

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
Toni-Ann Gambale, Office Assistant
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-12)

EPIPHANY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1211 Grandview Avenue
Culpeper, VA 22701
Preschool: 3 & 4 year old
Elementary: K-5
Middle School: 6-8
office@preciousbloodcatholicchurch.com
www.preciousbloodcatholicchurch.com



December 7, 2014
“Second Sunday of Advent”

Mass Readings and Intentions for the Week:

Sun. Dec. 7 8:00 AM – Dick Dyer (dec)
Sun. Dec. 7 11:30 AM – Jack S. Stewart Sr. (dec)
Sun. Dec. 7 4:00 PM – Roberto Cortes Cuevas (dec)

Mon. December 8 – For the People – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Readings: Gn 3:9-15, 20, Eph 1:3-6, 11-12, Lk 1:26-38

Tues. December 9 – Sylvia Say (dec)

Readings: Is 40:1-11, Mt 18:12-14

Wed. December 10 – For the People

Readings: Is 40:25-31, Mt 11:28-30

Thurs. December 11 – For the People

Readings: Is 41:13-20, Mt 11:11-15

Fri. December 12 – For the People – Our Lady of Guadalupe

Readings: Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab, Lk 1:39-47

Sat. December 13 8:30 AM – For the People – St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Readings: Is 30:19-21, 23-26, Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sat. December 13 6:00 PM – Sylvia Say (dec)

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

**Second Sunday of Advent
Our Need to Change**

Reading I Isaiah 11:1–10 (the rule of Emmanuel)

Reading II Romans 15:4–9 (prayer of encouragement)

Gospel Matthew 3:1–12 (John the Baptist)

Key Passage: This is the one [John the Baptist] of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.” (Matthew 3:3)

Adult: What do you need to change so that others can learn from watching you that Christ walks among us?

Child: What could you do so that others will see in you what it means to follow Jesus?



ALTAR FLOWERS are available for request. Please stop by the office.

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, Hector Baez, Lisa Ballard, Ric Barklund, Amber Bouchard, Mikey Bradford, 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, Billy Hall, Elizabeth Hartwell, Betty Hescox, Marilyn Hoffmann, Eileen Hunter, Alex Hyde, Harold Lawrence, Mary Logan, Bryan Lorenz, Frank and Lucille McPhillips, Phillip Leo Mercer, Efren Diaz Miguel, Jim Minihan, Beth Moreland, Mary Neureither, Marcia Peacock, Shawn Peet, 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: Loving God, you powerfully proclaim through your prophet John the need for us to repent of our sins and to prepare the way of the Lord. We place these offerings upon your altar with the knowledge that they will support many ministries that proclaim your Good News and lead people on your path. By offering you these generous gifts, we prepare ourselves to be led along your path of grace and love. We pray with your guiding presence. Amen. **Mark 1:1-8**

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Collection (11/23)	\$ 7,097.80
Collection (11/30)	\$ 9,549.23
Building Fund	\$ 28.90
Epiphany School	\$ 18.90
Foundation for the Future	\$ 50.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$ 2,217.28
Thanksgiving: other parish charities	\$ 795.75
TOTAL COLLECTIONS (November)	\$ 58,003.52
Budget	\$ 57,500.00

THIS WEEK AT PRECIOUS BLOOD

FRIDAY DAILY MASS on Dec. 12th will be held at Epiphany Catholic School.

HOLY SPIRIT INTERACTIVE (HSI) meeting has been cancelled for Wednesday, December 10th.

SECOND COLLECTION on Sunday, Dec 14th, will be for the annual Christmas Collection! Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington is an essential diocesan ministry, serving the poor with Christian love and compassion. Through their professional support services, more than 94,000 people were assisted at every stage of life. Your support of the Christmas Second Collection for Catholic Charities stays in the diocese and helps charities such as C.A.N. which is a ministry that functions out of Precious Blood. As you reflect on the many needs within our parish community, please prayerfully consider supporting Catholic Charities' mission. A sacrificial gift of any size will be a gift of Christ's love and mercy to those in need.

FAITH DIRECT: Have you signed up for eGiving through Faith Direct yet? It is the most convenient and secure way to make your weekly offering to Precious Blood Parish. You could make a one-time contribution or set up automatic contributions to save you time. Please visit, www.faithdirect.net and use our Parish Code, VA226. Paper enrollment in the office!

