

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

EST. 1884

120 West Main Street Front Royal, VA 22630
540-635-3780(tel) 540-635-2683(fax) stjohns@sjtb.org

Welcome to St. John's Church

Mass Schedule

Sundays:

5:00pm (Saturday Vigil)
7:00am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 5:00pm
12:30pm (Spanish)

Weekdays:

Monday - Saturday: 8:30am
Monday-Friday: Noon
Wednesday: 7:00pm (Spanish)

Sacraments

Confession:

Monday-Friday, 8:30am
Monday-Friday, 6:30pm
Saturday, 8:30am & 3:30pm

Baptism:

Saturdays at 10:00am
Parish membership is required and an instructional class is required for parents.

Marriage:

Arrangements must be made at least six (6) months in advance. Parish membership is required.



DECEMBER 10, 2023 ~ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS
December 11 - 17, 2023

MONDAY DEC 11

Advent Weekday

St. Damasus I, Pope

8:30am Kevin Brown & Family
12:00pm +Lawrence Casabonne

TUESDAY DEC 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:30am Katy Cooper
12:00pm Fr. Daniel Gee
5:00pm Sotelo Family

WEDNESDAY DEC 13

Saint Lucy

8:30am +Lawrence Casabonne
12:00pm +Susan Bill
7:00pm +Alice Hirsch

THURSDAY DEC 14

Saint John of the Cross

8:30am Camryn Brown
12:00pm Fr. Duesterhaus

FRIDAY DEC 15

Advent Weekday

8:30am +Dick Brown
12:00pm +Kathleen Solmssen

SATURDAY DEC 16

Advent Weekday

8:30am Sara Stokes

SATURDAY VIGIL

Second Sunday of Advent

5:00pm +Susan Bill

SUNDAY DEC 17

Second Sunday of Advent

7:00am +Rick Hirsch
8:30am +Debbie Burchell Johnson
10:30am Parish Family
12:30pm +Daniel Santangelo
5:00pm +Jack Hirsch

CONFESSION TIMES

Monday - Friday:
8:30am and 6:30pm

Saturday:
8:30am & 3:30pm

DECEMBER 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent

This Week...

Tues Dec 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

5:00am Mañanitas
followed by hot chocolate
& bread in FRH

5:00pm Spanish Mass
followed by dinner in FRH

Fri Dec 15

FRH 6 - 9pm
Journey to Bethlehem

Sat Dec 16

FRH 9am - 1pm
Young Adult Retreat

Sat Dec 16

Frassati House 12 - 1
Single Moms Gathering

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt
13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1&9,10-11,12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt
17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)
/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Keep in Touch

Sign up to receive St John's email updates
by going to <http://eepurl.com/djz4OT> to subscribe.
www.sjtb.org

Second Collection

The Second Collection on Dec 16/17
will be for Parish Improvements

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE FOR DEC 16/17

5:00pm	Jason Kasevich, Cedric Schmiedicke
7:00am	Greg Bauer, Elijah & Jeremiah Hambric
8:30am	Joseph Burghardt, Michael Stahl, Matty & Jack Akers, John Lazarus & Victor Davis
10:30am	John, Sebastian & Raphael Durgin, Cajetan, Crispin & Leo Lemmon, Vincent & Becket Zepeda
12:30pm	Leobardo Reyes, Juan Aviles, Geovanni Miramontes
5:00pm	Finn Sweeney, Brendan Purciel

*Call the parish office if you'd like to volunteer
as an altar server (age 10+), lector or usher. Thank you!*



A Time of GIVING



Blanket Drive

St. John's will be holding a blanket drive until December 18. New or gently used blankets may be brought to the parish office during business hours (M-F, 9-12 & 1-4) or taken directly to C-CAP which is located at 400 Kendrick Lane. Items may be dropped off at C-CAP on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9 am-12 pm. Thank you!

Christmas Gift Cards

We are collecting Martins and Walmart gift cards for our Christmas outreach. Each year we assist local families in need with providing their holiday meals. Gift cards (or monetary donations) may be dropped off at the church office or in the collection basket in an envelope labeled "Christmas". Thank you!

