

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

January 8 Solemnity of Epiphany of the Lord
 9 Baptism of the Lord
 10 St. William of Bourges
 11 St. Theodosius the Cenobiarch
 12 St. Bernard of Corleone
 13 St. Hilary of Poitiers
 14 St. Sava

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 7
8 AM For the Martyred Church in the World
5 PM † Ralph Marra (Barbara Marra)
 Sunday, January 8
8:30 AM Deceased Members our Parish
11:00 AM Members of our Parish Ministries
1:30 PM Members of and Visitors to our Parish
 Saturday, January 14
5 PM Deceased Members our Parish
 Sunday, January 15
8:30 AM Members of our Parish Ministries
11:00 AM Members of and Visitors to our Parish

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

First Reading

Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

God's servant, Israel, will be made a light to the nations.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalms 40:2, 4, 7-10

God desires obedience.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Paul greets the Church in Corinth.

Gospel Reading

John 1:29-34

John testifies that Jesus is the Lamb of God, God's own Son.

LIGHTHOUSE CATHOLIC MEDIA (IN THE COMMONS)

Men and Women Are From Eden

God's design for life, love, relationships, and sex is written into our very bodies. With incredible clarity, Dr. Mary Healy explains how the *Theology of the Body*, Pope St. John Paul II's deeply biblical understanding of Our Lord's original plan for men and women, is astonishingly good news for a culture littered with broken marriages, immorality, heartache, and loneliness.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (1/7)

8 AM: MASS

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

5 PM Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (1/8) THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

(Altar Flowers Provided by Members of the Parish)

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

8:30 AM: Children's MASS

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

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

9:45-10:45 AM: First Penance Children's Class (*Lower Level*)

9:45-10:45 AM: First Penance Parents' Meeting (*Chapel*)

11:00 AM: MASS

1:30 PM: Latin MASS

4 PM: Youth Ministry (*Bernard Moore Room*)

MONDAY (1/9)

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

NOON: MASS

TUESDAY (1/10)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (1/11)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: MASS

NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

6:15 PM Medjugorje Rosary Prayer Group (*Chapel*)

7 PM: Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY (1/12)

8 AM: MASS

NOON: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (1/13)

8 AM: MASS

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

SATURDAY (1/14)

8 AM: MASS

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

5 PM Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (1/15) SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Altar Flowers Provided by Anonymous Donation)

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

8:30 AM: MASS

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

9:45-10:45 AM: NO Pre-K – 8 Christian Formation Classes Today

11:00 AM: MASS

12 PM: Confirmation Class (*CRE Office*)

GIFTS FROM GOD

Offertory December 24-25, 2016 (Plate)	\$15,532.50
Offertory (Online)	1,180.00
Catholic Charities	\$1,345
Weekly Offertory Budget	\$7,173.00
Offertory Received	<u>16,712.50</u>
Surplus	\$9,539.50

Offertory	
December 31, 2016-January 1, 2017 (Plate)	\$11,013.00
Outreach	\$925
Justice and Peace	150
Catholic Charities	76
Weekly Offertory Budget	\$7,173.00
Offertory Received	<u>11,513.00</u>
Surplus	\$3,840.00

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

You will notice something different in this month's packet of offertory envelopes. We have made a switch to *Our Sunday Visitor*, the nation's only Catholic not-for-profit offering envelope supplier. Our parish will realize a significant cost savings and we hope you will find them more colorful and appreciative of your sacrifice.

e-GIVING

As a reminder, we offer electronic giving, as well. All the current envelope collections are available there.

Please visit www.holycomforterparish.org and click the **Online Giving** link to get started or to access your existing account.

PARISH NEWS

MEDJUGORJE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Happy New Year and wishes for a healthy, joyful 2017 to our Holy Comforter family. Consider starting the New Year by praying the rosary on a regular basis. We pray the rosary every week in the Chapel at 6:15 on Wednesday evenings. We also pray for our Parishioners intentions and prayer requests. Please add your intention to our intention book which is outside of the Chapel. All are welcomed to come pray with us. We look forward to meeting you and having you join our prayer group family.

SACRISTANS NEEDED

Sacristans Needed: Help is needed to maintain our sacred space. Time commitments from as little as one hour per week for one month out of the year. Training provided. Please contact the office or Suzanne Bailey (slank@ntelos.net; 296-5033) for details.

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: Normand Auger, Mike Charlie, Frances Charlie, Clyde Pax, Jack Andrews, Shawn Simpson-Smith, Mary Fusco, Eileen Foster, Jack Valloric, Tam Nguyen, Rachel Witt, Jack Andrews, Joe Murray, 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: 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, 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, 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.



THE GREAT NEWS**HOLY COMFORTER HAS BECOME A MOTHER AGAIN**

Holy Comforter Catholic parish has always been proud of being a mother of the two Catholic parishes in Charlottesville: **St. Thomas Aquinas and Church of the Incarnation.**

On December 15, 2016, a decree from our Bishop Francis X DiLorenzo has made the Crozet Catholic Community "**a Mission Parish to be administered and nurtured by Holy Comforter Catholic Church.**" It is a blessing to be a mother once again, as it is a clear sign of our faith-filled community. A spirit of Evangelization is found among the Parishioners of Holy Comforter. Long live Holy Comforter and may we continue to grow.

HAITI

Thank you to all who have contributed by prayer, work and generosity to the ongoing progress at St. Michel, Saltadere, Haiti. Now the children are studying at St. Michel School after their holiday. The finishing touches are being applied to the newly renovated clinic building. And plans are being made for trips by parishioners to Saltadere in March. Please continue to keep our twin parish in your prayers.

