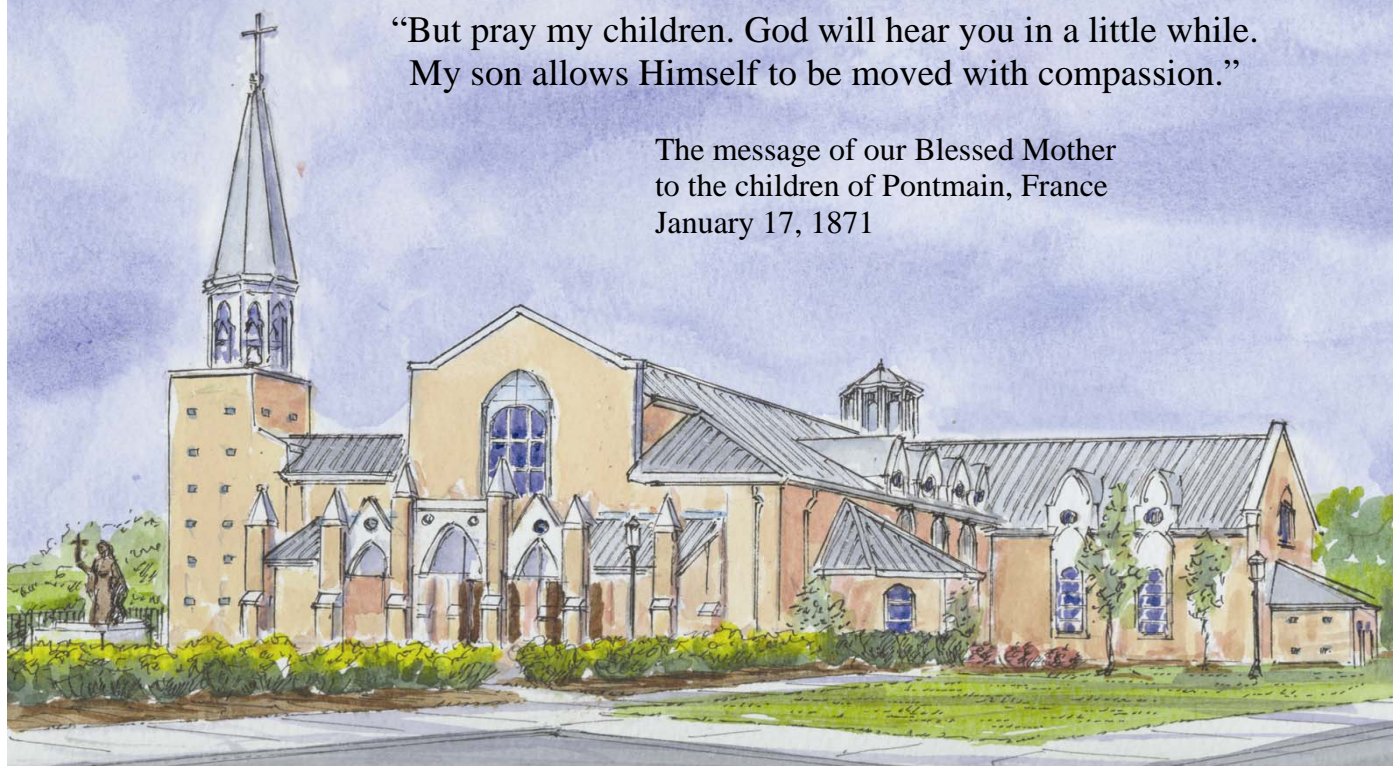


Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church

“But pray my children. God will hear you in a little while.
My son allows Himself to be moved with compassion.”

The message of our Blessed Mother
to the children of Pontmain, France
January 17, 1871



Parish Staff

The Rev. William P. Saunders, Pastor
The Rev. Joseph W. Farrell, Parochial Vicar

Cathy Barshop, Director of Religious Education
Jackie Regan, Religious Education Assistant

Michael Schierer, Youth Ministry Assistant

Pat Sabas, Business Manager

Alfonso Pena, Facilities Supervisor

Suzanne Yerks, Director of Music

Nancy Burgess, Parish Secretary

The Church & Parish Office

Address: 46639 Algonkian Parkway
Potomac Falls, Virginia 20165

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.,
Monday - Friday

Telephone: 703-433-6770

Website: www.ourladyofhope.net

Parish Registration

We invite you to register and become part of our parish community. Forms are available at the parish office or on the table in the narthex.

Sunday Mass Schedule

Saturday Evening Vigil: 5:00 p.m.

