

**MONDAY, MAY 23**

6:30 AM Mary L. Ahearn
 8:00 AM Frank Ortiz
 12:10 PM For Culture of Life

TUESDAY, MAY 24

6:30 AM Terence Powers
 8:00 AM Sophia Caporaletti, Anniversary
 12:10 PM Lee Pritscher, Anniversary

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25

6:30 AM Betty Keeler
 8:00 AM John Barron
 12:10 PM Special Intention: Mrs. Evelyn Moore

THURSDAY, MAY 26

6:30 AM Joseph Morello
 8:00 AM Herbert Loepore
 12:10 PM Special Intention: Mrs. Noelle Hammad

FRIDAY, MAY 27

6:30 AM Lorraine Ames
 8:00 AM Henry DiGiacinto
 12:10 PM Stephen & Winifred Davis

SATURDAY, MAY 28

8:00 AM Manuel Sylvia
 5:00 PM John Marangi, Anniversary (*Fr. Melmer*)

SUNDAY, MAY 29

7:00 AM Pope John Paul II (*Fr. Poumade*)
 8:30 AM Nicholas Ceruzzi (*Fr. Kleinmann*)
 9:15 AM The Francis J. Burke Family (*Fr. Melmer*)
 10:00 AM Parishioners (*Fr. Poumade*)
 11:30 AM Frances J. Schmidlein (*Fr. Melmer*)
 1:00 PM Bill Miesen (*Fr. Kleinmann*)
 5:00 PM Marguerite Scafati (*Fr. Poumade*)

**We welcome through the Sacrament of Baptism:**

Emma Valeria Carter
 Rachael Victoria Garza
 Bridget Buckley Glennon
 Virginia Anne McMahon

MEMORIAL DAY MASS REMINDER: The parish office will be closed Monday, May 31st due to Memorial Day. There will be only one Mass offered in the church that day at 9:00 AM. At 8:00 AM, in St. Mary's Cemetery, there will be a Mass in honor of our deceased parishioners who gave their lives in defense of our nation's freedom. In case of rain or if the cemetery construction is still underway, we will join the 9 AM Mass in the church. Please consult the bulletin next week for an update.

FROM GREEN TO GOLD

In past columns I have made reference to some of the rituals of our Faith and the richness they can add to our lives. Last week was an example of that as I discussed the Eucharistic procession which we will hold on **May 29th** (not the 28th as I mistakenly mentioned in the May 15th column). Last Sunday was yet another example of one of these wonderful rituals we have as Catholics. This one is customary during the month of May, the month of Mary. It was the May crowning which involved our First Communicants who joined us at the 10:00 Mass that morning for this beautiful ceremony. Just having our second graders and a few others there all dressed in their First Communion clothes was in itself a sight to behold. In addition there was an extremely moving Polish Marian hymn sung during the crowning which was meant in part as a tribute to our now deceased Polish pope. It was a hymn I was very familiar with for it was a favorite of my mother and was typically sung at a Polish church in Milwaukee, St. Josephat's, where my family often attended a May crowning ceremony when I was younger.

Events such as these should always lead us to a deeper faith and a closer relationship with Our Lord. Our Blessed Mother would want nothing less. As I said last week it is the Eucharist that truly is the core of our Catholic Faith. I find it inspiring, although not surprising, that our new Pope Benedict in his first solemn Mass as pope held in the Sistine Chapel on April 20th, the day after his election, said that the Eucharist had first place in his papacy. In that same homily he said that like Pope John Paul II, his predecessor, he wanted the feast of Corpus Christi celebrated with special solemnity. He added that he asks all of us "in the coming months to intensify love and devotion for Jesus in the Eucharist, and to express courageously and clearly faith in the Real Presence of the Lord." That is exactly what our First Communicants did last Saturday and again on Sunday. What witness they gave to us and what witness we then can give to others! If you missed First Communion or the 10:00 Mass last week you missed some very special moments. Of course that is why I would encourage you not to miss the procession next Sunday.

To continue what I said last week this procession should be another great opportunity of grace for our parish and one would hope even for Old Town. I say this because literally Our Lord will be processed through the "streets" of Old Town Alexandria (at the very least the sidewalks of Royal Street). Our Knights of Columbus will be with us. We hope many of our First Communicants will be as well; it is yet another chance for them to wear their beautiful white dresses and coats and ties. We also hope many of you will process with us. Again, what a testament to our Faith, but more importantly to Our Lord! It is one way of showing that love and devotion to Jesus Christ that our pope asked us to do.

Remember: **Join us next Sunday, May 29th, following the 1:00 PM Mass for the Eucharistic Procession on the feast of Corpus Christi (the Body of Christ) for prayer and adoration.**

In Christ,
 Fr. Kleinmann

SERMON ON THE MOUNT IS BACK! Tuesday, May 24th, from 7:30-9pm in St. Mary's Lyceum. **Our pastor, Fr. Kleinmann, will speak on *The Virgin Mary in the Gospel of Luke*.** Come reflect and learn about what Scripture tells us about the Blessed Mother and her role in our lives and faith. Wine and cheese social followed by talk and discussion.

