

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 24

Christmas Eve

- 6:30 Anne Terreri
- 9:00 Lucille Calderazzo †
- 5:00 Mary Frances Weil †
- 7:30 Special Intention
- 12:00 Special Intention

Tuesday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord

- 7:30 Dolores, Philip & David Snyder †
- 9:00 Special Intention
- 10:30 People of the Parish
- 12:15 Bailey Family

Wednesday, December 26

St. Stephen, The First Martyr

- 6:30 Erin Lively
- 9:00 Marge Lubely †

Thursday, December 27

St. John, Apostle & Evangelist

- 6:30 Ellie Wormser
- 9:00 Ruth Imhausen

Friday, December 28

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

- 6:30 Rachel Kiehnau
- 9:00 Elayne Fivenson

Saturday, December 29

Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

- 8:15 Thomas Tight †
- 5:00 Theresa Ryal †

Sunday, December 30

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

- 7:30 Arnold L. Harrington, III
- 9:00 Marcelina Yanez †
- 10:30 People of the Parish
- 12:00 Germaine Daigneault †

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD

† Jane Campagnoli †

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS DECEMBER

Evangelization

In the Service of the Transmission of Faith

That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

IN TESTIMONIUM...

*Rorate caeli desuper, et nubes pluant iustum.
Aperiatur terra, et germinet Salvatorem.*

*Drop down dew from above, you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior.*

(Cf. Is 45,8)

The Entrance Antiphon for this Fourth Sunday of Advent in the Ordinary Form and Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite is also the *Introit* (synonymous with “entrance antiphon”) for the Ember Wednesday of last week in the traditional calendar.

Likewise, all three Masses focus attention of the announcement of the Archangel Gabriel to the young virgin Mary that she would bear a child who would be called “Son of the Most High”.

In this Year C of the three-year cycle of Sunday Readings we hear of the first act after the holy response of the mother of Our Lord: she “traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah [to care for her elder cousin] Elizabeth”. Here we see the Visitation as an extension of the Annunciation. Elizabeth even refers to message of the Archangel to Mary: “Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled”.

Following this theme, the Opening Prayer or *Collect* for today in both forms of Mass echo the words we repeat at the *Angelus*:

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,
your grace into our hearts,
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son
was made known by the message of an Angel,
may by his Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Returning to our initial prayers of the day we realize that the dew from above is the Holy Spirit that will yield Our Savior, the fruit of the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Beautiful.

These mystical words moved Christian hearts to turn *Rorate caeli* into a favorite Latin hymn (#735 in our *St. Michael Hymnal*), much like the “O Antiphons” spawning the hymn “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”.

Come, Holy Spirit!
Come, Lord Jesus!
Merry Christmas!

Fr. Christopher J. Pollard

p.s. “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever” (*Heb 13,8*). Amen? Amen!

YOUTH MINISTRY

Christmas Party for College students

Friday, December 28 7:00 – 9:00pm

Volleyball, Dessert, White Elephant gift exchange (bring a wrapped gift of \$5 or less)

Contact Michael for more information!

Sunday Youth Nights

NO Youth night tonight. Next youth night will be January 6: Epiphany party

WorkCamp

All 9th-12th graders are invited to WorkCamp this summer from June 22-28. Come serve those in need through significant home-improvement projects! Registration deadline is January 11, and space is limited. Contact Michael for details.

Adults: be a partner in youth ministry

At St. John, our goal is to offer a wide variety of youth activities and programs to inspire and equip every young person in the parish to live in a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ. The only way this is possible will be if many adults step forward to serve the youth.

You can help by: committing to pray for the youth and adult volunteer leaders, supporting the practical needs of our youth ministries (like snacks and meals), or helping to lead a youth ministry activity (such as Sunday nights, Sports nights, Movie nights, “Going deeper groups”, activities for younger kids, or your ideas)

For more information about the youth ministries, contact Michael Jacobeen: mjacobeen@stjohncatholicmclean.org, or call (703) 356-7916 ext. 140

PRO-LIFE MINISTRY

As Christmas approaches, Let us Pray.....

