

CENTRAL VIRGINIA CATHOLIC CLUSTER



CLUSTER OFFICE: 700 BUFFALO STREET • FARMVILLE, VA 23901

CLERGY AND STAFF

Rev. Christopher Hess, *Pastor*
Rev. Ronnie Dolosa, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Mr. Emmett McLane, *Deacon*
Karel Bailey, *Director of Religious Education*
Dan Holland, *Director of Campus Ministry*

CONTACTS

Office: 434-392-3934
Rectory: 434-315-0311
Emergencies: 434-414-1493
sttheresafarmville@gmail.com
centralvacatholiccluster.org

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday—Thursday
9:00 am—12:00 pm

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

903 S Main Street
Blackstone, VA 23824
Mass: Saturday 5:00 pm and Sunday 9:00 am

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 am

Sacred Heart Parish/Finance Council

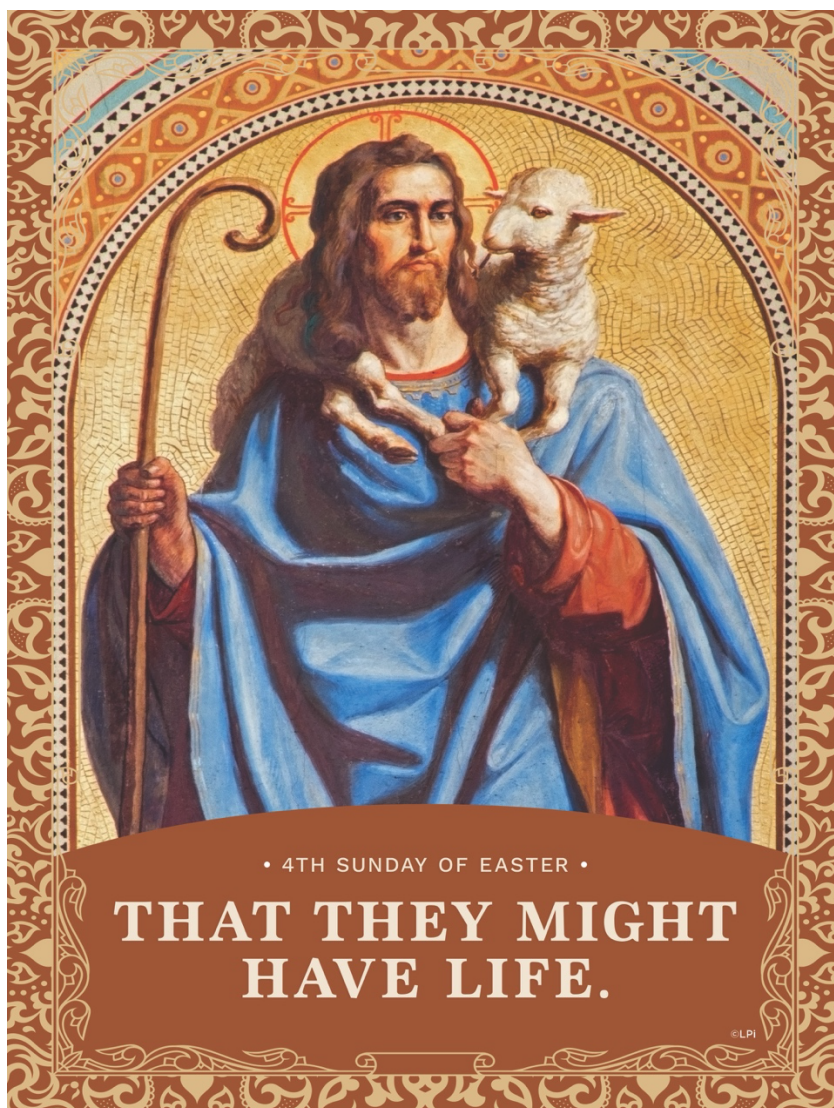
Tammy Hinchey (Chair), Lori Derflinger,
Scott Crawford, Dana Borum, Kathy Oliver

ST. THERESA

709 Buffalo Street
Farmville, VA 23901
Mass:
Saturday 5:00 pm,
Sunday 8:00 am, and Sunday 10:30 am

St. Theresa Parish Council

Email: sttheresascc@gmail.com
Dottie Zimolong (Chair), Victor Adaniel,
Steve Biernesser, Pat Brandt, Tracy Carilli,
Gene Donovan, Victor Cruz, Lynn Skakum,
Cindy Scheu



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 OCIA classes.