Sundays: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m., 12:15 p.m.

Daily Masses

Monday - Friday at 6:45 & 8:30 a.m.

Saturday: 8:30 a.m.

On Federal Holidays Mass is at 8:30 a.m. only.

Sacrament of Penance

Confessions are heard on Saturdays after the 8:30 a.m. Mass, during the Thursday evening Holy Hour, and by appointment.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Thursday from 9:00 a.m. until 8:30 p.m.

Holy Hour

Thursday evening from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.



Our Lady of Hope Catholic School A Blue Ribbon School!

Mary Beth Pittman, School Principal

Angela Matzke, Administrative Assistant

Address: 46633 Algonkian Parkway
Potomac Falls, Virginia 20165

Telephone: 703-433-6760

Website: www.ourladyofhopeschool.net

MASSSES OF THE WEEK**Sunday, December 20th: 4th Sunday of Advent**

7:30 a.m. Mrs. Anne Pede by the 2015 8th Grade Graduates
 9:00 a.m. ☩ Jeanette Rambo by Chris Wszolek
 10:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Parishioners
 12:15 p.m. The Whitehead Family by Connie & Bob Woods

Monday, December 21st: St. Peter Canisius

6:45 a.m. Mrs. Anya Harmon by the 2015 8th Grade Graduates

8:30 a.m. ☩ James Eichler by the Eichler Family

Tuesday, December 22nd

6:45 a.m. Ms. Chelie Billingsley by the 2015 8th Grade Graduates

8:30 a.m. Synclaire Shoemaker by the Barshop Family

Wednesday, December 23rd: St. John of Kanty

6:45 a.m. Miss Johanna Johnson by the 2015 8th Grade Graduates

8:30 a.m. ☩ Steven R. Tatusko by Margaret Tatusko

Thursday, December 24th

8:30 a.m. ☩ Lois C. Howe by the Burgess Family

Thursday December 24th – Vigil of Christmas

5:00 p.m. ☩ Paul & Clara Dugan

7:30 p.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Farrell Family

Friday, December 25th The Nativity of the Lord

Midnight: Living & Deceased Parishioners

9:00 a.m. Chiara Stanislawski by Fr. Farrell

11:00 a.m. The Saunders Family

Saturday, December 26th: St. Stephen

8:30 a.m. ☩ Robert Lynwood by Barbara Principe

5:00 p.m. ☩ Joseph M. Oliveri by Mr. & Mrs. Peter Oliveri

Sunday, December 27th: The Holy Family

7:30 a.m. ☩ John Germain by Dorothy Germain

9:00 a.m. ☩ Robert Coyne by Marcella Coyne

10:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Parishioners

12:15 p.m. Sherrie Fuller by the 2015 8th Grade Graduates

**Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for December**

Universal: That all may experience the mercy of God, who never tires of forgiving.

Evangelization: That families, especially those who suffer, may

find in the birth of Jesus a sign of certain hope.

Sacrament of Baptism

Parish Registration and the Baptism class are required. Baptisms are held every Sunday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the Church Baptistry. Please contact the parish secretary to register for the Baptism classes. Plan to attend the classes before the birth of the child.

PARISH GROUP COORDINATORS

Altar Servers:	Jeff Grado	477-9177
Altar Society:	Alfonso & Janeth Pena	406-9835
American Heritage Girls:	Heather Ward	571-331-4394
Area Agency on Aging:	Rich Payne	887-9765
Birthright:	Marsha Slick	433-0034
Boy Scouts:	Al Pacifico	727-7773
Cub Scouts:	Michael McIntosh	444-2316
Culture of Life	Fran Black	726-1643
CYO Sports:	Raynelle Araque	404-3442
Girl Scouts:	Tricia Kershaw	450-0685
Homeschoolers:	Stacy Byrne	948-7845
Jr. High Youth:	Stacy Byrne	948-7845
Knights of Columbus:	Bob Carmack	240-505-4600
Ladies of Hope:	Marie Kennedy	433-0864
Lectors:	Paul Gilmore	444-2293
Legion of Mary:	Deborah Baird	430-8554
Mom's Group	Christina Bongiovanni Caron	917-301-3287
Parish Service Partnership:	Tess Torres	571-278-5736
Seniors:	Mary Ann Murphy	404-8677
Ushers:	John Grzechowiak	444-0023
Young Adults:	Josh Bickl	

What does it mean to be an active Catholic?

