

PRECIOUS BLOOD CATHOLIC CHURCH

114 East Edmondson Street
Culpeper, Virginia 22701
Phone: 540-825-8945 Fax: 540-825-8987

Parish Hall – CCD Office
Phone: 540-825-1339

Epiphany Catholic School
540-825-9017



MASSES

Saturday: 6:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 & 11:30 a.m.
4:00 p.m. (SPANISH)
Daily: 8:30 a.m.
Holy Days: 8:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

PARISH STAFF:

Rev. Anselme Malonda-Nkuanga, CICM, Pastor
Ramon Tirado, Deacon
Kathy Semerling, Business Manager
Hannah Masson, Director of Music
Patricia Reed, Director of Religious Education
Miriam Medina, Dir. of Liturgy/Hispanic Liaison
Toni-Ann Gambale, Office Assistant
Theresa Watson, Choir Director
John Flemming, Heritage Choir Director
Robert Wiersberg, Director of R.C.I.A.
Mary Flemming, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
Jim Oliver, Principal, Epiphany School
Barbara Terry, Director, Epiphany Pre-School
Anne Schuyler, Office Manager, Epiphany School

REGISTRATION

A warm welcome is extended to new parishioners. New members can register with the parish office during office hours. Registration forms are also available in the Church vestibule and can be dropped in the collection basket during Mass. Parish registration is required for reception of the Sacraments (Baptism, Confirmation and Matrimony) and letters of eligibility to serve as Godparent or sponsor.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

is available on Saturday: 4:30–5:30 p.m. and any other time upon request.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Registered parishioners who are requesting baptism for their child should contact the parish office to sign up for the required pre-baptismal classes.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

is celebrated after a period of preparation of not less than six months. Registered parishioners who wish to marry at Precious Blood should contact the parish office during office hours before making any other arrangements.

CCD CLASSES

Sunday: 9:30 – 10:45 a.m. (K-12)

EPIPHANY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1211 E. Grandview Avenue
Culpeper, VA 22701
Preschool: 3 & 4 year old
Elementary: K-5
Middle School: 6-8

office@preciousbloodcatholicchurch.com

www.preciousbloodcatholicchurch.com



February 22, 2015
“First Sunday of Lent”

Mass Readings and Intentions for the Week

Sun. February 22

- 8:00 AM – Joy Giebel (dec)
- 11:30 AM – Edward & Marcella Royse (dec), Marianne Stoy-Calvano
- 4:00 PM – For the People

Mon. February 23 – For the People – St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr

Readings: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18, Mt 25:31-46

Tues. February 24 – For the People

Readings: Is 55:10-11, Mt 6:7-15

Wed. February 25 – Clara Casey (dec)

Readings: Jon 3:1-10, Lk 11:29-32

Thurs. February 26 – Viola Depue (dec)

Readings: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25, Mt 7:7-12

Fri. February 27 – For the People

Readings: Ez 18:21-28, 5:20-26

Sat. February 28

Readings: Dt 26:16-19, Mt 5:43-48

- 8:30 AM – For the People
- 6:00 PM – Sally Chwastic (dec)

(If you would like a Mass Intention said please call or stop by the office.)

**First Sunday of Lent
A Change of Heart**

- Reading I Genesis 9:8–15 (covenant with Noah)
- Reading II 1 Peter 3:18–22 (the purpose of Christ's suffering)
- Gospel Mark 1:12–15 (Jesus' temptation; the call to conversion)

Key Passage: For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. (1 Peter 3:18)

Adult: When or how could you step away from your daily responsibilities to renew yourself, so that you can do a better job of following Jesus?

Child: What good habit could you work on during Lent so you could grow closer to God?

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: Fr. Anselme visits Culpeper Hospital twice a week on Tuesday and Friday. Please notify the rectory if you wish to have someone visited. Arrangements should also be made with the rectory for an Extra-ordinary Minister to bring Holy Communion to shut-ins on a regular basis. Emergency sick calls can be arranged at any time.



