

May 2, 2021 Fifth Sunday of Easter

Very Rev. Edward C. Hathaway, Rector Rev. David A. Dufresne, Parochial Vicar Rev. Nicholas F. Blank, Parochial Vicar Rev. Noah C. Morey, In Residence

310 South Royal Street + Alexandria, VA 22314 + 703.836.4100 + www.stmaryoldtown.org + admin@stmaryoldtown.org

HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

All Masses are live streamed at www.stmaryoldtown.org

SUNDAY

7 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.

MONDAY through FRIDAY

6:30 a.m., 8 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.

SATURDAY

8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Vigil for Sunday)

TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

7:30 p.m., Third Friday of the month

FEDERAL HOLIDAYS and HOLY DAYS

Check the website and bulletin

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

MONDAY through FRIDAY After 12:10 p.m. Mass WEDNESDAY 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. SATURDAY 9 to 10 a.m. and 4 to 5 p.m.



BASILICA HOURS

MONDAY through FRIDAY 5:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. SATURDAY 7:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. SUNDAY 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS (313 Duke Street) **MONDAY through FRIDAY** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Rosary Monday through Friday before 8 a.m. Mass and on Saturday before 8:30 a.m. Mass

Miraculous Medal Novena Monday 12 noon

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 12:45 to 8:30 p.m.

Adoration with Holy Hour & Benediction

Wednesday 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

First Friday Nocturnal Adoration

Friday 9 p.m. until Saturday 7:30 a.m.

Communal First Saturday Devotion

First Saturday of the month at 8 a.m.

BAPTISMS

Sunday, 2:30 p.m. Please call the Parish Office to register in advance and obtain requirements for godparents, etc.

MARRIAGES

Contact Parish Priest a minimum of 6 months before possible wedding date for marriage preparation. Couples living together will be asked to live separately during marriage preparation.

THE BASILICA SCHOOL OF SAINT MARY

(Pre-K to 8th grade) 400 Green Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 Mr. Daniel Cinalli, Principal

> 703.549.1646 www.smsva.org stmaryoffice@smsva.org

CONSIDER GETTING INVOLVED IN OUR PARISH

PRAYER & WORSHIP				
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 12:30 -7:30 p.m. Wed.	Maureen Breiner	tb5va@aol.com		
Altar Servers	Father David	frdavid @stmaryoldtown.org 703.836.4100		
Lectors	Chris Bahret	bahretcj@hotmail.com		
Luminaries of Holy Mary Fatima Prayer Group	Frank Spicer	praydailyrosary @gmail.com		
Mary Martha Guild	Christine Kleiber	MMG @stmaryoldtown.org		
Nocturnal Adoration Society 9 p.m.1st Friday to 6 a.m.1st Saturday	Helen Lynch	helenlynch21 @gmail.com		
Rosary Prayer Group Rosary before 8 a.m. weekday Mass and 8:30 a.m. Saturday Mass	Call Parish Office	703.836.4100		
Rosary Society	William Beach	wbeachkoc459 @gmail.com		
Sacristans	Steve Young	asyoung001 @gmail.com		
Saint Katharine Drexel Society	Monica Favela	skdsociety @stmaryoldtown.org		
Sanctuary Society	Stephanie Giorlando	ccampbell49@cox.net		
Schola Cantorum 10 a.m. Sunday Mass	David Elliott	delliott @stmaryoldtown.org		
Ushers	Randolph MacPherson	macpherson @halloransage.com		
SERVICE				
ALIVE! Alexandrians InVolved Ecumenically	Tim Burns	alive.saintmarys @gmail.com		
Bereavement Committee Receptions after funerals	Kitty Guy	kitguy100@aol.com 703.765.9478		
Carpenter's Shelter	Ed Velarde	evelarde @eaglebankcorp.com		
Christ House	Julie Howard	juliehowardmom @aol.com		
Gabriel Project Pro-life pregnancy help	Becky Lilly and Elizabeth Snodgrass	gabrielprojectstmary @gmail.com		
Jail Ministry Alexandria City Jail	Philippe Bruno	pmvjbruno55 @gmail.com		
Pro-Life Activities	Melinda and Chuck Zakrzwski	stmotprolife @gmail.com		
Senior Services of Alexandria (SSA)	Annie Hall (Saint Mary Ambassador)	ahall @stmaryoldtown.org		
Shut-In Visitation	Call Parish Office	703.836.4100		

