



## Church of The Ascension Monthly Insert

WWW.ASCENSIONVB.ORG

**APRIL 2018**



4.8.18

### **Upcoming Parish Events**

- April 9 Rainbows Forever Young Business Meeting and BINGO at 11:00am  
April 10 Religious Formation Middle School at 7:00pm resumes  
April 11 Religious Formation grades K-5 at 4:30pm and 1-5 at 6:30pm resumes  
April 11 Knights of Columbus Social at 6:00pm and Business Meeting at 7:00pm  
April 14 Off Site Outreach event– **Rise Against Hunger** at Providence Elementary School 9am  
April 14 **Paint Night** at Catholic Charities at 7:00pm  
April 16 Biblical Walk Through the Mass at 7:00pm  
April 18 Biblical Walk Through the Mass at 10am  
April 19 K of C Fraternal Benefits Night at 7:00pm in the ACC  
April 19 LANDINGS, new session begins for returning Catholics at 7:00pm  
April 21 **Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers**: a wine & cheese social at 6:30pm, presentation on Mass Appeal at 7:15pm  
**April 21/22 Ascension Celebrates Spring! Craft Show, French Café and Spring Plant Sale**  
April 22 **Garden Pantry Day!** For Social Ministry's Food Pantry garden beginning at 1:00pm.

### **DIOCESAN & AREA NEWS**

**April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month.** There is no better time than the Easter season to celebrate the protection of our most valuable gift from God- our children. For information about the Diocese of Richmond child protection policies, programs and assistance for victim survivors please visit <http://www.richmonddiocese.org/safe-environment>

**The Office of Asian Ministry invites you to attend the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Asians for Mary Pilgrimage, Saturday, May 5, 2018.** Bus transportation is available for a small fee. Depart Pastoral Center in Richmond, 7:30am, \$25. Depart St. Gregory the Great in Virginia Beach, 7:00am, \$30. Register online <https://www.regonline.com/afmpilgrimage2018> or you can register by phone (804) 622-5262 or email [asianministry@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:asianministry@richmonddiocese.org). Seating is limited so register early. This beautiful cultural event is open to everyone. Please contact Pam Harris, Director, Office of Asian Ministry, for more information.

**Marriage Encounter Weekend**—Are we like Thomas and doubt the power of God in our marriage? Learn the tools to put God in your Sacrament of Marriage. The next **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** weekends are: Aug 3-5, 2018 in Chapel Hill, NC and Sep 21-23, 2018 in Herndon, VA. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: <https://renewmarriage-vasouth.org/> or contact us at [applications@renewmarriage-vasouth.org](mailto:applications@renewmarriage-vasouth.org) or 757-690-1369.

**St. Mary Catholic Parish in the Bowers Hill** area of Chesapeake celebrates their 7th Annual Polish Festival! Food, Beer, Vendors, Music and Fun! 536 Homestead Road in Bowers Hill, Chesapeake. **Friday, April 27** Dance Social 6pm - 9pm **Saturday, April 28** Polish Festival 9am - 5pm **Sunday, April 29** KofC Council 418 Fun Run 12pm [www.ChesapeakePolishFest.com](http://www.ChesapeakePolishFest.com)

# Welcome

## TO OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

We welcome these families to our faith community!

**Joseph Neary**

**Edward & Allison Myers**, daughters **Abbie, Maddie**  
and son **Freddie**

**Teresa Cardona**

To register in the parish, forms are located at the Information desk, Parish Office during the work week and 24/7 online at our website, [www.ascensionvb.org](http://www.ascensionvb.org)

## FAREWELL TO THOSE WE LOVE

For March:

**Ed Cannon**

**Peter Weathers**

*May they rest in peace*



### *Thank you*

*To Father Charles, Deacon Gary and Deacon Tom for the beautiful celebration of my late husband, Ed Cannon's life. Along with the beautiful music by Diane, sung by John Rooney and the choir. The ladies of the funeral ministry who put together the buffet reception was greatly appreciated.*

*I am so grateful to my Ascension family for all the cards, love, support and prayers. I know Ed enjoyed the celebration!*

*- Connie Cannon and family.*

*Was there a little slip-up on the Irish tune "Danny Boy"? - much appreciated!*

## RCIA Sacraments



We welcome into the Catholic Church for Baptism at Easter this year:

**Ava Jeffords**    **Liam Lara**    **Austin Traber**

Easter Adult Confirmation—Holy Spirit praise and prayers to **Alicia Bobulinski**

## Social Ministry News

### **Sunday, April 22 Garden Pantry Day 1:00pm**

*Do you like to: Get your hands dirty, Dig in the dirt, Pull weeds, Plant vegetables, Share your gardening advice (and stories).*

We need you to help us get the garden started for summer harvest! We will find a task for all ages so join us! Bring your shovels, trowels, watering cans and green thumbs. We can also use newspaper to mulch around the plants.

Once the plants get going we will need regular garden harvesters Monday-Fridays to bring the food to the Ascension Food Pantry. Contact Amy Petersen at [amypetersn@gmail.com](mailto:amypetersn@gmail.com)) or 757-406-6199 to sign up for harvesting.