LORD HEAR THE PRAYER FOR OUR

SICK Especially: Jan Ambrose, Jorge Alvarado, Ric Barklund, Mike Bosma, Amber Bouchard, Mikey Bradford, Tom Brown, Chris Butler, Dr. Tom Calhoun, Michael Combs, Roger Corum, Katherine Craig, Cynthia Davies, Bill Daley, James Driscoll, Jackie Fancher, Regan Flemming, Ryleigh Flemming, David

Matthew Gendron, Bill Goetz, Ann Harrison, Elizabeth Hartwell, Rebecca Helsel, Betty Hescocx, Marilyn Hoffmann, Eileen Hunter, Alex Hyde, Harold Lawrence, Kimberly Lemus, Mary Logan, Bryan Lorenz, Camilla Lynne, Frank and Lucille McPhillips, Phillip Leo Mercer, Efrén Diaz Miguel, Jim Minihan, Beth Moreland, Mary Neureither, Barbara Noonan, Marcia Peacock, Donald Rediske, James Robles, Adelfa Salvador, Ines Sanchez, Cissy Staiger, Ray Tap, Joyce Vosworth and for all those who ask for our prayers and wish to remain anonymous. May they feel God's protective hand and return to good health. **Call the rectory if you want a name to remain after six weeks.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER: God of the ages past and present, you are timeless and eternal. You offer us today the covenant relationship that you first established with Noah. May we openly receive your powerful and timeless love. Pour out your blessing on this offering so that people throughout the generations respond to you with a resounding, "Thank you, Lord!" Amen. **Genesis 9:8-17**

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Collection (2/15)	\$ 7,206.40
Building Fund	\$ 200.00
Epiphany School	\$ 365.00

FAITH DIRECT

Collection	\$ 9,003.00
Arlington Catholic Herald	\$ 574.00
* We have collected to date \$2,516.05 for the Herald and our costs are \$9,966.00. If you have not yet contributed \$22 for the Herald please consider doing so.	
Building Fund	\$ 346.00
Epiphany Catholic School	\$ 207.00
Foundation for the Future	\$ 548.34

Pope Francis: During Lent, let us find concrete ways to overcome our indifference.

THIS WEEK AT PRECIOUS BLOOD.

FRIDAY DAILY MASS on February 27th will be held at Epiphany Catholic School.

SECOND COLLECTION today, February 22nd will be for the Black and Indian Missions.

WE WELCOMED to our Parish Family...

-*Bernadette Masson*, the daughter of Ian & Jacqueline Masson.

-*Maria Mwadine*, the daughter of Ambrose & Esther Mwadine.

-*Rose Lane*, the daughter of Stephen & Beth Lane.

NEEDED Someone who can visit the Most Blessed Sacrament on Thursdays for Eucharistic Adoration. The hours of need are 1pm-2pm and 5pm-6pm. If you would like to help with these times and would like to spend some quiet time with Jesus, call Joanna Madorma at 829-2235.

ADULT CATECHESIS The weekly RCIA Class meets at 6:45 pm in Room 30-32 on Tuesday. All are welcome. Please call or text Bob Wiersberg (C 540-222-8672).

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM "FAITH AND THE BIG QUESTIONS" This Sunday's (Feb. 22) session features another "Faith and the Big Questions" presentation: ***"Is There Scientific Evidence that Life Has an Intelligent Cause?"*** This PowerPoint and video-based presentation explores "the rest of the story" that we are not likely to hear in biology class or in science documentaries on TV. Namely, how the genetic information in DNA provides compelling evidence that life has an intelligent cause (i.e., God). Next Sunday's session on March 1 features the ***EWTN "Journey Home Roundtable"*** DVD in which Michael Cumbie tells his conversion story and some misconceptions he had about Catholics. He is a dynamic and humorous speaker who was raised Baptist. A short Q&A/discussion will follow. All adults are encouraged to attend these sessions from 9:40-10:40 am in the Parish Hall.

ST. IGNATIUS study group will continue meeting on Wednesdays at 9:30am in the lounge. For Lent, we are featuring an Ignation Retreat a DVD series presented by Fr. Gregory Carlson, S.J. All are welcome!

CURSILLO An alternate group meeting will be held every Saturday beginning February 28th at 9:15am in the Annex. All are welcome!

