

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (12/22)

8 AM MASS
2-4:30 PM: Advent Communal Penance Service
5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (12/23) FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Altar Flowers Provided by Holy Comforter

Parishioners

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
8:30 AM: MASS
11 AM: MASS
NOON: Christmas Play Rehearsal (*Lower Level*)
12:30-1:15 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
1:30 PM: Latin MASS

MONDAY (12/24) CHRISTMAS EVE

(*Parish Offices Closed*)

4:00 PM: Carol Singing
4:20 PM: Nativity Play
4:30 pm: Children's Christmas MASS
6:15 PM: Carol Singing
7 PM: Christmas Vigil MASS
11 PM: Latin Christmas MASS

TUESDAY (12/25) CHRISTMAS (Holy Day of

Obligation) (Parish Offices Closed)

8:30 AM: MASS
11AM: MASS

WEDNESDAY (12/26) (Parish Offices Closed)

10 AM: Baptism (*Rosemary Coyler*)
10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS
NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

THURSDAY (12/27)

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

FRIDAY (12/28)

NOON: Holy Innocents MASS (and Children's Blessing)
NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

12/23	St. John of Kanty
12/24	St. Charbel Makhlouf
12/25	The Nativity of the Lord
12/26	St. Stephen
12/27	St. John the Apostle
12/28	Holy Innocents
12/29	St. Thomas Becket
12/30	Bl. Eugenia Ravasco
12/31	St. Sylvester
1/1	Mary, Mother of God

SATURDAY (12/29)

8 AM: MASS
10 AM: Baptism (*Aryabelle Bation Hoffman*)
5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (12/30) THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Altar Flowers Provided by Holy Comforter Parishioners

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
8:30 AM: MASS
11 AM: MASS
12:30-1:15 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)

MONDAY (12/31)

5 PM: Vigil MASS

TUESDAY (1/1) MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

(Holy Day of Obligation) (Parish Offices Closed)

NOON: MASS
7 PM: Latin MASS

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

First Reading

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

Hannah dedicates her son, Samuel, to the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10

Those who dwell in the Lord's house are happy.

Second Reading

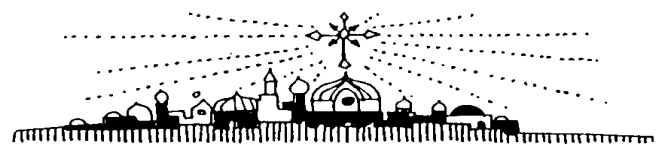
1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

We are God's children now.

Gospel Reading

Luke 2:41-52

The boy Jesus is found in the Temple.



HOLY DAYS' MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve (Monday, 12/24)

4:00 PM: Carol Singing
4:20 PM: Nativity Play
4:30 pm: Children's Christmas Mass
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

Monday 12/31

5 PM: Vigil Mass

Mary, The Holy Mother of God (Tuesday, 1/1)

NOON: Mass

7 PM: Latin Mass

GIFTS FROM GOD

DECEMBER 15 and 16, 2018

Offertory (plate)	\$14,097
Weekly Offertory Budget	(7,500)
<i>Above Weekly Budget</i>	\$6,597

CHRISTMAS DAY SECOND COLLECTION

With your support, Commonwealth Catholic Charities serves those in need throughout the Diocese of Richmond every day. Your Second Collection offering this year will give the gift of food, family, warmth, home, and hope to our neighbors in need. To contribute online, please look for the link on our website: holycomforterparish.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 22

8 AM †Charlie Moore (Kitty Moore)

5 PM Jose Rodriguez Soriat (Ms. Crowley)

Sunday, December 23

8:30 AM Members of the Parish

11 AM Members of the Parish

1:30 PM Intentions of James Savino (Patricia McAdams)

Monday, December 24

4:30 PM Children of the Parish

7 PM Clementine Ishimue (Alice Makielski)

11 PM †Helen and †James Savino (Patricia McAdams); †Charlie Moore (Kitty Moore)

Tuesday, December 25

8:30 AM †Charlie Moore (Kitty Moore); †Jane Till Danilek (The Danilek Family)

11 AM Members of the Parish

Wednesday, December 26

NOON †Charlie Moore (Kitty Moore)

Thursday, December 27

8 AM †Charlie Moore (Kitty Moore)

Friday, December 28

NOON †Charlie Moore (Kitty Moore)

Saturday, December 29

8 AM †Charlie Moore (Kitty Moore)

5 PM Members of the Parish

Sunday, December 30

8:30 AM †Richard Yost (Gina Petroni)

11 AM Members of the Parish

1:30 PM Members of the Parish

Monday, December 31

5 PM †Marie Thacker (Cynthia and Les Berlin)

Tuesday, January 1

NOON Members of the Parish

7 PM Members of the Parish

PARISH NEWS

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 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: Traci McQuhae, Brett McQuhae, Kirsten Zeiss, Marian Dolliver, Helena McQuhae, Cullen McQuhae, Ann Ramsey, Alice Starbucks, Louis Ross, 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.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

HAITI

Thank you to all! Your support for the Haiti Ministry this year has made possible a good, Catholic and comprehensive education for the many students at St. Michel School. Also, you have made possible good primary health care in this rural village of Saltadere.

