

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

November 27 St. Virgilius
 28 St. James of the Marches
 29 St. Saturninus
 30 St. Andrew the Apostle
 December 1 St. Edmund Campion & Companions
 2 St. Bibiana
 3 St. Francis Xavier

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 26
5:00 PM †Raymond Paquin †André and Jean Marc Deslauriers †Alice Cerdeau †Guy Fortier †Rahande Bathalon and Frank Dietz (Therese and Normand Auger)
 Sunday, November 27
8:30 AM Members of the Parish
11:00 AM Heather Burns (in honor of her birthday by Julie Zackirsson)
 †Velma Hockman †Ruth Davis †Martha Goris
 †George Goris †Ada Whetze †Nelson Whetze †Boyd Whetzel †Scott Whalen (Darlene and Brian Beard)
 Saturday, December 3
5:00 PM Members of the Parish
 Sunday, December 4
8:30 AM Deceased Members of the Parish
11:00 AM Members of the Parish

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

First Reading
Isaiah 11:1-10
 A descendent of Jesse will usher in a time of peace.
Responsorial Psalm
Psalms 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
 The Messiah will bring justice and peace to the nations.
Second Reading
Romans 15:4-9
 Both Jews and Gentiles glorify God for the salvation found in Christ Jesus.
Gospel Reading
Matthew 3:1-12
 John the Baptist appears in Judea preaching a message of repentance.

PARISHIONER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

11/5 Angie and Jim Morrisard (1966)
11/18 Annie and Tom Tromeay (1967)
11/20 Susan and Jim Neale
11/26 Margaret and Walter McMahan
11/27 Jane Dittmar and Frank Squillace

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (11/26)
8 AM: MASS
3:30-4:30 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
5 PM: Vigil MASS
Holy Land Wood Carvings (*Commons*)
SUNDAY (11/27) FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
(Altar Flowers provided by Anonymous Donation)
7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
8:30 AM: MASS
Holy Land Wood Carvings (*Commons*)
9:40-10:50 AM: **NO RCIA**
9:45-10:45 AM: **NO CHRISTIAN FORMATION OR ADULT EDUCATION**
11:00 AM: MASS
Holy Land Wood Carvings (*Commons*)
1:30 PM: Latin Mass
MONDAY (11/28)
10:30 AM: Divine Will Prayer Group (*Chapel*)
NOON: MASS
TUESDAY (11/29)
10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS
WEDNESDAY (11/30)
10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS
NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)
6 PM: Children's Choir Rehearsal (*Church*)
6:15 PM Medjugorje Rosary Prayer Group (*Chapel*)
7 PM: Choir Rehearsal (*Church*)
THURSDAY (12/1)
8 AM: MASS
NOON: Soup Kitchen
FRIDAY (12/2)
10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON-2 PM: First Friday MASS and Adoration
NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)
SATURDAY (12/3)
8 AM: MASS
9 AM: Cursillo
3:30-4:30 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
5 PM: Vigil MASS (**Haiti Craft and Coffee Sale**)
SUNDAY (12/4) SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
(Altar Flower Donations gladly accepted)
7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
8:30 AM: Children's MASS (**Haiti Craft and Coffee Sale**)
9:40-10:50 AM: RCIA (*CRE Office*)
9:45-10:45 AM: Christian Formation: St. Nicholas Celebration (*Lower Level*)
11:00 AM: MASS (**Haiti Craft and Coffee Sale**)
4 PM: Youth Ministry (*Meeting at Casa Alma*)

GIFTS FROM GOD

Due to publication deadlines, the Offertory report for November 19 & 20, 2016 will be included in next weekend's Bulletin.

There will be a second collection next weekend for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

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: Mary Fusco, Eileen Foster, Jack Valloric, Tam Nguyen, Rachel Witt, Jack Andrews, Joe Murray, Helen Edwards, Betty Jane Pruffer, 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: Ron Lavis, James Worley, Carolyn Ann Davis, Blandine Attey, 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, 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, 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.

HOLY LAND WOOD CARVINGS

The Abufarha Family are here this weekend. They offer hand-carved Olive Wood religious items made by Christian families living in Bethlehem. Available for purchase will be: Nativity Scenes, Crucifixes, Rosaries, Statues, Picture of the Last Supper.