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM The first part of *The Star of Bethlehem* will be shown at today's (Dec. 7) session, with the final part shown next Sunday, Dec. 14. This amazing documentary explores the Biblical and historical clues revealing the incredible significance of this celestial event and its connection to the life of Christ, as well as the vastness of God's creativity as seen in the stars above. All adults are encouraged to attend these sessions from 9:40-10:40am in the Parish Hall.

BEGINNERS BIBLE STUDY will start in January. More information to follow. If you have questions please contact Mac McPhillips at (540) 547-2123 or email him at MacHimself@gmail.com

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Exposition and adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament takes place every Thursday from 9am-9pm. Please make every effort to stop in for a visit during this time.

NEWS AND NEEDS

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve – 5pm Children's Mass
Christmas Eve – 7:30pm
Christmas Eve – 10pm
Christmas Day – 10am
Spanish Christmas Day – 12pm

Parish Penance Service will be Monday Dec. 15th at 7pm

The Solemnity of Mary
Wed. Dec. 31st the Vigil at 6pm
Thurs. Jan. 1 at 10am

WE WELCOMED On Saturday, November 29th we welcomed the children of Mark G. Ferlazzo who were baptized into our Parish Family!
-Joshua Philip Gregory Ferlazzo
-Julius Anthony Ferlazzo
-Noah James Ferlazzo
-Gabrielle Elizabeth Ferlazzo

TODAY, BAKE SALE/ATTIC TREASURES SALE

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Bake Sale/Attic Treasures Sale, today, Dec. 7th, in the Parish Hall Foyer. The sale started yesterday but you still have a chance to pick a treasure or two. Hurry, today is the last day!

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CARDS,

sponsored by the Knight of Columbus, are now on sale after all the Masses until December 14th.

BLANKET DRIVE This month, through December 16, we are partnering with other Culpeper churches in a Blanket Drive. We will be collecting new or like new blankets of any size and hats and gloves for children and people in need in Culpeper. There will be a box for your love offering in the foyer. Margie [703-944-8450](tel:703-944-8450).

ST.STEPHEN'S FOOD CLOSET Needs for this week: soup, low-sodium hamburger helper, soap and other hygiene products.

STATUES WANTED CCD is looking for statues for the classrooms from anyone willing to donate. The statues must be able to fit on a shelf. Please contact Pat Reed at 825-1339.

LEGION OF MARY AUXILIARIES You are invited to the Curia's Annual Reunion at St. John the Evangelist Parish in Warrenton on Dec. 14 from 1pm to 4pm. This is a social gathering of Legionaries (active and auxiliaries) from three parishes, with some fun attached, and it will be held in Mercy Hall (down the hill in back of the church) in celebration of Dec. 8, the Immaculate Conception. Bring a dish to share, and meet others who are devoted to Our Lady!

MUSIC GLORIA By reserving the Gloria for the festive season of Christmas, the liturgy emphasizes Advent's character as a season of waiting with great expectation. By omitting the Gloria during Advent (the song of praise sung by the heavenly host) we long for the night of Christmas when we can sing the angels' song anew.



FREDA KRATOCHVIL YOUTH MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP has been established and currently has \$200. This scholarship is designed to send a middle school or high school student to a music conference on an annual basis. If you would like to donate please stop by the office.

ANGEL TREE gifts are ***DUE BY DECEMBER 14th***. When returning gifts please attach the tag with the Child's number. - 1 want, 1 need, 1 wear, 1 read!

NEED A CHRISTMAS GIFT? Stop by the office, we have just what you need for only \$10! We still have plenty of Precious Blood Catholic Church T-shirts available that would make the perfect gift on Christmas morning.



The month of December will be very busy for our Epiphany students. They will be involved in a variety of service projects. Our middle school students will lead us through prayer during Advent and all students will be involved with Food drive. Our Ensemble students will be performing at Culpeper Hospital, Culpeper Country Club and State Theater. If you would like to help the students in their activities, please donate nonperishable food items to the school during the next two weeks. They can be dropped off in the school's office before Friday's Mass.

Pope Francis: "Love is the measure of faith."

