

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (2/24)

8 AM: MASS

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

5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (2/25)

(Altar Flowers Provided by Parishioner Donations)

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation

8:30 AM: MASS

9:45-10:45 AM: RCIA (*CRE Office*)

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

9:45-10:45 AM: Adult Formation (*Chapel*)

11 AM: MASS

1:30 PM: Latin MASS

MONDAY (2/26)

NOON: MASS

5:15-8 PM: Youth, Women's and Men's Schola Rehearsals (*Lower Level*)

6-7 PM: Lawyers Helping Lawyers (*Lower Level*)

TUESDAY (2/27)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (2/28)

7 AM: MASS (*Please Note this Time Change*)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

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

6:30 PM: Sung Vespers (*Church*)

7 PM: Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY (3/1)

8 AM: MASS

NOON: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (3/2) (Abstinence)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON-2 PM: First Friday MASS and Adoration

NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)

6:30 PM: Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY (3/3)

8 AM: First Saturday MASS

11 AM: First Reconciliation

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

5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (3/4)

(Altar Flowers Provided by Parishioner Donations)

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation

8:30 AM: MASS

9:45-10:45 AM: RCIA (*CRE Office*)

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

9:45-10:45 AM: Adult Formation (*Chapel*)

11 AM: MASS

1:30 PM: Latin MASS

4-5:30 PM: High School Youth Ministry

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 24

8 AM Christine (Paul Savoie)

5 PM Members of our Parish

Sunday, February 25

8:30 AM The Keener Family

11 AM †Edward Bradley (Judy Zacharias)

1:30 PM †Antoinette Lappin (The Myatt Family)

Monday, February 26

NOON Thi Thanh (Vu Nguyen)

Tuesday, February 27

NOON Mary Nguyen (Vu Nguyen)

Wednesday, February 28

7 AM Peter Savoie (Paul Savoie)

Thursday, March 1

8 AM †Antonio John D'Arca (Mary Frances Lilly)

Friday, March 2

NOON †Roland Stubmann (Patricia McAdams)

Saturday, March 3

8 AM †Walter Edward Savory, Jr. (Teri and Biff Delany)

5 PM †Rev. J. Bernard Moore (Idette Charlie)

Sunday, March 4

8:30 AM Members of our Parish

11 AM Evelyn Deluca (Idette Charlie)

1:30 PM Souls in Purgatory (Paul Savoie)

**NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

First Reading

Exodus 20:1-17 Moses is given the Ten Commandments.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11

A prayer of praise to God who gives us his commandments

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Paul preaches Christ crucified to the Corinthians.

Gospel Reading

John 2:13-25

Jesus drives out the moneychangers from the Temple and says that he will destroy the temple and raise it up again.

LOST AND FOUND

Please check the coat rack for any items you may have left behind.

GIFTS FROM GOD

FEBRUARY 17-18, 2018

Offertory (plate)	\$3,563.50
Offertory (online)	153.00
Weekly Offertory Budget	<u>7,403.00</u>
<i>Below Weekly Budget</i>	<i>\$3,686.50</i>

Sanctuary Renovation	\$11,173
Health Wagon	\$ 572

SECOND COLLECTIONS ARE ACCEPTED ONLINE

Contributions for our Sanctuary Renovation Project may be made by mail, in church or online. Please find the **Online Giving** link on our website: holycomforterparish.org

PARISH NEWS

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS

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

THE ILL & HOME BOUND

Parishioners: Ginnie Gillen, Kay Colo, Raymond Painley, Jack Valloric, Mildred Dudley, Pam Heron, Kay Russo, Mary Griffin, Mike Charlie, Eileen Foster, Tam Nguyen, Joe Murray, Helen Edwards, Fran Cannon Slayton, Michael Ludgate, Frank Pologruto, Al Bracuti, Rose Bowker, Charley Moore.

Friends and Relatives: Jeremy Breedlove, Scarlett Makielski, Rev. John Abe, Samantha Nelson, Joel Rivera, Judge Conrad, Claudia Hartland, Aileen Green, Teresa Hall, Heather Johnson, Christine Fitzgerald, Mary Dominicis, Daniel Moore, Katie George, James Worley, Father Gerald Fogarty, Mary Ann Kline, Beatrice Stack, Thomas Johnson, Brenda Gayle Johnson, Sue Newman, 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, 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.

