

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

January 3 Most Holy Name of Jesus
 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
 5 St. John Neumann
 6 St. André Bessette
 7 St. Raymond of Peñafort
 8 St. Angela of Foligno
 9 St. Adrian of Canterbury

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 2
 5:00 PM Members of the Parish
 Sunday, January 3
 8:30 AM Dan Targonski (Petroni-Conaway Family)
 11:00 AM Joseph H. Giebel (Mary Gallagher)

GIFTS FROM GOD

Due to publication deadlines, we will report the Christmas, Solemnity of Mary, Holy Family and Epiphany Offertory in the January 10, 2016 Bulletin.

**NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS
 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Isaiah tells the people to prepare a way for the Lord.

Second Reading

Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Jesus Christ saved us and renewed us with his Holy Spirit.

Gospel Reading

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

Jesus is baptized by John.

The Solemnity of the Baptism of Our Lord brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Church recalls Our Lord's second manifestation or epiphany which occurred on the occasion of His baptism in the Jordan. Jesus descended into the River to sanctify its waters and to give them the power to beget sons of God. The event takes on the importance of a second creation in which the entire Trinity intervenes

In the Eastern Church this feast is called Theophany because at the baptism of Christ in the River Jordan God appeared in three persons. The baptism of John was a sort of sacramental preparatory for the Baptism of Christ. It moved men to sentiments of repentance and induced them to confess their sins. Christ did not need the baptism of John. Although He appeared in the "substance of our flesh" and was recognized "outwardly

like unto ourselves," He was absolutely sinless and impeccable. He conferred upon the water the power of the true Baptism which would remove all the sins of the world: "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him Who takes away the sin of the world."

Many of the incidents which accompanied Christ's baptism are symbolical of what happened at our Baptism. At Christ's baptism the Holy Spirit descended upon Him; at our Baptism the Trinity took its abode in our soul. At His baptism Christ was proclaimed the "Beloved Son" of the Father; at our Baptism we become the adopted sons of God. At Christ's baptism the heavens were opened; at our Baptism heaven was opened to us. At His baptism Jesus prayed; after our Baptism we must pray to avoid actual sin

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (1/2)

8 AM: MASS
 3:30 - 4:30 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
 5 PM: Sunday Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (1/3) THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
 8:30 AM: MASS
 11:30 AM: MASS (*Please note this change*)

MONDAY (1/4)

NOON: MASS

TUESDAY (1/5)

10 AM - NOON: Food Pantry
 NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (1/6)

10 AM – NOON: Food Pantry
 NOON: MASS
 NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)
 6 PM: Medjugorje Rosary Prayer Group (*Chapel*)
 6 PM: Women's Cursillo Reunion (*Church office*)

THURSDAY (1/7)

8 AM: MASS

FRIDAY (1/8)

NOON- 2 PM: MASS and First Friday Adoration

SATURDAY (1/9)

8 AM: MASS
 3:30 - 4:30 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
 5 PM: Sunday Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (1/10) THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
 8:30 AM: MASS
 9:45 -11:15 AM: Christian Formation
(Please note this change)
 11:30 AM: MASS (*Please note this change*)
 12:30-1:45: Dante Book Group
 1 PM: Bi-Parish Haiti Committee

PARISH NEWS

THE ILL & HOME BOUND:

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

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

Parishioners: Ron Lavis, Sue Newman, Amber Eros, Michael Ludgate, Frank Pologruto, Al Bracuti, Norman Bednarczyk, Nicholas Sisman, Mary Ann Williams, Rose Bowker, Hermann Ortmann, Katherine Russo, and Charley and Kitty Moore.

Friends And Relatives: Betsy Boyce, Michael Norton, Leslie Gilliam, Ed Shaffrey, Jane Sargent, Josephine Nampijja, 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, 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, Stanley 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, Lisa Light, Elaine Roberti, Benedict Pax, Jerry Colgate, Timothy Lee Smith, Ned Foss & Jennifer Rinehart, Janet Dunham, Susie Jackson, 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, George William Polhill, II.

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

PARISH ACTIVITIES

THURSDAY EVENING SUNDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY

Join your fellow parishioners 7 - 8 PM on Thursday evenings to read, discuss, and pray over the upcoming Sunday readings. These meetings will be ongoing. Drop in when you can, and don't sweat it if you miss a meeting. You can jump in at any time, and attend only when you can. All are welcome!

HOLY YEAR OF MERCY

Bishop DiLorenzo opened the Door of Mercy at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Richmond on December 20, 2015. As a parish, we hope to organize a trip to the Cathedral to receive that blessing.

