First Sunday in Advent

Is 63:16b-17,19b;64:2-7 Ps 80 1 Cor 1:3-9 Mk 13:33-37

Monday, Weekday

Is 2:1-5 Ps 122 Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday, Weekday

Is 11:1-10 Ps 72 Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday, Andrew, Apostle

Rom 10:9-18 Ps 19 Mt 4:18-22

Thursday, Weekday

Is 26:1-6 Ps 118 Mt 7:21,24-27

Friday, Weekday

Is 29:17-24 Ps 27 Mt 9:27-31

Saturday, Weekday

Is 30:19-21,23-26 Ps 147 Mt 9:35-10:1,5a,6-8

Parish Stewardship

Thank you for your generous offerings of November 19/20. The totals were \$12,567 for the regular collection, \$1,025 for the 2nd collection and \$410 for the Poor Box.

Faith Direct Contributions

Those interested in contributing automatically through Faith Direct please go to www.faithdirect.net. St. Catherine's CODE is VA129.

A Word from Father Drummond

As we begin the new liturgical year with this penitential season of Advent, we once again face the challenges and tensions of balancing the penitential aspect of Advent with the *premature* celebration of Christmas in the media, at work and in the general social scene. Celebrations which are both premature and completely disconnected from the true meaning of Christmas, namely the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ which leads to His self-sacrifice for our Salvation. Christmas. Christ. Salvation.

This Advent is different for us from previous Advents in an important way: the prayers used during the Advent Masses are for the first time faithfully translated into English, and we may look to them for guidance as we spiritually prepare for Christmas. The prayer of the Collect, or the opening prayer of the Mass is particularly helpful and we should listen carefully as the priest offers this prayer.

The Collect of the First Sunday of Advent is beautiful and instructive:

Grant your faithful, we pray, Almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at His coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.

Note the determined and eager anticipation in the words "the resolve to run forth" together with the instruction "with righteous deeds", and the ultimate goal of salvation -- "to possess the heavenly Kingdom".

In this Advent season, will we run forth to meet Christ; will our deeds be righteous, or will we engage in an orgy of shopping, partying and eating? We must not forget that the true goal of Advent is our Salvation in Christ, and as the world seeks to distract us with a superficial and empty vision of Christmas, we should repeat to ourselves: **Christmas. Christ. Salvation.**

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW PARISH OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESS

The email address for Father Drummond, Rick Webb and Judy Wood is: office@saintcatherineschurch.org.

The Parish Website remains unchanged as do the email addresses of the Religious Education Office and Siena Academy office.

Parish Registration: We welcome you to our Parish and invite you register at the Parish Office.

Parish Website: www.saintcatherineschurch.org

Communion and Blessings

A very common liturgical abuse of our times happens during the reception of Holy Communion when persons who cannot receive Communion nevertheless line up with their arms crossed over their chest, as a "message" to the priest that they want a blessing instead of Communion. This is liturgically incorrect on a number of levels. First and foremost, the time for Communion is the *time for Communion*. The Communion line is not, and should not be, the blessing line. Secondly, the liturgical actions of the priest during Mass are highly regulated, and quite specific of what to do and when to do it. The actions of a good liturgist may seem spontaneous, but they are not *and should not be*.

Unfortunately, owing to the confused time in which we live, some people are instructed to present themselves, arms crossed, before the priest at Communion time for a blessing. To make things even more confused, some people present themselves with crossed arms as a sign that they wish to receive on the tongue! Children who have not yet made their first Communion may come up with their parents who are receiving, but should not present themselves individually for a blessing. Others, who cannot receive, for whatever reason, should remain seated. The proper time for the blessing follows the prayer after Communion, which blessing all receive together.



Pray for the Sick and Homebound of our Parish

Betty Appel, Joshua Basile, Ed Bubbosh, Bryan Cox, Angela Derr, Marjorie Dolak, Corporal Charles Donnelly, Paul Esch, Gloria Fazio, Jackie Fox, Brian Hack, Carlos Hernandez, Marjorie Horan, Brendan Kelly, Peter Michalski, Alex Nieves, Ann O'Connell, Anthony Yantiss

Pray for Those Who Have Fallen Asleep in Christ

Marie Chang, Antonia Dolenc, Lawrence Emmer, Richard S. Fowler, George Gibson, Choon Lee, Bernice Logan, Jim Low

Pray for our Armed Forces Personnel

Patrick Bouchoux, Barret Diefenderfer, Brendan Dunne, Christopher Frediani, Brian Horn, Kathleen Mahoney, Josh Moore, Matthew O'Neil, Mathew Rowell, Justin Smallwood



Eucharistic Adoration and Holy Hour

Wednesdays: 24 hour Eucharistic Adoration begins after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Wednesday and ends with reposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 8:55 a.m. on Thursday.

