

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Parish Information

2014

St. Mary's Catholic Church

310 South Royal Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Rectory

310 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 Phone: 703-836-4100; Fax: 703-549-3605 Web site: www.saintmaryparish.net Web comments/questions: web@saintmaryparish.net

Lyceum

313 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

The Sam Adams House (the "White House") 314 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

St. Mary's Cemetery

1000 South Washington Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Welcome to St. Mary's Catholic Church. St. Mary's was established in 1795 and is the oldest Catholic parish in the Commonwealth of Virginia. To fund the Church, Colonel John Fitzgerald, a friend of George Washington and an early mayor of Alexandria, took up a collection. According to local tradition, Washington himself made the first donation.

A chapel was built at the south end of the city on land still used today as St. Mary's Cemetery. In 1810, the Church moved to its present location in the heart of the city at 310 South Royal Street. Throughout the 1800s, St. Mary's Church has played an important role in the growth of Catholicism in Virginia. The many mission churches which St. Mary's established have gone on to become independent parishes within the Diocese of Arlington. Today St. Mary's Church has more parishioners than Alexandria had residents when the city was founded.

When visiting Alexandria, please visit St. Mary's Church and worship with us. If you have any questions regarding our parish, or if you live within our parish boundaries and wish to become a parishioner, please do not hesitate to contact the Rectory.

1 01/2014

Parish Staff

Reverend Father Dennis Kleinmann, Pastor Reverend Father Robert L. Ruskamp, Parochial Vicar Reverend Father Marcus Pollard, Parochial Vicar

Miss Noëlle Hiester, x11, nhiester@stmaryoldtown.org Miss Mary Eileen Barber, x15 Miss Emily Liutkus, x10 Mrs. Mayra Saunders, x18

Appointments are made with priests by calling the Rectory and leaving a message for the priest.

St. Mary's Office of Religious Education and Junior High, High School and Young Adult Outreach Jeanne Guerin, Director of Religious Education, 703-836-5450, jguerin@stmaryoldtown.org Angela Lademan, Director of Young Adult and Youth Activities, 571-319-1975, alademan@stmaryoldtown.org

Dr. Charles Saik, Director of Music, 703-684-5308, csaik@stmaryoldtown.org

St. Mary's School

400 Green Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314 Phone: 703-549-1646; Fax: 703-519-0840

Stephens Hall (Middle School)

Phone: 703-549-3488; Fax: 703-549-3489

Web site: www.smsva.org Mrs. Janet Cantwell, Principal

Extended Day (after school until 6:00 p.m.): Maria Tallia, 703-628-2337

St. Mary's Church Parking Lots

Three parking lots are available during Masses and other church services:

- Corner of Wolfe and South Royal Streets Enter from Wolfe Street
- Corner of Duke and South Fairfax Streets Enter from South Fairfax Street
- South Pitt Street (between Duke and Wolfe) Enter from the middle of the 300 block

Park in one of the lots or in available public spaces on the street. Please do not park in the alley next to the lot on South Pitt Street, and do not block any driveways, or your car may be towed. St. Mary's rents out spaces to private persons and organizations from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Unauthorized vehicles parked in the lots during those times (except during Mass times) are subject to towing.

Boundaries of St. Mary's Parish

Beginning at Fort Hunt Road and Morningside Lane: East on Morningside Lane to the Potomac River North along the river to Princess Street (in the city) West on Princess Street to Washington Street South on Washington Street to King Street West on King Street to the RF&P RR tracks North along the tracks to Luray Avenue West on Luray Avenue to Braddock Road West on Braddock Road to Oakland Terrace South on Oakland Terrace to King Street West on King Street to Janneys Lane West on Janneys Lane to Quaker Lane South along Quaker Lane to Duke Street West on Duke Street to Holmes Run Parkway South on Holmes Run Parkway to the RF&P RR tracks East along the tracks to Telegraph Road South on Telegraph Road to North Kings Highway Southeast on North Kings Highway to Fort Drive Follow Fort Drive to Fairhaven Avenue and across U.S. Route 1 Continue south on Ouander Road to Beacon Hill Road East on Beacon Hill Road to Fort Hunt Road South on Fort Hunt Road to Morningside Lane

Masses and Devotions

Sunday Masses

Saturday 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

Sunday 7:00 a.m.

