

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 26 - Sts. Timothy & Titus
 27 – St. Angela Merici
 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas
 29 – Servant of God Brother Juniper
 30 - St. Hyacintha of Mariscotti
 31 – St. John Bosco

FEBRUARY 1 – St. Ansgar
 2 – Presentation of the Lord

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday January 26
 5 PM – In Thanksgiving to God for the Faust family (Dominique & Lee Faust)

Sunday January 27
 8:30 AM – Charles & Elizabeth Ciaccio (Charlie Ciaccio)
 11 AM - Members of the Parish

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

SUNDAY (1/26) – THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

MONDAY (1/27)

NOON – MASS
 7 PM – Professional Women’s Prayer Group

TUESDAY (1/28)

10 AM – NOON: Food Pantry
 NOON – MASS

WEDNESDAY (1/29)

10 AM – NOON: Food Pantry
 NOON – MASS
 NOON - AA Meeting
 6:30 PM - Medjugorie Rosary Prayer Group
 7 PM - Choir Practice

THURSDAY (1/30)

8 AM - MASS
 NOON - 1 PM: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (1/31)

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

SATURDAY (2/1)

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

SUNDAY (2/2) – PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

7 - 7:45 AM: Reconciliation
 8:30 AM - MASS
 9:45 - 10:45 AM: Christian Formation Classes
 11 AM – Children’s MASS



Offertory 1/18 & 1/19: \$5,181
 Justice & Peace: \$200
 Catholic Virginian: \$50
 Respect Life: \$1,333

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR _____

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

FRIENDS AND RELATIVES: Josephine Nampijja, Gloria Aberg, Grace Dawn Wicke, Melyssa Dove, Nicole Carpenter, Beth Mauk, Evan Dotas, Dave Halley, Cullen McQuhae, Bill & Marie Jones, Ray & Cecilia Caretti, Jessica Caretti, Christine Bentéjac, David Rumpf, Mrs. Jessica Viglietta, Pam D. Goines, Janet D. Gunther, Charlie Joseph Previtali, Nicole Shaw, Jean Clayton, Rich Hawkins, Jim Cannon, and Grace R. Salvetti.

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

NEWS FROM HAITI

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

PLEASE HELP OUR TWIN PARISH: As 2014 begins, we plan to support a screening clinic for Saltadere run by a Haitian doctor and a medical student who are from Saltadere. We know that health care is very necessary for the Haitian people and is most sustainable when Haitians themselves deliver care. Next, we want to support an improved dispensary building for the parish and village. Thank you for your help.

UPCOMING TRIPS: Bob Fromm will again visit Saltadere in March. At this time four UVA students will travel with him as representatives of St. Thomas Aquinas to our twin parish. Also in March, Dr. Larry Hofmann will visit Saltadere and nearby Thomassique, Haiti with the Medical Missionaries.

BI-PARISH HAITI COMMITTEE: The committee’s next meeting is February 9th at St. Thomas Aquinas at 1 PM. *All are welcome.* To learn about the Bi-parish committee, you can e-mail Anne Knasel or Ginny Zeller. Contact us to join our email update list.

**PREVIEW OF NEXT WEEK’S READINGS
 THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

The prophet Malachi speaks to us about God sending a messenger “to prepare the way” and that God will suddenly come and appear at the temple. Malachi continues by telling us the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to God.

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18

Jesus became like us. He shared fully in our humanity. By his death he freed us from the fear of death. Because Jesus was tested by suffering, he is able to help those who are also tempted.

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

According to the law of Moses, Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the temple to be consecrated. They offered a sacrifice according to the law, “a pair of turtle doves or two young pigeons.” Simeon, a holy and righteous man, took the child into his arms and praised God. Simeon then spoke to Mary. He told Mary that Jesus “is destined to be the downfall and the rise of many in Israel.” Anna, a prophet of great age, praised God and spoke of the child who came for the redemption of Jerusalem.

JUSTICE & PEACE

PANTRY: Christmas was a month ago. How much of your holiday food is left (except maybe for fruitcake)? Well, there's even less left in the pantries of those who come to us for help. So please make a contribution to our pantry. There's a basket at the top of the stairs in the commons waiting for your donation. (But please, no fruitcake.)

