



Masses For The Week

Monday, February 12, Weekday

6:30 Margaret Amorosi †
9:00 Cecil Douglas Pickerel †

Tuesday, Feb. 13, Weekday

6:30 Morris Vidrine †
9:00 Claude S. Carpenter †

Wed. Feb. 14, Cyril, monk, and Methodius, bishop

6:30 Morris Vidrine †
9:00 Col. William J. Cain †

Thursday, Feb. 15, Weekday

6:30 John Dockstader III †
9:00 Bob Cockrill †

Friday, Feb. 16, Weekday

6:30 Yantz Family
9:00 Mike Kelliher †

Saturday, Feb. 17, Weekday; The Seven Founders of the Order of Servites, religious; Blessed Virgin Mary

8:15 Rev. Franklyn McAfee
5:00 Christopher & Gerald McNally †

Sunday, Feb. 18, Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 Joan Annunziata †
9:00 Avelino Esteves †
10:30 Felicia Brauch †
12:00 People of the Parish

Readings for the Week of February 11, 2007

Sunday Jer 17:5-8; Ps 1; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20;
Lk 6:17, 20-26
Monday Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50; Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29; Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Ps 116; Mk 8:22-26
Thursday Gn 9:1-13; Ps 102; Mk 8:27-33
Friday Gn 11:1-9; Ps 33; Mk 8:34—9:1
Saturday Heb 11:1-7; Ps 145; Mk 9:2-13



Please Pray For

Ronald Bashion	Muriel Jennings	Lois Riscile
Sonja & Soraya Borghese	Mary Johnson	Edelisa Samson
Esperanza Castillo	Billee Jordan	Margaret Serrao
Juan Chirino	Blanche Kane	Leah Shannon
Michael Clarke	Kathleen Keane	Barbara Skylell
Carol Coad	Shirley Kelley	Mary Spann
Vincent Corcoran	Alice Koutsoumpas	Margaret Stimpfle
Edward Cotter	Katherine Malcolm	Kimberly Strocca
Estelle Danielson	John Malloy	Eileen Sweeney
Marie Davalos	Annette McGovern	Raymond Vagli
John Delaney	Kaden T. Messing	Mary Wilson
Lucille Dion	Ferenc Molnar	Siegfried Wolf
Denis Downey, Jr.	Matthew Morgan	
Bryan Downie	Marilyn Middleton	
Pam Dunne	Edmund Milauckas	
Marie Gillespie	Nancy Miller	
Alex Hargenrader	Monica Mizerek	
Kathleen Harrington	June Nage	
Charles Harrison	Ernest Oddono	
Gary & Cindy Hogan	Kennedy O'Donnell	
Laura Holleran	John Ozimina	
Maureen Hollingsworth	Al Parsons	
	Joseph Riotto	

Please let us know when you would like to be taken off the prayer list.
Rector's Staff

From the Pastor

As you all heard last Sunday, this years Bishop's Lenten Appeal (BLA) is in full swing. Our parish goal is \$168,000.00 up from \$165,000.00 last year. Although last year the pledges were slow in coming in, so much that we were 6th from the bottom of parishes in the diocese in moving towards their designated goal; the pledge redemption tells a different story. 98% of pledges made last year have been paid. That puts us almost at the top of parishes in the diocese. Congratulations!

Please remember to join with me in making a pledge to the BLA and assist the diocesan church. You will be hearing more about the Appeal in the weeks to come. Pledge!

Not a few parishioners are concerned about some nasty germs going around especially one that effects the digestive tract and their concern has prompted me to call for a halt in the sign of peace during the rest of the cold season. This has been customary in previous years.

Beginning this Sunday the celebrant will omit the invitation to give one another the sign of peace. If you wish to give your family the sign of peace feel free to do so but please refrain from giving it to someone else. Priests who shake a lot of hands wash their hands frequently and use sanitizing soap to lessen the chance of being the bearer of germs.



Holy Father's Prayer Intentions February 2007

General: That the goods of the earth, given by God for all men, may be used wisely and according to criteria of justice and solidarity.

Mission: That the fight against diseases and great epidemics in the Third World may find, in the spirit of solidarity, ever more generous collaboration on the part of the governments of all nations.



Religious Education

ATTENTION: PARENTS OF 7TH GRADERS IN PRIVATE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS: Now is the time to register your child for reception of the sacrament of Confirmation to take place in the Fall of 2007. We will be having our Confirmation retreat in April, and our Confirmation exam & saint report due in May. The St. John Confirmation Handbook 2007, containing all pertinent paperwork is ready to be distributed. Please call Laura Pennefather or Julie Rasmussen in the Religious Education Office to register your son or daughter. Please include your name, address, name of your child and school, so you that you will receive all the information.

