

Monday, April 28, 2008, Easter Weekday; Peter Chanel, priest, martyr; Louis Mary de Montfort, priest

6:30 Shirley Kelly †
9:00 Benjamin Prince †

Tuesday, April 29, Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor of the church

6:30 Shirley Ann Kelly †
9:00 Maria Keran

Wednesday, April 30, Easter Weekday; Pius V, pope

6:30 Col. James J. Kelly †
9:00 Gina V. Reiter †

Thursday, May 1, Easter Weekday; Joseph the Worker

6:30 Maureen Tierney †
9:00 Sebastian Muratore †

Fri., May 2, Athanasius, bishop, doctor of the Church

6:30 Valerie Haviland
9:00 Charlie McCabe †
7:30 People of the Parish

Saturday, May 3, Philip and James, Apostles

8:15 Norman Violette †
5:00 Sharon Christen †

Sunday, May 4, The Ascension of the Lord

7:30 Joseph Slavinskas †
9:00 Victoria Caruano †
10:30 Marie and Joe Gillespie
12:00 People of the Parish

Readings for the Week of April 27, 2008

Sunday Acts 8:5-8, 14-17; Ps 66; 1 Pt 3:15-18;
Jn 14:15-21
Monday Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149; Jn 15:26—16:4a
Tuesday Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138; Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday Acts 17:15, 22—18:1; Ps 148; Jn 16:12-15
Thursday Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20
Friday Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47; Jn 16:20-23
Saturday 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19; Jn 14:6-14
Sunday Acts 1:12-14; Ps 27; 1 Pt 4:13-16;

Holy Father's Prayer Intentions April 2008

General: That even in difficult and complex situations of present-day society, Christians may never tire of proclaiming with their lives Christ's resurrection, the source of hope and peace.

Mission: That future priests in young Churches may be ever more seriously formed culturally and spiritually in order to evangelize their respective countries and the whole world.

Albert & Marie Balint	Michelle Lederman	Helena Ward
Beth Castka	Nicolas Luppi	Louise Whyte
Angela Clarke	Katherine Malcom	
Vincent Corcoran	Nancy Miller	Please let the parish office know when you can be removed from this list.
Edith Costello	Ruth Murphy	
Estelle Danielson	June Nage	
Rosa Esteves	Kathryn Orf	
Frank Gettings	Elia Priestley	
Alec Gramann	Dolores Snyder	
Charles Harrison	Bob Sweeney	
Velma Harwood	Peggy Taaffe	
Rita Johnson		

Our Prayer List



**Pope Benedict XVI's Theme "Christ is Our Hope"
The Gift of Hope**

To hope is to place our trust in the Father and in the promises of Christ His Son. The virtue of hope responds to the deepest human desire for happiness that is placed in our hearts by God. Hope takes up the human desire for happiness and purifies and orders that desire toward God.

Without God we remain without hope. As Pope Benedict notes, "Man needs God, otherwise he remains without hope." (Spe salvi, 23). Saint Paul summarizes the state of the human condition when he reminds the Ephesians that before they encountered Christ they were "without hope and without God in the world" (Ephs 2:12). Put simply, a world without God is a world without hope.

As followers of Christ we not only *know* about hope. We have been *given the gift of hope*. We are baptized into eternal life with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This eternal life with God is our hope. At the Eucharist we are nourished at the table of God's word and sacrament. Each one of us receives the gift of salvation in the hope of eternal life. "Redemption has been offered to us in the sense that we have been give hope, trustworthy hope." (SS,1)

All of us have hopes--greater and lesser hopes--by which we live each day. We have hopes for our families, our children, our friends and loved ones, our community, society and world. And even as our human hopes are fulfilled there is the realization of the need for a greater hope, for the infinite, something that will always be more than we can attain by our own human efforts. The virtue of Christian hope directs our minds and hearts to God. "To come to know God--the True God--means to receive Christian hope." (SS, 3)

(excerpts from study guide prepared by Jen Sullivan, Ph.D., Dominican House of Studies, Washington, D.C.)