Bi-Parish Haiti Committee: The next meeting will be on January 22, 2017 at Holy Comforter. **All are welcome.**
Contact: e-mail Anne Knasel at anne@stagebridge.net or Ginny Zeller at ginnyannzeller@gmail.com. Website: www.saltadere.org.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

CHRISTMAS FORMATION CLASSES K-8

CF class will resume on Sunday, January 8 at 9:45 with a small Epiphany Celebration.

FIRST SACRAMENTS

The first class for First Penance preparation will be held on **Sunday, January 8 at 9:45 am.** Children will meet downstairs, while parents will meet with Sue Dougherty in the chapel. Parents who were not able to attend the orientation meeting will also receive that information. If you have not already done so, please bring registration forms and, if your child was not baptized at Holy Comforter, a copy of their Baptismal Certificate.

CONFIRMATION

The next Confirmation Preparation Class will meet on Sunday, January 15 at 12 PM Noon in the CRE Office.

HIGH SCHOOL FORMATION

Our next Youth Ministry meeting will be held on Sunday, January 8, at 4:00 PM in the Bernard Moore Room. We will take a look at Divine Revelation: How do we know that God is real? It's a very important question that you'll want to be able to answer!

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

CASA ALMA

We want you to know that we deeply appreciate your prayers, your encouragement, your presence, and your financial support! Casa Alma's houses of hospitality and shared urban homestead could not exist without you. Thank you!

"It is a great ideal for the coming year to give oneself more fully, more completely and generously." (Dorothy Day)

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

The faculty and staff at Charlottesville Catholic School wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and blessed New Year!

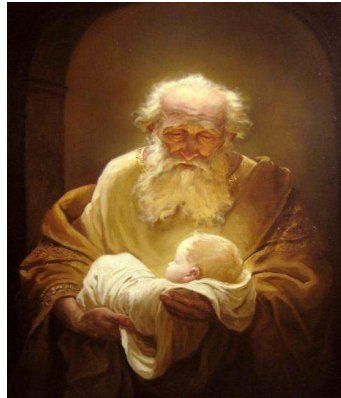
Charlottesville Catholic School is a nationally recognized school offering pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. We are a regional Catholic School, serving the families of Charlottesville and the surrounding counties of Central Virginia. We value excellence in education, as evidenced by our standardized testing scores ranking among the highest in the country. We believe that nurturing Catholic values of faith and community, along with excellence in education, fosters character, leadership development, and citizenship.

Charlottesville Catholic School is now accepting applications for the 2017-18 school year. Contact Katrina Kuhn (434-964-0400 or k.kuhn@cvillecatholic.org) to learn more and schedule a tour. Applications are available at <http://cvillecatholic.org/admissions/>.

COMMONWEALTH CATHOLIC CHARITIES**Thank you for Your Support**

Thank you to each and every person whose generous and continued support allows CCC to carry on the work of serving the community. Without a caring and committed network of mission-minded individuals, we would not be able to continue helping the homeless, feeding the hungry, and caring for the young, the elderly, and the sick. Thank you!

FROM THE PASTOR
JANUARY 2017



“A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.” (Lk.2:32)

Here is a confession of faith, from the old man Simeon that this Child Jesus in his arms was the Savior, the salvation itself, the salvation of God's appointing for all His people. Simeon was a righteous man who had been promised by God that he would not die before he had seen with his own eyes the promised Hope of Israel, the appointed Messiah Who would save His people from their sin. No doubt when Simeon saw Mary with the baby Jesus, his heart was stirred by the Holy Spirit so that he would take the baby into his arms and sing his memorable song of praise and thanksgiving: **“Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples – a light of revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel.”** Simeon would also declare to his mother: **“Behold, this Child is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed. A sword will pierce even your own soul, so that the inner thoughts of many people might be revealed.”**

See here, how comfortable the death of a good man Simeon is. He departs in peace with God, in peace with his own conscience, in peace with death. Those that have welcomed Christ, may welcome death. Joseph and Mary marveled at the things which were spoken of this Child. Simeon shows them likewise, what reason they had to rejoice with trembling. And Jesus, his doctrine, and people, are still spoken against; his truth and holiness are still denied and blasphemed; his preached word is still the touchstone of men's characters. The secret good affections in the minds of some will be revealed by their embracing Christ; the secret corruptions of others will be revealed by their enmity to Christ. Men will be judged by the thoughts of their hearts concerning Christ. He shall be a suffering Jesus; his mother shall suffer with him, because of the nearness of her relation and affection.

Jesus said of himself; ***“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*** He gives the light of truth, of spiritual sight, of knowledge, of holiness, of joy, of heaven. We should rejoice in the light of "the Sun of Righteousness." When Christ gives us light, we must reflect it; ***“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 basket. Instead, they set it on a lampstand, and it gives light to everyone in the house...”*** (Mat. 5: 14-16). The lighthouse, when its lights burn truly, will warn the mariner against danger, and enable him to pursue the right and safe way. So we may each guide some from the darkness and danger of sin, to the light and safety of God's mercy in Christ. Today we have the full and final revelation of God in the inspired Word of God. Let us like Simeon take all that God has written in His word into our hands and open our eyes and heart to perceive the salvation that has come to us, and believe with childlike expectation that our eyes will soon see our Savior – as we wait for Christ's return any day in the clouds for His people.