

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (2/3)

8 AM: MASS

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

5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (2/4) Second Collection: Respect Life
(*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*)

9:45-10:45 AM: Adult Presentation: *Lenten Family*
Activities (Chapel)

11 AM: MASS

1:30 PM: Latin MASS

4-5:30 PM: High School Youth Ministry

MONDAY (2/5)

NOON: MASS

5:15-8 PM: Youth, Women and Men's Schola
Rehearsals (*Lower Level*)

6 PM: Lawyers Helping Lawyers (*Lower Level*)

TUESDAY (2/6)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (2/7)

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 (2/8)

8 AM: MASS

NOON: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (2/9)

8 AM: MASS

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

3:30 PM: Wedding Rehearsal

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.

SATURDAY (2/10)

8 AM: MASS

1 PM: Wedding: *Mary Margaret Bradbury and Matthew Looby*

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

5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (2/11) Second Collection: Outreach
(*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 (*Lower Level*)

11 AM: MASS

1:30 PM: Latin MASS

4-5:30 PM: High School Youth Ministry

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 3

8 AM Peter Savoie (Paul Savoie)

5 PM Peter Savoie (Paul Savoie)

Sunday, February 4

8:30 AM †John Nauss (Rose Marie Calzadilla) and
Members of our Parish

11 AM †Alec DeJong (Amy Franklin)

1:30 PM Sandy (Paul Savoie)

Monday, February 5

NOON Sandy (Paul Savoie)

Tuesday, February 6

NOON Sandy (Paul Savoie)

Wednesday, February 7

NOON Sandy (Paul Savoie)

Thursday, February 8

8 AM †Stan Makielski (Scarlett Makielski); Sandy
(Paul Savoie); Pattie J. Goodison (Michele Skarvelis)

Friday, February 9

8 AM †Mable P. Dodaro (Michele Skarvelis);
Christine (Paul Savoie)

Saturday, February 10

8 AM Christine (Paul Savoie)

5 PM Members of our Parish

Sunday, February 11

8:30 AM †Jerard, Vincent and Edward Zinc (Jeanne
and Ed Mickiewicz)

11 AM †William Boyd (Boyd and Trebour Family);
† P. J. Iannaconi (Soup Kitchen Volunteers)

1:30 PM Christine (Paul Savoie)

LOST AND FOUND

Please check the coat rack for any items you may have left behind.

GIFTS FROM GOD

JANUARY 27-28, 2018

Offertory (plate)	\$4,439
Weekly Offertory Budget	<u>7,403</u>
<i>Below Weekly Budget</i>	<i>(\$2,964)</i>

Sanctuary Renovation \$1,620

SECOND COLLECTIONS ARE ACCEPTED ONLINE

This weekend's Respect Life contribution may be made in church or online. Please find the **Online Giving** link on our website: holycomforterparish.org

PARISH NEWS

WELCOME NEWLY REGISTERED PARISHIONERS!

Jeffrey and Wendy Watson Stone and Family

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: Ginnie Gillen, 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: Samantha Nelson, 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, 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.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46

The Law regarding leprosy is given to Moses and Aaron.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 32:1-2, 5, 11

A prayer of contrition and confession for sin.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1

Paul urges the Corinthians to imitate him as he imitates Christ.

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:40-45

Jesus cures a person with leprosy, who reports his cure to everyone.

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

2/4	St. Joseph of Leonessa
2/5	St. Agatha
2/6	St. Paul Miki & Companions
2/7	St. Colette of Corbie
2/8	St. Jerome Emiliani
2/9	St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin
2/10	St. Scholastica

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.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

HAITI

St. Michel Saltadere: Father Petina is getting ready for the visit of parishioners and students. They plan to travel through the Dominican Republic to Banica and cross the border there. Father Petina reports that the school bathroom is not in good repair. He is requesting extra money for new construction. This is an extra expense for the school. Thank you for your support. Please keep the travelers and our twin parish in your prayers.

Bi-Parish Haiti Committee: There is a meeting TODAY February 4, 2018 at 1:30 PM in the Community Room at St. Thomas. All are welcome. For more information, contact Anne Knasel anne@stagebridge.net or Ginny Zeller ginnyannzeller@gmail.com.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

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.

LENTEN FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Learn what you can do to make Lent a sacred time of preparation for Easter in your family by attending a presentation **THIS Sunday, February 4 from 9:45-10:45 AM** in the Chapel. Some useful hands-on materials and practices will be offered.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

High school students will meet this **Sunday, February 4 from 4:00-5:30** as usual. This will be a combination catechesis, social, and service. Please join us!