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 to the community.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Every First Friday immediately following the 9:00 am Mass at St. Theresa, Farmville, and every Tuesday after the 5:30pm Mass.

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS

Saturdays at 4:00 pm until 4:45pm and Tuesday after 5:30 pm Mass at St. Theresa, Farmville and before the weekend masses at the cluster parishes. Also by appointment.

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 Holy Communion and Anointing of the Sick if necessary.

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry can always use donated items, especially: canned spaghetti sauce, canned fruit or fresh fruit, tuna, rice, spaghetti, green beans, Bush's baked beans, and mac & cheese. Please make sure to check the expiration dates on any donated packages. We served 84 people on April 15.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: APRIL 26, 2026

Sunday	Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/1 Pt 2:20b-25/ Jn 10:1-10
Monday	Acts 11:1-18/ Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:11-18
Tuesday	Acts 11:19-26/ Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday	Acts 12:24-13:5a/ Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Jn 12:44-50
Thursday	Acts 13:13-25/ Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27/Jn 13:16-20
Friday	Acts 13:26-33/ Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/Jn 14:1-6
Saturday	Acts 13:44-52/ Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 14:7-14

GOSPEL MEDITATION

April 26, 2026

4th Sunday of Easter

John 10:1-10

My most boring job was working at an insurance company as a college student. My main task? Filing. Now imagine if I had told my supervisor, "I just want you to know, I'm willing to die for these files." She would have called a psychiatrist — or at least security.

There is something absurd in Jesus' words in today's Gospel: "**I am the good shepherd... I lay down my life for the sheep.**" (John 10:11) It sounds noble, until you think about it. No one dies for sheep. Not a hired hand. Not even a good shepherd. Sheep are important, sure, but not worth a human life. And yet, Jesus insists: *I will die for them.* The crowd understandably responds: "**He is out of his mind.**"

C.S. Lewis once said that Jesus does not leave us the option of calling him merely a good teacher. If someone speaks like him, he is either lying, crazy, or telling the truth. John's Gospel won't let us stay sentimental. Jesus means it. He reveals a love that surpasses logic — a love that measures worth not by strength or success, but by the willingness to suffer unto death. The Good Shepherd's madness is mercy. His cross makes no earthly sense and yet it makes divine sense. He lays down his life not for kings or saints but for sheep — for the ordinary, the unworthy, for you and me.

Think of someone who may feel unworthy of love. Do something simple and generous for them, not because they deserve it, but because Jesus did the same for you.

— *Father John Muir*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

PARISH COLLECTIONS ENVELOPES

We are grateful for your continued generosity to our Sunday collections. Please know that each parish has its own checkbook and envelopes, and that all monies collected at a parish will be recorded in that parish. We have had a few occasions when a parishioner contributes to the offertory at one of the Cluster parishes using an envelope from a different parish. We cannot record the envelopes from one parish for another. If you are contributing to the collection in a parish different from your home parish, please put your donation in the basket without the envelope. Parishioners intending to contribute to the weekly collection of the home parish must donate there.

At St. Theresa only, there are two accounts: one for general expenses and one for the building fund (Alive in Christ). Parishioners intending to contribute to both accounts at the same time should use two different checks. Money counters are not able to divide checks for the two different accounts.



