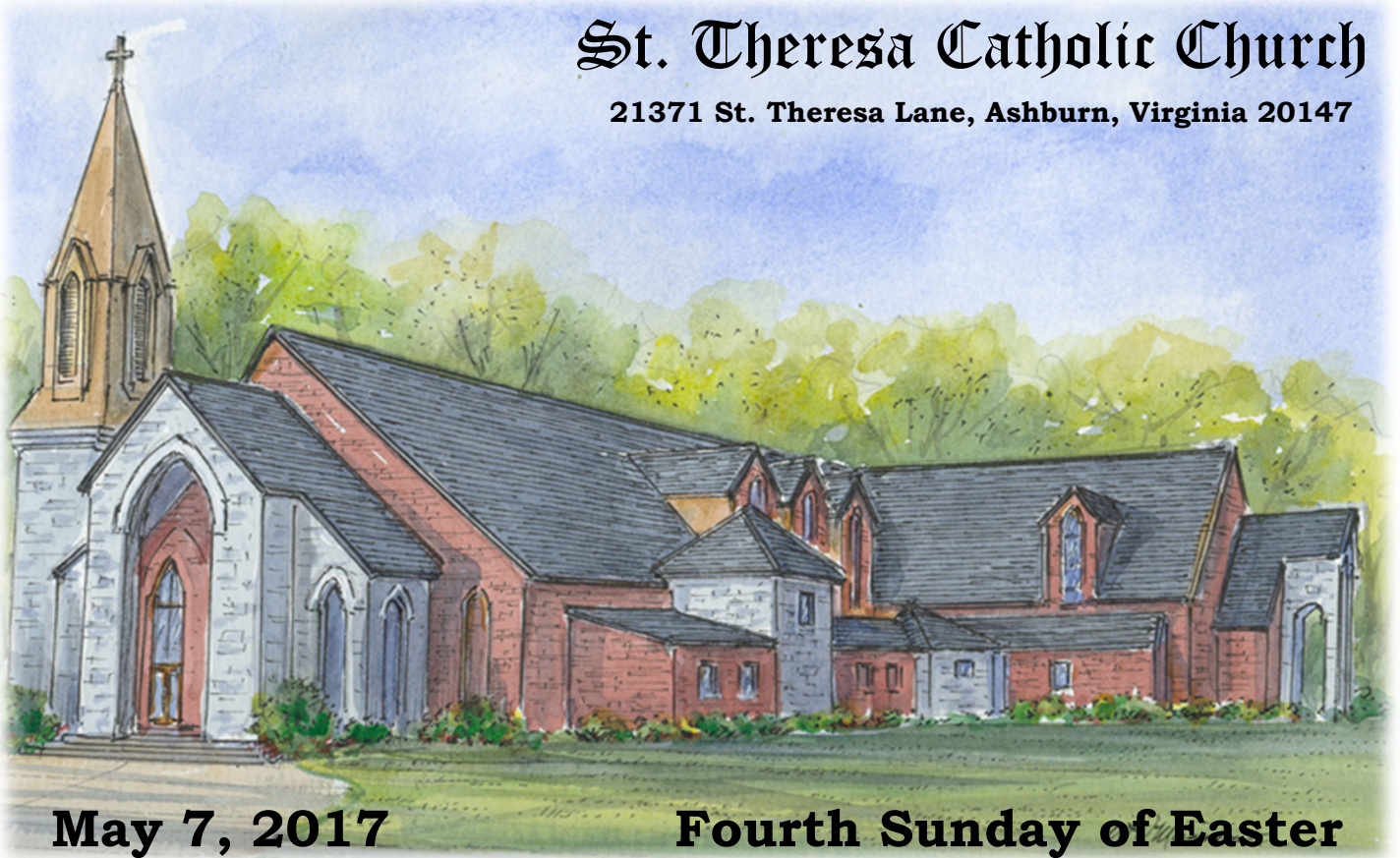


St. Theresa Catholic Church

21371 St. Theresa Lane, Ashburn, Virginia 20147



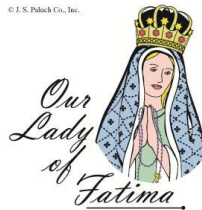
May 7, 2017

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Dear Parishioners,

We leave today for our Marian pilgrimage. Be assured of our prayers as we travel to Fatima, Lourdes, and the many other holy sites on our itinerary. Please keep our safety in your own prayers.

