

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (8/25)

5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (8/26) TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME (Altar Flowers Provided by The Mackey Family in Honor of Their Daughters' Birthdays)

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (Chapel)

8:30 AM: MASS

11 AM: MASS

MONDAY (8/27)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: Communion Service

6-8 PM: Schola Rehearsals (Lower Level)

TUESDAY (8/28)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: Communion Service

WEDNESDAY (8/29)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: Communion Service

NOON: AA Meeting (Lower Level)

6:15 PM: Rosary Prayer Group (Chapel)

THURSDAY (8/30)

NOON: Soup Kitchen

6-8 PM: MASS and Adoration

FRIDAY (8/31)

NOON: MASS

NOON: AA Meeting (Lower Level)

SATURDAY (9/1)

3:30-4:30 PM: Reconciliation (Chapel)

5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (9/2) TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME (Altar Flower Donations Gladly Accepted)

8:30 AM: MASS

11 AM: MASS

MONDAY (9/3) LABOR DAY (Parish Offices Closed Today)

NOON: MASS

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, August 25

5 PM Thi Thanh (Vu Nguyen)

Sunday, August 26

8:30 AM †Thomas Donnelly (The Petroni Family)

11 AM Members of and Visitors to Our Parish

Thursday, August 30

6 PM †John Putalik (Father Joseph Mary and Staff)

Friday, August 31

NOON †Kay Colo (Father Joseph Mary and Staff)

Saturday, September 1

5 PM Mary Nguyen (Vu Nguyen)

Sunday, September 2

8:30 AM †Joseph and †Helen Vitale (Gloria Vitale)

11 AM Members of and Visitors to Our Parish

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

8/26

St. Zephyrinus

8/27

St. Monica

8/28

St. Augustine

8/29

The Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist

8/30

St. Pammachius

8/31

St. Raymond Nonnatus

9/1

St. Giles

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

Moses tells the Israelites to observe the commandments that God gave them.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5

Those who do justice will find favor with God.

Second Reading

James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27

James teaches that Christians should be doers of the Word.

Gospel Reading

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Jesus teaches that it is that which comes from our hearts that defiles us.

FR JOSEPH MARY IS IN UGANDA THIS MONTH!

Please pray for his safe return to us after Labor Day, and give thanks to the clergy members that are serving us in his absence.

PLEASE NOTE THESE SCHEDULE CHANGES:

DAILY COMMUNION SERVICES

MONDAY, TUESDAY, and WEDNESDAY: NOON

DAILY MASS

THURSDAY: 6-8 PM Mass and Adoration

FRIDAY: NOON Mass

WEEKEND MASS

SATURDAYS: 5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAYS: 8:30 AM and 11 AM

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS: 3:30-4:30 PM

PARISHIONER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

August 4, 2001: Alix and David Paget-Brown

August 4, 2011: Emily and Robert Cox

August 8, 1981: Lisa and Michael Marshall

August 14, 2004: Daisy and James Hutcherson

August 26, 1989: Amber and John Eros

August 31, 1996: Kelly and Patrick Langan

GIFTS FROM GOD

AUGUST 18 and 19, 2018

Offertory (plate)	\$4,698
Offertory (online)	1,485
Feast of the Assumption	1,079
Weekly Offertory Budget	<u>7,500</u>
<i>Below Weekly Budget</i>	<i>(\$ 238)</i>

Sanctuary Renovation Donations Received to Date

Total \$84,015.25

SECOND COLLECTIONS

This weekend will be our monthly parish collection for Outreach and next weekend will be for our Sanctuary Renovation. Donations to all Parish Ministries may be made at any time: Christian Formation, Haiti, Justice and Peace, as well as altar flowers and The Catholic Virginian.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION COUNTERS NEEDED

The teams meet every other Monday at 8 AM. Please contact Mary Frances Lilly 434.295.7185 or office@holycomforterparish.org for details.

PLEASE KEEP HOLY COMFORTER IN MIND DURING YOUR SUMMER TRAVELS

If you will be away this summer, you can make your offertory contributions with Online Giving from wherever you are! And, when you do so, it helps us to meet our regular financial obligations. All Second Collections are accepted online, as well. Please visit holycomforterparish.org for the **Online Giving** link.

PARISH NEWS

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

The Medjugorje Rosary Prayer Group has been gathering for over 5.5 years every Wednesday in the Chapel at 6:15. We are a loving, caring, supportive group and pray the Rosary with true devotion. During these busy summer days, take half an hour to come pray with us, reflect on the love God has shown you, pray for intentions, and find calm and peace. Everyone is welcomed! Even if you can only come one time, please join us. Through prayers come peace and love.

PREGNANCY CENTERS OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA BANQUET

Save the Date! The Banquet in support of the Pregnancy Care Centers of Central Virginia will be on **October 20, 2018**. Information for signing up to reserve your space will be announced soon. Last year we were able to fill an entire table with parishioners from Holy Comforter. Let's do it again this year!!!

