

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

July 30 St. Peter Chrysologus
 31 St. Ignatius of Loyola
 August 1 St. Alphonsus Liguori
 2 Our Lady of the Angels of Portiuncula
 3 The Finding of the Relics of St. Stephen
 4 St. John Vianney
 5 Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary
 Major in Rome

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 29
5 PM Members of our Parish
 Sunday, July 30
8:30 AM Johnny Dryman
11:00 AM Mary Nguyen Thi Thanh (Thuy T. Vu)
 Saturday, August 5
5 PM Members of our Parish
 Sunday, August 6
8:30 AM In Thanksgiving for our Visiting Clergy
11:00 AM Father Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi

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

First Reading

Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14
 The prophet Daniel describes his vision of one like the
 Son of Man who received dominion from God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 97:1–2, 5–6, 9
 A Song of Praise to God our King

Second Reading

2 Peter 1:16–19
 Peter says that the voice heard from Heaven confirmed
 the truth of his testimony about Christ.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 17:1–9
 Jesus is transfigured on the mountain in the presence of
 Peter, James, and John.

PARISHIONER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

August 4, 2001: Alix and David Paget-Brown
 August 4, 2011: Emily and Robert Cox
 August 8, 1981: Lisa and Michael Marshall
 August 14, 2004: Daisy and James Hutcherson
 August 26, 1989: Amber and John Eros
 August 31, 1996: Kelly and Patrick Langan

RECENTLY DECEASED PARISHIONER

†Mary Fusco

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (7/29)

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

SUNDAY (7/30) *Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*
(Flowers Donated by the Petroni-Conaway Family)

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
8:30 AM: MASS
10-10:45 AM: Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Loft*)
11 AM: MASS

MONDAY (7/31)

NOON: MASS
7-8 PM: Gregorian Chant (Schola) Rehearsal (*Lower Level*)

TUESDAY (8/1)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (8/2)

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

THURSDAY (8/3)

NOON: MASS
NOON: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (8/4)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS
NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

SATURDAY (8/5)

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

SUNDAY (8/6) *The Transfiguration of the Lord*
(Flowers Donated by the Petroni-Conaway Family)

8:30 AM: MASS
10-10:45 AM: Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Loft*)
11 AM: MASS

**AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE LIGHTHOUSE TALKS
 (AVAILABLE IN THE COMMONS)**

No Imitations

Chris Stefanick discusses chastity beyond the usual fear
 tactics and "just say no's." Instead we are offered
 something to say "Yes" to: health, happiness, authentic
 relationships, and the love we were made for. Everything
 else is just an imitation.

WELCOME NEWLY REGISTERED PARISHONERS!

Jeri and Tom Evans
 Diana Torres and Mauricio Herrerra and Family
 Mary and Thomas Griffin

GIFTS FROM GOD

JULY 23, 2017

Offertory (plate)	\$3,569.50
Offertory (online)	1,245.00
Weekly Offertory Budget	\$7,403.00
Offertory Received	(4,814.50)
<i>Under Weekly Budget</i>	<i>(\$2,588.50)</i>
Outreach	\$ 657.00

PARISH NEWS

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

Kindly notify us if you would like a name added to or deleted from this list, office@holycomforterparish.org
To arrange to receive Holy Communion or a visit by Fr. Joseph Mary, please call the parish office 434.295.7185.

THE ILL & HOME BOUND

Parishioners: Mildred Dudley, Ryan Pace, Florence Dennis, Pam Heron, Herman Ortmann, Kay Russo, Mary Griffin, Mike Charlie, Frances Charlie, Clyde Pax, Jack Andrews, Eileen Foster, Tam Nguyen, Joe Murray, Helen Edwards, Betty Jane Prufer, Fran Cannon Slayton, Michael Ludgate, Frank Pologruto, Al Bracuti, Rose Bowker, Charley Moore.

Friends and Relatives: Daniel Moore, Katie George, James Worley, Father Gerald Fogarty, Mary Ann Kline, Beatrice Stack, Thomas Johnson, Brenda Gayle Johnson, Sue Newman, James Worley, Carolyn Ann Davis, Andy Gillespie, JoAnn Fox Klein, Susan Steeby, Suzanne Lank, John Lank, Susan Straub Martin, Josephine Nampijja, Christine Bentéjac, David Rumpf, Kimberly Hasenfus Hulick, Kristin Fagan, John Patrick Dennison, Christine Russo Carpenter, Benedict Pax, Residents of Albemarle County Regional Jail, Residents of Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention.

MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY

Jeffrey Jaeger, Pete Bakke, Michael Eiermann, Tom Logan, William Murray, Trey Linebrink, Jeff Woodside, Charles G. Ellison, and Matthew Mickiewicz.

PRO LIFE CELEBRATION WITH THE PREGNANCY CENTER OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA

On Saturday, October 14, The Pregnancy Center will be hosting their CVILLE BANQUET. We are reaching out to Holy Comforter Parishioners as we are hoping to fill an entire table this year for this important fund raiser. Mark the date. Details to follow. If interested, please email Barb Cassidy on bcc32968@gmail.com.

FAMILY SERVICE PROJECT

Thank you to the parishioners who gave their time and talent to participate last Sunday! One hundred snack packs were assembled for the UVA Hospital Hospitality House. They are sure to be enjoyed by the families staying there while their loved ones receive treatment.

POPE FRANCIS' 10 SECRETS TO HAPPINESS

We all want to be happy, and in our world today there are many people telling us how to achieve that goal. Yet, many of these paths to happiness are based on false promises or superficial suggestions that offer fleeting moments of pleasure and quickly fade away. The good news is that Pope Francis, who carries an aura of joy in everything he says and does, has now identified ten secrets to happiness that are time-tested and true. We will post one "secret" per week.

#8 Stop Being Negative.

Constant complaining, biting criticism, backstabbing, and gossip are like poisons that kill happiness. "Needing to talk badly about others indicates low self-esteem," Pope Francis explains. "That means, I feel so low that instead of picking myself up, I have to cut others down." It's not easy to change from being negative to being positive. The first step is awareness that being negative or positive is a personal choice. The second step is making a concerted effort to stop ourselves from negative thoughts and words as soon as possible. "Letting go of negative things quickly is healthy," the pope adds, and it leads to a more positive and a happier outlook on life. What steps can you take to eliminate negativity in your life?

MEDJUGORJE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Fr. Gabriel Amorth shares the following:

The Rosary is both prayer and meditation. It is addressed to the Father, to the Blessed Virgin, and to the Holy Trinity, and is a meditation centered on Christ.

"When you pray Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners now..., the Blessed Mother comes instantly to your side to pray with you. And she does not come alone. She brings angels with her. And not just one or two for she is the Queen of Angels, so choirs of angels come with her. And she and Jesus are joined at the heart and cannot be separated so she brings Jesus with her. And Jesus cannot be separated from the Trinity so He brings the Father and the Holy Spirit with Him. And where the Holy Trinity is, all of creation is, and you are surrounded by such beauty and light as you cannot imagine in this life."

The Rosary is a beautiful gift of prayer given to us by our most Holy Mother. Come join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:15 in the Chapel to pray this beautiful gift of prayer.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is coming soon! We are gearing up for our week of fun for children ages 4-11 from August 7-11. Last minute registrations will be accepted. Forms may be found on the table in the Commons and on the website, or contact Sue Dougherty at cre@holycomforterparish.org.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Gardening at Casa Alma: Attention all rising 9th through 12th grade students: Please let Sue know if you are interested in helping with garden work at Casa Alma on **Tuesday, August 15**, time TBD. You may email her at cre@holycomforterparish.org.

Babysitting: Are you interested in offering babysitting services to Holy Comforter Parishioners with young children? If so, please contact Sue to indicate your interest and availability.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION REGISTRATION FOR 2017-18

Registration forms for Christian Formation for the 2017-2018 school year will be available throughout the summer on the CF table in the Commons as well as on the website. Be an early bird to avoid the fall frenzy and help us plan for the next school year!

VIRTUS TRAINING

All volunteers who work with youth and children in the Diocese of Richmond must attend a *VIRTUS, Protecting God's Children Session for Adults* and have a background check. This includes catechists, VBS volunteers, and anyone over the age of 18 working with children and youth in any capacity in the church. **Charlottesville Catholic School** is offering a VIRTUS session on **Wednesday, August 16 at 5:30 pm**. Pre-registration is required and may be completed at www.virtusonline.org. Contact Sue Dougherty for information or help with the registration process. A session will be held at Holy Comforter in early September, date TBA.

