



Mass Intentions
Of The Week

Monday, April 3, 2006, Lenten Weekday

6:30 Barry Royden
9:00 Susan Tucker Yates †

Tues., Apr. 4, Lenten Weekday, Isidore, bishop, doctor

6:30 Grace Dolores Wilkes †
9:00 Jack Schneider †

Wed., Apr. 5, Lenten Weekday, Vincent Ferrer, priest

6:30 Cecile McCarthy †
9:00 Ursula Brennan †

Thursday, April 6, Lenten Weekday

6:30 Justin Frazier & Jack Belken
9:00 Jeanne Mulvaney †

Fri., Apr. 7, Lenten Weekday, John Baptist de la Salle, priest

6:30 Dorian Hughes
9:00 Joan Duval †

Saturday, April 8, Lenten Weekday

8:15 Donald C. Longfield †
5:00 John Amorosi †

Sunday, April 9, Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

7:30 Geraldine Shahin †
9:00 Amelia & Adriano Fernandes †
10:45 People of the Parish
12:30 Jeanne Mulvaney †

Readings for the Week of April 2, 2006

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34; Ps 51; Heb 5:7-9; Jn 12:20-33
Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62; Ps 23; Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102; Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42
Thursday: Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105; Jn 8:51-59
Friday: Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18; Jn 10:31-42
Saturday: Ez 37:21-28; Jr 31:10, 11-12, 13; Jn 11:45-56
Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16; Ps 22; Is 50:4-7; Phil 2:6-11; Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

Pope's Prayer Intentions April 2006

General: Rights of Women : That the individual, social and political rights of women may be respected in every nation.
Missionary: Church in China: That the Church in China may carry out its evangelizing mission with serenity and in full freedom.



Remember In Prayer

Margaret Amorosi	Kathleen Harrington	Edward Ortlieb
Ronald Bashion	Charles Harrison	Mary Pistorino
Toni Burger	Gary & Cindy Hogan	Joseph Riotto
Harry Clarke	Laura Holleran	Lois Riscile
Michael Clarke	Maureen Hollingsworth	Conley Rohall
Polly Cedar	Mary Johnson	John Ronan
Vincent Corcoran	Billee Jordan	Edelisa Samson
Edward Cotter	Blanche Kane	Martin Schaffer
Marie Davalos	John Long	Barbara Skyell
Lucille Dion	Katherine Malcolm	Mary Spann
Denis Downey, Jr.	Lou McGuinness	Margaret Serrao
Pam Dunne	Edward McGrath	Margaret Stimpfle
Maria Esteves	Nancy Miller	
Michael Francis	Matthew Morgan	
Delores Frazier	Monica Mizerek	
Pacita Gonzaga	Rita Mughir	
Alex Hargenrader	Ernest Oddono	

Please let the bulletin secretary know when names can be removed. Thank you.

From the Pastor

Bishop Loverde has allowed pastors to determine whether there is a pastoral need to permit in their parish female altar servers. In 1994 the Holy See granted to diocesan bishops permission to authorize the addition of females if they believed there was a pastoral need. The bishop is under no requirement to allow them. Bishop Keating after consulting the priests of the diocese decided not to allow their use in most cases. Although only one other bishop refused to grant permission, many bishops who had given permission later told Bishop Keating they wished they had waited.

In 2001 the Holy See issued a clarification (in a letter) on this issue. The letter states that bishops are under no requirement to allow female servers which the letter calls an "innovation" and that priests in their diocese which allows them are not obligated to use them. Thus while granting the permission to use altar girls when there is a pastoral need the Holy See recommends that as far as possible the time honored custom of having only boys as servers be retained.

The main reason for retaining the "boys only" policy has been the number of altar boys who became priests. Although the diocesan vocations director says there is no connection, Rome sees otherwise. The Holy See says "As is well known, this (the policy of boys only) has led to a reassuring development of priestly vocations. Thus the obligation to support such groups of altar boys will always continue."

