

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

**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

**MONDAY (1/7)**

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

**TUESDAY (1/8)**

**10 AM-NOON:** Food Pantry  
**NOON:** MASS

**WEDNESDAY (1/9)**

**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 (1/10)**

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

**FRIDAY (1/11)**

**8 AM:** MASS  
**NOON:** AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

**SATURDAY (1/12)**

**8 AM:** MASS  
**1:30 PM:** Memorial Mass for Robert D'Angio  
**3:30-4:30 PM:** Reconciliation (*Chapel*)  
**5 PM:** Vigil MASS

**SUNDAY (1/13) THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

*Altar Flowers Provided by Marie Johnston*

**7-7:45 AM:** Reconciliation (*Chapel*)  
**8:30 AM:** MASS  
**9:45-10:45 AM:** Christian Formation and First Sacraments Preparation  
**11 AM:** MASS (*Followed by an 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration for Father Gerald Fogarty*)  
**12:15 PM:** Youth Ministry and Confirmation Preparation  
**12:30-1:15 PM:** Reconciliation (*Chapel*)  
**1:30 PM:** Latin MASS

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

**First Reading**

*Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11*  
 Isaiah tells the people to prepare a way for the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 104:1b-4, 24-25, 27-30*  
 A prayer praising God's greatness

**Second Reading**

*Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7*  
 Jesus Christ saved us and renewed us with his Holy Spirit.

**Gospel Reading**

*Luke 3:15-16, 21-22*  
 Jesus is baptized by John.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday, January 5

**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

Saturday, January 12

**5 PM †**Theresa Kkonde (Kay Laurick)

Sunday, January 13

**8:30 AM †**Helen Zink (The Mickiewicz Family)

**11 AM** Members of the Parish

**1:30 PM** Members of and Visitors to our Parish

**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 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.

**HELP NEEDED**

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](mailto:slank@ntelos.net).

**GIFTS FROM GOD**

**DECEMBER 22 and 23, 2018**

|                            |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Offertory (plate)          | \$4,785         |
| Offertory (online)         | \$1,803         |
| Weekly Offertory Budget    | <u>(7,500)</u>  |
| <i>Below Weekly Budget</i> | <i>(\$ 912)</i> |

**CHRISTMAS 2018**

|                              |                |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Offertory (plate and online) | \$9,435        |
| Weekly Offertory Budget      | <u>(7,500)</u> |
| <i>Above Weekly Budget</i>   | <i>\$1,935</i> |

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES** \$2,743

*The offertory reports for December 30<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup> will be published next week.*

**SECOND COLLECTIONS**

This weekend is our monthly collection for Outreach. To contribute online, please look for the link on our website: [holycomforterparish.org](http://holycomforterparish.org)

**SAINTS TO REMEMBER**

- 1/6 Epiphany of the Lord
- 1/7 St. Raymond Penyafort
- 1/8 St. Apollinaris of Hierapolis
- 1/9 St. Adrian of Canterbury
- 1/10 St. William of Bourges
- 1/11 St. Theodosius the Cenobiarch
- 1/12 St. Bernard of Corleone

**SOCIAL MINISTRIES**

**HAITI**

**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](mailto:ginnyannzeller@gmail.com)

**OUTREACH**

Our Food Pantry operates Monday-Wednesday from 10 AM-12 PM and the Soup Kitchen serves lunch on Thursdays at Noon. To learn how you can assist this ministry, contact Bridget at 434.293.8989 or [outreach@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:outreach@holycomforterparish.org).

**PARISH NEWS**

**PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS**



Kindly notify us at [office@holycomforterparish.org](mailto: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:** Chris Irwin Krupka, 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.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY FATHER FOGARTY!**

Please join in the celebration after the 11 AM Mass next Sunday, January 13, 2019!!

**LOW GLUTEN ALTAR BREAD**



Holy Comforter offers low gluten hosts that have been fully approved by the Holy See for use in any Catholic Mass. Every host is individually packaged to prevent cross contamination. Please notify an usher if you require this option.

## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

### CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND



#### Office of Vocations

“Opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts.” Are you beginning to see your life as a gift to be given to the Lord as a priest? To learn more, contact Fr. Michael Boehling or Fr. Brian Capuano at 804.359.5661, or [vocations@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:vocations@richmonddiocese.org).

### 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 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](http://svdpusa.org) or contact Chuck McCurdy [cwm@virginia.edu](mailto:cwm@virginia.edu).

### WWME

Start the New Year out right on the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter. It is a weekend for married 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](http://renewmarriage-vasouth.org).