IMPACT UPDATE

FIRST RUNG COLLABORATIVE (YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE): On January 9th, we had a very positive meeting. 13 IMPACT leaders met with Dr. Richard Shannon, VP of UVA Health Affairs, and Trish Cluff, Associate VP of Strategic Relations. Our 2 years of hard work, research, and follow up with decision makers and allies was affirmed. He understands our request for tuition waivers and mentors for young adults seeking entry level healthcare jobs. He is concerned, as we are, about barriers to employment. He made a commitment to work with us. We expect another meeting before January ends so stay tuned for an update after the research meeting February 20th.

MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT: After meeting with six local care providers and mental health organizations, our research committee has identified two reoccurring and urgent problem areas: **Psychiatric Care** (Individuals have trouble accessing quality affordable psychiatric care for their children regardless of their income. There is a shortage of child psychiatric care in our area and many providers do not accept insurance and require private payment; limited providers accept Medicaid payments.) & **Early Intervention** (In the past, individuals have had trouble accessing preventive counseling services and do not know where to begin when they feel they are in need of help. Access to care and counseling early on is essential, seeing as one-half of all chronic mental illness begins by the age of 14; three-quarters by age 24.). Specific questions about these two areas will continue to be pursued in the coming weeks. Please take home an in-depth version of these two problem areas; flyers are available on the credenza in the commons area.

SAVE THE DATE: The new date for the Nehemiah Action (where solutions will be provided) is May 5th at JPJ Arena.

PARISH OFFICE HELP NEEDED

The parish office is ☺ looking for volunteers willing to sit at the front desk to answer phones and greet visitors on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Bring your laptop or library book. WiFi available! Any help you could give us would be so appreciated. For more info or to give it a try, contact the office at 295-7185 or at office@holycomforterparish.org. THANKS!!!

ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

MEDJUGORJE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP: Start your New Year by praying the rosary. Come join the Medjugorje Rosary Prayer Group on Wednesday's in the Chapel at 6:30 PM. [*Note the time change.*] Our Blessed Mother's message to everyone on January 2, 2014 says: "Dear children, for you to be able to be my apostles and to be able to help all those who are in darkness, to come to know the light of the love of my Son, you must have pure and humble hearts." Come together and be with us to pray the Rosary of the Blessed Mother for she who so loves us. All are Welcome!!! Any questions, please contact Barbara Cassidy on 434-202-1540.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTERS: John the Baptist tells us to reform our lives. Learn how to use the graces of your Sacrament of Marriage to renew your marriage and draw closer to God. Let the Lord strengthen, renew, and rekindle your marriage by attending an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend on Feb. 21-23, Sep. 12-14, Nov. 14-16 in Herndon, VA; Apr. 11-13 in Fredericksburg, VA; Jun. 27-29 in Richmond, VA; Aug. 8-10 in Roanoke; or Oct 10-12 in Norfolk. Visit renewmarriage-vasouth.org or call (757) 483-3209.

UPCOMING RETREATS AT SHALOM HOUSE:

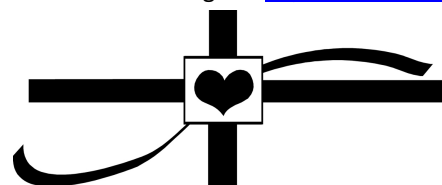
- February 15: A Day of Nature Photography with Bill Fox 9 to 3, includes lunch.

- March 5 - 8: The Samaritan Woman. This is a five-day directed retreat to spend time with Jesus at the well. It is particularly suited to those in life transition, those feeling spiritually dry and those entering a new phase of spiritual growth.

- March 21 - 23: Centering Prayer Retreat led by Sr. Charlotte Lee, OSB. The theme of the retreat is Listening with the Ear of the Heart.

For more info, call Shalom House at 804-883-6149 or go to shalomhouseretreatcenter.com for a registration form.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: P/T ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Church of the Incarnation is looking for an individual to play a vital role in our parish ministry. The selected individual will work under the supervision of the Pastor and Director of Christian Formation, and will work with the entire parish staff as a member of the parochial team responsible for the management of sacramental records, ministry participation records, maintaining parish census, handle parish correspondence, and maintain parish files and records. Excellent communication and computer skills required. Knowledge of Spanish helpful but not required. Flexible Hours. Full day Fridays required. Closing date: January 27. Proof of employment eligibility in the United States is necessary at point of hire. Visit the Parish Office for job description and responsibilities and employment application or e-mail resume to Business Mgr. at izzy@incarnationparish.org.



