

**SAINTS TO REMEMBER**

- DECEMBER** 13 – St. Lucy  
 14 – St. John of the Cross  
 15 – Blessed Mary Frances Schervier  
 16 – Blessed Honoratus Kozminski  
 17 – Lazarus  
 18 – Blessed Anthony Grassi  
 19 – Blessed Pope Urban V  
 20 – St. Dominic of Silos  
 21 – St. Peter Canisius

**MASS INTENTIONS**

- Saturday, December 13**  
 5 PM – Members of the Parish
- Sunday, December 14**  
 8:30 AM – Thorid A. Schroen (Petroni & Conaway Family)  
 11 AM – Rev. Dennis Mc Auliffe (Angie & Jim Morrisard)
- Tuesday, December 16**  
 12 PM – Thanksgiving for Blessings (Faust Family)
- Saturday, December 20**  
 5 PM – Members of the Parish
- Sunday, December 21**  
 8:30 AM – Peter Colo (Marlene Wood)  
 11 AM – William Ball (Amy & Robert O'Brien)

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

- SATURDAY (12/13)**  
 8 AM– MASS  
 3:30 - 4:30 PM: Reconciliation  
 5 PM – Vigil MASS
- SUNDAY (12/14)**  
 7 - 7:45 AM - Reconciliation  
 8:30 AM –MASS  
 9:45 AM - Christmas Caroling  
 9:45 – 10:45 AM: Christian Formation Classes  
 11 AM –MASS  
 12:15 PM - Christmas Caroling
- MONDAY (12/15)**  
 NOON – MASS
- TUESDAY (12/16)**  
 10 AM – NOON: Food Pantry  
 NOON – MASS
- WEDNESDAY (12/17)**  
 10 AM – NOON: Food Pantry  
 NOON – MASS  
 NOON - AA Meeting  
 6 PM - Medjugorie Rosary Prayer Group  
 7 – 8:30 PM: Choir Practice
- THURSDAY (12/18)**  
 8 AM– MASS  
 NOON – 1 PM: Soup Kitchen
- FRIDAY (12/19)**  
 8 AM - MASS  
 10 AM – NOON: Food Pantry  
 NOON – AA Meeting
- SATURDAY (12/20)**  
 8 AM– MASS  
 3:30 - 4:30 PM: Reconciliation  
 5 PM – Vigil MASS
- SUNDAY (12/21)**  
 7 - 7:45 AM - Reconciliation  
 8:30 AM –MASS  
 11 AM –MASS  
 4 PM – Mira Concert

**PARISHIONERS**

PLEASE SEND THE DATE OF YOUR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY (COMPLETE WITH THE YEAR OF YOUR MARRIAGE) TO THE PARISH OFFICE AT [office@holycomfortparish.org](mailto:office@holycomfortparish.org).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR \_\_\_\_\_**

**PARISHIONERS:** Winifred Smith, Frank Pologruto, Al Bracuti, Norman Bednarczyk, Nicholas Sisman, Mary Ann Williams, Rose Bowker, Tom O'Rourke, and Hermann Ortmann.

**FRIENDS AND RELATIVES:** Josephine Nampijja, Gloria Aberg, Grace Dawn Wicke, Melyssa Dove, Nicole Carpenter, Beth Mauk, Evan Dotas, Dave Halley, Cullen McQuhae, Bill & Marie Jones, Christine Bentéjac, David Rumpf, Mrs. Jessica Viglietta, Pam D. Goines, Charlie Previtali, Jessica Viglietta, Nicole Shaw, Jean Clayton, Rich Hawkins, Grace R. Salvetti, Kimberly Hasenfus Hulick, Kristin Fagan, Merrilee Kubart, June Atherton, Natalie Potter, Harper Grace, J. Sloan, Paul Hillard, Dale Evans, Michael Reisinger, Marie Johnston, Suzanne Lank, Stanley Lank, Diane Schmidt, Earl Scheetz, Shirley O'Rourke, Bob Spann, Deborah Bryant, Xavier Van Bastelaer, Mary Griffin, Makala Thomas, Sibylle Llewellyn, Duncan Nixon, Michele Gavigan, John Patrick Dennison, Christine Russo Carpenter, Lisa Light, Isabel Perry, Claire Hagan, Elaine Roberti, Benedict Pax, Steve Naimey, Jerry Colgate, Timothy Lee Smith, Gabriela Sabatino, Ned Foss & Jennifer Rinehart, Terry & Al Shotwell, and Janet Dunham.

