

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (1/6)

8 AM: MASS

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

5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (1/7) THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

(Altar Flowers Provided by the Generous Donations of Holy Comforter Parishioners and Friends)

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation

8:30 AM: MASS

9:45-10:45 AM: RCIA (*CRE Office*)

9:45-10:45 AM: Christian Formation (*Lower Level*)

11 AM: MASS

1:30 PM: Latin MASS

4-5:30 PM: High School Youth Ministry

MONDAY (1/8) THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

NOON: MASS

6 PM: Women's Gregorian Chant (*Schola*) Rehearsal

7 PM: Men's Gregorian Chant (*Schola*) Rehearsal

7 PM: Pastoral Council Meeting (*Lower Level*)

TUESDAY (1/9)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (10)

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 (1/11)

8 AM: MASS

NOON: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (1/12)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON-2 PM: MASS and Adoration

NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

SATURDAY (1/13)

8 AM: MASS

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

5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (1/14)

(Altar Flowers Provided by Anonymous Donation)

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation

8:30 AM: MASS

11 AM: MASS

1:30 PM: Latin MASS

PARISHIONER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

January 2, 1965: Jeanne and John Chamales

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

1/7

St. Raymond Penyafort

1/8

St. Apollinaris of Hierapolis

1/9

St. Adrian of Centerbury

1/10

St. William of Bourges

1/11

St. Theodosius the Cenobiarch

1/12

St. Bernard of Corleone

1/13

St. Hilary of Poitiers

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

1 Samuel 3:3b–10, 19

The Lord calls Samuel.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 40:2, 4, 7–8, 8–9, 10

A prayer of commitment to follow the will of the Lord.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 6:13c–15a, 17–20

Paul reminds the Corinthians that their bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit.

Gospel Reading

John 1:35–42

John the Baptist recognizes Jesus as the Lamb of God, and Jesus receives his first followers.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 6

5 PM In Thanksgiving for Father Gerald Fogarty

Sunday, January 7

8:30 AM God's Mercy and Graces (Joel Rivera)

11 AM In Thanksgiving for Father Michael Suarez

1:30 PM In Thanksgiving for Father Dan Kelly

Saturday, January 13

5 PM For Those who Benefit from our Outreach Ministries

Sunday, January 14

8:30 AM Mary and Theodore Reuter Family (Reuter Family)

11 AM In Thanksgiving for our Social Ministry Volunteers

1:30 PM For the Young People of our Parish Preparing for Sacraments

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.

GIFTS FROM GOD

DECEMBER 24-25, 2017

Offertory (plate)	\$18,005
Weekly Offertory Budget	7,403
Above Weekly Budget	\$10,602

DECEMBER 31, 2017

Offertory (plate)	\$ 9,044
Offertory (online)	6773
Weekly Offertory Budget	7,403
Above Weekly Budget	\$ 8,414

Catholic Charities	\$1,980
Outreach	\$1,503

TRACK YOUR GIVING IN 2018

Have you considered using Online Giving? By creating a login and contributing online you'll always have a report of your giving history available. You can access your report easily and securely via the web, and your information will always be up-to-date with your latest contributions. You can find the **Online Giving** link on our website: hollycomforterparish.org

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

HAITI

St. Michel Parish: Is getting ready to celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord. Typically, at this season Father Petina has many marriages to celebrate. Our Haiti Ministry is grateful for the wonderful support of our parishioners. Please keep St. Michel School students, families and teachers in your prayers.

Bi-Parish Haiti Committee Meeting: Next Meeting is February 4, 2018. All are welcome. For more information, contact Anne Knasel anne@stagebridge.net or Ginny Zeller ginnyannzeller@gmail.com.

PARISH NEWS

VESPERS

A sung Vespers service (evening prayer) will be celebrated regularly on Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the church. The psalms will be sung to Gregorian psalm tones, which are easy to learn and contemplative, allowing the participant to focus on the words while raising the voice to God in praise. This is what St. Augustine meant when he famously said that singing is praying twice. Please come and join in the universal prayer of the Church!

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

Kindly notify us if you would like a name added to or deleted from this list, office@hollycomforterparish.org
To arrange to receive Holy Communion or a visit by Fr. Joseph Mary, please call the parish office 434.295.7185.