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Choir

9:15 a.m. Children's Mass in St. Mary's School gym

during the school year.

Children of reading age are invited to

participate in the children's choir during this

Mass. Practice begins at 8:45 a.m.

10:00 a.m. Traditional Choir

Nursery for children ages 1-4 in the St.

Joseph room in the Lyceum.

First Sunday of the month: Novus Ordo

(New Rite) Latin Mass.

11:30 a.m. Alternate weeks: Schola – a group of cantors

who enhance the Liturgy by singing chant and polyphony from the Church's rich

treasury of sacred music.

1:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m.

Daily Masses

Monday through Friday: 6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m.*, 12:10 p.m.

Holy Days of Obligation which fall on weekdays include 7:30 p.m. Masses on the holy day and the previous evening (except Sundays).

Saturday: 8:00 a.m.* only

Federal Holidays: Please see the bulletin for the schedule of Masses.

Thanksgiving Day: 10:00 a.m.

* Rosary begins 20 minutes prior.

The Mass in Latin (1970 Missal)

The regular 10:00 a.m. Mass on the first Sunday of the month is celebrated in Latin. This form of Mass is the regular Mass most Catholics are used to ("Novus Ordo," or "Ordinary Form of the Roman Rite"). Periodically the Extraordinary Form is offered at St. Mary's. Watch the bulletin for details.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursdays, 12:40 - 7:30 p.m.

First Fridays: Nocturnal Adoration Society members lead prayers from the Office of the Blessed Sacrament during each hour of the night, beginning at 9:00 p.m. (Exposition) and ending at 6:00 a.m. (Benediction).

Devotions

Forty Hours: Generally begins on December 6 and ends on December 8 (Feast of the Immaculate Conception). See the bulletin for the schedule.

Holy Hour for Life: First Saturday, following the 8:00 a.m. Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena: Mondays, 12:00 noon

Mother of Perpetual Help Novena and Holy Hour: Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays during Lent, 7:30 p.m.

Vespers: Sundays, 4:30 p.m.

Sacraments

Baptism

Every Sunday at 2:15 p.m. Please call the Rectory at 703-836-4100 to register in advance and obtain regulations concerning godparents, etc. Baptism classes for parents are held on the first Thursday each month at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Joseph room in the Lyceum for those having a child baptized at St. Mary's. These classes are required for your first child. No prior registration is necessary, just sign in upon your arrival. Adults interested in being baptized should enroll in the RCIA program.

Penance (Confession)

Saturday 4:00 – 5:00 p.m., 7:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 7:30 p.m. (during Holy Hour)

First Saturday 8:30 a.m. (during Holy Hour)

Monday through Friday after the 12:10 p.m. Mass until the line runs out

Eucharist

See the Mass schedule. Those who are physically unable to attend Mass may call the Rectory at 703-836-4100 to arrange a visit by a minister of Holy Communion.

First Holy Communion: Students of St. Mary's School and CCD programs make their First Communion in the 2nd grade. For more information, contact Director of Religious Education Jeanne Guerin, 703-836-5450, jguerin@stmaryoldtown.org. Adults interested in receiving First Holy Communion should contact Jeanne Guerin, 703-836-5450, jguerin@stmaryoldtown.org.

Confirmation

Conferred on 8th-grade students of St. Mary's School and CCD programs. For more information, contact Director of Religious Education Jeanne Guerin, 703-836-5450, jguerin@stmaryoldtown.org. Adults interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation should enroll in the RCIA program.

Matrimony

Contact a parish priest at least six months before the possible wedding date. Weddings are scheduled on Saturdays between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Marriage preparation classes begin at least six months prior to the date of wedding. All couples are required to take the FOCCUS Pre-Marriage Inventory Test as part of marriage preparation. The FOCCUS test is administered on the first and second Tuesday each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Lyceum on the first floor. Registration is not necessary and there is no charge. Both parties should be present to take the test. For further information, contact Angela Lademan at 571-319-1975 or alademan@stmaryoldtown.org. Couples living together will be asked to live separately during the marriage preparation time. Attendance at a wedding music seminar is also strongly encouraged.