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I want to congratulate our boys and girls who made First Holy Communion this past week. We are so proud of them! The names of the children are inside the bulletin -- let us pray that these youngsters will grow closer and closer in their relationship with our dear Lord. Thanks to all of those who helped get them ready for the big day.

Our annual parish May Crowning takes place at the 10:30am Mass today. This year the children will crown the image of Our Lady of Fatima which had been placed in the sanctuary. As many of you are aware, this year (May 13) marks the 100th anniversary of the start of our Lady's apparitions to the three children in Fatima, Portugal. Let us pray the rosary daily and ask our Lady's intercession for a conversion of hearts that Christ's peace may reign in our world.

In Christ, 

Parish Mass Schedule

Saturday:	8:30am 5:30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday:	7:30, 8:45, 10:30am; 12:30 and 5:00pm
Weekdays:	6:15 and 8:30am, Monday through Friday Wednesdays: 12:15pm
Holy Days:	As announced
Holy Hour:	Thursdays, 8:00pm
Confessions:	Saturdays, 4:00-4:45 pm; during Holy Hour; and by appointment

Clergy

Reverend Richard M. Guest, Pastor
Reverend Thomas B. Cavanaugh, Parochial Vicar
Reverend James C. Hinkle, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Paul C. Konold

Bulletin Deadline: Friday 2pm
(9 days prior to publication)

How to Register to be a Parishioner of St. Theresa

Often, in the sacramental life of the Church, Catholic faithful will need to prove residency in a parish. Registration with the parish office allows us to track your sacramental data and keep you connected with the life of the

church. In order to register, come to the parish office Monday – Friday 9:30am – 4:30pm to fill out a registration card. Yellow registration cards can also be obtained at all of the Church entrances – these can be mailed to the parish or given to an usher during a church liturgy.

Youth Education and News



Saint Theresa Catholic School



School tours most Wednesdays at 9:00 AM
Be sure to check on our website under Admissions to sign up

Office Hours
Monday & Wednesday: 10am-7:30pm
Tuesday: 10am-6pm
Thursday: 9am-4pm
Fridays: 9am-Noon

Adults- Plan Ahead to Volunteer
Want to volunteer at the many St. Theresa's children based programs/ events (i.e. fall picnic, STTACK, Merciful Harvest, school functions)? St. Theresa's encourages and welcomes your involvement however it requires that all volunteers be VIRTUS trained (volunteer training & paperwork). The VIRTUS paperwork may take up to 4-6 weeks to clear.

To register for VIRTUS training go to www.virtus.org. Contact Connie Gilligan, Parish Child Safety Coordinator, connie@sainttheresaparish.com, 703.729.3714

VBS registration

Vacation Bible School registration **closes Monday, May 8th**. Access the registration link on the church home page. We are still in need of volunteers, so contact Kelly4VT@gmail.com to volunteer

VBS dates: June 19-23.

ymoffice@sainttheresaparish.com

URS—The High School Youth Group (rising 9th graders - 12th grade) meets Sundays 6-8pm. It is teen led and teen organized, with food, fun, fellowship and faith. Starts in the school cafeteria with snacks and games, then moves to the Upper Room (the choir loft of the church) for prayer and discussion of a Gospel passage lead by peer-mentors. Concludes with a talk by an adult leader, closing prayer, and Pizza and dessert! There is usually a priest available for confession!

Save the Date - Save the Date

Friday, June 16, for the St. Theresa School Alumni Gathering. All Alumni and teachers (past and present) are invited to attend. More details will be available soon. Follow the St. Theresa School Alumni Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/STSAshburnAlumni/>) for updates.

St. Theresa School is still accepting applications for certain grades.

Application and tour information is available on the school website (www.stsashburn.com) under Admissions. Please contact the school office 703.729.3577 for more information.



Did You Know? . . .

Microsoft, Apple or Google makes no difference to our kids!

We are preparing our students to succeed in the 21st century regardless of platform.

That's the St. Theresa Difference!

www.stsashburn.com | 703-729-3577 | schooloffice@stsashburn.com



April 22 – **Knighthood Degree Exemplification** – Twenty-One Brothers (including three priests)

from throughout Northern VA, received their full Knighthood Degree during an Exemplification held at St. Theresa's. **Included in this group were the following Brothers from St.**

Theresa's: Jay Casale, Vinay Di'soussa, Hermes Figueroa, Jonathan Fullenkamp, William Knoll, James Mosesso, Alexander S. Ognibene, Robert L. Taggart II.

