

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 21, 2014
“Fourth Sunday of Advent”

Mass Readings and Intentions for the Week

Sun. December 21

- 8:00 AM – Robert McIntyre Sr (dec)
- 11:30 AM – Tom Hertz (dec)
- 4:00 PM – Roberto Cortes Cuevas (dec)

Mon. December 22 – For the People

Readings: 1 Sm 1:24-28, Lk 1:46-56

Tues. December 23 – Peggy Fegan (healing)

Readings: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24, Lk 1:57-66

Wed. December 24 – Christmas Eve Readings: Is

9:1-6, Ti 2:11-14, Lk 2:1-14 (pg 34 in the Missal)

- 8:30 AM – Richard Driscoll (dec)
- 5:00 PM Children’s Mass – For the People
- 7:30 PM – James Moran (dec)
- 10:00 PM – Harold Foweler (dec)

Thurs. December 25 – Christmas Readings: Is

62:11-12, Ti 3:4-7, Lk 2:15-20 (pg 36 in the Missal)

- 10:00 AM – For the People
- 12:00 PM – For the People

Fri. December 26 – Mr. & Mrs. John O’Donnell (dec) – St. Stephen the First Martyr

Readings: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59, Mt 10:17-22

Sat. December 27 Readings: 1 Jn 1:1-4, Jn 20:1a, 2-8

- 8:30 AM – For the People – St. John the Apostle & Evangelist
- 6:00 PM – For the People

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

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
Acceptance of God’s Will**

- Reading I 2 Samuel 7:1–5, 8b–12, 16
(the Lord’s promises to David)
- Reading II Romans 16:25–27 (doxology)
- Gospel Luke 1:26–38 (the annunciation of the Lord)

Key Passage: Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her. (Luke 1:38)

Adult: How do you open your heart to what God wants for you? How do you follow the pathway that leads to happiness?

Child: Is there something hard you need to do this week? What might make it easier?



ALTAR FLOWERS are in loving memory of James Moran from Kathleen Moran & Family.

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 Hescocx, 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, Barbara Noonan, 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.**

OFFERATORY PRAYER: Dear Father, we admit that Advent can be a challenging time. We are not accustomed to waiting. We live in a world of instant gratification. Yet, you call us to wait, to anticipate, and to prepare for the birth of your son on Christmas Day. Now, we are counting the days – seven more days until Christmas Day. This countdown generates a variety of emotional responses – excitement, joy, relief, and maybe even panic. Provide us with a sense of calm. May the rhythm of worship and this offering moment calm us so that we are prepared to receive anew the birth of Jesus, the Christ Child. Amen. *Luke 1:26-38*

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Collection monies for 12/14 will be posted next week. Thank you for your patience.

FAITH DIRECT COLLECTION

Collection (12/14)	\$ 8,743.00
Building Fund	\$ 341.00
Epiphany School	\$ 207.00
Foundation for the Future	\$ 550.34
Immaculate Conception	\$ 257.00

THIS WEEK AT PRECIOUS BLOOD

FRIDAY DAILY MASS on Dec. 19th will be held at Precious Blood Catholic Church.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Exposition and adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament will not take place on Christmas, December 25th. The next time exposition and adoration will take place is going to be on Thursday, January 8th.

SECOND COLLECTION on January 25th, 2015 will be held for the Church in Latin America.

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*? By supporting Precious Blood Parish through *Faith Direct*, both you and our parish can more easily project your future contributions. 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 final part of *The Nativity Story* will be shown at today's (Dec. 21) session from 9:40-10:40 am in the Parish Hall. Join Mary and Joseph on their incredible journey of discovery and realistically experience the difficulties they overcame, including public scorn, as they anticipate the birth of their son. All are welcome. The next session on Jan. 11, 2015 will focus on science and faith, specifically whether there is scientific evidence that God exists.

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

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

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

The Solemnity of Mary
Wed. Dec. 31st the Vigil at 6pm
Thurs. Jan. 1st 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 tomorrow morning, Monday, December 22. You can bring enough to distribute for eleven windows. Thank you in advance for your contributions!

ST.STEPHEN'S FOOD CLOSET Needs for this week: jelly, canned chicken, chicken helper, microwave meals, single serving oatmeal packs and cold cereal. Hygiene products are always welcomed.

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 Between the ages of 12-19? Private, public or homeschooled? Residing within our community? Impressive resume? You are eligible to be recognized for you excellence. Stop by the office BEFORE March 1st to learn how!

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.

Please take a glance at the picture and then stop in the office to see it for yourself!



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

Pope Francis: "In the difficult moments of life, Christians can turn to the Mother of God and find protection and care."

MUSIC On December 17-24 a set of antiphons, all beginning with the word "O," is sung at evening prayer before the Gospel canticle known as the Magnificat. These "O" Antiphons are the basis of the popular Advent hymn "**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**" and help us to understand the deeper meaning of the season. Christmas is the birth of the Key of David, the Root of Jesse, the Desire and Prince of all nations and of our own hearts.



