

# 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 24 2023**

**PHONE:** 434-392-3934

**RECTORY:** 434-315-0311

**FOR EMERGENCIES —(434) 414-1493**

**EMAIL:** [office@centralvacatholiccluster.org](mailto:office@centralvacatholiccluster.org)

**WEBSITE:** [centralvacatholiccluster.org](http://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.

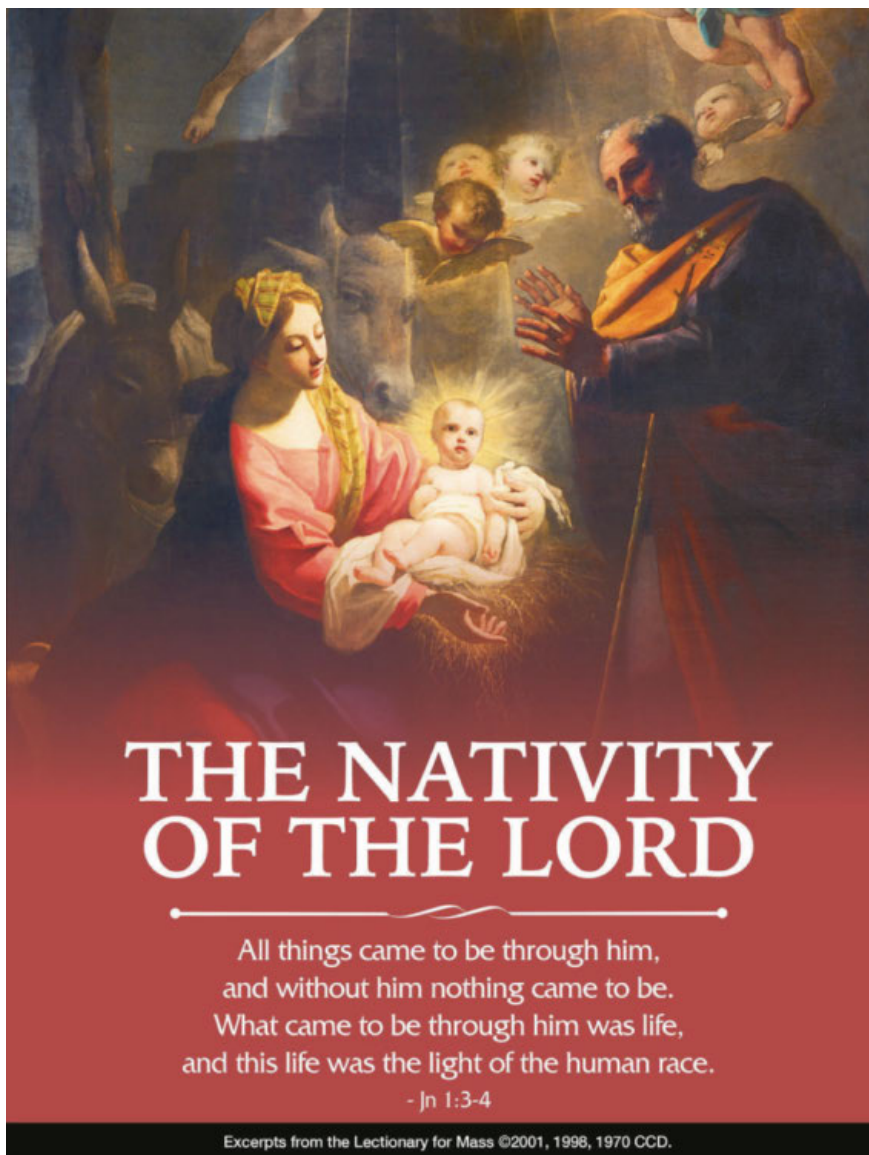
## **MINISTRY TO THE SICK**

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 NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

All things came to be through him,  
and without him nothing came to be.  
What came to be through him was life,  
and this life was the light of the human race.

