

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (4/7) EASTER SATURDAY

8 AM: MASS
10 AM: Baptism (*Benjamin and Maxwell Tungate*)
3:30-4:30 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (4/8) SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

(Altar Flowers Provided by Parishioner Donations)

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
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
12:30-1:15 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
1:30 PM: Latin MASS

MONDAY (4/9) THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

NOON: MASS
7 PM: Pastoral Council Meeting (*Lower Level*)

TUESDAY (4/10)

10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: MASS

WEDNESDAY (4/11)

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*)
7-8:30 PM: Choir Rehearsal (*Loft*)

THURSDAY (4/12)

8AM: MASS
NOON: Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (4/13)

8 AM: MASS
10 AM-NOON: Food Pantry
NOON: AA Meeting (*Lower Level*)
5 PM: Wedding Rehearsal (*Church*)

SATURDAY (4/14)

8 AM: MASS
1 PM: Wedding (*Gabriella Gutkowski and David Hammack*)
2:30 PM: Baptism (*Jax Forst*)
3:30-4:30 PM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
5 PM: Vigil MASS

SUNDAY (4/15) THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

(Altar Flowers Provided by Anonymous Donation)

7-7:45 AM: Reconciliation (*Chapel*)
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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 7

8 PM †Frank Heslin (Myatt Family)
5 PM Members of our Parish

Sunday, April 8

8:30 AM †Paul Marsh (Margaret Marsh)
11 AM †Bill Boyd (Food Pantry Staff and Volunteers)
1:30 PM Members of and Visitors to our Parish
Monday, April 9

NOON †Cliff Rico (Patricia McAdams)

Tuesday, April 10

NOON Rev. John Abe (Patricia McAdams)

Wednesday, April 11

NOON †Ed Thoenes (Jack Engler)

Thursday, April 12

NOON †Doris Long (Paul Savoie)

Friday, April 13

8 AM †Doris Lynch (Pat and Doug Monty)

Saturday, April 14

8 AM †Dorothy Long (Paul Savoie)
5 PM Members of our Parish

Sunday, April 15

8:30 AM †Donna Watson Kauffman (Margaret Marsh)
11 AM †April Montgomery (Lectors and Greeter)

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

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 3:13-15, 17-19

Peter preaches that Jesus has been raised from the dead and calls upon the people to repent.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9

A prayer seeking God's favor

Second Reading

1 John 2:1-5a

Those who know God keep his commandments.

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:35-48

Jesus appears again to his disciples and shares a meal with them.

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP

Come join us to pray the Rosary every Wednesday at 6:15 in the Chapel. What a beautiful expression of gratitude and love for our Savior during this Easter season. 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.

GIFTS FROM GOD

EASTER, 2018

Offertory (plate)	\$13,016
Offertory (other)	5,100
Weekly Offertory Budget	<u>7,403</u>
Over Weekly Budget	(\$10,713)

Sanctuary Renovation \$2,838

ALL PARISH DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED ONLINE

Contributions for our Offertory, Sanctuary Renovation, as well as 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: 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: Elizabeth Scott, 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 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.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

Last month, parishioners received a letter from the Bishop announcing the 2018 Annual Appeal: *Building our Family of Faith*. Your financial gift will help provide Catholic outreach, ministry and services to the people and parishes throughout our Diocese, including the Fuel and Hunger Fund grant Holy Comforter has received in support of our Outreach Ministry. The entire list of ministries supported by the 2018 Appeal can be found in the brochures displayed in the Commons. Pledge envelopes are available now and may be returned during the offertory collection or to the office. Please reflect on God's gift to you and offer your generous support to the work of the Diocese.

SAINTS TO REMEMBER

4/8	St. Julia Billiard
4/9	St. Mary Cleophas
4/10	St. Fulbert
4/11	St. Stanislaus
4/12	St. Julius I
4/13	St. Martin I
4/14	Sts. Tiburtius, Valerian, Maximus

SOCIAL MINISTRIES

HAITI

Our Twin Parish of St. Michel has Celebrated Easter!

