

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

July 3 St. Thomas the Apostle
 4 St. Elizabeth of Portugal
 5 St. Anthony Zaccaria
 6 St. Maria Goretti
 7 Blessed Emmanuel Ruiz and Companions
 8 St. Gregory Grassi and Companions
 9 St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 2
8 AM Special Intention (Lisa Schneider)
5 PM †Al Nezerski, Jr. (Kathy Smith)
 Sunday, July 3
8:30 AM †Helen Vitale (Gloria Vitale)
11 AM Members of the Parish
 Monday, July 4
9 AM Private Intention
 Tuesday, July 5
NOON Private Intention
 Wednesday, July 6
NOON Private Intention
 Thursday, July 7
8 AM Private Intention
 Friday, July 7
8 AM Private Intention
 Saturday, July 8
8 AM Private Intention
5 PM Members of the Parish
 Sunday, July 9
8:30 AM Deceased Members of the Parish
11 AM Members of the Parish
3 PM John Magri, III (Lisa Schneider)

**NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS
 FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

First Reading
Deuteronomy 30:10-14
 Moses reminds the people that God's commandments are not remote but are already in their hearts.
Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 69:14, 17, 30-31, 36-37
 Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.
Second Reading
Colossians 1:15-20
 Jesus is the head of the body, the Church.
Gospel Reading
Luke 10:25-37
 The parable of the Good Samaritan

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (7/2)

8 AM: MASS
9-10 AM: Men's And Women's Cursillo Reunions (Church Offices)
9-11 AM: Parish Life Spiritual Walk And Talk (Riverview Park)
3:30-4:30 PM: Reconciliation (Chapel)
5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (7/3) FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Altar Flowers provided by the Petroni and Conaway Family for Steven Williams)

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (Chapel)
8:30 AM: MASS
11 AM: MASS
NOON: BAPTISM (Charlotte Jane Darby)

MONDAY (7/4) Independence Day
Parish and Diocese Offices Closed

9 AM: MASS (Please note special holiday Mass time)

TUESDAY (7/5)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (7/6)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS
NOON: AA Meeting (Lower Level)
6:15 PM: Medjugorje Rosary Prayer Group (Chapel)

THURSDAY (7/7)

8 AM: MASS
NOON: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (7/8)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON-2PM: MASS and First Friday Adoration
NOON: AA Meeting (Lower Level)

SATURDAY (7/9)

7:15 AM:
8 AM: MASS
3:30-4:30 PM: Reconciliation (Chapel)
5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (7/10) FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Altar Flowers provided by anonymous donation)

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (Chapel)
8:30 AM: MASS
11 AM: MASS
NOON: BAPTISM (Charlotte Francis Wetzel)
3 PM: Latin MASS

GIFTS FROM GOD

Offertory June 25 & 26, 2016	\$4,908
Justice and Peace	207
Outreach	40
Weekly Offertory Budget	\$ 7,173
Offertory Received	<u>4,908</u>
Deficit	\$ 2,265

ONLINE GIVING AT HOLY COMFORTER

We are now offering Online Giving. It's safe and secure, and you decide exactly when your gift is made and where it goes. Online Giving lets you set up a recurring pledge or a one-time gift to our offertory and special collections. Please visit

<https://www.myowngiving.com/Default.aspx?cid=1665>
to get started with this convenient giving option.

PARISH NEWS

PASTORAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Is the Spirit calling you to serve your parish in a leadership capacity? Holy Comforter will soon have one spot on the pastoral council opening up and we need parishioners who are willing to serve! As a member of the council you will be an invaluable adviser to Father Joseph Mary as we seek to move the parish forward on its mission of serving the poor, educating our children and preaching the Gospel to our community and the rest of the world!

If you are interested in learning more about the council or submitting your name, or someone else's, for consideration for the upcoming election, please contact the parish office or fill out the nomination form on the credenza. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

LIGHTHOUSE CATHOLIC MEDIA (*Displayed in Commons*)

The Mass Comes Alive, Episode 2

Cat.Chat is a Catholic Audio Show for kids ages 3-11 to help them learn and love their Faith like never before! Using prayer, great conversations, faith-filled stories, and catchy songs, each CD discusses the Catholic Faith while teaching kids powerful lessons for living out their Faith every day. Join Moses the Talking Cat, Papa, Josh, Hanna, and friends for an unforgettable experience!

