

**CALLED TO GIVE AN ACCOUNT**  
**MINISTRIES' AND COMMITTEES' EOY 2016 REPORTS**  
**HOLY COMFORTER PARISH**

**FROM THE PASTOR**

**My Dear Parishioners:**

Welcome to our fourth report on parish ministries, Liturgy and Worship. I can't imagine speaking of the Church without the worshipping community. The purpose of worship for us Roman Catholics is **the glorification of God and the edification of God's people** as we journey in faith. Thank you for making an effort to come to your church Sunday after Sunday, on feast days of obligation and during the weekdays to gather around the Word and Sacrament to "do this in memory of me." That is, to hold in memory the command of the Lord to gather, to proclaim the Sacred Scriptures, and to "eat this bread and drink the cup" until He comes again in glory. This ministry is valued as the central ministry of our parish community from which we all take our identity and all other activities of the parish flow. I am very grateful in a special way to all of you who volunteer and take on great responsibilities to make our liturgies meaningful, inspirational and lively, bringing us closer to God and to one another. May the Lord reward you abundantly!

Fr. Joseph Mary

**The Liturgy and Worship Ministry – James Morrisard, Chair**

This ministry provides the opportunity to fulfill our baptismal call of service to one another. Our liturgies utilize the talents and gifts that God has given this community to the fullest extent. Whether participation is through "behind the scenes" preparation and planning or through a public role of service within the Mass, a parishioner's contributions help our liturgies to be truly life-giving celebrations. The ministry plans all our ordinary and extraordinary liturgies and schedules the Masses for feast days and holy days of obligation.

Under this ministry are the following committees:

**Music: Daniel Kirkland, Minister**

The Music Ministry provides music for all of our weekend liturgies and Holy Days, as well as for weddings, funerals and other special occasions, upon request. Daniel is responsible for choosing the sacred music for weekend Masses, scheduling cantors, and recruiting members for the choir. There is a current need for additional voices, especially women's voices, to strengthen the group. Daniel is developing a children's choir to sing at the 8:30 am Children's Mass, the first Sunday of every month. With expansion of the music in mind, Daniel plans to incorporate musical instruments on an individual basis.

**Lectors: Kevin Connally, Coordinator**

Lectors proclaim the Word of the Lord during the Liturgy. A lector should have a passion for Scripture. Six new Lectors began serving in 2016, which has helped to offset attrition. Recruitment efforts will continue due to a shortage of readers for the Saturday 5 pm Mass. The target for scheduling is an average of once a month over the year – with a reasonable time between assignments. However, this has been difficult due to the small number of lectors. Existing Lectors may be coached, as needed, to improve focus on the concept of proclaiming. New recruits are always welcome. Training in the specifics of the ministry is provided as the need arises.

**Sacristans: Suzanne Bailey, Chair**

The sacristan ministry is a group of approximately twenty dedicated volunteers who work behind the scenes to prepare the worship space for the celebration of the sacraments each week. Duties range from polishing, light cleaning, washing and ironing of altar linens and altar cloths, and replacing candles and altar cloths as needed. The cloths used at the altar during the Eucharistic celebration are treated with the utmost care and respect, as they are used in the preparation and celebration of the sacred mysteries. Accordingly, guidelines are provided for their care. All are welcome to participate based on the time and talents or limitations of each individual person.

**Extraordinary Ministers of The Eucharist: Michelle Edwards, Coordinator**

There are 44 Extraordinary Ministers responsible for helping the celebrating priest distribute the Body and Blood of Christ at the weekend and Holy Day Masses. In 2016 a few ministers left and two new ministers were added. Fr. Joseph Mary procured distinctive new medals for each Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, and a protocol was established for distributing low gluten hosts. Training in the specifics of this ministry is provided.

