

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

MARCH 24, 2024

PHONE: 434-392-3934

RECTORY: 434-315-0311

FOR EMERGENCIES —(434) 414-1493

EMAIL: sttheresafarmville@gmail.com

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

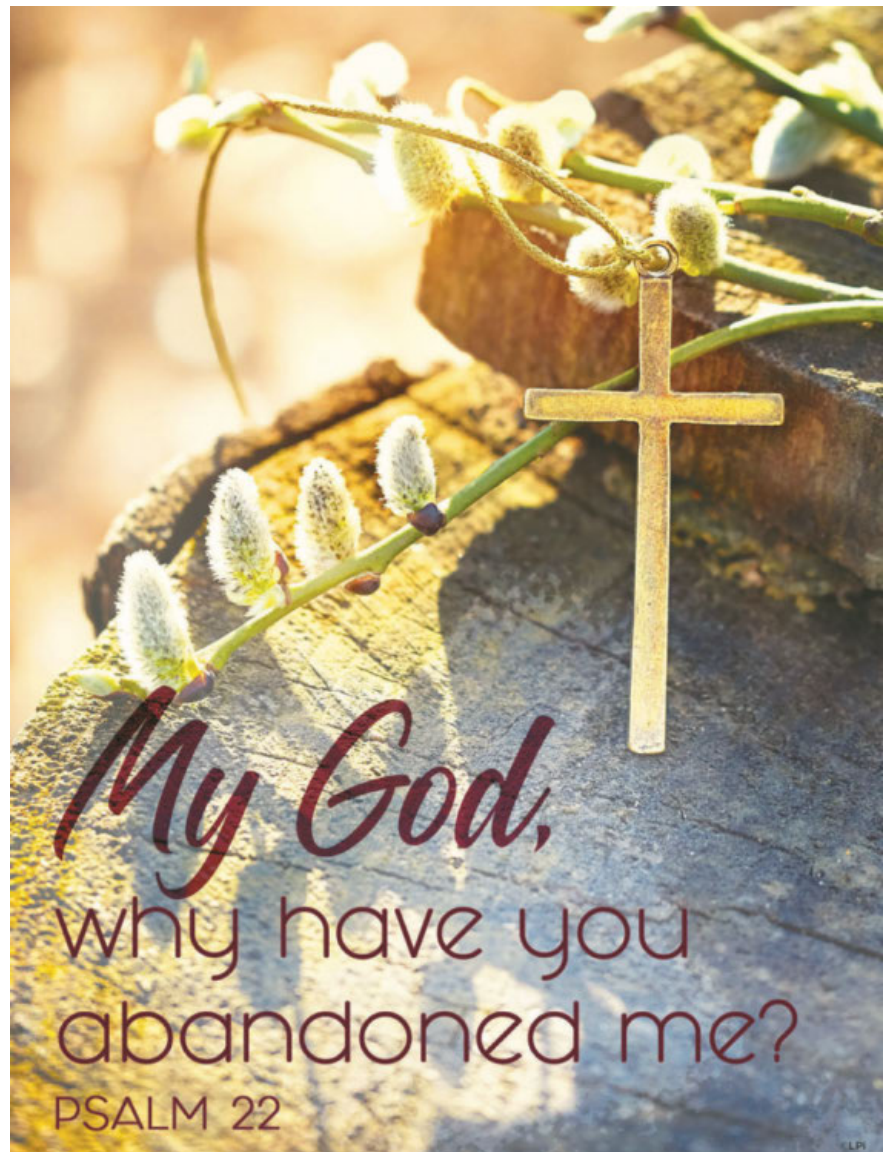
Contact the office and make an appointment with a priest at least six months before the wedding date.

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 March 24, 2024

Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/

Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34/Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: *Chrism Mass:* Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9/Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27/Rv 1:5-8/Lk 4:16-21

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14/Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18 (see 1 Cor 10:16)/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Friday: Is 52:13—53:12/Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25 (Lk 23:46)/

Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1—19:42

Saturday: *Easter Vigil:* Gn 1:1—2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35 (30) or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20-22 (5b)/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11 (1)/Ex 14:15—15:1/ Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18 (1b)/Is 54:5-14/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13 (2a)/Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (3)/Bar 3:9-15, 32—4:4/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4 (42:2)/Rom 6:3-11/Mk 16:1-7

A few months before they married, my twenty-three-year-old sister and her fiancé planned a cross-country road trip to visit his family. My parents told them that they could only go if they slept in separate hotel rooms, offering to foot the bill. It might sound prudish, but my parents wanted the young couple to understand that their approaching unity was close, but not yet. Patience solidifies love.