THE ILL & HOME BOUND

Parishioners: Amber Eros, Dominique Faust, Colette Hall, Kay Colo, Raymond Painley, Jack Valloric, Mildred Dudley, Pam Heron, Kay Russo, Mary Griffin, Mike Charlie, Frances Charlie, Eileen Foster, Tam Nguyen, Joe Murray, Helen Edwards, Fran Cannon Slayton, Michael Ludgate, Frank Pologruto, Al Bracuti, Rose Bowker, Charley Moore.

Friends and Relatives: Joel Rivera, Judge Conrad, Claudia Hartland, Aileen Green, Teresa Hall, Heather Johnson, Christine Fitzgerald, Mary Dominicis, Daniel Moore, Katie George, James Worley, Father Gerald Fogarty, Mary Ann Kline, Beatrice Stack, Thomas Johnson, Brenda Gayle Johnson, Sue Newman, James Worley, Carolyn Ann Davis, Andy Gillespie, JoAnn Fox Klein, Susan Steeby, Suzanne Lank, John Lank, Susan Straub Martin, Josephine Nampijja, Christine Bentéjac, David Rumpf, Kimberly Hasenfus Hulick, Kristin Fagan, John Patrick Dennison, Christine Russo Carpenter, Benedict Pax, Residents of Albemarle County Regional Jail, Residents of 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

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

"A SACRED WALK: END OF LIFE ISSUES" has been rescheduled for **January 21st at 12:00 pm** following the 11:00 AM Mass. Please join us to hear our presenters from Hospice of the Piedmont, Donna M. Authers and Ron Cottrell talk about the sacred journey of traveling with a loved one facing the end of life and how to plan ahead, then go on living! Lunch will be served!

CHRISTIAN FORMATION PRE-K-8

Welcome back and Happy New Year! There will be NO Christian Formation Classes next Sunday, January 14, due to the Martin Luther King Holiday. Classes resume on January 21. Please see the Christian Formation Newsletter for upcoming events!

FIRST RECONCILIATION

The first class for all students preparing for First Reconciliation will take place on Sunday, January 21 on the lower level at the regular religious education time of 9:45. Please have students bring their backpack of materials. Concurrently, parents will meet briefly with Sue Dougherty in the library.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY/CONFIRMATION

Youth Ministry resumes today, **January 7, at 4:00 pm.** Our topic this evening will be "The Four Marks of the Church and its Mission in the World," as we continue to explore our Catholic faith. There will be **NO CLASS** next **Sunday, January 14**, due to the Martin Luther King holiday. Students are encouraged to take part in a service opportunity sometime during the weekend in honor of Dr. King.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS**ADULT FORMATION**

The Richmond Diocese offers many opportunities for Adult Formation. Take advantage of the upcoming webinar "Discipleship in the Home." We are wives, husbands, mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, daughters, and sons. Do those roles determine how we live as disciples of Jesus? What does discipleship look like inside the home? See more information and register here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4608988204379661826>

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC WORKER**Grappling with the sin of racism: an invitation to local Catholics.**

Calling local adult Catholics! Join us in an exploration of racism and Catholicism. How can we awake and help build the City of God amid structures of white supremacy? Or, in the words of Father Bryan Massingale, "We all are wounded by the sin of racism... How can we struggle together against an evil that harms us all?" Together we will seek ways to better witness to God's love in the present and build a more just future.

We will meet at the Church of the Incarnation from 9:30am-3pm on Saturday, January 20. Our day will include prayer, speakers, small group discussion, and opportunities for action. Doors open at 9:00am for coffee and bagels. Lunch will be provided. Please come for all or part of the day. Pre-registration is required; we request a \$10 contribution per person and scholarships are available. To reserve your spot, or for more information, please contact Laura Brown at cvillecw@gmail.com.

COMMONWEALTH CATHOLIC CHARITIES**New Year's Resolutions**

Have you made any New Year's Resolution for 2018? If not, there's still time and CCC would like to help! This year, let us all resolve to provide Comfort and Compassion in our Communities.

Become a foster parent-start the process now.

Visit www.cccofva.org/foster-care to see what it takes to become a foster parent.

Get financial counseling to buy a new house.

Whether trying to improve credit scores, create a workable budget, purchase a home, or avoid foreclosures, CCC's certified financial and housing counselors can help develop a plan to achieve financial goals through one-on-one counseling and classes and workshops. Learn more at www.cccofva.org/income-and-asset-building.