Holy Hour is every Wednesday at 7:00 pm.

First Fridays: 24 hour Eucharistic Adoration also begins after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on every **First Friday** of the month and ends with reposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 8:55 a.m. on Saturday.

If you have considered attending adoration, consider this God's personal invitation. If you cannot commit to an hour every week, share the time with friends or family. For questions and/or to volunteer, please contact Diane Cieslak 703-678-3919.

We can always use more volunteers from midnight until 5:00 am on both Wednesdays and 1st Fridays. Please call Diane Cieslak if you are able to help.



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Pancake Breakfasts

Please note that there will not be a December Pancake Breakfast.

Pancake breakfasts will resume in January 2012 on the 2nd Sunday of every month concluding in May.

Keep Christ in Christmas!

The joyous Christmas season is approaching. The Knights of Columbus are selling beautiful, "Keep Christ in Christmas" cards after all Masses until December 11. \$1 from every box sold supports Siena Academy. Remembering your loved ones and friends with these classic religious cards is a way to celebrate both Christmas and our Catholic faith.

Annual Christmas Tree Sale

Once again the Knights will conduct their Annual Christmas Tree Sale! Beginning Sunday, **November 28**, you can stop by St. Catherine's and purchase a fresh, beautiful Christmas tree for your home. Trees will be available from **9:30 am – 4:30 pm** all Saturdays and Sundays of Advent until all trees are sold. For more information, call Jim Hanlon at 703-759-6539.

Become a Knight

The Knights of Columbus are in need of a few good Catholic men Please join us in serving Fr. Drummond and St. Catherine of Siena Parish. For information, call Grand Knight, Gary Lanzara 703-759-6959.



The Women's Association

The Women's Association assists St. Catherine's by organizing and hosting events for our Parish such as the Choir concert reception, the New Catechumen reception after the Easter Vigil Mass, the St. Valentine's Dinner-Dance and the Children's Christmas party. Other things we help with is making Baptismal bibs, quilts for our sick children, and this year, rosaries for the missions. For fun and fellowship we get together for scrapbooking, knitting scarves, and outings. We would love for you to join us in any and all activities, in order that we may continue supporting the church and Father Drummond. If you are interested please contact President Tessy Trissell at (703) 464 8393

Thank you to Fran Dillon and to Melissa Fowler who will chair the St. Valentine's Dinner and Dance on February 11th! **Thanks also** to Judy Diegor and Zita DeSa who will chair the Mother & Daughter Tea! Those were two events that needed a chair in order to take place and these generous women stepped in! Thank you also to the ladies who came to the Fortessa outing and to Tea and Cookies at Tessy's. We had a delightful time shopping, visiting and talking about the December events coming up.

Upcoming events:

- ❖ Nov. 30th Advent wreath assembling; we are meeting at Donna Borrelli's home.
- ❖ Saturday December 3rd: Women's Association table at Siena Academy's St. Nicholas Bazaar
- ❖ Wednesday December 14th: Religious ornament exchange at Donna Borrelli's home – ***this is a date change***
- ❖ Tuesday December 20th: Children's Christmas Party with the Knights of Columbus

Religious Education and CYO

CCD Class Schedule & Times

Mondays 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Grades 1-4
Mondays 6:45 pm – 7:45 pm	Grades 2-8
Tuesdays 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Grades 1-7
November 28, 29	All classes
December 5, 6	All classes
	12, 13 All classes
	19, 20 All classes
	26, 27 No classes: Christmas vacation

CYO Activities Schedule

CYO Ice Skating
 Friday Dec 9 at 7 PM
 Reston Town Center
 JCYO Ice Skating
 Saturday Dec 17 at 7 PM
 Place: TBA
 Save the dates!
 March for Life - Mon Jan 23
 CYO Ski Trip - Sat Jan 21
 JCYO Ski Trip - Sat Jan 28



The Over 50 Club

The St. Catherine of Siena Over Fifty Club extends an invitation to any senior to join our Social Club. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, September until June, in Bishop Justs Hall from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. We have interesting speakers, trips, special luncheons and provide an opportunity to meet new people. A bridge group meets the 1st Friday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Singles or couples are warmly welcomed. For more information, contact Mary Ann at 703-404-8677 or Connie at 703-759-2939. Membership is not a requirement for travel.