CCD REGISTRATION FOR 2005-06 is now taking place. All current CCD families have been mailed a Re-Registration Form. **New CCD families please contact Luis Brown at 703-836-5450 or brownluis@hotmail.com to register or for more information.** New CCD families can pick up a registration form at the rectory. **Summer deadline for CCD registration is August 1st.** Please return all forms to St. Mary's Rectory at 310 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

FINGERPRINTING FOR BACKGROUND CHECKS AVAILABLE AT ST. MARY'S SPRING FLING: A police officer will be available from 1 to 3 pm on Sunday, May 22 to assist with fingerprinting. Any volunteers with substantial contact with children must complete a background check. Contact Bridget Barber at 703-719-5840 or by email bbchildprotect@aol.com with any questions.

ST. MARY'S 15th ANNUAL SPRING FLING (10:30 AM to 4 PM) & THE COLIN CASEY 3K RUN (9 AM): Sunday, May 22nd – Rain or Shine (400 Green Street). Family Fun for Everyone! Crafts, rides and games for the kids; food and entertainment for the parents. Enjoy a day filled with carnival rides, games, flea market & book sales, music, and good food. Passport and Daimler Chrysler "Drive for Kids" is donating \$10 to the school for each test drive, so take a spin behind the wheel and raise money for the school. At 9 AM, participate in the Colin Casey 3K Scholarship Run sponsored by Apex Systems, Inc, Advantis, and Lindsay Cadillac. For more info on the 3K call 703-960-5528.

VOCATIONS: "God so loved the world, He gave his only Son." How can you give yourself to God in a response to that love? Could God be calling you to live His love as a priest or consecrated religious? If you think God may be offering you this grace, call Father Brian Bashista at 703-841-2514, or write: b.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org.

VOCATION RETREAT WEEKEND WITH THE DAUGHTERS OF ST. PAUL: Join the Daughters of St. Paul at their Alexandria convent for a weekend of prayer, reflection, and experience of Pauline religious life together with other young women in discernment. Overnight accommodations provided. **When:** May 27-30 (Memorial Day Weekend), **Who:** Single women ages 17-30, **Where:** Daughters of St. Paul Convent, 1025 King St, Alexandria, VA 22314. Contact Sr. Rebecca Marie, FSP at 703-549-1323 or email Alexandria@pauline.org.

ORDINATIONS TO DIACONATE AND PRIESTHOOD: You are invited to attend the Cathedral of St. Thomas More at 11 AM for the Diaconate Ordination on Saturday, June 4th and the Priesthood Ordination on Saturday, June 11th.

PRO-LIFE CORNER

Some try to say it's "OK" that Planned Parenthood receives our tax dollars because they allege none of the tax dollars they receive are actually used to commit abortions. That is as foolish as saying it would have been "OK" to give Hitler our tax dollars as long as none of the tax dollars he received went to actually gas his victims.



END ROE v. WADE: Send a Pro-Life E-mail Message! On a new, easy-to-use web page, www.EndRoe.org, you can send the following message to our state's two U.S. Senators: "Support for Roe v. Wade should not be a condition for serving as a federal judge." This message is important. In its 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, the U.S. Supreme Court legalized abortion for any reason throughout pregnancy. Scholars agree that this decision is bad constitutional law. It should not be a litmus test for choosing federal judges. Thanks for speaking out at this time in defense of life!

SOCIETY OF THE PATRICIANS: All Catholics in the area are invited to St. Mary's "Society of the *Patricians*" meeting on Saturday, **May 28th, 9-11 AM**, in the Lyceum auditorium. The topic for discussion: "**What's So Special About the Eucharist (as relic, in monstrance, in communion)?**" The Patricians, sponsored by the Legion of Mary, meet on the 4th Saturday of every month with Fr. Melmer serving as the Spiritual Director. Refreshments will be served. No commitment to regular attendance is required. Contact Phil Cooper @ 703-960-6296 with any questions.

STs. ANNE & JOACHIM SOCIETY (Senior Group) will visit the Woodlawn and/or Pope Leighy house on Thursday, May 26th. We will meet at the house at 10:45 AM for a tour at 11 AM. This site is close to Alexandria and has free parking so members will be using their own cars. The address for Woodlawn is 9000 Richmond Hwy. There is a \$7.50 fee for Woodlawn and a fee of \$13.50 for both. If you need a ride, or have room for another, call Bill Lynch at 703-548-2891.

STs ANNE & JOACHIM SOCIETY (Senior Group) will visit the Little Theatre of Alexandria on Thursday, June 9th at 7:45 PM. The program is "Run For Your Wife." Group rate reservations are \$11 and are due in advance by May 26th to Barbara Lynch at 815 South Lee Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314.