Thermal Shelter

The Thermal Shelter of Front Royal is now operating under a new name – Hope and Rest Temporary Shelter (HARTS) and is a community-based organization partnering with our local churches to provide a winter homeless shelter to 35 adult homeless men and women with a warm, safe place to sleep during the winter months. The Shelter just opened on December 2nd for the season. If you would like to volunteer or donate items or money, please go to thermalshelteroffrontroyal.com or call 540-551-6256.

Today's 2nd Collection

Please consider a generous gift to those in need: Through a gift to Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington, you are serving the poor, protecting the vulnerable, and welcoming the newcomer. Your support helps maintain ministries that serve neighbors in need throughout the 21 counties and seven cities of our diocese. You may donate in the second collection or you may make an online gift at ccda.net/Christmas.

Giving Tree

Thank you to everyone who has taken an ornament from the Giving Tree. Please drop off gifts no later than Monday December 11th.

ST JOHN'S STAFF

Rev. Daniel Gee

Pastor, fathergee@gmail.com

Rev. Tom Shepanzyk

Parochial Vicar

firtom@sjtb.org

Rev. Michael Duesterhaus

Parochial Vicar, frmrd@sjtb.org

Deacon Rafael Goldsmith

Permanent Deacon,

rgoldsmith@sjtb.org

Deacon Mark Jerge

Permanent Deacon

Deacon Gerald Solitario

Permanent Deacon

Gerry.solitario@arlingtondiocese.org

Patty Sonak

Administrative Assistant

Karen Pondo

Parish Secretary

Tina Furtado/Michelle Bodoh

Parish Secretaries

Phil Rexrode

Facilities Manager

Dr. Jeffrey M. Alban

Director of Music & Organist

David Wallace

DRE/Business Manager

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00am-Noon & 1:00pm-4:00pm

540-635-3780 (phone)

540-635-2683 (fax)

stjohns@sjtb.org (email)

Parish Membership

Welcome! Registration forms are available on the bulletin board in the Church. Please notify the office when you are moving outside or within the parish and if your contact information is changing.

Hospitalized & Homebound Parishioners

Please notify the office if a parishioner is hospitalized or homebound that they may receive the pastoral care of the Church.

Bulletin Deadline

Tuesday of the previous week at 10:00am. All announcements must be in writing or sent via email.

VOCATIONS

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his path.”

Could God be calling you to be a herald of the Gospel like John the Baptist?

Contact Fr. Michael Isenberg, Vocations Director, at (703) 841-2514 or email: vocations@arlingtondiocese.org.

Quo Vadis Seminary Visit for High School Boys

Ever wondered what college seminary is like?

Join Fr. Isenberg and Quo Vadis on January 27, 2024, to experience it firsthand on a visit to St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington, D.C.

Meet the seminarians and their formators, see where they live, pray, eat and study, celebrate Mass together and tour parts of Catholic University where they have classes. Dads are welcome but not required.

Deadline to submit registration form is January 18.

Visit www.ArlingtonDiocese.org/QuoVadis or contact the Office of Vocations, vocations@arlingtondiocese.org or 703-841-2514.

Quo Vadis events are for high school boys interested in growing in their spiritual life and exploring their vocations.

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Remember when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received – only what you have given. – St. Francis of Assisi

As Catholics, we have been taught about charity work through the Gospels and various outreaches. St. Thomas Aquinas esteemed charity as “the most excellent of the virtues.” According to moral theology, charity is a divinely infused virtue which lets us focus our will to cherish God above all things for his own sake and to cherish humanity for the sake of God.

“Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection” (Col 3:12-14).

Charity is the ultimate perfection of the human spirit since it is a reflection and glorification of God’s nature. It binds all virtues together in perfect harmony. It also purifies and uplifts human love to the perfection of God’s love.

Since the apostolic age, Christians were taught to give from the heart to everyone in need regardless of their race or religion because “Christ is all and in all.”

We love our neighbors because they are the children of God. We are all part of the same human family and share the same nature, needs and dignity. Charity is love that is unconditional, and by it we are able to reach out to our sisters and brothers and help relieve any physical, mental, moral or spiritual needs they may have. The simplest way we can express charity is to speak, act and think with love (1 Cor 13:4-7). When we have love in our hearts and minds, it is easy for us to put the needs of others first; acting without self-interest and with the goal of helping others.