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

2/25	St. Tarasius
2/26	St. Porphyrius
2/27	St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows
2/28	St. Hilary
3/1	St. Suithbert
3/2	St. Agnes of Prague
3/3	St. Katharine Drexel

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be led by Father Joseph Mary on Fridays during Lent. A cross-bearer and two candle bearers are needed for one hour each week. Please use the sign-up sheet on the credenza to volunteer. This is a wonderful family activity and training will be provided!

FAST AND ABSTINENCE

(From the United States Conference on Catholic Bishops)
Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. The norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding from age 14 onwards.

LOW GLUTEN ALTAR BREAD

Holy Comforter offers low gluten hosts that have been fully approved by the Holy See for use in any Catholic Mass. Every host is individually packaged to prevent cross contamination. Please notify an usher if you require this option.

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Come join our Medjugorje Rosary prayer family every Wednesday at 6:15 PM in the Chapel. This is the perfect Lenten offering to our most Holy Mother. We look forward to seeing you. All are welcomed.

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN FOR PCCV

The 2nd Annual Baby Bottle Campaign in support of the Pregnancy Centers of Central Virginia (PCCV) starts today! This is such a great family Lenten activity!! Pick up a bottle as you leave Mass today, fill it with coins, cash, or checks payable to **The Pregnancy Centers of Central Virginia**, and return the bottle church no later than Palm Sunday, March 25. Let's exceed our collection from last year of \$2,173. We can do it together!!!

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH AND CONFIRMATION

There will be NO Youth Ministry this Sunday, February 25, since Confirmation students will be attending an all-day retreat on Saturday. Next week, please plan to join us on Friday, March 2 as we go to The Haven for a showing of the locally produced play, "A King's Story," followed by a dialogue on racism. Provided all attend this event, there will be no class on Sunday, March 4.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

New Opportunities! The more that we nourish our spiritual life, the closer we grow to God! It is an ongoing life-long process. Please consider taking part in one of the upcoming Adult Faith Formation opportunities:

With Jesus to the Cross: A Lenten Guide on the Sunday Mass Readings – Year B. Will meet on Sunday from 8:45-9:45 in the chapel from Feb. 18 through March 25.

Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life, by Henri Nouwen. This 4-week book study will be facilitated by parishioner Dianne Murray on Mondays. The time can be evening or morning depending on the needs of the participants.

Please indicate your interest by signing the clipboard on the Christian Formation Table in the lobby.

FIRST SACRAMENTS

Please pray for our First Sacraments students who will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation next Saturday, March 3, at 11:00 am.

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

HAITI

Dinner Auction on March 18: We are hosting a fundraising event at Charlottesville Catholic School at 6PM on March 18. Space is limited so pick up an invitation at the Haiti Table and RSVP. Father Petina and Doctor Joseph will be guests of honor. We will have a report on the March trip to Saltadere, St. Michel School and Clinic. Please keep the Spring Break travelers and our twin parish in your prayers.

Help Needed: Haiti ministry welcomes help with upcoming fundraising event. If you can assist with providing desserts for the dinner, contact Marie Calise at marie.calise@gmail.com.

Bi-Parish Haiti Committee: The next meeting April 15, 2018. All are welcome. For more information, contact Anne Knasel anne@stagebridge.net or Ginny Zeller ginnynnanzeller@gmail.com.

THE POWER OF ALMSGIVING

(From the Diocese Office of Social Ministries)

- Almsgiving is primarily known as a Lenten practice which encourages us to donate money or goods to the poor as well as perform other forms of charity.
- Almsgiving is also a frequent theme of the Gospels and a foundation to Christian charity. We see the power of almsgiving in the story of the Good Samaritan, and the serious consequences of neglecting this practice in the story of Lazarus and the rich man.
- Almsgiving is one of the pillars of Lenten practices, which according to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no 2462 "is a witness of fraternal charity" and "a work of justice pleasing to God."
- During lent, there are several opportunities for almsgiving through various donations to Church ministries for which collections are taken up this season.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

CARMELITES

The Secular Order of Discalced Carmelite Community of Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity meets at St. Francis in Staunton on the 2nd Sunday of each month from 11:30 AM to 4:00 PM. If you feel called to a Carmelite way of life or are interested in learning more, please pick up a flyer in the Commons or contact Patricia McAdams: (434)286-4055 or pamcadams@yahoo.com.

