

CENTRAL VIRGINIA CATHOLIC CLUSTER



CLUSTER OFFICE: 700 BUFFALO STREET • FARMVILLE, VA 23901

Rev. Christopher Hess, Pastor
Rev. Charles Mbazzi, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Peter Menting
Deacon Emmett McLane
Business Manager—Carol Beattie
Director of Religious Education
—Karel Bailey
Director of Campus Ministry— Dan Holland

DECEMBER 10, 2023

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RECTORY: 434-315-0311

FOR EMERGENCIES —(434) 414-1493

EMAIL: office@centralvacatholiccluster.org

WEBSITE: centralvacatholiccluster.org

EXPOSITION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every First Friday immediately following 9 am Mass at St. Theresa, Farmville, every Tuesday after 5:30pm Mass .

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS

Saturdays at 4:00 pm until 4:45pm and Tuesday after 5:00pm Mass at St. Theresa, Farmville and before the weekend masses at the cluster parishes. Also by appt.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Parents are required to attend a Baptism class prior to scheduling to have your child Baptized. Contact the office to make arrangements to attend the class and to schedule Baptism.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

Contact the office and make an appointment with a priest at least six months before the wedding date.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK

In case of illness or hospitalization please contact the office so arrangements can be made to receive the Holy Eucharist, and Anointing of the Sick if necessary.

CATHOLIC INQUIRY

Welcome to all new parishioners, please register in the church office.
If you know of anyone interested in becoming a Catholic contact the office to talk to Father and learn about the RCIA classes.



The Cluster office is located at St. Theresa Parish Center

700 Buffalo Street, Farmville, VA.

Office Hours

Tuesday—Thursday

9:00a.m.—3:00p.m.

Friday Closed

Nativity Catholic Cemetery
15896 James Anderson Hwy W
Buckingham, VA 23921

Immaculate Heart of Mary

903 S Main Street
Blackstone, VA 23824
Mass:
Saturday—5:00p.m.
Sunday—9:00 a.m.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Council:

David McKenna, (Chair), Esther Sablan
Dr. Tracey Jones, Norma Ruiz,
Eduardo Perez

Sacred Heart

2597 Bruceville Road
Meherrin, VA 23954
Mass:
Sunday— 11:00 a.m.

Sacred Heart Parish/Finance Council:

Tammy Hinchey (Chair, Parish Council), Lori Derflinger, Scott Crawford, Mary McKay
(Chair, Finance Council)

St. Theresa

709 Buffalo Street
Farmville, VA 23901
Mass:
Saturday—5:00 p.m.
Sunday—8:00 a.m.
Sunday—10:30 a.m.

St. Theresa Parish Council

Email: sttheresascc@gmail.com

Dottie Zimolong, Chair, Adam Blincoe,
Tracy Carilli, Victor Cruz, Michelle Varga, Lynn Skakum, Pat Brandt, Mike Biase, Gene Donovan

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the people of God, gathered in worship in the Central Virginia Catholic Cluster of churches are a diverse community of Catholics striving to live the message of the Gospel by evangelizing Christ's Word through our worship, prayer, and outreach work, to the community.

Readings for the week of December 10, 2023

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14
(8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/
Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt
13:18bcde, 19/
Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt
11:28-30
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/
Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18
-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
(Is 61:10b)/
1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, "**The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.**" It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

— *Father John Muir*

Immaculate Heart of Mary Blackstone

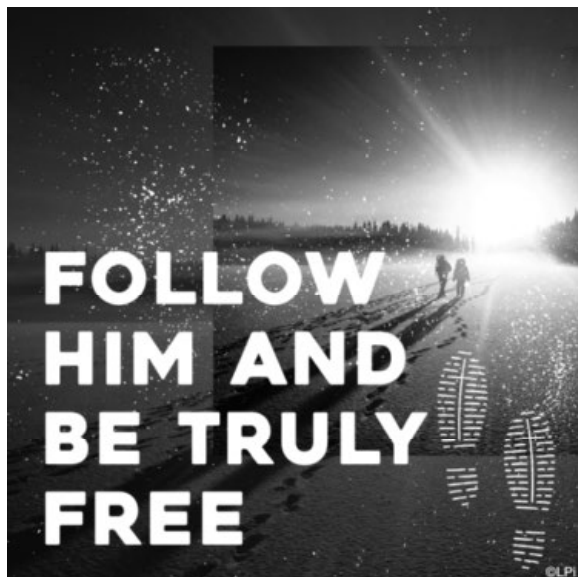
Please pray for the sick and infirmed for whom prayers have been requested: Names will appear for a month after notification Resubmit if needed:
 Tom Neal, Deacon Peter Menting, Jose Luis Ruiz, Jr.; Nancy Ortega, Michael Blevins, John Paul Parson, Shirley Boelte, Mae Luedtke, Carmen Lawrence, Cristina Castellanos, Patricia Webb, John & Ellen Thompson, Phyllis, Hernandez, Albert Cruz, Eleanor Drebeck, Richard Preston, Maria M. Fuentes, Robert Joyner, Carina A. Ortiz, Angel R. Velez-Ortiz, Josef K. Sablan, Matthew Smith, Marion Constante, Esther Sablan, Pam Blevins, Tom Blankenship, Sharon Watson, Rita Flowers, Eileen Lane, Jerry Smith