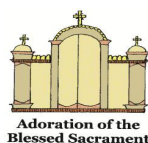
KOVAR Support – Please help the Intellectually Disabled by donating online: <http://kovarva.org/donate/>.

Indicate it's for Council 15256. Shop on Amazon? Use smile.amazon.com and select the KOVAR corporation as your charity.

Are you a Knight? Contact us at kofc15256@googlegroups.com to learn the great things that we do to help our parish and community.

Current Vacant Adoration Slots

Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
12:30am	12:00am	12:30am	1:30am	12:00am	1:00am	12:30am
2:00am	12:30am	1:00am	4:00am	1:30am	3:30am	1:30am
2:30am	1:30am	1:30am	4:00pm	4:00am	6:30am	2:30am
3:30am	4:00am	2:30am			11:30am	3:30am
5:30am	6:30am	8:00am				11:30pm
6:00pm	1:00pm	7:00pm				
9:30pm	2:00pm					
	6:00pm					
	11:30pm					



Red - No Adorer for this hour

Blue -

No Adorer for the first half hour
Black - One Adorer already for this time slot but need one more Adorer.

If you can sign up for one of these available slots, it would be greatly appreciated.

To sign up, go to:

<http://>

sainttheresa.letusadore.com

Parish Happenings

Patricians

The next meeting of the Patricians will be held **Monday, May 8 at 6pm** in the St. Louis Martin Room in the Administration Building. Sponsored by the Legion of Mary, the Patricians meet to discuss current issue of the day, or to discuss the beauty and richness of our Catholic faith. All Catholics are welcome and there is no commitment. **This month's discussion will on the Incredible Life of Pontius Pilate.**

Refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, please contact Erica Entwistle at 703.593.5912 or erica.entwistle@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Mother's Day Rose Sale

Teens who will attending WorkCamp this June in Fredericksburg will be selling roses after each of the morning **Masses on Mother's Day, May 14th**. All proceeds will help offset the costs of St. Theresa Parish sending over 50 teens to this worthwhile endeavor.

An Evening for Women, May 16th, 7:30pm

Please join the women of Walking With Purpose bible study for a wonderful evening of fellowship and fun. Ron Riggins, from the Arlington Diocese Speaker Bureau will wrap-up this year's Holy Spirit Speaker Series with his talk: "The New Life and Holy Boldness Through The Holy Spirit". The evening will be held at the St. Theresa School Cafeteria (please enter through the back door). Light refreshments will be served. Don't miss this exciting evening and remember to bring a friend! Please RSVP to donovanma@yahoo.com. Contact sttheresawwp@gmail.com with any questions.

Young at Heart (55+)

Wed. , May 17th, we will meet in the Adm. Bldg. after the 12:15pm Mass. Bring your own lunch. Desserts, coffee and tea will be provided by our Club. A speaker from the Ashburn Fire Dept. will be talking on home safety and other relating concerns to our generation. **New people are al-**

ways welcome to attend. Questions, call Grace Breighner 703.729.7044.

Save the Date - Save the Date

Friday, June 16, for the St. Theresa School Alumni Gathering. All Alumni and teachers (past and present) are invited to attend. More details will be available soon. Follow the St. Theresa School Alumni Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/STSAshburnAlumni/>) for updates.

Fall Pilgrimage to Italy

Father Guest will lead a 13 Days Pilgrimage to the Shrines of Italy from **November 5 - 17, 2017**. The Pilgrimage will include Florence, Pisa, Assisi, Loreto, Lanciano, San Giovanni Rotondo, the Cave of St. Michael, 3 days in Rome, Monte Cassino, Pompeii, Sorrento, Capri, the Amalfi Coast and Ravello. We will have Mass at Santa Croce Church in Florence, drive along the Tuscan region to see the Square of Miracles and the leaning Pisa Tower, see St. Clare's incorruptible body, the tomb of St Padre Pio and St John Paul II, the Cave of St Michael, the Vatican Museum, celebrate Mass at St. Peter's Basilica, ride a boat to the Isle of Capri, drive along the spectacular Amalfi Coast, and much, much more. For more information, please contact Anh Wong at 703.723.1308 or wong.anh@gmail.com.