DANTE BOOK GROUP

After a break for Christmas, the Dante group resumes on Sunday, January 10, at 12:30 p.m. in the church basement. We will be starting the second part of the Divine Comedy, the *Purgatory*, which many readers find more interesting and theologically deeper than the *Inferno*; so it's a great place to jump in, even if you weren't with us in the fall. We keep to a light reading load, about 12 pages per week. For details, contact the church office or John Bugbee at bugbee@virginia.edu.

MEDJUGORJE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Please join us every Wednesday at 6:00 PM in the Chapel and experience enormously helpful graces provided to those who are trying to live a good and faithful Catholic life.

2016 CALENDARS

Please take one home today!

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

HAITI

St. Michel Parish: is located in the Central Department of Haiti—the only one of the ten departments which does not border the ocean. Mountains all about the village of Saltadere remind the Virginia visitor of the Blue Ridge. In a primarily agrarian economy, the average citizen raises crops to feed the family and to sell or barter for other foods. New Year's Day is noted for a cattle auction in the area, as well as Haitian Independence Day.

Next meeting will be January 10th here at Holy Comforter. **All are welcome.** **Contact:** e-mail Anne Knasel at anne@stagebridge.net or Ginny Zeller at ginnyanzeller@gmail.com. Website: www.saltadere.org

PANTRY NEEDS

If you're tired of reading pleas for tuna and chunky soup, how about a pound of coffee or a box of tea bags? We don't normally provide these items. But, it's nice to be able to give coffee or tea bags to someone who asks. Think about having a cup of tea on a dreary winter day. It's a nice little luxury.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are on 19-21 Feb in Herndon or 22-24 Apr in Fredericksburg. For more information or to apply, visit our website at www.renewmarriage-vasouth.org or contact us at applications@renewmarriage-vasouth.org or 757-483-3209

HOLY YEAR OF MERCY

Each day, God willing, during this Holy Year of Mercy, two Secular Franciscans, Deacon Tom Bello & John Clem, are offering a minor, but daily sustenance for our common pilgrimage closer to Christ and to salvation. We will also be featuring some guest bloggers during this Jubilee Year of Mercy. This website is mobile-friendly and hope that you find and share inspirations.

Sign-up for a daily e-mails in the side bar. Each message will be posted at the "Mercy Hour" at 3pm (ET) each day from December 8, 2015 through November 20, 2016. (E-mail addresses will not be shared).

Share your works of mercy in MercyCorner — please send us your stories, photos, and videos

Share your prayers and find a supportive community during this Jubilee Year of Mercy

Follow-us on [Facebook](#) & [Twitter](#)

365 DAYS TO MERCY APP

Celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy with a great new app from Our Sunday Visitor! *365 Days to Mercy* is designed to accompany you on your spiritual journey during the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The app includes daily reflections on mercy, everyday Scripture reflections, Pope Francis' tweets, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Novena, and lots more.

Go to your app store and search "*365 Days to Mercy*" and install it today! Go to OSV.com/YOM to learn more.

CASA ALMA NEWS

Thanks to the generosity of long-time and new supporters of Casa Alma, the debt on our Nassau Street homes is almost retired! Pledges and donations have brought our debt from \$80,000 down to just \$16,000.

Retiring the debt will enable us to offer hospitality to more families in need. Not long from now, a few more of the families in Charlottesville who struggle with uncertain and unsafe housing will be welcomed into

stable, supportive homes through Casa Alma. This is wonderfully exciting!

If you'd like to help retire the last of this debt, please [make a special contribution](#) to this effort. Your generosity will help "make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as God intended them to do." (Dorothy Day)

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Charlottesville Catholic School wishes your family a blessed New Year! We look forward to seeing all of our wonderful students and families next week to start off 2016!

Open Enrollment will be closing soon, and we would love to see you for a tour or visit. If you are interested in learning more about Charlottesville Catholic School, please contact Katrina Kuhn, Admissions Coordinator, at 434-964-0400 or k.kuhn@cvillecatholic.org. You can also fill out our new inquiry form on our website: www.cvillecatholic.org

THE SECULARS OF THE ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITES

The members of the Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites are faithful members of the Church, called to live "in allegiance to Jesus Christ" through "friendship with the One we know loves us" and in service to the Church. Under the protection of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, in the biblical tradition of the prophet Elijah and inspired by the teachings of St Teresa of Jesus and St John of the Cross, they seek to deepen their Christian commitment received in baptism.

If you would like more information about Carmelite spirituality and the *Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity Community* which meets in Staunton on the 2nd Sunday of each month at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, please contact Patricia McAdams at 286-4055.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

Commonwealth Catholic Charities is humbled and grateful for your outpouring of generosity in response to our requests for assistance. You have responded with donations of baby items, food, household items and volunteer support. You have given your prayers and words of encouragement. Thank you for all you have done and for all you continue to do to help CCC serve the needs of our community. We wish you many blessings in the New Year!