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

Kindly notify us at office@holycomforterparish.org if you would like a name added to or removed from this list. To arrange to receive Holy Communion or a visit by Father Dan or Father Gerald (while Father Joseph Mary is away), please call the parish office 434.295.7185.

THE ILL & HOME BOUND

Parishioners: Phillip Carr, Kitty Moore, Colette Hall, Richard Fagan, Kay Colo, Raymond Painley, Jack Valloric, Mildred Dudley, Pam Heron, Kay Russo, Mary Griffin, Mike Charlie, Eileen Foster, Fran Cannon Slayton, Michael Ludgate, Frank Pologruto, Al Bracuti, Rose Bowker.

Friends and Relatives: Ann Ramsey, Alice Starbucks, Louis Ross, Marsha Yost, Richard Yost, Will DeGregorio, Alice Stavicksey, Marlene Schmidt, John Putalik, Elizabeth Scott, Blandine Attey, Susan Allport, Fred Cardona, Scott Painley, Jeremy Breedlove, Scarlett Makielski, Rev. John Abe, Samantha Nelson, Joel Rivera, Judge Conrad, Claudia Hartland, Aileen Green, Teresa Hall, Heather Johnson, Christine Fitzgerald, Mary Dominicis, Daniel Moore, Katie George, James Worley, Rev. Gerald Fogarty, Thomas Johnson, Brenda Gayle Johnson, Sue Newman, Carolyn Ann Davis, Andy Gillespie, JoAnn Fox Klein, Susan Steeby, Suzanne Lank, John Lank, Susan Straub Martin, Josephine Nampijja, Christine Bentéjac, Kimberly Hasenfus Hulick, John Patrick Dennison, Christine Russo Carpenter, Benedict Pax, Residents of Albemarle County Regional Jail and Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention.

MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY

Jeffrey Jaeger, Pete Bakke, Michael Eiermann, Tom Logan, William Murray, Trey Linebrink, Jeff Woodside, Charles G. Ellison, and Matthew Mickiewicz.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

CHRISTIAN FORMATION Classes for elementary through 8th grade as well as **High School Youth Ministry** begin Sunday, September 9. Please submit a registration form, available on the CF table in the Commons, as soon as possible. Questions? Please contact our Coordinator for Religious Education, Sue Dougherty.

Children eligible for the **SACRAMENTS OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION/RECONCILIATION AND CONFIRMATION** are registered using the Sacraments Registration Form *in addition to* the CF registration form. These children are required to attend *both* Sacramental preparation and Christian Formation classes.

CATECHISTS NEEDED

Elementary and High school catechists are needed. Training and support are provided. Please contact Sue Dougherty, CRE if you are interested in offering your gifts to this important ministry.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES**Potential Book Study Beginning September, 2018**

Are you interested in deepening and enriching your prayer life? Learn from a master! We are looking for folks interested in reading *The Way of Perfection by St. Teresa of Avila*. This classic work of Carmelite Spirituality was written as a response to her nuns' request, "Teach us to pray." Teresa discusses the three essentials of a prayer-filled life -- fraternal love, detachment from material things, and true humility, which are the fruit of her practical experience. She develops these ideas as she directly offers her wisdom for prayer and contemplation. Specific times and dates to be determined depending on the needs of those interested. To indicate your interest, please contact Patricia McAdams, pamcadams@yahoo.com or Sue Dougherty, cre@holycorforterparish.org.

Dante Reading Group

For the third (and possibly last) time, Holy Comforter offers a free guided tour through Dante's *Divine Comedy* - one of the classics of Christian literature, featuring a captivating, surprisingly accessible story line and countless invitations to think deeply about questions of faith and theology. The group meets once weekly, moves at the manageable pace of 12 pages per week, and is designed to let participants drop in and out as needed. Meeting time TBD, but the group starts with the *Inferno* the week of Sept. 9, so if you are interested please contact John Bugbee bugbee@virginia.edu or the church office ASAP.

RCIA INQUIRY MEETINGS

Our second opportunity is today, August 26th at 9:45. Please invite anyone you know who might be interested in coming into the Catholic Church to attend one of these meetings. The purpose is to hear their stories, listen to their questions and hopes, and talk about next steps. Better yet, consider inviting the person to come to Mass with you and *accompanying them* to the meeting!

PARISH PICNIC PLANNING MEETING

A parish-wide family picnic is tentatively being planned for Sunday, October 21. Persons willing to help plan and execute the picnic are needed! If you would like to assist with this fun event, please contact Sue Dougherty this week.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES**OUTREACH**

Volunteers are needed for the Food Pantry on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 AM-Noon. Please contact Bridget Davis for more information: 434.293.8989 or bridget@holycorforterparish.org.