Schola Cantorum

Saint Theresa is forming a schola cantorum to sing chant and sacred polyphony. For more information or to arrange an audition, contact Anne Miller at a.marie.miller@gmail.com

Children's Choir

Announcing the St. Theresa's Children's choir! Rehearsals take place on **Sunday mornings 9:30-10:15** in the Parish Center. All children grades 4 and up (and 3rd graders who show readiness) are invited to join. Our choir director is parishioner Mrs. Anne Miller, a.marie.miller@gmail.com, who has a Master's degree in music and 20 years of choir directing experience.



Financial Peace University (FPU)

is nine-week DVD course on personal and family finances taught by America's most trusted financial coach, Dave Ramsey. This series covers household budgeting, cash flow planning, dealing with debt, taking control of spending, investing for the future, giving generously, and much more. The course will be offered March 24-May 26 from 7:30-9pm (no class Good Friday) The discounted registration fee for St. Theresa's is \$93 per couple. For more info and to register, visit <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/classes/1038509> or <https://sainttheresaparish.com/divine-mercy/divine-mercy-outreach/financial-peace-university-classes/>. Questions, contact Tam Mai-Ryan, tamryan@verizon.net.

Mom's Faith Formation

All parish Moms are invited to join us **Thursday mornings from 9:30-10:30** in the parish activity center for prayer, guest speakers and open discussions as we explore our Catholic faith and the God-ordained vocation of motherhood. Our goal is to nurture this vocation and show support for each other through fellowship, discussion and prayer in an organized and inviting format. Babies and children welcome. Please email Kim McCabe for more information: kjlmccabe@gmail.com.

CART

Captioning of announcements and Homily available by downloading app onto any laptop, tablet, iPad, Kindle, smart phone such as iPhone and Android. Monthly mass schedule is on our website. Contact Donna at CARTsttheresa@aol.com for more information.

Free 8x10 Directory Photos

Those families that took their directory photo and only ordered the free 8x10, your photos are in the Parish Office. Please stop by Mon-Fri, 10am-2pm to pick up your photo.



Altar Server Corner

In light of the Loudoun County graduations schedule and other circumstances well within my control, the graduating High School Senior Altar Server graduation Mass is now scheduled for **June 18th** at 10:30am.

Adult Education and Spiritual Enrichment

Adult Confirmation

Are you a practicing Roman Catholic in good standing with the Church? Have you not received the sacrament of Confirmation? If you desire the sacrament of Confirmation and you are a baptized member of the Catholic Church in good standing, there will be an Adult Confirmation taking place at Saint Theresa on Sunday, June 11th. Classes will be offered in May. If you wish to be considered for the opportunity: Obtain a newly-issued copy of your baptismal certificate from the parish where you were baptized, choose a Confirmation Saint, and ask a Confirmation Sponsor. Class dates **May 10, and 17** on Wednesdays at 7pm. Sign up can be found on our website, www.sainttheresaparish.com/Faith/Sacraments/Adult Confirmation. For questions, contact Fr. Jim, frjim@sainttheresaparish.com.

Wine and Theology

Welcome all adults! Our next event is **Fri. May 12th** 7-10:30pm at the Cho's home. This is a casual gathering to catch up, meet new people, and enjoy each other's company. Around 8:15ish Fr. Jim will share some inspired thoughts with us. Children are welcome, but we also have babysitting references. Feel free to invite your friends - the more the merrier! Please contact Tricia Suarez at triciasuarez@gmail.com for the invite or if you have questions. Future Date: June 2nd or June 9th

Women's Bible Study, Walking with Purpose

Want to grow deeper in faith, learn how scripture applies to your everyday life, and meet some great women in the parish? Refer to the Parish website for more details under Activities/

Women's Bible Study – Walking with Purpose. **Refer questions to sttheresawwp@gmail.com.**

Gospel of Matthew

We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 7–8:30pm. If interested, contact Linda DiMuzio, Course Coordinator, at lpdimuzio@gmail.com. Cost of course materials is \$30.

Saint Theresa Women's Discipleship Group

Meets every Wednesday 9:30–11:30am in the North Conference Room. We contemplate next Sunday's gospel, and the opportunity to apply Saint Therese of Lisieux's Twelve Little Ways to Transform Your Heart to everyday life. Contact Flo at 719.671.5610 or friddoc@earthlink.net

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Classes are led by a certified ESL instructor and are free. Monday morning class meets from 10am -12pm: April 3, 17, 24 and May 1, 8, 15. Tues evening class meets from 7-9pm: April 4, 18, 25 and May 2, 9, 16. ESL class will break for summer after May 16 and will resume in the fall on Sept 11 (Monday) and Sept 12 (Tuesday). If interested in attending, contact Crystal Jordan, ESL@sainttheresaparish.com.