**MILITARY:** Brian Fagan, Jamie Torbet, Mike Eiermann, David Alvey, Charles G. Ellison, Eric Emmott, and Matthew Mickiewicz.

**PARISH NEWS**

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Joseph Kuhn, Melanie & Jeff Henderson, Geoffrey & Brandy Garbaccio, Daniel & Mary Ann Kosut, Matthew Semanik, Diana & Daniel George, Linh Hoang Vu & Kim Hoang, Sarah Schubert, Mike & Denise James, and Carole Wernstrom

**BAPTISMS:**  
 December 6, 2014: William Henry Schulz  
 December 6, 2014: Joseph Davis Cox

**UPCOMING BAPTISMS:**  
 December 27, 2014: David Prescott Stadnisky

**ANNIVERSARIES:**  
 November 18, 1967: Annie & Tom Tromej  
 November 26, 1953: Margaret & Walter MvMahon

**WEDDINGS:**  
 November 30, 2014: Kim Hoang & Linh Vu

**UPCOMING HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

- CHRISTMAS EVE:**  
 Wednesday, December 24: 2:30 PM [Children's], 4 PM, & 7 PM
- CHRISTMAS DAY:** Thursday, December 25: 11 AM
- SOLEMNITY OF MARY VIGIL/NEW YEAR'S EVE:**  
 Wednesday, December 31: 5 PM
- SOLEMNITY OF MARY/NEW YEAR'S DAY:** January 1: 11 AM

*Gifts for God*

Offertory – December 6/7: \$7,438  
 Christmas Flowers - \$832  
 Justice & Peace - \$760

*In Memory of*

**REV. DENNIS MCAULIFFE**  
 August 24, 1942 - November 17, 2014

Donations may be made in Fr. Dennis' memory to: Glenmary Home Missioners, 4119 Glenmary Trace, Fairfield, Ohio 45246 or the Salvation Army.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16**

King David plans to build a temple to honor God. But God tells Nathan the Prophet that instead he will give David rest from his enemies, and ensure that both his house and community will be protected forever.

**Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27**

In this letter of Paul to the Romans, he explains that the gospel reveals the mystery that had been hidden for many ages. Now it has been made known to all, so that they may believe, obey, and give glory through Jesus Christ forever.

**Gospel: Luke 1:26-38**

The Virgin Mary is approached by the angel Gabriel, who tells her that she has been chosen to bear the Son of God. Mary is first afraid, yet shows her unquestioning faith when she simply says, "Let it be done to me as you say."

**JUSTICE & PEACE**

There has been quite a bit of media publicity lately about hunger in America. Quite a few of those hungry folks live and work in our area and look to us for help. Thank you for all the help you have given in the past and will continue to give.



**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS**  
**DECEMBER 24, 2014**  
**2:30 PM**

*This year, Holy Comforter hosts a Children's Christmas Eve Mass at 2:30 pm. The Mass, like our other Children's Masses, will feature student lectors and cantor. Even more specially, it presents a pageant of our children enacting the Nativity Story. The story will be narrated by our own Hannah Slayton. We welcome all interested children to participate and sing. An e-mail with details has gone out this last week. But if you didn't receive it and are interested in having your children and/or their friends participate, please contact me at [dawnaberg@gmail.com](mailto:dawnaberg@gmail.com). Please join us for drama and song. We look forward to seeing you then!*

**NEWS FROM HAITI**

Anne Knasel (STA): [anne@stagebridge.net](mailto:anne@stagebridge.net)  
 Ginny Zeller (HC): [ginnynnanzeller@gmail.com](mailto:ginnynnanzeller@gmail.com)  
[www.saltadere.org](http://www.saltadere.org)

**NEWS FROM SALTADERE:** Father Ilric reports that Haiti's first cardinal traveled to Hinche for mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Clergy from across the Central Plateau were in attendance. Father also thanks the parishes for our ongoing support of his parish and their schools.

