

**SAINTS TO REMEMBER**

August 6 The Transfiguration of the Lord  
 7 St. Cajetan  
 8 St. Dominic  
 9 St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross  
 (Edith Stein)  
 10 St. Lawrence  
 11 St. Clare of Assisi  
 12 St. Jane Frances de Chantal

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday, August 5  
**5 PM** Father Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi  
 Sunday, August 6  
**8:30 AM** Peter Colo (Marlene Wood)  
**11:00 AM** Members of our Parish  
 Saturday, August 12  
**5 PM** Members of our Parish  
 Sunday, August 13  
**8:30 AM** In Thanksgiving for our Visiting Clergy  
**11:00 AM** Father Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi

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

**First Reading**  
*1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a*  
 The Lord appears to Elijah in a whisper.  
**Responsorial Psalm**  
*Psalm 85:9-14*  
 The Lord is the source of salvation.  
**Second Reading**  
*Romans 9:1-5*  
 Paul speaks of the blessings that have come to the Israelites.  
**Gospel Reading**  
*Matthew 14:22-33*  
 Jesus walks on water, and the disciples acknowledge him as the Son of God.

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

Finding True Happiness In addition to addressing the topic of joy vs. pleasure in *Finding True Happiness*, Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen also helps us gain the right perspective on things such as loneliness and the secret of sanctity. This brings us to our ultimate purpose, which is found in God alone. Only by losing oneself in God, will we find our true selves-- and true happiness along with it.

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

**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 in honor of Renzo Petroni's 93<sup>rd</sup> Birthday)***

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

**MONDAY (8/7)**

**NOON:** Communion Service  
**1-4 PM:** Vacation Bible School  
**7-8 PM:** Gregorian Chant (Schola) Rehearsal (*Lower Level*)

**TUESDAY (8/8)**

**10 AM-NOON:** Food Pantry  
**NOON:** Communion Service  
**1-4 PM:** Vacation Bible School

**WEDNESDAY (8/9)**

**10 AM-NOON:** Food Pantry  
**NOON:** Communion Service  
**NOON:** AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)  
**1-4 PM:** Vacation Bible School  
**6:15 PM:** Rosary Prayer Group (*Chapel*)

**THURSDAY (8/10)**

**NOON:** Communion Service  
**NOON:** Soup Kitchen  
**1-4 PM:** Vacation Bible School

**FRIDAY (8/11)**

**10 AM-NOON:** Food Pantry  
**NOON:** Communion Service  
**NOON:** AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)  
**1-4 PM:** Vacation Bible School

**SATURDAY (8/12)**

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

**SUNDAY (8/13) *Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time***

***(Flowers Provided by Anonymous Donation)***

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

**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

**GIFTS FROM GOD**

**JULY 30, 2017**

Offertory (plate)	\$4,455.50
Weekly Offertory Budget	\$7,403.00
Offertory Received	<u>(4,455.50)</u>
<i>Below Weekly Budget</i>	<i>(\$2,947.50)</i>

**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](mailto: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:** Mary Dominics, 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.

**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!

**PRO LIFE CELEBRATION WITH THE PREGNANCY CENTER OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA**

On Saturday, October 14, The Pregnancy Center of Central VA will be hosting their CVILLE BANQUET. A table of 10 has been reserved for Holy Comforter Parishioners. Come out and support this very important Pro-Life function by reserving your space today. Let's try to fill an entire table to show our support for this worthy cause. Mark the date and please email Barb Cassidy on [bcc32968@gmail.com](mailto:bcc32968@gmail.com) to reserve your space today!!!!

**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.

**#9 Respect Others' Beliefs.**

We all have family members, friends, and acquaintances who do not share our Catholic beliefs. Yet, nagging and pressuring will not bring happiness for anyone. "We can inspire others through witness so that one grows together in communicating," Pope Francis explains. When we live as authentic witnesses to Christ, other people are attracted by the inner peace and joy that emanate from us. They want that peace and joy for themselves. Whether or not they ever come to share our beliefs, when we treat them with respect, we create a bond of happiness between us. How do you respect others' beliefs and at the same time witness to your own?

**MEDJUGORJE ROSARY PRAYER GROUP**

*July 25, 2017 Message to Marija:*

*"Dear children! Be prayer and a reflection of God's love for all those who are far from God and God's commandments. Little children, be faithful and determined in conversion and work on yourselves so that, for you, holiness of life may be truth; and encourage each other in the good through prayer, so that your life on earth may be more pleasant. Thank you for having responded to my call."*

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.

**RCIA**

**The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**

Are you interested in joining the Catholic Church, or do you know someone who is? If so: **RCIA** is starting up for 2017-2018. Orientation is Sunday, Aug. 20th after the 8:30 AM mass in the Bernard Moore Conference Room on the lower level. Join us.

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY**

**Gardening at Casa Alma:** Attention all rising 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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**

Visit the CF table in the Commons to learn more about our Christian Formation program and to pick up a registration form for your children for the 2017-18 school year. Classes begin Sunday, September 10. Don't miss out - NOW is the time to register! Completed forms and fees should be placed in the designated envelope on the table.

**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.cdrcmfl.org](http://www.cdrcmfl.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](mailto:cre@holycomforterparish.org)*

**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](http://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.

**SOCIAL MINISTRIES**

**UGANDA DENTAL MISSION**

Please pray for Anita Neel, DMD, her staff, volunteers and family while they travel to and work in Uganda.