IHM STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE

Monthly Regular Collection	YTD Collected Oct. 2023	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$6,665.01	\$22,849.27	\$24,600.06	(\$1,750.79)

IHM Finance Council

Paul Semtner, Chair, Norma Ruiz, Patty York, Juan Ramirez

**Sacred Heart ~ Meherrin**

Prayer List - Reminder: List is updated once a month. If someone needs to be added, please call the office. Chrissy Dix, Wanda Bailey, Helen Truskoski, Sean Presley, Halle Jackson, Lesleigh Kelly, Susie Hampton, Charlie Jones, Mary Hind, Elizabeth Nelson, Robert Batts, Claude McKinney, Sheryl McKinney, Jody DiLullo, Janet Royster, Joy Crawford, Ray Lewis, Tom Baldwin, Wanda Bowen, Troy Powell, B.J. & Clarence Cannaday, Julia West and Kenneth Palmer, Nelson Marshall, Sophia Hind, Lynn Duffer, George Thack, Jim Guy, Edward Metcalf, Jean Watts, The Gregory Family, Delores Francini, Tim Grey

SCHEDULE OF MINISTERS FOR Dec. 17

The Lectors for Liturgy will be
 Reader—Karen Halay
 EM—Dona Selig
 Altar—Peggy Dunegan
 Ushers—Warren Wade/Dennis Queensberry
 m/Counters—Scott Crawford/Lori Derflinger

SACRED HEART~STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE

Monthly Regular Collection	YTD Collected Oct. 2023	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$3,794.00	\$14,549.60	\$15,566.22	(\$1,016.62)

Sacred Heart Finance/Parish Council:

Mary McKay, Chairman
 Lori Derflinger, Scott Crawford, Tammy Hinchey



‘CLUSTER NEWS’**A BIG THANK YOU**

WITH THANKSGIVING IN OUR HEARTS, WE WANT TO THANK ALL WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED EITHER MONETARILY, PHYSICALLY OR IN DONATING FOOD TO FEED FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY FOR THANKSGIVING. WITH THAT BEING SAID, WE WERE ABLE TO FEED 52 FAMILIES. THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT. SEE YOU AGAIN NEXT YEAR!!

THE FOOD PANTRY TEAM.



**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13
AT 6:00P.M. AT ST. THERESA
IN FARMVILLE.**



CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Saint Theresa Catholic Church- Farmville

Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Masses)
*December 24th, Regular Sunday schedule and
Sunday, 5:00pm Vigil Mass
Midnight Mass at 12:00am
December 25th, Monday, 9:00am*
Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God –
Masses
*December 31, Regular Sunday schedule and
Sunday 5:00pm Vigil Mass
January 1, Monday, 9:00am*

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church Blackstone

Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Vigil Masses)
*December 24, Regular Sunday Schedule and
Sunday, 5:00pm Vigil
7:00pm Spanish Mass
December 25, Monday 9:00am*
Solemnity of Mary, Holy mother of God –
Masses
*December 31, Regular Sunday schedule and
Sunday, 5:00pm Vigil Mass
January 1, Monday 9:00am*

Sacred Heart Catholic Church Meherrin

Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Mass)
December 25, Monday, 11:00am
Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God – Mass
*January 1, Monday, 11:00am
Sunday Mass as normally scheduled*

**ST. THERESA MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF
DECEMBER 12—DECEMBER 17**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

