

PRECIOUS BLOOD CATHOLIC CHURCH

114 East Edmondson Street
Culpeper, Virginia 22701

Phone: 540-825-8945 Fax: 540-825-8987

www.preciousbloodcatholicchurch.com

email: office@preciousbloodcatholicchurch.com

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

Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 PM
Saturdays 3:30-4:30 PM, and
any time upon request.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

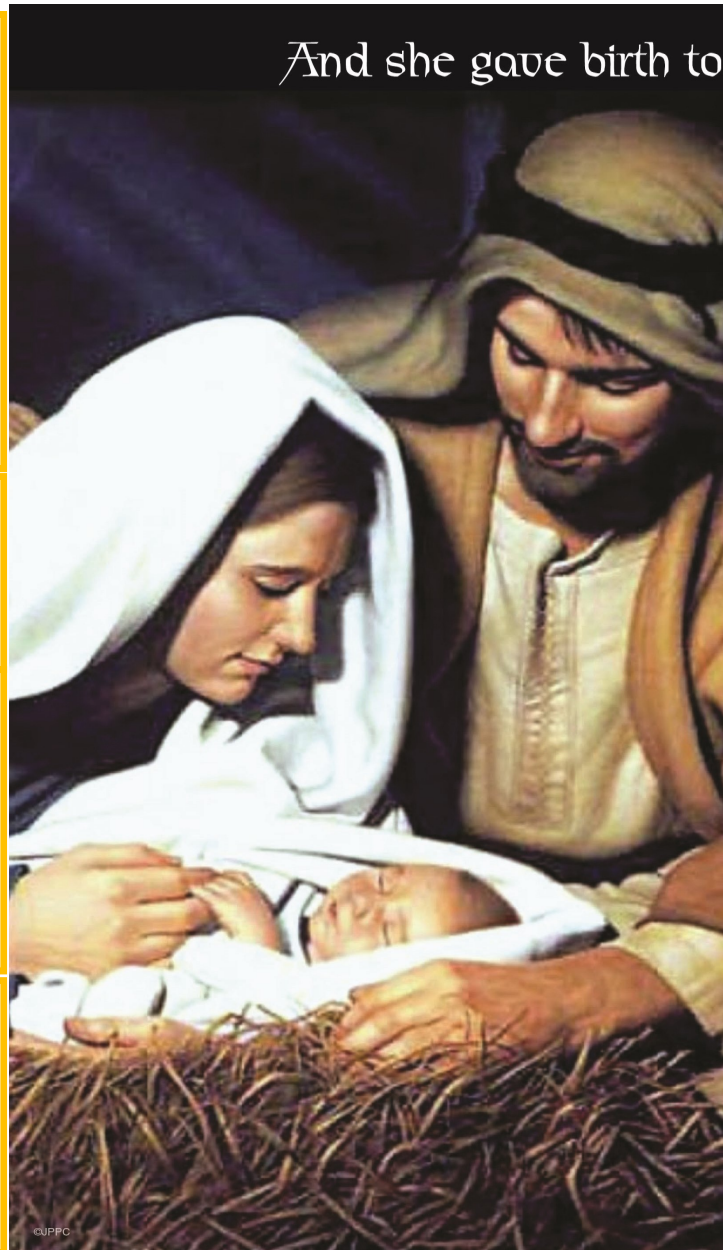
Parishioners who are requesting baptism for their child should contact the parish office to sign up for the required pre-baptismal classes:

English, 1st Saturday of the month

Spanish, 3rd Saturday of the month

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

is celebrated after a period of preparation of not less than six months. Parishioners who wish to marry at Precious Blood should contact the parish office



And she gave birth to her firstborn,



She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:7

Rev. Kevin B. Walsh.....Pastor
Rev. Mark Moretti.....Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mr. Ramon Tirado.....Deacon

DECEMBER 24, 2017, 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 25, 2017 CHRISTMAS

Mass Readings and Intentions for the Week

Sun. December 24

Readings: 2 Sm 7:1-5/ 8b-12, 14a, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

8:30AM: Richard Driscoll (+)