PARISHIONER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

7/5/1947: *Kitty and Charley Moore*

7/5/1969: *Florence and Roman Blake*

7/14/1973: *Sharon and Emmett Dudley*

7/28/1979: *Tricia and Steve Cady*

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: Jeanette McCarthy, Helen Edwards, Betty Jane Prufer, Fran Cannon Slayton, Ron Lavis, Sue Newman, Michael Ludgate, Frank Pologruto, Al Bracuti, Norman Bednarczyk, Nicholas Sisman, Mary Ann Williams, Rose Bowker, Hermann Ortmann, Katherine Russo, Charley and Kitty Moore.

Friends and Relatives: Bernadette Rumpf, Susan Straub Martin, Dolores J. Calka, George William Polhill, II, Claudia Hartland, Betsy Boyce, Michael Norton, Leslie Gilliam, 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, 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, In memory of James Brazell.

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

PARISH LIFE OUTINGS


"Paint Night" on Tuesday, July 12th. Create a beautiful work of art with a small group of parishioners at one of Holy Comforter's downtown neighbors, Wine & Design. Email parishlife.holycomforter@gmail.com for more details or to be added to the email list!

Restaurant Week - Enjoy an evening of fellowship at one of downtown Charlottesville's newest restaurants, The Fitzroy. The Blue Ridge Area Food Bank is this year's charitable partner and \$1 from every meal served is donated to BRAFB. Email parishlife.holycomforter@gmail.com for pricing and event details or to be added to the email list!

MEDJUGORJE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

When was the last time you prayed the Rosary? If it has been a while, we are very happy to show you how and have Rosaries to borrow, so don't let that stop you from joining us! We meet on Wednesdays in the Chapel at 6:15 for reflection, prayer and the Rosary and look forward to praying with you and being with you. Don't forget - The Intention Book is outside of the Chapel. Please include any intentions you would like for us to include in our weekly prayers.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Living Mercy
A Day of Prayer & Study for the Jubilee Year of Mercy
 Saturday, July 9th, 2016
 8:30am—2:00pm
 Mass, Talks, Rosary, Confession,
 and Adoration
Food & refreshments provided
"Free Will" offering appreciated

Talks by Br. John Paul Kern, O.P.
Merciful like the Father
Receiving God's Healing Mercy
Living as a Missionary of Mercy

RSVP by JULY 7th: maryannmasci@gmail.com

St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish, 401 Alderman Rd., Charlottesville
Sponsored by the Lay Dominicans of the St. Thomas Aquinas Chapter

FROM THE DIOCESE

The Office of Asian Ministry Annual Youth Retreat will be held August 12-14, 2016 at Shalom House Retreat Center, 15340 Robert Terrell Road, Montpelier, VA 23192. This year's theme is "Dalisay Na Puso", (a pure heart offer to God). All youth, rising 9th graders to college freshman, are invited on a weekend spiritual journey dedicated to assist you to deepen your relationship with Christ through talks and small group sharing designed especially for you.

Cost: youth, \$65 (includes lodging, meals and materials), adult chaperone, \$80. Please register online at www.regonline.com/oamyouthretreat16. Discounted lodging is available for parents dropping off youth.

COMMONWEALTH CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Are you considering being an adoptive or foster parent?

We know there are a lot of questions that go into the decision, and we're here to help. Commonwealth Catholic Charities offers free, no-obligation information meetings for foster parenting and adopting. You'll have a chance to talk with an experienced CCC social worker, learn answers to your questions and hear more about the process. Call (540) 342-0411 to reserve your spot at the next meeting.

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC WORKER

All are welcome to pray with us at Casa Alma, 911 Nassau Street, Charlottesville, VA 22902!

Morning Prayer **every Wednesday** from 7:30-8:00am.