Summer Theology Courses at Christendom Graduate School

Enrich your life and learn more about the Faith by taking a summer course at the Christendom Graduate School! Online courses run from May 15 - August 22. The six-week session for on-campus courses runs from June 27 – August 5. At our convenient Alexandria campus (on Queen of Apostles Parish grounds) we are offering The Synoptic Gospels on Tues & Thurs evenings. The six-week session for on-

-campus courses runs from June 27 – August 5. At the Front Royal residential program we are offering two courses specifically for catechists: Catechetical Program Administration, and Teaching Natural Law through Classic Film, as well as Old Testament, Holy Spirit & Ecclesiology, Patristics, Theological Anthropology. Earn your MA in theology or take a course for personal enrichment! Our special discounted rate makes it easy for catechists, seniors, and religious to audit courses. We also have pre-recorded online courses, several of them in the Scriptures. For more info, please visit <http://graduate.christendom.edu/>, email us at graduate.school@christendom.edu, or call 703.658.4304.

Strengthen Your Faith and Share It With Others!

For just \$30, you can take a 3-week online apologetics seminar at Catholic Distance University. Why Do We Need the Church? Many people today consider themselves “spiritual” but not “religious.” Over half of American adults do not regularly attend church, and only 20% of Catholics born after 1970 attend Mass. This seminar will help us respond to this alarming and growing trend. We will explore key reasons why active involvement in the life of the Church, especially the Mass, is Christ's will for his followers and provide valuable information to share with family and friends who do not attend Mass. Offered July 3 - 24, 2017. Register today at <https://cdu.catalog.instructure.com/>. Use Promo Code CDU15ARLINGTON to qualify for the \$30 rate.

Opportunities to Help

Smiling Faces Wanted - Join the Mass Greeters!

We are looking for individuals to join our Mass Greeters group. Our goal is to have enough greeters so that we have a presence at every door at every mass so that everyone who enters feels welcome to St. Theresa's. No experience necessary...the only requirement is a warm smile and welcoming spirit! All parishioners are

welcome to participate (children/teens must have approval from parent). Please contact Christa Bautista at cbautista5569@yahoo.com or 703.728.9338.

Job Seekers & Volunteers

Christians are Networking (CAN), a ministry of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington, pairs persons who are unemployed, under-

employed, or in search of a new career with volunteers who will teach them essential networking, resume writing, and job interview skills. The St. Theresa chapter meets the 1st and 3rd Tues each month, 7-9pm. For more info contact Raelene Wagoner, can@sainttheresaparish.com or visit: www.cdda.net/programs_jobs.php

Parish Offices

Secretary: Peggy Sullivan, 703.729.2287
Secretary: Christine Young, 703.729.2287
Accountant: Michelle Pochick, 703.729.2287
Facilities Coordinator: Jason Campiti, 703.729.2287
Outreach Coordinator: Marianne Guidos, 703.729.2334
Website: www.sainttheresaparish.com
Email: office@sainttheresaparish.com
Fax: 703.729.9036

Religious Education Offices

Director: Larry Bayne
Youth Activities: Paul Dwyer, 703.729.0426
Secretary: Connie Gilligan, 703.729.3714
Secretary: Myriam Perez, 703.729.3714
Email: reoffice@sainttheresaparish.com
Fax: 703.729.9036

School Offices

Principal: Carol Krichbaum, 703.729.3577
Secretary: Deena Lanier, 703.729.3577
Secretary: Patty Grywatch, 703.729.3577
Website: www.stsashburn.com
Email: schooloffice@stsashburn.com
Fax: 703.729.8068

All offices located at 21370 St. Theresa Lane, Ashburn, VA

Sacraments

Baptisms

Parents desiring Baptism for their child must attend a class, preferably before the child's birth. The classes are held the first Thursday of each month at 7:30pm in the school library. After you attend the class, you may schedule your child for the Sacrament of Baptism (Sundays 1:30 pm).

Baptism forms can be found on the Parish website under Faith, Sacraments, Baptism.

Matrimony

The priest must be contacted at least six (6) months prior to the wedding date.