For more information please contact them:
6405 Amber Ln, Grand Blanc, Michigan 48439
(810) 247-3903 www.holylandcarvings.com
Abufarha_holylandcarvings@hotmail.com

ADVENT RETREAT AND CLOSING THE YEAR OF MERCY

Save the Date for the weekend of December 17th&18th!
Father Brian Capuano from St. Joseph Parish in Petersburg will be here to lead our Advent Retreat. Father Joseph Mary will close the Year of Mercy.

BEST ADVENT EVER

"Wrap Presents and Be Present."

Rediscover Christmas, a free email program from Dynamic Catholic, will help you slow down and focus on what really matters during the busy season. Sign up at BestAdventEver.com. Flyers are available in the Commons with more details.

SACRISTANS NEEDED

Help is needed to maintain our sacred space. There is an urgent need for someone who can assist in maintaining and ironing altar cloths. Please contact the office or Suzanne Bailey (slank@ntelos.net; 296-5033) for details.

LIGHTHOUSE CATHOLIC MEDIA (IN THE COMMONS)

Prepare the Way of the King

Dr. Scott Hahn - one of the most eminent Catholic theologians in our country today- reveals what scholars now know about the shepherds, the mysterious Magi, and King Herod. Your Advent journey will take on new meaning as you prepare your heart for the birth of our Lord. This illuminating presentation is sure to help you grow in appreciation of the greatest gift ever given to mankind - Jesus Christ.

MEDJUGORJE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Please join us this Advent season in preparation for the birth of our Savior. We pray the rosary every Wednesday in the Chapel at 6:15 pm. Please add your prayer requests to our intention book outside of the Chapel. All are welcomed!

NEWLY REGISTERED PARISHIONERS

Gina and John Condi
Howard Mitchell, III
The Kristina and Brian Shonat Family

BI-PARISH HAITI COMMITTEE

Father Petina, pastor of St. Michel, will be visiting Charlottesville in mid-December. Father will bring updates on St. Michel School and on the medical clinic renovation. Further details regarding Father Petina's visit will be in the next bulletin.

Haitian Craft and Coffee Sale: Haitian crafts and fair-trade Haitian coffee will be on sale *here after all Masses the weekend of December 3rd and 4th*. Please stop by to see some wonderful ideas for Christmas gifts.

Bi-Parish Haiti Committee: December meeting will be with Father Petina and will include making plans with him for future support we may be able to provide to our twin parish. **All are welcome.**

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

CHRISTIAN FORMATION**FIRST SACRAMENTS**

An orientation for all parents whose children are preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist will be held on **Sunday, December 11, at 9:45** in the chapel. Please mark your calendar and plan ahead, as it is important be present for this event. Registration forms for First Sacraments are due by **Monday, December 5**. If your child was baptized outside of Holy Comforter Parish, a Baptism certificate must be included with the registration fee.

CHILDREN'S MASS AND ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION

Next **Sunday, Dec. 4** is our monthly Children Mass at 8:30 am. We will have a special **St. Nicholas Celebration from 9:45-10:45** during the Religious Education Period. **ALL** children are invited to participate!

CONFIRMATION 2016-2017: The next Confirmation preparation class will take place on **Sunday, December 18** following the 11:00 Mass. Registration is still open to all students who are at least 15 years of age and in the 10th grade. Registration forms are available in the Commons and on the website.

HIGH SCHOOL FORMATION

The next meeting of our High School Youth Ministry will take place **NEXT Sunday, December 4**. We will meet at the church at **3:45 pm** and travel to Casa Alma for their Open House, returning to Holy Comforter by 5:30pm. Learn how you can become involved in this beautiful outreach ministry in our community.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES are CANCELLED this Sunday, 11/27 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

MUSIC MINISTRY**CHRISTMAS CHILDREN'S CHOIR**

If you, or your child, are interested in singing at the Children's Mass on Christmas Eve, please join us. No experience is required. Practices are held every Wednesday from 6-6:50 pm in the Church.