**Pastoral Care: Barbara Rainville, Coordinator**

This team of dedicated volunteers take communion to members of the parish who are home-bound. The team will identify a need for Anointing of the sick and notify the pastor accordingly. In any given week twenty to thirty people receive Holy Communion at home, as well as in health-care and assisted living facilities. The activities are coordinated across all three parishes in Charlottesville to avoid unnecessary overlap. An annual gathering of all Eucharistic ministers from the three parishes is planned for Lent 2017 at Church of the Incarnation.

**Altar Servers: Patrick Mason, Coordinator**

With the assistance of Father Joseph Mary and Sue Dougherty, Coordinator of Religious Education, Patrick has trained four new altar servers. Recruitment among children over the age of eight, as well as adults is on-going. The need is still great for more committed volunteers and to form an altar server guild.

**Ushers: Jim Morrisard, Coordinator**

There are 17 Ushers/Greeters, with a current need for volunteers at the 5 pm Saturday Mass. One couple has to be scheduled every week and more volunteers are very much welcome to join the team.

**Bereavement and Hope Ministry: Connie Flamm, Coordinator**

This ministry helps family members who have lost a loved one cope with their grief as they make arrangements for funeral Liturgical services. Members of the ministry are responsible for preparing the worship guide for the funeral and providing assistance during the funeral, by serving as a Eucharistic Minister, Usher, Lector or Altar Server.

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**GIFTS FROM GOD**

***Due to limited space, we were unable to report offertory contributions last week.***

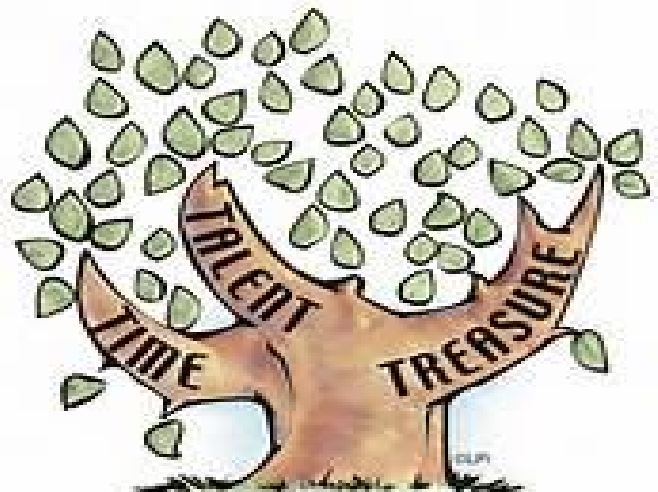
Offertory February 18-19, 2017 (Plate)	\$4,167.50
Health Wagon	\$797
Outreach	513
Weekly Offertory Budget	\$7,173.00
Offertory Received	<u>4,167.50</u>
Deficit	(\$3,005.50)

Offertory February 25-26, 2017 (Plate)	\$4,088.00
Offertory (Online)	1,545.00
Justice and Peace Uganda	\$350
Outreach	160
Haiti	105
Weekly Offertory Budget	\$7,173.00
Offertory Received	<u>5,633.00</u>
Deficit	(\$1,540.00)

***There will be a second collection next weekend for Outreach.***

**STEWARDSHIP FAIR MARCH 18-19**

Mary is the perfect role model for living a stewardship lifestyle. She listened to God and said "yes" to His invitation to be the Holy Mother of His son. She also trusted in the God's providence on a daily basis. As we start a new Stewardship Year, take time every day to listen to how God is calling you; trust that He has a better plan for you than you could ever imagine. Please join us at the Stewardship Fair March 17th and 18th.



**PARISH NEWS**

**PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Please call the parish office at 295-7185, to arrange to receive Holy Communion or a visit by Fr. Joseph Mary.

**THE ILL & HOME BOUND:**

**Parishioners:** Mike Charlie, Frances Charlie, Clyde Pax, Jack Andrews, Shawn Simpson-Smith, Mary Fusco, Eileen Foster, Jack Valloric, Tam Nguyen, Rachel Witt, Joe Murray, Helen Edwards, Betty Jane Prufer, Fran Cannon Slayton, Ron Lavis, Michael Ludgate, Frank Pologruto, Al Bracuti, Norman Bednarczyk, Nicholas Sisman, Mary Ann Williams, Rose Bowker, Hermann Ortmann, Katherine Russo, Charley Moore, Kitty Moore.