Frequently, those seeking to celebrate Marriage, have children baptized, or serve as sponsors for Confirmation or Baptism request a letter stating that they are parishioners and active, practicing Catholics. *To receive such a letter, one must be registered in the parish for at least 3 months, attend Mass regularly, and be committed to a stewardship of time, talent, and treasure.* We encourage all parishioners to become active in one of the parish organizations. In a community as large as Our Lady of Hope, one means of verifying participation is through the use of parish offertory envelopes. If you choose not to participate in the support of the parish, or are unable to contribute at this time, please at least note your prayerful support on your envelope and place it in the weekly offertory. We will then be aware of your continued participation, and you will not be noted as "inactive" on our parish roster.

Sacrament of Matrimony

In accordance with the regulations of the Bishop of Arlington, couples must contact a priest and begin preparation at least six months prior to the wedding. Parish registration and active participation for a minimum of 3 months is required *before* preparation may begin. Living together before marriage is sinful and harmful to the future marriage. Couples who are living together will be asked to live separately during the preparation time.



Parish Christmas Schedule

December 24th Christmas Eve

Masses

**5:00 (Children's
Choir) and
7:30 p.m.**

December 25th Christmas Mass at Midnight (Adult Choir)

**Christmas
Morning Masses
(Adult Choir)
9:00 & 11:00 a.m.**

December 24th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st

Morning Mass will be celebrated at 8:30 a.m. only

December 31st:

Mary, Mother of God

Vigil Mass

5:00 p.m.

**(Adoration, Holy Hour, & Confessions are
Cancelled)**

January 1st

Masses at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Bishop Loverde's Letter on the Jubilee of Mercy

In the Year of Mercy, join Bishop Loverde in embracing "the inner joy that comes from receiving mercy." He invites you to read his letter on the Jubilee, now available at: www.arlingtondiocese.org/jubilee.



Parish Office Christmas Schedule

The Parish Office will be closed December 24th-25th, and January 1st. It will be open regular hours December 28th-31st. Please plan accordingly.

Traveling and looking for a Mass?

If you are out of town, visit www.masstimes.org for a list of local Catholic Churches and their Mass times.



Dear Parishioners,

On that first Christmas, the angels praised God, saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to men of good will."

The shepherds came and adored the newborn Savior.



We must not only celebrate but also treasure the gift of Christmas in our hearts. And that gift is simply Jesus, true God Who became true man, who came to reveal perfectly God's truth and love to us, Who died and rose for our salvation, and Who founded a Church-a family-where His presence continues in both Word and Sacrament. Treasure and reflect on the gift of Jesus and the faith you share in Him as a member of the Catholic Church.

To truly treasure this gift, we must strive to conform our wills to the will of God, as did our Blessed Mother Mary and as we pray in the "Our Father." Only when our intellect and will is united to our Lord will we find peace in our lives, our homes, and in our world. As the old song goes, "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with ME." For this union to happen, open your life to the grace of God by making time each day for prayer, by reading Sacred Scripture and the teachings of our Church, by having a stronger devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and the Holy Mass, by regularly making a self-examination of conscience and going to Confession, and doing those good works for those entrusted to our care and for those in need.

Lastly as your pastor, I treasure the gift of you, and the dedication, sacrifices, and hard work you have shown to make this parish a beacon of Christ's love. In particular, I thank those who serve in the various ministries and organizations. On behalf of Father Farrell, and all of the Staff at Our Lady of Hope, I wish each of you a blessed and joyous Christmas and New Year! Please be assured of my prayers for your intentions and a remembrance at Holy Mass. May the peace, joy, and love of the Holy Family be present in your lives each day of the New Year.

May God bless you,

Rev. William P. Saunders

Rev. William P. Saunders, Pastor

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

703-433-6564

*The Religious Education Office is Closed on Fridays***Merry Christmas!**Classes Resume:**January 5th & 6th****Giving via Faith Direct**

In this Advent Season, a time of both joyful anticipation and penitential preparation, we should consider how we are prioritizing our time and treasure. Now is a great time to consider enrolling in the *Faith Direct* eGiving program. It will not only save you and our parish staff time during these busy months, but will help you ensure your support of our parish is there even when you can't be. You can sign up online at www.faithdirect.net using our church code: **VA79**, or by mailing a paper enrollment form available from the parish office.

