

Maneline

ST. MARK Catholic Community

Catechism in a Year Offers Engaging Way to Learn about the Faith

By Joe Flaherty, Director of Religious Education

The greatly anticipated *Catechism in a Year* podcast finally hit the net on New Year's Day. This "sequel" to Fr. Mike Schmitz's chart-topping podcast *Bible in a Year* came about due to a flurry of requests for year-long podcast on the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. The Catholic News Agency reported that for the third year in a row, a Catholic podcast had become the No. 1 most popular on Apple Podcasts, beating out secular podcasts from *The New York Times*, NBC News, and NPR. The second spot remains held by *The Bible in a Year*.

What makes Fr. Mike Schmitz's podcasts so popular?

Ascension Press, which is producing this series, introduced it by saying: "With this podcast, Catholics will:

- Read the entire *Catechism of the Catholic Church* in 365 days
- Understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter
- See how Church teaching is rooted in Sacred Scripture
- Absorb over 2,000 years of Sacred Tradition
- Encounter God's plan of sheer goodness
- Transform their relationship with the Church that Christ founded.

If you have ever wanted to understand what it means to be Catholic and allow those truths to shape your life, this podcast is for you! I personally think that Fr. Mike has a

very engaging speaking style. By this I mean he anticipates both the intellectual and emotional needs of the people to whom he is speaking. I have heard from a number of people who have commented that they do not feel put down or "preached to". I think this is one key factor that people desire.

His podcasts also offer an element of control. You can listen to his podcast one day, or not. They tend to last about 16 minutes (I personally like to set podcasts to 1.5X or 2X the speed to make it 8 minutes). This is not a huge time commitment to begin with and is held on multiple platforms; its perfect for listening to in the car. The podcasts are also anonymous. While the ideal is

"[Whereas] I might be very general with something, the Church wants us to be very, very clear... And [the Catechism] articulates the faith, not only with clarity but also with beauty. So if I were to say anything that's been a kind of surprise, it's been not just the clarity, but the beauty."

—Fr. Mike Schmitz

to have a community of believers and Church leaders who are "real" and in front of you to guide you along the way to know Christ, I found in my earlier life how much I learn when I am "free"

to dig into the teachings of the Church on my own. Clearly, no one should live the Christian life only through a podcast, and there is a dearth of human interaction both inside and outside of the Church, but it is clear that podcasts can play a role in bringing people to Christ.

There is another thing also strikes me as important. The Catholic world is small. Fr. Mike is a priest of the Diocese of Duluth, Minnesota. He has an informal reputation as being very attentive to the flock of his primary apostolate as a college chaplain in Minnesota—even though he has a chart-topping podcast on a national/international level. That means a lot to me!

From my perspective as a Director of Religious Education, this is one incredibly great way to come face-to-face with Christ through a medium that is both "bite-sized" and flexible. It is shareable and, since so many people listen to it, it is very relatable; if you start bringing up the subject among your Catholic friends, sooner or later you will find someone else who has also listened to some of Fr. Mike's podcasts. I strongly encourage anyone give it a try!

Click the link to find out more or to sign up! <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear>



Lighting the Faith

By Walter Gawlak

As much as ADVENT, the Octave of CHRISTMAS and EPIPHANY glow in our liturgical rearview mirror, the dark days of Winter still call to us for physical and spiritual light. Let us bask a bit longer in the glow of those days following the Winter Solstice and remember the brightness that shined our way to the Christ Child. Yes, there are the Scriptures, but I want to reflect on the actual lights that graced our Church.

Did you watch each of the ADVENT candles burn down the days to CHRISTMAS, each growing shorter in turn? Did you notice the candles mounted around the walls of the Church, surrounding us with light, reminding us ever so subtly that we are warmed and blessed during this Holy Season? Did you think of the Shepherds bathed in glories streaming from Heaven on the evening of the Birth of the Child Messiah? Did we hear the Gospels differently in the glow of those flames in the dark corners?

