

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (3/10)

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

SUNDAY (3/11)

(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

MONDAY (3/12)

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 (3/13)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (3/14)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS
NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)
6:15 PM: Rosary Prayer Group (*Chapel*)
6:30 PM: Sung Vespers (*Church*)
7 PM: Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY (3/15)

7 AM: MASS (*Please note this time change*)
NOON: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (3/16) (Abstinence)

8 AM: MASS
10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)
6:30 PM: Stations of the Cross and Soup Supper

SATURDAY (3/17)

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

SUNDAY (3/18)

(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*)
10-10:45 AM: Reconciliation
11 AM: MASS
4-5:30 PM: High School Youth Ministry

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 10

8 AM Christine (Paul Savoie)
5 PM Mass of Thanksgiving (Mirta Lapinell)

Sunday, March 11

8:30 AM President of the USA (Scarlett Makielski)
11 AM Members of our Parish
1:30 PM Christine (Paul Savoie)

Monday, March 12

NOON Christine (Paul Savoie)

Tuesday, March 13

NOON Christine (Paul Savoie)

Wednesday, March 14

NOON Christine (Paul Savoie)

Thursday, March 15

7 AM Christine (Paul Savoie)

Friday, March 16

NOON Christine (Paul Savoie)

Saturday, March 17

8 AM Sandy (Paul Savoie)
5 PM Members of our Parish

Sunday, March 18

8:30 AM †Alec J (Amy Franklin)
11 AM †April Montgomery (Food Pantry Volunteers)

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

First Reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Jeremiah tells the people that the Lord will make a new covenant with them, planting the law within their hearts.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15

A prayer for God's mercy and forgiveness

Second Reading

Hebrews 5:7-9

Through his sufferings, Jesus gained salvation for all who obey him.

Gospel Reading

John 12:20-33

Jesus teaches his disciples about the way in which he will be glorified by God, and a voice from heaven is heard to affirm this teaching.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Please join us for Stations of the Cross Fridays at 6:30 PM in the Church. All are welcome. A cross-bearer and two candle bearers are needed! Please use the sign-up sheet on the credenza to volunteer.

GIFTS FROM GOD

MARCH 3-4, 2018

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|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Offertory (plate) | \$5,063.50 |
| Offertory (online) | 4,770.00 |
| Weekly Offertory Budget | <u>7,403.00</u> |
| Above Weekly Budget | (\$2,430.50) |

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Sanctuary Renovation | \$795 |
| Outreach | 570 |
| Justice and Peace | 172 |

SECOND COLLECTIONS ARE ACCEPTED ONLINE

Contributions for all second collections 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: Scott Painley, Jeremy Breedlove, Scarlett Makielski, Rev. John Abe, Samantha Nelson, Joel Rivera, Judge Conrad, Claudia Hartland, Aileen Green, Teresa Hall, Heather Johnson, Christine Fitzgerald, Mary Dominicus, 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

| | |
|------|-------------------------------|
| 3/11 | St. Eulogius |
| 3/12 | St. Theophanes the Chronicler |
| 3/13 | St. Euphrasia |
| 3/14 | St. Matilda |
| 3/15 | St. Louise de Marillac |
| 3/16 | St. Heribert of Cologne |
| 3/17 | St. Patrick |

PARISH LENTEN RETREAT MARCH 17-18

We are delighted to welcome Rev. Pascal Kumanda who will lead our Parish Lenten Retreat. Father Pascal is a missionary of the Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (CICM) and represents Cross Catholic Outreach in Arlington. Please take this opportunity to temporarily leave behind the usual distractions we all face to spend time in prayer and contemplation, and rekindle and deepen our relationship with God. We will begin at 11 AM on St. Patrick's Day and have multiple opportunities for reconciliation and renewal. Father Pascal will preside over all the weekend's liturgies.

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.

WORKSHOP FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO THE HOMEBOUND

All 3 Catholic parishes in the area are co-sponsoring a workshop for Eucharistic Ministers to the Homebound on Saturday March 24th from 9 AM to 1 PM at Charlottesville Catholic School. Michael Suarez S.J is our speaker. The morning will start with Mass, followed by his presentation and discussion, then finish with a potluck lunch. Please contact Barbara Rainville for information and registration at (434) 295-8493 or consultrainville@aol.com

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN FOR PCCV

Have you picked up your baby bottle yet? There are still some available in the boxes under the table in the Commons. The Baby Bottle Campaign is to raise funds for the Pregnancy Care Center of Central Virginia. Just fill the bottle with your loose change, coins, dollars or checks. Last year we raised over \$2,300 from YOUR generosity by donating your pennies. Let's exceed that number this year. Return your filled bottles no later than Palm Sunday. There is a box outside of the offices to deposit your bottle! Thank you!!!

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

During this Lenten season come join us on Wednesdays at 6:15 in the Chapel. During Lent we are praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy alternating with the Sorrowful Mysteries. What a beautiful expression of gratitude and love for our Savior during this holy season of Lent, come join us! All are welcome. Don't forget to write your intentions in the intention book outside of the Chapel. Every week we pray for intentions listed.

