

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (12/29)

8 AM: MASS
10 AM: Baptism (*Aryabelle Bation Hoffman*)
3:30-4:30 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
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*)
1:30 PM: Latin MASS

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

WEDNESDAY (1/2)

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

THURSDAY (1/3)

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

FRIDAY (1/4)

NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)
6:30-8 PM: First Friday MASS and Adoration

SATURDAY (1/5)

8 AM: MASS
3:30-4:30 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (1/6) THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Altar Flowers Provided by Holy Comforter Parishioners

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
8:30 AM: MASS
9:45-10:45 AM: Christian Formation
11 AM: MASS
NOON: Youth Ministry
12:30-1:15 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
1:30 PM: Latin MASS



**NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS
 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

First Reading

Isaiah 60:1-6
 Jerusalem shall be a light to all nations.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
 Every nation on earth shall worship the Lord.

Second Reading

Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
 Gentiles are coheirs in the promise of Christ.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:1-12
 The Magi seek out Jesus and do him homage.

MASS INTENTIONS

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 and Visitors to our Parish

Wednesday, January 2

NOON †Charlie Moore (Kitty Moore)

Thursday, January 3

8 AM †Charlie Moore (Kitty Moore)

Friday, January 4

6:30 PM †Charlie Moore (Kitty Moore)

Saturday, January 5

8 AM †Charlie Moore (Kitty Moore)
5 PM Members of the Parish

Sunday, January 6

8:30 AM Kristen Zeiss (The Blumenfeld Family)
11 AM Members of the Parish
1:30 PM Members of and Visitors to our Parish

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

12/30	Bl. Eugenia Ravasco
12/31	St. Sylvester
1/1	Mary, Mother of God
1/2	St. Basil the Great
1/3	St. Genevieve
1/4	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
1/5	St. John N. Neumann

GIFTS FROM GOD

Due to early publication deadlines, the offertory reports for December 22-25, 2018 will be published next week.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Next weekend will be our monthly collection for Outreach. To contribute online, please look for the link on our website: holycomforterparish.org

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.

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.

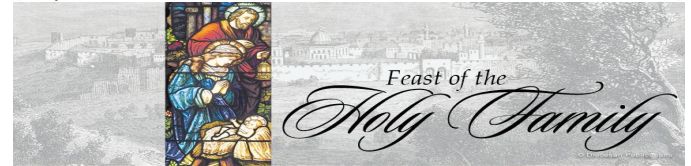
A FAMILY BLESSING

Through The Tender Love of The Holy Family

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love, to you we turn with trust.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. Amen.

(Copies are available in the Commons.)



MASS CARDS

Many of you have received a Mass Card for the passing of a loved one, and many of you have given them to friends when someone they love has died. It is a very special gift to give – the gift of hope and God’s promise of eternal life at a time of great sorrow.

However, Mass Cards for the Living are also a vital part of this blessed tradition. Mass intentions can be given for almost any occasion and are a way to reach out and touch someone with the gift of faith. There is no better gift to give than the gift of God’s love and compassion as celebrated in the Sacrifice of the Mass.

Please stop by or call the parish office Monday – Friday from 9 AM-3PM.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

CHRISTIAN FORMATION HOLIDAY BREAK

Christian Formation classes for elementary, middle, and high school students will resume next **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

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.

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

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.

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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.

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

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND



Office of Vocations

Are you called to serve the family of the Lord and share the Father’s love as a priest? To learn more, contact Fr. Michael Boehling or Fr. Brian Capuano at 804.359.5661, or vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

WWME

Start the New Year out right on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter. It is a weekend for married Christian couples who value their relationship and desire a richer, fuller life together. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are March 1-3, 2019 in Hickory, North Carolina and March 22-24, 2019 in Herndon. For more information visit renewmarriage-vasouth.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.

A RACHEL’S VINEYARD RETREAT FOR HEALING AFTER ABORTION 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: lindair2@yahoo.com

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY HAITI



Haiti celebrates their independence since 1804 on January 1. This is a major holiday and traditional foods are served for the family meal.

Please keep Father Petina and the parish of St. Michel in your prayers.

St. Michel School

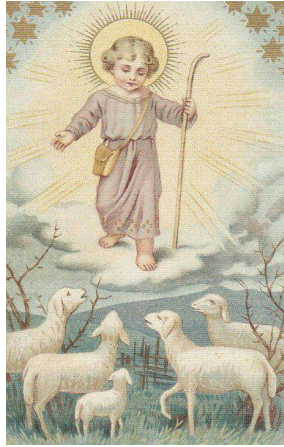
School begins January 7. The parish vehicle has new tires. Watch for pictures on the website. Please keep students and teachers in your prayers.

Bi-Parish Haiti Committee

The next meeting will be held January 13, 2019 in the Community Room at St. Thomas Aquinas. For more information about getting involved in this ministry, contact Ginny Zeller ginnyannzeller@gmail.com

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

CHRISTMAS AND THE DIVINE INFANCY (part 5)



“Do not be afraid; for behold I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.” (Lk. 2:10-11).

I invite you to put yourself in the shoes of these shepherds. The shepherds' fear is turned to joy as they hear news that a Savior is born. The Messiah! In Bethlehem, the city of David himself! Little excitement would have regularly come their way. They were poor, simple shepherds who spent their days and nights tending the sheep of the fields. That night, a group of them had gathered together for some fellowship. It's easy to imagine the scene of normal talking, laughing and being together. Little did they realize what was about to happen.

As they were gathered, an angel of God appeared to them announcing **“good news of great joy!”** They must have been stunned. But that's only the beginning. The angel announced that the Savior of the World had been born and then, much to their surprise, they witnessed the whole host of heavenly angels singing praises: **“Gloria in excelsis Deo!” “Glory to God in the highest!”**

These humble shepherds were the first to be called by God to go and greet the newborn King. What's amazing is that God did not first call the **“important”** of the age to come worship. He called these poor shepherds.

One thing this tells us is that, in the eyes of God, all are equal. God does not pick favorites from among those who are seen as important in the eyes of the world. No, He sees the great value and dignity of each and every person and desires all of us, rich or poor, powerful or weak, to come to Him in adoration and love to embrace the mystery. As one spiritual writer once said, **“We are called to be mystics to contemplate the mysteries of God.”**

Christmas is a time filled with many exciting things. Often there are gifts and gatherings, food and good times. But more than anything else, Christmas must be seen as a time for us to step back and take in the deep and rich meaning of this sacred event of Emmanuel-**God living among his people**. We must see, first, that God entered our human condition, and in doing so, is able to identify with all that we experience in life. God understands human life! He lived it.

Second, we must understand that the birth of the Savior of the world and His appearance to shepherds reveals that each and every one of us is invited to come and meet Him. God humbled Himself in the most profound way so that we could come to know Him and His perfect love for us. “Do not be afraid,” as the angel said, to come and behold the Christ who came as your Savior. Do not be afraid to come to meet Him, love Him, adore Him and get to know Him. God is given to us this Christmas, as an infant. Small, weak, fragile and innocent. Do not be afraid to gaze upon His humble presence and to give glory to God for His blessed coming.

(To be continued...)