Saint Vincent de Paul Society	Jim Larocco	rocca-rocco@usa.net	
Sunrise Retirement Home	Father Nicholas	frnicholas @stmaryoldtown.org 703.836.4100	
Woodbine Rehabilitation Center	Judy Klesius	703.836.1777	
EDUCATION & EVANGELIZATION			
Adult Faith Formation, CCD, RCIA	Hilary Munger	hmunger @stmaryoldtown.org 703.836.4100 x 3033	
Date Night at the Basilica	Erica Englefield and Ann Somerset	datenightatthebasilica @hotmail.com	
Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy	Harry and Lynne Dolton	hldolton@aol.com 703.960.0592	
Legion of Mary	Adria Tayrani	avillar@hotmail.com 571.310.4016	
Secular Franciscan Order	Sadie Martins	nannyseverina @gmail.com	
That Man Is You	Wayne Cimons	tmiystmaryoldtown @gmail.com	
Walking with Purpose	Mindee Arritt	wwp@stmaryoldtown.org	
FELLOWSHIP			
American Heritage Girls Troop 0325	Teresa McMorris	stmaryahg@gmail.com	
Ancient Order of Hibernians	Brendan Cooney	brendan.p.cooney1 @gmail.com	
Boy Scout Troop 301	Dan Scheeler	dscheeler@gmail.com	
Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Kavanaugh #54	Marguerite McAuliffe	mmca8474 @gmail.com	
Catholic Sports www.catholicsports.net	Helena Briggs	catholicsports @stmaryoldtown.org	
Cub Scout Pack 301	Patrick Lusch	cc.pack301@gmail.com	
CYO Sports	Mary Fran Delaune	mfdelaune@aol.com	
Girl Scouts	Alice Goulet	downeytwina @comcast.net	
Junior Catholic Daughters Girls grades 6-12	Kathryn Doherty	kathryndoherty @gmail.com 202.270.6008	
Knights of Columbus www.kofc459.org	Damon Baldini	basilicaofstmarysknights @gmail.com	
Praying College Moms	Luanne Griffin	pcm@stmaryoldtown.org	
Saint Mary's Play Group	Jennelle Hoffman	saintmarystots @gmail.com	
Saints Anne & Joachim Society Seniors 55+	Barbara Juszczyk	barbaraj.seniors@aol.com	
Youth & Young Adult Apostolates	Arragon Perrone	aperrone @stmaryoldtown.org 703.836.4100 x 3024	



Basilica of Saint Mary STAFF 703.836.4100

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David Elliott, Director of Music x 3019 / delliott@stmaryoldtown.org

Carmen Federle, Parish Liaison to Diocesan Office for the Protection of Children & Young People x 3027 / cfederle@stmaryoldtown.org

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Mariane Staron, Assistant Director, **Youth & Young Adult Apostolates** x 3030 / mstaron@stmaryoldtown.org

Trish Weiler, Director of Finance x 3011 / tweiler@stmaryoldtown.org

Oremus pro invicem "Let us pray for each other"

Father Edward C. Hathaway, Rector

PRAY THE ROSARY FOR AN END TO THE PANDEMIC

The month of May is traditionally dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and is a good time to renew and strengthen our relationship with her through prayer and reflection. This year, May takes on a new Marian dimension as Pope Francis has asked Catholics everywhere to pray the rosary each day to seek OurLady's intercession to end the global coronavirus epidemic. The theme of the initiative is: "Prayer to God went up incessantly from the whole Church," based on Acts 12:5: "While Peter was kept in prison, the church prayed fervently to God for him."

Pope Francis led the rosary on May 1 and will close the month with the rosary on May 31. Throughout May, 30 shrines around the world are taking turns publicly leading the rosary. Vatican News is livestreaming the event daily at 12 noon Eastern time at https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html.