11:30AM: for the people

2:00 PM: mayor giro al sacramento de la confesión

Sun. December 24 THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Readings: Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

5:00PM: Christie Stier (+)

7:00PM: Harold Fowler (+)

9:00PM: Ene Buckley (+)

11:00PM: (Spanish) for the people

Mon. December 25 THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Readings: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1: 1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

10:00AM: Mr. and Mrs. James Moran (+)

12:00PM: (Spanish) The Tabor Family (strength and courage)

Tues. December 26 Saint Stephen, the First Martyr

Readings: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22

8:30AM: Ruby Ferlazzo (+)

Wed. December 27 Saint John, the Evangelist

Readings: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

8:30AM: Angela Bannon (+)

Thurs. December 28 The Holy Innocents

Readings: 1 Jn 1:5, 2:2; Mt 2:13-18

8:30AM: Danny Lenzi (+)

Fri. December 29

Readings: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35

8:30AM: (Mass at Precious Blood) For those who have left the faith, may they return

7:00PM: Betty Craven

Sat. December 30

Readings: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40

8:30AM: In thanksgiving to God for all His Glory

5:00PM: Betty Powers (special intention)

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Acceptance of God's Will

Reading I: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 9-11, 16 (the Lord's promise to David)

Reading II: Romans 16:25-27 (doxology)

Gospel Luke 1:26-38 (the annunciation of the Lord)

Key Passage: Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your work." Then the angel departed from her. (Luke 1:38)

ADULT: How do you open your heart to what God wants for you? How do you follow the pathway that leads to happiness?

CHILD: Is there something hard you need to do this week? What might make it easier?

Christmas morning:

Reading I: Isaiah 62:11-12 (your salvation comes)

Reading II: Titus 3:4-7 (loving kindness of God our Savior appeared)

Gospel Luke 2:15-20 (the birth of our Savior)

Key Passage Luke 2:19 (Mary treasures these events in her heart)



LORD, HEAR THE PRAYER FOR

OUR SICK ESPECIALLY:

Brian Alexander, Janice Ambrose, Hector Baez, Natalie Batiste, Wayne Bentz, Mike Bosma, Joyce Bosworth, Rudy Bronesky, Mike Buckley, Christopher Byrne, Jim Byrne, Sally Canavan, Kriss Cordero, Betty Craven, Valentina Cruz, Bill Daley, Cynthia Davies, Jo English, Tom Fealy, Paul Flynn, Arnold French, Jeraldine Frye, Jeff and Danielle Gambale-Metz, Kevin Gile, Bill Goetz, April Hair, Doris Houdesheldt, Alex Hyde, Sherry Judy, Joe and Freda Kratochvil, Susan Lambert, Jean Landon, Charlotte Larson, John Lochte, Peg Logan, Martin Luna, Peyton Leopold, Camila Lyme, Ana Magana, John A. Maitland, Ileana Martinez, Kimberly Mendoza, Beth Moreland, Bill Mullins, Mary Neureither, Barbara Noonan, Richard Noonan, Jr., Cornelia Slabe Paczkowski, Luis Padilla, Shawn Peet, Elizabeth Pycha, Gia Quiroz, Edna Iris Robles, Alice Schorr, Avery Scott, James Tietz, Mae Traversari, Cheryl Weagle, Bill White, Ross Whittaker **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.**

[Please call the rectory to give us changes/updates](#)



MINISTRY TO THE SICK:

If you would like one of the priests to visit someone who is sick, please notify the rectory. Arrangements should also be made with the rectory for an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to bring the Eucharist to Shut-ins on a regular basis. Emergency sick calls can be arranged at any time.

Sacramental Emergency Only #: 540-219-5232

FAITH DIRECT®
inspiring secure giving®

our church code: VA226

Enrollment

Creating a Faith Direct account is simple. You can enroll online or by mail, so you can give to your church in a way that works best for you.

Giving Options

Give to any collection offered by your church; choose your credit/debit card or a bank account for payment. Schedule monthly recurring gifts or make a one-time gift at any time.