- 5:30pm Mass offered for †Gary Hall

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

- 9:00am Mass offered for Robin George

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 9:00am Mass offered for †Betty Olinger

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 5:00pm Mass offered for †Ida Campagna

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 8:00am Mass offered for †Terri Beasley
- 10:30am Mass offered for †Ed Bailey

**ST. THERESA ACTIVITIES FOR THE
WEEK OF Dec. 11—Dec. 17**

MONDAY, Dec. 11

- 7:00pm Boy Scouts—Parish Center

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 13

- 10:00am Food Pantry & Clothes Ministry

SUNDAY, Dec. 17

- 9:00am—CCD—Parish Center
- 9:00am—RCIA—Parish Center



REMINDER:

Parish Center Chapel is open Tuesday through Thursday from 9am to 3pm. Take a moment during this Advent Season to stop by and reflect.

Remember the Poor Box in the Commons Area of the Church.. Every little bit helps.

Please pray for the sick and infirmed for whom prayers have been requested

***Our Parishioners:** Marilyn Reid, Pat O'Halloran, John Jamieson, George Ghrelin, Bill Phillips, Tina Ehman, Edwin Sebolt, Shirley Ehman, Ann Marie Howard, Eniko Swanick, Pat Ely, Pat Freudenthal*

***Friends & Relatives of Parishioners**—Louis Wunnenberg Jr, Leise Wells, Kyler Latta, Kimberly Pope, Danielle Luckraft, Helanna Shaw, Davis Bonar, Bucky, Anne Loveless, The Cozza family, Pam Levinson, Evelyn Litchford, Daniel Spada, Mitzi B., Shaunna Smith, Meagan Smart, Barbara Botts, Karen Korrow, Alice Moses, David Bennett, Rusty Carter, Bill Bradley, Greg Spencer, Noreen Quinlan Celeste, Patrick & Caitlin Duggan, Ashley Redd, Megan Smart, Shan Biron, Jenny Bobko, Ashley Wallace, Chuck Gendrow, Kayia DeVivo, Alice Moser, Kerry John Matthews, Bruce Long, Donna Moon, Carly, Michelle Reynolds, Karen Kulla, Joyce Spencer, Julia Shields, Chris Johnson, Russell Baker, Carroll Gillespie, Christopher Biron, Eliza Reynolds, Jan & Randy Dagenhart, Marq-"Bubba" Webb, Judy Biron, John Wunnenberg, Rich Eshelman*

***Our friends and relatives serving in the military**—Donnie Dionisio, Rylan Charlton, Katie Abston, Joe Bridge, Melanie Faircloth, Jefferson Page, Sean Burns, Steve Hind, Jr., Taylor Anctil, Petty Officer 3rd Class Andrew Michael Collins, Aran McMurtray, Fritz Julian, Michael Irvine, Troy Howard, Tyler Moore, Major Efren Aranzamendez, Army and CPT Ryan Aranzamendez, Air Force, Joshua Duggan, Zachary Varner, Jaimie Bliss*

ST. THERESA ~ STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE

Regular Collection	YTD Collected Oct., 2023	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$20,624.06	\$89,192.07	\$94,269.60	(\$5,077.53)

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry can always use food, Many thanks to those of you who have given generously. **Please make sure to check expiration on packages.**

It is truly appreciated. We served 62 people on November 29

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS

If you need help with odd jobs around the house, please feel free to contact the Hampden-Sydney Catholic Campus Ministries for assistance.

*Call or Text
706-266-6591*

Email—thorntonw26@hsc.edu

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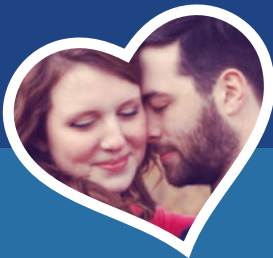
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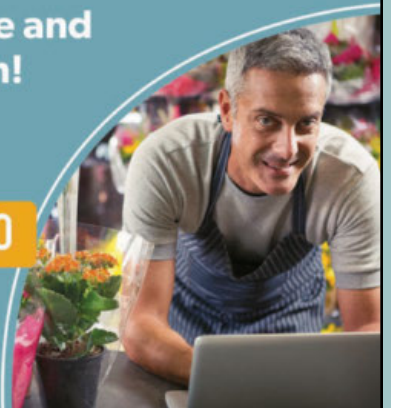
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