Wedding music workshops are held on the third Tuesday of oddnumbered months (January, March, May, July, September and November) at 7:00 p.m. in the choir loft. For more information, contact Director of Music Dr. Charles Saik, 703-684-5308, csaik@stmaryoldtown.org.

For information on floral arrangements for weddings, please contact the parish office, 703-836-4100, at least two months in advance.

Holy Orders

Speak with a parish priest or contact the Diocesan Office of Vocations, 703-841-2514.

Anointing of the Sick

Contact the Rectory at 703-836-4100 to arrange for the reception of this Sacrament.

Parish and Diocesan Groups and Activities

AA Meetings

Fridays, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the St. Joseph and St. Joachim rooms in the Lyceum.

AlAnon

Support group for alcoholics and their family members. Meets in the St. Joseph room in the Lyceum, Sundays at 6:00 p.m. for parents of alcoholics and at 7:15 p.m. for family members of alcoholics.

Adoptions

Adoption home studies, assistance for unwed mothers, and placement of children. Catholic Charities Children's Services, 5284 Lyngate Court, Burke, VA 22015; 703-425-0100.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Quiet prayer time before the Holy Eucharist. Sign up for an hour or stop in and visit our Lord. Thursdays 12:40 – 7:30 p.m. Mary Stier, 703-768-7167.

Adult Education ("Sermon on the Mount")

Wine and cheese social followed by talk and discussion, Tuesday evenings periodically from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the Lyceum auditorium. Help set up and host food and drinks. Jeanne Guerin, 703-836-5450, jguerin@stmaryoldtown.org.

ALIVE! Inc. (Alexandrians Involved Ecumenically)

An ecumenical non-profit organization of volunteers from over 40 local congregations organized to assist the needy of the community. ALIVE! serves thousands of Alexandrians annually with shelter; financial help for rent, utilities, and medical care; emergency food; low-cost early childhood education; and deliveries of donated furniture and housewares. Volunteer time to help distribute food, or to drive and pick up / drop off furniture for the poor. Donations always welcome. Diane Johnston, 703-768-4686, dianedjohnston@aol.com; or the ALIVE! office, 703-837-9300.

Altar Servers

Young men in the 5th through 12th grades who assist the priests during weekend Masses and occasionally on weekdays and feast days. For scheduling information, contact Mayra Saunders, 703-836-4100 x18, msaunders@stmaryoldtown.org.

Annulment

Contact a parish priest for details after divorce paperwork is complete.

Arlington Catholic Herald

Weekly diocesan newspaper. Submit a story idea or coming event, or send a letter to the editor. To advertise: 703-841-2594; to subscribe: 703-841-2565. 200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 600, Arlington, VA 22203; 703-841-2590, fax 703-524-2782, www.catholicherald.com.

Baptism Bibs

Bibs for Baptisms at St. Mary's. Lupe Morken, 703-765-3632.

Bereavement Committee

Coordinates receptions in the Lyceum after funerals at St. Mary's. Members volunteer to bake, prepare food, set up, serve and/or clean up, enabling the family to spend time with relatives and friends. Expenses are reimbursed by the parish. Kitty Guy, 703-765-9478; or Margaret Susank, 703-706-8095, susank02@comcast.net.

Boy Scouts (Troop 301) - see Cub Scouts

Boys / Girls Club

7th- and 8th-graders meet 3:15 – 4:30 p.m. on the first and third Wednesdays each month during the school year in Christ Child Hall at St. Mary's School. Contact Angela Lademan, 571-319-1975, alademan@stmaryoldtown.org.

Carpenter's Shelter

Provides services to the homeless of Alexandria, promoting lifelong self-reliance. Coordinates five major programs including day shelter, overnight winter shelter, after-school child care, transitional family shelter, and housing. Help with stocking their pantry for regular giveaways or preparing food. 930 N. Henry Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-548-7500, www.carpentersshelter.org; St. Mary's contact: Barbara Halicki, 703-370-7026.

