

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 31, 2023

PHONE: 434-392-3934

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.

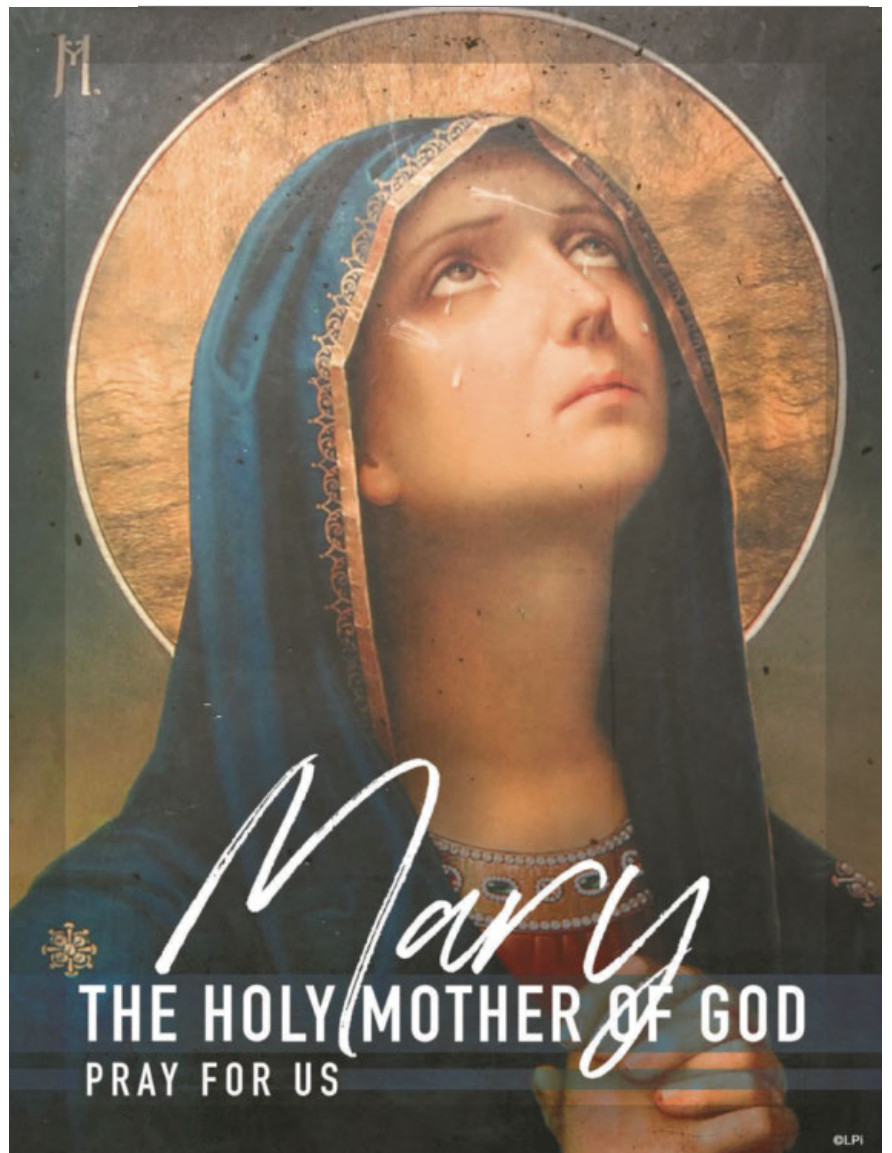
MINISTRY TO THE SICK

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 31, 2023

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
 Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34
 Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42
 Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
 Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

December 31, 2023

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

I remember the first time my older sister asked me if I wanted to hold her newborn son. Terrified, I told her I didn't think it was a good idea. My résumé had nothing to suggest I would be a qualified baby holder. But she warmly told me, "I'll help you hold him." It struck me that she is baby's mother. She is the one who decides who is qualified to hold him. I took him in my arms and soon I began to feel comfortable with that tiny little warm cooing creature in my arms, and soon I no longer feared holding him. Now, twenty-seven nieces and nephews later, holding a newborn child is one of the great joys of my life.

Do we sometimes think that Jesus is given only to the highly qualified, special religious people? In the Gospel of Luke today we hear about the presentation of the Lord in the temple. The newborn son of God is passed around like a baton in a relay race, not guarded like a precious jewel or a breakable china dish. We can see him going from the arms of Mary to Joseph, then to the priest performing the ceremony, then to Simeon the old man, then to Anna the old widow. Each one receiving him and then handing him to the next. A tidal wave of joy and thanksgiving follows wherever he is placed.

Believe me, you are qualified to hold Jesus in your arms. How can I say that with such confidence? Because the mother decides who is qualified. The Blessed Virgin, embodied in the Church, holds him out to you and me. She rejoices to place him in our arms to hold, and to hand him on, too.