**BI-PARISH HAITI COMMITTEE:** The committee's next meeting will be in January 2015. **All are welcome.** **Contact:** To learn about the Bi-parish committee, you can e-mail Anne Knasel or Ginny Zeller. Contact us to join our email update list.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
**FATHER LOUIS A. ROWEN COUNCIL 3670**

**MEETING MONDAY NIGHT:** Our next council business meeting will be held Monday night, December 15 at Church of the Incarnation's Stone Chapel. The Rosary will be recited at 6:30 PM with the meeting starting at 6:45 PM. Food and refreshments will be served after the meeting.

**COATS FOR KIDS:** Our council is collecting donations for Coats for Kids to purchase jackets for children in need in our area. We work with Holy Comforter, Incarnation, and St. George to meet the needs of needy children in the churches and in the community. The boys and girls coats are about \$20 a piece (including shipping) for brand new, high quality coats from a major manufacturer. More info is at [www.kofc.org/un/en/service/community/coats-for-kids/index.html](http://www.kofc.org/un/en/service/community/coats-for-kids/index.html).

Donations can be given to any Knight or mailed to Knights of Columbus Council 3670, PO Box 7251, Charlottesville, VA 22906. Please make checks out to "K of C Council 3670" with Coats for Kids in the memo line.

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION CALENDAR & EVENTS**

Dawn Aberg  
 434-295-6559

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS:** On December 14<sup>th</sup>, after both the Sunday masses, we will be singing Christmas Carols in the commons. Fun, boisterous, not at all professional versions of all the standards. I know, I know ... it will still be Advent. A priest in a former parish of mine used to wear a baseball cap that said "Advent Police," quashing all Christmas-y things and events until December 24<sup>th</sup>. But here we can sing carols! A proleptic celebration.

**THE CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION**  
**FESTIVAL CHOIR**  
**PRESENTS**

All are invited to *An Evening of Music for Advent and Christmas* on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. The evening begins at 7 pm with sung Advent Evening Prayer in the Worship Center. Please join us for this special musical event.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST**

**VOCATIONS CHALICE PROGRAM:** *Coming Soon!!* The first half of 2015 Vocations Chalice sign up begins this weekend. To continue to make this a special program for our Parish Community, consider signing up for a week in the New Year. All you have to do is pick up the Chalice to take home for the week and pray for vocations. Prayers are included in the Chalice Carrying Case. Pick a weekend that is special to you, and sign up. A big *Thank You* to those members of our Parish Family who made this program a success for 2014. Since the Program was introduced we have had a family for every weekend. Thank you again.

**MEDJUGORJE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP:** Advent has started. What a perfect way to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ by praying the rosary. Come pray the 4 weeks of Advent with us every Wednesday at 6pm in the Chapel.

**THE HISTORY OF THE ROSARY - SECTION 3:**

As this form of the devotion became increasingly popular, people started to devise methods in order to keep track of their prayers. At first, 150 little pebbles were placed inside small leather pouches to keep count. Since this method was rather troublesome, a thin rope having 30 knots on it was used instead (it was used three times for a total of 150 prayers). Eventually, the instrument of choice became the use of string with small pieces of wood.

**A SPECIAL TIME TO GIVE:** You can support Commonwealth Catholic Charities' programs through the Second Collection Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. In doing so you will help feed, clothe and provide hope to our neighbors in need. We greatly appreciate the ways you give to help us change people's lives across the Commonwealth – thank you!

**PILGRIMAGE:** Fr. Gregory Kandt, Pastor of Church of the Incarnation, is leading a pilgrimage to Spain for the fifth centenary of the great Doctor of the Church, St. Teresa of Avila. It will be during the Easter season of 2015, April 13-22. We will be going to holy places associated with St. Teresa and St. John of the Cross, and Father Gregory will lead you on a journey into deeper prayer and love of Christ with the help of the teachings of these two great masters. Among other places, we will visit Avila, Segovia, Toledo, and Madrid. It will be a wonderful spiritual experience and a great way to ponder the risen Christ among us! For more info, please contact Father Gregory at 434-973-4381.