IHM CONFERENCE – JUNE 10th and 11th: The Immaculate Heart of Mary 2005 National and Home School and Family Conference will be held at the Dulles Hilton Conference Center in Herdon, VA (DC area) on Friday, June 10th (9 AM – 9:30 PM) and on Saturday, June 11th (9 AM – 4:30 PM). Free admission and free parking! Nationally renowned speakers include: Dr. A. von Hildebrand, Fr. P. Straub, Fr. P. Scalia, Fr. J. Gould, Cong. R.K. Dornan, Mrs. L. Berquist, and many others. Numerous Catholic vendors and Catholic curriculum providers. Info: www.ihmconference.org, info@ihmconference.org, or 540-636-1946.

MASS REMINDER: The Church has asked in the new General Instruction for the Roman Missal (issued in 2000) that blessings not be given to children in the Communion line, lest the great gift of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament be thought as worth no more than a simple blessing when they finally come to make their First Communion. We will be happy to bless your children after Mass. Thank you for your gracious understanding.

CHRIST HOUSE DINNER: St. Mary's will be serving dinner at Christ House on May 31st. A sign-up book for needed food items will be in the back of the church. Our thanks to those who contribute and/or serve. Please contact Janet Watkins at 703-836-1265, or Rita Meyer at 703-768-3482 with any questions.

CARPENTER'S SHELTER: On June 2nd we will be serving dinner to the residents of the shelter. See the book in the back of the church to sign up for food. Please contact Barbara Halicki at 703-370-7026 with any questions. Thanks for all that you do!

ALIVE (Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically) is a nonprofit organization of volunteers from 39 religious congregations and the community working to help those in need in the city. It is the largest private safety net for the needy in the city. We are in need of a volunteer representative from St. Mary's. A monthly meeting from September through June is the time commitment. If you are interested, please call Bernadette Burgess at 703-461-6840



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR May 22nd:

First Reading — The LORD, merciful and gracious, rich in kindness and faithfulness (Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9).
Psalm — Glory and praise for ever! (Daniel 3).
Second Reading — Brothers and sisters, rejoice. Live with one another in peace, and the God of peace will be with you (2 Corinthians 13:11-13).
Gospel — God did not send the Son to condemn the world, but to give it abundant life (John 3:16-18).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Sir 17:20-24; Mk 10:17-27
 Tuesday: Sir 35:1-12; Mk 10:28-31
 Wednesday: Sir 36:1, 4-5a, 10-17; Mk 10:32-45
 Thursday: Sir 42:15-25; Mk 10:46-52
 Friday: Sir 44:1, 9-13; Mk 11:11-26
 Saturday: Sir 51:12cd-20; Mk 11:27-33
 Sunday: Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a; Ps 147; 1 Cor 10:16-17; Jn 6:51-58

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: The Most Holy Trinity
 Monday: Eighth Week in Ordinary Time
 Wednesday: St. Bede the Venerable; St. Gregory VII; St. Mary Magdalene de' Pazzi
 Thursday: St. Philip Neri
 Friday: St. Augustine of Canterbury
 Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

Sick Relatives & Friends

Please pray for all those who are ill, including:

Nancy Alfery	Tom Flack	Margaret Kildoff
Leo Balducci	Garrett Golubin	Bob Murphy
Julie Biegun	Brendan Griffith	Eugene Peters
Phyllis Bogle	Noelle Hammad	Fred Pierce
Belinda Byrd	Nick Hayes	Sally Schwarz
Margaret Correale	Loana Kane	Laura Tarter
Anna Dunn		Peter Turnbull



Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those who have died, including:
 Robert Burnham and Arthur Kramer

USHERS **ADDITIONAL USHERS NEEDED AT ALL MASSES:** Ladies & gentlemen of all ages are asked to consider volunteering to assist the ushers at Masses either weekly or on a regular schedule. Please contact the lead usher at the end of each Mass or call Jim Forbes at 703-683-8647. Thank you!

BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL (BLA): We express our heartfelt gratitude to all who have contributed to this year's appeal. If you have not already done so, please consider making a contribution to the BLA. You may return your BLA pledge at Mass or you may mail it.

OFFICE OF RESETTLEMENT ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: In 1975 the Arlington Diocese established the Office of Resettlement to address the needs of over 2,000 refugees who poured into Northern Virginia. With only one staff member, the Office of Resettlement assisted thousands of newcomers to America. Today, the Office of Resettlement is the largest refugee service provider in the area: with a staff of sixteen operating in five different locations in four counties throughout Northern Virginia. Please join Bishop Loverde and the Resettlement Office staff as they celebrate 30 years of refugee assistance on Wednesday, June 22nd at 6:30 PM at the Hilton Tysons Corner. Take time to learn about these refugees who flee persecution and death to arrive in a new place, seeking only safety and survival. Learn how you can help "welcome the stranger" in your own backyard.

ST. JOSEPH'S GOSPEL CHOIR will be performing their Spring Concert, "Come Celebrate & Praise" TODAY, May 22nd at 4:00 PM at St. Joseph's Catholic Church located on 711 North Columbus Street, Alexandria. A Farewell reception will follow for Lydia Dunn Harris, please join us.