



THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY

Founded 1795 - Alexandria, Virginia

October 3, 2021
Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Very Rev. Edward C. Hathaway, Rector
Rev. David A. Dufresne, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Joseph B. Townsend, 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 at 2:15 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, 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
Seven Sisters Apostolate Holy Hour for Priests	Mary Beth Riordan	MaryBethRiordan@gmail.com
Ushers	Steve Teslik	basilicaofstmary.ushers@gmail.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	Bob Whearty	prolife@stmaryoldtown.org
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	Marietta Bernot	svdp2marietta@gmail.com
Sunrise Retirement Home	Father Joseph	frjoseph@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	Dan Ermer dpermer@me.com 858.603.4603 Wayne Cimonis 703.973.5412	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	Chuck Zakrzwski	basilicaofstmarysknights@gmail.com
Praying College Moms	Luanne Griffin	pcm@stmaryoldtown.org
Saint Mary's Play Group	Jennelle Hoffman Claire Purple	saintmarystots@gmail.com
Saints Anne & Joachim Society Seniors 55+	Barbara Juszczuk	barbaraj.seniors@aol.com
Youth & Young Adult Apostolates	Mariane Staron	mstaron@stmaryoldtown.org 703.836.4100 x 3030



Basilica of Saint Mary STAFF
703.836.4100

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Oremus pro invicem “Let us pray for each other”

Father Edward C. Hathaway, Rector

OCTOBER – RESPECT LIFE MONTH



The Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month each October, and the first Sunday of October (**October 3** this year) is observed as Respect Life Sunday. May we spend time this month reflecting more deeply on the dignity of every human life and renewing our commitment to protecting those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end. This month, during the Year of Saint Joseph, we can especially implore his help in protecting the most vulnerable among us. *Saint Joseph, defender of life, pray for us!*

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS – October 4

Our annual Blessing of the Animals will take place at 4:30 p.m. on **Monday, October 4**, the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. All parishioners, especially children, are invited to bring their pets to the parking lot at the corner of Wolfe and South Royal for a special blessing by our parochial vicar Father Joseph Townsend. This event is always a lot of fun!

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY – October 7

The Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary (**Thursday, October 7**) was established in 1571 by Saint Pius V to thank God for the victory of Christians over the Turks at Lepanto, attributed to the people of Rome praying the rosary. Called a “compendium of the Gospel,” the rosary is a beautiful meditation on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. I encourage you to pray the rosary often, even daily, especially as a family.

You can learn how to use sacred art to pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the rosary at our upcoming 2021 Faith & Culture Series presentation on **Tuesday, October 5**, 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the parish Lyceum Auditorium. Our speaker will be Katie Woltornist, founder of *Behold Visio Divina*, a ministry that explores the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary in art. Learn more in a new podcast at <https://stmaryoldtown.libsyn.com/>.

Among our most popular Basilica podcasts are meditations on the mysteries of the rosary led by Father David at <https://stmaryoldtown.org/rosary-podcast-fr-david>. You can pray the rosary with Father David anytime, anywhere!

You also can join others in praying the rosary just before our 8 a.m. Mass, Monday through Friday. Our Rosary Society, Knights of Columbus and Legion of Mary lead parishioners in reciting the rosary following the 5 p.m. Sunday Mass in those months with five Sundays. The next 5th Sunday Rosary will be **Sunday, October 31** – watch the bulletin for more details.

CHANGES AT THE BASILICA

When attending Mass at the Basilica in the past week or so, you’ve likely noticed we have **upgraded the sound system**, with the addition of new speakers situated around the church. Now, more than ever, the Word of God is being boldly proclaimed to all who join us to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Please let me know what you think!

Livestreaming of Masses at the Basilica of Saint Mary now includes only the Sunday, 10 a.m. Mass, and, for daily Mass during the week, only the 12:10 p.m. Mass. You can watch these Masses, live or recorded, at <https://stmaryoldtown.org/mass-videos>.