I encourage each of you, and your families, to participate by praying the rosary (or at least one decade) every day, for the intention of ending the coronavirus pandemic. There are several opportunities here at the Basilica to recite the rosary in community:

- **Daily Rosary** Prayed just before our 8 a.m. Mass, Monday through Friday, and before our 8:30 a.m. Mass on Saturday.
- Communal First Saturday Saturday, May 8, includes the rosary at 8 a.m. and a meditation on one decade of the rosary by one of our priests. Confessions are available and Mass is celebrated at 8:30 a.m.
- Fifth Sunday Rosary Following the 5 p.m. Mass on Sunday, May 30. Includes Evening Prayer and the rosary, hosted by our Basilica of Saint Mary Rosary Society.

You also can pray the recorded rosary any time along with Father David via our website at https://stmaryoldtown.org/rosary-podcast-fr-david or on Apple Podcasts and Spotify.

OTHER WAYS TO HONOR MARY

Other ways to honor Our Blessed Mother during her month include recitation of the Hail Mary, praying the Memorare or the Angelus (replaced by the Regina Coeli during the Easter Season until Pentecost Sunday, May 23), wearing her brown scapular or Miraculous Medal, and honoring her through small, frequent acts of love and sacrifice. Or you could make a pilgrimage (a good family activity) to a Marian shrine, such as the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC. Or maybe make a little pilgrimage to visit an image of Mary.

The nearby parishes of Saint Rita and Saint Joseph have lovely outdoor statues of Our Lady. You might pray part of a rosary on the way there, part of it while there and finish the rosary on your way home.

Another beautiful way to include Our Lady in your life is to begin your day with a prayer, traditionally called a "Morning Offering," seeking her support and guidance. Below is a classic example:

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, for the salvation of souls, the reparation of sins, the reunion of all Christians and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father. Amen

IN OUR PRAYERS

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, May 2 — Fifth Sunday of Easter

7 a.m. — Bonnie Zuro 8:30 a.m. — Ralph Puccinelli 10 a.m. — Janina JanuSzowska Thiessen 11:30 a.m. — Parishioners of Saint Mary 1 p.m. — Corine Farnham 5 p.m. — George Mulligan

Monday, May 3

6:30 a.m. — Jose Mari Trinidad 8 a.m. — Special Intention: Sheena Byrne 12:10 p.m. — Special Intention: Fr. Dort Bigg

Tuesday, May 4

6:30 a.m. — Special Intention: Daniel & Jacqueline Riordan 8 a.m. — Cecilia Rooney 12:10 p.m. — Special Intention: Quinn Copps

Wednesday, May 5

6:30 a.m. — Special Intention: Joshua Lynch 8 a.m. — The Rooney Family 12:10 p.m. — Eileen Kelly

Thursday, May 6

6:30 a.m. — Special Intention: The President & All Elected Officials 8 a.m. — Irena & Kazimiere Blaszkiewicz 12:10 p.m. — William Roberts

Friday, May 7

6:30 a.m.— Julia Bellido 8 a.m.— Wesley Burks 12:10 p.m.— Eileen Kelly

Saturday, May 8

8:30 a.m. — Margaret Travers 5 p.m. — Martha Lou Finney

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, May 2

Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32; 1Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8 **Monday, May 3**

1Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14

Tuesday, May 4

Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13b, 21; Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday, May 5

Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8

Thursday, May 6

Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11

Friday, May 7

Acts 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12; Jn 15:12-17

Saturday, May 8

Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5; Jn 15:18-21

WE WELCOME THROUGH BAPTISM

Jackson Quinn Collins, Joseph Michael Miller and Audrey Rose Moran

PRAY FOR THE ILL, INCLUDING

Walt Adelmann, Dutch Anderson, Suzanne Aragona, Maria Campo, Quinn Copps, Mary Davis, Rebecca Demuth, Jean Edwards, Adonis Santana Flores, Michael Hahn, Michael Henderson, Sean P. Kocourek, Bud Miles, Michael Mills, Richard Nunan, Terry Nunan, Jeffrey Petrino, Pam Rubin, Sarah Stove, Noel Tohill, Irma Valentine and Jerry Wallmeyer

PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED, INCLUDING

Michael Kaczynski and Antonio Ponce

PRAY FOR THOSE ACTIVELY SERVING IN HARM'S WAY, INCLUDING

Alex Deerr, Tim Galginaitis, Faith Emilee Holman, Jenna Kling, Kaylyn E. Krzemien, Nathan Martins, Sara McAlpin, Mitchell Mehaffey, Vincent P. Pensyl, Ryan Rickley, David Alejandro Sandoval, Patrick Tuccillo, Josh Villeneuve, Jim Wiltsie and those serving in law enforcement, as firefighters and emergency first responders

PRAY FOR OUR DIOCESAN PRIESTS

May 2 — Rev. David L. Martin (Retired)
May 3 — Rev. Franklyn M. McAfee (Retired)
May 4 — Rev. Brian B. McAllister
May 5 — Rev. Stephen F. McGraw
May 6 — Rev. Martin McGuill (Retired)
May 7 — Rev. Peter M. McShurley
May 8 — Rev. John H. Melmer

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

Are you being called to love the Lord and His people as a priest, deacon, sister or brother?

Love demands truth and action.

Contact Fr. Michael Isenberg at michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org or 703.841.2514.

To keep our prayer lists current, <u>names of the ill</u> are listed for 4 weeks. <u>Names of those activelyserving in harm's way</u> (generally means deployed overseas) are listed for 4 months. You may reinstate or add a name at bulletin@stmaryoldtown.org or call 703.836.4100.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTION FOR MAY

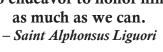


The World of Finance Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

WORSHIP & ONGOING FAITH FORMATION

Year of Saint Joseph

If...the King of Kings was pleased to raise Joseph to so high a dignity, it is right and obligatory on our part to endeavor to honor him as much as we can.





TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS



The Holy Mass in the Extraordinary Form (the Tridentine or Traditional Latin Mass) is celebrated at the Basilica of Saint Mary on the **third Friday** of each month. The regular celebrant is our Parochial Vicar, Fr. David Dufresne. Our next Extraordinary Form Mass will be celebrated on **Friday, May 21 at 7:30 p.m.**.

2Minutes2Virtue

Get closer to Jesus through Sunday reflections by the priests of our Arlington Diocese. Sign up by texting 2m2v to 84576 or visit

Liturgical Calendar This Week

May 3 — Saints Philip and James, Apostles. Both of these saints are mentioned in the Roman Canon. Philip, died in the 1st century. From Bethsaida; among the first disciples called by Jesus; tradition holds that Philip preached in Phrygia, dying on a cross at Hierapolis; two apocryphal works are attributed to him. James, died in 62 BC. Surnamed "the Less" or "the Just" for his piety; he was leader of the Jerusalem Church; an epistle is ascribed to him; he is believed to have been beaten or stoned to death.

MONTHLY NOCTURNAL ADORATION

Additional people are needed to adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament during the Basilica of Saint Mary's monthly Nocturnal Adoration on the **first Friday of each month**, beginning at 9 p.m. and ending at 8 a.m. on Saturday. **May 7** will be the next First Friday. Vocal prayers during Adoration follow the *Little Of-*



fice of the Blessed Sacrament, consisting of Psalms and beautiful Eucharistic meditations. To sign up or to learn more about Nocturnal Adoration, please contact Helen Lynch at helenlynch21@gmail.com.

Q & A Exploring & Practicing Our Catholic Faith

Q: When non-Catholic friends attend Mass with me, how do I explain that they are not supposed to receive Communion?

A: When we say "Amen" before receiving Most Holy Communion, we are assenting not only the fact we acknowledge that is really Jesus and we are in Communion with Him (free of sin) but also in Communion with His Church and believe and profess everything the Catholic Church believes and professes. If your friend is ready to do then, well, then Praise God, let us have them make their profession of faith public and be received into full Communion of the Church at Easter.