Joyeux Noel

Our twin parish will be busy as this holiday time is often when sacraments are celebrated—particularly baptism and matrimony. Please keep Father Petina and the parish of St. Michel in your prayers.

Bi-Parish Haiti Committee

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

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

CHRISTIAN FORMATION HOLIDAY BREAK

Christian Formation classes for elementary, middle, and high school students will resume on **Sunday, January 6** at the normal times.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The next **Confirmation preparation class** will take place on **Sunday, January 6 at 12:15 PM**. The first **First Holy Communion preparation class** will take place on **Sunday, January 13**. A parent meeting will also be held at this time.

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 3**. Please use the sign-up sheet in the Commons or email Sue Dougherty, cre@holycomforterparish.org, if you are interested.

NEW OFFERING IN FEBRUARY

TO HOPE! A Celebration! Join discussion leader Ed Murray for this 4-5 week seminar to explore together this musical composition composed by renowned jazz pianist and composer, Dave Brubeck, based on the revised Order of Worship following the Second Vatican Council. Listening to Brubeck's masterful composition as the centerpiece, participants will explore the order of Catholic worship, calling on our own liturgical experiences over the Church's last half-century. Discover more about "The Mass" not as an "object," but as a gift given to us both individually and communally. **February 10, 17, 24, March 3 and 10**. Sign up in the Commons or email Sue Dougherty at cre@@holycomforterparish.org.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND



Office of Vocations

God chose to become man to lead us in a path of righteousness, is God calling you to grow in holiness? He may be inviting you to the priesthood. To learn more, contact Fr. Michael Boehling or Fr. Brian Capuano at 804.359.5661, or vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

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.

CASA ALMA

Listen in

Beginning in January, we'll offer regular opportunities to hear about the experiences of our Christ Room hosts and support persons. Would you like to receive invites to these events? If so, please let us know at cvillecw@gmail.com

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION

A **Rachel's Vineyard Weekend Retreat** will be held January 25-27 at The Williamsburg Christian Retreat Center in Toano, VA. The weekend retreat includes, spiritual exercises, the sacrament of reconciliation, a Memorial Service and a Mass of Entrustment. Available to women, men and any person adversely impacted by an abortion. Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, mercy and compassion.

To register Contact: Linda Riva at 757-887-3144; e-mail: lindajr2@yahoo.com

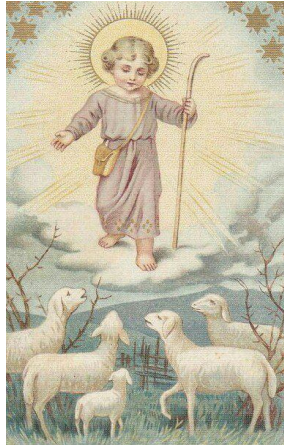
CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Throughout the month of November our school-wide *Virtue of Focus* was Advocacy. **Michael Q.** from Holy Comforter Parish was recognized for being an advocate for himself and for others! Congratulations!!

CCS is currently accepting applications for the 2019-20 school year for grades Pre-K through 8th. **We are anticipating waitlists for some grades, so apply early!** Call us today to schedule a tour or drop by at your convenience. For more information visit www.cvillecatholic.org/admissions.

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

CHRISTMAS AND THE DIVINE INFANCY (part 4)



“In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.” (Heb. 1:1-2)

When we’re talking about God revealing Himself, what we mean is God’s own self-disclosure. In revelation, God is disclosing, He is manifesting, and He is revealing Himself to us. He’s revealing stuff about Himself and He is revealing to us His will. So He reveals to us His person and His will and His ways. Divine revelation is not merely the product of human speculation. It is God’s action of love, which He decided to effect in Jesus Christ His Son. Jesus Christ is the express image of who God is. The Father wrapped up all of His character in the Son Jesus. When our Lord became flesh, it was a full revelation of God’s nature — His mercy, grace, goodness and readiness to forgive. ***“For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form.” (Col. 2:9) “Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person [personality, nature].” (Heb. 1:3)***

St. Paul adds that we are to keep seeking this revelation of God’s glory until we become rooted in it: ***“...And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God” (Ephes. 3:17-19)***. Christ's mission reveals God's love, because Christ is the Son of God. If it is true, as Jesus said, that "He that has seen Me has seen the Father," then I can say that we see the tenderness, the sympathy, the agony and passion and glory of God in Jesus Christ’s love. But what does Christ's mission say about God's love to me? We know what it ought to say. It ought to carry, as on the peak of a great wave, the conviction of that Divine love into our hearts, to be fruitful there. It ought to sweep out, as on the top of a great wave, our sins and evils. It ought to do this for us and it is the very reason why the Son of God was born.

Let us then never forget the real reason we are celebrating Christmas. It's not to celebrate the coming of Santa Claus or the decorating of trees and our homes. And it's definitely not to celebrate the existence of all our retail stores and shopping centers. And it's not just to remember that, according to tradition, Jesus Christ was born on this day some 2,000 years ago, but the fact that Jesus Christ was born unto us, for our personal benefit to glorify God. Do you remember that this is the message that God sent to the shepherds (Luke 2:8-11)? And the angel said to them, ***“Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which shall be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”***

(To be continued...)