

PARISH NEWS

NEW PARISHIONERS:

Cecilia Brooks, Christine Gallagher & Robert Wyllie, Brian & Robyn Jackson, Andres & Erika Pedroso, Nick & Natasha Lawler, Timothy & Virginia Michel, Dinah Pehrson-Day, Tina Grof Hardison, Chuck McCurdy, Robert Maley, Christopher & Kristen-Paige Gordon, David Manka, Elisa Cooper, Todd Smith, and Matt & Laurel Eberl.

BAPTISMS:

JULY 7, 2013: VIVIAN ROSE VANYO.
AUGUST 2, 2013: AVERY JEANNE TANKERSLEY
AUGUST 2, 2013: CASSIDY ROSE FERRIS
SEPTEMBER 1, 2013: DOAN NGOC NGUYEN
SEPTEMBER 7, 2013: JACQUELINE ELIZABETH ORTON

WEDDINGS:

AUGUST 2, 2013: EMILY STUBE & GREG ST. JACQUES
AUGUST 17, 2013: ANGELA HILLIS & MIKE HOLIAN
AUGUST 17, 2013: LILY GAYLOR MOORE-COLL & JOHN COSTA MONAHAN

UPCOMING WEDDINGS:

SEPTEMBER 29, 2013: HEATHER JORDAN-TYLER TEASS

ANNIVERSARIES:

JULY 31, 1996: PATRICK & KELLY LANGAN
AUGUST 4, 2001: ALIX & DAVID PAGET-BROWN
AUGUST 13, 2011: ROBERT & EMILY COX
AUGUST 13, 1977: DENNIS & JILL DOUGHERTY
SEPTEMBER 4, 1971: DOMINIQUE & LEE FAUST
SEPTEMBER 23, 2000: ERMINIA & FRANCIS OLIMPIO

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

- SEPTEMBER** 21 - St. Matthew
22 - St. Thomas of Villanova
23 - St. Pius of Pietrelcina
24 - St. Pacifico of San Severino
25 - St. Finbar
26 - Sts. Cosmas and Damian
27 - St. Vincent de Paul
28 - St. Wenceslaus
29 - Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, September 22

8:30 AM - Merle Painley (Ray Painley)

Sunday, September 29

8:30 AM - Gregory J. Pease (Petroni-Conaway Family)



Offertory 9/14 & 15: \$4,258
Justice & Peace: \$60
Christian Formation: \$61
Reverse Collection: \$513

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (9/21)

8 AM - MASS
3:30 - 4:30 PM - Reconciliation
5 PM - Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (9/22)

7 - 7:45 AM: Reconciliation
8:30 AM - MASS
9:45 - 10:45 AM: Christian Formation Classes
11 AM - MASS

MONDAY (9/23)

NOON - MASS

TUESDAY (9/24)

10 AM - NOON: Food Pantry
NOON - MASS

WEDNESDAY (9/25)

10 AM - NOON: Food Pantry
NOON - MASS
NOON - AA Meeting
7 PM - Choir Practice
7 PM - Medjugorje Rosary Prayer Group

THURSDAY (9/26)

8 AM - MASS
NOON - 1 PM: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (9/27)

8 AM - Monthly Mass for Deceased Members of the Parish
10 AM - NOON: Food Pantry
NOON - AA Meeting

SATURDAY (9/28)

8 AM - MASS
3:30 - 4:30 PM - Reconciliation
5 PM - Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (9/29)

7 - 7:45 AM: Reconciliation
8:30 AM - MASS
11 AM - MASS

PREVIEW OF NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Amos denounces the selfish attitude of those who surround themselves with luxuries with no concern for others. He goes on to warn that because these people lacked interest in the state of their society, they would be the first to be exiled.

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Paul tells Timothy to seek integrity, faith and love. Paul urges him to attain everlasting life by maintaining strong faith in Jesus and in God until Jesus returns.

