

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (12/8) IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Holy Day of Obligation)

8 AM MASS (*Immaculate Conception*)
NOON: Latin MASS (*Immaculate Conception*)
3:30-4:30 PM: Dante Reading Group (*Lower Level*)
3:30-4:30 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
5 PM: Vigil MASS (*Second Sunday of Advent*)

SUNDAY (12/9) SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Altar Flowers Provided by Anonymous Donation

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
8:30 AM: MASS
9:45-10:45 AM: Christian Formation (*Lower Level*)
11 AM: MASS
12:15 PM: High School Youth
 Ministry/Confirmation (*Lower Level*)
12:30-1:15 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
1:30 PM: Latin MASS

MONDAY (12/10)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS
5:15 PM: Schola Rehearsals

TUESDAY (12/11)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (12/12)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS
NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)
6:15 PM: Rosary Prayer Group (*Chapel*)
6:30 PM: Sung Vespers (*Church*)
7 PM: Choir Rehearsal (*Loft*)

THURSDAY (12/13)

8 AM: MASS
NOON: Soup Kitchen
6:30 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
7 PM: Holy Hour and Adoration

FRIDAY (12/14)

8 AM: MASS
8:30 AM-12 PM: Regina Coeli (*Lower Level*)
NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve (Monday, 12/24)
4:30 PM: Children's Christmas Mass and Nativity Play
6:15 PM: Carol Singing
7 PM: Christmas Vigil Mass
11 PM: Latin Christmas Mass
Christmas Day (Tuesday, 12/25)
8:30 AM: Mass
11 AM: Mass

SATURDAY (12/15)

8 AM MASS
3:30-4:30 PM: Dante Reading Group (*Lower Level*)
3:30-4:30 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (12/16) THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Altar Flowers Provided in Loving Memory of Thomas Mullen by Mary Mullen

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
8:30 AM: MASS
9:45-10:45 AM: Christian Formation (*Lower Level*)
11 AM: MASS
12:15 PM: High School Youth
 Ministry/Confirmation (*Lower Level*)
12:30-1:15 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 8

8 AM †Matthew Grimes (Bethany and John Noble)
NOON Members of and Visitors to Our Parish
5 PM Members of the Parish

Sunday, December 9

8:30 AM †Martha Brogley (Bethany and John Noble)
11 AM †Ralph Marra (Barbara Marra)
1:30 PM †Rev. John F. Knue (Holli Traud)

Monday, December 10

NOON †Deceased Members of the Fink and Mickiewicz Families (Jeanne and Ed Mickiewicz)

Tuesday, December 11

NOON †Mary Jean Craddock (Teri and Biff Delany)

Wednesday, December 12

NOON Intentions of James Savino (Patricia McAdams)

Thursday, December 13

8 AM †Renzo Petroni, †Brooke and †Steve Williams (The Petroni-Conaway Family)

Friday, December 14

8 AM †Jack Conaway, Pauline and Jeremiah Meehan (The Petroni-Conaway Family)

Saturday, December 15

8 AM †Michelle Sale (The Petroni-Conaway Family)

5 PM †Leona and †Roy Hatch and Family;
 †Bertha and †Tony Ruvolot, Sr. and Family (Norma Petroni)

Sunday, December 16

8:30 AM †Catherine and †Peter Colo (Marlene Wood); †Alec DeJong (Donna DeJong)
11 AM Members of the Parish

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Saturday, December 22 at 2 PM.

GIFTS FROM GOD

DECEMBER 1 and 2, 2018

Offertory (plate)	\$6,370
Weekly Offertory Budget	(7,500)
<i>Below Weekly Budget</i>	(\$1,130)

SECOND COLLECTIONS

This weekend will be our monthly collection for Outreach and on Christmas Day will be the annual Diocesan Collection for Catholic Charities. Donations to all Parish Ministries (*Christian Formation, Haiti, Justice and Peace, as well as for altar flowers and The Catholic Virginian*) may be made at any time. To contribute online, please look for the link on our website: holycorforterparish.org

THINKING ABOUT A YEAR-END GIFT?

How about an IRA Charitable Rollover?

