

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

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*)

5-7 PM: High School Youth Ministry

MONDAY (1/22)

NOON: MASS

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

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

TUESDAY (1/23)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (1/24)

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 (1/25)

8 AM: MASS

NOON: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (1/26)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: MASS for Deceased Parishioners

NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

SATURDAY (1/27)

8 AM: MASS

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

5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (1/28)

(Altar Flowers Provided by the Conaway-Petroni Family)

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

1:30 PM: Latin MASS

4-5:30 PM: High School Youth Ministry

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

First Reading

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses tells the people that God will raise up for them a new prophet.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9

A song of praise to the Lord.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 7:32-35

Paul expresses his concern that those who are married are more likely to face the distractions of earthly life than those who are celibate.

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:21-28 Jesus heals a man with an unclean spirit and his fame spreads throughout Galilee.

MASS INTENTIONS

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 Joan Frances Chatigny and Members of our Parish

Monday, January 22

NOON Katherine (Paul Savoie)

Tuesday, January 23

NOON † Ginger Bauler (Mary Griffin); Katherine (Paul Savoie)

Wednesday, January 24

NOON Katherine (Paul Savoie)

Thursday, January 25

8 AM Peter Savoie (Paul Savoie)

Friday, January 26

NOON Peter Savoie (Paul Savoie)

Saturday, January 27

8 AM Peter Savoie (Paul Savoie)

5 PM Members of our Parish

Sunday, January 28

8:30 AM † Edward Bradley (The Conaway-Petroni Family)

11 AM Peter Savoie (Paul Savoie)

1:30 PM Members of our Parish

PARISHIONER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

January 2, 1965: Jeanne and John Chamales

GIFTS FROM GOD

JANUARY 13-14, 2018

Offertory (plate)	\$4,355
Offertory (online)	\$5,103
Weekly Offertory Budget	<u>7,403</u>
Above Weekly Budget	\$2,055

Outreach \$2,469

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: Dominique Faust, Kay Colo, Raymond Painley, Jack Valloric, Mildred Dudley, Pam Heron, Kay Russo, Mary Griffin, Mike 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, 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.

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.

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

1/21	St. Agnes
1/22	St. Vincent Pallotti
1/23	St. Ildephonsus
1/24	St. Francis de Sales
1/25	Conversion of St. Paul
1/26	St. Timothy
1/27	St. Angela Merici

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

WOMEN'S CURSILLO WEEKEND

A Women's Cursillo Weekend will be held April 12-15, 2018, at Camp Overlook (near Harrisonburg). The purpose of the Catholic Cursillo Movement is to support people in living out their faith in their everyday lives. It is an inspiring 3-day retreat led by a dedicated team of lay adults and a Catholic priest from our area.



If you are a registered Catholic parishioner, you are encouraged to **submit your application by Saturday, March 31, 2018**, and must be sponsored by a person (male

or female) who has made a Cursillo weekend previously. If you do not know anyone who has made a Cursillo weekend and who can sponsor you, please contact Karen and Roy Norville at valleycursillo@gmail.com and we can arrange a sponsor for you. For more detailed information and to download an application, please go to the Valley Cursillo website: www.valleycursillo.com

P.S. The next **Men's Cursillo Weekend** will be held October 18-21, 2018, at Camp Overlook as well.

KATERI CIRCLE

The Native American Ministry of the Diocese of Richmond invites you to attend an evening of fellowship, prayer and dialogue about traditional Native American culture and spirituality. A Kateri Circle is a group of individuals of all cultures who belong to a prayer circle/group who strives to live a saintly life through the intercession of St. Kateri Tekakwitha. The areas of focus for Kateri Circles are spirituality, catechesis, hospitality and social justice. Please join us on January 30, 2018, 6:00-8:00pm, Pastoral Center, 7800 Carousel Lane, Richmond. Light refreshments will be served. For more information please contact the Office for Black Catholics, obc@richmonddiocese.org or (804) 622-5262. We look forward to welcoming you.

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Since 1974, **National Catholic Schools Week** is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. This year, the celebration runs from January 28 through February 3. Our own Charlottesville Catholic School will take part in this national celebration by participating in various activities throughout the week. Please join the faculty, staff, and students of Charlottesville Catholic School as they kick off the week with an Open House on January 28 from 1:00 – 3:00pm. We invite you to drop by to tour our beautiful campus and learn more about all that Charlottesville Catholic School has to offer everyone in our great community. For more information about CCS or Catholic Schools Week activities, contact Admissions Coordinator, Katrina Kuhn (k.kuhn@cvillecatholic.org) or call 434.964.0400.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES**HAITI****St. Michel Saltadere**

Father Petina has been St. Michel's pastor since September 2016. He is the leader of the parish, of the parish school and the chapel schools. He also oversees the work of the clinic. He is a member of the community Water Committee. His vehicle provides transportation for sick patients into the government hospital in Hinche. In March, parishioners and Catholic UVA students will visit him. 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.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION**ADULT FAITH FORMATION****A Sacred Walk, End of Life Issues**

This presentation by hospice volunteer and writer Donna Authers and Hospice of the Piedmont CEO Ron Cottrell, will take place THIS Sunday at 12:00 noon on the lower level. Lunch will be served. Please join us to learn more about this important topic for caretakers and those they care for!