**HAITI**

Haiti Sponsorship Fair! There will be a Sponsorship Fair at Holy Comforter at all Masses the weekend of September 15-16. School sponsorships are the primary means for St. Michel Parish children to obtain high quality education from pre-school through 13th grade (the path to university). Through your generosity, St. Michel children are currently graduating to pursue careers in nursing, agronomy, medicine, and more. Education is the key to achieving a strong, sustainable economy in Haiti.

St. Michel School in Saltadere: There will be a reception for Mr. Richard Joseph on Wednesday, August 29 from 6 to 8 PM in the Community Room at St. Thomas Aquinas.

Father Petina reports that some students from Saltadere attending the Normal School (teacher training) have provided tutoring for St. Michel students during summer vacation. Please consider sponsoring a St. Michel student as this is the main source of funds to support the school.

Bi-Parish Haiti Committee: Our next meeting will be at 1:30 PM TODAY, 8/26 here at Holy Comforter. All are welcome! For more information, contact Ginny Zeller ginyannzeller@gmail.com

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS**ENTERING CANAAN:**

HOPE AND HEALING AFTER ABORTION Have you or someone you know experienced the pain of abortion? There are millions suffering silently. There is a post-abortive healing program available now in our area which offers monthly *Gatherings of Hope and Healing* and all-day retreats. These events offer continued support and healing for women and men dealing with the many negative effects of an abortion in their past as well as the effects of another person's abortion. The gatherings and retreats are free of charge. For confidential reservations, please contact Bobbie 540.383.1634, Pam 434.825.6013 or Dave 505.340.5891, and for more information www.enteringcanaan.com.



RCIA Part 4
“By their fruit, you shall know them.”
How Can YOU Disciple a Seeker?

Prepared by Sue Dougherty, Coordinator for Religious Education

In the past three weeks, we have been considering the important role of ALL of the faithful, not just the RCIA team, in helping seekers understand what it means to be Catholic. We identified step one of our “job description” to offer hospitality year round; then, to welcome seekers into our worship, our homes, our personal conversations, our community gatherings, so that they witness the presence of God in and through us. They learn who we are by our example. “By their fruits you shall know them” (Mt. 7:16). Third, we invite seekers to encounter Christ in all that we do as a Catholic Community through Word (Scripture), Community (sharing joys and sorrows), Worship (liturgy, adoration), and Service (outreach ministries).

The key point is that *discipleship training happens wherever we gather to be Christians together*. This happens at every Sunday liturgy, but it also happens in the many activities that occur throughout the week. At Holy Comforter, we need only to look at the weekly bulletin or website to see that we offer many opportunities in the areas of Word, Community, Worship, and Witness. Consider the activities provided in last week’s bulletin in the framework of this chart:

WORD	COMMUNITY	WORSHIP	WITNESS
- <i>The Way of Perfection</i> book study - <i>Dante</i> book study - Lighthouse talks on CD - Christian Formation Classes	- RCIA Inquiry Meetings - Pregnancy Center annual banquet - Parishioner wedding anniversaries - Reconciliation - Pastoral council - Parish life	- Sunday Mass - Daily Mass/communion services - Adoration - Rosary Prayer Group - Prayer for the sick/homebound	- RCIA inquiry meeting - Catechists needed - Haiti Ministry - CCC “ <i>Kindness is cool</i> ” t-shirts - food pantry/soup kitchen

In which of these (or other) activities are YOU involved? Who do you know who is seeking to learn more about our Catholic faith that you can invite to join you?

The critical role of sponsor: One important way that you can support a seeker is to be a “companion on the journey” with him or her. Just as the two companions on the road to Emmaus came to recognize the risen Christ, so does a sponsor accompany the seeker to help them encounter Christ in the various activities of the community and answer their questions along the way. “*Were not our hearts burning within us?*” the disciples exclaim. A sponsor becomes a companion to the seeker to show him Christ present first and foremost in the liturgy, but also in other areas that might be of interest to him/her. The sponsor is a gift from the community to the person who is going through the initiation process. The sponsor is available to meet regularly with the candidate to talk about their faith experiences, to share their own, and to answer any of the seeker’s questions. By getting to know the candidate in this way, the sponsor can attest to the candidate’s readiness to receive the Sacraments. The sponsor does not need to have all of the answers, but rather he/she helps to guide the candidate and help them process their experience. *Persons familiar with and active in our community who are willing to be sponsors are needed as inquirers come forward.* Please prayerfully discern if the Holy Spirit is calling YOU to serve in this role. If your heart is burning with a desire to share the presence of Christ in you with another, contact Sue Dougherty today!

If being a sponsor is not for you, at the very least *be present* during the Rites and in the various ministries of Word, Community, Worship, and Witness to welcome newcomers and to bear the light of Christ to them. We can all pray the prayer of the Holy Spirit:

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit, and we shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.