There is still time to make a tax-deductible gift to Holy Comforter. If you have an IRA and you're 70 ½ years old, you can make a gift through an IRA Charitable Rollover. For more information, please contact Mary Frances Lilly, 434.295.7185, office@holycorforterparish.org

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

12/9	St. Juan Diego
12/10	St. Gregory III
12/11	St. Damasus I
12/12	Our Lady of Guadalupe
12/13	St. Lucy
12/14	St. John of the Cross
12/15	St. Mary di Rosa

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-18a

A savior is promised to Israel.

Responsorial Psalm

Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

A song of praise to God our savior

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice always because the Lord is near.

Gospel Reading

Luke 3:10-18

John the Baptist teaches the path of repentance and announces Christ.

PARISH NEWS

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

Kindly notify us at office@holycorforterparish.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 Joseph Mary, please call the parish office 434.295.7185.

THE ILL & HOME BOUND

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

Friends and Relatives: Marian Dolliver, Helena McQuhae, Cullen McQuhae, Ann Ramsey, Alice Starbucks, Louis Ross, Marsha Yost, Richard Yost, Will DeGregorio, Alice Stavicksey, Marlene Schmidt, Elizabeth Scott, Blandine Attey, Susan Allport, Scott Painley, Jeremy Breedlove, Scarlett Makielski, Rev. John Abe, Samantha Nelson, Joel Rivera, Judge Conrad, Claudia Hartland, Aileen Green, Christine Fitzgerald, Daniel Moore, Katie George, James Worley, 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.

MUSIC MINISTRY



Our Music Minister, Daniel Kirkland, is organizing a Children's Caroling Choir to sing before the 4:30 PM Christmas Vigil Children's Mass. Interested parents may sign up in the commons, or e-mail Mr. Kirkland directly,

music@holycorforterparish.org

HELP WANTED

We are in need of Sacristans to help with altar care, laundering of altar linens, and cleaning wax from brass candles. This is a rewarding ministry that can accommodate most schedules. Several tasks can be performed in your home. If interested, please contact Suzanne Bailey at (434) 296-5033 or slank@ntelos.net.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

ANGEL TREE PROGRAM 2018 – *Deadline Extended!*

Holy Comforter is participating with the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program again this year to spread the joy of Christmas to children in our community. Please take a tag from our tree, attach the tag to your gift and return it **UNWRAPPED by December 11th** to Holy Comforter or to the Salvation Army Office at 207 Ridge Street. Thank you for reaching out in the name of Jesus to those in our community who are in need.

HAITI

Haiti Gift Fair TODAY! Just in time to shop for Christmas!! All proceeds support St. Michel School, its teachers and students.

Bi-Parish Haiti Committee

For more information about getting involved in this ministry, contact Ginny Zeller ginnynnanzeller@gmail.com

UGANDA

There is an immediate need for a new or gently used laptop computer. Please notify Theresa Lynch if you can help: osgarlynch@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

YOUR PERSONAL FAITH AND THE SUNDAY READINGS:

Are you interested in sharing with others a rich discussion of the Sunday Scripture readings that can carry you through your week and draw you closer to Christ? If so, please contact Sue Dougherty or use the sign up in the Commons. Facilitators are needed.

COMING IN THE NEW YEAR

SHORT STORIES EVERY CATHOLIC SHOULD READ

This discussion group will share 5 classic short stories from which we can glean important lessons to enrich our Catholic Faith. Join Susan Neale who will facilitate the discussions on **January 6, 13, 20, 27, and February 13**. Please use the sign-up sheet in the Commons or email Sue Dougherty, cre@holyccomforterparish.org, if you are interested.

A SEMINAR ON SACRED LITURGY

Don't miss this opportunity to join parishioner Ed Murray to deepen your sense of liturgy as an expression of day-to-day faith by exploring Dave Brubeck's *Mass to Hope*. More about this exciting 5-Session Seminar coming soon!

ELEMENTARY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PRE-K-8

Nativity Play: Our annual Nativity Play will take place during the **Christmas Eve Mass at 4:30pm**. If you are interested in having your children participate, please join us for a **practice on Saturday, December 15 at 10:00am** (*please note this time change*). We will assign costumes and parts for the play at that time. A final **"dress rehearsal"** will take place **following the 8:30 Mass on Sunday, December 23**.

