

# PRECIOUS BLOOD CATHOLIC CHURCH

114 EAST EDMONDSON STREET  
CULPEPER, VIRGINIA 22701  
540-825-8945

PARISH HALL – CCD OFFICE  
540-825-1339

EPIPHANY CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
540-825-9017



## **MASSES**

Saturday: 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday: 8:30 & 11:00 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  
Patricia Reed, Director of Religious Education  
Miriam Medina, Dir. of Liturgy/Hispanic Liaison  
Hannah Masson, Director of Music  
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-6)  
12:15 – 1:30 p.m. (7-12)

## **EPIPHANY CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Preschool: 3 & 4 year old  
Elementary: K-5  
Middle School: 6-8

[www.preciousbloodcatholicchurch.org](http://www.preciousbloodcatholicchurch.org)



March 9, 2014  
“First Sunday of Lent”

**Mass Readings and Intentions for the Week:**

Sun. March 9 8:30 AM Elsie Scott (dec)  
Sun. March 9 11:00 AM Pat Diibon (dec)  
Sun. March 9 4:00 PM Ramon Gamez and Sabas de Gamez (dec)

Mon. Mar. 10- Pat Diibon (dec)  
Readings: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18 Mt 25:31-46

Tues. Mar. 11 – Elsie Scott  
Readings: Is 55:10-11 Mt 6:7-15

Wed. Mar. 12 – Jerry Dawson (dec)  
Readings: Jon 3:1-10 Lk 11:29-32

Thurs. Mar. 13 – Pat Diibon (dec)  
Readings: Est C12, 14-16, 23-25 Mt 7:7-12

Fri. Mar. 14 – Caroline Thomas (dec)  
Readings: Ez 18:21-28 Mt 5:20-26

Sat. Mar. 15 – 8:30 AM Jocinta Davis (dec)  
Readings: Dt 26:16-19 Mt 5:43-48

Sat. Mar. 15 - 6:00 PM Fr. M. Gerald Gordon,  
TOR (healing)

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

**First Sunday of Lent  
Overcoming Temptation**

Reading I Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7 (the fall of  
humankind)  
Reading II Romans 5:12-19 (humanity's sin  
through Adam)  
Gospel Matthew 4:1-11 (the temptation of  
Jesus)

**Key Passage** Jesus was led up by the Spirit into  
the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. (Matthew  
4:1)

**Adult:** What helpful advice could you offer  
someone faced with a temptation?

**Child:** What helps you do the right thing when you  
want to do something wrong?

**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: Hector Baez, Ric  
Barklund, Taylor Bartley, Danny Call,  
Elizabeth Carlton Occhiogrosso, Dr.  
Tom Calhoun, Michael Combs, Roger  
Corum, Cynthia Davies, Kate Driscoll,  
Bill Daley, Sue Doetzer, Gloria  
Driscoll, Jackie Fancher, Regan

Flemming, Ryleigh Flemming, Pansy Foss, Wanda  
Gearing, Betty Hescocox, Robert Houdesheldt, Eileen  
Hunter, Alex Hyde, Jean Johnson, Evelyn Kitts, Ann  
Kroenert, Jean Landon, Bryan Lorenz, Frank  
McPhillips, Jim Minihan, Marcia Peacock, Shawn  
Peet, Rich Rosado, Jerry Roy, Ines Sanchez,  
Roberto Sanson, Yrene Rey, Cissy Staiger, Ray Tap,  
Tracey Toomey 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:** Take thou what we here  
offer, O God, and may it be multiplied, as was  
the bread when he blessed and broke it who  
was himself the bread of life. Multiply that  
portion of our goods which we retain for our  
own use if thou seest we may be trusted as thy  
stewards. Amen.

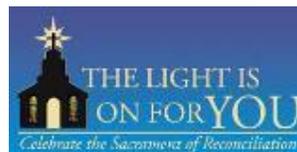
**OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Offertory Collection (3/02) | \$9,020.27 |
| Epiphany                    | \$740.00   |
| Building Fund               | \$1,067.00 |

**THIS WEEK AT PRECIOUS BLOOD**

**COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS,** are each Sunday after  
the 8:30 a.m. Mass while CCD is in session in the  
Parish Hall.

**THE LIGHT IS ON** begins this Wed. at 6:30 PM in  
the church. This week's  
holy hour focuses on the  
story of the prodigal son  
and how God's love is  
always ready to welcome



us back. 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.

**ST IGNATIUS PRAYER STUDY GROUP** meets on  
**Wed., from 9:30-10:30 AM** in the rectory meeting  
room.

**SECOND COLLECTION** today is for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. "Restore the Church, Build the Future". Your support strengthens the Church in this region.

**BISHOP'S LENTEN APPEAL** is in full swing and we are hoping that all families in our parish will support this important appeal to the extent that they are able. The BLA funds many programs, services and ministries that serve people in need and further Jesus' Mission in our diocese. Together we can do so much to help so many!