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington

Administrative offices: 200 N. Glebe Road, Suite 506, Arlington, VA 22203; 703-841-3830, fax 703-841-3840, www.ccda.net. Family services professional counseling centers located in Arlington, Burke, Leesburg, Manassas and Sterling; main office: 3838 Cathedral Lane, Arlington, VA 22203; 703-841-2531.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Women's group for all ages and states of life that strives to serve the parish and the Church at large through various services, events, fundraisers, and spiritual outreach. Court Kavanaugh No. 54 meets on the second Monday each month at 7:30 p.m. (with a 7:00 p.m. "meet-and-greet" beforehand). Sponsors education awards in local Catholic elementary schools and a high-school scholarship for 8th-grade graduates of St. Mary's School. Helen Lynch, 703-582-5722, helenlynch21@gmail.com; Megan Prah, 724-322-6113.

The Junior Catholic Daughters is the youth program of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. The JCDA Court at St. Mary's Parish is open to all Catholic girls in grades 2-8. The primary goal of the JCDA is to promote the spiritual growth of our girls and encourage their service to others in our parish and community. Grades 2-5 meet on the second Friday each month, 3:30 – 5:15 p.m.; Holly Davis, 317-519-5391. Grades 6-8 meet on the third Sunday each month, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the "white house" (314 Duke Street); Janet Naughton, 703-549-5403.

CCD Teacher / Aide / Volunteer

Religious education for students in kindergarten through high school. Volunteer as a CCD teacher or aide on Sunday mornings from 10:00 – 11:15 a.m. Pass on the faith to children or assist in various other ways. Jeanne Guerin, 703-836-5450, jguerin@stmaryoldtown.org.

Children's Mass

Play accompaniment, sing, lector, assist in helping children sing along at the 9:15 a.m. Sunday Mass in St. Mary's school gym. Music and overall coordinator Claire Schwab, 703-615-9495, cschwab@claireschwab.com. Liturgical closet keyholders arrive at 8:30 a.m. to set up altar, music stands, chairs, etc. John McGowan, 202-549-7217, jqmcgowan@gmail.com.

Choir (Contemporary)

Sing or play an instrument in the contemporary choir at the 8:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Practice Tuesdays 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the Church. Vocal auditions not required. Claire Fallon, 703-683-2509, cla.fallon@comcast.net.

Choir (Traditional)

Sing in the traditional choir, play an instrument, or lead as a cantor at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. Practice Wednesdays 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the Lyceum auditorium. Auditions held for cantors. Music Director Dr. Charles Saik, 703-684-5308, csaik@stmaryoldtown.org.

Christ House

Operated by Catholic Charities to provide food and clothing for the poor and homeless. Christ House accepts clothing, blankets, towels, toiletries, and usable coats. Volunteers help coordinate, prepare, and serve food. 131 S. West Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Shelter 703-549-8644; Financial Assistance 703-548-4227; Food 703-841-3838; fax 703-683-1748; www.ccda.net/programs_christhouse.php. St. Mary's contacts: Rita Meyer, 703-768-3482, or Janet Watkins, 703-836-1265.

Christmas Bazaar

Takes place each year on the Saturday before Thanksgiving; a preview party is held at St. Mary's School on the Friday night preceding.

Christmas Tree Sale

Held in the school parking lot in early December.

Colin Casey 3K Classic

This "fun run" kicks off the annual Spring Fling and is held in remembrance of Colin Casey, son of retired St. Mary's teacher Mary Casey and Michael Casey. A popular, outstanding scholar and athlete, Colin died on June 16, 1991, days after his 8th-grade graduation. All proceeds benefit the Colin Casey Scholarship Fund which provides financial assistance to St. Mary's students.

Cub Scouts (Pack 301)

Parish boys grades 1-5 meet on the third Thursday each month at the School. More information at www.pack301stmarys.org. Cubmaster Pete Dwyer, 202-725-8542, pwdwyer@yahoo.com.