Jesus, conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of Mary, have Mercy on Us.

Jesus, knit so wonderfully in the womb of Mary, Have Mercy on Us,

Jesus, uniquely human from the moment of conception in the womb of Mary, Have Mercy on Us.

Jesus, Word made flesh, taking on a human body in the womb of Mary, Have Mercy on Us.

Jesus, whose Sacred Heart first began beating in the womb of Mary, Have Mercy on Us.

Jesus, our protector and savior, asleep in the inviolable womb of Mary, Have Mercy on Us.

Jesus, adored and contemplated by His Mother in the sanctuary of her womb, Have Mercy on Us.

Dear Lord Jesus, notwithstanding Your Divine Nature as Son of God, equal and one with the Father, you deigned to become incarnate as the Son of Man, assuming the condition of a pre-born child in the womb of Your Holy Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary. You, therefore, sanctified and elevated every maternal womb for all time and every person, whose life is begun at conception.



DECEMBER 27 FEAST OF ST. JOHN OPEN HOUSE AT THE RECTORY & TRADITIONAL BLESSING OF WINE



Everyone is invited to join us this Thursday to celebrate the Feast Day of our patron with an **Open House** at the rectory following the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Bring any wine that you want to have blessed.

Gabriel Project GIFT for LIFE Campaign- Please take a tree tag from the Advent Giving Tree in the church vestibule. A monetary gift from you will help provide prenatal care, sonograms, educational classes, professional counseling, rent and utilities to a mother and father facing an unplanned or stressful pregnancy.

Last year Gabriel Project helped 373 mothers and fathers in need through the generosity of the Catholic parishioners from around the Diocese of Arlington. This campaign is the fundraising effort of the Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life, Catholic Diocese of Arlington. More information at www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife

PLEASE also join fellow parishioners and friends as we continue to pray a Sunday Rosary for Life at 3:30 PM prior to Vespers at 4 PM in the church!

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE



MONDAY, DECEMBER 24

5:00 PM Vigil Mass *in English*

7:30 PM Vigil Mass *in English*

11:00 PM Music Prelude

(Handel's Messiah)

MIDNIGHT Solemn Mass *in Latin*

(Readings in English)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25

7:30 AM Mass *in English*

9:00 AM Mass *in English*

10:30 AM Mass *in English*

12:15 PM High Traditional **Latin** Mass

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
December 23	December 24	December 25	December 26	December 27	December 28	December 29
7:30am Mass 9:00am Mass 10:30am Mass Noon Latin Mass 3:30pm Rosary to End Abortion 4:00pm Vespers	OFFICE CLOSED 6:30am Mass 9:00am Mass 5:00pm 7:30pm Midnight Mass 7:30pm Legion 8:00pm Latin Mass 8:40pm Futsal	CHRISTMAS 7:30am Mass 9:00am Mass 10:30 am Mass 12:15 TLM 8:00pm Hoops	OFFICE CLOSED 6:30am Mass 9:00am Mass ADORATION 9:30am-7:30pm Confessions Hourly 10:00am-6:00pm 7:00pm Holy Hour	6:30am Mass 9:00am Mass Feast Day Rectory Open House 9:45 Pray at the Falls Church Abortion Center 7am-7pm	6:30 Mass 9:00 Mass	8:15 Mass 9:00am Confessions 3:30pm Confessions 5:00pm Mass



DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Office of the Bishop

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Christmas, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In hope, we rejoice this Christmas, for *a light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us*. On Christmas and each day this coming year, may we seek this Light before all else and allow it to radiate within our diocese, homes and communities.

Even in the midst of the darkness we experience within our world, nation and Church, we are filled with joyful hope as we celebrate the truth that Jesus, our Lord and Savior and the Light of the World, has dispelled the darkness. Therefore, with trust and confidence, we dare to pray for one another. We pray for all who lead and serve within the Church, that enlightened by the new radiance of God's incarnate Word, what we know in faith will shine through our deeds. We pray that God will show our civil leaders the way of truth, guiding them to defend the sacredness of all human life. We pray that the whole human family will imitate the Holy Family in practicing virtue and in the bonds of charity. We pray that those in need will experience the radiance of God's love in and through our generosity, goodness and sacrifices. Finally, we pray that we, who know God already by faith, may pass through the shadows of this world to reach the brightness of our eternal home.