This is a time of great joy and hope for the community of Saltadere. The Haiti Ministry thanks all for the support of our efforts to be with our Haitian brothers and sisters in prayer during this holy season. Thanks also for support of parish, school and clinic as well as clean water and microloans of livestock, seeds and funds. Please keep our twin parish in your prayers.

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.

CATHOLIC COMMUNITY NEWS

WWME

Are we like Thomas and doubt the power of God in our marriage? Learn the tools to put God in your Sacrament of Marriage. The next **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** 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.

FIND YOUR GREATNESS

Great habits create great lives. Are your habits helping you become the-best-version-of-yourself? At the **Find Your Greatness** event learn the habits for a great life! This live Dynamic Catholic event will take place on Friday, May 18, from 6:30-10:30 pm at Church of the Incarnation.

Expect to be inspired by Allen Hunt, enjoy great music by George Lower, and enjoy an evening of fun with your local Catholic community. Steve and Carol Ham will be attending from our parish and invite you to join them and other parishioners to sit together at the event. Please call Steve Ham at 434-466-9820 for more details.

Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased at <https://dynamiccatholic.com/find-your-greatness-charlottesville-va-may-18-2018> or by calling 859.980.7900.

COMMONWEALTH CATHOLIC CHARITIES

April is National Volunteer Month

Much of CCC's success depends on volunteers—caring individuals who share their unique talents and skills to make life better for others. In 2017, CCC was blessed by 201 volunteers who provided over 9,000 hours of service to the agency around the state. To learn about volunteer opportunities in your area, visit www.cccofva.org.

ATTENTION, YOUNG MEN IN HIGH SCHOOL!

If you are a junior or senior in high school and you want to learn how to go deeper in your relationship with Christ, come to the InnerLife weekend. This retreat will be held at Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, in Crozet, west of Charlottesville. In a beautiful, rustic setting that fosters prayer, learn more about how solitude and silence can deepen your prayer life. The retreat is led by Fr. Gregory Kandt, pastor of Church of the Incarnation in Charlottesville. It will begin on Friday, April 27, at 5:30 pm and concludes the next day around 7 pm. If interested or if you need more information, contact Fr. Gregory at [434-973-4381](tel:434-973-4381), [X127](tel:434-973-4381), or e-mail him at grk@incarnationparish.org.

CASA ALMA

SAVE These DATES! Sunday, April 29 at 6:00pm - Celebrate with the Casa Alma extended community with refreshments and a house concert with [Claire Hitchins!](#) Wednesday, May 9 at 7:00pm - Attend a talk by peacemaker and activist John Dear on his new book [They Will Inherit the Earth: Peace and Nonviolence in a Time of Climate Change](#). Hosted at the Church of the Incarnation (1465 Incarnation Drive).

APRIL IS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

There is no better time than the Easter season to celebrate the protection of our most valuable gift from God- our children. For information about the Diocese of Richmond child protection policies, programs and assistance for victim survivors please visit <http://www.richmonddiocese.org/safe-environment>

WALK FOR LIFE

The Walk for Life takes place on Saturday, April 28, at First Baptist Church on Park Street beginning with registration at 8:30 am, a light breakfast, followed by a Rally and then an easy 1.5 mile walk.

This is a very important fundraising event for the Pregnancy Centers of Central VA. It raises needed funds for them to continue to provide life-saving work: helping young women in crisis pregnancies to Choose Life! They provide free services: pregnancy tests, ultrasound, counseling and other services.. You can also register online at: iWalk4Life.org. If you have questions, please contact Delia Laux at delia929@comcast.net.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

All religious education classes, including elementary, high school, and First Communion Preparation will resume next Sunday, April 15 at the usual time.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Next Sunday, April 15

"Praying with the Liturgy of the Hours"

Please join presenter Patricia McAdams for an introduction to this beautiful daily form of prayer based on the Divine Office. 9:45-10:45 AM in the Chapel.