Denying the Holy Communion to a non-Catholic is not a judgment on the state of a person's soul, but a recognition of what Catholics believe about the Eucharist. Receiving Holy Communion is a public declaration of fellowship with Christ's Body, the Church—the fellowship, expressed by our common faith, worship and life. When we say "Amen" at the communion rail, we are saying, "Yes, I agree!" To receive Holy Communion without sharing in that fellowship would be, in effect, to tell a lie.

As others are receiving the Eucharist, encourage your non-Catholic friends to remain in their pew and join us spiritually with their prayers.



FELLOWSHIP & SERVING OTHERS

KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS - Urgent Spring Food Drive

Almost 200,000 people in our diocese are food insecure and do not know where their next meal will come from. Demand for foodstuffs from St Lucy has increased 70% due to the coronavirus pandemic. The Knights of Columbus will be hosting a second St. Lucy Food Drive to help meet this increased demand. The **St. Lucy Project** is a food pantry and delivery network of the **Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington (CCDA)**. Please support the Spring Food Drive by **picking up your St Lucy food bag after Mass the weekend of May 2nd**, fill the bag with the goods listed below, and **return the bag for collection at Mass the weekend of May 8th**. Thank you for your generosity!!! And thank you to help eliminate food need and insecurity ——— *The St. Lucy Project requests the following items:*

- ✓ Canned Meat/Fish ✓ Cereals, Hot & Cold ✓ Pasta Sauce and Pasta ✓ Dried & Canned Beans
- ✓ Canned Vegetables ✓ Canned fruit ✓ Children's snacks ✓ Juice
- ✓ Peanut Butter & Jelly ✓ Rice & Grains ✓ Soups & Baking Items ✓ Quarts of Shelf Stable Milk

Checks made out to CCDA welcomed. **Gift cards** from WalMart, Giant and Aldi are also welcomed Contributions also accepted through **Faith Direct**. Please **NO GLASS** packaging

The Marit center

An Alternative to Abortion

The MARiH (Ma-Rye-Ah) Center is a pro-life crisis pregnancy center, offering an alternative to abortion and operating in Alexandria since 1974. We are seeking volunteers! Spanish language skills are especially desirable but not required. The MARiH Center is open **Monday through Thursday**, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and **Saturdays**, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. MARiH is entirely volunteer-run and donation-based. Please call 703.370.4774 or e-mail marihcenter@gmail.com for additional information and a tour. We look forward to volunteering with you!

CHRIST HOUSE THRIFT SHOP

Catholic Charities Christ House Thrift Shop volunteers are needed (3 hours per week) **Thursdays and Fridays**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1-4 p.m. If you are interested or have questions, please contact aniliza.juan@ccda.net.

VIRTUAL INTERPRETERS NEEDED

Mother of Mercy's (MoM) mission is to provide free, quality health care to low-income individuals who are uninsured or under-insured in the Arlington Diocese. The majority of MoM's clients speak Spanish. The MoM Clinics need Virtual Interpreters to help improve communication between the clients and their medical providers. All interpreting services will be done remotely via Zoom. Training is provided. If you are interested in helping with one four-hour shift a month, please register at http://bit.ly/VolunteerMotherofMercy.

From Your Saint Vincent de Paul Society

Zal's hours were cut back working at an Amazon warehouse because of a leg injury. We went to see him and were immediately welcomed with the aroma of a pot of Afghan stew bubbling in the pressure cooker. Mom was hard at work in the kitchen while the dad and kids were nearby. Mom, dad and four kids in a one bedroom apartment. It's the immigrant story many of our ancestors knew, and like them, one could feel happiness...no complaints. One could feel a family closeness, a love that endures all hardships. While the other volunteer worked with the dad on a plan going forward, I had a wonderful time playing with the kids whose English was flawless. They will succeed. But they desperately need our help now. We placed them in our Sustainment Fund program and will stay with them until they reach self-sufficiency. Please contribute to that fund via Faith Direct or a check to SVdP dropped at the Parish Office or Poor Box. And please consider joining us as a volunteer. For more information, please contact Jim Larocco at rocca-rocco@usa.net.