The Magi would have stayed home if not for their prophetic insight into sacred texts and observation of that confirming Star. There are various theories about the Star of Bethlehem—a comet or a confluence of planets overlapping their brightness to appear as one large star; the fact is that a great light leads them hundreds of miles in the teeth of winter to the very place where their desires would be fulfilled. The tapestry placed above the Altar reflects that Star. Did you notice the four white candles that replaced the ADVENT Candles, thereby continuing the theme of the “Light come into the World”?

These ADVENT and CHRISTMAS candles are special in a material way, made of 100 percent beeswax. What of the everyday candles around the Altar and the Ambo? They are predominantly beeswax, meeting Vatican standards for purity while producing a bright, clean-burning flame. Candles have a long history of adding symbolic resonance to religious services. Jews used candles in their Hannukah service, the Festival of Lights, in 165 B.C. There are

several Biblical references to candles, and Emperor Constantine is reported to have called for use of candles during the EASTER service in the Fourth Century.

Wax—which fuels the light reminding us of domesticity, warmth, and comfort—is mentioned just four times in the Scriptures. However, light, one of the most elemental and powerful images in the Bible, is mentioned about 236 times: 146 in the Old Testament and 90 times in the New Testament. Light is often a symbol of blessing and goodness. A passage from the Prophet Samuel harkens back to CHRISTMAS, “The Lord is a lamp, tuning darkness into light.” (2 Sam 22)

We can fast forward to the EASTER Vigil when the Church’s liturgy rejoices because “the night that with a pillar of fire banished the darkness of sin.” During the Vigil, the priest intones a long prayer of praise and thanksgiving that twice blesses the bees, mother bees whose lighted wax in the form of a candle brings light to the darkness:

*On this, your night of grace,
O holy Father,
accept this candle, a solemn
offering, the work of bees and of your
servants’ hands,
an evening sacrifice of praise,
this gift from your most holy Church.
But now we know the praises
of this pillar, which glowing fire ig-
nites for God’s honor,
a fire into many flames divided,
yet never dimmed by sharing
of its light, for it is fed by melting
wax, drawn out by mother bees
to build a torch so precious.*

On this night, the darkness of the Church will be broken by the Deacon bearing the Paschal Candle, soon to be followed by the Assembly lighting their own tapers from the Candle and each other’s flames. Be sure to participate in this glorious service. And when you do, think about the candles, the bees, and the symbols.

There is one more constant beam marking the True Presence in the Chapel

above the Tabernacle. This candle is made of a different wax that burns more slowly, assuring for seven days at a stretch that the light is always there for us. And so we are blessed as Catholics to have rituals that combine the symbol and reality, light and Light.

The next issue of *Maneline* will present the Community that prepares and tends these symbols of Faith that grace our celebrations, the Parishioners in the shadows, so to speak, who serve as the Candle Ministry.

John 8:12

Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

John 12:46 *I came into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in me might not remain in darkness.*

2023 March For Life Held in January

Many thousands of people traveled from across the country to the nation’s Capitol once again for the Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C.

They came to give witness to the inherent dignity of the human person from conception to natural death. They particularly sought to help both pro-life and pro-abortion legislators understand that they will not cease advocating for women and children until every life is protected.



ST. MARK Spaghetti Dinner Returns!

By Mary Fisk

A well-established tradition returned this year in the Cassidy Activities Center after a two-year hiatus due to COVID—the *Spaghetti Dinner*. The 35th Dinner will be Saturday, February 18, after the 5:30 p.m. Mass. Tickets will be sold in the Narthex after all Masses February 4/5 and February 11/12 until all tickets are sold. They always sell out!

The menu remains the same: spaghetti, homemade sauce, meatballs, sausage, garlic bread, salad, spumoni ice cream or ice cream sandwich, wine, lemonade, milk, and coffee or tea. Tickets for adults are \$13, children under 10 are \$7, and takeout orders are \$15 (adult size only); takeout orders do not include drinks.

