

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 14, 2014
“Third Sunday of Advent”

Mass Readings and Intentions for the Week:

Sun. Dec. 14 8:00 AM – Michael Noonan (dec)
Sun. Dec. 14 11:30 AM – Ellsworth Kohler (dec)
Sun. Dec. 14 4:00 PM – Roberto Cortes Cuevas (dec)

Mon. December 15 – Nicholas Hutsko (dec)
Readings: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11, 1 Thes 5:16-24, Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Tues. December 16 – John Bowie (healing)
Readings: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a, Mt 21:23-27

Wed. December 17 – Nancy Baudhuin (dec)
Readings: Gn 49:2, 8-10, Mt 1:1-17

Thurs. December 18 – Tom Hertz (dec)
Readings: Jer 23:5-8, Mt 1:18-25

Fri. December 19 – D’Arcy Wagonhurst (dec)
Readings: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a, Lk 1:5-25

Sat. December 20 8:30 AM – Reagan Flemming (healing)
Readings: Is 7:10-14, Lk 1:26-28

Sat. December 20 6:00 PM – For the people
(If you would like a Mass Intention said please call or stop by the office.)

**Third Sunday of Advent
Bringing Joy Through Justice**

Reading I Isaiah 61:1–2, 10–11 (the mission to the afflicted)
Reading II 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24 (Christian conduct; blessing)
Gospel 1:6–8, 19–28 (John as witness to the light)

Key Passage: I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation. (Isaiah 61:10)

Adult: What work of justice could you do this week to bring someone joy?

Child: What could you do for someone this week to make them happy?



ALTAR FLOWERS are in loving memory of Michael Noonan by Rick and Barbara Noonan.

Pope Francis: “Let us learn from the Virgin Mary how to be bolder in obeying the word of God.”

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: Rejoicing God, we offer you thanks and praise for this season of anticipation, this season of Advent. As we prepare for the birth of your son, we share our tithes and offerings with the joy and excitement that is common as one anticipates the birth of a new child. Bless these gifts in your Holy Name. Amen. *1 Thessalonians 5:16-24*

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Collection (12/7)	\$ 14,582.89
Building Fund	\$ 1,719.00
Epiphany School	\$ 740.00
Immaculate Conception	\$1,095.38

THIS WEEK AT PRECIOUS BLOOD

FRIDAY DAILY MASS on Dec. 19th will be at Epiphany Catholic School.

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.

SECOND COLLECTION today 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: In this season of Advent, we are continuously preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth into this world. Why not help our own parish prepare for the coming New Year by signing up with *Faith Direct*? You can sign up online at www.faithdirect.net using our church code: VA226 or stop by the office for a paper enrollment form.

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM *The Nativity Story* will be shown at today's (Dec. 14) session from 9:40-10:40 am in the Parish Hall. Join Mary and Joseph on their incredible journey of discovery and experience the realistic difficulties they overcame, including public scorn, as they anticipate the birth of their son.

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

NEWS AND NEEDS

WE WELCOMED On Saturday, December 6th we welcomed new children into our Parish Family.
-Maria Aguilar Sebastian;-David Aguilar Sebastian;
-Yahir Amilpa-Castillo;-Dylan Shane Bradely;
-Estefani Castillo Sanchez; -Keila Castillo
-Sanchez;-Christopher Garcia;-Chelsea Cristina Hernandez Trejo;- Justin Snaider Hernandez Trejo,

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CARDS, sponsored by the Knight of Columbus, are now on sale after all the Masses. Today, December 14th is the last day to purchase them!

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. There will be several priests who are bilingual.

The Solemnity of Mary

Wed. Dec. 31st the Vigil at 6pm
Thurs. Jan. 1 at 10am

FLOWERS WANTED Fresh and natural floral donations welcome for window treatments at Christmas! Things like: Douglas fir branches about 3 ft in length, white pine branches in 3ft lengths, pine cones (different sizes), red carnations (22 count), white carnations (22 count), magnolia branches, nandina with berries, large sprigs of rosemary, other natural ideas welcome too. Please bring them to the church ***no later*** than the morning of Monday, December 22. You can bring enough to distribute for eleven windows. Thank you in advance for your contributions!

BLANKET DRIVE This month, through December 16th, we are partnering with other Culpeper churches in a Blanket Drive. We will be collecting new or like new blankets of any size, hats and gloves for children and adults 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: jelly, canned chicken, chicken helper, microwave meals, single serving oatmeal packs and cold cereal.

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.