**Looking for that perfect gift?**

What about tickets to the FESTA ITALIANA? Join us on Saturday evening, February 13th, 2016. Our third annual Festa promises, once again, to be a spectacular event with the food, atmosphere, music, and casino, transporting you to a place reminiscent of the Old Country. Tickets are now available to order on-line. Visit the parish website at: www.ourladyofhope.net for details and to place your order for a table, individual tickets, or anything in-between. The price of \$20 per person, \$160 for an 8 person table, will hold again for this year. *Please note that the Festa caters to a more adult gathering.*

Registration now open for Christendom College High School Summer Program

Students who will be entering their senior year of high school in the fall of 2016 are welcome to register for the Summer 2016 programs. Summer 2016 will mark the 18th year of this wildly popular program, which boasts over 1,900 alumni since 1999. Each year, hundreds of high school students spend a week on campus and describe the week as one of the best of their lives...This is the most popular, well-attended, and highly ranked pre-college summer program of its kind. It's just that good! Visit <http://www.christendom.edu/admissions/ecsp.php> for information and to register!

Register Now! – Catholic Charities Ball

The 34th Annual Catholic Charities Ball will be held Friday, February 5, 2016 at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, in Tysons Corner. If you have questions, please contact us at ccball2016@gmail.com.

YOUTH MINISTRY

703-433-6770

Youth@ourladyofhope.net**Like us on Facebook – “OLOH Youth Group”****Upcoming Youth Group Events**

Each Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., the youth group meets in the school gym for a half-hour of fun and fellowship followed by a topical presentation and discussion. Then, from 9-10 p.m., open gym is available for anyone wishing to stay.

Upcoming Meetings:

December 22nd: – Preached Christmas Holy Hour by Fr. Saunders with Confessions

Youth Service Opportunities*

Mother Teresa Mondays* - (meet at the school at 5:45 p.m. – 8th Graders are welcome to join the High School Youth Group for these events)

December 21st – School Gym**January 4th** - Falcon's Landing**Junior High Youth**7th & 8th Graders

For more information:

<http://ourladyofhope.net/junior-youth-ministry>jrhig@ourladyofhope.net**Knights of Columbus****Blood Drive –December 20th**

The Knights are sponsoring a blood drive this Sunday, December 20th in the St. Thomas More Room from 8 a.m.–1 p.m. During this Advent, please consider giving someone a gift of seeing another day, of being surrounded by family and friends, and of life. Please donate blood for someone you know or for a thankful friend you haven't yet met.

Please Pray For...

The list of the sick and homebound of our parish can be found on our website, www.ourladyofhope.net. Please use the “Parish Life” link to get to the list. To add a name, please use the online form or call the parish office.

**Call to Vocations**

“It is by God's will that we have been sanctified.” How is God calling you to grow in holiness? If He may be inviting you to the priesthood, diaconate, or consecrated life, contact

Father J.D. Jaffe at 703-841-2514 or j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org, or call Father Saunders or Father Farrell.

This Week at a Glance**Sunday, December 20th: 4th Sunday of Advent**

8:00 a.m. Blood Drive – St. Thomas More Room
 4:00 p.m. GS Troop 917 – St. Thomas More Room

Monday, December 21st:

6:45/8:30 a.m. Holy Mass
 6:00 p.m. Mother Teresa Monday – School Gym
 7:00 p.m. Legion of Mary – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Room
 7:30 p.m. Young Adults – St. Thomas More Room

Tuesday, December 22nd:

6:45/8:30 a.m. Holy Mass
 7:00 p.m. 9 a.m. Mass Choir Rehearsal – Music Room
 7:30 p.m. High School Youth Ministry – School Gym

Wednesday, December 23rd:

6:45/8:30 a.m. Holy Mass
 7:30 p.m. 10:30 a.m. Mass Choir Rehearsal – St. Thomas More Room

Thursday, December 24th:

8:30 a.m. Holy Mass
 5:00/7:30 p.m. Holy Mass – Vigil of Christmas

Friday, December 25th: The Nativity of the Lord

12:00 Midnight Holy Mass
 9:00/11:00 a.m. Holy Mass

Saturday, December 26th

8:30 a.m. Holy Mass
 9:00 a.m. Confessions

Last Minute Shopping in the Gift Shop

It's not too late to find that perfect Christmas Gift! The gift shop is offering our Annual Parish Ornament of the The Annunciation, Mystic Monk Coffee, and many beautiful items for gift-giving. You can shop after the weekend Masses.

**Give a Gift for Life**

Please give a *Gift for Life* this season to help Gabriel Project fund a mother's maternity care. One grateful mother wrote: "I knew that I was not alone, that there are good people who help others. Gabriel Project made me know that a child is not a burden but a blessing from God." For more information and/or to

donate: www.arlingtondiocese.org/giftforlife.