Claire Fontaine, who has been active from the first Dinner in April 1985, provided the history of this much-anticipated event. She explained that before the Church was built in 1984, the Parish did not have room for such an event. After the dedication in 1984, the Cassidy Activities Center was renovated and a commercial kitchen was added. Aime Fontaine was the regional food Manager for Drug Fair. Claire said, “We knew that Drug Fair was being sold in 1984 and the office headquarters would no longer be in Alexandria. Aime designed the *ST. MARK* kitchen so that all the Drug Fair equipment would fit. The

equipment was purchased at a very low cost and included the stoves, warming ovens, refrigeration, dishwasher, steam table, sinks, pots and pans, chafing dishes, as well as all of the smaller equipment, dishes, silverware, glasses, and more. The large equipment was stored in a Parishioner’s warehouse; he disconnected all the equipment at Drug Fair, had it steam-cleaned, and installed it at *ST. MARK*. The smaller equipment was stored in another Parishioner’s basement until the renovation of the Cassidy Activities Center was completed in 1985.”

Joe Perillo was the first chef. He provided the recipe for the “secret” sauce, and another member of the Parish who was also of Italian descent provide the meatball recipe.

Claire said that all of the cooking is done at *ST. MARK*. The sauce is cooked the Saturday before the dinner. The incomparable *ST. MARK* Activities Center (SMAC) team sets up the dining area the evening before the dinner. Early Saturday morning from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., the 25 or so members of the team assemble and start work: 10 people for the kitchen crew, including bread makers and cooks, as well as the salad crew who works in the Conference Room.



Others serve as runners. They return at 3:00 p.m., and the day ends when the kitchen is clean around 10:00 p.m.

The food is purchased from commercial vendors. U.S. Food Service in Manassas furnishes the sauce and meat ingredients, and the spumoni ice cream comes from Jack & Jill Ice Cream in Baltimore. The Parish pays for the ingredients, and the cost of tickets is set to cover the expense. This year’s prices were higher to reflect the increase in prices since 2020.

The Cassidy Activities Center is usually set up for a full capacity crowd of 250 people. However, to provide some additional space this year, seating will accommodate 150 people, and there will be a takeout option for an additional 80 people. High school students will help with the takeout orders. The set times for pickup of takeout orders are 5:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m., and 7:15 p.m.

The current SMAC Team is chaired by Pauline Hartnett and co-chaired by Eric Peterson and Claire Fontaine. They are always in need of new members; please tell the ticket sellers you would like to join the team!

Alpha Begins New Series

The *ST. MARK* Alpha Team launched a new series of sessions on Monday, January 23. Participants have the option to attend in person or via Zoom.

Alpha provides an opportunity to explore life and the Christian faith in a friendly, open, and informal environment. Alpha focuses on a set topics about life’s biggest questions, such as *who am I, where am I going, how am I going to get there?* All are welcome to join in an environment of hospitality and friendship where each can develop a

relationship with Jesus Christ. It is a lot of fun!

Each live session starts out with light refreshments, then an inspiring video about the topic of the night, followed by small group conversations about the topic.

All of the programs are designed to best accommodate busy life styles, so participants are encouraged to be open about offering suggestions regarding schedules and content. Alpha grads who would like to stay active in the programs are welcome to return in any number of possible leadership positions.



- Where: Cassidy Activities Center
- When: Monday, January 23, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for 11 weeks

For additional information, contact Karen Asta at karenjasta@gmail.com, or Sarah Kirk at skirkbtr@gmail.com.

Annual Crèche Exhibit Shines!

By Lynne Finta

Once again, *ST. MARK* Parishioners decked the hall with cherished family Crèches following a two-year period when the exhibit was only held virtually. This year's exhibit took place on January 7 and 8. Although this article focuses on only some of the displays, they were all splendid. Many thanks to all who participated.



The exhibit has grown to over 100 displays representing countries from around the world. Some families have multiple Crèches and Nativity ornaments, which are displayed on a single table or, in some cases, two tables. The Crèches and ornaments come in a variety of sizes and cultural designs and are made of every conceivable material:

wood, papier mâché, cloth, wood, papier mâché, glass, porcelain, ceramic, resin, clay, fabric, brass, yarn, bamboo, wax, paper, cardboard, and even walnuts. Kathy MacNabb and Members of the Liturgical Arts Committee chaired the event; prepared the table setups; and provided table cloths, live greens, and candles for the table decorations.