IN OUR PRAYERS

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, October 3

7 a.m. — David E. Lyons †
8:30 a.m. — Robert D. Porter †
10 a.m. — Parishioners of Saint Mary
11:30 a.m. — Frank Jolly IV †
1 p.m. — John T. Correll †
5 p.m. — R.C. Black †

Monday, October 4

6:30 a.m. — Special Intention: Madigan Chandler
8 a.m. — Special Intention: Betty and Mike McAndrews
12:10 p.m. — Special Intention: Bridget and Jim Barber

Tuesday, October 5

6:30 a.m. — Sam Lange †
8 a.m. — Linda Horton †
12:10 p.m. — Betty Jean Deshler †

Wednesday, October 6

6:30 a.m. — Special Intention: Rosemary Lynch
8 a.m. — Peter Lovett †
12:10 p.m. — Murial Burns Kunkler †

Thursday, October 7

6:30 a.m. — Sam Lange †
8 a.m. — Special Intention: Steve and Nellie Trepkowski
12:10 p.m. — Thomas Mack Sr. †

Friday, October 8

6:30 a.m. — Sam Lange †
8 a.m. — Dick Strub †
12:10 p.m. — George Donick †

Saturday, October 9

8:30 a.m. — Nancy Blackburn †
5 p.m. — Charlotte Campbell †

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, October 3

Gn 2:18-24; Ps 128:1-6; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16

Monday, October 4

Jon 1:1—2:2, 11; (Ps) Jon 2:3-5, 8; Lk 10:25-37

Tuesday, October 5

Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1b-4b, 7-8; Lk 10:38-42

Wednesday, October 6

Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4

Thursday, October 7

Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 11:5-13

Friday, October 8

Jl 1:13-15 and 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6, 8-9; Lk 11:15-26

Saturday, October 9

Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lk 11:27-28

WE WELCOME THROUGH BAPTISM

Emmett Victor Livingood, Lynx Priestley, Luke Thomas Ringers
and Catherine Leigh Sanchez

PRAY FOR THE ILL, INCLUDING

Diana Allen, **Gilliam Allen**, Suzanne Aragona, Dave Baughan,
Ramiro Bellido, Lynn Blycher, Katherine Boeskin, Maria
Campo, Quinn Copps, Baby Clare Cummings, Mary Davis,
Jean Edwards, Margie Feney, Michael Hahn, Michael
Henderson, Foltzy Huttman, Diane Kapanowski, Shannon Key,
Geraldine (Gerry) McGowan, Bud Miles, Terry Nunan,
Tammy Orthman, Pam Rubin, Baby Shiller, Dan Sullivan,
Noel Tohill and Jerry Wallmeyer

PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED, INCLUDING:

Edward Joseph Heiden, Thomas R. Steadman,
Irma Valentine and Arlington Wylie

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

Alex Deerr, Tim Galginaitis, Kaylyn E. Krzemien,
Sara McAlpin, Mitchell Mehaffey, Vincent P. Pensyl,
Ryan Rickley, David Alejandro Sandoval, Patrick Tuccillo,
Josh Villeneuve and all those serving in law enforcement,
as firefighters and as emergency first responders.

PRAY FOR OUR DIOCESAN PRIESTS

October 3 — Rev. Donald C. Greenhalgh (Retired)
October 4 — Rev. Horace H. Grinnell (Retired)
October 5 — Rev. Ronald J. Gripshover Jr.
October 6 — Rev. Lee W. Gross
October 7 — Rev. Richard M. Guest
October 8 — Rev. Edouard B. Guilloux
October 9 — Rev. Andrew W. Haissig

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Let the little children come to me...

Are you being called to bring others to Christ and
His Kingdom as a priest, deacon, sister or brother?
Contact Fr. Michael Isenberg at
michael.isenberg@arlingtondiocese.org or 703. 841.2514.

Names of the ill are listed for 4 weeks. **Names of those
actively serving in harm's way** (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 OCTOBER

Missionary Disciples. We pray that
every baptized person may be engaged in
evangelization, available to the mission, by
being witnesses of a life that has the flavor
of the Gospel.



WORSHIP & ONGOING FAITH FORMATION

Year of Saint Joseph

Whereas Adam and Eve were the source of evil which was unleashed on the world, Joseph and Mary are the summit from which holiness spreads all over the earth.

— Pope Saint John Paul II



TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS

The Holy Mass in the Extraordinary Form (Tridentine or Traditional Latin Mass) is celebrated at the Basilica of Saint Mary on the **third Friday** of each month. Regular celebrant for this Mass is our parochial vicar, Father David Dufresne. Our next Extraordinary Form Mass will be celebrated on **Friday, October 15**, at 7:30 p.m.