AROUND OUR PARISH & BEYOND



The Basilica of Saint Mary FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS OF 2021

Congratulations to the children of our parish receiving their First Holy Communion on April 30, May 1, May 7, May 8 and May 15. We rejoice and thank God they will now join us at His Eucharistic table!

Klaara Anderson Nadia Balog Grace Beach Sophia Bechamp Ava Bernhard Chapman Berry Oliver Biastre Caroline Biegel Alyssa Blackwell Hadley Brouillette James Brown Stefano Bruen Billy Brunk Nicholas Caroc Holden Cassady Samuel Cellini **Emily Coffman** Jack Conway James Costello Annabel Croson Nathan Cruz Markus Cruz Lipman Samuel Culbert Alexandra Cutler

Michael D'Angelo

Finnbar Dempsey

Stella D'Angelo

Jude Dauer

Cailin Duffy Charlotte Dunstan Delainev Earle Rvan Elliot Victoria Farrell Leopold Fleming Athena Fuller Katherine Grace Geffroy Emma Geldres Emi Gilloon Gabriel Glaccum Colson Gracev Thomas Granfield Amelia Grav Ethan Griffith Louisa Gundersen Connor Haas Robert Haralson James Hav Victoria Henderson Emma Hood Edward Hvde Jackson Jensen Kavden Jobe Patrick Kilrov Vivienne Langone

Arie DiGrado

Isabella Doss

Charlotte Lavin David Lee Alexa Lenehan Isabella Lestorti Penelope Lindh Nicholas James Loving Joseph Lyle Mason Manzo Isla Marvel John Mauceri Clare McDermott Hunter McNamara Skyler McNamara Mary Minkiewicz Mary Moreno Ambrose Neuman Thaddeus Neuman Niamh Nigra John O'Kane Charlotte Olsen Annabel Paik Stuart Peck Mathilde Perez Victoria Perez-Bonneau Finley Philbin Seraphina Pinto Sydney Pitta James Plati

Bree Polk Rvan Potter Olivia Reddani Keegan Ripley Cecilia Rodriguez Falcon Cristina Romero-Collette Luke Schwartz Audrev Shannon Patrick Sheridan Savannah Smith Caelin Smyth Zachary Spain **Emily Swain** John Talay Astrid Test Erik Test Abigail Thielman John Traci Cavanagh Travis Rory Von Schaumburg Will Walton Caroline Walz Elizabeth Ward Mathew Welker Ava Wellington



NEW BASILICA PODCAST

Father Nicholas reflects on Saint Joseph's role as the Light of Patriarchs at https://stmaryoldtown.org/father-nicholas-blank-light-of-patriarchs.

Also available on Apple Podcasts and Spotify.

Visit our Year of Saint Joseph page at https://stmaryoldtown.org/year-of-saint-joseph for all of our Year of Saint Joseph content.

GET YOUR BASILICA ROSARY!



The Basilica of Saint Mary has commissioned two beautiful, limited-edition rosaries: Our 225th Anniversary Rosary and our Basilica Children's Rosary, both crafted by Ghirelli of Rome.

Cecilia Wells

Henry Zottola

For more information and to purchase a rosary, visit https://stmaryoldtown.org/basilica-rosaries-sale.
Or call or visit our Parish Office.

AROUND OUR PARISH & BEYOND

FROM THE ARCHIVES A periodic look at the history of our Basilica of Saint Mary parish

A periodic look at the history since its founding in 1795.



FIRST COMMUNION AT SAINT MARY

This spring, more than 100 children will receive their First Holy Communion here at the Basilica of Saint Mary. In 1872, an article in the *Alexandria Gazette* reported on a similar event:

At Saint Mary's Church yesterday, 35 children were admitted to their First Communion, having been carefully instructed for that purpose, since Easter, by Rev. B.A. Toale, and the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

Mass was said at 7 a.m. by Rev. Peter Kroes, and before giving the Holy Communion, he delivered a discourse to the children, strongly impressing upon them the important of a great and solemn act they were about to perform. They then advanced to the altar rail and received the Blessed Sacrament.