Exhibits

This year's Exhibit featured Nativity scenes from around the world, including from the United States.

Argentina

This scene of Mary, Joseph, and Baby Jesus fit beautifully into a small space! It was composed of nuts, corn, and seed pods, among other things. (Gift from Dave Vickers's brother, Carleton, from his trip to Argentina in 2006.)

Austria

This colorful "two Crèches for one" resin and felt Nativity scene from Melk, Austria, appeared to be alive. All eyes were on Baby Jesus as He lay in the manger.

Costa Rica

This tiny clay Nativity scene beautifully depicted the Holy Family. Great detail was achieved, from the thatched roof of the stable to the little figurines. (Gift from Pauline Hartnett, *ST. MARK* parishioner, from her trip to Costa Rica in 2006.)

Czech Republic

Corn husks and fabric made up this gentle Nativity scene from Prague. It was done in the colors of wheat and blue, and all arms were outstretched toward Jesus.

El Salvador

Quite a few materials went into this colorful exhibit, in-



cluding wood, paint, lacquer, and leather. Hinged doors on either side opened onto the main scene.

France

It was truly a silent night with this resin, paint, and gilt Nativity scene from France. The Virgin Mary's head was bowed in quiet contemplation of her newborn son.

Germany

This painted pewter Nativity scene from Rothenberg, Germany, had great detail despite being so small. Little lambs kept watch over the Holy Family.

Italy

Both dark and light wood made up this

Nativity scene from Assisi, Italy. The Star of Bethlehem was also depicted.

Mexico

The figures in this ceramic-bisque Nativity scene from Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, were painted in soft colors, giving them a gentle look. The Magi, children, and animals surrounded the Holy Family.

Nepal

Bronze figures gathered in a circle around Baby Jesus. The figure of the angel was polished, while all others had a natural patina finish.

Peru

Purchased at the *ST. MARK* "Work of Human Hands" craft sale in 2001, this Nativity scene from Peru was made of wood, paint, lacquer, and glass. They all combined to make a lovely display.

Poland

This glass, paint, and glitter Nativity scene shone brightly in the sunlight.

Baby Jesus was being lovingly cradled by the Virgin Mary, while Saint Joseph stood close by.

Taiwan

This Taiwanese ADVENT Calendar Box of painted wood had 24 doors, as one would expect. Angels peer down upon the Holy Family, with the Magi looking on.

United States: Alaska

This "pop-out" Nativity scene of Alaskan birchwood was handmade. Soft lines made the whole thing seem to flow.

United States: Arizona

Stained glass was used to create this Nativity scene from Sedona, Arizona. Shepherds, an angel, and the Magi attended the Holy Family.



United States: New Mexico

The Star of Bethlehem looked down on Baby Jesus in this Native American "Nacimiento" Nativity scene. One was also surprised to see boughs of holly!

History of the Crèche Exhibit at ST. MARK

[Editor's note: For Parishioners who may not be familiar with the history of the Crèche Exhibit at ST. MARK, we are reprinting an article by Joyce Kerrigan from the December 2011/January 2012.

One of the highlights of the CHRISTMAS Season at ST. MARK is our traditional *Crèche Exhibit*. This gala event, which engages our Parishioners' enthusiastic participation at the Solemnity of the *Epiphany*, concludes our CHRISTMAS celebrations in a most joyous way.

This Parish tradition began with the CHRISTMAS Season of 1986, but the stage was set with the observation of a child years earlier in 1971. Mark Brumsted, the 10-year-old son of Bob and Peggy Brumsted, noticed that the modestly sized, beautifully hand-carved Nativity figures in the liturgical space to the left of the Altar did not have a stable.

"Mom, it just didn't look right!" observed Mark. "They should have a stable." Peggy and Bob agreed. "I have an idea," said Mark. "I can build a stable for them."

