

**MONDAY, JANUARY 10**

6:30 AM Alice Wood  
 8:00 AM Alicia Bradshaw  
 12:10 PM Winifred Davis, Anniversary

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 11**

6:30 AM George E. Gula  
 8:00 AM Special Intention: PLZ Baptismal Anniversary  
 12:10 PM Sarah Howard, Birthday

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12**

6:30 AM Dr. Charles E. Hannan  
 8:00 AM Adelina Eneim  
 12:10 PM Arthur McAdams

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 13**

6:30 AM Agnes Vezina  
 8:00 AM Maureen Lynch Ringer  
 12:10 PM Ada Leoni, Anniversary

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 14**

6:30 AM Helen Blake  
 8:00 AM Lil Nelson  
 12:10 PM Gina Cardosi

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 15**

8:00 AM Michelle Timchalk  
 5:00 PM Robert Allen Smith, Anniversary (12/3)  
 (Fr. Melmer)

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 16**

7:00 AM Margaret Scafati (Fr. Poumade)  
 8:30 AM Berke Ingram (Fr. Melmer)  
 9:15 AM Norma Lamoreaux (Fr. Poumade)  
 10:00 AM Henry D. Slater, Anniversary  
 (Fr. Kleinmann)  
 11:30 AM Pauline Collins (Fr. Melmer)  
 1:00 PM Edmund Meyer, Birthday (Fr. Poumade)  
 5:00 PM Laura Lynam (Fr. Kleinmann)

**Baptisms****We Welcome through the Sacrament of Baptism:**

Piero Antonio Cecchi-Rivas  
 Grace Ann Peltier  
 Alexander Gerard Reisig

**SECOND COLLECTION:** Next weekend (January 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>) there will be a second collection for the Tsunami Emergency. (See page three for more details.) If you are interested in giving prior to this date, please contact Catholic Relief Services directly at 877-435-7277, donate online at [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org), or write to CRS at 209 West Fayette Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201-3443. Designate your donation for "Tsunami Emergency."

**FROM GREEN TO GOLD**

Today we officially conclude the Christmas season, although much of society did so at least a week ago after the January first celebrations. Years ago the Church actually celebrated Christmas through the month of January, closing it on the Feast of the Presentation, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. In more recent times the season is celebrated until the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord, which is this weekend.

So much of this season's focus is on children and family. Christmas is the celebration of the birth of the Christ *Child*. The Sunday following Christmas is Holy *Family* Sunday. The next Sunday, although traditionally January 6<sup>th</sup>, is the Epiphany, as the three Magi seek out the Christ *Child* and His *family*. This Sunday's emphasis on baptism conjures up ideas of babies and their families along with the wider concept of the "Church family" as those children by virtue of their baptism become part of that family. I mention all of this as a lead into the idea of family, a topic I have certainly discussed here before. Family, as you probably have realized, is very important to me. My own family is, but so is this "parish family."

Christmas is typically a time when we like to be with our families. People will travel great distances and often under rather adverse conditions to be home with their families. On Holy Family Sunday I simply mentioned that I would not be home in Wisconsin with my family and haven't been in years. I received a number of sympathetic responses, something I did not expect, but perhaps should have considering how kind so many of you are. That gave me reason to give this further thought.

Even at my age and after all these years I do still miss my family. But as I have said before I am privileged and very blessed to have this "parish family" as well. Because of this "family" I usually do not give a lot of thought to my family not being here. All of my family is in Wisconsin, no more than an hour or so away from each other. There is a notable exception to that, my youngest brother is here in Northern Virginia and has been for a little more than a year. I get to see him occasionally, often on Sunday when he attends Mass here. He was of course home in Wisconsin for the week between Christmas and New Years.

The point, however, that I am trying to make is that a parish truly can be a family, both in a spiritual sense as well as in a more social way for anyone whose family is not nearby. This was clearly driven home to me at Midnight Mass. That hour of night, a church full of people, the beautiful décor, the wonderful music, the Mass itself all gave me cause to realize how at home I really am here. What added to that was the little kindergartener who brought up the baby Jesus and the altar boy who served as MC for the Mass. In the girl's case I have seen her grow my four and a half years here at St. Mary's, from a baby who came with her mother to 6:30 AM daily Mass to a student in our school who usually makes sure she says "hi" whenever she sees me. She was so nervous before Mass started and yet did wonderfully. With the young man I have watched him become one of our excellent servers. He did a remarkable job Christmas Eve night. I was very impressed with his quality of leadership as he directed the other altar boys in their duties. For some in general and for this priest in particular, St. Mary's is a spiritual family with many spiritual children (over 12,000 of you). What a blessing for which I am extremely grateful. Have a grace filled new year and may we pray for each other. On a closing note, I draw your attention to the tsunami announcement; more on that next week.