BLOOD DRIVE Want to give the gift of life? Why not give the gift of three lives by donating blood! Precious Blood Catholic Church is having a blood drive on Friday, Dec. 12th from 12pm-5pm in the ANNEX. To make an appointment, go to www.redcrossblood.org or call Mykelle Laws at (540) 829-1190. Please note, there will be future drives in March & June of 2015. Remember, before you give blood always remember to drink lots of water, eat a good meal and bring your photo ID.

AROUND THE DIOCESE/VIRGINIA

WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER "I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Have you invited the Holy Spirit into your marriage? The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are 20-22 Feb 2015 in Herndon or 17-19 Apr 2015 in Fredericksburg. For more info visit our website at renewmarriage-vanorth.org or call us at [703-378-4150](tel:703-378-4150).

CAN: CHRISTIANS ARE NETWORKING Looking for a job? *Manpower* can help! They are currently looking for top candidates in the following career fields: Administrative, Clerical/Data Entry, General Laborers, Warehouse Associates. Recruitment will be held at Culpeper One Stop (210 East Stevens St., Suite 300, Culpeper), Thurs. Dec. 11th from 10am-1pm. REQUIREMENTS: must be 18 or older, must be able to pass a background check & drug test, have your own transportation and be able to bring 2 forms of identification. In order to participate create a profile at www.manpowerjobs.com and email your resume to Nora.Smith@Manpower.com

SEARCH FOR THE LONGEST MARRIED COUPLE: This is the 5th year for recognizing couples for their long marriages. Sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter, couples are selected from nominations submitted. In addition to the longest married couple in the entire United States, recognition will also be given to a couple from each state who has achieved that distinction. Nominations are open to all husband and wife couples regardless of religious affiliation. Send the name of the couple, their wedding date, and where they currently reside, along with a contact phone or e-mail address of the individual nominating the couple to wwmelmc2015@gmail.com or call Dick & Diane Baumbach at [321-613-5180](tel:321-613-5180). Nominations must be received by Jan. 10th, 2015.

The Liturgical Season of Advent

The celebration of Advent has evolved in the spiritual life of the Church. The historical origins of Advent are hard to determine with great precision. In its earliest form, beginning in France, Advent was a period of preparation for the Feast of the Epiphany, a day when converts were baptized; so the Advent preparation was very similar to Lent with an emphasis on prayer and fasting which lasted three weeks and later was expanded to 40 days. In Rome, the Advent preparation did not appear until the sixth century, and was viewed as a preparation for Christmas with less of a penitential bent.

The Church gradually more formalized the celebration of Advent. The *Gelasian Sacramentary*, traditionally attributed to Pope St. Gelasius I (d. 496), was the first to provide Advent liturgies for five Sundays. Later, Pope St. Gregory I (d. 604) enhanced these liturgies composing prayers, antiphons, readings, and responses. Pope St. Gregory VII (d. 1095) later reduced the number of Sundays in Advent to four. Finally, about the ninth century, the Church designated the first Sunday of Advent as the beginning of the Church year.

The importance of this season remains to focus on the coming of our Lord. (Advent comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning coming.) The *Catechism* stresses the two-fold meaning of this coming : When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Saviors first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for His second coming (No. 524).

Therefore, on one hand, the faithful reflect back and are encouraged to celebrate the anniversary of the Lords first coming into this world. We ponder again the great mystery of the incarnation when our Lord humbled Himself, taking on our humanity, and entered our time and space to free us from sin. On the other hand, we recall in the *Creed* that our Lord will come again to judge the living and the dead and that we must be ready to meet Him.

A good way to help us in our Advent preparation has been the use of the [Advent wreathe](#). (Interestingly, the use of the Advent wreathe was borrowed from the German Lutherans in the early 1500s.) The wreathe is a circle, which has no beginning or end: So we call to mind how our lives, here and now, participate in the eternity of Gods plan of salvation and how we hope to share eternal life in the Kingdom of Heaven. The wreathe is made of fresh plant material, because Christ came to give us new life through His passion, death, and resurrection. Three candles are purple, symbolizing penance, preparation, and sacrifice; the pink candle symbolizes the third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, when we rejoice because our preparation is now half-way finished.

The light represents Christ, who entered this world to scatter the darkness of evil and show us the way of righteousness. The progression of lighting candles shows our increasing readiness to meet our Lord. In all, increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of His coming may find us rejoicing in His presence and welcoming the light of His truth.

Fr. Peter Saunders, Arlington Catholic Herald