LIBRARY DONATIONS

The church library has been reorganized and is ready for use. While we are grateful for donations, our space is limited. If you have a few books that you would like to donate, please be sure that the copyright date is 1990 or later. They may be placed in the designated box in the library for screening. Any books not put on the shelves will be donated to the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library. Thank you!

LIFE PLANNING SEMINAR SERIES

The Diocese of Richmond's Center for Marriage, Family, and Life is hosting a three-part series intended for anyone who would like to learn how to anticipate common issues that might arise toward the end of life. The next seminar is on **Thursday, August 24 from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm**. A panel of speakers will present practical guidance for **how to care for an aging parent or spouse** and **what to consider when choosing among several long-term care options**. *There is no cost to attend and lunch is included with your free registration.* Each session will be offered live at the Diocese of Richmond Pastoral Center and broadcast to satellite locations in the Western and Eastern Vicariates. Learn more and register at www.cdrcmf.org or call the office at 804-622-5109.

Some parishioners from Holy Comforter will be attending this seminar. If you wish to attend and would like to carpool, please contact Sue Dougherty at cre@holycomforterparish.org

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

HAITI

St. Michel School: Father Petina reports the end of a successful school year. The majority of students have performed well. He also sent word that 134 children of the parish made their First Communion in June. Please keep them in your prayers.

Richard Joseph, director of education for the Diocese of Hinche, visits in August. We hope to have a reception for him and his wife at the church. He will report on progress at St. Michel School. **Contact with Sponsors:** Please be sure we have your correct e-mail (Contact: sponsorshipprogram@gmail.com)

Bi-Parish Haiti Committee: Next Meeting will be in September. Details to be announced. All are welcome. Website: www.saltadere.org

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS



CASA ALMA

Would you help us in the gardens?

This summer we are hosting volunteer shifts on Monday and Friday mornings, and Wednesday and Thursday evenings. If you're interested, please contact us cvillecw@gmail.com for details and dates. Thank you!

FROM THE PASTOR
CELEBRATING THE FULFILLED PROMISE (part 8)



“I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him will bear much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.” (Jn. 15:5)

During a very important conversation Jesus had with his disciples only a few hours before he was crucified, he dropped this bomb: ***“Apart from me you can do nothing.”*** We are so accustomed to relying on our own intelligence and ability that the only way to really come to a place of relying on God and his empowering grace is for us to repeatedly fail in our attempts to make life “work” on our own terms.

Jesus tells all who are to work in the vineyard of the Lord that the only way to actually be empowered for the work is to abide in him. A branch doesn’t occasionally seek wisdom from the vine. No! A branch *dwells* in the vine, *relies* on the vine for its very life. A branch can’t really even be a branch without the vine. It would quickly become a mere stick, great for starting a fire but not for bearing fruit.

A branch abides in the vine constantly, so the life of the vine can flow constantly into the branch, resulting in abundant fruit. That’s why Jesus seems to repeat this point over and over: You can bear fruit only if you abide in me. If you don’t abide in me, you won’t bear fruit. Apart from me, you can do nothing. **Abiding in Christ isn’t “extra” power for God’s work, it’s the only power for God’s work.** If you’re not abiding, you’re not doing God’s work.

And that’s a big part of our problem. There is a whole lot of “nothing” we can end up doing apart from Christ before realizing that we really are not bearing Kingdom fruit. There is a lot of “work” out there with the name “Christian” on it that isn’t really God’s work. It’s not “fruit that will last,” because it wasn’t empowered by God’s grace, but by human ingenuity and willpower.

That’s why, even though it’s painful in the moment, we need to appreciate when sometimes Jesus “disrupts” our efforts of self-reliance. The truth is that if we learn to abide in Christ, will simply bear fruit as a matter of course. We won’t bring forth real, lasting fruit through superhuman effort or creative technology, but simply through staying properly connected to the Source.

It’s a bit of a blow to our pride to find this out, actually. We like to take credit for a job well-done, but Jesus is training us to be content with being connected. Ironically, when simply *being* a branch is enough, we find that our *doing* becomes much more effective and eternal in scope!

To abide in Christ, as a branch abides in the mother tree, is most needful for us for a variety of reasons; fruitfulness, salvation, and God’s glorification. Then we can say “It is finished.” I have indeed kept the faith.