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

COMMONWEALTH CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Show a Little Love This Valentine's Day!

Show a little love this Valentine's Day by volunteering. Much of CCC's success depends on the work of volunteers—caring individuals who enjoy sharing their unique talents and skills to make life better for others. Visit www.cccofva.org/volunteer to see the volunteer opportunities in your area.

MEN'S DAY OF REPLETION

The Office for Black Catholics Men's Day of Reflection will be held Saturday, February 24, 2018, 8:00-5:00 at the Basilica of St. Mary of the IC in Norfolk, 232 Chapel Street. This year's theme is "Real Men Practice What They Preach". Pope Francis calls all people of God to missionary discipleship, to speak and act in accord with the mission of Jesus Christ. I invite you to join other faith filled men, young and not so young, for an inspiring day of creativity, collaboration and prayer. God calls each of you not just to faithfulness but also fruitfulness, "and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well." (2 Tim 2:2) Register online, www.regonline.com/obcmendor2018. Lodging available at a discounted rate at the Norfolk Waterside. Reserve your room at the time of registration. Cost: \$30 General, \$25 Senior, \$20 Young Adult (18-39). No fee for clergy and religious. Lunch and materials included. The discounted rates are made possible by the Diocesan Appeal. For more information please contact Devin Jones, djones@richmonddiocese.org or (804) 622-5262.

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

Registration is now OPEN for the 2018 Catholic Men's Conference! All men over 18 are invited on March 17, 2018 to Saint Bede Catholic Church in Williamsburg, VA for our 6th Annual Diocesan Men's Conference.

This year's theme, "Truly Present," will explore Jesus' presence to us and our call to be present in all our relationships in the world as husband, father, brother, and friend. This year will feature a dual-track conference with keynote speakers in English and Spanish, breakout opportunities, Reconciliation, Adoration, and Mass. Let all your friends know!

Registration is available online for \$55 until March 10, 2018. After that point, registration will only be available at the door for \$60. As always, the conference is free for priests and religious brothers.

Please contact the Center for Marriage, Family, and Life at cmfl@richmonddiocese.org or 804-622-5109 for more information.

FROM THE PASTOR 2018
THE JOURNEY WITH THE MAGI (Part 4)



“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.” (Prov. 3: 5-6)

This journey of the Magi was a massive step of faith. They had some ancient scripture (that wasn't even from their own tradition). They had this strange light in the sky. But they had no guarantees. They had no address, no GPS to get them safely where they had to go. There was no promise that they would find anything after all their effort. The wise men simply had hope that the words of scripture were true, that they could make the long journey safely, and that they would get to see this baby king. That's the very definition of faith. Trusting God's leading without guarantees, trusting so much that you step out and you follow. It was also true of them as it was said about Abraham: ***“Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” (Rm. 4:18).***

We are aware that as Christians, never have we been promised an easy life; we are still supposed to trust God, knowing that He may lead us into hardships. Sometimes it feels like you are standing at the top of a cliff, fearfully putting your trust in someone who may well push you off, against your wishes and with no warning. I remember wrestling with this during one of my most unwell times. “How can I trust someone who may allow me to go even deeper into this pit of suffering?” It's a very real question. If I can't trust a God who loves me to protect me from what I fear most, then what can I trust Him for? Sometimes I think we forget what it means to be a Christian. It means that we've been crucified with Christ. Crucified! We have given up all of our earthly rights in the hope that we can be restored to relationship with God; that we have a home in heaven; and that all things will, ultimately, work together for our good. We do not chiefly trust in God to make our lives easier. We surrender our lives, to share in His sufferings, because we believe it is the greatest possible trade we could make. Our trust is in God, not for earthly pleasures, but for the glory that will one day be revealed. Too many times we tell ourselves to wait for the perfect conditions before we take up a challenging journey. But there will never be perfect conditions. We will never have enough money, the perfect companion or the perfect job. We will never have enough to perfectly attack the challenge because that is not what is needed in order to prevail. God often is not trying to change your circumstances. He wants to change your heart. Once you trust God, then it is the Lord that is solving the problem for you. Your future is not determined by your circumstances or defined by your past; it is based on your potential and faith in God. God is willing to work for you, if you are willing to work for God. But working for God begins at home. You have to prepare yourself in God's ways first. It also requires risk and obedience to God. But ultimately, trusting God allows Him to create a ***miracle*** out of your mess. No matter what you're going to face this next week, you're not going to face it alone. God is with you, he is in you, and he is for you and his answers are at that spot where the ***STAR*** stops. ***(To be continued-).***