Each one of us has a special gift that can be of use in God’s work. How do you practice charity in your life? What charity work do you plan to do?

New Seven Sisters Group Forming

Women of the parish are invited to join the Seven Sisters Apostolate which is composed of groups of 7 women who each offer weekly holy hours for a specific priest. A new group of 7 is forming to pray for Fr. John Killackey, chaplain at St. Thomas More Chapel of Chelsea Academy. Please contact sevensistersarlington@gmail.com if you are interested or have questions.

Guadalupe Radio Network

WMET 1160 AM

WMET invites Catholics, seekers and non-Catholics, to tune in, or to download the GRN app, or visit at GRNOnline.com to learn the good, the true and the beautiful of their Holy Catholic faith.

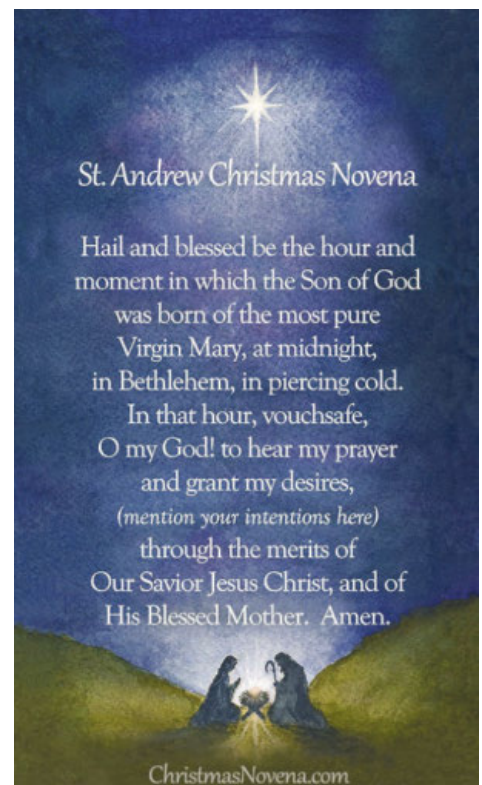
Do you lead a parish ministry? Email WMET@GRNOnline.com and ask to record a FREE radio announcement to promote your event. GRN is EWTN’s largest radio network affiliate with 41 radio stations in 9 states and in Washington, D.C. It’s radio for your soul! Follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

Help Needed

We would love to have your family or group be recognized by helping with St. John’s Sunday Coffee & Donuts. If you can help please email psonak@sjtb.org for available dates. Thank you!

St Andrew Christmas Novena

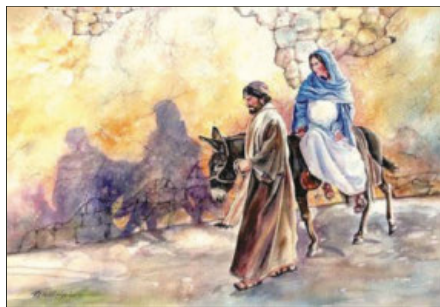
To be prayed 15 times/day from November 30 - December 25.



Activities & Events

A Journey to Bethlehem

Amidst the frantic rush before Christmas, take an evening to recall the Holy Family's journey to Bethlehem in this dramatic presentation by PPA students. Arrive at Fr Ruehl Hall any time between 6 PM and 9 PM on Friday, Dec. 15th. Actors will take down "tour groups" to meet Joseph and Our Lady and accompany them on their search for a place of shelter. The tour takes about 30 minutes. The tour is free, but donations are gratefully accepted. Sponsored by Padre Pio Academy.



Single Moms Gathering:

Calling all single moms! Please join us for lunch and fellowship at the Frassati House on Saturday, December 16 from 12pm- 2pm. Children are welcome. For more information and to RSVP, please email outreach@sjtb.org by December 13.

Young Adults of St. John's Advent Retreat

Saturday Dec 16, 9am-1pm
Please join us for a morning retreat led by Fr. Gee in Fr Ruehl Hall after the 8:30 Mass. Children welcome. RSVP to Ben Marsh by texting 707-341-4419.