In Our Parish

THE DIVINE OFFICE "Lenten Practicum": Our own Father Gripshover will explain the mechanics of the Divine Office for the Lenten/Easter Season on February 24th at 9:30 am, in the Adult Education Room in the Cauwe Center. Join Father for a check-up or a refresher course. The Divine Office books will be available at the class.



WOMENS' DAY OF RECOLLECTION: Ladies, treat yourselves to a special Day, a Day of Recollection which will take place on Thursday, March 8th at Marymount University. Fr. Gary Selin will lead us. The day will begin with coffee at 9:15am in the beautiful Main House. It continues with conferences, confession and a delicious lunch. Please sign up in the Church Vestibule and leave a check for \$35, made payable to St. John the Beloved with "Day of Recollection" on the memo line, in the Parish Office no later than Thursday, March 1st. For further information or reservations, call Mary Elizabeth Bergan, 703-288-0946, and leave a message.



America's 400th Anniversary

OVER 50 CLUB: Vienna Citizen of the Year, Paul Snodgrass and local author Carole Herrick will join us on Monday, Feb. 19 to discuss state and local plans for the celebration of the 400th anniversary of the founding of the Jamestown settlement. Mass will be at 11:30 am with lunch at noon in the parish hall. Sign-up in the church vestibule. Please leave a check for \$20 payable to St. John, with Seniors on the memo line, in the parish office before Noon on Thursday, Feb. 15. For added information contact Nancy Ingrisano at 703-356-5538.



News from "The Word"

St. John Parish Book & Gift Shop

The WORD will be open on Wednesday evenings, Thursday mornings and Sundays after all the Masses.

Sunday, Feb 11: Our featured book this week is the spiritual classic, The Faith Explained by Leo Trese. In this book, the author illuminates the central elements of the Catholic Faith--the Creed, the sacraments, prayer and the commandments--in a clear and vivid style. This is a great read for cradle Catholics who want to brush up on their knowledge of the faith or those studying it for the first time. The WORD will be closed next Sunday due to the holiday weekend.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS ~ Quality at Bargain Prices:

Tues. - Fri. 11:00 am- 2:00 pm & Sat. 10:00 am-1:00 pm. We are continuing our bag sale on **All Items; except those specially marked.** Because of our limited storage space we are only accepting donations of winter clothing. If you have any questions call during business hours (703) 356-7420.



SHARE SUNDAY: Next Sunday, February 18, is Share Sunday. The Share vehicle will be parked outside church to receive your donations. Due to the recent drives, the Food Room is well supplied with nonperishable food.

We are therefore asking for laundry detergent which is always in short supply. Also requested are paper grocery bags. Monetary donations assist families with emergency needs for rent, utilities, medical and dental bills. Please make checks payable to St. John Church with "Share" on the memo line. Thank you for your continued support.

MOTHERS GROUP: The St. John Mothers Group will meet Friday, February 16th from 10:00am-12:00noon in the Adult Ed Room. Baby-sitting available for those who RSVP to jenmorano@aol.com or 703-849-9550. We will pray the rosary for your intentions and make handmade cards for the Tepeyac Family Center to send to their new moms and moms who have had a loss. Come make new friends! All women in the parish are welcome!

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER: Please remember that our school, school offices and parish offices follow Fairfax County, i.e., if the county schools are closed so are St. John Academy, the school offices and the parish offices. The same holds true if the county schools open two hours late. Our school, school offices and parish offices will open two hours later than their respective opening times.

Altar Server Schedule



Novena/Mass: February 14, 2007
7:30 pm Berry, J. McCoy, Kissinger

Saturday: February 17, 2007
8:15 am Hylton, Sniezeks
5:00 pm **Vigil** Potocki, Buckley, Wunderlich, Prabhu

Sunday Masses: February 18, 2007
7:30 am Murry, Lunde, Delvecchio
9:00 am Earners, Alligood, Jabbour
10:30 am S. Kearns, Sms Kearns, Giaimo, P. Pacious
12:00 pm Manns, Breed, Glover, Tidwells, C. Evans



St. John Youth Corner

Senior Youth Group Website– www.sjsyq.org

SENIOR YOUTH MEETING TONIGHT
SUNDAY, February 11TH at 7:00 pm

The topic will be **LOLLIPOPS**. We will have *Open Gym and indoor soccer*. Pizza is the menu selection. Bring a friend to the meeting and **remember** to bring your signed permission slips for ski trip 2007!

Questions? Call Sabatino at 703-504-8733.