What could this possibly have to do with Palm Sunday? It's usually overlooked, but the Gospels tell us that, after entering Jerusalem, Jesus **"looked around ... and since it was late, went out to Bethany with the twelve"** (Mk 11:11) for the night. Who cares? Why include this detail? Jews in those days believed that the new Davidic King would one day re-enter and "marry" the city. A new future marked by fidelity would begin for God's people. Israel's God would be in union with His people forever. Without over-sexualizing the metaphor, perhaps Jesus refused to sleep in Jerusalem to remind us of his *marital* purpose. He was entering Jerusalem as the bridegroom-king. It was almost time, but not yet. Soon he will sleep in Jerusalem in the tomb and then something new will begin: his one body, his Church.

Lenten challenge: This Holy Week, I challenge you to keep this image in your mind all the way until Easter Sunday: Jesus is the faithful bridegroom who patiently prepares his bride for their new life together. Go to the Good Friday liturgy and kiss the cross. When you do, let that gesture be the long-awaited "I do" to our faithful God, who always waits for us.

— Father John Muir

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY BLACKSTONE
Please pray for 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, 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, Gus Mitchell, Rose Gratton, Richard Whitmore, Libby Smith, Barbara Miller, Helen Spain, Helen Hemetec, Sally Augustine, Maribel Arandea, Benny Borja, Racahel Kearney, Ashley Townsend.

IHM STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE

Monthly Regular Collection	YTD Collected Feb. 2024	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$5,645.50	\$49,460.42	\$47,833.45	\$1,626.97

IHM Finance Council

Paul Semtner, Chair, Norma Ruiz, Patty York, Grace McDonald



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, Halle Jackson, Lesleigh Kelly, Susie Hampton, , Charlie Jones, Mary Hind, Elizabeth Nelson, Robert Batts, Claude McKinney, Sheryl McKinney, Jody DiLullo, Janet Royster, Buck y 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 Mar 31

Reader—Pat Irvine

EM—Dona Selig

Altar—Nancy Fothergill

Ushers—Dan Derflinger/Bernard Marquis

m/Counters—Scott Crawford/Lori Derflinger

SACRED HEART~STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE

Monthly Regular Collection	YTD Collected Feb. 2024	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$4,822.50	\$30,390.40	\$30,267.65	\$122.75

Sacred Heart Finance/Parish Council:

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

Almighty Ever-Living God, You sent Your beloved Son to redeem us. His will was always Your will. Grant that we may always conform our will to Yours and serve with sincerity of heart so that we may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom. Send Your Spirit to help us know what is right and be eager to do Your will so that one day we will see You face to face. Amen

‘CLUSTER NEWS’

BLESSING OF THE FOOD

HOLY SATURDAY AT 12 NOON AT ST. THERESA

Basket Contents and Symbolism

Eggs – Decorated Ukrainian pysanky or various dyed or plain white eggs; symbolizing hope, new life and Christ’s Resurrection from the tomb

Butter – Dairy products are included to celebrate the end of Lent and the richness of our salvation; re-minds us of the goodness of Christ that we should have toward all things

Easter Bread – A round loaf, sweetened yeast Pas-ka or rye, topped with a cross, symbolic of Jesus, the Bread of Life

Horseradish – Symbolic of the bitterness and harshness of the Passion of Christ; the vinegar it is mixed with symbolizing the sour wine given to Jesus on the cross but sweetened with some sugar because of the Resurrection. This may be white or pink with grated red beets

Pepper – Also symbolic of the Passion of Christ and the bitter herbs

Kielbassa/Sausage – The links are symbolic of the chains of death that were broken when Jesus rose from the dead, as well as God’s favor and generosity

Ham, Lamb or Veal – Meats are symbolic of great joy and abundance in Christ’s Resurrection

Smoked Bacon – With its great fattiness, it is a symbol of the overabundance of God’s mercy and generosity

Salt – A necessary element in our physical life; symbolic of purification, prosperity and justice; pre-serves us from corruption. Jesus used its symbolism: “You are the salt of the earth”

Cheese – Usually fresh, dry curd or farmer’s cheese shaped into a ball, it is the symbol of the mod-eration Christians should practice

Holy Water – Used to bless the home, animals, fields and used in various rituals throughout the year

Sweets – Fruits, candy, poppy seed and nut rolls, pastry items; promise of eternal life or good things to come

The food included within any basket can be easily personalized to meet family needs and desires. How-ever, the three-part blessing specifically addresses special prayers for the meats, eggs, cakes and breads.