— *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 Jan 7

Reader—Jim Guy

EM—Scott Crawford

Altar—Pat Irvine

Ushers—Peggy Dunegan/Richard Hinchey

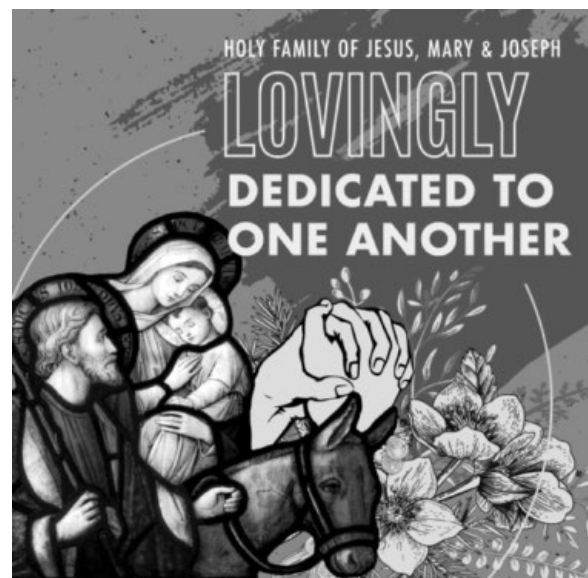
m/Counters—Tammy Hinchey/Beth Gregory

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’

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

Celebrate the first American-born saint! St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was born in New York City in the late 1700s and raised Episcopalian. She married William Seton. Together they had five children. He fell ill, and the family moved to Italy for his health. While there, Elizabeth discovered Catholicism. Her husband eventually passed away, but God had more plans for the Seton family. Elizabeth felt a further stirring in her heart. She opened a school for girls in 1808. The calling grew. Within a year, Elizabeth had founded the Sisters of Charity, the first community for religious women established in the United States. Their work established the first Catholic school system in the country. On her feast day this January 4th, pray for our teachers and students!

PLEASE READ

If you make contributions with envelopes, please make sure you put them in the correct church. All of the churches have their own accounts and envelopes. If you put your envelope at the wrong church it cannot be deposited. If your visiting one of the Cluster Churches, please save your envelope for when you attend your home church.

Please notify the office if under special circumstances, you or a family member are in need of a priest or deacon's visitation

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Campus Ministry is looking for cooks and speakers for its Tuesday Night Dinners with the college students for the Fall Semester. If you have any questions or are interested email Dan Holland at farmvilleccm@gmail.com

**ST. THERESA MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF
JANUARY 2—JANUARY 7**

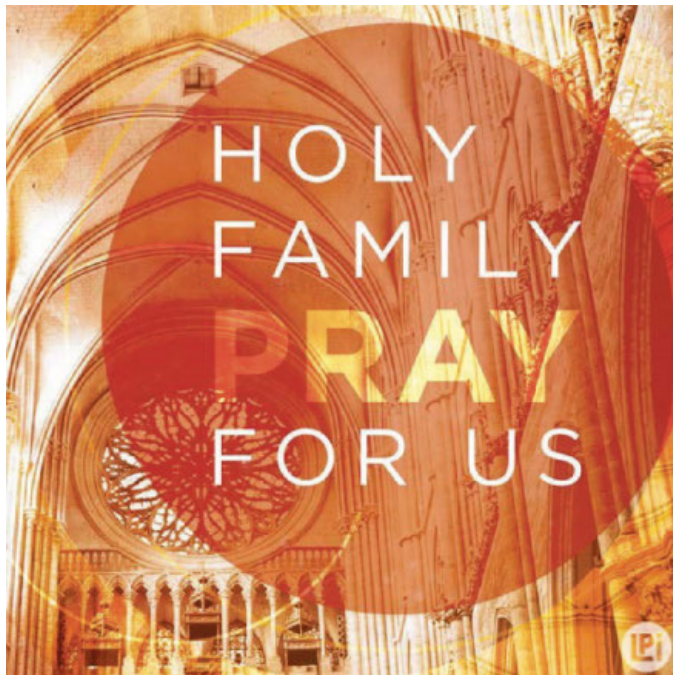
- 5:30pm Mass offered for †Ashley Redd
THURSDAY, JANUARY 4
- 9:00am Mass offered for †Frank Toti
FIRST FRIDAY, JANUARY 5
- 9:00am Mass offered for †Ed Bailey
- Adoration to follow
SATURDAY, JANUARY 6
- 5:00pm Mass offered for †Jerome Loftus
SUNDAY, JANUARY 7
- 8:00am Mass offered for †Judy Glatt
- 10:30am Mass offered for †Verla & Willard Lutz & Bolivar & Teresa Alvarez

**ST. THERESA ACTIVITIES FOR THE
WEEK OF Jan 1—Jan 7**

- 10:00am Food Pantry & Clothes Ministry
SUNDAY, Jan. 7
- 9:00am—CCD—Parish Center
- 9:00am—RCIA—Parish Center

Parish Center Chapel is open Tuesday through Thursday from 9am to 3pm. Take a moment to stop by .

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 74 people on Dec. 20.

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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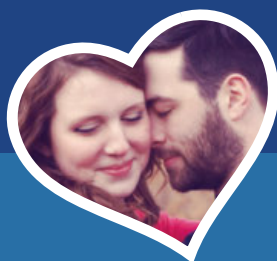
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