2023 Parish Directories

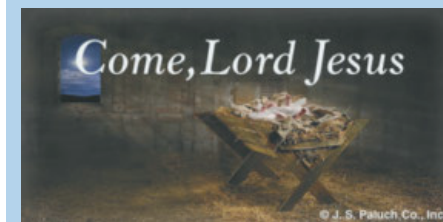
The new Parish Directories are available for pick up at the parish office for those who had their photo taken or submitted. Thank you to all who participated in the creation of the Directory!

Montessori Fundraiser

John the XXIII Montessori Center's adolescents are collecting gently or not used toys, jewelry, cooking utensils, and craft kits or supplies for a fundraiser! If you have something of those categories in good condition, please drop it off at John XXIII Montessori Center, 1401 Linden St., Front Royal, VA between the dates of 12/03/23 - 12/15/23. There will be a labeled collection basket on the covered front porch. Thank you so much for your donations!

Bishop Burbidge's Catechesis on The Human Person and Gender Ideology

In light of the recent document from the Vatican on receiving a person with gender dysphoria to be baptized or be a godparent, it's important to realize what the document actually says. In essence, a person suffering from the mental illness of gender dysphoria who agrees with the Church teaching can be baptized or be a godparent as long as the normal conditions exist, including that the person "leads a life in harmony with the faith." (Can 874) In his letter on The Human Person and Gender Ideology, Bishop Burbidge also reminds us that the false "transgender" teaching is to be rejected. Voluntary support of a person, government, or institution that openly promotes such false teaching is an action not in accord with the Church's teaching. There are more copies of the Bishop's letter available in the vestibule.



Ongoing Activities

SJTB Seniors Group

Meets every third Saturday in Padre Pio Hall from 9:30-11:00am. For more information contact DeWayne Coats at 540-660-5776 or dewaynecoats20@gmail.com.

The Women of Saint John's

Monthly activities for women parishioners aged 18 and up. Email thewomenofstjohn@gmail.com

Young Adults of St. John's

In your 20's or 30's?
Follow event info on FB @youngadultsofstjohnthebaptist, IG@st_johns_young_adults_va or to join the e-news-letter email youngadultsofstjohnthebaptist@gmail.com

That Man Is You

Saturdays 6:30am FRH

RCIA classes

Mondays 6pm Frassati Hall

The Divine Office (Lauds)

Mon-Sat at 8:10am in main church

Vespers (Evening Prayer)

1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays of the month, 3:30pm in main church

Rosary &

Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Prayed after 8:30am Mass M-Sat.

Legion of Mary

Tuesdays 6:30pm – PPH

Junior Legion of Mary

Thursdays 4:30-6:30pm – PPH

Children's Holy Hour

Thursdays 3:00-4:00pm

Little Flowers

Monthly meeting for registered girls in grades 1-6
4-5:45 FRH Sept-May

Flame of Love Rosary

Mondays after the noon Mass

Knights Corner
John Carrell Jenkins Council #7771
www.kofc7771.org



SAVE THE DATES:

- Sunday, December 31:** “Fifth Sunday Rosary” for the Purification of the Church and Protection of our Country, 4:30 p.m., preceding the 5:00 p.m. Mass.
- Saturday, January 6, 2024:** Free-Throw Contest, 1:00-4:00 p.m., Chelsea Academy Gym. Watch the bulletin for details.
- Friday, January 19:** National March for Life, Washington, DC
- Sunday, February 11:** Super Bowl Sub Sales following all the weekend Masses.

Firewood Project: The Council helps parishioners who rely on firewood to heat their homes. If you would like to help or if you know of a parishioner in need, please contact Leo Carling (540-631-7555).

Annual Dues: Darryl Adams, Financial Secretary for John Carrell Jenkins Council 7771, in mid-December will be sending out 2024 dues announcements via email. Please ensure that your email address with the Knights is accurate. Timely payment of your annual dues is appreciated (and saves the council from lengthy efforts to obtain payment).