Kate Woods, a neighbor and Parishioner on the Art Committee with Peggy, offered Mark the use of her pattern for a stable. Soon after, Bob and Mark shopped for the needed supplies. Mark, with some help from his dad, built the stable from balsa wood and popsicle sticks. The idea and stable were very well-received by Father Guinnesssey. The Holy Family figures, originally a gift to Father Walsh from a Parishioner, were installed in the stable for the very first time that CHRISTMAS of 1971 in the first ST. MARK Church, now the Cassidy Activities Center. They were displayed in the Liturgical space for many a CHRISTMAS thereafter. Tragically, Mark died in October 1986 at the age of 23.

The First Exhibit

In December 1986, Peggy and several members of the Art Committee, including Barb Celio and Marge Ziemanski, all possessors of extensive



Crèche collections, had the idea to start what was to become the Annual Crèche Exhibit. They thought that it would be a fine idea if they could share their collections with the Parish Community in a group exhibit at the Church and that doing so would be a fitting tribute to Mark, who had made the first Crèche stable. Peggy said to Father Tom Cassidy, "Some of us members of the Art Committee have Crèches from all over the world. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could exhibit them during the CHRISTMAS Season?"

Father Tom agreed, and the tradition began on the Solemnity of the *Epiphany* in 1987. In subsequent years, the exhibit was opened up to the entire Parish Community, and Parishioners were encouraged to bring their family Crèches to the Activities Center for all to enjoy. Mark had also made a smaller stable of the same design as the original, and he completed it with his handmade ceramic figurines and presented it to his parents as a surprise one CHRISTMAS. It was this second Brumsted family Crèche that was exhibited annually until it became too fragile to transport a few years ago.

ST. MARK Shared Blessings During the Holidays

Once again, we had an amazing year of generosity from all the ST. MARK Parishioners, who gave, in many ways, to help those in need in our neighborhood and beyond.

■ **Thanksgiving Clothing Drive:** 7.5 tons of clothing came to the Cassidy Activities Center during the week of Thanksgiving and went right back out to 21 organizations, who, in turn, helped those in need. Many individual shoppers came to receive items in person. Over 160 volunteers helped sort and package the donations throughout the week.

■ **Blood Drive:** 56 pints of blood were donated during our annual ADVENT Blood Drive (a new record for us!)

■ **The Giving Tree and Adoptions program** collected more than 1,500 gifts and more than \$15,000 in gift cards and cash that went to local organizations who directly help those in need, in addition to 60 Foster children and 3 families living in shelters, who had a very blessed CHRISTMAS morning.

■ **Thanksgiving Day Mass** contributions of \$1,920 went to FamilyPASS, an organization that helps prevent family homelessness, and 600 pounds of food went to the St. Lucy Warehouse.

■ **Prayer Shawl Group:** Multiple handmade hats and scarves from our Prayer Shawl group were delivered to the Reston Homeless Shelter.

■ **FACETS:** More than 120 people enjoyed a hot meal on a cold November night in Fairfax, thanks to our FACETS Hot Meal volunteer team.

Pastoral Council Elects Officers and Welcomes New Member

The incoming Pastoral Council met on January 13 and selected the following Officers for the upcoming year:

Chair: Tom Brownell

First Vice Chair: Sandy Gollogly

Second Vice Chair: Susan Heard

Secretary: Greg Ulses

Sandy Gollogly was elected as an at-large member of the Pastoral Council in November, replacing Elizabeth Peters, who had completed two full terms.

Sandy kindly provided the following introduction to *Maneline* readers:

“Hello! My name is Sandy Gollogly, as many of you know, I grew up in Rye Brook, New York, and went to college at SUNY-Oneonta for Management and Clinical Dietetics. After an internship at Perth Amboy Medical Center, I married my college sweetheart. We moved south for jobs: New Jersey, then Maryland, and in 1996 we came

to Vienna with our three young children and joined *ST. MARK* Parish.”