Visit the Parish Website under Faith, Sacraments,

Marriage and fill out the Marriage Preparation Questionnaire prior to contacting the Parish Office. A priest will contact you.

Sponsor Certificates

Please contact the Parish Office to obtain a sponsor certificate prior to a Baptism or Confirmation.

RCIA

Adults desiring instruction in the Catholic Faith should visit the website to register for RCIA classes.

Hospitalized/ Homebound

Please contact the Parish Office to ask for Holy Communion or the Anointing of the Sick.

Around the Diocese

Interdenominational Infant Memorial Service

A service will be held at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church on Saturday, **May 13** at 7pm for any who mourn a child lost through miscarriage, premature birth, stillbirth, abortion, or infant death. Join Divine Mercy Care and the Kristen Anderson Perinatal Hospice Program of Tepeyac OB/GYN for this event to honor the value of every little life. RSVP at divinemercycare.org by May 4th to have the child's name listed in the program.

This Week @ Trinity House Café

Sunday Brunch, May 7, 8am-4pm
Kids: Story Hour
Tues, May 9, 9:30-10:30am
Kids: Mom's Morning Happy Hour
Thurs, May 11, 9:30-10:30am
Live Music: Mark Irons -
Friday, May 12, 7pm
Game Night hosted by the Faithful Adult Ministry
Saturday, May 13, 5pm
Live Music: Bob Quinlan
Saturday, May 13, 7pm

Trinity House Café, on the corner of Church and Market Streets in the heart of historic Leesburg, VA, is an outreach of the John Paul II Fellowship, a Christian non-profit dedicated to renewing community and culture.

At the intersection of faith and culture, we provide warm hospitality and a delicious, moderately-priced menu of coffee, sandwiches, snacks, salads, soups, baked goods, wine and beer.

Visit www.trinityhousecafe.com.

English Classes and Citizenship Classes

Begin in May at Christ the Redeemer Church! Registration: May 2 or 4 at 8 pm at 46833 Harry Byrd Hwy, Sterling VA 20164. Classes are Tuesday/Thursday from 8-9:30 pm. Call Catholic Charities – Hogar Immigrant Services for more information at 571.208.1572. Se habla español.

Marriage Encounter

"...I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." Lead your married lives "more abundantly" by participating in a WorldWide Marriage Encounter weekend. The next weekends are: **Sep 15-17, 2017** in Herndon, VA and **Oct 27-29, 2017** in Gaithersburg, MD. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: RenewMarriage-VANorth.org or contact us at applications@renewmarriage-vanorth.org or 703.646.1521.

Social Action Linking Together

(SALT)—Invites parishioners to Support Catholic Social Justice Principles. On April 11, 2014, Arlington Bishop Paul Loverde and Richmond Bishop Francis DiLorenzo called for the expansion of Medicaid, noting that "everyone has the right to life, and second, healthcare is a right – not a privilege – that flows from the right to life itself."

Since January 1, 2014, Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) has been available to all the states. However, Virginia legislators have repeatedly failed to act on implementing this program that makes health insurance available to as many as 400,000 Virginians, mostly working poor Virginians. In the 2017 session of the Virginia General Assembly, legislators again failed to expand Medicaid.

Please tell Virginia legislators to reverse their decision and accept Federal Funding for Medicaid Expansion. You can send your message by signing this petition: http://petitions.moveon.org/sign/governor-mcauliffe-and?source=c.em&r_by=4563400.



Masses for the Week

Mon, May 8	6:15— Fr. Thomas 8:30— Charles McQuillan+
Tues, May 9	6:15— Eloi Nvodjo and Juliette Ngnoan 8:30— Rita Walsh+
Wed, May 10	6:15— Ann Roche+ 8:30— Christine Young 12:15— John R. Simpson Brosan
Thurs, May 11	6:15— Edward Weed+ 8:30— Charles McQuillan+
Fri, May 12	6:15— Robert Mica+ 8:30— Vernon & Anh Wong
Sat, May 13	8:30— Robert Mica+ 5:30— William Ahlhauser+
Sun, May 14	7:30— Patricia Carey+ 8:45— Christopher Pellerin+ 10:30— Robert Dsouza+ 12:30— Mother's Day Novena 5:00— St. Theresa Parishioners