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Jesus tells of a rich man who feasted daily, while a beggar named Lazarus went hungry outside his gates. When both men died, Lazarus was taken to Abraham, but the rich man was in torment. When he begged for mercy, Abraham reminded him that Lazarus had lived in torment, while the rich man lived in selfish luxury. The man then asked if Lazarus could be sent to his brothers to warn them. But Abraham said if they had not heeded Moses or the prophets, they would ignore even the warning of one risen from the dead.

~~~~~  
**OUR PRAYER LIST HAS STARTED ANEW. CONTACT THE  
PARISH OFFICE TO ADD NAMES BACK ON THE LIST.**  
~~~~~

NEWS FROM HAITI

Anne Knasel (STA): anne@stagebridge.net
Ginny Zeller (HC): ginnyanzeller@gmail.com
www.saltadere.org

SEA CONTAINER: Thank you for your generous donations already received. *We are still accepting medications and clinic supplies.*

HELP NEEDED: The committee is seeking the following skills: marketing, graphic and web design, for assistance with articulating our mission. Also help is needed with electrical and plumbing skills in Saltadere when committee member Bob Fromm visits our Haiti twin in October.

MEDICAL HELP NEEDED: The committee is seeking doctors, nurses and others for a medical sub-committee which could help to coordinate our health care efforts in Saltadere. Contact August Sanusi at asanusi7@gmail.com.

BI-PARISH HAITI COMMITTEE: The committee meets today, September 22, at St. Thomas Aquinas at 1 PM in the community room. All are welcome. To learn about the Bi-parish committee, you can e-mail Anne Knasel or Ginny Zeller. You may also visit the website.

JUSTICE & PEACE

PANTRY: While it may be light-hearted to talk about schools of tuna swimming up Jefferson Street, there is nothing light-hearted about poverty. There are quite a few families in this area where the bread-winner is unemployed or under-employed. If we don't help them, who will?

IMPACT: The entire parish is encouraged to attend this year's listening session next Sunday. We meet downstairs on Sunday, September 29, between Masses from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. Members of the parish IMPACT team will report, briefly, on progress made to date on last year's issues--youth unemployment, coordinating services for the homeless--and orchestrate discussion of community problems that annoy or concern each of you. We do the latter as the first step in identifying a new or continuing community problem for study and advocacy in 2014. Please come even if it's just to learn what IMPACT is and what it does in our community.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS

Winifred Smith, Frank Pologruto, Al Bracuti, Norman Bednarczyk, Nicholas Sisman, Pat Rahilly, and Mary Ann Williams.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

Josephine Nampijja, Gloria Aberg, Grace Dawn Wicke, Melyssa Dove, Nancy Neitz, Nicole Carpenter, Beth Mau, Evan Dotas Dave Halley, Santa Annuziati, and Cullen McQuhae.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY

Brian Fagan, Jamie Torbet, Mike Eiermann, David Alvey, Charles G. Ellison, Eric Emmott, and Matthew Mickiewicz.

VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED

The parish office is *always* looking for volunteers who are willing to help with the various tasks that need to be completed to keep church business running smoothly. There are phones to answer, people to greet, etc. Bring your laptop or library book to keep you busy for those slow times. Any help you could give us would be so appreciated. For more info or to give it a try, call Gloria at 295-7185 or email her at office@holycomforterparish.org.

Volunteers are such a precious resource!!

ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

HELP WANTED: Person wanted for light maintenance/custodial work. Flexible hours (10-15 hours per week) Excellent working environment. Capable of lifting 30 lbs. Must be able to pass background check. For more information please contact Izzy Menchero, Business Manager Church of the Incarnation 1465 Incarnation Drive, Charlottesville, VA. (434) 973-4381.

PAX CHRISTI: A new chapter of Pax Christi is starting in Charlottesville! Pax Christi is a Catholic organization dedicated to the spirituality of nonviolence and peacemaking, disarmament, demilitarization and reconciliation, economic and interracial justice, human rights and global restoration. All are welcome to join us for our upcoming meeting on Sunday 9/29 at 2:30 pm in the Jefferson Room of the Central Library (201 E. Market Street). Please contact Anne at paxchristicharlotteville@gmail.com or annedeane59@gmail.com for more information.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE (SEPTEMBER 25 – NOVEMBER 3): Join in prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. Stand peacefully and unite in prayer with Christians from the greater Charlottesville area during the 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood, 2964 Hydraulic Road. More information and a sign up is available at <http://40daysforlife.com/charlottesville.html>.

