

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



March 15, 2015
“Fourth Sunday of Lent”

FAITH DIRECT NEWS! Our eGiving provider *Faith Direct* is sponsoring a 2015 March Madness Bracket Challenge with cash prizes going to individual parishes! Sign up today at <http://www.faithdirect.net/bracketchallenge> if your bracket finishes in the top three, *Faith Direct* will make a donation to our parish!

*1st Place: \$1,000

**2nd Place: \$500

***3rd Place: \$250

****Plus, *Faith Direct* will be awarding \$500 to the parish with the most Bracket Challenge entries!

THIS WEEK AT PRECIOUS BLOOD

FRIDAY DAILY MASS on March 20th will be held at Epiphany Catholic School.

SECOND COLLECTION today, March 15th will be held for the Catholic Relief Services, it funds six Catholic agencies that work to serve our suffering brothers and sisters around the world. These agencies provide assistance through humanitarian aid, resettling displaced individuals and families, and providing legal and advocacy services for migrants.

JANET LIBERTI Please take a moment to thank God for Janet Liberti, our hidden angel here at Precious Blood Catholic Church. She can be found many days humbly on her hands and knees, ironing the wax that falls from our candles out of the church's carpet. If you see Janet, please thank her so much for being such a blessing!

NEEDED Someone who can visit the Most Blessed Sacrament on Thursdays for Eucharistic Adoration. The hours of need are 6pm-7pm. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please directly call Joanna Madorma at 829-2235.

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!

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

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM "FAITH AND THE BIG QUESTIONS" This Sunday's (March 15) session looks at the big question: "*Why Was Christ's Passion and Death Necessary for Our Salvation?*" Next Sunday's (March 22) follow-up topic is "*How Are We Saved?*" These two presentations discuss why Jesus suffered and died for us on the cross, and how we can accept this most precious gift of eternal salvation. These sessions will also help us Catholics know how to respond when asked by evangelical Christians, "Have you been saved?" All adults are encouraged to attend these special Lenten sessions from 9:40-10:40 am in the Parish Hall.

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

CURSILLO: THE BLUE RIDGE ULTREYA will have an ULTREYA on Saturday April 25, at St. Peters parish hall after the 5pm Mass (about 6 or 6:15). Please bring a covered dish to share. ALL are invited. Cursillo weekend for woman is 3/19-22, and men 4/16-19. Both are at Missionhurst. Questions PH 540-547-2932

LEGION OF MARY AUXILIARIES Legion of Mary Auxiliaries: You are invited to the Acies, a ceremony of consecrating yourself to Mary, at St. John the Evangelist Church 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!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE If you are interested in helping those in need, serving your parish, growing in your faith or having exclusive access to top-rated insurance protection for your family, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you. The John C. Cempre Council of the Knights of Columbus will be conducting a membership drive after each mass on Saturday 03/21/2015, and Sunday 03/22/2015. Please consider joining us.

ALUMINUM COLLECTION will be held TODAY, Sunday, March 15th.

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.

THE LIGHT IS ON Wednesday, March 18 at 6:30 pm will be **IN HONOR OF ST. JOSEPH** led by our RCIA candidates, catechumens and team. Let us join in prayer on this evening before his feast day and ask for his intercession, protection and guidance that our families and homes may be sanctuaries where children can grow in wisdom and grace before God.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS continues this Friday, **March 20th at 6:30pm** with the theme “A Way of the Cross” led by the RCIA. Afterwards there will be a Fish Fry in the Parish Hall. Come hungry, leave fulfilled both spiritually and physically.

STATIONS & SUPPER Please join with our Parish youth on Friday, March 27 for the presentation of the Living Stations of the Cross and our Potato Soup Supper. The Potato Soup Supper begins at 5:30 PM and will be followed by the Living Stations of the Cross at 7:00 PM.

NEWS AND NEEDS

MINI-RETREAT On Saturday, ***APRIL 25th***, Karlo Broussard, apologist and speaker for the Magis Center, will be conducting a mini-retreat entitled “Finding True Happiness: Satisfying Our Restless Hearts” here, at Precious Blood Catholic from 3pm-5:30pm. Visit The Magis Center’s website at www.magiscenter.com as well Mr. Broussard’s website www.karlobroussard.com.