In Christ,  
 Fr. Kleinmann

**Sermon on the Mount Adult Education is Back!**  
**Tuesday, January 11th, 2005 at 7:30pm in the Lyceum.**  
 Free Wine and Cheese social followed by talk and discussion. This week **Fr. Poumade speaks on Stem Cell Research: Moral Questions on its Validity and Fact vs Fiction on its uses.**

**ALL 1st PENANCE/1st EUCHARIST PARENTS:** There is a Mandatory Parent Meeting and Holy Half Hour for all parents of Spring 2005 1st Eucharist Parents on Tuesday, January 25th from 7:30-9pm in the St. Mary's Church. One parent must be present. 1st Penance is Saturdays, February 5th and 12th and 1st Eucharist is Saturday, May 14th.



**MOUNT 2000 and BEYOND:** This amazing retreat and conference for Young Adults and High School Students (ages 16-33) is held each year at Mount St. Mary's in Emmitsburg, MD. Dynamic national speakers, great music, intense prayer, small groups. Friday, February 11th- Sunday, Feb 13th. Cost is \$30, includes 6 meals and T-shirt. Please hand in check to "St. Mary's" and Release Form ASAP!! Only 1<sup>st</sup> 1800 people are accepted. For more information or to sign up contact Luis Brown at (703) 836-5450 or brownluis@hotmail.com. Group leaves St. Mary's at 5pm on Friday, Feb. 11th. Young adults can meet us there.

**STs. ANNE & JOACHIM SOCIETY:** The Spirituality Committee of the Sts. Anne and Joachim Society will resume viewing the video series, "Famous Catholic Converts" in St. Joseph's Room of the Lyceum on Thursday, February 3, 2005 at 11 AM. All are welcome.

**ST. MARY'S BLOOD DRIVE** is on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005 from 8 AM – 2 PM at St. Mary's Lyceum located on 313 Duke Street. Please call 1-800-GIVE BLOOD (448-3256) or 1-800-GIVE LIFE (448-3543).



**BISHOP O'CONNELL HIGH SCHOOL 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GALA:** The parents of Bishop O'Connell High School are preparing for our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala on Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2005, at the McLean Hilton. The evening features cocktails, dinner, dancing, as well as silent and live auctions. Please contact us concerning donations, ads and reservations: Karen Fornaro – 703-734-4145, Peggy Heron – 703-620-5129, Co-Chairs, and Marianne Monek, Events Coordinator – 703-237-1446.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** Adoration of Our Lord in the Eucharist is your chance to know Jesus better. He said, "Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened. Come to Me and I will refresh you." Who could refuse such an invitation from your very best friend? What a privilege! Think of spending just one hour per week with Our Lord. Sign up sheets for a new session running from February through April are in the back of the church. Adoration is on Thursdays from 12:30 – 7:30 PM, concluding with Holy Hour. Thanks in advance for your commitment. Please call Mary Stier at 703-768-7167 with any questions.

### **PRO-LIFE CORNER**

"Our task is to build a civilization of love or there will be no civilization at all. It is really a quest for holiness. We will be able to do something about abortion when we are all holier – courage and love are the strength of holiness. ...[Our] shortcomings and failings ... prevent us from doing the Lord's work the way he asks of us. This must be a great incentive for us to embrace the grace of conversion in our own lives, so that we might be better witnesses for the Gospel of Life." ~ Most Reverend Sean O'Malley, O.F.M. Cap., Archbishop of Boston, homily January 22, 2003.



**NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE:** The annual **March for Life** will be held on **Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup>** beginning at 12:00 noon with a rally on the grounds of the Washington monument, followed by the March to Capitol Hill and the Supreme Court. A chartered bus will pick up parishioners in front of St. Mary's Church at 11:45 a.m. and return at approximately 3:30 p.m. Please sign up in the rear of the Church if you plan to take the bus. If you plan to meet St. Mary's parishioners at the MARCH, the group will gather at the Ellipse at 15<sup>th</sup> and Constitution Avenue.

**SECOND COLLECTION FOR TSUNAMI EMERGENCY:** As you know, the tsunami in South Asia has left thousands dead and uprooted millions from their homes. The death toll is expected to rise. There is a severe shortage of healthy water, food and medical supplies and services. Given the severity of this situation, Bishop Loverde has asked for our help and cooperation in contributing to a special second collection on the weekend of January 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at all the Masses. For those using checks, please make the check payable to "St. Mary's Catholic Church" with the notation, "Tsunami Emergency". In turn, the diocese will forward the collected funds to The Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in Baltimore to assist that reputable Catholic organization in addressing this crisis situation. I thank you for your prayers and generosity. Please continue to keep those who are suffering from this devastation in your prayers.



