

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**  
**December 31, 2017**

**“God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons”**



**- Galatians 4:4-5**

**As Catholics we look to the future** – with hope and joy with the firm faith that Jesus Christ is with us and guides us still, so many centuries after his birth and public life. May you stand in the truth of Christ, in grow in knowledge of yourself with an unshakable faith in Christ and appreciation of yourself as a child of God. You are loved by God as His beloved handiwork. Your inestimable worth does not come from others, but from God Himself. Christ suffered for you; He died for you; and He rose again to bring you to heaven. If so, there can be no room for real discouragement much less despair. May you walk always in His grace and know His everlasting peace. Please know that you, dear parishioners, remain in my thoughts and prayers as we conclude this year and enter into a new and joyful chapter of our lives, forthrightly facing the many challenges trying our hearts, our homes and our nation. May the New Year be the best and most glorious ever as we keep always in mind this Divine promise: ‘...and behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world’ (Matthew 28:20 ). May Our Lady, Mother of God and our Mother by the decree of Jesus Himself from the Cross, intercede for you and bring you safely home.

**Happy New Year!**

- Father Pokorsky

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY, December 30**

8:30am Robert Carlin †

5:30pm Alfonso Basile †

**SUNDAY, December 31**

8:00am Griselda Ramona Phillips †

10:00am Mary Burns

12:00pm Pro Populo

**MONDAY, January 1 (Mary, Mother of God)**

8:30am Joseph Squarzini †

**TUESDAY, January 2**

8:30am Robert Mendez †

**WEDNESDAY, January 3**

8:30am Nassar & Khattar Families

**THURSDAY, January 4**

8:30am Kenneth Rusdal †

**FRIDAY, January 5**

8:30am Rae & Al Besemer †

**SATURDAY, January 6**

8:30am Beatrice Szele Family

5:30pm Alfonso Basile †

**SUNDAY, January 7**

8:00am Pro Populo

10:00am Hermanda O’Connor †

12:00pm Marilyn Natoli †

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** David Morant†, Andrew Gentry†, Connor Moriarity † (nephew of parishioner), Rev. Gerry Creedon†, Dan Speca†, Charles Marcolini†, Elisa Barbaro, Dominic Ricci†, Connie Holtz†, Marilyn Natoli†, Blanche Gorlinsky, Walter Zolkiwsky†, Arleen Michelitch†, Angela Bubbos†, Bernadette Magurski, Madeline Daniel†, Dominick Carducci†, Dora Berrara†, Ann Haraburda†, Patricia Guntle, Mary E. Brindley†, Joseph Squarzini Jr.†, Kathleen Fishert†, Joseph Dunnet†, Walter von Fricken†, Mary Wood, Alfonso Basile†, Maryann Murphy†, Joshua Basile, T. Peter Wood, Collette Briggs, Vickie Miller. FOR PARISHIONERS SERVING OUR COUNTRY OVERSEAS: Jonathan Choo, Justin Smallwood

DUE TO EARLIER HOLIDAY DEADLINES, COLLECTION TOTALS WERE UNAVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF PUBLICATION. COLLECTION TOTALS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT BULLETIN. THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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**CCD CALENDAR**  
**Grades 1 through high school**  
**Monday Evenings**  
**5:00 to 6:15 and 6:30 to 7:45**  
**No classes** January 1; January 15  
**Classes resume** January 8

**The FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** Parents Meeting was held on December 7. Attendance was required for all parents of children in sacrament preparation in the CCD program, or for those parents who are homeschooling. Please contact the Office of Religious Education to schedule a make-up session.

**If your child will receive First Holy Communion this spring, please make sure you've turned in the Data Form and your child's Baptismal certificate (if not baptized at St. Catherine of Siena).** Forms are available outside the Office of Religious Education.

Also, parents of all children receiving sacraments this spring, **please mark your calendars now** with these important dates:

- **First Penance, Saturday, February 24 (begins with 8:30 am Mass)**
- **Rehearsal for First Holy Communion Thursday, May 3, 6:00-7:00 pm**
- **First Holy Communion celebrated at noon Mass on May 6.**

**Attention All High Schoolers:** It's never too late for you to join the Monday evening 6:30 CCD class! On January 22, we will begin an 8-part Bible study focused on salvation history. This is a great opportunity to continue learning about our beautiful Faith and discuss a variety of topics with your Catholic friends. The class runs from 6:30 to 7:45. **NOTE: No 6:30 high school CCD class on January 8. Class will resume on January 22.**