**LIGHTHOUSE MEDIA CD'S:** Have you considered purchasing a CD from our Lighthouse Media Display. They are perfect to listen to for those holiday car trips, they are perfect for a hostess gift, and they are perfect for stocking stuffers. There is something for everyone.

**FEATURED:** *Life is Worth Living* by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen  
 Archbishop Fulton Sheen was one of the best-known and best-loved Catholic orators of the twentieth century, reaching millions of Christians and non-Christians alike through his immensely popular and Emmy award-winning television show *Life is Worth Living*. This presentation is made up of three separate talks given by Archbishop Sheen. *These are the three talks included:*

1. *The Anxiety of Life*
2. *Is Christianity Easy?*
3. *The Problem of Love*



**CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL:** Charlottesville Catholic School is seeking qualified candidates for two positions: Part Time Spanish Teacher for grades K-8, and a Full Time School Nurse. The candidate should have some experience and enjoy working with elementary and middle school children. To apply for employment at Charlottesville Catholic School, please download an application from the Diocese of Richmond at: <http://www2.richmonddiocese.org/human/apply.htm>, and submit it with your resume, three letters of reference, and letter of interest by mail to Charlottesville Catholic School, 1205 Pen Park Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901; by fax to (434) 964-1373; or by email to Mr. Mike Riley at [m.riley@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:m.riley@cvillecatholic.org). Candidates for teaching positions must possess or be eligible for Virginia State Certification. For more information about the positions or the school, please visit our website at: [www.cvillecatholic.org](http://www.cvillecatholic.org).

**THE SICK & HOME BOUND:** A group of dedicated Eucharistic Ministers at HC is available to take Holy Communion to those unable to attend Mass. Anyone who wishes to receive Holy Communion should contact Bob Strassheim at 589-7822 to make arrangements. Also, please let the parish office know if a visit by Fr. Joseph Mary is needed or requested.

**CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE:** The Center for Marriage, Family, and Life is hosting the 3rd Annual Catholic Men's Conference in the Diocese of Richmond on Saturday, January 10 at the Greater Richmond Convention Center in Richmond. The day will feature powerful and inspiring talks and breakout sessions, an expanded expo area, Sacrament of Reconciliation, and Mass. Bishop DiLorenzo will be speaking and celebrating Mass. We are also pleased to welcome Catholic speaker, author, and podcaster, Greg Willits, as our keynote speaker. Registration is \$35 for general admission, \$15 for permanent deacons and college students, and free for priests and religious brothers. Learn more and register at [www.cdrcmfl.org](http://www.cdrcmfl.org) or call 804-622-5109 for details

**MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND:** "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, make straight the way of the Lord." Are we taking time to put the way of the Lord in our marriage? The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are 20-22 Feb 2015 in Herndon or 17-19 Apr 2015 in Fredericksburg. For more information or to apply, visit our website at [www.renewmarriage-vasouth.org](http://www.renewmarriage-vasouth.org) or contact us at [applications@renewmarriage-vasouth.org](mailto:applications@renewmarriage-vasouth.org) or 757-483-3209.

**WHERE IS THE LONGEST MARRIED COUPLE?** This is the fifth consecutive year for the highly-acclaimed project recognizing couples for their long marriages. Sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter, couples are selected from nominations submitted. In addition to the longest married couple in the entire United States, recognition will also be given to a couple from each state who has achieved that distinction. Nominations are open to all husband and wife couples regardless of religious affiliation. The contact information for sending in a nomination, which simply requires the name of the couple, their wedding date, and where they currently reside, along with a contact phone or e-mail address of the individual nominating the couple is as follows: (1) E-mail: [wwmelmc2015@gmail.com](mailto:wwmelmc2015@gmail.com); (2) Dick & Diane Baumbach, 8924 Puerto Del Rio Dr. Ste 402, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920, or (3) phone: 321-613-5180. Nominations are due 10 January 2015.

**MUSIC MINISTRY**  
 Bill Polhill, Minister of Music: [gwpolh3@gmail.com](mailto:gwpolh3@gmail.com)

**CANTORS NEEDED:** The Music Ministry at Holy Comforter is actively seeking additional singers to serve as cantors for both the 8:30 AM and the 5 PM Masses. Please consider participating in this vital ministry. For more information, contact Bill Polhill.