Cursillo

A movement that through God's grace enables the essential realities of the Christian to come to life in the uniqueness, originality, and creativity of each person. Weekend retreats, follow-up conferences, and free Catholic literature are offered. The Cursillo Movement, P.O. Box 799, Jarrell, TX 76537; www.natl-cursillo.org.

EWTN (Eternal Word Television Network)

Catholic Q&A, Catholic Document Library, Audio Library, Catholic News, daily Catholic podcast. 205-271-2900, www.ewtn.com. Comcast channel 291 (Alexandria); Cox channel 133 (Fairfax County).

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Distribute the Eucharist at Masses. Emma Lopo-Sullivan, 703-360-6032.

FOCCUS

Marriage survey test given to engaged couples on the first and second Tuesday each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Lyceum. See Sacraments – Matrimony above for more information. Angela Lademan, 571-319-1975, alademan@stmaryoldtown.org.

Franciscan 3rd Order (Secular Franciscans)

Meets the second Saturday each month, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the St. Joseph room in the Lyceum. Visitors interested in Franciscan spirituality are welcome. SFO secretary Sadie Martins, 703-548-8063; Fr. Edward Horkan, interim spiritual assistant.

Girl Scouts

Grades 1-8. Missy Spencer, 571-214-2319, melissa.reardon@att.net.

Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services

For singles and families struggling to make ends meet: finding apartments; budgeting; life skills counseling; emergency services; grants and referrals to pay utilities, security deposit, or first month's rent; avoid eviction. 8305 Richmond Highway #17B, Alexandria, VA 22309; 703-768-9404, www.goodhousing.org.

Jail Visitation (Alexandria City)

Ministry to the local imprisoned, sharing with them the basic Gospel message and the Catholic faith, and bringing them the sacraments. Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. Chris Lewis, 703-360-7214, 703-204-1092, jplewis@lasystems.com; George Lynch, 703-549-3742.

Junior High and High School Youth Ministry

Work with parish Junior High and High School teens in a variety of ways to pass on the faith. Help chaperone, be part of youth nights, retreats, trips, and activities. Meets most Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the Lyceum auditorium, with various other activities on weekends throughout the year. Formerly the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO). Angela Lademan, 571-319-1975, alademan@stmaryoldtown.org.

Knights of Columbus, Fitzgerald Council 459 (chartered in the year 1900)

The largest Catholic fraternal organization in the world can offer you an opportunity to support your Parish, give back to your community, grow in your Faith, defend life, and support your family. We are a band of brothers, a network of men in communities around the world dedicated to works of charity in service to God and our neighbors. We welcome you as an addition to our Council! Meetings are the second Wednesday each month (social meeting fourth Wednesday), 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the Lyceum. Grand Knight Steve Buttie, 703-838-3689, sbuttie@hotmail.com.

Lectors

Read the readings and intercessions at daily and/or Sunday Masses. Training is provided. Noëlle Hiester, 703-836-4100 x11, nhiester@stmaryoldtown.org.

Legion of Mary

Association of Catholic laity focused on devotion to Mary serving the Church through a balanced program of prayer and service. Works include door-to-door evangelization, parishioner visitation, prison ministry, visitation of the sick or aged, crowd contact, religious education, visiting the newly baptized, Pilgrim Virgin Statue rotations, and meeting the other spiritual needs of the parish community. Meets Mondays at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Joachim room in the Lyceum. www.legionofmary.org. Linda Melone, 703-725-8526, olofsorrows@hotmail.com.

Lessons and Carols

The annual pre-Christmas concert with the parish and children's choirs is held on the third Sunday of Advent at 7:30 p.m. in the Church.

Liturgy of the Hours

Apostolate web site for praying the Liturgy of the Hours without the book. Just open the file for the morning or evening prayer or the Office of Readings and pray. The prayers are available in Adobe Acrobat formats that print as booklets, display on PCs and mobile devices, and to "Read Out Loud" on PCs. www.liturgyhours.org.

Marriage Encounter / Retrouvaille

National movement aimed at marriage renewal and growth through retreats, and by older and younger couples fostering friendships. Couples involved participate and help lead retreats as well as develop relationships with other couples.