Religious Education

May 8 is First Communion Preparation Day in the Parish Hall from 8:30 am - 3:00 pm. **May 10** is First Communion at 10:00 am. **May 20** is the last CCD class of the school year.

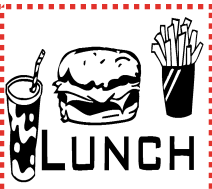
In Our Parish



FIRST FRIDAY/FIRST SATURDAY (24-hour Eucharistic Adoration):

after the 9:00 am Mass on Friday, until the 8:15 am Saturday Mass followed by First Saturday Devotions as requested by Our Lady of Fatima.

ADORERS ARE NEEDED EVERY FIRST FRIDAY and First Saturday of each 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.



OVER 50 CLUB: Our annual barbeque luncheon will take place on Monday, **May 19**. Nancy Dazan, a representative from the National Alzheimer's Association, will be our guest speaker. Mass will be celebrated at 11:30 am with lunch following at noon in the parish hall. A sign-up sheet is in the church vestibule. Please leave a check for \$20 made payable to St. John the Beloved, with "seniors" on the memo line, in the parish office by Thursday, May 15. Don't miss this last luncheon for the 2007-2008 year! For added information call Gladys Brennan at 703-821-2547.

25TH ANNUAL WALK FOR LIFE will be **TODAY, April 27**. Help support crisis pregnancy counseling, foster care, and adoptions. Choose a site at Paul VI High School in Fairfax or Fort Hunt Park in Alexandria. Check-in begins at 10:30 am at Paul VI and 11:00 am at Fort Hunt. \$20 to register per person or \$50 per family. Includes picnic lunch and T-shirt. Go to www.cdda.net or call 703-425-0100.



Have you ever considered offering your services as an usher at one of our church services? Contact Greg Le Sage for information at 703-437-4352 or email lesagegp@gmail.com. We always need new names for our list. Please join us!



News from "The Word"

St. John Parish Book & Gift Shop

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

May is almost here, and for this month traditionally dedicated to Our Blessed Mother, we are featuring two books related to Lourdes. They are Lourdes Today by Kerry Crawford, and The Miracle of Lourdes by John Lochran. These books would be excellent during this year of the 150th anniversary of the apparitions at Lourdes.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS ~ Quality at Bargain Prices:

Tues. - Fri. 11:00 am- 2:00 pm & Sat. 10:00 am-1:00 pm. Please come in and see our selection of "Mother's Day" gifts, spring and summer fashions which are added to daily. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions call during business hours (703) 356-7420.



"COFFEE & DONUTS" this Sunday after the 9:00 & 10:30 am Masses is being hosted by the St. John Academy PTO. Thanks to the members of the Regnum Christi movement for hosting last Sunday.

St. John Academy Book Fair - St. John Library will be sponsoring its Spring Book Fair using Bookworm Central from Manassas. They have very high quality books and many of the summer reading list books will be included. The event will take place on Monday, May 5 - Friday, May 9 during school hours (8-4pm). Monday, May 5 will include a Family Event and the hours will be 3:00-4:45pm. The Book Fair will close on Friday, May 9 at 11:00 am. Remember, books make great communion gifts.



www.faithdirect.net

CONTRIBUTIONS: For your convenience & support of St. John's, sign up for the Faith Direct Offertory program which has direct debit deductions. Itemized statements are sent to you at the end of the year. Visit www.faithdirect.net to enroll. Our parish code is VA77.