Sunday, April 29

Dr. Kevin Hart presents *"The Earliest Christian Creed."*

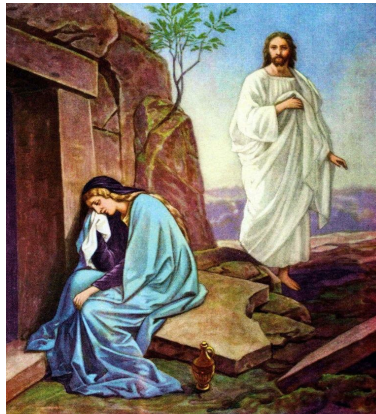
University of Virginia professor of Christian Studies Dr. Kevin Hart will offer a presentation and discussion on the Earliest Christian Creed. Please join us following the 11:00 Mass. Lunch will be provided!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2018

Vacation Bible School is coming again to Holy Comforter this summer! Details will be coming soon. If you are interested in either assisting with or having your children participate in VBS, please contact Sue Dougherty, Coordinator for Christian Education at cre@holycorforterparish.org or 434-295-6559.

From The Pastor

Easter Reflection 2018, Part 2

JESUS IS LOVE, ALLELUIA HE IS RISEN TO LOVE

“He asked her, ‘Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?’ Thinking he was the gardener, she said, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.’” (Jn. 20:15)

After seeing him suffer on the cross, now Mary Magdalene had to face the awful possibility that, rather than a resurrection, his body had been taken. ***“As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her, ‘Woman, why are you crying?’ ‘They have taken my Lord away,’ she said, ‘and I don’t know where they have put him.’”*** (John 20:11–13) When we are in pain, we often reveal the deepest truths. That’s what Mary did when she said, ***“They have taken away my Lord’s body!”*** Jesus was not only her Savior. He was also her friend. *Lord, help us think of you as Mary did—as our dearest companion, our truest friend. Isn’t that something we need to pray for?*

Mary Magdalene remained at the tomb. Not out of duty, but out of love. The same love that kept Mary of Bethany at Jesus’ feet. The same love that kept Mary of Nazareth at the cross. Mary Magdalene’s deep and abiding love for Jesus was about to be rewarded. **Was Jesus not aware of why Mary was crying? Why did he ask the same question the angels had put to her? Isn’t it obvious why Mary is weeping, and who she was looking for? Isn’t it weird that Jesus doesn’t just come right out and comfort her, tell her, and explain to her what has happened?** Maybe He could have said: “Mary! There is no need to worry. Here I am! This is what I was trying to get at the other night. I had to go through death so that I could conquer its power forever, and for everyone else. But God has raised me, as I always knew and trusted that he would. So everyone can now live forever with God in heaven – there is no more condemnation for sin, no more need for trying to appease God, and you can now know how much God loves you! Now, go, tell everyone the good news!” Instead Jesus asked; “Who is it you are looking for?” Why? First, to help her move past her tears so she could move past her fears. He is no longer among the dead. In the darkness of her sorrow, Mary Magdalene needed someone to assure her that one day life would make sense again. That she would be dry-eyed and in her right mind. That love never loses, but always gains life – and a more glorious life. Who else could deliver that assurance than her beloved Savior?

We, in unison with Mary, dare to say: **Jesus is alive, and He is alive because of love.** On Easter we are reminded that this whole thing is about love. Love is what brought Christ to earth as a baby. It is what powered his life, his teachings, his suffering, his death, and ultimately his resurrection. Just like love raised Jesus, it will eventually raise us too. And just like it was life in his body and strength in his bones while he lived here on earth, it can be that way for us too; so that the love we will experience in the next world will simply be the ongoing experience of love that we can experience now. The question is whether that is what you want. Love calls us beyond our religion, so we have to go beyond it. It calls us beyond the familiar boxes that bring us comfort, so we have to go beyond them. If you are willing to do this, God will make his love known to you through his Divine Mercy. ***(To be continued..)***