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR** rehearsals have resumed. If you are a singer in grades 2-6, please share your talents with our parish. Please call or email Gina Rossetti at 937-2320 or [eprossetti@yahoo.com](mailto:eprossetti@yahoo.com).

**RCIA** The next session will be **Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**. We will discuss "The Pascal Mystery in the Sacraments."

**HOLY SPIRIT INTERACTIVE (HSI)** There will be no HSI meetings during Lent.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** continues this Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup> with the theme "A Journey with Jesus" led by Epiphany Catholic School. Afterwards there will be a Fish Fry in the Parish Hall. Come hungry, leave fulfilled both spiritually and physically.

**PRO-LIFE** "God's love does not distinguish between the infant in the mother's womb or the child or the youth or the adult or the older person. In each one God sees His image and likeness. Human life is a manifestation of God and His glory." *Pope Benedict XVI*

The 40 Days for Life spring campaign will be held from March 5<sup>th</sup>-April 13<sup>th</sup> from 7 AM-7PM outside the Amethyst Health Center for Women (an abortion clinic) at 7380-B Forestwood Ln in Manassas. This is a peaceful prayer vigil. To sign up or for more information contact Dave Craven at 825-2265.

### **NEWS AND NEEDS**

**ST.STEPHEN'S FOOD CLOSET** needs pancake mix and syrup, peanut butter and jelly, any canned fruit and rice and pasta side dishes.

**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**" the six minute meditations on the Passion according to Matthews. We also have a "purple" version for children. These also cost \$1.50.

**LEGION OF MARY AUXILIARIES:** You wonderful prayer warriors are invited to the "Acies" which is the annual renewal of consecration to Our Lady by active and auxiliary Legionaries. It will take place at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Warrenton on Sat., March 22 from 1 pm to 4 pm. This will consist of the Consecration to Mary, recitation of the Legion prayers and the rosary, Holy Mass and a reception of potluck finger foods with dessert. Come to this grace-filled event!



**MUSIC MINISTRY** With the beginning of Lent, our music reflects the change in the liturgical season by becoming more penitential and somber. We refrain from singing the "Gloria" or any "Alleluias" and musical instruments are allowed only so as to support the singing of the congregation (the exception being the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent or "Laetare Sunday"). We return to singing the universal change versions of the Holy, Holy and Lamb of God as reminders of our global unity during this holy time of repentance.

**ALUMINUM COLLECTION** will be next weekend. Please bring your aluminum. No steel cans please.

**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.

**Pope Francis:** The Eucharist is essential for us: it is Christ who wishes to enter our lives and fill us with his grace.



On  
Wednesday  
our staff  
and Sister

Bernadette, Superintendent of Catholic Schools, went to Saint Luke's School for an Epiphany information meeting. Our students welcomed guests by playing music at the beginning of the program. Families of Saint Luke's received vital information about Epiphany's programs and were able to ask Sister Bernadette and myself questions about Catholic Education. It was a pleasure to see so many Epiphany families present, sharing their thoughts about our school with Saint Luke's parents. I was also very pleased to see so many parishioners present. These families currently are not enrolled in the Epiphany program. However, after last night, I am confident that many of these families will be joining our Epiphany family. How exciting!

The night concluded with an opportunity for families and students to tour the facility and look at classrooms and surrounding offices. As discussed in former bulletins announcements, these are very exciting times for our children of this religious learning community. My goal is to provide the best Christ-filled education possible, as we move forward to our new school. With that said, many of you that are considering a Catholic Education for your child but are still on the fence about your decision, now is the time to inquire about all the financial opportunities that we provide during open enrollment. If you have any questions, please come by the school or call the school office 825-9017 for more information.

### **AROUND THE DIOCESE/VIRGINIA**

#### **WOMEN'S 3-DAY SILENT LENTEN RETREAT**

"We Have Seen His Glory: The Revelation of God in the Gospel of John" led by Fr. Tom Ferguson will be April 3-6th. The retreats will be held at San Damiano Retreat Center. For more information and to register call 703-841-2550.

#### **CATHOLIC CHARITIES BABY CLOSET** in

Fredericksburg is in need of diapers in large sizes (3-6), wipes, baby formula (Similac) and baby shampoo. Please bring your donations to the Baby Closet at 10639 Courthouse Rd in Fredericksburg.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER** Satan tries often to tempt us into doing things that are bad for our marriage. It is only through the strength of God that we can resist the lures of this world and Satan and stay strong in our Sacrament of Marriage. Enrich your marriage on April 11-13<sup>th</sup> in Fredericksburg. Call 703-378-4150.

**RETROUVAILLE** Is your marriage in trouble? Retrouvaille can help. Call 703-351-7211 or see [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com). For news about marriage and family, and tips for making Catholicism a part of your home.