Second Collection

Today:
Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Altar Server Schedule

Novena/Mass: Wednesday, April 30, 2008
7:30 pm Kirtley, Scalia, P. McGiffin

Saturday: May 3, **First Saturday**
8:15 am Oeler, Nash, A. Clark
5:00 pm **Vigil** Bello, Beaver, Wunderlich, Myer

Sunday Masses: April 4
7:30 am Riordan, Dixons
9:00 am Zehnder, Jabbour, Hickey, Gross
10:30 am Beattys, Crnkovich
12:00 pm Haislmaiers, D. & J. McGiffin, Defensor, Alligood



Please welcome into the community of our faith, the following newly baptized:

Bill Thomas, Michele Oh, Jordan Michael Warner Blum, Lindsay Margaret Blum, Kacey Caroline Blum, Felicity Winnoca Anderson, Leo Joseph Nolan V, Erin Clare Stilwell.

SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES:

--**Paul VI Catholic HS** will offer a variety of summer camps (Fine Arts and Sports). Please visit www.paulvi.net (click on Athletics, Summer Camps).

--**CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP SPORTS CAMP** for boys 10-14 runs from **June 15-18** at Mt. St. Mary's University at Emmitsburg, MD. Lacrosse, Soccer, Basketball or Football. Daily Mass. Call Danny Flynn at 301-365-7614.



NOVENA PRAYERS & ROSARY:
*the Miraculous Medal **Novena Prayers and the Rosary begin at 7:00 p.m. The Eucharistic Holy Hour will follow immediately at 7:30 p.m.** 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.*

ADORERS ARE NEEDED EVERY WEDNESDAY, and every 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.



St. John Youth Corner

The Senior Youth group needs one more adult leader for our WorkCamp to assist with the project we have planned. Please consider your time and talents to work with our St. John Youth. **An adult leader is needed for Saturday, June 21 - Friday, June 27.** WorkCamp will be a satisfying way to help the poor by repairing and rebuilding some of their homes in Orange, Virginia.

There are no more openings for WorkCamp. Upcoming meetings are Sunday **May 4** and **June 1** at 1:30. Parents are required to attend these meetings with their youngsters. Please do not attend these meetings if you are not in the Workcamp group.

Info? Please call Sabatino at 703-504-8733.


**Senior Youth Group meeting:
Sunday May 4 at 7:00 pm**



SUPPORT WORKCAMP 2008!--

Next Sunday, **May 4**, this year's WorkCamp teens will speak to you during all Masses about the Arlington Diocese WorkCamp that, in late June, and this gives our parish teens an experience of direct service with the poor and needy within our own diocese. They will ask for your prayers and gratefully accept all financial contributions at the doors of the church after Masses. Thank you in advance for your needed support!

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.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
April 27, 2008	28	29	30	May 1	2 First Friday	3 First Saturday
CCD PreK - K 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>Jr. Legion of Mary</u> 3:30 pm DR Rm	ADORATION <u>Confessions</u> 6:45 -7:15 pm <u>Novena Prayers & Rosary</u> 7:00 <u>Eucharistic Holy Hour</u> 7:30 <u>Bible Study</u> 8:15	<u>St. John Choir</u> 7:30 pm 		

Let all the **EARTH** cry out to **GOD** with joy.

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

"Thou Art Peter." Part 3

Having focused our attention in the first week on Blessed Peter's proclamation that Jesus is the King, the New Solomon, and in our second week, having dismissed the Protestant attack that Peter is simply an insignificant small stone and not the foundation of the Church, we now have the tools to consider the rest of the passage in its proper context in this final week. "Thou art the Christ, . . . thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church and the gates of hades will never prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven." (Matt 16:16-19)

As we learned during the first week, Peter's proclamation that Jesus is the Christ automatically triggers our Lord's response that Peter is the Rock upon which Jesus, the New Solomon, will build the house of God, the Church. "The rock" in ancient Israel was the "rock of Moriah" upon which Solomon built the house of God (the Temple) and upon which the Dome of the Rock, an Islamic shrine, stands today. Among the Jews, there was a tradition that this rock was the capstone of the gates of Hades, and that as long as this rock was in place, hell could not prevail on earth. Having declared that Peter is the new rock, our Lord concludes his proclamation with the words, "and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it," confirming our understanding that Peter is indeed the foundation stone of the Church.

