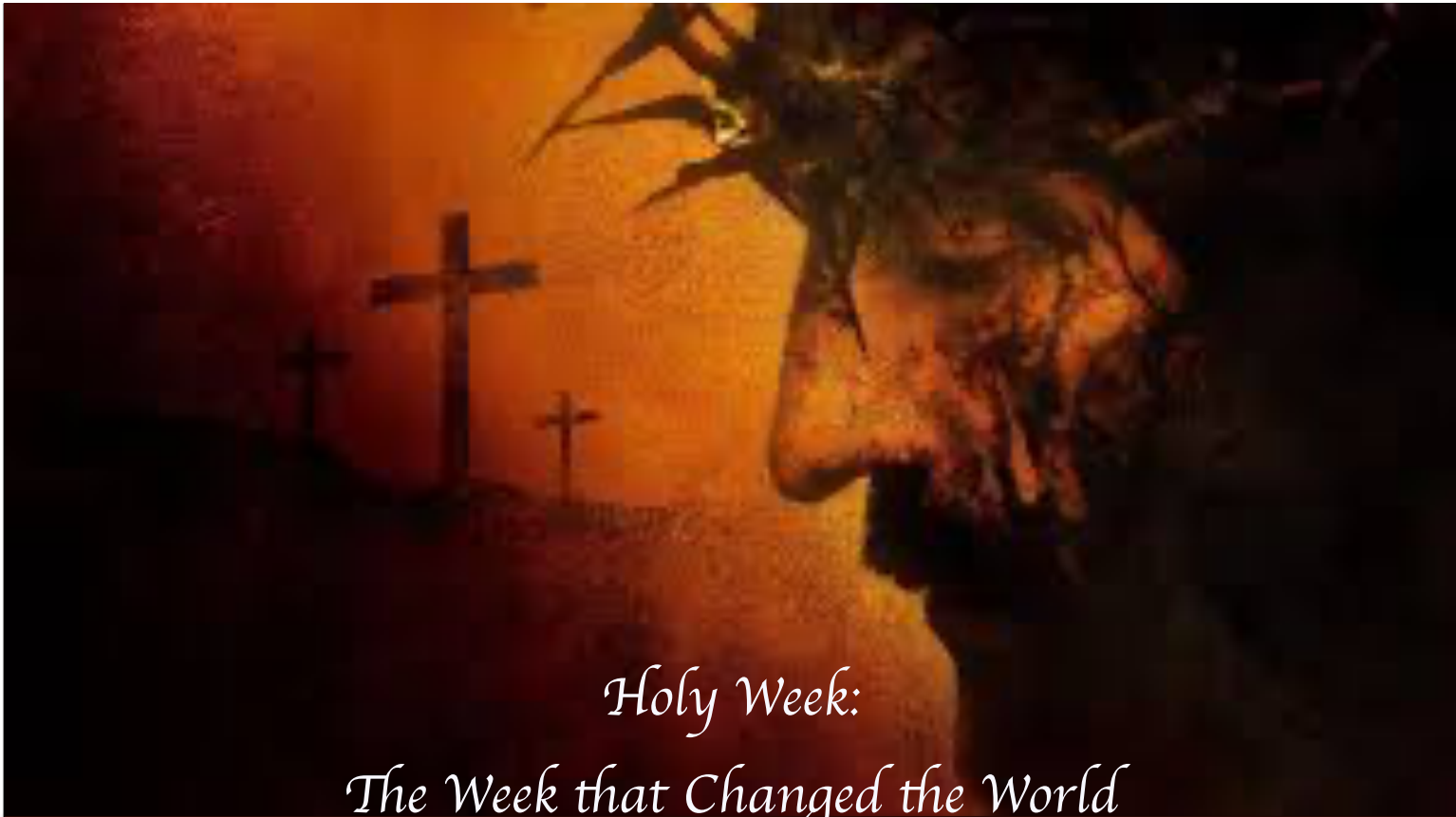
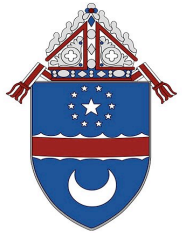