Holiday Break: Our last Christian Formation class for this year will be **Sunday, December 16**. Classes will resume on **Sunday, January 6**, the Feast of the Epiphany.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY AND CONFIRMATION

This Sunday, December 9, **all students** will meet with Sue. We will hear about Alyssa House from volunteer and parishioner Pat Coldewey and do a service project for the House. Next Sunday, **December 16** we will plan to have a pre-Christmas social and possibly a visit to see Alyssa House itself.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



FATHER LOUIS A. ROWEN COUNCIL 3670

The council invites all knights and their families to join us for our holiday dinner at the Forest Lakes Timberwood Grill at 6 PM on Monday, December 17. There will be a prix fixe menu. For more information and to RSVP email koc3670@yahoo.com

COATS FOR KIDS

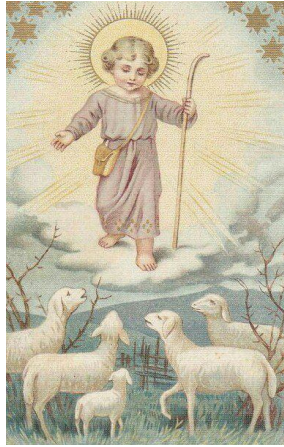
After all Masses next weekend, December 15-16, parish members of the Knights of Columbus will be collecting money for Coats for Kids. Please make checks payable to "Knights of Columbus #3670." Thank you!

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

Holy Comforter, Incarnation, and St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Parishes are developing a new tri-parish Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The Society was founded in 1833 by Frederic Ozanam to assist the poor in honor of their patron, St. Vincent de Paul, who is known as "The Apostle of Charity." The new conference, to be called the "Holy Trinity Conference," will provide our neighbors in need with spiritual and material assistance. Information will be provided after Masses following the Feast of the Epiphany. Meanwhile, prayerfully consider becoming a Vincentian and growing spiritually by offering person-to-person charitable service. To learn more right away, please see svdpusa.org or contact Chuck McCurdy cwm@virginia.edu.

From Our Pastor
Very Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi, V.F.

ADVENT AND THE DIVINE INFANCY (part 2)



**“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.”
 (Jn. 1:14)**

The Incarnation remains a great mystery because it is an act of pure selfless love, just like the Crucifixion, just like our continuing to exist. How does the Infinite Being who made all, who needs nothing, enter into our condition? The Incarnation should shock us, should astonish us, and should puzzle us. How could He love us that much? Who here would become something less by choice? C.S. Lewis talked about “The Eternal Being, who knows everything and who created the whole universe, became not only a man but (before that) a baby, and before that a *fetus* inside a woman's body. If you want to get the hang of it, think how you would like to become a slug or a crab.” We are the slugs. We are the crabs. God loved us that much. I don't know about you, but even if I had the power, there isn't a slug or a crab I'd love enough to become, let alone die for. The New Testament affirms that the Incarnation itself was an essential element in the salvation of humanity—not merely as a prerequisite for other parts of Christ's work. The Incarnation is the means by which human nature is brought once again into fellowship with the Godhead. Christ is the eschatological first fruits of this restoration. As he is, so will all the saints be in glory: restored to unbroken fellowship between humanity and humanity's Creator.

What we see in the Incarnation, God entering into the human story, is the ground of all Christian hope. It is one of the central miracles of Christianity. Without the Incarnation, it would have been more difficult to conceive how God could understand our human tactics. Not only would the other aspects of redemption (Christ's life, teaching, death on the cross, resurrection, and ascension) not be possible, but parts of the restoration of humanity hinge on the Incarnation itself. The Incarnation was a unique event in history, with unique theological significance. At no other time has God manifested himself as a human being. The Spirit's present indwelling of all believers is a direct result of and carries forward the reconciliation of divinity and humanity that occurred in the person of Jesus Christ. Someone noted to me that; **“A healthy church depends on a healthy Christology, for it is only in Christ and by Christ's Spirit that the church exists.”** And, there can be no healthy Christology without a strong doctrine of the Incarnation. It is in the Incarnation that Jesus, the Messiah, must be understood. God, in the person of Jesus, has become for us a single person uniting all that it is to be God and all that it is to be human- two natures in one person. **IT IS REALLY AMAZING to know;** Because the Word became flesh, we have a High Priest who is able to empathize with our weaknesses, one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet He did not sin (Heb. 4:15)!

(To be continued...)