2011 & 2012 Trips - Taking Reservations Now:

- ◆ **December 6 – Miracle of Christmas, Lancaster, PA**
 - ◆ **March 11 -- Philadelphia Flower Show -- "Hawaii, Islands Of Aloha"** - board the clipper ship MOSHULA. Hawaiian lunch and Hula show before going to the flower show, \$89.00 flower show / \$115.00 complete
 - ◆ **March 22 -- "JONAH" Sight & Sound in Lancaster** New production -- \$119.00 Dinner at Millers
 - ◆ **ITALY November 6--15, 2012 --** 3 nights in Rome, 1 in Assisi, 2 nights each in Venice and Florence-- complete trip including airfare from Dulles \$3,109.00 for double
- Please call Mary Ann at 703-404-8677 for more details on all of the above trips.**

FYI: for day and overnight trips, the motor coach meets at St. Thomas à Becket Church in Reston.

Marriage Encounter Weekend

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend designed to give married couples the opportunity to learn a technique of loving communication that they can use for the rest of their lives. It is a chance to look deeply into their relationship with each other and with God. The next marriage encounter weekend will be December 2-4 in Herndon. Couples who have attended a marriage encounter weekend are encouraged to join a Share Circle. Call Kevin and Tessy Trissell for more details, kevin.trissell@verizon.net. Register at <http://marriage4.com>.

Siena Academy Saint Nicholas Bazaar

Saturday, December 3 -- 9:30am-2:30 pm
Vendors, Crafts, Food, and Raffle

Come shop for your Christmas gifts from over 25 different vendors, including The Catholic Shop, Arbonne International, Cookie Lee Jewelry, Pampered Chef, and various hand-made craft vendors. There will be a White Elephant Sale for children with items priced under \$10. Delicious food, drinks, and baked goods are also available for purchase. Bring the whole family to this extraordinary shopping event!

All proceeds benefit Siena Academy.



Siena Academy News

“Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.”

Douay-Rheim Catholic Bible – Mark 10:14

Mission Statement

Siena Academy is the parish school at St. Catherine of Siena. Its mission is to give glory to God and to assist parents in the role as primary educators of their children by offering specially prepared environments founded upon the principles and discoveries made by Dr. Maria Montessori, with regard to the unique spiritual and developmental needs of the child from birth to adulthood.

A Note from Sister Janet

Dear Parishioners,

On Saturday, December 3rd, we'll be hosting our First Annual Saint Nicholas Bazaar Fundraiser. Come enjoy shopping at booths and tables from over 25 different vendors! There will be food, a raffle, and activities for the children, so feel free to bring the whole family! The booths will be open from 9:30am until 2:30 pm in Bishop Justs Hall.

Next week, I will tell you more about our wonderful Montessori Parish School.

May you have a blessed and fruitful Advent!

God bless you!

Sister Janet

Reminder Regarding Safety

Parents -- Please remind your children that climbing the trees and fences at St. Catherine's are an unsafe activity and are not permitted. **Playing in the traffic circle, on the traffic island and climbing the island trees and the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary are also not allowed.** Please remind children to refrain from such activities. I also ask that parents not leave children alone in parked cars – not even for “a few minutes” – particularly with the engine running!

Advent Mission Sr. Joseph Andrew, OP December 13 - 14, 2011

Join Sr. Joseph Andrew, OP, for an Advent Mission at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church. Sister is a nationally acclaimed speaker and a frequent guest on EWTN and college campuses. She is the dynamic Vocations Director of this rapidly growing Dominican community. She is also one of the four foundresses of the Community. The Dominican Sisters of Mary were founded in 1997. This community has grown to well over 100 Sisters, with an average age of 26 years. They teach in full habit in schools in Michigan, California, Arizona, Florida, South Carolina, Texas and Ohio.

Reflections

Tuesday, December 13th - 7:30 pm

“It All Began in A Garden”

Study of Loneliness

Wednesday, December 14th - 9:45 am,

“Beggars in the Heart of Christ”

Study of Openness

Wednesday, December 14th - 7:30 pm,

“Blessed Fulfillment”

Christmas Meditation



In the Diocese

Website: www.arlingtondiocese.org

From the Office of Vocations

Quo Vadis Discernment Group: National Shrine and Franciscan Monastery Visit – Saturday, December 10, 2011

The Quo Vadis Group, for young men in high school, will be meeting at 12 p.m. to tour these impressive, holy places. Please contact the Office of Vocations at (703) 841-2514 or vocations@arlingtondiocese.org for more information and to obtain a permission form.