# St. Louis Catholic Church

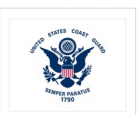
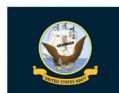
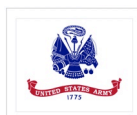
SaintLouisParish.org



## Holy Week: The Week that Changed the World

March 29, 2026 ~ Passion Sunday

<p><b>Parish Office</b> 2907 Popkins Lane Alexandria, VA 22306 <b>Phone:</b> 703-765-4421 <b>Office Hours:</b> Mon - Fri 9:30am - 1:00pm 1:30pm - 5:30pm (except Wed)</p> <p><b>St. Louis School</b> 703-768-7732</p> <p><b>St. Vincent De Paul Helpline</b> 703-765-0050</p> <p>Pastor: Rev. Keith O'Hare Parochial Vicars: Rev. Gregory Thompson Rev. Luke Poczatek</p>	<p><b>Sunday Mass</b> 7:30am 8:45am <i>Children's Mass</i> 10:30am <i>Traditional Ad Orientem</i> 12:30pm <i>Traditional Ad Orientem</i> 5:15pm <i>Quiet Traditional</i></p> <p><b>Saturday Mass</b> 8:45am      5:30pm Vigil Mass</p> <p><b>Monday-Friday Mass</b> 8:45am</p> <p><b>Confessions</b> Mon-Sat: 7:45am-8:15am Wednesday: 6:00pm Saturday: 5:00pm Sunday: 8:30am-9:15am</p>	<p><b>Misa en Español</b> Domingo 3:00pm <b>Confesiones:</b> Dom. 2:15pm-3:00pm <b>Grupo de Oración</b> Sábado 6:30pm</p> <p><b>Poor Clare Monastery</b> 703-768-4918 2505 Stone Hedge Drive <b>Mass Every Day</b> 7:00am (Gregorian chant) <b>Sunday Devotions</b> Eucharistic Exposition 8:00am - 4:00pm Rosary 4:00pm Benediction 4:30pm</p>
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Pro Deo et Pro Patria

On Good Friday adults are to fast (one full meal) and abstain from meat

## Holy Week Schedule

### Holy Monday 3/30

7:00am Mass (Poor Clares Monastery)  
7:45am-8:15am Confessions  
8:45am Mass  
6pm Confessions

### Holy Tuesday 3/31

7:00am Mass (Poor Clares Monastery)  
7:45am-8:15am Confessions  
8:45am Mass  
6pm Confessions

### Holy Wednesday 4/1

7:00am Mass (Poor Clares Monastery)  
7:45am-8:15am Confessions  
8:45am Mass  
6pm Confessions



### Holy Thursday 4/2

*No Morning Masses or Confessions*  
**7:30pm Mass of the Last Supper**  
8:30pm Eucharistic Procession to the Gym  
8:45-11:45pm Silent Adoration in the Gym  
11:45pm Night Prayer

### Good Friday 4/3

**12pm-3pm: Tre Ore (Seven Last Words)**  
\* Confessions from 12pm-2pm \*  
**3pm: Liturgy of the Veneration of the Cross**  
6:30pm Outdoor Stations of the Cross (Spanish)  
7:30pm: Liturgia de la Veneración de la Cruz

### Holy Saturday 4/4

12pm Blessing of Easter Food  
8:30pm Easter Vigil Mass

### Easter Sunday 4/5

7:30am Mass (Classical Guitar)  
8:45am Mass  
\*Easter Egg Hunt after Mass \*  
10:30am Mass  
12:30pm Mass  
3pm Mass (Spanish)