- Jn 1:3-4

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

*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](mailto: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 24, 2023

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Monday: *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/  
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/

Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 *Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/

Lk 2:1-14 *Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20

*Day:* Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or

Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/

Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Life is troubling. Who among us has not struggled with anxiety and difficulties, sometimes massive ones? I certainly have, as have many of my loved ones. If we do, does this mean that we don't trust the Lord or just need to toughen up?

I don't think so. How encouraging for us anxious and troubled souls to hear Luke describe the Blessed Mother Mary in these words, "**But she was greatly troubled at what was said.**" An archangel has visited her. An inconceivable promise has been made to her. Her life has become wildly unpredictable, perhaps more so than any person before or since. The first point for us: the Lord is with her *precisely when she is troubled*. Her anxiousness and God's presence are not mutually exclusive. Christianity is not about a trance-like robotic indifference. It's about the presence of divine love. Even in — especially in — troubled circumstances.

Our troubled soul can become our greatest treasure. What seems so troubling at first to Mary becomes the best possible thing, Jesus, the Savior and Lord, is now her son. All the difficulties and troubles remain, and yet her movement into the fullness of God is accelerated. What is troubling you right now? This scripture invites us now, this week, to hear the Lord's messenger say to us what he said to Mary, "**Do not be afraid! You have found favor with God.**"

— 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 Nov. 2023	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$6,682.00	\$29,531.27	\$30,066.74	(\$535.47)

**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. 24**

The Lectors for Liturgy will be  
 Reader—Pat Irvine  
 EM—Scott Crawford  
 Altar—Nancy Fothergill  
 Ushers—Richard Hinchey/Bernard Marquis  
 m/Counters—Tammy Hinchey/Beth Gregory

**SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS DAY**

Reader—Nancy Fothergill  
 EM—Pat Irvine  
 Altar—Dona Selig  
 Ushers—Buck Dean/Peggy Dunegan  
 m/counters—Scott Crawford/Lori Derflinger

**SACRED HEART~STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE**

Monthly Regular Collection	YTD Collected Nov. 2023	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$3,290.00	\$17,839.60	\$19,025.38	(\$1,185.78)

**Sacred Heart Finance/Parish Council:**

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

**‘CLUSTER NEWS’**

OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
FOR THE HOLIDAY FROM DE-  
CEMBER 25–JANUARY 2.  
THERE WILL BE NO DAILY  
MASSES.  
IN CASE OF EMERGENCY  
PLEASE CALL  
434-414-1493

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY  
SCHEDULE**

**Saint Theresa Catholic Church-  
Farmville**

Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Masses)  
*December 24<sup>th</sup>, Regular Sunday schedule and  
Sunday, 5:00pm Vigil Mass  
Midnight Mass at 12:00am  
December 25<sup>th</sup>, 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 25—DECEMBER 31**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 25  
NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

- 12:00am Mass offered for Special Intentions
- 9:00am Mass offered for †Bob Varner

**NO WEEKDAY MASSES  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30**

- 5:00pm Mass offered for †Theresa Capezza

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31**

- 8:00am Mass offered for †Frank Toti
- 10:30am Mass offered for †Ashley Redd
- 5:00pm Mass offered for Special Intentions
- 9:00am Mass offered for Parishioners of the Cluster

**ST. THERESA ACTIVITIES FOR THE  
WEEK OF Dec. 26—Dec. 31**

**MONDAY, Dec. 26**

- 7:00pm Boy Scouts—Parish Center

**WEDNESDAY, Dec. 28**

- 10:00am Food Pantry & Clothes Ministry

**SUNDAY, Dec. 31**

NO CCD OR RCIA



**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, Howard Arthur, Zach Ranson, Carolyn Wells, Carolyn Craft*

**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 Nov., 2023	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$15,798.77	\$104,990.84	\$115,218.40	(\$10,227.56)

**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 58 people on Dec. 6.

**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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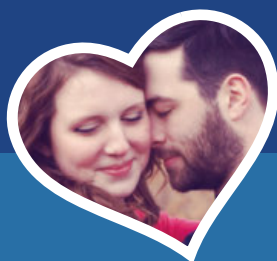
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