Resolve to have healthier relationships with counseling.

Our counseling covers a variety of issues such as depression, anxiety, marital problems, anger issues, grief, domestic violence, adjustment issues, custody cases, and co-parenting issues. Learn more at www.cccofva.org/counseling-services.

Welcome the stranger by supporting CCC services for refugees and immigrants

Refugees and immigrants come to us with great need, having left their homes, possessions, and often even their families in search of safety and a new start. CCC provides services that help these individuals achieve stability and equips them with the skills and guidance they need to begin their new lives in the United States. To learn how you can help, visit www.cccofva.org/volunteer.

MARCH FOR LIFE 2018

Registration is now open for the March for Life Pilgrimage for youth and young adults! This overnight pilgrimage is for **January 18-19, 2018** and is intended for **middle and high school youth, campus ministry students, and young adults.** The Diocese has only been allotted 500 tickets this year, so don't delay! evangelizerichmond.org/events/marchforlife2018

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

CCS is currently taking applications for students entering Pre-K through 8th grade in the 2018-19 school year. Visit www.cvillecatholic.org/admissions/ to apply or contact Katrina Kuhn (k.kuhn@cvillecatholic.org) to schedule a tour of the school. Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to learn more about a school community rooted in its three core pillars of Christ, Community, and Scholars. We are CCS!

FROM THE PASTOR**THE NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER:****WALK WITH THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY TO ACCOMPLISH THE IMPOSSIBLE.**

"Mother of Jesus, be our protector and defender against all that is harmful or evil. Bring our needs before Almighty God, that we may be surrounded by God's Holy Angels, and give us the grace to conquer every danger and overcome all that would threaten our health and wellbeing."



To all of you, my dear Parishioners of Holy Comforter, please be assured of my prayers for this New Year, that you will be filled with many graces and blessings, all of which flow from Jesus Christ and the intercession of the blessed Virgin Mary.

On January 1st, we celebrate the feast of the Motherhood of Mary. The Angel Gabriel told Mary at the Annunciation, that **"nothing is impossible for God"**. On that day we celebrate the mysterious power and love of God that would allow a virgin to conceive the Son of God. We celebrate the mystery that God actually becomes man in the person of Jesus through the Motherhood of the Virgin Mary. We celebrate that through Mary's free cooperation with God to become the Mother of God, our human nature is restored. These mysteries continue to have great significance and consequence for us as we begin a new year and make some resolutions.

Nothing is impossible for God. If only we can make that one resolution to firmly believe and act that nothing is impossible for God, it will be enough to take us through 2018. What we see in the life of Mary and her relationship with God is that with strong faith, God can do all things.

As we begin this year, we have before us two great celebrations coming in 2020: the Diocese of Richmond celebrates 200 years and our parish celebrates 140 years. As a parish we have committed ourselves **"to build up our Church anew; laying the foundation for the next generation of parishioners."** There is a lot we have set ourselves to do; the bar is high enough for someone to say; **"it is impossible to do all of that,"** looking at what is stated in our small booklet: **"Holy Comforter 2020."** I invite each one of you to believe in yourself to do the "impossible" by the grace of God. St. Paul said, "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." (Phil. 4:13) We trust not in our own strength and wisdom but in the One who made the Virgin conceive without a man and remain a Virgin. Our attitude need to be that of Mary, who surrendered her weakness to the strength of God so that He, the Almighty, could do the impossible, because nothing is impossible for God. What we could not build in 2017, we can do in 2018 because "God will provide." The teaching and significance of this belief, **"nothing impossible for God,"** can help us to find our order and harmony in all that we do and say. Our highest calling is found in our relationship with Christ, through whom God accomplished all things and in our free decision to purposely and intentionally follow and serve Jesus to accomplish in us all that God wants. Let us promise to use our gifts for the good of our neighbors and the good of our Church to accomplish the mission of Christ. Let us promise to make our lives more connected to one God through prayer and more connected to another through truthful communications. Let us resolve that we shall not restrict Christ to our private lives, but give Him freedom to act in every moment and action of our lives. Let us resolve to be active and realistic disciples of Jesus Christ. Let us resolve to allow Christ to work through me and you, as He does through Mary, Mother of God and Mother of the Church. **HAPPY NEW YEAR.**