Prayers For The Sick: Jesse Michl, Erick Pollock, Dan Espinoza, Steven Meree, Danny Bessette, Charles McCarthy, Nick Evers, Jillian Reilly, Bill Jenkins, Sr., Peggy Weymeyer, Charles Shindler, Laurie Gessaman, Jordan Windsor, Tony Rodrigues, Stephane Papi, Julie Panoussi, Lolita Smith and Family, Ryan San-Nicolas, Moe Meeged, Timothy Vandermeer, Victoria Babcock, Aaron Quinn, David Whitaker, Audrey D'Arnaud, Fabriana Dorsey, John McCurdy, Mark Kulyk, Theresa Birch, Frances Prestinari, Peter Kerney, Trevor Schweigest, Haley Morris, Theresa and John Baker, Johanna O'Brien, Braydon Ordway, Paul Ulich, Peter Perry, Johnna Bass, Kathy Bernota, Evan Solomonides, Gerrie Rodriguez, Debora Vaz, and Deborah Ferry.

Prayers For Our Military: Joseph Auler, Adam Parkinson, James (Robby) Surbella III, Jake Shelton, Patrick G. Fitzgerald, Sean Spurr, Jack Hayes, Katherine Bergeron, Christopher Martin, Thomas Gleason, Tony Mattice, Megan Jameson, Greg Lee, David Lakey, Jim Murray, Keith Bittle, Michael McCurdy, Steven Digangi, Michael J. Pruden, Meghan E. Fitzgerald, Tom Short, Bill Short, Griffin Spencer, Peter Santini, Eric Curcio, Steven Curcio, Matthew Slaughter, Joseph Alexander, Christopher Sheehan, Clayton William Abel, Matthew Ervin, David Nelson, Ryan Angelo Molina, Sarah Shaw, Mickey Shaw, Mary Kate Shaw, Heidi Harapko, Steve McGlynn, John Wade, David Seliquini. To add a name, call Rosemary Pinney, 703.729.2017.



Learn more, visit
www.sainttheresaparish.com

Homebound?

Thinking a visit would be a nice way to break up the day? We have an answer! Our Visitation Ministry is reaching out to those who are homebound and unable to get out and about. We have wonderful parishioners who would love to visit you! Contact Claudia Lewis at 703.431.8670 or clewis825@gmail.com. Thank you!

Car Raffle

Many thanks to all who participated in the car raffle. Winners are posted on the website. Keep watch for how much was raised for Outreach in future bulletins. Special thanks to Loan Jella and Dianne Mabery for coordinating this effort! God bless you!

Help Divine Mercy Outreach by giving a donation online!

Go to the parish website <http://www.sainttheresaparish.com> and click on Donate Now-Divine Mercy to make a monetary donation!

Consider assisting someone in need!

Join this wonderful group of volunteers who take beds, bedding & kitchen tables and chairs to families moving out of the shelter or families and children who are sleeping on the floor. Contact Eric Baird 703.300.8720 or furniture@sainttheresaparish.com

Outreach email

Sign up to receive our outreach email, dmoutreach@sainttheresaparish.com or 571.332.6533(cell) or 703.729.2334(Office) for more info.

From Our Tradition

The fact that many monastic churches do not have a prominent tabernacle shapes the patterns of liturgical prayer. Monastic communities often protect the ancient value of "receiving from the same sacrifice," meaning that the communicants are assured that what they eat and drink in the Holy Mysteries actually comes from the same celebration. It surprises many to learn that the Church does not foresee, nor does it provide for, Communion of the faithful from the

reserved Sacrament. Liturgical laws have long defended your right to receive from the same sacrifice, the same Mass, that you attend.

At one time, of course, the bread for the Eucharist was the ordinary bread of the day, except unleavened, probably prepared at home. It was broken and distributed to the faithful. Early on the loaf itself was referred to as the hostia in Latin, meaning the "sacrifice," the same word for the sacrificial animal in Jewish worship, and for Jesus as the Lamb of God. By giving his life on the cross, Jesus be-

came the hostia for us. To this day in the Greek Church, one of the tasks of the priest's wife is to bake the bread for the Divine Liturgy, sometimes in a bakery oven dedicated to that purpose and called a "Bethlehem."

Today's familiar individual hosts first appeared in the eleventh century at about the time when tabernacles were coming into use. The turn away from "bread" bread allowed the hosts to be reserved since they did not spoil like regular bread, and made the annual "Easter duty" counts easier.

--Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

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 (Must mention this ad)
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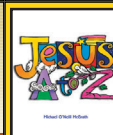
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