**Friends and Relatives:** Thomas Johnson, Brenda Gayle Johnson, Sue Newman, Ron Lavis, James Worley, Carolyn Ann Davis, Andy Gillespie, Michael James McNeil, JoAnn Fox Klein, George Lilly, The Campbell Family, Fred Crane, Bill Eddy, Susan Steeby, Lisa Marshall, John Lank, Susan Straub Martin, George William Polhill, II, Claudia Hartland, Betsy Boyce, Michael Norton, Josephine Nampijja, Grace Dawn Wicke, Melyssa Dove, Nicole Carpenter, Beth Mauk, Evan Dots, Dave Halley, Cullen McQuhae, Bill & Marie Jones, Christine Bentéjac, David Rumpf, Mrs. Jessica Viglietta, Pam D. Goines, Charlie Previtali, Nicole Shaw, Jean Clayton, Rich Hawkins, Kimberly Hasenfus Hulick, Kristin Fagan, June Atherton, Natalie Potter, Harper Grace, J. Sloan, Paul Hillard, Dale Evans, Marie Johnston, Suzanne Lank, Diane Schmidt, Earl Scheetz, Shirley O'Rourke, Xavier Van Bastelaer, Mary Griffin, Makala Thomas, Sibylle Llewellyn, Duncan Nixon, John Patrick Dennison, Christine Russo Carpenter, Elaine Roberti, Benedict Pax, Jerry Colgate, Timothy Lee Smith, Ned Foss & Jennifer Rinehart, Janet Dunham, Fr. Michael Hann, Fr. Joseph Torretto, Mike Charlie, Joel Rivera, Pam Heron, Elizabeth Scott, Kwasi Johnson, Marianne Rossner, Angie Lee, Residents of Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women, Residents of Albemarle County Regional Jail, Residents of Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention, In memory of James Brazell.

**Members of the Military:** Tom Logan, William Murray, Trey Linebrink, Jeff Woodside, David Alvey, Jamie Torbet, Mike Eiermann, Charles G. Ellison, Eric Emmott, and Matthew Mickiewicz.

**FAST AND ABSTINENCE**

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence.

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

**FAMILY STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND SOUP SUPPER**

ALL families are invited to join us on **Friday, March 10 at 6:00 PM** for Family Stations of the Cross in the Sanctuary, followed by a light soup supper on the lower level. These stations will be led by students using "child friendly" prayers. To assist us with planning, please RSVP to [cre@hollycomforterparish.org](mailto:cre@hollycomforterparish.org).

**CONFIRMATION**

The next Confirmation preparation class will meet **this Sunday, March 4 at 12:00 noon** in the CRE office.

**FIRST SACRAMENTS**

The next class for First Eucharist preparation will meet on **Sunday, March 12 from 9:45-10:45 A.M.**

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY**

The next High School Youth Ministry meeting will be on Sunday, March 12 from 4:00-5:30. In the spirit of Lent, our topic will be "The Universal Call to Prayer." Come to learn the many ways that prayer can help us deepen our relationship with God.

**ADULT FORMATION**

You are still welcome to join our adult study on Pope Francis's Apostolic Exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia*, *The Joy of Love*. We meet following the 8:30 AM Mass in the chapel. Pope Francis has an important message for families, and it is a great way to spend the hour while your children are in Religious Education classes!

**PREGNANCY CENTERS OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA**

**CHANGE FOR LIFE**

Thank you to everyone who picked up a baby bottle last weekend. Please continue to fill the baby bottles with your loose change, cash or checks. If you did not pick up your baby bottle, there are a few extra sitting on the table in the Commons, please feel free to take one. ALL bottles must be returned no later than April 2, the last Sunday of Lent, whether you were able to fill it or not. Any amount is appreciated!! Thank you for helping mothers and babies in need! The grand total collected will be published in the bulletin. Thank you for your generous support of our local Pregnancy Care Center of Central VA.