Our students continue their Lenten journey throughout the month of March. Their relationship with God is strengthened during this solemn season through prayer and sacrifice. This week, students had the opportunity to participate in the Light is On For You Holy Hour and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and to play an active part in the Stations of the Cross. Our Preschoolers Explorer 4’s class ended their Healthy Heart unit with a trip to Martin’s Grocery Store to review food groups, healthy practices and explore the many departments. Meeting a real lobster was an extra treat! Thank you to Kyra, our store guide, and Martin’s for the learning, the many yummy samples, and our My Plate healthy choices booklets!



MUSIC This weekend we celebrate **Laetare Sunday** from the latin word for “rejoice”. Strictly speaking, the Thursday before *Laetare Sunday* is the middle day of Lent, and it was at one time observed as such, but afterwards the special signs of joy permitted on this day, intended to encourage the faithful in their course through the season of penance, were transferred to the Sunday following. Instrumental music, more than that only for accompanying the assembly’s singing, is allowed to reflect this joy amidst our sorrow (www.catholic.org).



AROUND THE DIOCESE/VIRGINIA

40 DAYS FOR LIFE For information about the 40 Days for Life Campaign or to volunteer, please go to www.40daysforlife.com

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 contact Cheryl Erickson (910) 578-0293 in regards to carpooling.

OUR CHURCH WINDOWS

THE SANCTUARY WINDOW - The symbolic interpretation of the Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ lies within the golden frame of a Celtic cross, symbol of eternal life. Central to the cross is a heart, pierced by the nail-like lines, surrounded by darkness and an interlaced crown of thorns. These images recall the suffering of Jesus on the cross, shedding His Precious Blood for our sins. Yet the colors surrounding the heart grow brighter just as the light of redemption flows from His suffering and death. And His Precious Blood, through the Eucharist, becomes the golden cup of our salvation.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS - The side windows remind us through symbol and word of our reasons for coming to church. The windows on the right depict what we bring to God through active participation in the liturgy. The windows on the left convey what God gives to us as we come together as a church community. The borders of wheat and grapes unify these reasons around the celebration of the Eucharist.

PRAISE - We come to the church to praise God for He is good and wonderful. With music of harps and lyres, organs and guitars, with choirs and songs we celebrate that God is our Father and we are his children. This window is found in the area of the choir and organ.

THANKS - We come to thank God for all we have; our health, our material and spiritual blessings, our talents, our happiness, our opportunities. We thank God for the abundance of His gifts and the joy of sharing them with others.

PETITION - The pelican is the symbol of petition, depicting the great love of the mother for her young. So intense is this love, that she draws blood from her breast to nourish them. No request is impossible and our pleas are heard. "Ask and you shall receive," Jesus assures us.

ATONEMENT - Often we come to church in need of forgiveness, to be reconciled with God and with our brothers and sisters. The ceremony of atonement is symbolized in the living water flowing over open hands seeking purification and reconciliation. We want to be reconciled before we bring our gift to the Altar. This window is placed close to the confessional.

LIFE - The shell and flowing water symbolizes the life we receive in baptism. As we celebrate the life, the death, and resurrection of Jesus in the Eucharist, we recall that we were baptized in Christ's life and death and received the promise and first fruits of the fullness of eternal life.

SPIRIT - We, who are nourished by Christ's body and blood, are filled with his Holy Spirit. The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, right judgment, courage, knowledge, love, and reverence in God's service. As we go back to our daily tasks and activities, the Holy Spirit energizes our life with His presence according to our particular needs.

WORD - Through Jesus, God speaks to us the Word of life. And as we listen to God's word in the readings from the Old and New Testament and apply it to our life, we hear a Holy Word. The stole around the Bible symbolizes the power of God's word addressed to us as individuals and as a community of believers.

EUCCHARIST - The loaves and fishes recall the miracle of feeding the multitudes. It reminds us that Jesus is the only food which satisfies our hunger, our longing, and our search for happiness and fulfillment. In the Eucharist, Jesus made himself the Bread of Life. "No one who comes to Me shall ever be hungry," Jesus said.

MERCY - The Ark of the Covenant symbolizes the promise of God's faithfulness to his people. "I will be your God and you will be my people." Because of our unfaithfulness, God's faithfulness shows itself most frequently in loving mercy. We go home after our celebration with the reassurance that God's merciful love goes with us.