MEDJUGORJE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP: Join us every Wednesday evenings at 7PM in the Chapel. In our Blessed Mother's message of Sept. 2, 2013 she tells us "*Dear children, I love you all. All of you, all of my children, all of you are in my heart. All of you have my motherly love, and I desire to lead all of you to come to know God's joy. This is why I am calling you.*" For those who cannot join us, please write your intentions in the notebook in the commons area and we will include you in our prayers. For further information or questions, contact Barbara Cassidy at 202-1540

PRAISE THE NAME OF GOD

Christ Jesus

PRAISE THE NAME OF GOD



FROM THE PASTOR

CELEBRATING THE CHURCH'S LITURGY IN SIGNS AND SYMBOLS

CONTINUED

THE USE AND SYMBOLISM OF INCENSE:

The use of incense in religious worship predates Christianity by thousands of years. First in the East and later in the West, incense use has long been an integral part of many religious celebrations. The Bible mentions incense 170 times. The use of incense in Jewish temple worship continued well after the establishment of Christianity and certainly influenced the Catholic Church's use of incense in liturgical celebrations. The use of incense within the liturgies continued to be developed over many years into what we are familiar with today.

What does the Bible say about the use of incense? In the Old Testament God commanded His people to burn incense; "**Aaron must burn fragrant incense on the altar every morning when he tends the lamps**" (Ex. 30:7), and "**Moses placed the gold altar in the tent of meeting in front of the curtain and burned fragrant incense on it, as the LORD commanded him**" (Ex. 40:26-27). Also "**and in every place incense will be offered to my name, and a pure offering. For my name will be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts**" (Malach. 1:11). St. John tells us in the Book of Revelations: "**Another angel with a golden censer came and stood at the altar; he was given a great quantity of incense to offer with the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar that is before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel.**" (8:4)

Its meaning and use in the liturgy: Incense is a sacramental, used to venerate, bless, and sanctify. Its smoke conveys a sense of mystery and awe. It is a reminder of the sweet-smelling presence of our Lord. Its use adds a feeling of solemnity to the Mass. The visual imagery of the smoke and the smell reinforce the transcendence of the Mass linking Heaven with Earth, allowing us to enter into the presence of God. The smoke symbolizes the burning zeal of faith that should consume all Christians, while the fragrance symbolizes Christian virtue. Incensing may also be viewed in the context of a "burnt offering" given to God. In the Old Testament animal offerings were partially or wholly consumed by fire. In essence, to burn something was to give it to God. In his monograph *Sacred Signs*, Monsignor Romano Guardini (1885-1968), who greatly influenced the writings of Pope Benedict XVI, had these beautiful words to say about the use of incense: **The offering of an incense is a generous and beautiful rite. The bright grains of incense are laid upon the red-hot charcoal, the censer is swung, and the fragrant smoke rises in clouds. In the rhythm and the sweetness there is a musical quality.** In a more practical visual sense as the fragrant smoke ascends it also symbolizes our prayers rising to heaven. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM) has this to say about the use of incense: § 75. "**The bread and wine are placed on the altar by the priest to the accompaniment of the**

prescribed formulas. The priest may incense the gifts placed upon the altar and then incense the cross and the altar itself, so as to signify the Church's offering and prayer rising like incense in the sight of God. Next, the priest, because of his sacred ministry, and the people, by reason of their baptismal dignity, may be incensed by the deacon or another minister". The GIRM provides instruction for the use of incense during the celebration of the Mass as follows: § 277 **The priest, having put incense into the thurible, blesses it with the sign of the Cross, without saying anything. Before and after an incensation, a profound bow is made to the person or object that is incensed, except for the incensation of the altar and the offerings for the Sacrifice of the Mass. Incense may be used optionally in any form of Mass: a) during the Entrance Procession; b) at the beginning of Mass, to incense the cross and the altar; c) at the procession before the Gospel and the proclamation of the Gospel itself; d) after the bread and the chalice have been placed on the altar, to incense the offerings, the cross, and the altar, as well as the Priest and the people; e) at the elevation of the host and the chalice after the Consecration.**

Incense used at the Divine Services represents: a. Adoration or the worship paid to God alone, present in the Eucharist. b. Prayer, which rises to God like smoke. c. Grace, which God pours into our souls as incense pours fragrance throughout the Church.

The Church incenses relics, icons and Holy things: a. To honor God who crowned the saints in heaven, who worked wonders through them here on earth, who sanctified and glorified their bodies. b. To show respect and devotion to the special friends and servants of the Almighty.

The Church incenses her ministers, her bishops and priests, in order to honor in their person Jesus Christ, whom they represent and with whose sacred character they are clothed. **The Church incenses the faithful** in order to honor in them the likeness to Christ which was imprinted upon them in Baptism to show them forth as the temples of the Holy Spirit. At the censuring of the parishioners make the sign of the cross upon their bodies in respect to this meaning. **The Church incenses the bodies of the departed** to honor the bodies which were sanctified and made holy by Baptism, and to beg God to receive the prayers and petitions we offer for the repose of the soul of the departed in the Faith.