**SINGERS NEEDED:** The Holy Comforter Choir is seeking additional singers as we prepare for Advent & Christmas. We are in particular need of male voices (tenor and bass). The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7-9 PM. Interested singers should contact Bill Polhill.



## ADVENT- CHRIST'S COMINGS CONTINUED



Jesus was born into our history - at a fixed point in time in the past. Jesus comes to us now, in a whole variety of ways. Jesus promised that he will come again in glory, at the end of time, such are the movements of Advent. We stand at the mid-point of Advent this weekend – Gaudete Sunday. The “rose color” vestment of this Sunday reminds us that the liturgical season of Advent is nearly completed and we move on through the rest of the liturgical year with the celebration of Christmas. But wait; let’s not move too quickly away from Advent unless we are ready.

While it is a short season and it is usually cluttered with the secular atmosphere toward “holidays,” Advent is most significant for us as a people who wait. We wait beyond four weeks – we’ve waited for almost 2,000 years; and we expect to wait for as long as it takes.

Advent, spiritual writers and teachers remind us, is a great season of preparation for the coming of Christ. This is, of course, one of the pillars of Advent spiritual reading, so it offers us a bit of promise in these days. The mysterious and mystical ways of God are always unknown to us and surprising when they come to our consciousness. God’s ways are not our ways and it is, therefore, necessary – as the Blessed Mother did – to ponder them in our hearts.

The first coming, of course, involves the Blessed Mother intimately. She bears in her body the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. Mother Mary provides his human body through the great mystery of the Incarnation. We have just celebrated her Immaculate Conception, the divine privilege of being conceived in the womb of her mother, St. Anne, without original sin; the first human being to participate in the fullness of life that would come from her Divine Son’s Paschal Mystery. That first coming is the essence of our Christmas celebration. The Word made Flesh is visible for all the world, all the ages, and all human history to see, study, evaluate and emulate.

The third coming will likewise be a visible encounter. Jesus will come again at the end of time as the judge of all creation. He has redeemed it and he will separate the good from the evil, presenting the good and all redeemed creation to his Father, and pronouncing in turn, the sentence of damnation for those who have chosen it.

These two comings of Christ are clear and visible. There will be no mistaking his presence. The second coming of the three is a bit more mystical and faith-filled. The second coming is the presence of Christ who “with us,” the One who is with us “until the end of time.” (Mt 28:20)

The spiritual presence of the Risen Christ in our midst, especially in the Most Blessed Sacrament, is certainly a mystery and a reality that requires our daily attention. This “second coming” reveals Jesus as the Companion along the journey between two points: the first, his coming as the Saviour in our flesh at Christmas, the second, his coming again in glory at the end of time.

Three comings of Christ focus our attention on the life of grace and the sublime attentiveness of God for his creation. St. Paul reminds us that we walk by faith and not by sight. (2 Cor 5:7) The gift of grace illuminates our hearts and souls. The sound teaching of Jesus, especially concerning our care and service for our brothers and sisters (Mt 25: 31ff.), guides our way along the journey of life. We do not walk alone, but it is Jesus who is with us, and his church that provides the sacramental and spiritual structure that gives meaning to the daily aspects of human life.

During the season of Advent, all channels of human knowledge and understanding, human emotion and sentiment, about God come to a glorious interconnection that allows for the mind and heart to contemplate all three comings of Christ in one single liturgical season. The omnipresence of God can be appreciated and explored so as to build up our genuine awareness of God’s creation and continued sanctification of the human race.

We say, with Scripture, “Come, Lord, Jesus!” We say this with certainty of faith, knowing that he has come in history. We say this with certainty of faith, knowing that he is with us, in and through his church, inspiring true faith, hope and love. We say this with certainty of faith, knowing that Christ will come again in glory at the end of time. No one can tell us with certainty when the exact timing of Jesus’ return will be except the one who will cause it to happen – God the Father (Mt. 12:36) Jesus and Paul both taught that the proper way to wait for His return is to therefore be watchful, ready and sober (Matthew 24:42-44,25:13; 1 Th. 5:6).