## Community Life News— Pastoral Support Groups May 6

**GriefShare** For those who have lost a loved one and needing support. New session begins May 6 at 6:00pm. Contact Steve & Danna – 777-8924 or visit our website: [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org). There are 13 sessions in all, we do not meet on Mothers' Day, May 13<sup>th</sup> or Fathers' Day, June 17th.

**DivorceCare** Needing support after a divorce? New session begins May 6 at 6:00pm.— 13 Sessions in all, we do not meet on Mothers' Day, May 13<sup>th</sup> or Fathers' Day, June 17th. Contact Kathy—495-1886. 411 or visit our website at [www.divorcecare.org](http://www.divorcecare.org)



**Knight's Korner**  
**Saint Teresa of Calcutta Council 12117**  
**APRIL 2018**  
**CONGRATULATIONS**

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH (FEB 2018): David Geisler

FAMILY OF THE MONTH (FEB 2018): James and Barbara Byrd

**APRIL EVENTS**

**Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>** - Paint Night – Catholic Charities (building next to our church) – 7-9pm all are invited - \$25.00 hosted by Knights and Ladies Auxiliary – Contacts: [stephaniegruning@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniegruning@gmail.com)

**Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>** – **Open House and Fraternal Benefits Night** – “Stewardship and Financial Responsibility from a Catholic Perspective” – ACC 7-9pm - free to all parish and families - hosted by Knights of Columbus Saint Teresa Council 12117 – hors d’oeuvres offered, child care provided (RSVP Roy Blakeburn [blakeburn@cox.net](mailto:blakeburn@cox.net) ) nothing to be sold ...

**WHAT IS A KNIGHT?**

Most laymen envision a night as the event that occurs when the sun sets, the hours before the sun rises again. But, for a select few men, there is a calling of higher values of services to God, country, and their peers. These are men who are sworn to Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism – known to all as Knights of Columbus.

For the love of God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit, they are protectors of their own country’s liberties. Spending endless amounts of their own time serving and ensuring the needs of less fortunate people... protecting the unborn baby’s right to life by educating people to support life.

These men are Knights of Columbus who answer the church’s calling to serve, love, honor, and obey the Holy See.... supporting the church’s Catholic doctrine. Many have freely served their country in many uniforms our service men wear. Others, choose to serve their church and community in other, patriotic, ways.

Champions of the Catholic church’s clergy and lay leaders ... a dedicated body of men who will defend the Catholic way of life. This is why these men are forever called Knights of Columbus.

If you are that kind of a Catholic man, then, you too can answer God’s calling. Join us.

**CONTACT US** [www.kofc12117.org](http://www.kofc12117.org) ... or ... join online at [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus)

Like Us on our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/KofC12117>

Grand Knight, Ramon Villa

[gk12117vb@gmail.com](mailto:gk12117vb@gmail.com)

**Parishioner offering pilgrimage:**

**Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mexico**, December 9-14, 2018. The is cost \$1,995.00 (double occupancy) includes round trip airfare from Norfolk, first class hotel, daily breakfast and dinner, taxes, entrance fees, gratuities etc., For further information contact: Parishioner, Fely Navarro (757) 495-1375 or E-mail at: [fsn495113@g-mail.com](mailto:fsn495113@g-mail.com). **Deadline is June 15th.**

See poster and flyers at the Mary's corner bulletin board.



## Pastoral Plan - Values

In last month's new letter we introduced or re-introduced the fact that Ascension has a Pastoral Plan. We specifically highlighted the fact that this document was developed by many people and is a "living" document. The goal is to update this document periodically and have a rolling three year plan. This Pastoral Plan restates our Parish Mission, defines our Vision, lists Core Values of our Parish and our Strategic Vectors.

The Pastoral Plan can be found on Ascension's website at [www.ascensionvb.org](http://www.ascensionvb.org). Go to the **Pastoral Council** tab and then **click on Pastoral Plan**. This is a PDF file. If you do not have access to a computer and would like a copy please call the parish office and we would be happy to provide one.

This month we will highlight the Values section of the Pastoral Plan's Preamble.

### Values

Everything we do as a Parish extends from the Two Great Commandments as taught to us by Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and contains the whole law of God:

*Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, with thy whole soul, with thy whole mind, and with thy whole strength;  
Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.*

*This Divine law leads us to a set of core parish values:*

We are a people being saved through grace of the cross of Christ.

We believe that Jesus is real, alive, and wants to encounter each of us daily.

We respect life from conception to natural death.

We are a people of Peace and Justice.

We are family. Every parishioner brings value to our Parish family life.

We accomplish goals together.

We are committed to ministries founded in the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy.

We are all stewards of this Parish and this planet, committing our time, talent and treasure.

We believe that:

Growing in our faith is a life-long gift we must pursue with joy at every age.

We must recognize Change as a constant, unending gift of God and trust He will give us wisdom, grace and energy to adapt to that change.

We must regularly assess our mission, organization, programs and ministries to ensure they are aligned with our Parish Needs, Mission, and this Plan.

We must be fully accountable for every offering, donation, contribution, grant and minute of volunteer time that is given to our Parish

Please take time to review this document, ask questions of and make suggestions to pastoral council members, email [pastoralcouncil@ascensionvb.org](mailto:pastoralcouncil@ascensionvb.org) or talk with our pastor.