

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (3/24)

8 AM: MASS

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

5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (3/25) PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

Second Collection for Catholic Relief Services

(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: Choir Rehearsal (*Loft*)

11 AM: MASS

1:30 PM: Latin MASS

4-5:30 PM: High School Youth Ministry

MONDAY (3/26) HOLY WEEK

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 (3/27) HOLY WEEK

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry

NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (3/28) HOLY WEEK

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 (3/29) HOLY THURSDAY

NOON: Soup Kitchen

7 PM: MASS of the Lord's Supper with Adoration until Midnight

FRIDAY (3/30) GOOD FRIDAY (Fast and Abstinence)

All Parish Offices are Closed Today

3 PM: Stations of the Cross

5:30 PM: Passion of the Lord (**Pontifical Good Friday Collection**)

SATURDAY (3/31) HOLY SATURDAY

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

8 PM: Easter Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (4/1) EASTER SUNDAY

(Altar Flowers Provided by Parishioner Donations)

7 AM: MASS

9 AM: MASS

10-10:45 AM: Choir Rehearsal (*Loft*)

11 AM: MASS

1:30 PM: Latin MASS

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 24

8 AM Andrew (Paul Savoie)

5 PM Andrew (Paul Savoie)

Sunday, March 25

8:30 AM Andrew (Paul Savoie)

11 AM †Bill Boyd (Soup Kitchen Volunteers), and Members of the Parish

1:30 PM †Helen and James Savino (Patricia McAdams)

Monday, March 26

NOON Andrew (Paul Savoie)

Tuesday, March 27

NOON Andrew (Paul Savoie)

Wednesday, March 28

NOON Mary Nguyen (Vu Nguyen)

Thursday, March 29

7 PM Thi Tanh (Vu Nguyen)

Friday, March 30

5:30 PM Passion of the Lord

Saturday, March 31

8 PM Kant Lin and Lynn Sanders (Kate Burke)

Sunday, April 1

7 AM Andrew (Paul Savoie)

9 AM Members of the Parish

11 AM †Lorene Primich (Judith Pateman and Kevin Moran)

1:30 PM Members of and Visitors to our Parish

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

EASTER SUNDAY

OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43

Peter preaches about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Rejoice in this day of the Lord.

Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-4 or 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8

Colossians: Having been raised by Christ, be concerned with what is above.

1 Corinthians: Let us celebrate this feast with new yeast.

Gospel Reading

John 20:1-9

Mary of Magdala finds that the stone has been removed from Jesus' tomb.

GIFTS FROM GOD

MARCH 17-18, 2018

Offertory (plate)	\$8,956.50
Weekly Offertory Budget	<u>7,403.00</u>
Over Weekly Budget	(\$1,553.50)

Sanctuary Renovation	\$3,578
Flowers	1,199

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS)

CRS is the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States, serving people in more than 100 countries around the world. There will be a second collection for CRS this weekend.

ALL PARISH DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED ONLINE

Contributions for our Offertory, Sanctuary Renovation, as well as for Catholic Relief Services and The Pontifical Good Friday Collection, may be made by mail, in church, or online. Please find the **Online Giving** link on our website: holycomforterparish.org

AMAZONSMILE SUPPORTS HOLY COMFORTER!

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop at smile.amazon.com, the AmazonSmile Foundation donates 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible items to the charitable organizations selected by customers. Please select Holy Comforter Catholic Church <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-0576301> when you shop! Thank you for your support!!

PARISH NEWS

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Holy Thursday (no morning Mass)

7 PM Mass of the Lord's Supper with Adoration until Midnight

Good Friday (no morning Mass)

3 PM Stations of the Cross

5:30 PM Passion of the Lord

Holy Saturday (no morning Mass)

8 PM Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

7 AM Mass

9 AM Mass

11 AM Mass

1:30 PM Latin Mass

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: Richard Fagan, 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: Blandine Attey, Susan Allport, Fred Cardona, 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.

NEW EVANGELIZATION

There is a limited supply of the book Beautiful Hope: Finding Hope Every Day in a Broken World in the Commons this weekend. This book contains articles by 18 Catholic authors on the subject of hope. Please help yourself to a copy & consider passing it on to another parishioner when you can.

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN FOR PCCV

The Baby Bottle Campaign to raise money for the Pregnancy Care Center of Central Virginia ends this weekend, March 24/25. Thank you to everyone who participated. Please deposit your bottle in the box in the commons. If you forgot to return your bottle this weekend, please bring it and deposit in the box outside of the offices next weekend. The grand total will be announced in an upcoming bulletin. Thank you!!!

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Come join us to pray the Sorrowful Mysteries this last week of Lent 6:15 in the Chapel on Wednesday. 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.