Following this proclamation, our Lord grants to Peter "the keys to the kingdom of heaven." As with every royal house, certain customs and offices are attached to the ruling king. In ancient Israel, the King's "right-hand man," similar to our Vice-President, was given the Hebrew title "*al-bayit*." It was this man's job to be the keeper of the kingdom, and to run the royal house while the King was engrossed in other affairs. In this office, the person was said to be "over the house" of the King (cf. Num 12:7; 1 Kgs 18:3; 2 Kgs 15:5). A similar position was found in the ancient Egyptian court and was held by Joseph (son of Jacob) when he assisted Pharaoh during the great famine that brought Israel's family to Egypt (cf. Gen. 41:37-45). To Joseph, "al-bayit of the royal house of Egypt," Pharaoh proclaimed, "You shall be *over my house*, and all my people shall order themselves as you command; only as regards the throne will I be greater than you." In order to show the authority which this man held within the kingdom, the King of Israel gave to his "al-bayit" the "keys to the kingdom" which were symbolically placed upon his shoulder as a sign of his authority. As we read in the book of Isaiah regarding the *al-bayit* of the royal house of Israel, "who is *over the household* . . . He shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. And *I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David; he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut and none shall open.* And I will fasten him like a peg in a sure place, and he will become a throne of honor to his father's house. And they will hang on him the whole weight of his father's house" (Isaiah 22:15, 21-24). It is in view of this royal office

that we hear Our Lord, the newly proclaimed King of Israel, declare that Peter will be his *al-bayit*, protecting the house of God from all danger. Upon Peter's shoulder then, the New Solomon places the keys to the kingdom and declares that whatever Peter "binds on earth shall be bound in heaven" (Matt 16:19), whatever "he shall open...none shall shut" (Is 22:22).

What is the most important thing to remember about this passage in the Gospel of Matthew? As with our past topics, the Catholic and Biblical theology of participation in divine life is essential. Let us always remember that the Word was made flesh in order to give us the greatest thing anyone can ever give to another: his own life. Each one of us who has been Baptized into Christ has been given this gift of participation in Christ. As Saint Paul explains, 'One is an eye, one is a foot, another is a hand' all members of the One Body of Christ (cf. 1 Cor 12:12-31). It is participation in this divine life that makes a priest able to hear Confession, holy men able to perform miracles, and Blessed Peter the foundation stone of the Church.

There is one Wise builder and one Rock upon which he builds his house. There is one Church built by Jesus Christ and one man upon whom he has placed the keys of the kingdom. If a man builds upon any other foundation, he is like the "foolish man who built his house upon the sand; and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell; and great was the fall of it" (Matt 7:26-27).

Today there are over 30,000 Protestant denominations; there is only one Church built by Jesus Christ.

Viva il Papa! Viva il Papa! Viva il Papa!

If you have any questions about the Catholic Faith, please contact Saint John's Office of Evangelization @ 703-504-8733 or e-mail famuluschristi@yahoo.com



***I shall ask
the Father
and
He will
give you
another
Advocate.***

"Those who love Me will keep my word." Is your love for the Lord leading you to grow in holiness as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Call Father Brian Bashista at 703-841-2514 or write B.bashista@arlingtondiocese.org

From the Music Desk...

Greetings! I was totally blown away by your singing last Saturday / Sunday! WOW! You are, at times, actually beginning to out-sing the organ. What a compliment! This is EXACTLY what true congregational singing is all about.. a uniting of voices in common song as a collective expression of joyous praise or gentle prayer. Keep it up!

A parishioner stopped me last week and asked me to tell you what you are missing on Thursdays. The 9:00 am Mass each Thursday also serves as the weekly school Mass, and is adorned by the Saint John Academy Treble Choir. This gentleman said he regularly looks forward to hearing the children sing. If you have never been to Mass on Thursdays, join us sometime.