Account Management

The user-friendly online system lets you manage all aspects of your account so you are always in control of your donations.

THIS WEEK AT PRECIOUS BLOOD:

◆ MONDAY (12/25):

Masses: 10:00AM(English)/12:00PM(Spanish)

◆ TUESDAY (12/26):

Mass: 8:30AM; office closed

◆ WEDNESDAY (12/27):

Mass: 8:30AM/Confessions 6:30-7:30PM

◆ THURSDAY (12/28):

Mass: 8:30AM; no adoration

◆ FRIDAY (12/29):

Mass: 8:30AM; no 7:00PM Mass

◆ SATURDAY (12/30):

Masses: 8:30AM/Vigil Mass 5:00PM
Confessions 3:30PM-4:30PM

◆ SUNDAY (12/31):

Masses: 8:30AM, 11:30AM, Spanish 2:00PM;

◆ MONDAY (1/1/18)

Mass: 10:00AM

BLESSINGS FOR THE NEW YEAR!

Office closed

“Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!” -LUKE 1:28
Faith is a gift from God. Take time in silence and thank Him for all the gifts He has given you. Try to set aside any anger or resentment you have and really open your heart to receive the gift of God’s mercy and forgiveness. We can’t give what we don’t have. We need to receive God’s mercy and forgiveness first before we can give it to others.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: There will be **NO exposition on 12/28** due to vacations; it will resume January 4th, 9:00AM to 9:00PM; (**weather exceptions: if Culpeper County schools are closed, no adoration; delayed openings, adoration begins at 11:00AM; early closure, reposition will be at Fr. Kevin’s discretion**)

MUSIC MINISTRY:

Enjoy the songs, fun and joy of the season by coming to our **OPEN MIC NIGHT on Saturday, Dec. 30** beginning at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Admission is free,



but donations will be gratefully accepted for the Freda Kratochvil Scholarship Fund for Young Pastoral Musicians. We’ll have refreshments and wonderful music provided by our music ministers and other voices from our parish! Contact Mrs. Hannah Masson at pbmusicmin@gmail.com for more information or to get yourself included in the lineup.

ST. STEPHEN’S FOOD CLOSET: needs this week: personal care items (toothbrushes, toothpaste, shaving items etc.), pancake mix & syrup, chicken helper, green beans, mushroom soup, canned tuna, salmon; **wooden collection bin is located in foyer of Parish Hall.**

EVENTS COMING UP:

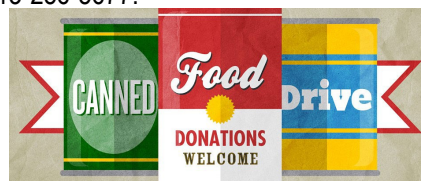
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

NEWS: the next meeting will be **Monday, January 8, 2018 the Parish Hall.** Topic: 6th and 9th commandments. There will not be any RCIA classes on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. **YOU ARE INVITED TO COME LEARN MORE about Catholicism! All are welcome!**

THE PRAYER STUDY GROUP : will resume

meetings on Wednesdays at 9:30AM, January 10th in the parish hall; **Rosary prayer intention: Lord give us assistance to perform the Corporal works of mercy: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, shelter the homeless, visit the sick and imprisoned, and pray for the dead.**

FOOD DRIVE FOR THE HOMELESS: The Culpeper Winter Heat Shelter needs staples so we can continue to feed the homeless in our community. Please pick-up a blue grocery bag at the Church entrance or the Parish foyer, fill it with some of the items listed on the bag and return to the church parish hall **before January 7th, 2018** or to the St. Lucy’s truck in the parking lot on Sunday January 7th from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. We realize you have been asked to give to so many organizations recently with the fires, floods and hurricanes, and the angel tree over the past 6 months; However, this contribution goes straight to our community. THANK YOU VERY MUCH! Questions call Jill Devine at 513-256-5677.



