

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

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

MONDAY (1/15) Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday

(Parish Offices are Closed Today)

NOON: MASS

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

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

TUESDAY (1/16)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (17)

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 (1/18)

7 AM: MASS (*Please note this time change*)

NOON: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (1/19)

8 AM: MASS

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

2 PM: Finance Council Meeting (*Lower Level*)

SATURDAY (1/20)

8 AM: MASS

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

5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (1/21)

(Altar Flowers Provided by Anonymous Donation)

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation

8:30 AM: MASS

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

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

11 AM: MASS

NOON: Sacred Walk Hospice Presentation and Luncheon (*Lower Level*)

4-5:30 PM: High School Youth Ministry

PARISHIONER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

January 2, 1965: Jeanne and John Chamales

**NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS
THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

First Reading

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

God spared the people of Nineveh because they heeded the message God sent through Jonah.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

The Lord teaches us his ways.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Paul warns the Corinthians that they must act differently because the world in its present form is passing away.

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:14-20

Jesus calls the fishermen, Simon and Andrew, James and John, to be his disciples.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 13

5 PM For the Young People of our Parish Preparing for Sacraments

Sunday, January 14

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

11 AM † Juan Astrue (John Noble)

1:30 PM Members of our Parish

Monday, January 15

NOON Katherine (Paul Savoie)

Tuesday, January 16

NOON Katherine (Paul Savoie)

Wednesday, January 17

NOON Katherine (Paul Savoie)

Thursday, January 18

7 AM Katherine (Paul Savoie)

Friday, January 19

8 AM Abigail Lannon (Victoria Lannon)

Saturday, January 20

8 AM Katherine (Paul Savoie)

5 PM † Edward Bradley (Tom and Janie Eckman)

Sunday, January 21

8:30 AM † Faith Schaff (Sharon Dudley)

11 AM Members of our Parish and Joan Frances Chatigny

HELP NEEDED AT OLP

Our Lady of Peace Assisted Living is looking for someone to lead and pray the Rosary with its residents on a regular basis. Please contact Our Lady of Peace at 434-973-1155 if you are interested.

GIFTS FROM GOD

JANUARY 6-7, 2018

Offertory (plate)	\$ 5,089
Weekly Offertory Budget	<u>7,403</u>
<i>Below Weekly Budget</i>	\$ 2,314

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: holycomforterparish.org

PARISH NEWS

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

Kindly notify us if you would like a name added to or deleted from this list, office@holycomforterparish.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 Dominicus, 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, 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.

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Come join our rosary prayer family in praying the rosary every Wednesday at 6:15pm in the Chapel. Start the New Year with a dedication to praying the rosary.

Intention Book

Please write your intentions in the Intention Book outside of the Chapel. We pray every week for every intention listed.

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM NEW EVANGELIZATION

There is a supply of "The New Testament" paperback books in a box on the floor in the commons that are free and on a first come/first serve basis. They are the Catholic Edition of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible and are presented in an easy to read format. These books are provided compliments of Dynamic Catholic in coordination with your New Evangelization Committee. Please help yourself. This is a good opportunity to work your way through The New Testament in a convenient format. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Steve Ham at steven_ham@comcast.net.

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

1/14	St. Save
1/15	St. Ita
1/16	St. Berard of Carbio
1/17	St. Anthony the Abbot
1/18	St. Volusian
1/19	St. Canute IV
1/20	Bl. Cyprian Michael Iwene Tansi

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

VA BISHOPS INVITE ALL TO JOIN THEM AT LITURGY FOR LEGISLATORS, NEEDS OF VIRGINIA

Catholics are called to pray for our civic leaders as we engage in the public square. Join Arlington Bishop Michael F. Burbidge and Richmond Bishop Barry C. Knestout, along with the Virginia Catholic Conference, their public policy agency, at a special liturgy for Virginia's elected officials and the needs of the state. The third annual **Virginia Vespers: Evening Prayer for the Commonwealth** will be held at the beautiful, historic Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Richmond, at 5 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 15, 2018. The hour-long service draws on an ancient Christian liturgy and includes Scripture and sacred music provided by local Catholic school choirs. A wine and appetizers reception follows. Register at www.vacatholic.org.

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

Charlottesville Catholic School is now accepting applications for Pre-K through 8th grade for the 2018-19 school year. Has your child ever wondered what it would be like to be a student at CCS? If so, we invite them to do just that and be an Archangel for a Day on Monday, January 22! To register to spend the day with us, please visit the website at www.cvillcatholic.org or email admissions@cvillcatholic.org for more information.