**SAINTS TO REMEMBER**

March 5 St. John Joseph of the Cross  
6 St. Colette of Corbie  
7 Sts. Perpetua & Felicity  
8 St. John of God  
9 St. Dominic Savio  
10 Forty Martyrs of Sebaste  
11 St. Eulogius

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday, March 4  
**8 AM** Martha Cassell (Lisa Schneider)  
**5 PM** Members of our Parish  
Sunday, March 5  
**8:30 AM †** James Bowers (Martha Cassell)  
**11:00 AM †** Bernard Morin (Martha Cassell)  
Monday, March 6  
**NOON †** Mary Elizabeth Jennings Magri (Lisa Schneider)  
Tuesday, March 7  
**NOON** Evelyn, 9 year old leukemia patient (Jill Paitsel)  
Wednesday, March 8  
**NOON** Lengel Family (Laima Lengel)  
Saturday, March 11  
**5 PM** Deceased Members of our Parish  
Sunday, March 12  
**8:30 AM** Members of our Parish  
**11:00 AM** Members of and Visitors to our Parish  
**1:30 PM** Members of and Visitors to our Parish

**NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS  
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

**First Reading**

*Genesis 12:1-4a*

God promises Abram a great blessing.

**Responsorial Psalm**

*Psalm 33:4-5, 18-20, 22*

God's mercy is upon those who trust in God.

**Second Reading**

*2 Timothy 1:8b-10*

Through God's grace we are called to holiness.

**Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 17:1-9*

Jesus is transfigured on the mountain in the presence of Peter, James, and John.

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

**SATURDAY (3/4)**

**8 AM:** MASS

**11 AM-NOON:** First Reconciliation (*Sanctuary and Chapel*)

**12:30 PM:** Altar Server Training (*Church*)

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

**5 PM** Vigil MASS

**SUNDAY (3/5) FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

*(Altar Flowers Provided by Holy Comforter Parish)*

**7-7:45 AM:** Reconciliation (*Chapel*)

**8:30 AM:** MASS

**9:40-10:50 AM:** RCIA (*CRE Office*)

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

**9:45-10:45 AM:** Adult Formation:

*Amoris Laetitia, The Joy of Love (Chapel)*

**11:00 AM:** MASS

**NOON:** Confirmation Class (*CRE Office*)

**MONDAY (3/6)**

**10:30 AM:** Divine Will Prayer Group (*Chapel*)

**NOON:** MASS

**TUESDAY (3/7)**

**10 AM-NOON:** Food Pantry

**NOON:** MASS

**WEDNESDAY (3/8)**

**10 AM-NOON:** Food Pantry

**NOON:** MASS

**NOON:** AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

**7 PM:** Choir Rehearsal

**THURSDAY (3/9)**

**8 AM:** MASS

**NOON:** Soup Kitchen

**FRIDAY (3/10)**

**10 AM-NOON:** Food Pantry

**NOON-2 PM:** MASS

**NOON:** AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

**6 PM:** Family Stations of the Cross and Soup Supper

**SATURDAY (3/11)**

**8 AM:** MASS

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

**5 PM** Vigil MASS

**SUNDAY (3/12) SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

*(Altar Flowers Provided by Holy Comforter Parish)*

**7-7:45 AM:** Reconciliation (*Chapel*)

**8:30 AM:** MASS

**9:40-10:50 AM:** RCIA (*CRE Office*)

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

**9:45-10:45 AM:** First Eucharist Preparation (*Chapel*)

**9:45-10:45 AM:** Adult Formation: (*Chapel*)

**11:00 AM:** MASS

**1:30 PM:** Latin Mass

**3-5:30 PM:** High School Youth Ministry