CASA ALMA

Roundtable on Black Liberation Theology at Casa Alma on Tuesdays 2/27, 3/6 and 3/13 from 7:00-8:30pm. Come to one or all sessions; materials will be provided. All are welcome!

SISTERS OF BON SECOURS

The Sisters of Bon Secours Vocation Office invite you to a **Come & See Event** March 16-18, 2018. For any questions, please visit: <http://lifeasasister.org/event-details/come-and-see-vocation-weekend> or contact Sue Donovan, Communication Specialist for the Sisters of Bon Secours at 202-363-5705 (office) or 202-413-7045 (mobile), or

COMMONWEALTH CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Don't Fix it. Donate it!

Your old vehicle can help support Commonwealth Catholic Charities. We accept cars, boats, RVs and many other vehicles. Donating is easy and your gift is tax deductible.

Call 804.285.5900 or visit www.cccofva.org/donate to learn more.

From The Pastor

Lenten Reflection 2018, Part 2

CHOOSE TO SUFFER FROM 'THE FOOLISHNESS OF LOVE'

"We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute." (1 Corinthians 4:10)

What does the above text from Paul communicate to us in relation to our commitment to Christ during this season of Lent? Commentaries on the text reveal that; the 1st-century Corinthians had fallen into pride and boasting about their spiritual accomplishments. They began to look down upon Paul, who had founded their Church, probably because his life was so full of hardship and sacrifice. What Paul is really saying is that his "foolishness" is actually a manifestation of God's wisdom. The Corinthians "think" they are wise, but they are actually entrapping themselves in the folly of their culture.

In today's world, being committed to the way of the Gospel may appear to be "foolish" in the eyes of the secular world. Going against the popular mood is either considered fashion or foolish. Yet on Ash Wednesday when ashes are put on our forehead we hear words such as **"Repent and believe in the Gospel,"** we are called to treasure and uphold the gospel values as we go on with our daily business.

This year, the dates of Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday aligning with two secular holidays can be Christianized: For Ash Wednesday and all of Lent, we can more firmly root our relationships in love through a shared practice of the faith as a couple and as a family. And for Easter, we can adopt the "foolishness" of the Cross, which the world does not understand, but which is "wisdom" in God's eyes. The wisdom of the world is fleeting and will soon pass away. But God's Kingdom will remain forever- which is love that remains forever.

Very often Lent is marked by doing things by someone who passionately loves God with all one's mind, heart, soul and strength, and who passionately loves one's neighbor in need. We are familiar with people often giving up something, like chocolate and sweets, or alcohol, or chewing gum, for their fasting, or frequently put some loose change in a Baby-battle or poor-box for almsgiving, or commit themselves to praying the Stations of the Cross on Fridays. There's nothing wrong with any of these practices, which are all steps in the right direction—but let's be honest - what real impact do they make in my personal life for a real conversion! They're a little like a husband's getting some aging carnations at the florist because he thought roses were too expensive to get for his wife or because he didn't think about getting roses until the last minute and they were sold out. We can contrast such an approach with that of husbands or boyfriends who really seek to show, on Valentine's Day and beyond, just how much they love the woman in their life, not in exclusively material ways like jewelry, but in the thoughtfulness and time they put into demonstrating why, how and how much they cherish her. Prophet Joel said; **"Rend your hearts, not your garments and return to the Lord your God" (2:13).** And in Isaiah; **"This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; Setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; Sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; Clothing the naked when you see them" (58:6-7).** Such is the love that pains because it is seeking the good of the other, a love that never seeks its own interests. Such a love that endures all things, a love that never fails. ***(To be continued...)***