**COME PRAY THE ROSARY** every third Saturday following the 8:00 a.m. Mass, in front of the Annandale Women's Clinic, 2839 Duke St. (near Bishop Ireton H.S.), with other St. Mary's parishioners. Our next gathering to pray for pregnant mothers and their unborn children will be **January 15<sup>th</sup>**.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Saturday morning, **January 22<sup>nd</sup>**, volunteers from St. Mary's Parish and ALIVE! (Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically) will pick up donated furniture and deliver it to families in need within the City of Alexandria. If you can help, please call Mike Diffley at 703-683-4656.

**SPRING AUCTION PAINTED FURNITURE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP:** Between now and March 19<sup>th</sup> the painted furniture committee for the Spring Auction is looking for a space to paint and store the large furniture items which have been collected. Please call Susanne Fyffe at 703-966-2702.



### **SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JANUARY 9<sup>th</sup>:**

**First Reading** — Isaiah speaks of the servant whom the Lord upholds; he shall bring forth justice to the nations (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7).

**Psalm** — The Lord will bless his people with peace (Psalm 29).

**Second Reading** — Jesus was anointed by God with the Holy Spirit; he went out healing and doing good (Acts 10:34-38).

**Gospel** — A voice comes from heaven proclaiming Jesus as the beloved Son, with whom God is well pleased (Matthew 3:13-17).

### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday: Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20  
 Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28  
 Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39  
 Thursday: Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45  
 Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12  
 Saturday: Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17  
 Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1: 29-34

### **FEAST DAYS**

#### **SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord;  
 National Vocation Awareness Week  
 Thursday: St. Hilary  
 Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

### **Sick Relatives & Friends**

#### **Let us pray for all those who are ill, including:**

Debbie Adams	Garret Goodrum	Tim Moran
Nancy Alfery	Veronica Gresham	William Morris
Shirley Amerson	Brendan Griffith	Fred Pierce
Geri Basurto	Noelle Hammad	Julius Stanges
The Bourne Twins	Nick Hayes	George Stelluto
Terri Clark	Seth Howard	John Tkacik, Jr.
Margaret Dahlin	Larry Katz	Lidia Toledo
Alexandra Dedinsky	Victoria Kent	Kevin Vasquez
Evelyn Deleambre	Freida Maher	Marshall Wharam
Ann Godfrey		Margaret Zeilinski

#### **Let us pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died, including:**

Bruce Amerson  
 Kevin Cambell  
 The Victims of the Tsunami Disaster



*In Memoriam*



### **DIOCESAN NEWS:**



**REQUIRED DIOCESAN SEMINAR:** All employees and volunteers in our diocese who have any contact with children are required to attend the seminar *Protecting God's Children* within the next year. St. Mary's will be hosting seminars on Wednesday, January 12, 2005 in the gym at St. Mary's School and Wednesday, February 16, 2005, in the Lyceum. Pre-registration is required. Please contact Bridget Barber at 703-719-5840, or by email [bbchildprotect@aol.com](mailto:bbchildprotect@aol.com), for details on registration.

**VOCATIONS:** This is National Vocation Awareness Week. Celebrate our common vocation of Baptism. Pray for those who are discerning a call to live their baptismal commitment as religious Brothers, Sisters, Priests or as Deacons. If you feel God is offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, call Father Brian Bashista 703-841-2514, or write: [b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org).

**ST. MARY'S SPRING AUCTION – SATURDAY, MARCH 19<sup>th</sup>:** Mark your calendar for this year's Spring Auction, "Fiesta de Santa Maria" to be held on 3/19 at the Army Navy Country Club. Join your friends for an evening of margaritas, Mariachi music, dinner and fun! We also invite you or your business to become a Sponsor or Patron of this fundraising event. Please consider making a donation, your generosity will directly assist St. Mary's school in providing a quality, Catholic education to its students. Sponsor and donation forms can be found at St. Mary's web site at <http://www.stmarys-alexva.org/community/hsa/springauction/auction>. The deadline to have your auction item(s) included in the catalogue is February 18th.

**TAKING DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS:** Heartfelt thanks to all our wonderful volunteers who graciously assisted in making the Church so beautiful for the Christmas Season, which ends with the Baptism of Our Lord. On **Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>** and on **Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**, we shall need volunteers to assist in returning the Church to the Ordinary Time environment. If you might spare some time, **please join us after the 5 PM Mass on Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup> or after the 8 AM Mass on Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup>** for the taking down of the Christmas environment. For more information or for any question, please contact Mary Petrino at 703-683-8877 or by e-mail at [petrinomad@aol.com](mailto:petrinomad@aol.com). Thank you and God bless you for your generous donation of time and talents to our historic church.

**THANK YOU!!** To all who donated so generously to the MARIH center, the Gabriel Project and Project Rachel. The enormous number of baby items, as well as countless monetary donations received during November and December will be used to assist mothers in need. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are humbling. **THANK YOU FOR OPENING UP YOUR HEARTS FOR THESE VERY WORTHY CAUSES!**