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

Calling local Catholics: let's grapple with the sin of racism

Let's seek better ways of witnessing to God's love and justice. Active and once-active Catholics are warmly welcome to attend this event on **Saturday, January 20** at the Church of the Incarnation. We'll gather from 9:30am-3:00pm for prayer and song, great speakers, small group discussion, and invitations to follow-up actions. Doors open at 9:00am for coffee and bagels. Lunch will be provided. We request a \$10 contribution per person and scholarships are available. Pre-registration is required; please reserve your spot by contacting cvillcw@gmail.com

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

HAITI

St. Thomas Aquinas and Holy Comforter—twinned with St. Michel Saltadere: What does the Haiti Ministry do? We support our twin parish and its community in Saltadere through prayer, visits and raising funds in support of the St. Michel parish schools, a health clinic and an improved water supply. We also support some projects with microloans. In March, parishioners and Catholic UVA students will visit. Also in March, Father Petina will visit us. Please keep our twin parish 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.

OUTREACH

The Advent collection for the Food Pantry at Holy Comforter yielded **1,334 pounds** from the Knights of Columbus Food for Families collection! We will continue to collect for The Food Pantry in January. The Food Pantry is open for those in need in the Charlottesville and Albemarle County area on Tues, Wed and Fri mornings from 10 - noon. Suggested items: Canned Fish/ Meats, Chunky Soups, Fruits, Vegetables, Beans and Lentils, Peanut Butter, Mac & Cheese and basic hygiene items (soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, etc.). Thank you to the Knights of Columbus and to the parishioners for your support!

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

All of us will face the reality of death and many of us will be in the position of caring for loved ones who are dying. Join us **NEXT Sunday, January 21 at 12:00 noon** to learn how to address both of these challenges in a deeply spiritual and positive way. **"A SACRED WALK: END OF LIFE ISSUES"** will be presented by Hospice volunteer and writer Donna Authers and Hospice of the Piedmont CEO Ron Cottrell. Lunch will be provided!

CHRISTIAN FORMATION PRE-K-8:

A reminder that there is NO class THIS Sunday, January 14 due to the MLK holiday. Congratulations to Finn Wilkinson and Madi Grider who were selected our King and Queen at our Epiphany celebration last week! Classes resume next Sunday, January 21st.

FIRST SACRAMENTS AND CONFIRMATION:

Students preparing for First Communion and Confirmation will be recognized at the **8:30** Mass on January 21. All parishioners are asked to pray for them during this time by taking a prayer card with the name of one or more of the students.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

There is no class this Sunday, January 14, due to the MLK holiday. Next Sunday, we will engage in a yet-to-be-determined service project. Look for an email with the details!

**Speak, O God,
for your servant hears.**



FROM THE PASTOR 2018
THE JOURNEY WITH THE MAGI



“Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, the Magi from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, ‘Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him’-----” (Mat. 2: 1ff).

We believe that Christian life is a journey and we travel with a destiny in mind. The Christmas story itself is full of journeys. Joseph and Mary travelled to Bethlehem because of the census. The Angels traveled from heaven to tell the shepherds about Jesus’ birth. The shepherds travelled to the manger. Joseph, Mary and Jesus all travelled to Egypt to escape Herod’s death sentence. I invite you that as we begin this ordinary time of Church calendar we take off from where we ended the Christmas season. This time with feast of the Epiphany, taking the Journey with the Magi following the STAR and see how interesting the journey will be.

We don’t really know for sure how many people traveled with these Magi from East. Presuming they were “kings,” each of them must have traveled with a big entourage of people with them. While the details are not provided in the Bible, we go with the wisdom of the tradition and reflect on what can benefit our personal journey of faith. The little we know about the wise men makes their story more intriguing. Why would three non-Jewish foreigners be interested in the birth of a Jewish King? Why would they know about or care about a Jewish prophecy? Why would they travel so far in order to see a baby? These guys stand quietly in the background of most every nativity scene, wearing their strange robes and crazy hats. They are not the main characters in the Christmas story. But they offer us an interesting opportunity to think about the journey of seeking God.



While we don’t know much about these kings, also referred to as Wise Men, we do know these important things: These men were seekers. They wanted to know the truth. They studied. They looked for wisdom. The wise men even looked outside of their own traditions and culture, outside of their own religious background. They were not content to just sit and passively take in what they were told. They were seekers. After a long and arduous journey, these Seekers arrived at the home of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus and presented the Christ child with three gifts: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. What is particularly significant about this visit is that the Magi were not followers of the Jewish faith. And yet, as they told King Herod, they had followed Christ’s star in order to come worship the newborn King of the Jews. While those who waited expectantly for the coming of the Messiah were metaphorically still sleeping, these Wise Men had studied the prophecies, looked for the signs, and followed the path laid out before them. Some questions for us: ***Do you consider yourself wise, where is your wisdom? What are you seeking in this life? Are you awake to the prophesy of our time and what is your response? Do you look beyond your own traditions and culture in search of the truth in your faith?*** (To be continued--).