**CHRISTIANS ARE NETWORKING (CAN)** is an all-volunteer job ministry of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington, offers support to anyone who is unemployed or struggling with career transition decisions. Email [culpepercan@gmail.com](mailto:culpepercan@gmail.com) or call 703-944-8450 or more information.

**DAY OF SUPPORT: Miscarriage and Early Infant Loss** Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> is an opportunity for those who have suffered miscarriage or early infant loss to find comfort and support by addressing the spiritual, emotional and physical aspects of the loss. Listen to professionals address these aspects with opportunity for small group discussions. This Day of Support will meet from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church in Charlottesville. Lunch provided. Contact Ann Postak at [childloss15@gmail.com](mailto:childloss15@gmail.com) or call 434-202-0545 for reservation.

**CAMP ST. CHARLES** is a boys and girls Catholic over-night summer camp. They are having an open house today from 11 AM-4PM. The camp is located in Silver Spring MD. For over 60 years, thousands of children have been making friends, learning to work together and developing an appreciation for Creation while camping. It is fully accredited with the American Camp Association and certified by the state of Maryland. The camp has been run by the Salvatorian Fathers and Brothers and Lay Salvatorians for over 60 years. For more information see [www.campstcharles.com](http://www.campstcharles.com) or call 301-934-8799 or email [csclaurahall@gmail.com](mailto:csclaurahall@gmail.com).

## ***LENTEN MESSAGE FROM OUR HOLY FATHER FRANCIS 2014***

As Lent draws near, I would like to offer some helpful thoughts on our path of conversion as individuals and as a community. These insights are inspired by the words of Saint Paul: "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich" (2 Cor 8:9). The Apostle was writing to the Christians of Corinth to encourage them to be generous in helping the faithful in Jerusalem who were in need. **What do these words of Saint Paul mean for us Christians today? What does this invitation to poverty, a life of evangelical poverty, mean for us today?**

First of all, it shows us how God works. He does not reveal himself cloaked in worldly power and wealth but rather in weakness and poverty: "though He was rich, yet for your sake he became poor ...". **Christ, the eternal Son of God, one with the Father in power and glory, chose to be poor; he came amongst us and drew near to each of us; he set aside his glory and emptied himself so that he could be like us in all things** (cf. *Phil* 2:7; *Heb* 4:15). God's becoming man is a great mystery! **But the reason for all this is his love**, a love which is grace, generosity, a desire to draw near, a love which does not hesitate to offer itself in sacrifice for the beloved. Charity, love, is sharing with the one we love in all things. Love makes us similar, it creates equality, it breaks down walls and eliminates distances. God did this with us. Indeed, Jesus "worked with human hands, thought with a human mind, acted by human choice and loved with a human heart. Born of the Virgin Mary, he truly became one of us, like us in all things except sin." (*Gaudium et Spes*, 22).

By making himself poor, Jesus did not seek poverty for its own sake but, as Saint Paul says "*that by his poverty you might become rich*". This is no mere play on words or a catch phrase. Rather, it sums up God's logic, the logic of love, the logic of the incarnation and the cross. God did not let our salvation drop down from heaven, like someone who gives alms from their abundance out of a sense of altruism and piety. Christ's love is different! When Jesus stepped into the waters of the Jordan and was baptized by John the Baptist, he did so not because he was in need of repentance, or conversion; he did it to be among people who need forgiveness, among us sinners, and to take upon himself the burden of our sins. In this way he chose to comfort us, to save us, to free us from our misery. It is striking that the Apostle states that we were set free, not by Christ's riches but *by his poverty*. Yet Saint Paul is well aware of the "the unsearchable riches of Christ" (*Eph* 3:8), that he is "heir of all things" (*Heb* 1:2).

So what is this poverty by which Christ frees us and enriches us? It is his way of loving us, his way of being our neighbour, just as the Good Samaritan was neighbour to the man left half dead by the side of the road (cf. *Lk* 10:25ff). **What gives us true freedom, true salvation and true happiness is the compassion, tenderness and solidarity of his love.** Christ's poverty which enriches us is his taking flesh and bearing our weaknesses and sins as an expression of God's infinite mercy to us. Christ's poverty is the greatest treasure of all: **Jesus' wealth is that of his boundless confidence in God the Father, his constant trust, his desire always and only to do the Father's will and give glory to him.** Jesus is rich in the same way as a child who feels loved and who loves its parents, without doubting their love and tenderness for an instant. Jesus' wealth lies in his being *the Son*; his unique relationship with the Father is the sovereign prerogative of this Messiah who is poor. When Jesus asks us to take up his "yoke which is easy", he asks us to be enriched by his "poverty which is rich" and his "richness which is poor", to share his filial and fraternal Spirit, to become sons and daughters in the Son, brothers and sisters in the firstborn brother (cf. *Rom* 8:29).

It has been said that the only real regret lies in not being a saint (L. Bloy); we could also say that there is only one real kind of poverty: not living as children of God and brothers and sisters of Christ.

*Stay tuned, more of Pope Francis' letter to follow next week...*