At Vespers, the new communicants again assembled, occupying the front pews in the central range. After another impressive exhortation from the pastor, the renewal of their baptismal vows was read, for the boys by James Moran, and for the girls by Bridget Wilson, each standing within the chancel, supported by two companions. The boys, 18 in number, then advanced to the altar rail bearing lighted candles, and kneeling, repeated aloud the following formula: "I renounce the devil and all his works and pomps, and I promise to live and die in the Holy, Roman, Catholic Church." Then the girls, numbering 17, dressed in white and wearing white veils as in the morning, repeated the same formula.....



First Holy Communion class in the 1940s with Msgr. Edward L. Stephens

We no longer include the Vesper service with First Communion here at Saint Mary. And, these children were around 12 years old. Today, in 2021, children normally receive First Holy Communion when they are 7 to 8 years old and in the second grade. The First Holy Communion Mass was celebrated so early in the morning in 1872 because Church procedure at that time required people to fast from food and drink from midnight until receiving Communion. Mass later in the day would have required additional hours of fasting.

- Kitty Guy, Parish Historian

(FRATERNITY/FITNESS/FAITH)

Father David has started a new men's group at the Basilica called F3 -Fraternity, Fitness and Faith. The group meets in front of the Basilica every Saturday at 5 a.m.

All men of the parish are invited to attend. The men work out for roughly 45 minutes, led by a different member of the group each week, and then finish with prayer.

STAY UP TO DATE

with the latest Basilica of Saint Mary news and digital content by subscribing to our Flocknote email newsletters. It's easy to sign up at https://stmaryoldtown.org/email-sign-up/

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK! Many thanks to FLAHERTY IRON WORKS **OF ALEXANDRIA**

for advertising in our parish bulletin. **Please support and patronize** our wonderful advertisers!

AROUND OUR PARISH & BEYOND

BASILICA ROSARY SOCIETY

The Rosary Society of the Basilica of Saint Mary provides resources that help the faithful grow in their love of our Lord, the Blessed Mother, the rosary and the Catholic Church. The Society executes this mission by connecting parish members with Basilica organizations that pray the rosary (particularly the Daily Rosary Group), planning and managing spiritual retreats for the parish and the Fifth Sunday Rosary for Vocations (the next fifth Sunday will be **May 30**), and sponsoring seminars and presenta-



tions on our faith by prominent spiritual leaders. The Society meets as a community at least once a quarter after the Fifth Sunday Rosary is prayed (usually in the Basilica). Participation in the Society is open to any Catholic, regardless of parish affiliation.

For more information, go to https://stmaryoldtown.org/apostolate/basilica-rosary-society/or contact Bill Beach at wbeachkoc459@gmail.com.

Lost and Found

PARISH LOST & FOUND TO BE EMPTIED

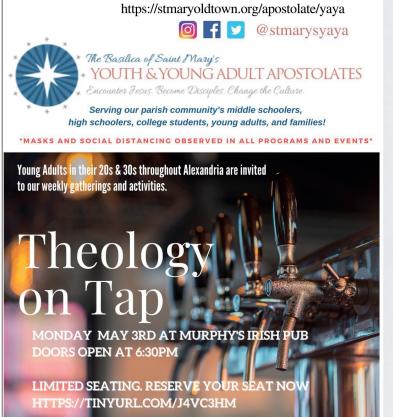
Please be advised that the lost-and-found bin in the Parish Office will be emptied on May 10.

Items that have been there for weeks and months will be donated or discarded.

Current items in the bin include rosaries/chaplets, car keys, reading glasses, leather gloves and hats. If you think you left something in the church, visit the Parish Office at 313 Duke Street to retrieve it.

You also may contact us at 703.836.4100 or admin@stmaryoldtown.org with a description of a lost item so we can check the lost-and-found bin for you. Thank you!

OUR PARISH BULLETIN IS ONLINE at https://stmaryoldtown.org/bulletin/





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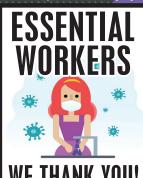
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