Council Membership Meetings: Second Wednesday of the month, Padre Pio Hall. Dinner and Fellowship, 6:30 p.m., Rosary at 7:10 p.m., Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Meetings typically adjourn by 8:30/8:45 p.m. **Next meeting is Wednesday, December 13.**

Contact us: Grand Knight John Stieb, 703-755-5345, or gknightjs@gmail.com. Field Agent Cory Cook, 703-665-1388, or cory.cook@kofc.org.

DIVINE MERCY'S MOTHER SAID:

“I desire, My dearly beloved daughter, that you practice the three virtues that are dearest to Me---



and most pleasing to God. The first is humility, humility, and once again humility; the second virtue, purity; the third virtue, love of God. As my daughter, you must especially radiate with these virtues.” (St. Faustina Diary, 1415) *(Used with permission of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception)*

Front Royal Pregnancy Center
 (540) 635-6181

frontroyalpregnancy.org

Abortion Pill Reversal Hotline
 (877)558-0333

abortionpillreversal.com

Project Rachel

pafterabortion.org

FORMED

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Parish Code: QBKRGW
 Advent Specials!



Altar Guild	Marlene Lundberg, 635-0541	Outreach Committee	outreach@sjtb.org
Church Flowers & Decor	julie.thedaughter@protonmail.com	Parents’ Support Group Children w/Special Needs	Winnie Ehlinger, 636-1688 Laurie Adams, 540-683-1767
Divine Mercy for the Dying	mbodoh@sjtb.org	Prayer Chain	Marlicia Fernandez, 622-2637 setonmom@gmail.com
Dominicans Third Order	Rene Bergeron 540-664-1186 rene.l.bergeron@gmail.com	Prison Ministry	Chris Manion, 540-635-9166
Eucharistic Adoration	adoration@sjtb.org	Religious Education	David Wallace, 540-635-3780
Fasting Brothers	tracy.terwilliger@comcast.net	RCIA	Parish Office, 635-3780
Flame of Love	Boots Sargis bootssargis@yahoo.com .	Seven Sisters	tracy.terwilliger@comcast.net
Lectors	Mary Kay Moose, 635-7628	Saint Johns Athletics	www.saintjohnsathletics.com
Legion of Mary/Adults	Andrew Armstrong, 540-631-4620	That Man is You!	Forest Selby 703-268-3554
Legion of Mary (Juniors)	Viviano Rodriguez, 559-347-4585	Vocations Liaison	Cindy Rhodes, 443-440-0121 sjtbvocations@gmail.com
Little Flowers (Gr. 1-6)	littleflowersofsjtb@gmail.com	Youth Drama Club	www.stjohnsdrama.org
Meals for New Moms / Postpartum Support	thewomenofstjohn@gmail.com	Front Royal Pregnancy Center	(540) 635-6181 frontroyalpregnancy.org
Music & Choirs	Jeffrey Alban, 635-3780		

For full list of ministries, go to www.sjtb.org or call the parish office for specific inquiries.

PRAYER LIST

Gabby Abril	Tahlia Fernandez	Magdalena O'Neill
John Alsberry	John Fusto	Barbara Ann Orozco
Allison Andrews	Laura Fusto	Kris Pondo
Brenda Bailey	Gary Garcia	Carmela Rao
Rozie Baker	Paul Gerrick	Judy Ratigan
Dianne Boen	Michael Greco	Manuel Reyes Avila
Robert Bond, Sr	Eileen Hawkins	John William Rice
Rose Britain	Nancy Heywood	Mary Alice Rice
Elijah Carino	Aidan Hipp	Maggie Roberts
Mary Ann Carlson	Billy Hooten	Gabbi Rodgers
Tony Casarotti	Norman Hunt	Elaine Ryan
Joseph Centrella	John Janaro	Judy Samborsky
Jorge Daniel Chang	Erik Jurek	Dan Schneible
Dominique DeClue	Susan Kirby	Mary Shaffer
Bob & Anne DeLong	Peggy Leonardi	Sophie Shannon
Linda Donahue	Maureen Lewis	Sophie Sheppard
Clara Anne Duda	Manuel Reyes Martinez	Tammy Souza
Al Dudeck	Carol B. May	Anee Stanford
Ignatius Ehlinger	Laura McMahon	Mary Ellen Sullivan
Kathy Elar	Edward Meinsen	Judith Thompson
Maggie Elliot	Marie Miller	Karen Waldron
Ned Farinholt	Peter Monfasani	Kathy Winkle
Mike Ferris	Sara Mulcahy	

Pope's Prayer Intention for December 2023

For Persons with Disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Please Pray for the Repose of the Souls of
ARTHUR MADDOX and RICHARD INNIS.