Please contact Daniel Kirkland, Music Minister, for more information. music@holycomforterparish.org

**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS****CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Charlottesville Catholic School is participating in the 2016 Commonwealth of Virginia Campaign, "Virginia is for Givers", the annual charity drive for state employees. Our CVC Charity is #07826. When you designate us on your pledge card, 100% of the gift comes to Charlottesville Catholic School. Help support the work as we educate our children to become the leaders of the future in faith, service and community. Please visit www.cvc.virginia.gov for more details on how you can contribute to CCS through this program.

VOCATIONS

"They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks...." If you think that God is calling you to serve the Lord of the harvest as a priest, call Father Michael G. Boehling, Vicar for Vocations, at (804) 359-5661 or email mboehling@richmonddiocese.org.

COMMONWEALTH CATHOLIC CHARITIES**CCC counselors can help you manage your anxiety in healthy ways.**

Did you know that anxiety is the most common mental issue among adults in the U.S. among adults? Anxiety disorders are very treatable, but only one third of those with anxiety seek help. If you or someone you know is suffering from anxiety, Commonwealth Catholic Charities can help. Our experienced counselors work with adults and children to reduce anxiety and promote healthy living for children, adults and families. Counseling in multiple languages is available. Call us today at (434) 974-6880 to find out more.

FROM THE PASTOR
TIME TO IGNITE THE LIGHT WITHIN
ADVENT 2016 #1



“The Kingdom of God Is Within You” (Lk. 17:21)

The Advent season is a journey through the biblical story that shows us how all the promises of God find their Yes in Jesus Christ. Advent points us to Jesus, the fulfillment of the Messianic era, the Kingdom of God. At his first coming, which we celebrate at Christmas, Jesus showed us his humility, his love for us, and his heart of grace toward sinners and those who suffer. At his second coming, which we look forward to in Advent, he will complete what he started at his birth, bringing a final end to suffering, sin, and death, restoring his creation, and setting up a new kingdom of righteousness and peace. “God keeps his promises” indeed.

In this millennium, we recognize that the Kingdom of God is within our midst. St. Paul to the Romans says this: **“Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God” (Rm. 8:10)**. We, who are **“born again”** through water and Spirit, know that the Holy Spirit has come to take up residence in us. We have become His temple (2Cr.6:16-18). Right now, wherever you are, and whatever circumstances you find yourself in, **know there is a silent burner that needs to be ignited so that the works of the Kingdom of God may be manifested**. Unless we activate that which God has put within us, the Holy Spirit will simply lie dormant within us, allowing no one to benefit from His purpose. Advent provides us a great opportunity to ignite the Light of Faith we received and allow it to become visible and active through our actions.

You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl, but on the lamp stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house (Mk.5:14-15). What is Jesus trying to convey about us when he says we are the light of the world? Think about what light does. Light brings to life things that are dormant, and helps them grow. It penetrates and transforms the darkness. Light makes visible what is *already real*, but cannot be seen in the dark. It reveals the true shape of things. The light of Christ can do that through us as well.

When Jesus went into a place, crowded with all different kinds of people, he could have seen what we too-often see. He could have said, “Oh, those kids are too confused,” or “Those people are too rich (or too poor),” or “Those people are too Democrat (or too Republican).” In other words, Jesus could have seen people who were easy to ignore, at best, or easy to criticize, at worst.

But instead, when his light shone on the crowds he had nothing but compassion on them because he could see who they really were—harassed and helpless people, like sheep without a shepherd (Mt. 9:35-36). What I see in the Scriptures is that when the light of Jesus fell on people, he didn’t size them up into different categories the way our culture molds us to do. He had two categories and two categories only. He either saw someone **who belongs to the family of His Father** or someone **who belonged to His Father’s Family and has not found the way back!** Could we do that? Could the light of Christ in us become so powerful that it melts away all our other biases and prejudices? ***(To be continued---***

ADVENT SNAPSHOT 1ST. SUNDAY

- JESUS BECAME ONE LIKE US SO THAT WE CAN BECOME LIKE HIM.
- JESUS DESCENDED TO EARTH SO THAT WE CAN ASCEND TO HEAVEN.
- JESUS BECAME HUMAN THAT WE CAN BE “DIVINIZED”.