Marriage Encounter: Friday night to Sunday afternoon, away from it all reconnecting with your spouse and a chance to renew your vows on Sunday morning. www.WWME.net, 410-665-5700.

Retrouvaille ("rediscovery"): for those marriages already in trouble, a weekend retreat plus extra meetings to follow up. 703-351-7211, www.rc.net/arlington/retro/.

Mary Martha Guild

Prepares and maintains the Church for liturgical and sacramental events, including Confirmation, First Holy Communion, funerals, weddings, and the holy seasons of Christmas and Easter. For more information, contact Mary A.D. Petrino ASID, 703-683-8877, mary.petrino@gmail.com. For wedding flowers, contact the parish office at least two months in advance. See Sacraments – Matrimony above for information on scheduling a wedding. For funeral flowers, please contact the parish office in advance of placing orders. Weekly donations for floral arrangements at the tabernacle or the statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, and the Sacred Heart may be made during Ordinary Time as well as during special seasons. For general information and available dates and contributions, contact the parish office, 703-836-4100. For parishioners wishing to join and work with the Guild contact Julie Stella, 703-781-0101, stella@sprintmail.com. Fr. Pollard serves as the Guild's spiritual advisor.

Meals on Wheels

Two meals each weekday to homebound elderly and disabled people provided by Senior Services of Alexandria. Volunteers needed for two hours each month to deliver meals. 700 Princess Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-836-4414, www.seniorservicesalex.org.

Money Counters Group

Teams meet once a month on Sunday or Monday mornings to open collection envelopes, count, record, and prepare the collection money from weekend Masses for deposit. Pat Malvaso, 703-360-8525, cell 703-362-8529, pjmalvaso@aol.com.

Mothers and Children Prayer Group

Meets for Holy Hour on first and third Fridays, 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. in the Church. During the Holy Hour, Father leads the Eucharistic Adoration and hears Confessions while the mothers and children pray the rosary and sing songs. Following Adoration, flowers are presented to the Blessed Mother by the children. After our time in the Church, we meet for social playtime at the Lyceum or a nearby park. Barbara Dwyer, 703-780-0803, bhdwyer@yahoo.com.

Mothers Group

A playgroup for young children meets most Mondays at 9:30 a.m. in the St. Joseph room in the Lyceum or at a local park. Contact Jill Cooper for information and to be added to the e-mail list: stmarysplaygroup2013@gmail.com.

Nursery

Help supervise young children (ages 1-5) in the Lyceum while parents attend the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. Jean Marie O'Neill, 703-548-0657, jmoneill@verizon.net.

Nocturnal Adoration Society

Worldwide arch-confraternity of Catholics who pray the Office of the Blessed Sacrament each month for an hour. At St. Mary's, the hours begin on the First Friday of each month with Exposition at 9:00 p.m. and ending with Benediction at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday. For membership information, contact NAS Deanery II President Jeffery P. Petrino, 703-683-8877, NASDeanery2@gmail.com. All are welcome to participate with or without membership. Visit www.stjeanbaptisteny.org/ Eucharistic-Mystery/Introduction for more information on the NAS.

Oktoberfest

Parish celebration at the school on the last Sunday of October, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Pauline Books & Media Catholic Bookstore

Tuesday – Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. 1025 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-549-3806, alexandria@pauline.org.

Pilgrimage to Italy

Fr. Kleinmann leads this spiritual pilgrimage each spring for newly confirmed 8th-graders and a parent.

Pregnancy Help

HOPE in Northern Virginia Inc. offers friendship, counseling, referrals to community resources, and clothing and other items to assist pregnant women. 610 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046; 703-536-2020, www.hopeinnova.org.

Marih Center: Crisis pregnancy counseling and supplies, baby clothes, etc. Open Monday – Thursday, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. for walk-in counseling and pickup of supplies. 3230-B Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-370-4774.

Paul Stefan Home for Unwed Mothers opens the doors of hope for women 17 years and older facing unplanned pregnancy, staffed by professionals and trained volunteers. P.O. Box 754, Locust Grove, VA 22508; 866-908-MOMS, www.paulstefanhome.org.