“Our children attended Religious Education (RE) and participated in many Parish activities, so as parents, we were heavily involved in sharing our Faith with our family and community. In Summer Bible Camps, the Fall Festivals, Middle School and High School Workcamps, and Chorus, we worked to help guide our children in their Faith. I enjoyed teaching RE for 13 years, English as a Second Language (ESL) for 5 years, and I have recently re-started teaching RE on Sunday to the 7th Grade girls. I have been so blessed to be a Eucharistic Minister, as well as a member of the SMAC and Alpha Teams.”

“As a Registered Dietitian-Nutritionist, I have had the opportunity to work in a variety of environments: hospitals, rehabilitation short- and long-term care centers, memory care, and most recently, a preventative cardiac care practice.”



Sandy Gollogly

Outside of work, my flower and summer vegetable garden bring me great joy. And I love food—cooking, eating, and sharing it with others (especially dessert).”

“My Faith is the center of my life, giving me stability and support—especially 9 years ago when I experienced the sudden loss of my husband of 30 years, Kevin. *ST. MARK* was, and remains, a true gift.”

“I am excited to be a part of the Parish Council and help *ST. MARK* to continue to grow as a Community full of love and care.

ST. MARK Small Groups Foster Community

By Lynne Finta

I recently sat down with Julie Scott, the new *ST. MARK Small Communities of Faith* Chairperson. Julie immediately informed me that the Small Communities of Faith are now called *Small Groups*! Julie said that following her family’s return home from overseas, she and her husband were looking for small-group opportunities at *ST. MARK*. She told me the couple had previously participated in several such groups. Julie enjoyed sharing her insights, thoughts, and questions about her Catholic faith with other people. Those experiences helped Julie to grow in her faith and to live it more fully. She now hopes to inspire others on their faith journey.

Small Groups Organization

Small Groups can take a variety of forms. Each group usually has five to ten members that meet on a weekly or bi-weekly basis, either in-person or over Zoom, to talk about the part faith plays in their lives. Some groups engage in Scripture Study, while others read and

discuss a suitable book or topic. *ST. MARK* has some groups that have been meeting for decades! All groups are open to new members. The hope is that some younger groups will get started as well.

Benefits

Small Groups provide a haven for people as they navigate the challenges of daily life. They offer encouragement to people, as well as opportunities to know Jesus more fully. Many lasting friendships have been formed as a result of belonging to a small group. Because the groups are small, it is easier to get to know one another.

Future Plans

Julie is excited to have started a married couples group this past ADVENT. There also are plans for a widows’ small group if there is enough interest. Contact Julie Scott at juliescott2010@gmail.com for more information or to share an idea for a Small Group. All ideas are welcome!

Matthew 25: Lamb Center Current Supplies Needed in February

Please bring these items to *ST. MARK* using the paper bags found in the Matthew 25 area in the Narthex

- Laundry detergent
- Liquid bleach
- 13-gallon drawstring trash bags, unscented, used for laundry
- Disposable latex gloves
- Paper towels
- Wash cloths
- Disposable razors
- Travel-size mouthwash (alcohol-free), body wash, shaving cream, deodorant
- Powdered lemonade and iced tea mixes
- 16-ounce Gatorade bottles
- Powdered creamer
- Bottled water
- Cans of coffee, no decaf
- Juice (apple or orange in individual bottles)
- 8-ounce cold and hot beverage cups
- Coffee stirrers
- Sturdy large paper plates, bowls
- Napkins
- Umbrellas and ponchos
- Disposable masks
- 55-gallon industrial trash bags

Fr. Mbinkar Returns to Cameroon

ST. MARK is profoundly grateful to have had the blessing of Fr. Ghenghan Mbinkar's presence and service while he completed his studies at The Catholic University. We thank him, and we wish him every success in his April defense of his thesis. May God be with him and with his Diocese in Cameroon.