Being an altar server is no one's right so the issue of justice does not enter the discussion. Serving is a privilege which the Church grants to those she deems pastorally proper. Never in her history has the Church allowed women to serve as acolytes (altar servers) and this tradition is still maintained by the Eastern churches. Why? Because the job of serving at the altar has been seen as a preparation for priesthood—that is why the server wears cassock and surplice. Most altar boys do not become priests still the development of this liturgical minister has always been intimately associated with the priesthood.

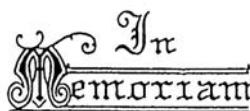
Some people ask, "If a woman can read (lector) and distribute the Body of Christ (extraordinary ministers of communion) then why can they not do the lesser role of serving the priest?" The answer is this: the lector and extraordinary minister serves the congregation or assembly, the altar server serves the priest. Bishop Keating said, "The altar boy is to the priest as the page was to the Knight." The page in many cases was apprenticed to the knight. Most altar boys will not become priests, but the experience of serving at the altar will create another bond to the priesthood—they will become fathers of priests.

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta, still lovingly known as Mother Teresa, was opposed to girls serving at the altar even after permission had come from Rome. Mother also saw that false hopes might be born in a young girl's heart that one day she could become a priest. Indeed that was said by one of the girls interviewed on TV after Bishop Loverde's announcement. Pope John Paul II declared definitively, hence infallibly, that women cannot be ordered. When Rome said that women could serve at the altar if the local bishop believed it was for the good of souls, bishops, priests and laity took it as a command, took the exception for the norm. I was asked by the Missionaries of Charity (Mother Teresa's order) to give two convents of their sisters a talk on why girls should not serve at the altar.

In 2004 the Holy See said, "It is altogether laudable to maintain the noble custom by which boys or youths provide service at the altar after the manner of acolytes. Nor should it be forgotten that a great number of sacred minutes over the course of the centuries have come from boys such as these."

It is for these reasons that I your pastor have decided to maintain that noble tradition of male only servers. Henceforth our altar boys (which number more than 100) shall be known collectively as the Bishop Keating Society.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE
OF THE SOULS OF
CLAUDE S. CARPENTER,
WINIFRED CHASTKA, and
AGNES KENNEY**





Religious Education

LENTEN LECTURE SERIES 2006: Steve Weidenkopf, the former director of the Office of Marriage & Family Life for Archbishop Chaput in Denver, will be giving a six-week Lenten Lecture Series entitled: *“Epic - A Journey through Church History”*. This week’s lecture, Thursday, April 6, is entitled: **Renewal & Building a Civilization of Love (1958-present)**. Please plan to join us in the Parish Hall at 7:00 pm for this fascinating time-line of our cultural heritage as Catholics.



ALL-CALL FOR CCD TEACHERS:

Is your lamp under a bushel basket? Are you looking for a Lenten resolution that will change your life and the lives of others? Start reviewing the Faith now, so you can pass it on later, as a St. John CCD teacher!

If you are a well-formed Catholic who has studied the faith, love children and would like to teach the next generation of Catholics as an aide or head teacher, please contact Laura Pennefather in the Religious Education Office at 703-356-5275. Also, if you have any recommendations, please call and suggest good parishioners who might teach if invited.

In Our Parish



FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTIONS begin after the 9:00 am Mass with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Please come and spend a grace-filled hour in the presence of Our Eucharistic Lord. A sign-up sheet is available in the vestibule of the church to make certain that adorers are present each hour.

PRAYER SUPPORT FOR MILITARY

OVERSEAS: If you have a family member deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan or other areas of hostility and would like to join other parishioners to pray them home safely please contact Ann Thunder at (703)442-0668 or thundergroup@juno.com

Holy Week Schedule 2006

Sacrament of Penance: Weds. April 12, after Tenebrae service
 Good Friday, April 14, 9:00 - 10:00 am

Holy Saturday, April 15, 9:00 - 10:00 am

Weds. April 12: **Tenebrae service**, 7:30 pm

Holy Thursday, April 13, 7:30 pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper
 11:50 pm Compline (Night Prayer)

Good Friday, April 14, (Day of Fast and Abstinence)

Confession 9:00 - 10:00 am
 Divine Mercy Chaplet 12:00 noon
 Seven Last Words of Christ