Active Military Prayer List

Esther Alger	Samatha Wilkinson	Chris Reinhard
Brady Anderson	Zachary Francis	Michael Reuwer
Colin t. Barrett	Jasmine Frank	Anthony Reyes
Jeffrey Bayne	Dustin Goard	Jose Reyes
Mark Belton	Kristina Grdina	Lxex Robles
David Berry	Steven Gregg	David Rogers
Stephen Bill	Benjamin Gregory	Alex Rojas
Heather Bill-Blanchard	Jonathan Hamilton	Bobby Saxon
John Bowes	Steven Held, Jr.	Truman Sayre, Jr.
Shannon Brugh	Daniel Heywood	David Schmitt
Joseph Buono	Peter Hickson	Forest Selby
Paul Buono	Erik Hickson	Paul Shannon
Ben Cabreva	David Kelleher	Andrew Shorter
Christian Carino	David Larsen	Richard Skelton, Sr.
Hannah N. Christman	Glen Lash	Devon Smith
Nathan T. Christman	Joseph Marsch	Timothy Smith
Sean Conroy	Christine Marsch	Sean Smith
Robert Cooke	Emma Morgan	Keegan J. Thomas
Kevin Corella	Clement M. O'Reilly	Brian Tilley
Rory Crooks	Daniel Nejja	Jamie Troutman
Vince E. Cruz	David Parnes	Manuel A. Vicente
Trey Dusseault	Justice M. Parrott	Kieran Vieira
Matthew Farrall	Jason Pettingill	Michael Wood
Parker Feiring	John C. Price	Mark Zepeda
	Jason Pugh	

December 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe



5:00am Mañanitas

followed by hot chocolate
and bread in FRH

5:00pm Spanish Mass


followed by dinner in FRH

*Immaculate Heart of Mary, Heart of my Mother, Our Lady of Guadalupe,
I unite to thy purity, thy sanctity, thy zeal and thy love, all my thoughts, words, acts, and
sufferings this day, that there may be nothing in me that does not become through thee, a
pleasure to Jesus, a gain to souls, and an act of reparation for the offenses against thy Heart.*

Please join us on a

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

FRIDAY, DEC. 15TH
TOURS FROM 6-9 PM
= ONE NIGHT ONLY!



In the hustle and bustle of Christmas, take time out to accompany Our Lady and St. Joseph on this meditative dramatic journey as they search for a place for Baby Jesus to rest. Come any time between 6 PM and 9 PM on December 15th for this half-hour tour which ends with time for adoration and prayer. This tour is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.

Presented to the parish by the students of Padre Pio Academy

Young Adults of St. John's

Advent Retreat

In preparation for Christmas

Saturday, December 16, 9-1

Please join us for a morning retreat led by Fr. Gee in Fr. Ruehl Hall after the 8:30 AM Mass. Children welcome.



Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Ben Marsh by texting (707) 341-4419



Christmas Mass Schedule

Mass Times at
St. John's Church

Sunday December 24

5:00pm

7:00pm

Monday December 25

12:00am Midnight

7:00am 8:30am 10:30am

12:30pm Spanish

5:00pm (no music)

Mass Times at
St. Thomas More
Chapel

Monday December 25

12:00am Midnight Sung

8:00am Low

10:00am Sung

There is no 7am Mass
in the Adoration Chapel on
Monday December 25

~ No Confessions on December 25 ~

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cory.cook@kofc.org

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Will Long, III - Manager/Parishioner
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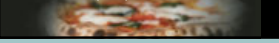


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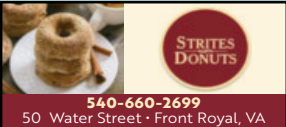


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