Liturgical Calendar This Week

—**October 4. Saint Francis of Assisi.** Renounced family wealth to follow a life of simplicity and obedience. Founded Franciscan Family: Friars Minor, Conventuals, Poor Clares, Third Order Religious and Secular Franciscans. Received the stigmata in 1224.

—**October 5. Saint Faustina Kowalska, Religious.** Polish nun and mystic. Her visions of Jesus inspired the popular devotion to the Divine Mercy and the Divine Mercy Chapel. **Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest.** German itinerant missionary who served in North America. Died in 1867.

—**October 6. Saint Bruno, Priest.** Celebrated teacher at Reims and close advisor to his former pupil, Pope Urban II (reigned 1088-99). Founder of the Carthusian Order. **Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin.** Born in Quebec. Began the first Canadian sodality for young women; founded the Sisters of the Holy Name of Jesus and Mary devoted to Christian education. Died in 1849 at age 38.

—**October 7. Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary.** Recalls the rosary meditations on the mysteries of Christ and our salvation. This memorial was established by Pope Pius V in thanksgiving for victory at Lepanto on October 7, 1571.

—**October 9. Saint Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs.** First bishop of Paris. Martyred in 258. **Saint John Leonardi, Priest.** Co-founded, with Saint Philip Neri, the Collegio Urbano, which trains priests for foreign missions.



walking with purpose

Join **Walking with Purpose** this fall for a Bible study focusing on the women of the Bible! Women of the Old and New Testaments were as flawed and broken as we can be today, yet the power of God worked in their lives. Learn from their experiences in *Discovering Our Dignity*, a 22-lesson Bible study. Walking with Purpose will host an open house for the women of the parish on the morning of **Wednesday, October 6**, and the evening of **Thursday, October 7**. Our study will meet weekly after that with breaks for the holidays and wrap up during Holy Week. Wednesday morning sessions meet 9:30 to 11 a.m. in the parish Lyceum; Thursday evening sessions meet 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Lyceum. Daycare is available for the morning session only.

To register, visit stmaryoldtown.org/wwp or email Mindee Arritt for more information at wwp@stmaryoldtown.org.

FORMED
Study | Watch | Listen | Read

Find a **FREE**, comprehensive, online library of Catholic faith formation resources at <https://stmaryoldtown.formed.org>

Q & A *Exploring & Practicing Our Catholic Faith*

Q: What does the term “incorruptible” mean?

The term refers to the body of a saint that, long after the saint has died, is found free of decay and decomposition when exhumed from the grave. The Church considers Saint Catherine of Siena to be an example. She died in 1380. Today, more than 600 years later and without any embalming, her flesh has not decomposed.

Incorrupt saints are seen as physical manifestations of souls in heaven. The incorrupt bodies are considered holy relics and are treated with great esteem in both the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches.



FELLOWSHIP & SERVING OTHERS

2021 ANNUAL K of C COAT DRIVE

Through **October 17**, the Knights of Columbus Council 459 is conducting their annual four-week coat drive to support the local community. Thanks to your generosity in the past, the drive has averaged more than 500 coats per year collected for men, women and youth, providing warmth and comfort to those in need through the winter season. There is a particular need for youth and children's coats, gloves and hats! All coats will be cleaned and distributed to those in need.

Please bring your gently used winter coats to the Basilica of Saint Mary where the Knights will be curbside to accept your donations before and after Sunday Masses. A coat collection box also is located behind the last pew in the Basilica's main section if a Knight is not available to receive the donation. There also are collection boxes located at the Basilica School of Saint Mary for your convenience.



Again, thank you for supporting this worthy effort. Questions? Contact Brandon Eubank (basilicaofstmarysknights@gmail.com) or Larry Clark (hlclark63@gmail.com). God Bless!

BEST KEPT SECRET IN OLD TOWN!



The Catholic Charities Thrift Shop at 125 South West Street (between King and Prince Streets) is a true treasure in Old Town Alexandria. Run by the Diocese of Arlington, the Thrift Shop carries everything you need: Fashion for everyone, new and vintage jewelry, home décor and many unexpected treasures! Come shop with us!