Solemn Good Friday Service 3:00 pm

Holy Saturday, April 15 (no 5:00 pm Mass)

Morning Prayer, 8:30 am
 Confessions, 9:00 -10:00 am
 Blessing of Easter Food 12:00 noon

Easter Vigil, 8:30 pm, Service of Light, Liturgy of the Word,
 Liturgy of Christian Initiation, Liturgy of the Eucharist

Easter Sunday, April 16, 2006
 Mass at 7:30 am, 9:00 am,
 10:45 am and 12:30 pm



**News from
 “The Word”**

St. John Parish Book & Gift Shop

The WORD is open on Wednesday evenings, Friday mornings and Sundays after all the Masses.

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, and we must really intensify our focus on the redemptive Passion and Death of Our Lord. The WORD has several books to assist you in this, including **The Seven Last Words of Jesus and Mary.**

Today is the first anniversary of the death of Pope John Paul II. For today only, all books and encyclicals written by this great pope will be **on sale for 25% off!**

THRIFT SHOP NEWS——Quality at Bargain Prices:

Tuesday - Friday 11:00 am - 2:00 pm & Saturday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

In addition to our Spring fashions we have a **Wedding Dress ensemble** and **Mother-of-the Bride or Groom dresses** and **Tuxedos** for the men. Questions? Please call (703) 356-7420 during business hours.

HOSPITALITY NEEDED: St. John’s is hosting families who will be doing door-to-door evangelization for 3 days during Holy Week. We need help with providing meals, coordinating children’s activities for 2 hours each day, babysitting, meal setup and cleanup. Please contact JoEllen Murphy to sign up to help, or for more information if you would like to participate in the mission. 703-356-3561.

CHARGE CARDS are being accepted in the church office as a convenience to you for your church contributions. Come by the office for more information.



SPECIAL MUSIC

OVER 50 CLUB: Call a friend, get out your ‘spring finery’ and make plans to attend our next luncheon on Monday, April 17. *The Celebration Singers Ensemble*, a small women’s *a capella* group will

entertain us with a variety of songs---some from yesteryear. Mass will be celebrated for us at 11:30 am, with lunch following at noon in the parish hall. A sign-up sheet can be found in the church vestibule. Please leave a check for \$15.00 made payable to St. John the Beloved, with ‘seniors’ on the memo line. Checks due in the parish office by Thursday, April 13. Contact Nancy Ingrisano, 703-356-5538, for more information.

WIDOWS/WIDOWERS GROUP: The next meeting of the Widows/Widowers group will be on Thursday, April 6, in the Adult Ed room following the 9:00 am Mass. Anyone who has suffered the loss of a spouse is most welcome to join us.



RESPECT LIFE ROSARY: Please join Bishop Loverde, the Pro-Life committee, and your fellow parishioners in prayer outside the Falls Church Abortion clinic on Saturday April 15 and Saturday May 6 at 8:00 am. It is located at 900 S. Washington St. in Falls

Church. Your family is welcome, too. Thank you for your prayers and support of Pro-Life causes.



Wed. April 5, 2006 Benediction, Mass

7:00 pm Matt & Mike Sniezek, D. Kennedy

Fri. April 7, Stations of the Cross

7:30 pm Giaimo, D'Ermes, Burelli, Girardi

Saturday, April 8,

8:15 am Sms. Kearns, Jamie Towey, Joe Towey

5:00 pm Vigil O'Donnell, Beaver, Zehnder, G. Kennedy

Sunday Masses, April 9, Palm Sunday

7:30 am Oeler, Himpler, Hogan

9:00 am Moran, J. Ludwick, R. Ludwick, Delvecchio

10:45 am Jav. Arevalo, N. Knise, Jose Arevalo,
D. Arevalo, M. Knise, P. Knise, Tata, Breed

12:30 pm S. Loria, P. Loria, A. Loria, Crouch

In Our Area

CHILDREN'S DAY TALENT SHOW will be held at St. Catherine of Siena's to raise money for the Tepeyac Family Center, a non-profit OB-GYN medical practice and the only full-time operational health care facility in the Arlington Diocese. All children are welcome to participate. Please contact Montserrat Palacios at 703-846-9849 or paolarodarte@gmail.com Save the date of **April 30, 2006**. The event takes place after the 1:00 pm Mass at St. Catherine of Siena.