Project Gabriel: Outreach to expectant mothers, both in the parish as well as the needy and poor in the area. Help meet the needs of mothers before and after they give birth, from food and clothing to transportation, etc. 866-444-3553, or Barbara Furey, 703-360-5724.

Prevention of Blindness Thrift Shop

Accepts donations for sale to support research into causes and treatments for blindness. 900 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-683-2558.

Pro-Life Activities

Help plan pro-life Masses, trips to the March for Life and prayer at abortion clinics, and promote general awareness of pro-life issues. A rosary is prayed at a local women's clinic on the third Saturday each month at 8:45 a.m. Mike and Suzan Cummins, 703-683-5449, suzantc@comcast.net.

Project Rachel

Post-abortion healing outreach to mothers who have had an abortion. Call the Rectory, 703-836-4100; or Project Rachel, 703-841-2504, projectrachel@arlingtondiocese.org.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

The process by which unbaptized adults and baptized Christians enter the Catholic Church. One year of preparation involves classes, retreats, etc., with regular sessions on Mondays, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the Lyceum auditorium. A core team of parishioners assists with coordination and sponsoring. Jeanne Guerin, 703-836-5450, jguerin@stmaryoldtown.org.

Retreat Centers

Benedictine: St. Anselm's Abbey, Washington, DC; 202-269-2300, www.stanselms.org.

Benedictine Sisters, Bristow, VA; www.benedictinepastoralcenter.org.

Bon Secours, Marriottsville, MD; 410-442-1320, www.bonsecoursspiritualcenter.org.

Diocesan Retreat Center: San Damiano Spiritual Life Center, 125 Old Kitchen Road, White Post, VA 22663; 540-868-9220, sandamiano@arlingtondiocese.com.

Dominican Retreat House, 7103 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA 22101; 703-356-4243, www.dominicanretreat.org.

Franciscan Monastery, Washington, DC; 202-269-5446, www.myfranciscan.org; Retreat: 202-529-1111.

Loyola Retreat House, Faulkner, MD; 301-392-0801, www.loyolaretreat.org.

Trappist Monastery – Holy Cross Abbey, Berryville, VA; www.hcava.org.

Rosary

Held before morning Mass in the Church at 7:40 a.m. Monday – Saturday (20 minutes before the scheduled Mass on federal holidays). Call Sadie Martins, 703-548-8063, to join the list of rosary leaders.

Sacristans

Work with the priests and staff to assist in preparing the altar, sanctuary area, and the various vessels and details for Mass, Holy Hours, etc. Steve Young, 202-297-0583.

Salvation Army

Local units conduct assistance programs for food, utilities, rent, housing, and other needs. 1804 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22301; 703-836-2427. Mailing address: The Salvation Army, P.O. Box 2245, Alexandria, VA 22301.

Sanctuary Committee

Takes care of altar cloths and other essential items. Noëlle Hiester, 703-836-4100 x11, nhiester@stmaryoldtown.org.

Shut-in Visitation

To request a visit for the sick of the parish in nursing homes and shutins in private homes, or to volunteer to help, call the Rectory, 703-836-4100.

Singles Groups

PTSC (Prime Time Single Catholics), age 40+; groups.yahoo.com/group/ptsc1.

St. Agnes Young Adults, ages 22-35, 1914 N. Randolph Street, Arlington, VA; groups.yahoo.com/group/stagnesyag.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Inspired by Gospel values, this international Catholic lay organization leads women and men to join together and grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering in the tradition of its founder, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, and patron, St. Vincent de Paul. The group operates a help line and receives several requests for assistance each week throughout the year. Meets on the first and third Tuesdays each month, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the St. Joseph room in the Lyceum. Meetings consist of group prayer, spiritual reflection, and discussion of requests for assistance. Always working in pairs, volunteers share responsibility for responding to requests for assistance and meeting with the poor in their homes throughout the city of Alexandria (east of I-395). To volunteer, please leave a message for the SVDP president on the help line, 703-836-1724.