100% of the revenue supports the many emergency assistance programs run by the Diocese, including Christ House and the Food Pantry next door to the shop. Please also consider donating items to the Thrift Shop! We happily welcome donations of gently used or new clothing/shoes, jewelry and small household items. (Sorry, no furniture, pillows or blankets.)

HOURS: Monday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
703.548.4881

Join Father David To Walk the Camino de Santiago MAY 22-MAY 29, 2022

Have you ever dreamed of walking the Camino de Santiago ("The Way of Saint James"), an ancient and holy pilgrimage route through northern Spain to pay homage at the tomb of Saint James?

NOW IS YOUR CHANCE!

JOIN SAINT MARY'S OWN FATHER DAVID
FOR A WEEK ON THE CAMINO!

An informational meeting will be held
on **Sunday, October 10**, 3:30-4:30 p.m.,
in the Lyceum Auditorium.

Learn more at
<https://stmaryoldtown.org/camino-de-santiago/>.



CATHOLIC SPORTS UPDATES

For Young Adults 18-39!

Upcoming Leagues

NEW! Registration for WIFFLEBALL League is OPEN!

Early Registration **closes October 3**.
Sundays, October 31 — December 19
at the Basilica School of Saint Mary.
Register at www.catholicsports.net!

Bible Studies

Contact Helena Briggs to join a Men's
or Women's Bible Study!

Socials

Stay tuned for our first social events coming up!
Sign up for our email list at www.catholicsports.net!
If you have questions or want to connect,
email catholicsports@stmaryoldtown.org
or text Helena at 540.551.2271.

FAMILY, CHILDREN & YOUTH

NEW CHILDREN'S CHOIR SCHOOL



The **Saint Gregory Children's Choir School** at the Basilica of Saint Mary is a new, four-year program of comprehensive musical training and immersion into the Catholic choral tradition. Enrollment is open through the **end of October** for any Catholic boy or girl, ages 8-12. Students will learn to read music fluently and sing with confidence everything from Gregorian chant to modern compositions. Students also will learn music theory according the curriculum of the Royal College of Music in Toronto. Each year, students will increasingly participate in the liturgical life of the Basilica and sing for concerts and other parish events. Plans for a choral trip are being developed. Learn more at <https://stmaryoldtown.org/the-basilica-of-saint-mary-announces-a-choir-school-for-children/>. Or contact David Elliott, Director of Music at the Basilica, delliott@stmaryoldtown.org.

Bishop Ireton High School Annual Open House for Prospective Families Sunday, October 17, 1 to 4 p.m.

Bishop Ireton High School
201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria, VA

Arrive any time between 1 and 4 p.m. to explore Bishop Ireton and learn more about the school from faculty, administrators, students and coaches.

RSVP at www.bishopireton.org and go to admissions, visit and inquire.



Bishop Ireton is a Catholic, coed, college-preparatory high school in the Diocese of Arlington with more than 800 students. Located just outside Old Town Alexandria, the school offers a challenging curriculum and robust opportunities in sports, arts, clubs and STEM. Together with its community of families, Bishop Ireton provides students with the foundation and relationships needed for a lifetime of success, helping prepare the next generation to be exemplary and ethical leaders in an ever-changing world.

Questions? Email admissions@bishopireton.org.

<https://stmaryoldtown.org/apostolate/yaya>

The Basilica of Saint Mary's
YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT APOSTOLATES
Encounter Jesus. Become Disciples. Change the Culture.
Serving our parish community's middle schoolers, high schoolers, college students, young adults, and families!

2021-22 YOUTH ANNUAL REGISTRATION AVAILABLE AT WEBSITE
REGISTER NOW FOR SPECIAL DISCOUNTS ON EVENTS!

Young Adults in their 20s & 30s throughout Alexandria are invited to our weekly gatherings and activities.

Theology on Tap

MONDAY OCTOBER 4TH
AT MURPHY'S IRISH PUB

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM

Mariane Staron, Director | mstaron@stmaryoldtown.org | 703.836.4100 x 3030
Aaron Zanca, Assistant Director | azanca@stmaryoldtown.org | 703.836.4100 x 3024

All High Schoolers Invited!