March 28th Holy Thursday

St. Theresa – 7:00pm - Mass of the Lord’s Supper

IHM – 7:00pm Mass of the Lord’s

Supper

March 29th Good Friday

The Lord’s Passion

St. Theresa – 3:00 pm Stations of the Cross

St. Theresa - 7:00pm The Lord’s Passion

IHM – 6:00pm Stations of the Cross and The Lord’s Passion

Sacred Heart – 3:00pm Stations of the Cross and The Lord’s Passion

March 30th Holy Saturday

St. Theresa - 8:00pm - The Easter Vigil in the Holy night

Immaculate Heart of Mary – 8:00pm – The Easter Vigil of the Holy Night

March 31 - Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

St. Theresa – 8:00am and 10:30am

IHM – 9:00am

Sacred Heart – 11:00am



Please pray for those who have been participating in the RCIA program and preparing to join the Church this Easter: Mahalie Alexander, Evan Old, Robert Foley and Katie Gaffney. Trusting in the love of Christ, may they find freedom of heart and mind, and may they have our sincere support as full members of the Catholic community.

ST. THERESA MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF
MARCH 26—MARCH 31
TUESDAY, MARCH 26

- 5:30pm Mass offered for †Waleska Delgado
- HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28**
- 7:00pm Mass of the Lord’s Supper
- GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29**

- 3:00pm Stations of the Cross
- 7:00pm The Lord’s Passion

EASTER VIGIL
SATURDAY, MARCH 30

- 7:00pm Mass offered for †Richard Mathews

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION
SUNDAY, MARCH 31

- 8:00am Mass offered for †Todd Shinabeck
- 10:30am Mass offered for †The Burleson Family

ST. THERESA ACTIVITIES FOR THE
WEEK OF Mar. 25– Mar. 31
WEDNESDAY, March 20

- 10:00am Food Pantry & Clothes Ministry
- FRIDAY, March 22**
- 5:00pm Soup Sunday followed by Stations of the Cross

- SUNDAY, March 23**
- 9:00am—CCD—Parish Center
 - 9:00am—RCIA—Parish Center



ST. THERESA ANNUAL YARD SALE

NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS THROUGH April 5th. BIG ITEMS CAN ONLY BE DELIVERED THE WEEK OF APRIL 2.
PLEASE SEE MISS DOREEN FOR ANY QUESTIONS

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, Anna Marie Nolan, Bill Neu
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 Craft, Jason Kneeland, Joan Varga, Brenda Korrow

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 Effen Aranzamendez, Army and CPT Ryan Aranzamendez, Air Force, Joshua Duggan, Zachary Varner, Jaimie Bliss, John Pempel, Taylor Armstrong, Captain Christopher Selig

ST. THERESA ~ STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCE

Regular Collection	YTD Collected Feb. 2024	YTD Coll20ection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$19,382.58	\$168,595.73	\$183,302.00	(\$14,706.27)

St. Theresa Finance Council
Mike Wolyniak (Chair), Nancy Pempel,
Steve Barber, Karen Schinabeck

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 56 people on March 13

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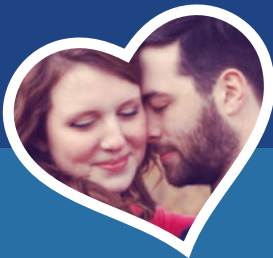
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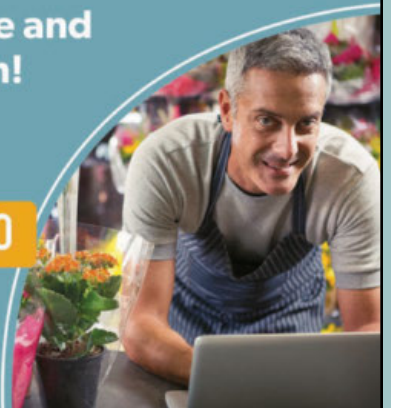
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