LEGION OF MARY AUXILIARIES ATTENTION!

You are invited to the *Acies*, a ceremony of consecrating yourself to Mary, at St. John the Evangelist in Warrenton on March 21st at 1 pm. in celebration of the Feast of the Annunciation (a few days later). There will be a pot luck reception afterwards, and events will end around 4 pm. Come and meet other members of the Legion from the surrounding area, members who are also particularly devoted to Our Lady!

BEGINNERS BIBLE STUDY will meet on Tuesday, February 24th at 7pm, downstairs in the Lounge of the Parish Hall Facility. The last meeting will take place on March 3rd. If you have questions, please contact Mac McPhillips at (540) 547-2123 or email MacHimself@gmail.com



THE LIGHT IS ON begins this Wed. at 6:00 PM in the church.

Let us join together before our loving Father and pray for a greater return to His grace and presence for ourselves and those we love.

THE WORD AMONG US We now have available the Meditations for Lent. We have the daily meditation booklet and the complete Catholic Mass and Daily Meditations for Lent in both English and Spanish. The cost for these is \$1.50. We also have the **"Little Black Book,"** six minute meditations on the Passion according to Matthew. We also have a "purple" version for children. These also cost \$1.50.

A LENTEN PROGRAM OF PRAYER, FASTING & ALMSGIVING As we continue our Operation Rice Bowl journey, let us remember in prayer that as a community of faith, we have the obligation to reach out to those most in need. Through **OPERATION RICE BOWL**, families fast by eating a simple meal one day a week and place the savings of what a usual meal would cost in their **"Rice Bowl"**. Rice Bowl boxes are in the foyer.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS continues this Friday, **February 27th at 6:30 PM** with the theme "For Vocations" led by the CCD students. Afterwards there will be a Fish Fry in the Parish Hall. Come hungry, leave fulfilled both spiritually and physically.

NEWS AND NEEDS

CCD NEWS: -Parents of Confirmation Students (CCD and Epiphany) will have a meeting on Feb. 23rd at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

-Parents of 1st Holy Communion (CCD 2nd grade only and Epiphany 2nd Grade) will have a meeting Feb. 24th at 7pm in Parish Hall.

-Thank you for all those who donated statues for the CCD classrooms it is greatly appreciated. We now have all that we need.

COMMUNION If you or a loved one are homebound or recently placed in a hospital, nursing home or rehabilitation center and cannot make it to church but wish to receive communion, please call or email the church office. We are trying to make sure everyone receives our Most Precious Lord.

ST. STEPHEN'S FOOD CLOSET Needs for this week: canned chicken & chicken helper, canned fruit and cereal (especially hot).



We had our first pep-rally on Thursday to cheer

on our basketball teams before their big game with Culpeper Christian in our new gym. What a wonderful event for our students and athletes. It was so much fun for the entire school! Once again, this is a wonderful example of what this beautiful building provides for our students.

MUSIC Children's Choir is meeting at a new time!!



Practices are now from 10:50 to 11:20 in the 3rd Grade CCD classroom. If you love to sing and are in grades 2 -7, come and share your gift with our parish!

Practices start March 1st. Children's Choir sings for the First Communion, Mother's Day and Father's Day Masses. Contact Gina Rossetti at 540-937-2320 or eprossetti@yahoo.com with any questions.

OUTSTANDING YOUNG MAN/WOMAN OF THE YEAR Between the ages of 12-19? Private, public or homeschooled? Residing within our community? Impressive resume? You are eligible to be recognized for your excellence. Also, with that recognition comes a monetary award for your achievements! Stop by the office BEFORE March 1st to learn how or call Deborah Quetsch (540-522-7972) or Kelly Bennett (540-987-3153).

AROUND THE DIOCESE/VIRGINIA

WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." Allow God to work and move in your marriage relationship. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are 17-19 Apr 2015 in Fredericksburg or 18-20 September in Herndon. For more information or to apply, visit our website at renewmarriage-vanorth.org or contact us at 703-378-4150.