IN THE SPIRIT OF GIVING : the Sisters at Carmel of Jesus, Mary and Joseph in Elysburg, PA are in need of several items; these items can be shipped directly to **430 Monastery Drive, Elysburg, PA 17824:**

- Muslin, 100% cotton, white: 20 yards
- Epson 252 printer ink: black and colors
- 2 sets of regular white cotton sheets w/pillowcases; twin
- 100% wool blankets: white, cream or brown in color only
- Dutch oven: ceramic or cast iron, large
- Cast iron frying pan
- 1 dozen glass hermetic jars in a variety of sizes: pint, quart, and no larger than 1/2 gallon
- Iron
- Olive oil and coconut oil (unrefined and organic)

MAY GOD REWARD YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Youth group meets Sunday evenings, 6:00PM, parish hall

Contact: memoretti1958@gmail.com

They will not meet December 24 or 31; but resume January 7



AROUND the CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON & VIRGINIA

WORKCAMP2018: WALK HUMBLY WITH

GOD: Interested in WorkCamp? Contact: Kelly Bennett, our stakeholder at kellybennett94@aol.com and find out what a week can do to change your life! We need adult volunteers, contractors, lunch makers, and more! Plan ahead by marking your calendars for: June 23-29, 2018. **Registration ends December 30!**

ADULT&HS STUDENT FAITH FORMATION:

A special Tuesday-evening series exploring the riches of the Mass **starts on Jan. 9** with a talk by Fr. Kevin on the Jewish Roots of the Mass. This will be followed by the excellent DVD program, A Biblical Walk Through the Mass. In this 5-part series, Dr. Edward Sri takes participants on an exciting tour of the Liturgy as he explores the biblical roots of the words and gestures we experience at Mass and explains their profound significance. Learn, perhaps for the first time, why we say what we say and do what we do at Mass. Our words and gestures will be seen in a new light, leading to a richer, more fruitful worship experience. **High School students and parents are encouraged to attend on Tuesdays from 7-8:30 pm in the ANNEX**

WORD OF LIFE: "An unexpected pregnancy can be a difficult and frightening time, and it's important that your friend knows you are thinking of her and supporting her. ...Your support might be the only support she receives. Even if we never know how, the smallest things we do can change someone's life."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

"10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting,"

AMAZON SMILE (fundraising for Epiphany):

Do you shop on Amazon? What about your family members, neighbors, and friends? All can register to support Epiphany Catholic School! Epiphany receives 0.5% of your eligible purchases because they are registered as a charitable organization! There is no cost to you, the customer, or to Epiphany, the charitable organization. **It is truly painless fundraising! How easy is it to register?**

Copy and paste this link in to your browser:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1836329>

When you have registered, it will say "Supporting Epiphany Catholic School" under the search bar. *Each quarter, funds will be transferred directly to Epiphany.* **Please note that eligible purchases are noted as "Eligible for amazon smile donation" on the product detail page.**

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

VOCATIONS: "Be it done unto me according to your word." Obedience to the Lord's will is the fruit of humble prayer. Vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life are living in our midst. Is this the day He has called you? If Christ may be inviting you to faithful service as a priest or consecrated religious, call Father J.D. Jaffe at (703) 841-2514 or j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org.

YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL - Bishop O'Connell High School invites all 6th through 8th grade students to be a part of their 4th annual Youth Music Festival on **Saturday, Dec. 30 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** The day includes music clinics, performance and much more. This event is free, but a reservation is necessary. For more information and to register, visit www.bishopoconnell.org/festival.

SEMINARIANS VS QUO VADIS BBALL: "Hoops Challenge" will be held on **Sunday, January 7, 2018, from 2-6pm** at St. John Paul the Great High School. Bishop Burbidge and Fr. Christopher Vaccaro will be the referees. High school boys who are open to a vocation are welcome to participate on the Quo Vadis team, but we need to hear from them by this **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** so they can attend a practice. Contact our office, vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

HIGH SCHOOL APPLICATION DEADLINE: for Catholic high schools in the Diocese of Arlington is January 12, 2018. **Register by January 4** to take the High School Placement Test. Please visit the website for the high school you wish to attend to learn more about their application process and to register for the placement test.