Please be assured of a special remembrance at the Masses I will celebrate on Christmas. Through the intercession of Mary our Mother and Saint Joseph, may Our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with the gift of his peace and favor this Christmas and always.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael F. Burbidge".

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Arlington

Bishop O'Connell High School Pro-Life Initiative: "March for Me"

The Bishop O'Connell PTO Spiritual Life Committee and the student Pro-Life Club have developed a unique program called "*March for Me*" in which students participate in the March for Life to support the sacredness of human life on behalf of those in the community who are unable to participate.

You are invited to participate in a special initiative to support the annual March for Life in Washington, DC. On January 18, 2019, students from Bishop O'Connell High School will march in support of life.

Students from Bishop O'Connell High School will be available after all the Masses on the weekend of January 12th-13th if you would like a student to march for you. Thank you for supporting and encouraging Bishop O'Connell students to march for life.

SENIORS' CLUB

Our next gathering will be on Monday, 21 January. Mr. Gregory D. Lynch, Development Manager of Divine Mercy Care and Tepeyac OB/GYN, will discuss Divine Mercy Care's mission to make abortion and the unnatural end of life unthinkable. The timing and importance of this topic couldn't be more significant as it coincides with the annual March for Life in Washington, DC. Please mark your calendars and bring family and friends to learn about the extraordinary work done by Greg's organization to protect and promote human life in all its stages. Lunch will be served in the school auditorium following Mass which will be said at 11:30 AM. Please sign up on the sheet in the vestibule of the Church or call the parish office at 703.356.7916 by Friday, 18 January. Those who arrive without reservations are welcome but, unfortunately, we cannot offer them lunch. The suggested donation is \$15.00 per person to be collected at the door. For further information or if you would like a ride to the luncheon please call Phil at 703.356.9788.

SJB Parishioner Assistance Network...

CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY WITH SONG

Carolers are needed
to sing at Powhatan Nursing Home
on Saturday, January 5th
Please meet at Powhatan at 4:00 p.m.

THE STATE OF THE COMMONWEALTH



Peace on Earth

Goodwill to Men

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Carmel Broadfoot	Andrew Katson
Bishop Burbidge	Christopher Katz
Salvatore Calabro	Dorothy Kottler
John Cartelli	Sharon LeMaster
John Paul Charles Carver	Sue Malone
Virginia Connelly	Carmella Manetti
Sheila Corallo	Cristina Marques
Victoria Grace Czarniecki	Diana Meisel
Elke D'Amico	Bonnie Moran
Richard DeCorps	Veronica Nowakowski
Joe Elias	Anita Oliveira
John Fiore	Briner Orillo
Tara Flanagan-Koenig	Mary Pistorino Reilly
Susan Glover	Patricia Richer
Francesca Greco	Shelby Rogers
Paul Griffith	Thomas Rosa
Edward M. Hallinan III	Avery Schaeffer
Jack Halpin	Merle Shannon
Arnold L. Harrington III	Gloribeth Smith
Emily Hazlett	Daniel Stadelmann
Agnes Henley	Carolyn Steinhoff
Colleen Hodgdon	Bill Sullivan
David Johnson	Mary Warchot
Mark Johnson	Marie Wysolmerski

*May God bless and protect our loved ones
in the military and civil service
who are serving these United States
in dangerous places, especially...*

Robert Ayala	Robert B. Smolar
Jonathan Choo	Michael Shipley
Nicholas Galvan	Kimberley Templer
Harry Griffith	Michael Templer
Bill Jones	Jesus Toledanes
Brendan Murphy	Justin White
Lynn Partik	Donald Yamamoto
Jamie Robinson	