#### Prayer with EXCELLENT Music!



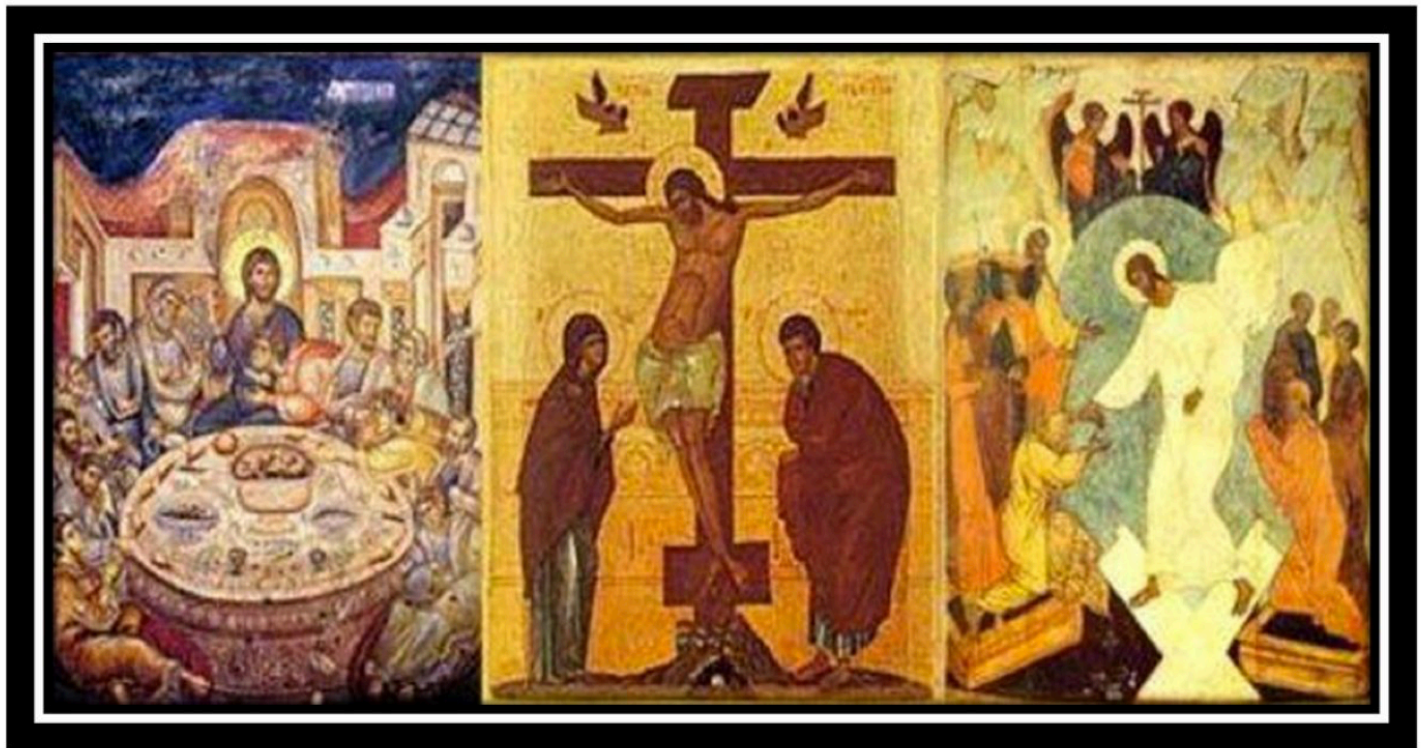
music to support your prayer experience.

Please note that all the solemn liturgies will be supported by our parish musicians as well as contracted musicians to provide you the highest quality

#### What is "Tre Ore"? Good Friday 12pm - 3pm

Every half hour one of our parish priests will preach a brief homily on each of Christ's last words spoken from the Cross. Each "word" will also be chanted in four-part harmony by our Good Friday schola. Confessions will be heard from 12pm to 2pm.