From the Office of Catholic Schools

The Diocesan Science Fair – Judges Needed

The Diocesan Science Fair needs individuals with a science background to help judge seventh and eighth grade students' research projects for the 2012 Science Fair. These projects encompass such categories as botany, health, chemistry, zoology, behavioral science, engineering, physics, math and other areas of life and physical science. If your calendar allows you to spend the morning (8 a.m. - noon) on Saturday, April 21, 2012 at Paul VI High School to judge projects, please call Janet Vetrano at the Office of Catholic Schools (703-841-2560).

From the Office of the Chancellor "It's a Wonderful Life" -- at Bishop O'Connell High School

"Into every life a little angel should fall..." This holiday season experience the dazzling theatrical musical of Frank Capra's "It's a Wonderful Life" presented by the Bishop O'Connell High School drama department, December 9-10 at 7:30 p.m. and December 11 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$5 for students and senior citizens. Bishop O'Connell is located at 6600 Little Falls Road in Arlington. Reserve early by calling the box office at (703) 237-1448. For more information, visit www.bishopoconnell.org/theatre.

Information Session on Catholic School Leadership

Program: November 29 Learn about Marymount's online graduate program in Catholic School Leadership (M.Ed. in Administration and Supervision) at an information session on Tuesday, November 29, at 7 p.m., at MU's Ballston Center -1000 North Glebe Road in Arlington. The online program fosters educational leadership abilities and emphasizes values essential to Catholic unity and identity within a school community. To RSVP or to learn more, call (703) 284-5902 or visit www.MarymountEducation.com

The Office of Victim Assistance

Support Group Evening with Bishop Loverde for Victims/Survivors of Sexual Abuse

Bishop Loverde cordially invites victims/survivors of sexual abuse and their spouse or support person to a Support Group meeting on Tuesday November 29, 2011. The evening begins at 5:45 p.m. and ends by 9 p.m. It will consist of a light meal, group discussion, followed by a Prayer Service. Due to the nature and sensitivity of the subject, this event is for victims/survivors and a spouse/support person only. Please RSVP to the Office of Victim Assistance: (703) 841-2530.

From the Office for Family Life

Advent Morning of Recollection for Arlington Young Adults

Join young adults in spiritual preparation for the anniversary of the Birth of Our Lord. Fr. John Mullein will lead us in prayer and meditation at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More on **Saturday, December 3** from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The morning of recollection will also include confessions and Mass. Coffee and doughnuts will be served from 9-10 a.m. For more information contact Erin Kisley at: yam@arlingtondiocese.org or (703) 841-2549 or visit: www.arlingtondiocese.org/yam/young_adult.php.

Augustine's Brothers....You are not alone....

Augustine's Brothers is a group for Catholic men who find it difficult to free themselves from the chains of pornography and other sexual behaviors no matter how hard they try. Many men feel isolated and alone and believe that they are the only men who are struggling...many men don't know where to turn. Augustine's Brothers is a group of men helping and supporting each other to overcome this powerful force....to become the men God created them to be. For meeting information or questions, call Tim at 727-207-2856 or email augustinesbrothers@hotmail.com

From Catholic Charities

Christ House Needs Sleeping Bag Donations

Catholic Charities' Christ House in Alexandria, Virginia is in need of sleeping bags for the homeless. As the nights get longer and colder, many of our brothers and sisters in need are suffering just stay warm through the night. To donate a sleeping bag, please contact Tom Bransfield at tbransfield@ccda.net.

Volunteers Needed at Christ House!

Christ House in Alexandria has several volunteer opportunities available for those looking to help us extend love, friendship, solidarity and service to members of our community. Volunteers are needed for the Evening Meal which serves all those in need every night, 365 days a year! We need help Monday through Sunday from 4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. setting up for the meal and cleaning up afterwards. This includes washing the dishes/pot and pans, wiping off tables/chairs, mopping the floor and cleaning the bathroom. Volunteers are also needed to help in the Thrift Store which is next door to Christ House. We need help Monday through Sunday from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. sorting donations and/or pricing donations (training provided). Contact Sherri Longhill at 703-841-3830, ext. 834.

Bring Christmas Joy to Prisoners in Northern Virginia

Catholic Charities' Prison Ministry is looking for volunteers to write Christmas cards and donate paperback religious books to area prisoners. All donations and cards must be turned in by Nov. 18. Contact Sister Connie Parcasio, director of Prison Ministry, at cparcasio@ccda.net for more information.

Catholic Charities Car Ministry Needs You!

You could make a dramatic change for the better in the life of one of the more than 20 poor, elderly and disabled people currently waiting to receive a car. If you have a car in working condition that you wish to donate to Catholic Charities, call Harry Burke at (703) 841-2531, ext. 658. Your donation is tax-deductible.