Milestones

BAPTISM

ST. MARK welcomes the following new Parishioners to our Parish family:

Vivian Rose Barnes
Kaela Brynn Beckman
Isabelle Julia Nazareth
James Patrick Hathaway
Luke Charles Long
Talley Rose McCahill
Vachi Aurora Uppala
Rosemary Jean Whitaker

DEATHS

The following Parishioners entered into eternal life:

Tom Beall
Pat Collins
Joyce Decker
Jason Emilo
Mary Fisher
Wilma Housley
Georgina Tantoco James
Linda McMahon
Beth Mink
Steve Myers
Anna M. Reilly
Mariza Rodelas
Tarah Weaver

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M&M's



Members of one of Parish's Bible Study Groups had a CHRISTMAS Get-Together on December 8 at Mama Tigre in Oakton. Since they conduct their meetings via Zoom, this was the first time they all met in person. They all had a fine time meeting each other in real life and enjoying the excellent food and equally great ambience.

The group meets weekly on Thursday mornings to discuss different Bible studies from Ascension Press. If you are interested in joining them, or with the other Bible group that meets weekly on Tuesday nights, please contact Mark Morneau at [mark.morneau@gmail.com/](mailto:mark.morneau@gmail.com).

Upcoming Events

February 14: Valentine Lunch at Ristorante Bonaroti, Vienna

February 21: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Breakfast in the Cassidy Activities Center

March 1: After Mass Coffee in the Cassidy Activities Center

March 12: Donut Sunday in the Cassidy Activities Center

March 15: St. Patrick's Day Lunch at Auld Shebeen, Fairfax

All are welcome. Contact Joyce Kerrigan at 703-262-0148/joycenk22@gmail.com for more information.

Book Club

The Book Club meets monthly on the second Thursday at 7:30 p.m. from September to June via Zoom. The sessions are moderated to ensure that everyone participates. For more information, please contact Mark Morneau at mark.morneau@gmail.com.

February 8: *Fundamentals of the Faith* by Peter Kreeft (300 pages)

March 8: *The Lady's Mine* by Francine Rivers (416 pages)

April 12: *The Unbroken Thread* by Sohrab Ahmari (320 pages)

May 10: *Diary of an American Exorcist* by Msgr. Stephen J. Rossetti (304 pages)

February Feasts and Saints

- 2** Presentation of the Lord
- 3** Sts. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, and Ansgar, Archbishop
- 6** *St. Paul Miki and Companions, Marrs*
- 8** Sts. Jerome Emiliani and Josephine Bakhita
- 10** *St. Scholastica*
- 14** *Sts. Cyril and Methodius*
- 17** The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
- 21** St. Peter Damien, Doctor of the Church
- 23** St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
- 27** St. Gregory of Narek

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Mark Your Calendar

February 2023

- 18 Spaghetti Dinner, 6:30 p.m., Cassidy Activities Center
- 19 Christ House Food Collection and Delivery
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 1:00 p.m.
1st EUCHARIST Workshop 2:00 p.m.
Vespers and Benediction 5:00 p.m.
- 20 Youth Ski Trip, 6:30 a.m.
- 22 *Ash Wednesday*, Masses at 6:15 a.m., 9:15 a.m.,
5:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.
- 24 Stations of the Cross 7:30 p.m.
- 26 Rite of Election/Rite of Sending 11:00 a.m. Mass
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 1:00 p.m.
1st EUCHARIST Workshop 2:00 p.m.
Vespers and Benediction 5:00 p.m.
High School Sunday Night 6:30 p.m.



March 2023

- 1 The Light Is On: PENANCE 6:00 p.m.
Catholic Youth Community 7:30 p.m.
- 2 Embry Rucker Food Delivery, 9:00 a.m.
- 3 Pizza and Children's Stations 6:30 p.m.
Stations of the Cross 7:30 p.m.
- 5 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 1:00 p.m.
1st EUCHARIST Workshop 2:00 p.m.
Vespers and Benediction 5:00 p.m.
- 8 The Light Is On: PENANCE, 6:00 p.m.
Catholic Youth Community 7:30 p.m.
- 10 Stations of the Cross 7:30 p.m.
- 12 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 1:00 p.m.
1st EUCHARIST Workshop 2:00 p.m.
Vespers and Benediction 5:00 p.m.
Youth and Family Mass 6:30 p.m.
- 16 High School WorkCamp Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 17 Stations of the Cross 7:30 p.m.
- 18 WorkCamp Fundraiser: St. Patrick Bingo 6:30 p.m.