### 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](mailto:lindair2@yahoo.com)

### CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

CCS is currently accepting applications for the 2019-20 school year for grades Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup>. **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](http://www.cvillecatholic.org/admissions).

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

### CHRISTIAN FORMATION HOLIDAY BREAK

Christian Formation classes for elementary, middle, and high school students resume this weekend.

### SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

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

### ADULT FAITH FORMATION

#### SHORT STORIES EVERY CATHOLIC SHOULD READ

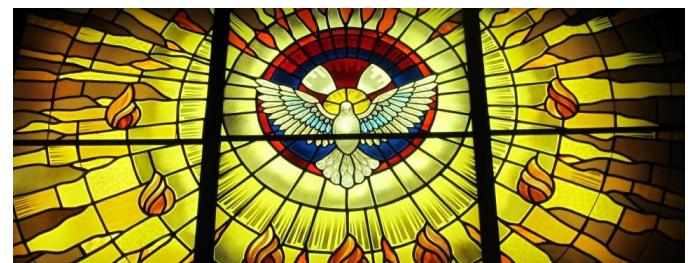
This discussion group will share 5 classic short stories from which we can glean important lessons to enrich our Catholic Faith. Join Susan Neale who will facilitate the discussions on **January 6, 13, 20, 27, and February 3**. Please use the sign-up sheet in the Commons or email Sue Dougherty, [cre@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:cre@holycomforterparish.org), 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.

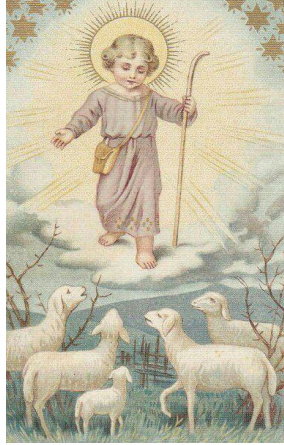
### NEW OFFERING IN FEBRUARY

**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](mailto:cre@@holycomforterparish.org).



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

**CHRISTMAS AND THE DIVINE INFANCY (part 6)**



**"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."  
 (Mt. 1:21).**

As we continue to celebrate the joy of Christmas, there are some questions we need to ask to help examine our little faith questions like: **Who came? What was His purpose in coming? Whom did He purpose to save? What did He actually do? The first question will answer for us the question of Jesus' identity. The last three will tell us the main reason why He came to earth.** If we could recall the events of the Incarnation we learn that the birth of Jesus was not an ordinary birth. Mary was with child by the power of the Holy Spirit, apart from normal relations with a man. This is, of course, the doctrine of the virgin birth of our Lord. Skeptics reject it because it is miraculous. The angel tells Joseph that he is to name this miraculous child Jesus, adding, **"for it is He who will save His people from their sins."** (Mt. 1:21) Since, for the Jews, a person's name had significance, the name Jesus points us to the very essence of His being, namely, that He is the Savior. The title "Christ" means that Jesus is the Jewish Messiah, or Anointed One. By giving Jesus that name, the Father commissioned Him to save sinners, and this constitutes the ground of our appeal to God for salvation. Thus our answer to the question, **"Who came?"** is that Jesus Christ, born of the virgin Mary, is none other than the eternal God in human flesh, and that He came to earth primarily as the Savior.

He came **"to save His people from their sins,"** is a phrase the theologians use to help us understand this and it is very critical that we get it right. **The word "save" is a radical word. You do not save someone who just needs a little help. You save someone who is unable to do anything to save her or himself. A person who is lost at sea needs saving. A person who has stopped breathing needs saving. This means that prior to Jesus' saving them, His people were helplessly, hopelessly lost in their sins.** Indeed we were alienated from God, under His righteous judgment, and unable to free ourselves from this condition. A Savior is one who has the power to rescue people who could not rescue themselves. Jesus has the God-given power to save us from our sins.

Matthew 1:21 is a fulfillment of the promise of Psalm 130:8. The psalmist is overwhelmed by his sins. He is in the depths, about to go under, when he cries out in desperation to God. He recognizes that if God were to mark iniquities, no one could stand in His holy presence, but then adds, "But there is forgiveness with You, that You may be feared" (130:4). Based on the hope of God's promises, he encourages Israel also to hope in the Lord, adding, "For with the Lord there is loving kindness, and with Him is abundant redemption. And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities" (130:7-8). Jesus is the promised Savior, who actually did redeem God's people from all their sins. No doubt Jesus the Christ, who is God in human flesh, came for the purpose of saving His people from their sins, including all of us - God's people of this century.

**(To be continued...)**