# The Most Important Week of the Year



## Holy Thursday

This is a Mass unlike any other. The homily reminds us that the Last Supper was the First Mass, when Jesus instituted the Sacrament of Holy Communion and also the Sacrament of Holy Orders (priesthood). After the homily the priest removes his outer vestment (chasuble) just as Jesus removed his outer garment at the Last Supper. Then he washes the feet of twelve who represent the Twelve Apostles. *"What I have done so must you also do."* (John 13:15). Mass concludes with a Eucharistic Procession out of the church to the an altar of repose in our parish gymnasium. The removal of Jesus' Real Presence from the church symbolizes his removal from the presence of the Apostles when he was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane. The Blessed Sacrament will remain in the gymnasium (specially decorated like Gethsemane) until midnight.

## Good Friday

Why do we call it "Good Friday"? On this day the goodness of God is revealed like no other day, in contrast to the evil of men who violently crucified an innocent man. The goodness of God is revealed by the Son of God taking upon himself the sins of the world. For three hours he suffered on the cross for us. So for three hours we have the "Tre Ore" devotion in the church: brief reflections on the seven last words of Christ, Confessions, and an exquisite a cappella 4-part harmony choir. At 3pm the Liturgy of the Veneration of the Cross takes place, in which everyone present will have the chance to venerate the cross. The church is without any adornment, like a tomb. The church feels "dead" because on this day our Savior tasted death for all of us. It is a day of fasting and abstinence from meat, out of respect for His saving sacrifice.

## Holy Saturday

The Easter Vigil Mass is the Liturgy of Liturgies. It commemorates in glorious fashion the resurrection of our Savior. This is a 2-hour Mass unlike any other. It begins at 8:00pm outside the church with the lighting of the Easter Fire which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the World. All present are given candles which are lit as they enter the church, following the lit Easter Candle. Special chants are sung and an extended Liturgy of the Word recounts the highlights of salvation history. During the "Gloria" the church bells ring and all the candles in the sanctuary are lit to symbolize that glorious moment when Christ emerged victorious from the tomb. After the homily is given, a number of people will receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Communion). The music features trumpets and strings, for this is the night that all the world celebrates that we are made to live forever!

# Come to our next parish G.I.G. \*God Is Good\* !

**What:** Evening of Fun for all ages!  
Live Band!  
Magic Show for the kids!

**When:** Friday, April 10th (5pm - 9pm)

**Where:** St. Louis Church parking lot

**Who:** All parishioners and their friends

Great food and drinks!  
(Cost: free will offering)



**Event free  
of charge!**



**Fun starts at 5pm  
Bring your own  
seating**



*Divine Mercy Sunday ~ April 12th*

*Father O'Hare will bless and install an image of Divine Mercy donated from Poland during the 12:30pm Mass*

*Mass will conclude with Eucharistic adoration and the chanting of the Divine Mercy Chaplet*

"My Heart overflows with great mercy for souls, and especially for poor sinners. If only they could understand that I am the best of Fathers to them and that it is for them that the Blood and Water flowed from My Heart as from a fount overflowing with mercy. The greater the sinner, the greater the right he has to My mercy."

*(Jesus' words spoken in a mystical revelation to Saint Faustina Kowalska, as recorded in her diary)*

**Sunday Morning "Band of Brothers"**  
**Led by our Parish Priests**  
**7:30am - 8:30am in the Little Way Café**  
**Scripture, prayer, discussion, and coffee**  
 No registration required - just show up!  
 \* DOES NOT MEET TODAY OR EASTER SUNDAY \*

*No adoration in the Chapel during Holy Week*

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WWP Bible studies combine personal study with small group discussion, linking our everyday challenges to solutions given through Scripture. If you desire to grow in your faith—in a supportive community of Catholic women—join us!

*Tuesdays 9:30am to 11:30am  
 in St. Francis Room  
 Wednesday 7pm to 9pm  
 in The Little Way Café*

[www.walkingwithpurpose.com](http://www.walkingwithpurpose.com)

**Dr. Jennifer Bryson**  
*A Treasure Chest of Wisdom:  
 Ida Görres on the Saints and Sanctity*

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Thursday, April 23, 2026  
 6-8 PM

Presentation with Q&A 6:45 - 7:15 PM

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## FELLOWSHIP

### Mothers' Group

- The St. Louis Mothers' Group meets every Wednesday from 10:15am to noon - feel free to drop-in for any length of time. All mothers are invited and all children are welcome! We host discussions, social time, meetups for field trips and park days, as well as brunch gatherings and events around the liturgical calendar.