I am happy to announce that we have hired another teacher to our Middle School team! Mrs. Catherine Clark is the new 6th, 7th and 8th grade Language Arts teacher. Mrs. Clark graduated from Longwood College with a bachelor's degree in Educational Curriculum and Psychology. Mrs. Clark has more than 11 years of teaching experience. She finds that helping students discover what they CAN do and what they are passionate about proves to be the most rewarding experience for her as a teacher. Mrs. Clark spent many of her teaching experiences right here in this building as a former Saint Luke's teacher from 1998-2009. She then continued her teaching at Emerald Hill Elementary School in Culpeper. Currently, Mrs. Clark has been a substitute teacher with us from the beginning of the school. She has built a wonderful relationship with students and staff. Mrs. Clark looks forward to sharing her love of for learning with the students, parents and staff of Epiphany Catholic School. Her effective start date will be upon our return from the Christmas Holiday on January 5th.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Precious Blood will be hosting the homeless (Heat Shelter) from Jan 25 thru Jan 31st 2015! We need volunteers to prepare and serve meals, chaperone and purchase supplies. Please join us for our first meeting at the Parish Hall on Jan 7th at 7:00 p.m. Or send us an email to volunteer at heatshelter@gmail.com

AROUND THE DIOCESE/VIRGINIA

MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIR, FREE If you are in need of a motorized wheelchair, please read this. There is one available but it needs a battery. If you are interested and would like more information please call Ella Hackley at (540) 825-2405. Serious inquiries only from people who genuinely need assistance.

WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER God gave us the greatest gift of love when He sent His son to redeem us. He asks us to love one another as He loves us. Take the time to grow deeper in love with God, your spouse and your family at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. 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). You may also send submissions vis USPS to Dick & Diane Baumbach, 9824 Puerto Del Rio Drive Suite 402, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920. Nominations must be received by Jan. 10th, 2015.

JUICE BOXES Our parish is still collecting **100% juice boxes** to benefit Culpeper's Power Pack Program. Please place your donations in the green box in the church foyer. Thousands of juice boxes are needed so every donation counts and is much appreciated! Also, please mark your calendars for the next Community Pack Day on **Saturday, January 10, 2015 from 9-12 at Culpeper United Methodist Church**. Volunteers will help pack several thousand packs to go directly to hungry children right here in our community. Contact Kelly Wilton for more information 825.4795 or email at wilton3knr@yahoo.com

SOCCER & MUSIC FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS Saint John Paul the Great invites middle school students to participate in their annual **3v3 Soccer Tournament** (Jan 10) and their annual **Band and Choir Music Festival** (Jan 24). For more information and to register, please visit: www.jpthegreat.org. Free t-shirt to those who register by December 19! Questions? Please email: info@jpthegreat.org or call [703.445.0218](tel:703.445.0218).

MERRY CHRISTMAS “DO NOT BE AFRAID”

What is it about Luke’s telling of the nativity that makes it so enduring, and endearing? Year after year, century after century, whether on television or in church, we’re drawn to this story, and moved by it again and again. It is, for so many of us, “THE” Christmas story.

Part of it is the cast of characters Luke assembles. Luke was the only evangelist who was not Jewish, and his gospel is beautifully inclusive. He is the evangelist for the outsider and the outcast – and so in this birth narrative you have EVERYONE. Jesus, Mary, Joseph, shepherds, angels, even Caesar is mentioned. The only ones who don’t appear are the wise men, but they’ll pop up on their own holiday, Epiphany, coming in January. In this narrative, you really do see the world spread before us. Everyone is welcome at the stable. But beyond the setting, and the sentiment, there is a truth here that strikes at the heart of every believing Christian – that truth that defines Christmas. It is there, in the middle of the gospel, in the very first words that are spoken. **“Do not be afraid.”**

And then it gets even better. “Behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.” “A savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord.”

These are the words we have been longing for. With this moment, the course of human history changes forever. God has become one of us. The savior’s very name proclaims the incredible truth that no one ever thought possible: “Emmanuel.” God is with us. It is a stunning thought, almost overwhelming.

And yet we are told: **“Do not be afraid.”** Across two thousand years, those words reach out to us in joy and hope and consolation. No matter who you are, no matter where you live, no matter what your circumstances, this what matters: To the father without a job, or the children pulled apart by divorce or separation: To the sick and the suffering, the lonely and the lost ... to all those who feel that maybe God has forgotten you. To those who feel, as Mother Teresa did, abandoned to the dark night: *Do not be afraid.* Because even in this darkest of nights, there is light. A savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. Here is our hope.

He didn’t come in grandeur or majesty, to intimidate us. He came as the most helpless and dependent creature of all: a baby, in a manger, in Bethlehem. He loves us so much, God came to us as someone we could not help but love. So, **do not be afraid!** Yes: on this night, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. A savior has been born. And he continues to be born in our hearts, if only we will allow it to happen.

He dreams with us. He struggles with us. He grieves with us. He hopes with us.

Remember his name. Emmanuel. God is with us.

So do not be afraid.

Read more: <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/deaconsbench/2012/12/do-not-be-afraid-a-christmas-homily/#ixzz3LVqzFCGI>