FROM THE PASTOR**WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO IN THE CATHOLIC WORSHIP
THE CATHOLIC LITURGICAL PROCESSIONS [CONTINUED]**

Advent, Christmas and New Year made me to break into the series about “Why we do what we do in the Catholic worship” with the subtitle “The catholic processions”. As I pointed out previously, processions are not just the way to get people or ministers from here to there. They are themselves a ritual expression of who we are and what we are about. We are pilgrims on a journey. This time I want to reflect with you the meaning of our COMMUNION PROCESSION.

The Church understands the Communion Procession, in fact every procession in liturgy, as a sign of the pilgrim Church, the body of those who believe in Christ, on their way to the Heavenly Jerusalem. All our lives we who believe in Christ are moving in time toward that moment when we will be taken by death from this world and enter into the joy of the Lord in the eternal Kingdom he has prepared for us.

I would like to point out that the Communion rite of the Mass begins with the Lord’s Prayer and ends when the priest concludes with the prayer after Communion. The rite is made up of four basic gestures or expressions: **the Lord’s Prayer, the peace greeting, the breaking of the bread, and the reception of Communion**. One powerful moment that is often overlooked in this sequence of events is our manner of approaching the holy table to receive Communion. But before we approach the altar we are invited. The invitation has often been overlooked or ignored. It would not be appropriate, even for special ministers of the Eucharist, to approach the altar until the invitation is given. The invitation, in its new translation, is the announcement, “Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.” Our response to the invitation comes with an unfortunate translation. Our “Lord I am not worthy” reflects none of the trustful confidence of the original Latin words. The clever Latin original is almost impossible to reproduce in English with the original’s overtones of confidence and hope. What the Latin really means is “Happy indeed are we, for though we are sinners, you call us to your table.”

Then we approach the altar in a liturgical procession. Communion Procession is not simply about getting up out of one’s seat, walking to the minister, receiving communion and walking back to one’s seat and sitting down again. In other words, we are not just lining up to wait our turn, like people in line at a supermarket check-out stand. Rather we are a part of one of the four liturgical processions of the Mass: the entrance procession, the procession with the book of gospels, the procession with the gifts of bread and wine, and the Communion procession. In this parish we begin the Communion procession with the people who are in the back of the church rather than with those in the front. This seems to make for a better appearance of a long, joyous procession, and also provides for a smoother flow of the procession towards the holy table. This procession is a ritual way of getting from one place to another, and doing so with a particular mood. A funeral procession is rather somber, but the Communion procession is joyous (“**Happy are those who are called ...**”), and its joyous nature is expressed particularly in song. Liturgical directives about music tell us that the Communion procession song is not supposed to foster a sense of adoration but rather a sense of unity - a sense that we are approaching the Eucharistic table not as isolated individuals but as a united community. The Communion rite is not first of all about a personal encounter we are having with Christ in the Eucharist, but rather it is about sharing the Eucharistic presence of the risen Christ. The Communion rite is designed to convey a sense that sharing at the Eucharistic table is an anticipation of sharing the eternal banquet in the kingdom of heaven.

TO BE CONTINUED

HOLY COMFORTER CATHOLIC CHURCH
Operating Account
July 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
Offertory	\$209,930	\$200,000
Other Income	47,719	32,200
Receipts – Savings	25,000	12,902
 TOTAL INCOME	 \$282,649	 \$245,102
 <u>EXPENDITURES</u>		
Personnel	\$119,267	\$129,732
Auto/Travel	3,309	2,750
Church Oper. & Maintenance	25,427	23,250
Rectory Costs	8,267	8,100
Worship Expenses	12,771	13,075
Administration	9,576	9,400
Christian Formation	4,012	4,800
Pastoral Council	270	350
Finance Council	0	0
Justice and Peace	14,041	11,405
Parish Life	241	500
RCIA	95	750
Diocesan Assessments	38,536	40,990
 TOTAL EXPENDITURES	 \$235,812	 \$245,102

FUNDS ON HAND	6/30/2013	12/31/2013
Cash in Bank	\$102	30,935
Value of Investments	\$860,405	\$948,447
Building Fund	\$404,621	\$399,539

Thank you all for your generosity! Please let us know if you have any questions.

- Finance Council members:
- John Chamales, Chair
 - Lee Faust
 - Gary Krutul
 - Jim Neale