CATHOLIC EDUCATION

SAINT JOHN ACADEMY

5-CAR RAFFLE: All Saints Church in Manassas has invited St. John's to participate in their 5-car raffle. Proceeds will support the athletic program at St. John Academy. Prizes include five 2007 vehicles from Koons of Manassas (Honda Civic, Pontiac G5, GMC Sierra Truck, Honda CRV Sport Utility and a Honda Odyssey Van). A \$5.00 ticket offers the purchaser a chance to win any one of the five vehicles . Other cash prizes total \$20,000. \$3.00 of the \$5.00 ticket price goes to the Academy. Please support St. John Academy's Athletic Program. Look for more information in next week's bulletin.

2007 PRO-LIFE ESSAY CONTEST: Open for 7th - 12th graders in home, parochial, private or public schools. If you have Questions, call Dr. K. Maggio at 703-848-0273. Remember... the deadline is next Sunday, February 18th. Monetary prizes will be awarded.

WEDNESDAYS NOVENA PRAYERS & ROSARY: **The Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers & Rosary begin at 7:10 pm The Eucharistic Holy Hour follows immediately at 7:30 pm** All parishioners are encouraged to adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and pray to the Blessed Mother for world peace and conversion of hearts.




**BLESSED
ARE THOSE
WHO ACCEPT
GOD'S
WILL.**

CONTRIBUTIONS: To make contributing to St. John more convenient for our parishioners we can automatically debit your checking or savings account (EFT) from your own bank, or you may pay monthly with a credit card. You may come by the parish office to fill out forms to start this process.



ADORERS ARE NEEDED: Every Wednesday, First Friday and First Saturday of every month for Eucharistic Adoration. Contact Ann Thunder @703-442-0668 if you are able to spend an hour with our Lord or sign up for a specific hour on the **Schedule of Adorers Roster** in the vestibule of the church.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
DATE Feb. 11, 2007	12	13	14	15	16	17
<u>CCD PreK - K</u> 10:30 - 11:30 am 	<u>Sew & So Forth</u> 9:45 am DR Rm <u>CCD Gr. 1,2,3</u> 4:30 - 5:30 pm <u>Legion of Mary</u> 7:30 pm DR Rm	<u>CCD Gr. 1 - 8</u> 7:00 - 8:00 pm	<u>Confessions</u> 6:45 -7:15 pm <u>Novena Prayers & Rosary</u> 7:10 <u>Eucharistic Holy Hour</u> 7:30	<u>RCIA</u> 7:00 pm <u>St. John Choir</u> 7:30 pm		<u>Jr. Legion of Mary</u> 10:00 am DR Rm

From St. John's Office of Evangelization . . .

DEFENDING THE FAITH

Confessing to God!

The Catholic practice of confessing to a priest is a favorite point of argument for Protestants attacking what they see as a Religion built upon men, instead of upon God. "Why do you confess to a man, when God is the only one who can forgive sins?" so the argument goes. "Instead of confessing to a priest you should confess your sins directly to God." By all outward appearances, many Catholics have accepted this line of argument over the past forty years, and instead of standing in long lines for Confession on Saturday afternoon, they have left the churches empty and locked. What does the Bible say about Confession, and what does the Catholic Church teach about this most misunderstood of Sacraments?

First let us turn to the Sacred Scriptures and consider the story of the Paralytic. To the Paralytic, who was brought to Jesus in order to be healed, Our Lord said, "My son, your sins are forgiven" (Mk 2:5). In response to Jesus' words of forgiveness, the scribes exclaimed, "Why does this man speak thus? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" (Mk 2:7) It is at this point that many of our Protestant brethren throw up their hands and denounce the Catholic Church for rejecting the Sacred Scriptures. But, as we have often stated, a text without a context is no text at all! "Keep reading!" we must insist. In response to the scribes' objection, Our Lord states, "That you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins," he said to the paralytic - "I say to you, rise" (Mk 2:10). How do the people present respond to the forgiving power of Christ? "When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men" (Matt 9:8). Clearly then, as a first step to answering the Protestant charge, we may state that Jesus Christ, true God and true man, had the power to forgive sins.

Second, let us recall that the Word of God became man in order to make us "partakers in the divine nature" (2 Peter 1:4). As we have noted in past columns, through participation in the Sacraments, we have become part of the Body of Christ, each one of us participating in God's life in our own unique way, according to the gifts which God has bestowed (1 Cor 12:12-31). Through this gift of participation, the God of All, bestows his blessings upon the world. Note, the blessing of God remains the blessing of God, but that blessing is bestowed upon the world through the hands of men who have become participants in the divine life.