**HAITI**

**St. Michel School:** Our sponsors help fund operating costs for the school. You can help maintain our support by sponsoring or donating. Please keep the students in your prayers.

**Richard Joseph**, director of education for the Diocese of Hinche, which includes Saltadere, visits in August. He will speak at the 5 PM Mass on Saturday, August 26, and hopefully be available for questions afterward.

**Bi-Parish Haiti Committee: Next Meeting** will be in September. Details to be announced. All are welcome. Website: [www.saltadere.org](http://www.saltadere.org)

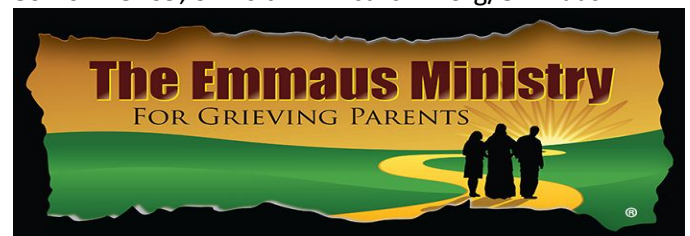
**CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS**

**EMMAUS MINISTRY FOR GRIEVING PARENTS**

***Serving the Spiritual Needs of Grieving Parents***

Losing a child under any circumstance is horrific. Focusing on the spirituality of the grieving process can help tremendously. Please join us for a One-Day Spiritual Retreat on Saturday, September 23, 2017, 9:30 am-7:00 pm at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church. For more information or to register:

Call the Center for Marriage, Family, and Life at 804-622-5109, or visit [www.cdrcmfl.org/emmaus](http://www.cdrcmfl.org/emmaus)



**THE MYSTICAL TRANSFIGURATION OF CHRIST**

***"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him."***

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. According to most Catholic scholars and theologians, the Transfiguration is the culminating point of the Lord's public life. His Baptism is considered to be the starting point of that public life, and the Ascension is the end. Our Gospel Reading today, which reports this event, is from the Book of Matthew although it is found in all of the Synoptic Gospels and in the letter of St. Peter in the second reading today.

Can you imagine being with Peter, James, and John on that mountaintop when Jesus was transfigured before their eyes? Are such mystical experiences of the glory of God possible for us? What can we glean from this most intimate experience Jesus shared with His closest apostles?

Bishop Robert Barron has offered a reflection that helps us recognize that we, too, may have such overwhelming and transforming experiences in our relationship with God. I would like to describe for you some of Bishop Barron's key ideas here, but for the full homily, please visit <https://www.wordonfire.org/resources/homily/the-mystical-transfiguration-of-christ/4676/>.

Bishop Barron defines a mystical experience as "the experience of spiritual things within the ordinary, and a conviction that the spiritual reality is greater and more beautiful than the ordinary things." In other words, the mystical is something greater than our ordinary human experience. Like so many mysteries in our faith, the experience defies description in words, and so we use symbols. Consider the symbolism in the description of the Transfiguration in all of the synoptic Gospels:

**Height:** How many transforming experiences in both the Old and New Testament occurred on a mountaintop- Moses saw the burning bush and received the Ten Commandments, the Crucifixion itself? It is a place of heightened awareness of the presence of God, the glory of God. Through Jesus, the disciples accessed this higher place and we can, too. How often have you had a "mountaintop experience?" From this experience we see from a broader perspective; we have a sense of unity with the whole of creation; we have a fear, a reverence, respect for the omniscience of God.

**Transformation or profound change in direction:** In the original Greek from today's Gospel, St. Matthew uses the Greek word *metemorphe* to describe the Transfiguration. It means "a complete change of form, structure, or substance." Jesus prepared Peter, James, and John for his impending passion and death by showing them His glorified body that would follow in the Resurrection. In our mystical experiences, we, too, see the divinity of Christ beyond the humanity. His clothes became white; he became something new. We, too, over time, and in our closest moments with Christ can experience such a change. We are, as St. Paul exhorts, "transfigured in the newness of our minds." (Rom. 12:1-2).

**Light:** We are told that Jesus' "face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light." In the light of Christ we see clearly, we see the sublime beauty of the world beyond, and we are encouraged. How often have you had an "aha" moment when it is as if the light bulb in a dark room was turned on? It is an experience of clarity, true vision.

**Booths:** Peter was so anxious to preserve this moment that he wanted to build tents or booths for Moses, Elijah, and Jesus. He wanted to savor the moment, but the tents were also a reminder of the tabernacle, the place where the arc of the covenant was housed; a place of worship. It was a place to commemorate this mystical experience. Is not that what we commemorate each time we celebrate Mass? We participate in the mystery of the death and resurrection of Christ.

**Voice:** Peter's admonition in the second reading suggests that the memorable moment for him was the Father's words, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased;" the very same words He said at Jesus' Baptism. This time the Father added, "Listen to Him!" When, during our prayer, we hear a common message over and over, do we not say, "Maybe the Lord is telling me something- I need to listen!" Bishop Barron says that an authentic mystical experience of God is deeply personal. We hear the voice of God and are moved to follow.

Yes, the disciples had to come back down the mountain to face the difficult realities ahead of them. But they were forever changed. They had a personal contact with God that spoke to their hearts. May we, too, seek those moments and listen to the Voice that speaks to our hearts. Jesus will then be the transforming light in our darkness.

***From Sue Dougherty, Coordinator of Religious Education***