And...**we have a great group of teens helping with the 5:00 pm classes** as assistants, and **could always use more help during either CCD session.** This is an opportunity to help your Church, share the Faith, AND earn service hours. Contact Mrs. Livaudais for more details. [stcatherinesreoffice@gmail.com](mailto:stcatherinesreoffice@gmail.com)

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## AROUND THE DIOCESE

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### **Mass to Celebrate World Marriage Sunday**

All married couples are invited to attend the World Marriage Sunday Mass offered at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Alexandria on Sunday, February 11 at 12pm. Fr. Thomas Ferguson, Vicar General & Moderator for the Curia, will be celebrating the Mass and offer words of reflection for married couples. A reception will be offered after Mass thanks to the generosity of Families in Christ Jesus.

Please register at  
[www.arlingtondiocese.org/wms18](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/wms18)

### **High School Application Deadline**

The application deadline for Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Arlington is January 12, 2018. Register by January 4 to take the High School Placement Test. Please visit the website for the high school you wish to attend to learn more about their application process and to register for the placement test.

### **Upcoming 2018 Conferences! Saint Joseph's Church in Herndon, VA**

#### **Men's Conference: March 3 - 8:50AM**

#### **Marked Men: Made for Greatness**

Featuring Fr. Mike Schmitz, Bishop Burbidge, Billy Atwell. Registration opens January 3 at 9am. \$55 thru Feb 1; \$65 after. [www.arlingtondiocese.org/men](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/men)

#### **Women's Conference: March 10- 8:45am From Darkness into Light**

Featuring Diane Foley, mother of slain journalist, James Foley, and Sr. Grace Dominic. Mass celebrated by Bishop Burbidge. Reg. \$55 by Feb. 1; \$65 after. [www.arlingtondiocese.org/women](http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/women)

**Register ASAP as slots fill quickly!**

## - - PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS - -

### **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**



WEDNESDAYS: and FIRST FRIDAYS

**24 hour Eucharistic Adoration** begins after the 8:30 am Mass and ends at 8:55 am the following morning.

**We need volunteers for the noon to 1:00pm hour on Wednesdays.**

To volunteer, please contact Diane Cieslak at: 703-678-3919 or polskagirl65@gmail.com.

### **CATHOLIC INQUIRY**

**The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults** is the process by which adults (and children who have reached the age of reason) are instructed in the Doctrine of the Church and are prepared to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. If you or someone you know would like to inquire about becoming a Catholic, please call Father Pokorsky on his direct line – 703-638-8451.

### **OVER 50 CLUB**

New members welcome! No charge for the 1st meeting. Dues \$20. For information, call Judy Mahanes at (703) 759-3997.

**THIRD ORDER DOMINICANS** The Dominicans TOR invite all parishioners to share in their apostolic mission by study, prayer, and preaching in keeping with our state as members of the laity. Meetings are usually held every 1st Saturday at 10:00 am in Padre Pio Hall following Mass and Rosary. Contact Paul Bernier at bernierp@verizon.net or 571-340-0940.

**JP2 YOUTH APOSTOLATE** is a new group formed under the patronage of St. John Paul the Great. Our mission is to provide a social outlet for school-aged youth of the area in the spirit of faith, adventure, and service to others. Unlike other youth organizations, JP2 Youth is parent-led, parent-organized, and parent supported. Contact: novajp2youth@gmail.com.

### **OPUS DEI**

#### **EVENING OF RECOLLECTION:**

A priest of the Opus Dei prelature presents an "Evening of Recollection" for women on the **3rd Monday of each month from 7:30 pm to 9:15 pm** in the Church.

**CONFESSIONS:** A priest of the Opus Dei prelature offers Confessions on Monday mornings after the 8:30 am Mass until 11 am.

**RECOLLECTION FOR HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS:** A monthly Recollection, with quiet prayer and reflection, open to all high school girls on the **3rd Saturday of each month from 12:15 to 3:00 pm**. Please contact: Alyssa Hernandez at: stonecrestaolactivities@gmail.com for more information.

**FORMED.ORG** – *Formed* is a dynamic on-line web-based digital platform from the Augustine Institute available 24/7. This series is designed to help you grow in your faith at all levels – how you think, pray and live. Free to St. Catherine parishioners! Go to <https://formed.org> and set up your username and password, then enter our parish code – **F6KWXM**. Learn more about your faith from the best Catholic authors and presenters.