DIOCESAN RALLY

Sunday | October 24th
Register Online: <https://stmaryoldtown.org/diocesan-rally-2021>

MEN'S RETREAT
AT GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH

SCAN TO LEARN MORE & REGISTER

WOMEN'S RETREAT
AT NATIVITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

SCAN TO LEARN MORE & REGISTER

<https://bit.ly/3066vz>

AROUND OUR PARISH & BEYOND

FROM THE ARCHIVES

*A periodic look at the history
of our Basilica of Saint Mary parish
since its founding in 1795*



CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN THE 1950S AND 60S: MORE THAN JUST DICK & JANE



The academic routine at Saint Mary School in the 1950s and 1960s was similar to the experience of millions of other Baby Boomers. The one notable exception was religion. As a Catholic school, Saint Mary students were taught primarily by religious sisters and religion permeated the day. Primary grade students, like their counterparts around the country, read about the adventures of Dick and Jane and Sally. But, unlike the public school textbooks, in Saint Mary's primers, Dick and Jane and Sally were Catholic. Their family attended Mass; Dick and Jane made their First Holy Communion.

Mornings at Saint Mary School started with prayers. The "Morning Offering" was always recited, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Occasionally, if there was a special event or crisis, the children prayed for a good outcome. When Pope Pius XII died in 1958, prayers were added for the repose of

his soul and for the Holy Spirit's guidance in the selection of his successor. These prayers were successful with the election of the beloved Pope Saint John XXIII.

Sometimes a student asked for prayers for a special intention. This could have unexpected consequences. One day, a second grader raised her hand (polite, respectful Catholic students always raised their hands before speaking!) and asked the class to pray for the 75-year-old lady in Asia who had given birth to quadruplets. She and her mother had been standing in the grocery store check-out line and read this miraculous news in a supermarket tabloid headline! In another incident, a third grader asked his classmates to pray for the lady in Brazil who had been abducted by space aliens. Since "Reverence in Prayer" was a grade on every report card, the teachers must have found it difficult to remain decorous with such extemporaneous, yet innocent and well-meaning, prayer requests! — *Kitty Guy, Parish Historian*

"BACK FROM THE DEAD" WALK AT SAINT MARY CEMETERY!

Encounter the saints who have arrived Back from the Dead for the season of All Souls and All Saints, and glimpse the realities of heaven and hell while wandering through historic Saint Mary Cemetery! You might allow this purgative experience to touch you by going to Confession at the end of your walk. No fear, our vivacious tour guides will make sure you get everywhere you need to go.

WHEN: 6:15 to 8:20 p.m. on **Saturday, October 30**, and **Tuesday, November 2**

WHERE: Saint Mary Cemetery, 1000 South Royal Street, Alexandria

PARKING: Park in the lot adjacent to Saint Mary School and walk through the South Royal Street gate leading to the cemetery.

Sign in at the ticket table when you arrive. Tours approximately every 11 minutes. (NOTE: Confession available only on Tuesday, November 2, 6:15 to 8:20 p.m.)

If you'd like to attend, email stmarycemetrywalk@gmail.com, provide your first and last name and number of people attending. Adults and children are welcome to participate in this thrilling adventure!



AROUND OUR PARISH & BEYOND



All are invited for the 40th Annual StepALIVE! Walkathon on **Sunday, October 17**, to benefit programs sponsored by ALIVE! Alexandrians InVolved Ecumenically).

Kickoff at 2 p.m. in the parking lot of First Christian Church, 2723 King Street.

Join a group walk through Old Town and post-walk celebration with snacks and live music. Or walk with others from our parish, your family and friends, or just by yourself in solidarity with ALIVE!

Register online to walk, form a team, sponsor or make a tax-deductible donation at www.stepalivewalk.org.

FIND OUR PARISH BULLETIN ONLINE
at <https://stmaryoldtown.org/bulletin/>



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Feast of Saint Francis
Monday, October 4
4:30 p.m.

Parking lot at the corner of Wolfe and South Royal Streets

PARISH PRO-LIFE EVENTS

4th Saturday of each month — Following the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the Basilica, join us to **pray the rosary in front of the abortion clinic** at 5999 Stephenson Avenue in Alexandria. Next one will be on **Saturday, October 23**. For more information, email prolife@stmaryoldtown.org.



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Visit: stmaryoldtown.org/apostolate/Oktoberfest for more information. Or, email Clarence Lyles at clyles@stmaryoldtown.org for assistance.

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For details, visit bit.ly/ptsc. Questions? Or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com.



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