Our next Gregorian Vespers is scheduled for Pentecost - **May 11th at 5:00 pm** in the church. Please mark your calendars.

Until next week...

Musically,
Director Lang

SUMMER THEOLOGY COURSES: Register now for the summer semester (**June 23 - August 1**) at Christendom College's Notre Dame Graduate School. Different courses will be available at the Alexandria campus (on Queen of Apostles Parish grounds) and at the Christendom campus outside Front Royal. Check website below. We welcome both degree-seeking and casual students on a part-time or full-time basis. We have low tuition rates and discounts for seniors, catechists, and Catholic school teachers. Ask about our Vita Consecrata Institute for religious and consecrated persons. For more information, please call 703.658.4304, email us at NDGS@Christendom.edu, or visit www.christendom.edu/grad.

PLANT AND CRAFT SALE: St. Thomas Episcopal (8991 Brook Rd., McLean) is having their annual sale on Sat. **May 10**. In addition to plants there will be crafts, jewelry, pottery, scarves, etc. Adult admission is \$1. More info: 703-442-0330. Great time to shop for Mother's Day gifts.

In Our Area

PAUL VI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL invites 7th graders and their families to a Special Preview to High School on **May 1** at 7:00 pm. For more info: ehanley@paulvi.net

FIRST SATURDAYS: St. Leo's in Fairfax is again presenting their First Saturday series of An Evening of Praise, Worship, & Adoration with praise music provided by *VISION*, on the First Saturday. **MAY 3**

HOME SCHOOL CONFERENCE: The Immaculate Heart of Mary National Home School and Parent Conference 2008 will be held at the Dulles EXPO center Fri. **June 13** (9 am-9pm) and on Sat. **June 14** (9am-4:30pm). Special speakers. Free Admission. Plenty of parking. Many Catholic vendors and curriculum providers. www.ihmconference.org 540-636-1946

CHELSEA ACADEMY FUNDRAISER: Join Fr. Hathaway for food, wine and entertainment to raise funds for Chelsea Academy in Front Royal. The dinner auction is to be held at Rappahannock Cellars in Huntly, Va. on **May 17**. One auction item: *Hike Away with Hathaway!* 540-635-0622 or www.chelseaacademy.org

TWO SHALL LIVE AS ONE: Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends. Call 703-631-5289 or <http://marriage4.com> Upcoming weekends are **May 30-June 1, Sept. 19-21, Dec. 5-7**.

SEMINARS FOR CAREGIVERS OF OLDER ADULTS: These free seminars (please register) have been helpful to many. Info: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/aaa or call Agency on Aging at 703-324-7948.

BISHOP IRETON: On Tuesday, **May 6**, at 7:00 pm is the Spring Concert at Bishop Ireton High School in Alexandria. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students and senior citizens. Info: 703-212-5162.

CASA MARIA RETREAT HOUSE, located in Birmingham (Irondale), Alabama, is offering a retreat for Catholic Doctors, Nurses, Health Care Professionals and Medical Students on **June 13-15**. The retreat will be given by Fr. John Horgan, and will focus on the spiritual framework and virtues needed for those working in the field of health care. Info: contact Sister Louise Marie at 205-956-6760 or Sister Catherine Mary at sistercmarie@earthlink.net.

THEOLOGY ON TAP SPRING SERIES: April 14-May 19: All young adults, married or single, are invited to ToT's "Real Life: Real People—Season III" on **Mondays** from 7:30 – 8:30 pm. We meet at Pat Troy's Irish Pub in Old Town Alexandria. For subjects of talks or more information contact the Diocese of Arlington Young Adult Ministry at 703-841-2550 or yam@arlingtondiocese.org Podcasts of previous talks are available online at www.arlingtondiocese.org/yam/tot_past_audio.php