**THIS WEEK** - This Wednesday, April 1st, we will meet at the YAR at 10:15am for a Children's Stations of the Cross. We will also be hosting our Spring Clothing Swap after Stations! Please bring any kids' clothing you are ready to pass on, a bag to shop with, and be prepared to take any of your unclaimed clothes with you at the end.

**CONTACT:** For more information or to join our email list or Facebook page, please contact Theresa Talavera at (571)331-8441 or [tatalavera@yahoo.com](mailto:tatalavera@yahoo.com)



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Fr. O'Hare  
and Fr. Thompson  
Sundays 10 - 10:45am  
\* Will resume April 12th \*

### Have an Upcoming Wedding Anniversary?

Please let us know! If it is a significant anniversary (ending in a “5” or a “0”) we would especially like to honor you. Please contact the parish office.

### Good Friday Pro-Life “Way of the Cross”

On Good Friday join Deacon Jim of Good Shepherd and fellow parishioners in a special **Stations of the Cross** as we remember all the victims of abortion—the children lost, the mothers wounded, the communities blighted—in a solemn, ecumenical prayer service: Friday, April 3 at Noon; Alexandria Women's Health Clinic, 2616 Sherwood Hall Lane. (park at Sherwood Hall Library)



# BASH

SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026

**ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE INVITED!**



**AN EXCITING DAY FOR MORE THAN A THOUSAND MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS TO GATHER WITH BISHOP BURBIDGE TO CELEBRATE THEIR CATHOLIC FAITH!**

Vigil Mass with Bishop Burbidge

Message from Rachel Leininger

Illusionist Giancarlo Bernini Inflatable Games

Pizza Ice Cream Fun with Friends!



## SLICES & STATIONS

*with the St. Clare & St. Francis Club*

*St. Louis School Cafeteria*

*6:30p - 8:00p*

March 30, 2026  
Pizza 6:30p  
Stations of the Cross &  
Small Group Faith  
Formation

7p - 8p

All high school teens are invited to join us each week for pizza, fun, and small group faith formation



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## LET US PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

### Monday, March 30

7:00am, Poor Clares, +John & Ruth Manning  
8:45am, +Rosemary C. Naegele

### Tuesday, March 31

7:00am, Poor Clares, Intentions of Dolores Spencer  
8:45am, +Oleh Pushkar

### Wednesday, April 1

7:00am, Poor Clares, +D.J.L. Padmawansa  
8:45am, +Sandi Bukoski

### Thursday, April 2 (Holy Thursday)

7:30pm, Mass of the Last Supper  
8:30pm, Eucharistic Procession to the Gym

### Friday, April 3 (Good Friday)

3:00pm, Liturgy of the Veneration of the Cross  
7:30pm, Veneration of the Cross (Spanish)

### Saturday, April 4 (Holy Saturday)

12:00pm, Blessing of Easter Food  
8:30pm, Easter Vigil Mass

### Sunday, April 5 (Easter Sunday)

7:00am, Poor Clares, +Dr. Michael Kasongo  
7:30am, +Gioakim  
8:45am, +John Manning  
10:30am, *Pro Populo*  
12:30pm, +Cesar Leynes II, Jr.  
3:00pm, +Elsa & Saul Abdelnur

**NO MASS AT 5:15PM ON EASTER SUNDAY**

Eternal Rest  
Grant Unto  
Them,  
O Lord!

Thomas Wright  
Lita Clark



### Prayer for the Homebound

Lord, you have a special love for those who are weak, infirm, and dependent. Bless the homebound parishioners of our parish as they carry their daily crosses. May our prayers bring them strength and consolation, and the Sacraments sanctify and inspire them. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

This week we pray especially for the following homebound parishioners:

Paul Spring residents, Robert Pierpoint,  
Rose Pugh, and Ethel Moreland.

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