Incense shows forth several things: Its burning represents zeal in the service of the Lord. Think of that as you see the sacred smoke rising in the Sanctuary. Recall that you are to give of your time and talent, your service and means to the worship of God. Are you going to let a mere material creature like incense outdo you in divine service? The incense is burnt for the glory of God. How about you? Its fragrance represents virtue, pleasing to God as it always is. How pleasing is your life and your service? The smoke reminds you to pray, if you are not praying. The fragrance of the smoke shows that our prayer and service are pleasing to God. Think of what all this means and it will be a source of grace and spiritual strength to you.

TO BE CONTINUED



Formation Notes

Dear Friends,

This weekend, the 24th Sunday of Ordinary time, we celebrate Catechetical Sunday to honor "those whom the community has designated to serve as catechists" in our parish. Bishop David L. Ricken, Chair of the Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis for the US Conference of Catholic Bishops writes that the theme for this year's Catechetical Sunday is "**Open the Door of Faith.**"

Bishop Ricken's committee has prepared a variety of materials to assist catechists in their understanding of this Year of Faith, and its somewhat downplayed recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council. Topics available on the USCCB site (<http://origin.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/catechesis/catechetical-sunday/index.cfm>) include Theological Reflection, notes for Clergy, Teaching Aids, Parent and Family resources, and more.

As noted on the USCCB site, "Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith."

We here at Holy Comforter are blessed with some extraordinary faith teachers: Carole Gajdosik, Tina Blumenfeld, Susan Neale, Janet Connally, Suzanne Bailey, Barbara Battiston, Robyn Jackson, and a host of high school teachers who bring their talents and knowledge to particular class sessions this fall (Theresa Lynch, Frank Ehlers, John Bugbee, Kimberly Emery, Laura Brown, Jim Neale, and Jesse Boeckermann, among many others). Matt Blumenfeld leads our Confirmation students. Diane Auger Smith runs our RCIA program. All our catechists enliven parish life in extraordinary ways.

As a special blessing this year, two of our recent confirmands, Lucy Emery and Emma Colavincenzo make very special contributions to our community with their work with our younger students.

We are still looking for substitute catechists, and co-catechists to support the wonderful women and men in this very important ministry. Let me know if you're interested! Beyond the service you would be contributing to the parish, you will find yourself in the midst of a very special community.

Many blessings,
Dawn

Upcoming Events

Children's Masses take place the 1st Sunday of every month at the 11 am Mass. The next Children's Mass is October 6th.

September 21st after the 5 pm Mass

Women & Spirit: Catholic Sisters in America

The "virtually untold story of women who exercised leadership at a time when few women enjoyed such possibilities. Theirs is a story of quiet courage during many dramatic moments in US history." The film is presented by the Leadership Conference of Women Religious. Adult refreshments will be served.

September 28th after the 5 pm Mass

Our ongoing **Saints Film Series** continues with ***God's Doorkeeper: St. André of Montreal.***

October 5th 1 pm

The Blessing of the Pets in front of the Church, in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. Bring your furry or feathered or even scaly friends to be blessed.

October 16th 6 pm

An **evening planning session** for children interested in participating in November's All Saints Pageant. Students pick the saint they'd like to portray, get tips on their chosen saint's iconography, and learn their saint's story. (Plus tips on costume ideas!)

Pizza will be served! Parents invited! RSVP to dawnaberg@gmail.com.

November 1st 6 pm

Holy Comforter Children will present an **All Saints Pageant** directly before that evening's 7 p.m. All Saints' Mass. Children process in the dress and iconography of their chosen Saint in a wonderful ceremony, blessed by Father Joseph Mary, just before the 7 pm All Saints Mass.

November 9th after the 5 pm Mass

Laura Brown, who with her husband Steve runs **Casa Alma**, the Charlottesville Catholic Worker community, will make a presentation about the community's current hospitality, peace and justice projects.

December 6 6 pm

St. Nicholas Night returns! Children meet in the Sanctuary for story-telling and songs about this beloved Saint, the *real* Santa Claus.

Last year was a wondrous time. We look forward to seeing you there again. (Parents are welcome, too!)