MEN'S CONFERENCE All men of the parish are invited to our diocese's sixth annual Men's Conference on Saturday, March 7th, 2015. This year's conference, entitled *Victory Over the Common Enemy*, will feature renowned speaker Fr. Larry Richards and author Neal Lozano exploring the presence of sin and evil in our lives, and how to overcome them. Breakfast, lunch, and Mass with Bishop Loverde are included. PLEASE NOTE THE NEW CONFERENCE LOCATION—FOXCHASE MANOR IN MANASSAS. Please go to www.arlingtondiocese.org/men for more details or to register.

WOMENS CONFERENCE on March 28th from 8:30am-2:30pm at Fox Chase Manor in Manassas, VA. All women of the parish are invited to hear Keeri Caviezel and Kathleen Wilson speak on "Suffering Endured with Joy." A mass with Bishop Loverde will also take place as well as a continental breakfast and catered lunch. Please visit arlingtondiocese.org/women for more info on the conference and please contact Cheryl Erickson (910) 578-0293 in regards to carpooling.

THE CRUSADES EWTN, Comcast channel 291, reenacts sequences from the Crusades on February 24 to 27 at 6:30 PM. Historians explain some of the myths and distortions surrounding the Crusades.

THEOLOGY ON TAP A new "Theology on Tap" (ToT) group will begin meeting in Warrenton, VA at McMahon's Irish Pub. This group is for anyone above the age of 21 and has been started so that those interested may participate without the drive to Arlington. Stay tuned for more details!

A COVENANT

First, a parable. Johnny had not been a very good boy this week. He had gotten into trouble at school and had not done the chores at home that had been assigned to him.

His father sat him down at the end of the week, and said: "Look, Johnny, I am going to buy you the bike that you have been dreaming about. Not because you have been good this week, because you haven't, but just because I want to do it. However, after you get the bike, I expect some things to change around here. I want you to pull your socks up at school, and I want you to be regular in doing your chores to help your mother. Understood?" Johnny couldn't believe his good luck. Over the next few weeks after he got his new bike he did start doing better in school and was pretty regular in his chores. But then he started to slack off. He fell into the old patterns and spent more time on his bike than he did doing his chores. One morning he opened the garage to get his bike to go off to school, but his bike wasn't there. He ran back into the house upset and told his dad his bike must have been stolen! But Dad just said, "You didn't keep your part of the bargain, boy! I have hidden the bike away and you are going to have to work to get it back!"

What this story is about is "covenant", a word we hear a lot about in the Scriptures. A covenant is a free gift that we don't merit from our behavior. But certain behaviors of thankfulness are expected. In Exodus, when the Jews were led out of Egypt, God made a conditional covenant with them, made them his people and gave them the Promised Land. But in return they had to follow certain moral codes, and not worship other gods. When Israel broke that covenant, the Promised Land was taken from them, not forever, because God always keeps promises, but they had to work for it.

The difference between a conditional and an unconditional covenant is simply that in an unconditional covenant we are not expected to do anything in response, while in a conditional covenant such as at Mount Sinai, we have obligations and so does God.

St. Peter in the Epistle today describes that covenant sign as baptism. Peter explains that God saved eight persons through water, and that baptism is a saving sign and action which frees us from sin. Peter describes this as "An appeal to God for good conscience" because when sins are taken away that are no longer on our conscience, and we no longer have to worry about them.

In the Gospel today, in Mark's direct and uncomplicated way, he explains that Jesus was baptized, showing us what we need to do as well, and then Mark goes on to show the qualities and signs which begin to show that Jesus is Son of God.

The reading ends with Jesus beginning his preaching of the good news of God – that God's kingdom is near. And what must our response be... what is the one condition that we have to fulfill to get in on this covenant...? We have to repent and believe.

And THAT is what Lent is all about. It is our response to the covenantal promise of our being saved by Jesus Christ. We have to turn around, examine our lives and state our beliefs. This Lenten response leads to Holy Saturday when we renew our baptismal vows and celebrate the fact that we have been part of a covenant in which God has sent a Savior to us, God's self in the flesh and we are at the beginning of living the kingdom of God.

<https://fatherronstephens.wordpress.com/2015/02/15/homily-for-the-1st-sunday-of-lent-year-b-2015/>