CATHOLIC ADVOCACY DAY In Our Nation's Capital: Everyone in the diocese is welcome to join Catholic advocates from 5 mid-Atlantic dioceses at the 9th annual Catholic Advocacy Day in Washington, DC on Tuesday, April 4. Briefings of interest to Catholics plus lunch and prayer are included. Please contact Anne Murphy at Catholic Charities 703-841-3831 or a.murphy@ccd.net \$10 covers lunch and printed materials.

SERIOUS ILLNESS WEEKEND RETREAT: A retreat for men and women facing serious physical illness will be held at the Dominican Retreat House in McLean on May 26-28. Doctors, nurses, priests and others will be present around the clock. Call Doug Sebek 703-356-4243 for information.

PRIME TIME SINGLE CATHOLICS have a new roster of events happening around the area this month. Over 230 Catholic adults are a part of this group. Info: 703-660-9187.

STONE RIDGE SCHOOL USED BOOK SALE: April 7-10 in Bethesda at 9101 Rockville Pike. 301-657-4322, ext. 372



St. John Youth Corner

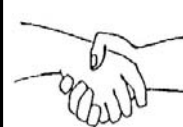
Website: www.sjsyg.org
Sebastien Jansen, Youth Director

sebastienjansen@yahoo.com 703-356-0536

Senior Youth Group: Bring a friend and join us tonight at 7:30pm.

WorkCamp: Lenten Spiritual exercises: We encourage all families to partake in the Wednesday adoration at St. John's Catholic Church. Your prayers are greatly appreciated. We still need **TWO Minivans and a female Chaperone or Contractor.**

Car Raffle: Thanks to all those who have returned their raffle tickets. **We have raised nearly \$7000. Thank you so much for your contributions.** The last day to buy tickets is April 24th.



Hospitality In Need: Easter is approaching fast... During Holy Week, there will be families doing missionary work in St. John's community. They are here to help our community's spiritual growth and development. **These families are from afar and they need a place to stay.** Please contact Sebastien Jansen if you are able to host these families.

Rice Bowls: Please Return All Rice Bowls To The Parish Office. Thank You.

BISHOP IRETON CONCERT: On Sat., April 8 at 7:30 pm the pre-tour combined Wind Ensemble & Paragon Brass will perform at the school in Alexandria. Free. 703-212-5162.

SIMPLY SPRING: On Sat., April 8, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, Bishop Ireton will hold its first annual Simply Spring bazaar in Alexandria. Featured are unique gifts, spring flowers, apparel, jewelry, tasty treats and local vendors. For more information: Kathy ace7corps@aol.com

DOMINICAN HOUSE OF STUDIES, Pontifical Faculty of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC invites you to check out the Fall courses they offer. 202-529-5300 or www.dhs.edu

HANDICAPPED RETREAT: Handicapped Encounters with Christ is sponsoring a Catholic retreat with the theme of "Sing a New Song Unto the Lord" May 26 to 28 at the Bon Secour Retreat Center in Marriottsville, MD. Anyone interested in attending or helping to plan, contact Patti or Dean DeBuck at 703-532-7616.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
April 2, 2006 CCD PreK - K 10:45 - 11:45 am Senior Youth Group 7:30 pm Time Change 	3 Sew & So Forth 9:45 am DR Room CCD Gr.1,2,3 4:30-5:30 pm Legion of Mary 7:30 pm DR Rm	4 CCD Gr. 1 - 9 7:00 - 8:00 pm a clean heart in me, O GOD.	5 Confessions 6:30 pm Novena Prayers & Benediction 7:00 pm Mass 7:30 pm Family Choir 7:30 pm	6 Jr. Girl Scouts 3 - 4:30 pm Ad Ed Lenten Lecture 7:00 pm PH RCIA 7:00 pm St. John Choir 7:30 pm	7 First Friday Stations of the Cross 7:30 pm 	8 Jr. Legion of Mary 10:00 am DR Rm