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

3/25	The Annunciation
3/26	St. Margaret Clitherow
3/27	St. Rupert of Salzburg
3/28	Pope St. Sixtus III
3/29	St. Barachisius and Jonas
3/30	St. John Climacus
3/31	St. Benjamin

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

HAITI

Father Petina and Doctor Joseph received a warm welcome and wonderful hospitality from the many members of our Bi-Parish Haiti Committee. Many new people were introduced to our Haiti Ministry and the dinner auction a huge success. Mesi anpil!

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

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

HAPPY EASTER

Christian Formation classes will resume next weekend.

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, led by parishioner Dianne Murray, meets on Mondays from 9:30-11:00 in the Bernard Moore Room on the lower level.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

"HEART OF THE NATION" CATHOLIC TV MASS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Is someone you love unable to join us at church during this holy time of Lent and Easter? For the faithful at home or in healthcare settings, the Heart of the Nation Sunday TV Mass brings spiritual comfort and the blessings of joy-filled hope in our Risen Savior. Please invite anyone you know who cannot get out to church to tune in Catholic Mass on TV or watch online:

PALM SUNDAY AND EASTER TV MASS

WTVZ channel 33 (MyTVZ) at 7:00 a.m.

ONLINE VIDEO

www.HeartoftheNation.org

ENTERING CANAAN

HOPE AND HEALING AFTER ABORTION

Have you or someone you know experienced the pain of abortion? There are millions suffering silently. There is a post-abortive healing program available now in our area which offers monthly Gatherings of Hope and Healing and all-day retreats. These events offer continued support and healing for women and men dealing with the many negative effects of abortion in their lives including the effects of the abortions of others. The gatherings and retreats are free of charge.

For more information and confidential reservations please contact: Bobbie 540-383-1634, Pam 434-825-6013 or Dave 505-340-5891

COME and EXPERIENCE THE MERCY and FORGIVENESS OF GOD!

SUMMER RETREATS!

The Bon Secours Retreat & Conference Center offers many overnight and week-long summer retreats. Please visit our website for a complete listing. Many offer early bird discounts that expire soon too!

www.RCCBonSecours.com

WWME

"Morning after morning he opens my ear that I may hear;" As we celebrate Palm Sunday, let us keep our ears open to the love from our spouses and God by participating in a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME)** weekend. The next weekends are: Aug 3-5, 2018 in Chapel Hill, NC and Sep 21-23, 2018 in Herndon, VA. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: <https://renewmarriage-vasouth.org/> or contact us at applications@renewmarriage-vasouth.org or 757-690-1369.

From The Pastor

Lenten Reflection 2018, Part 6

CHOOSE TO SUFFER FROM 'THE FOOLISHNESS OF LOVE'

"Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends." (Jn.15:13)

I remember my professor of Theology in the seminary used to say; "The greatest symbol of love is not the heart but the Cross, because the heart can always stop beating but the man on the cross will never stop loving." The cross provides meaning to my Christian journey and it is a reminder of God's love, servant leadership, hope for a better tomorrow and a call to costly discipleship, among many other things. I am also aware that the cross might mean something different for other people, too, like power and dominion. But for us Christians it is the power of God's love for humanity. Serious historians dispute many things about Jesus's life, but the one thing they all acknowledge is that he was killed on a Roman cross. Jesus without a cross is, quite frankly, someone else and Christianity without the cross is a different religion. No cross, no Jesus, no love. Those marked with the sign of the cross and who claim to follow Jesus have the duty of acting accordingly; of showing love to our neighbors of all faiths and none, of forgiving those who offend or persecute us, or choosing a life of service to those we meet in this community be they children, the elderly, the cool or the uncool, the weak or the strong, all men and women. Our duty is to show love to them all.

No doubt as one theologian said; "The Cross of Christ is the glorious reflection of God's love to the world, but it is more than that only: it focusses infinite love and pours it burning and transforming upon the heart that bows beneath it." We are amazed at such a love that endured disgrace, poverty and pain then with all boldness we ask with St. Paul; "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, for thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." (Rm.8:35-37)

Pope Francis said; "The cross, loving service and humble sacrifice, is the only way to overcome evil and give hope to the world. Real love must follow the cross and sacrifice, not as its goal, but as the necessary path to true glory and new life.....Love is the engine that drives our hope forward, and people need to learn to love more and more each day."

And Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI said: "The cross of Christ is the supreme sign of God's love for every man and woman, the superabundant response to every person's need for love. At times of trouble, when our families have to face pain and adversity, let us look to Christ's cross. There we can find the courage and strength to press on." The love from the cross reminds us that in times of trial and tribulation, we are not alone. Jesus is present with his love, he sustains us by his grace and grants the strength needed to carry on, to make sacrifices and to overcome every obstacle. And it is to this love of Christ that we must turn when human catastrophes and difficulties threaten our lives, our families and communities. ***(To be continued--)***.