Prime-Time Single Catholics

PTSC is a club organized to serve the needs of single Catholics, age 40 and over, who are free to marry by Catholic standards. Share in Christian fellowship through our religious, social, and recreational activities. For information see our webpage at www.blessedsacramentcc.org/church/parish-community/prime-time-single-adults, or contact John McBride at jfmcbride_526@hotmail.com or 703-820-9196.

Next Week at a Glance**Sunday, December 27th: 4th Sunday of Advent**

No events scheduled.

Monday, December 28th:

8:30 a.m. Holy Mass
 7:00 p.m. Legion of Mary – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Room
 7:30 p.m. Young Adults – St. Thomas More Room

Tuesday, December 29th:

8:30 a.m. Holy Mass
 7:00 p.m. 9 a.m. Mass Choir Rehearsal – Music Room
 7:30 p.m. High School Youth Ministry – School Gym

Wednesday, December 30th:

8:30 a.m. Holy Mass
 7:30 p.m. 10:30 a.m. Mass Choir Rehearsal – St. Thomas More Room

Thursday, December 31st:

8:30 a.m. Holy Mass
 5:00 p.m. Holy Mass – Vigil Mass

Friday, January 1st: Mary, Mother of God

9:00/11:00 a.m. Holy Mass

Saturday, January 2nd:

8:30 a.m. Holy Mass
 9:00 a.m. Confessions

Attention Young Adults!

Young adults in their 20s and 30s are invited to join the Fiat Young Adults for great fellowship and fun at our monthly events. For more information, contact Matthew at FiatYoungAdults@gmail.com. All young adults are welcome to join our Monday Night Bible Study at 7:30 p.m. in the St. Thomas More Meeting Room!

You CAN find Employment

Christians are Networking (CAN), a ministry of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington, assists people who are unemployed or under-employed. This is also a tremendous resource for recent college graduates who are new to the job market. CAN provides free career counseling, skills in navigating today's job market, resume reviews, practice job interviews, and networking opportunities. CAN is offered at the following: St. Theresa Catholic Church, Ashburn; St. Philip Catholic Church, Falls Church; St. Martin de Porres Senior Center, Alexandria; and Epiphany Middle School, Culpeper. For details, please visit our website: www.cdda.net/programs_jobs.php.

New 2 Minute Video Series Helps Build Virtue

Tune in to 2minutes2virtue: the weekly challenge. Fr. Ed Hathaway hosts the December series of 2 minute videos created to help Catholics on the go to get the most out of Sunday readings. Sign-up at www.arlingtondiocese.org/2minutes2virtue. For more information, contact the Office for Family Life at 703-841-2550.



December 25, 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

Each year, as you and I kneel before the Nativity scene, we see an infant, often depicted with his tiny arms outstretched towards us. That moving gesture communicates a twofold meaning: Jesus desires to be held by us and to hold us as well in love! Recently, Pope Francis wrote: "Love, after all, can never be just an abstraction. By its very nature, it indicates something concrete: intentions, attitudes, and behaviors that are shown in daily living" (cf. *Misericordiae Vultus*, n. 9). Our Holy Father was speaking about love in the context of God's mercy. As you know, he is urging us to reflect on God's mercy in a very intentional way from December 8 of this year to November 20, 2016: an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, as he calls it. "...mercy is a key word that indicates God's action towards us. He does not limit himself merely to affirming his love, but makes it visible and tangible...." (cf. *Ibid.*).

So, this year, as you and I kneel before the Nativity scene and fix our eyes on the Infant Jesus, surrounded by Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds, we see in Him a very tangible and concrete sign of God's love, His mercy revealed clearly and unmistakably. The Infant Jesus is reaching out to each one of us: "Because you are loved by God Our Father, I have come to be among you and to save you by my future dying and rising. See how much I love you: My tiny arms stretched out towards you now and later on, stretched and nailed to the Cross." Since the only response to love is love, let us reaffirm our love to the Infant Savior, to be shown by imitating Him in our daily living and by reaching out in love and mercy to those we encounter, beginning with our family.

Yes, we live in a world that is troubled, anxious and uncertain. The Infant Savior lying in the manger draws us beyond every difficulty to Himself, because only in Him and because of His mercy, will we experience hope that endures even unto life eternal. Let us respond to His love with open hearts and outstretched arms.

Please be assured that you and all those you hold dear will be remembered in the Holy Masses which I shall offer on Christmas and throughout the Christmas Season. You will all be likewise brought to the Lord in daily prayer throughout the approaching New Year. Please pray for me, that I might bring the concrete love of the Infant Jesus to all those who are in my pastoral care.

Faithfully in the Heart of Christ,

+ *Paul S. Loverde*

Most Reverend Paul S. Loverde
Bishop of Arlington