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 St. Michel School and Clinic. Please keep 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 ginnyannzeller@gmail.com.

OUTREACH CELEBRATION OF DEDICATED SERVICE

Please join us at The Pointe Restaurant on Tuesday, March 20th at Noon to bid farewell to our long-standing Outreach Coordinator, Ann Friedlander. The cost is \$20 for lunch and a group gift. RSVP to Bridget bridget@holycomforterparish.org or 434.293.8989. Thank you!

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS**2018 CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE**

The deadline to register is March 10! Take advantage of the discounted rate for this enlightening and engaging spiritual shot in the arm! Details may be found at <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/?eventid=2039758>

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC MOMS

When is the last time you've had any alone time to pray—*really* pray? It's not too late to make this Lent meaningful. Give yourself a night off and come as you are for an evening of Lenten Adoration and praise & worship. Pray with your fellow sisters in Christ, listen to God's voice (He's hard to hear in our busy lives!), and return to your family refreshed.

Thursday, March 15th, 7-8:30 PM, Daily Mass Chapel, Church of the Incarnation.

Nursing babies welcome, we ask all other kids remain at home. Questions? Need help getting there? Contact Lauren Bedard at lauren.mee@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN FORMATION**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

Please consider joining one of these Adult Formation Opportunities currently in progress. One session is not dependent on the other, so you are most welcome to join at any time:

With Jesus to the Cross: A Lenten Guide on the Sunday Mass Readings meets each Sunday of Lent from 9:45-10:45. This Sunday, we will meet on the lower level in lieu of the chapel.

***Reaching Out: The Three Movements of the Spiritual Life*, by Henri Nouwen.** This book study, lead by parishioner Dianne Murray, meets on Mondays from 9:30-11:00 in the Bernard Moore Room on the lower level.

Kindly sign the clipboard on the Christian Formation table in the Commons to indicate your interest and so that we may contact you.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH AND CONFIRMATION

This Sunday, March 11 we will continue our focus on the Sacraments, with a look at the work of the Holy Spirit through Eucharist and Confirmation. We'll also try some prayer practices and check in with how your Lent is going. See you there from 4:00-5:30! Feel free to bring a snack to share.

From The Pastor

Lenten Reflection 2018, Part 4

CHOOSE TO SUFFER FROM 'THE FOOLISHNESS OF LOVE'**"We preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness." (1 Cr.1:23)**

When we look at Christ crucified we learn some lessons about love: Love is planned, love is about God, love is about man, and love is sacrificial. The cross is the way in which God shows his love for us, so love has a God-facing component, it often has a man- or woman-facing component, but the cross was also sacrificial. It was undeserved and costly. Sometimes people think the cross was an accident, sometimes people don't understand exactly what happened there, so we need to understand the cross better to understand God's love better, and the cross is a lens we can use to refocus on what it means to love and to be loved.

The modern media presents the wisdom of the world as the solution to all of our problems. The writers of the news magazines, TV news networks, radio and TV talk shows refuse to accept the word of the cross as the means of God's saving power. The cross of Jesus Christ is a scandal to them. They rationalize it as being too cruel and rate it anti-Semitic. Their attitude is to get rid of the message that Jesus Christ was indeed the atoning sacrifice of God to deal with the punishment of our guilt. The apostle Paul wrote centuries ago, **"For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God..." (1 Cr. 1:18)**. Does that not give us pause in this season now before us? Think of it: humiliation and agony. This was the path Jesus chose with which to reach out for you and for me because he loves. Isn't that "foolishness"? You see, this thing we call sin, but which we so tragically minimize, breaks the dignity for which we were created. It brings indignity to our essence and pain to our existence. It separates us from God and brings confusion into our relationships. On the way to the cross so many years ago, Jesus took the ultimate indignity and the ultimate pain to bring us back to the dignity of a relationship with God and the healing of our souls. Will you remember that this was done for you and receive this gift this season of Lent? Human wisdom could never discover the method of salvation, nor the compliance to receive it. Lost sinners are saved not because they are wiser, better, or distinguished in some way, but simply because God chose to demonstrate his love for them and called them by His means.

The purpose of saving sinners by grace through faith in Jesus Christ took this path so that God would receive all the glory. If you have anything to glory in, let it be in the LORD. Wisdom that comes from God leads to man's salvation. He created us out of love and out of love He saved us; in all His wisdom. We are commissioned to live and preach the gospel of love, not in cleverness of speech, that the cross of Christ should not be made void. For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to those who are being saved it is the power of God. Our greatest weakness is not an enemy from without but one from within. It is our own weak wills that cause us to stumble. But Jesus Christ frees us from the foolishness of sin and the weakness of our selves. This is the very reason the apostle Paul went on to say that he preached Jesus Christ as one crucified, which was both the **power of God and the wisdom of God**. Come to the cross in these days given for our contemplation and find out his power and his wisdom.
(To be continued...)