Summer reading and reflection on the book "Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition" by Christine Pohl. Join us for any or all of six sessions **Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm beginning June 23.**

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

OUTREACH

Toilet articles are something most people don't expect to find at a food pantry. In fact, ours seems to be the only one in town that offers them. And what a welcome surprise they are to those new to our pantry. How about donating a couple of times of toothpaste or maybe some shampoo? Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED IN THE FOOD PANTRY

For more information, please contact Ann Friedlander at 293-8989 or outreach@hollycomforterparish.org

BI-PARISH HAITI COMMITTEE

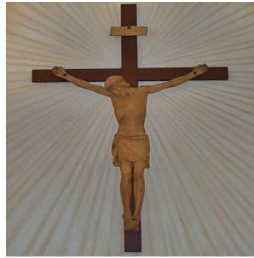
St. Michel Parish news: The construction renovation of the medical clinic building is proceeding well. Father Petina has reported on the wise use made of your generous donations. Some pictures of the project will be posted on the website. If you missed the most recent newsletter to school sponsors, let us know at sponsorshipprogram@gmail.com. We will get it to you.

Bi-Parish Haiti Committee: Next meeting will be August 21 at St. Thomas Aquinas at 1 PM. **All are welcome.**

Contact: e-mail Anne Knasel at anne@stagebridge.net or Ginny Zeller at ginnyannzeller@gmail.com. Website: www.saltadere.org.

UGANDA

A collection is underway to purchase solar panels for the residents of two villages in Uganda. Checks payable to "Holy Comforter Catholic Church" are gladly accepted.

FROM THE PASTOR: THE VALUE OF THE CRUCIFIX

Every year on September 14, we celebrate the feast of the EXALTATION OF THE CROSS. This feast came about when, in the fourth century, St. Helena, mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine, went to Jerusalem in search of the holy places of Christ's life. She organized an excavation to find the true cross of Jesus. During the excavation, workers found three crosses. Legend has it that the one on which Jesus died was identified when its touch healed a dying woman. The cross immediately became an object of veneration. In a deeper sense, the feast celebrates the Holy Cross as the instrument of our salvation. This instrument of torture, designed to degrade the worst of criminals, became the life-giving tree.

The crucifix is a cross with Christ's body still hanging from it, beaten and defeated, which highlights the death of Jesus. The fact that the cross is a form of execution is not glossed over or kept hidden. The spotlight in this scenario shines on the dying and remains on the torture and pain of Good Friday; the first aspect in understanding the Mass as a sacrifice and a reminder of what Jesus has done for us.

We are challenged to take up our own personal cross and carry it, to freely and willingly undergo the sacrifices we encounter in our ordinary existence. Accepting our cross though, does not translate into tolerating abuse or oppression. Instead, it indicates we are to surrender our wants and wishes for the benefit of others and to humbly give of ourselves even when our desire might be to do otherwise.

When we come to celebrate the liturgy, we bring the suffering of our lives, of our families, our church, and our world. We gather to celebrate the paschal mystery and to give thanks for the saving action of Christ in our lives. As we begin our prayer together, we mark ourselves with the sign of the cross, a sign of our unity with Christ and each other. The symbol of the cross and the image of Christ crucified are the most prominent of our faith, suggesting the Christian journey of passion, death and resurrection. Use of the crucifix during Mass serves as a reminder and a sign that the Eucharistic celebration is the same sacrifice as Calvary.

Without words the crucifix speaks louder that, ***"Greater love has no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends."*** (John 15:13) Jesus displayed on the Cross shows Jesus' unconditional and passionate endless love and the infinite mercy He has for all of us. St. Paul said, ***"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:2)"*** Here St. Paul says Jesus is our example in enduring the Cross and we fix our eyes on the Cross of Jesus so we too do not grow weary and lose heart.

The revised General Instruction of the Roman Missal gives us clear guidance on the place of the crucifix in our Roman Catholic church buildings, stating that there is ***"to be a cross, with the figure of Christ crucified upon it, either at the altar or near it, where it is clearly visible to all of the assembled congregation,"*** and ***"that such a cross, which calls to mind for the faithful the saving Passion of the Lord, remain near the altar even outside of liturgical celebrations."*** In *Built of Living Stones*, the US Bishops' document on art and architecture for worship, we read ***"The cross with the image of Christ crucified is a reminder of Christ's paschal mystery. It draws us into the mystery of suffering and makes tangible our belief that our suffering when united with the passion and death of Christ leads to redemption."***

The crucifix is of great importance to us because it provides simplicity in a complex world, it provides direction in a busy world, and it provides motivation in an apathetic world. Jesus keep me near the cross; there a precious fountain is found. Free to all a healing stream; Flows from Calvary's mountain. In the cross, in the cross. Be my glory ever, till my soul shall find Rest beyond the river. ***(To be continued...)***