WORLD-WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER: "**The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me;**" **The next weekends are: Mar 2-4, 2018 in Herndon, VA and Sep 21-23, 2018 in Herndon, VA.** Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: RenewMarriage-VANorth.org s@hotmail.com

ALL MEN: are invited to the Men's Conference on March 3rd, 2018. This year's conference – entitled **Marked Men: Made For Greatness** – will feature one of the most celebrated Catholic speakers in the world of social media: Fr. Mike Schmitz, who will be joined by Bishop Burbidge and Billy Atwell, Chief Communications Officer of the Diocese. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served. To **REGISTER**, go to www.arlingtondiocese.org/men. **Registration opens January 3rd, at 9:00am. Ticket price is \$55 through Feb. 1; \$65 after.** *Make sure to register ASAP as slots get filled quite easily!*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I'd like to wish all of you a blessed Christmas and a holy New Year.

As I write this, I have heard of nine Christians who were killed by a bomb at their church in Pakistan, as well as about 60 people who were injured. Please pray for our Christian brothers and sisters in various parts of the world who continue to be attacked because of their faith.

Friday, January 19, 2018, is the date of the annual March for Life in Washington, DC. Our parish was blessed last year with 80 people (a record for us) who wanted to go. Since we had rented one bus that held 55, we couldn't accommodate them all. This year we would like to offer two buses, but we need to have a coordinator. Those who have coordinated in the past are not able to do so this year. If you are willing to coordinate this (with help from our staff), please contact the rectory office as soon as possible, since we only have three more weeks to do so.

By the time you read this, I hope we will have our new carpet installed in the church. We decided to do this primarily for safety reasons, since the old carpet was "bunching up" at times, and could cause a problem for someone using a walker or a cane. I hope you enjoy the new carpet in time for Christmas.

And thank you to anyone who has brought food by the rectory this week.

God bless,

Fr. Kevin

ORIGIN OF "THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS": An Underground Catechism

You're all familiar with the Christmas song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas" I think. To most it's a delightful nonsense rhyme set to music. But it had a quite serious purpose when it was written. It is a good deal more than just a repetitious melody with pretty phrases and a list of strange gifts.

Catholics in England during the period 1558 to 1829, when Parliament finally emancipated Catholics in England, were prohibited from ANY practice of their faith by law - private OR public. *It was a crime to BE a Catholic.*

"The Twelve Days of Christmas" was written in England as one of the "catechism songs" to help young Catholics learn the tenets of their faith - a memory aid, when to be caught with anything in *writing*

indicating adherence to the Catholic faith could not only get you imprisoned, it could get you hanged, or shortened by a head - or hanged, drawn and quartered, a rather peculiar and ghastly punishment I'm not aware was ever practiced anywhere else.

The songs gifts are hidden meanings to the teachings of the faith. The "true love" mentioned in the song doesn't refer to an earthly suitor, it refers to God Himself. The "me" who receives the presents refers to every baptized person. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. In the song, Christ is symbolically presented as a mother partridge which feigns injury to decoy predators from her helpless nestlings, much in memory of the expression of Christ's sadness over the fate of Jerusalem:
"Jerusalem! Jerusalem! How often would I have sheltered thee under my wings, as a hen does her chicks, but thou wouldst not have it so..."

The other symbols mean the following:

2 Turtle Doves = The Old and New Testaments
3 French Hens = Faith, Hope and Charity, the Theological Virtues

4 Calling Birds = the Four Gospels and/or the Four Evangelists

5 Golden Rings = The first Five Books of the Old Testament, the "Pentateuch", which gives the history of man's fall from grace.

6 Geese A-laying = the six days of creation

7 Swans A-swimming = the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments

8 Maids A-milking = the eight beatitudes

9 Ladies Dancing = the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit

10 Lords A-leaping = the ten commandments

11 Pipers Piping = the eleven faithful apostles

12 Drummers Drumming = the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostle's Creed

--Fr. Hal Stockert, Fishnet

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES:

MONDAY, 12/25

10:00AM Mass (English)

12:00PM Mass (Spanish)

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS:

MONDAY, 1/1/18

10:00AM Mass

Mary, Mother of God