New Opportunities! The more that we nourish our spiritual life, the closer we grow to God! It is an ongoing life-long process. Please consider taking part in one of the upcoming Adult Faith Formation opportunities:

- *With Jesus to the Cross: A Lenten Guide on the Sunday Mass Readings – Year B.* Will meet on Sunday from 8:45-9:45 in the chapel from Feb. 18 through March 25.
- *Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life*, by Henri Nouwen. This 4-week book study will be facilitated by parishioner Dianne Murray on Mondays. The time can be evening or morning depending on the needs of the participants.

Please indicate your interest by signing the clipboard on the Christian Formation Table in the lobby.

FIRST SACRAMENTS AND CONFIRMATION

Students preparing to receive these Sacraments of Initiation will be introduced at the 8:30 Mass this Sunday. Please take a prayer card with a name on it to remind you to pray for one or more of them. The students are as follows:

First Sacraments

Eamon Barnaby, Henry Darby, Jace Forst, Tristan Garbaccio, Madison Grider, Cullen Juge, Madeline Tracci, Shiloh Weaver, Olivia Wetzel, Elisabeth Worley.

Confirmation

Olivia Barnaby, Eamon Dougherty, Hewson Duffy, Christopher Kovalski, Stephanie Langan.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

This week students will provide hospitality for PACEM intake at the HAVEN. We will meet at the church at **5:05** to walk to the Haven. Pick up will be at the HAVEN at **6:45**. The following Sunday, Jan. 28, class will take place as usual from 4:00-5:30.

FROM THE PASTOR 2018
THE JOURNEY WITH THE MAGI (part 2)



“Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.” (Mt. 2:2)

Let me ask a question—one that I wish I could actually have time to hear each of you answer. Here it is: *“What began your journey to Christ? What led you to Jesus?”* I really would love to hear your replies because those kinds of testimonies are always inspiring to many. I am always inspired when I hear about what got people started on their journey to Jesus. For the Magi, it was the **“STAR.”** We can observe how they journey in stages from the light of a star to the bright and glorious Light of Jesus Christ. And, of course, to authentically encounter the Lord is to experience conversion. All the elements of this story ultimately serve to cause them to **“return to their country by another route.”** The Magi were commonly thought of as astronomers, monitoring and tracking the stars and looking for heavenly bodies as predictors of earthly events. According to what they observed, they knew something important was taking place. What is very odd in the biblical text in verse nine, **it says that the star stopped over a building in Bethlehem.** How a star could be observable in the heavens from a thousand miles away to guide these starwatchers, and at the same time be localized in this way, remains a complete mystery. Yet that was the experience of these wise men. But what is it that made these men wise, as opposed to purely superstitious? St. Thomas Aquinas thought superstition deviated from true religion because it was either directed at the wrong thing or at the right thing in the wrong manner and the Magi don’t fall into such categories because they were using the acceptable norm to seek the truth. Not only were they seeking knowledge in ancient books and scriptures, they were watching the world around them. There were quite a few people who had access to the Jewish scriptures, containing the prophecies of the Messiah. But it seems that only these few noticed this strange light in the heavens and made the connection. The Wise Men were engaged in their world, watching for signs of God. The Magi had a desire to know the truth and were watchful for God’s presence and for His plan, for a spiritual lesson to gather from their attentiveness to His movements in time and in their lives. That watchfulness opened the door for them to come face to face with the Savior. **How often do we get so caught up in our lives—our family situations, our jobs, our medical problems, day to day tasks and chores, that we fail to be truly watchful, focused, and attentive to God’s presence and to His will for our lives?** Do you allow your worries, responsibilities, and other things to distract you from the way God is working in you? These distractions are keeping you from meeting Jesus in an intimate way on a regular basis in your life.

Take a moment to think about something in your life that is burdensome or distracting to you in some way. Maybe a relationship or a problem at work or a medical condition is keeping you from seeing how God is working—not necessarily in spite of that obstacle—but *through* that very obstacle, to make you a “holy” person today. We see the great risk the Magi were willing to take, carrying valuables hundreds of miles across an international border to pay homage to the Messiah, and the value of the gifts they brought indicates how thankful they were for him. They remind us that living a godly life often involves risk, and also that prayer, Bible study, worship, and financial support of the Church may not be easy or convenient, but the same Lord who was worthy of the sacrifice the Magi made is worthy of our sacrifice of time, treasure, and energy. **We do well to wonder what is the “star” that God used to call each of us?** Perhaps it was Scripture, but more typically it is someone whom God has used in order to reach us: a parent, a family member, a friend, a priest, a religious sister, or a devoted lay person. **Who are the stars in your life through whom God called you?** (to be continued)