Society of the Patricians

Monthly discussion group giving adult Catholics an opportunity to build upon their knowledge of the faith in a prayerful, family setting. Meets on the fourth Saturday each month, 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the Lyceum. The topic for each meeting is chosen at the prior meeting and announced in the bulletin. Each meeting begins with a short presentation on the topic prepared and delivered by a member of the group, followed by prayerful and lively discussion. Refreshments are provided. Fr. Pollard serves as Spiritual Director. Sponsored by the Legion of Mary, but LOM membership is not necessary to participate. Linda Melone, 703-725-8526, olofsorrows@hotmail.com.

St. Joachim and St. Anne Society (Seniors Group)

Seniors who enjoy meeting other parishioners for a combination of spiritual, social, and service events meet regularly each month. Bible study meets the first Thursday of each month (September – June) in the St. Joseph room in the Lyceum. Tom May, 703-960-9344; Barbara Juszczyk, 703-683-6834; Bible study: Liz Gardenier, 703-765-1589.

Sunrise Retirement Home

Bring Communion and visit the elderly of the retirement home, many of whom get few visitors and battle loneliness. Donnie Arenth, 703-765-9421.

TWIG

Thrift shop accepts donations and sells them at a reasonable fee to pay for the Alexandria Hospital bills of the indigent and to improve services at the hospital. 106 N. Columbus Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; 703-683-5544, www.thetwig.org.

Ushers

Parishioners who direct people to their seats and run the collection during all Sunday Masses as well as on feast days and special occasions. John McDonald, 703-254-8338.

Victims of Sexual Abuse

Diocesan director of victims of sexual abuse offers counseling services on a sliding scale fee. 703-841-2530.

VIRTUS

Protecting God's children: child sexual abuse prevention program run by the National Catholic Risk Retention Group (www.virtus.org). To become certified to spend time with children of the parish through volunteering at the parish or school, contact the school, 703-549-1646.

Walking with Purpose Catholic Women's Bible Study

Walking With Purpose aims to bring women to a deeper personal relationship with Jesus Christ by offering personal study and small group discussion that link everyday challenges and struggles with the solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Roman Catholic Church. Morning session with child care available on Wednesdays, 9:15 – 11:00 a.m., and evening session on Thursdays, 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. Both sessions are held in the Holy Family Auditorium in the Lyceum and run from October through May. Julie Guiffré, Coordinator, and Barbara Dwyer, Administrator; 703-780-0803, stmaryswwp@yahoo.com.

Web Site Management

For update requests or to volunteer assistance, contact Dan Scheeler, 703-372-3907, dan@scheeler.org or web@saintmaryparish.net.

Woodbine Rehabilitation and Healthcare

Bring Communion and visit the residents, many of whom get few visitors and battle loneliness. Fridays at 1:00 p.m. Tom Hasbrouck, 703-329-1371; or Donnie Arenth, 703-765-9421.

Work Camp

Currently seeking a stakeholder (person present at camp who oversees everything for St. Mary's), adult volunteers, security volunteers, contractors, and kids. Work camp is one week each summer. Angela Lademan, 571-319-1975, alademan@stmaryoldtown.org.

Young Adults

A group of people (20s-30s) trying to maintain their Catholic faith and support each other in the midst of the fast-paced and secular world that surrounds us. Events include: first Sunday each month, 1:00 p.m. Mass in the Church and brunch; third Friday each month, Holy Hour and socials beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Church; possible book/discussion group and other things to come. See the bulletin, or the Facebook group St. Mary's Young Adults; or contact Angela Lademan, 571-319-1975, alademan@stmaryoldtown.org.

Young Men's Group

For dedicated young men (ages 20-40 or so; married or single) seeking to know, love, and serve God through prayer, brotherhood, and knowledge of the Catholic Faith. Special emphasis on clarifying orthodox and traditional teachings and practices in the context of the challenges of modern, often hostile, culture. Meetings are on the first and third Wednesdays each month, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the "white house" at 314 Duke Street (next door to the Rectory). Meetings begin with a short period of fellowship and friendly discussion, followed by the Rosary, a directed study of the Sunday Gospel and an open discussion of a current article or issue over pizza and drinks. For further information, contact Fr. Pollard at the Rectory, 703-836-4100.