OUTSTANDING YOUNG MAN/WOMAN OF THE YEAR Please take a moment to look at the bulletin insert from the Knights of Columbus. Please keep in mind all forms with narratives need to be submitted by March 1, 2015.



MUSIC On Nov. 22, the feast of St. Cecilia, we had a brunch honoring our retired organist Freda Kratochvil for her 40 some years of generous, talented service to our parish. Freda laid a wonderful, spirit-filled foundation for the music ministry here at Precious Blood and we pray that our Lord continues blessing us as we continue her legacy. We've established the "Freda Kratochvil Scholarship for Pastoral Musicians" that each year will help fund a young musician to attend workshops or conventions to mentor them in their growth as liturgical musicians. Donations made be made out to Precious Blood with "Freda Kratochvil Scholarship" in the memo line.



The Student Government Council

concluded its annual canned food drive on Tuesday. Over 1,600 canned food items were donated to the Culpeper Community Christmas Basket. Our students were so moved by the spirit of giving, that on just the 2nd day of collecting, both 1st and 7th grades brought in over 100 items each. They set the tone and the pace for the other classes. By Wednesday, 6th and 7th grades each brought in over 200 canned goods! After 6 days of collections, 7th grade contributed over 420 canned goods and 6th grade brought in over 330 items. Collectively, the student body donated an average of 269 cans per day! In appreciation of their support of the food drive, students in these classrooms will enjoy a breakfast or pizza day. Thank you to all our students, parents and parishioners who participated in this wonderful gift of giving during Advent.



Please join us for the Home for the Holidays Concert on December 18th at the State Theater at 7pm. Our students will be performing with Aberdeen Green to help provide support for the Women's Safe House. Please bring your family and friends for this outstanding evening of entertainment provided by this wonderful group and our very talented students. The students have worked hard to prepare and will appreciate your presence at this special concert.



ANGEL TREE gifts are ***DUE TODAY 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.

2015 CALENDARS Please take a calendar for the upcoming year. They are located in the lobby of the church. Enjoy!

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 Trinity Hall (in the school) in celebration of Dec. 8, the Immaculate Conception. Bring a dish to share, and meet others who are devoted to Our Lady!

AROUND THE DIOCESE/VIRGINIA

WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord." Are we taking time to put the way of the Lord in our 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).

SEARCH FOR THE LONGEST MARRIED COUPLE: This is the 5th year for recognizing couples for their long marriages. 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.

WHY SHOULD I GO TO CONFESSION?

Confession – path to conversion

As we begin this Advent Season many of us may be struggling to get into the proper disposition. It is difficult to slow down and focus on Advent, when the whole world has begun to celebrate Christmas.

Advent is a great opportunity to “wake up” to the things that really matter such as living the 10 Commandments. We all want to live in a way that makes a difference for future generations. To be known as people who put God first in our lives and love others with a supernatural love.

Growth in self-knowledge

So much good comes from the Sacrament of Confession. This Sacrament is not just for those who have sinned seriously, but for all who desire to be “alert and watchful” in their lives. To be prepared for Christ’s Second Coming, we must work on our venial sins such as: losing our patience, unforgiveness, pride, etc. Confession increases sanctifying grace in our lives. When we go to frequent confession we are aided in self-knowledge, humility, and overall growth in virtue. Many pay little attention to their lesser sins and thus do not grow in virtue during their lives.

Why do we have to tell our sins to a priest? Why not tell our sins directly to God? When we are sick the surgeon operates on us. Sometimes God does heal dramatically without medical intervention but normally God works through the hands of a human surgeon. It is the same with forgiveness. God works through his human instrument of forgiveness who is the priest. Jesus said to Peter, “if you forgive sins they are forgiven and if you retain sins they are retained.” (John 20:23) Jesus has given to priests the power to forgive sins. It is not the priest that you meet in Confession, it is Jesus you meet, and it is he who heals you during the sacrament.

So have no fear in approaching Jesus to tell him your sins. He is a friend of sinners. He has not come to call the virtuous but to call sinners to repentance. Jesus had many trials, all during his ministry. He was tempted in every way that we are though he did not sin. He understands your trials and does not condemn you but asks you to go and sin no more, so have no fear in approaching Jesus to tell him your sins.

So as we wait in long lines to get *the perfect gifts*, which are here today and gone tomorrow, let us remember the eternal things. If we do, we will realize that it is more important to get into another line, the confessional line. Here we wait to receive sanctifying grace, the very life of God, and true forgiveness. Here we receive the peace of mind that only comes from realizing that we are “alert and watchful,” waiting for the coming of our Savior. Whenever he comes we can confidently *stand erect and raise our heads because our redemption is at hand!*