DEFENDING THE FAITH CONTINUED

In the Gospel of John, on the evening of the day of the Resurrection, we read that Jesus appeared to the disciples and said to them, "Peace be with you". . . And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any they are retained'" (Jn 20:19-23). With these words, Jesus, the bestower of divine life, shares his power of forgiveness with his closest followers, in order that the forgiveness of God may be shared with all men. Again, it is God alone who forgives men, as the scribes rightly stated, but with the coming of the Son of God, that forgiveness now flows through the hands of the Body of Christ.

St. John Institute of Catholic Culture Presents:
(Saint John's Adult Education Program)

ISLAM

- SEMINAR -

- Dr. William Marshner -
Saturday, February 17

- 9:30 - 10:30 - Islam: Its History & Leaders
- 10:45 - 11:30 - Allah & Yahweh, Friends or Foes? (Theological Considerations)
- 11:30 - 11:45 - Question & Answer

* Seminar will be held in Saint John's Parish Hall
6420 Linway Terrace
McLean, Virginia

**QUESTIONS - CALL ST. JOHN'S
OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION
@ 703-504-8733**



Choir *From the Music Desk...*

In Our Area

As we look towards the liturgical season of Lent, I want to explain some of the musical differences you will hear in Mass.

During Lent, you will not hear preludes or postludes (with the exception of Laetare Sunday.) You will hear only organ music that gently accompanies the singing of the congregation or the choir. Why? When something is taken away, it makes us appreciate it more when it returns. Too, the joyfulness of Easter will ring out EVEN MORE if we have sacrificed for the six weeks prior.

During Lent, you will not hear an Alleluia sung. For the gospel acclamation, we will sing Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ; King of endless Glory. Again, the Alleluias ring out with stupendous joy when we have been separated from them for six weeks.

During Lent, you will not sing or hear a Gloria. The penitential rite will take on even more prominence when we all pray the Kyrie Elision without the Gloria that usually follows. The Gloria is omitted during Advent also for this same reason.

Tune in next week... I shall be talking about Holy Week music.

Congratulations to Meryl Menezes, Martha McCoy, Natasha Wiltz, Maggie Rothfus, Monik Hergesheimer, Sarah Tidwell, and Kelsey Franken on their participation in the Arlington Diocesan Children's Choir Festival. These choristers worked very hard and sang a beautiful Mass at the conclusion of the festival! GO GIRLS!

Musically in Christ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ David Lang

P.S. Hey, thank you for remaining in church for the singing of the entire recessional hymn!

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS: Because of you, this bulletin is furnished to our parish without charge. We hope that our kind sponsors renew their ads, and if others are interested in placing a new ad please call Diocesan Publications at 1-800-233-8200.

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHEDRAL CONCERT

PRESENTS: "ORGAN PLUS", Friday, February 16, 2007, 8:00pm... Join the Cathedral organists, handbell ringers and instrumentalists for a memorable evening of music, featuring the Cathedral's majestic 3,054-pipe organ, built by Robert L. Wyant. The program includes various works for organ, with featured soloists on trumpet, violin, and harp joining to fill the Cathedral with glorious sound. A Mardi Gras reception will follow the concert. **FREE**

CAREGIVERS OF ELDERLY RELATIVES:

The 2007 Virginia Caregivers Grant Program offers an annual grant of up to \$500 to caregivers who provide assistance to a relative (age 65 or older) with a mental or physical impairment. The caregiver must have provided non-reimbursed care for at least six months during 2006 and have an annual Virginia adjusted gross income of not more than \$50,000. The relative receiving care must require assistance with two or more activities of daily living during the calendar year. The Virginia Department of Social Services will accept applications postmarked between February 1 and May 7, 2007. Additional information and applications can be obtained from Catholic Charities' Elderly Services at 703-751-2766 or by calling the Virginia Caregivers Grant toll-free at 1-877-648-2817.

NEW TO THE AREA?

Are you a young adult in your 20's or 30's, married or single, who would like to get connected with other young adults? Sign up for the Office of Young Adult Ministry's information-packed and up-to-date "e-newsletters"! We keep you informed of parish events, local retreats, educational series, dances, hikes, canoe trips, festivals, picnics, and our very own *Theology on Tap* program. For more information contact Mary-Rose Lombard, Coordinator of Young Adult Ministry, at 703-841-2550 or yam@arlingtondiocese.org.

SEMINARS~CATHOLIC DISTANCE UNIVERSITY

Online seminars are user-friendly. To learn more or enroll, visit CDU at www.cdu.edu, call 1-888-254-4238, ext.# 710, or email tcashen@cdu.edu.

CDU Lenten Seminars: Four Pillars of the Catholic Faith, February 26 - March 26, Rev. Jerry Wooton & Rev. Christopher. Dues Caritas Est: Pope Benedict's Encyclical on Christian Love, March 12 - April 2, with Dr. Brian Benestad.