ST. THERESA DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Tues.	4/28	5:30 pm	†Dcn Peter Mention
Wed.	4/29	5:30 pm	†Lois Gager
Thurs.	4/30	9:00 am	†Carmela Palmieri
Fri.	5/1	9:00 am	†Lois Gager
Sat.	5/2	5:00 pm	†John and Carolyn Brandt
Sun.	5/3	8:00 am	†Angelo Aldi
		10:30 am	†Teresa Walsh

MEDIA CONTACT INFORMATION

If you need to send information via our media, please contact these individuals:

For the email **newsletter**:

Wade Edwards, edwardswa@longwood.edu or
Bobbie Atristain, sbcgal@me.com

For our **Facebook** page:

Jennifer Bolt, joshuahastenbolt@gmail.com

For the **website**: Ron McPherson,

ronbull@centrurylink.net

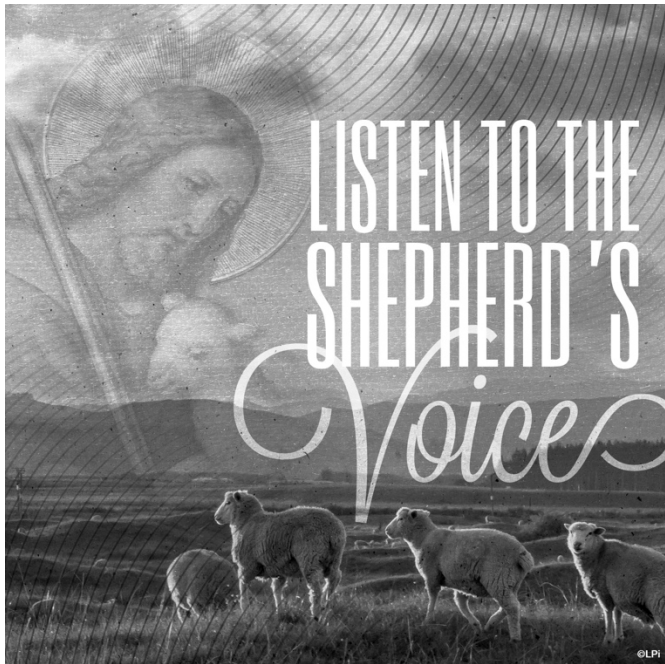
For the **bulletin or pulpit announcements**: Contact the office, sttheresafarmville@gmail.com

- Bulletin information needs to be sent to the office by 6:00 pm Wednesday 10 days prior to the Sunday bulletin.
- For Pulpit announcements, information need to be to the office in writing by 10:00 am Wednesday morning 5 days prior to the weekend Masses.

Please send all announcements in writing. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the office. If you need to get something approved, please email the pastor for approval.

SATURDAY NEWSLETTER & EMAIL ALERTS

If you are not yet receiving the Cluster newsletter in your inbox each Saturday afternoon, please text "SALVE" to 84576 to join our email list. Alerts about inclement weather, funerals, or cancelations are also sent to this list.



SUNDAY PRAYER MEETING

A Prayer Meeting will be held on the last Sunday of every month. Our next, hour-long meeting is scheduled for April 26 at 1:00 pm in the St. Theresa Parish Center. All are welcome.

LIFE MINISTRIES COMMITTEE

An update on our Baby Bottle Fundraiser for the Pregnancy Support Center of Southside Virginia: with all coins and cluster parish donations remaining to be counted, \$2,425 has been collected! Thank you all so very much for your contributions to support life at the local level.

ST. THERESA ADULT EDUCATION

The next adult education session will be held May 3 at 9:00 am. We meet on the first and third Sundays of each month in the Parish Center.

PARISH COLLECTIONS

IHM Monthly Regular Collection	YTD Collected Dec 2025	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$11,084.28	\$50365.61	\$34,635.38	\$15,930.23
SH Monthly Regular Collection	YTD Collected Dec. 2025	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$3,722.00	\$20,523.00	\$21,558.94	(\$1,035.94)
STT Monthly Regular Collection	YTD Collected Dec. 2025	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$21,635.10	\$147,635.69	\$130,104.52	\$17,531.17

THE GIFT OF HUMILITY

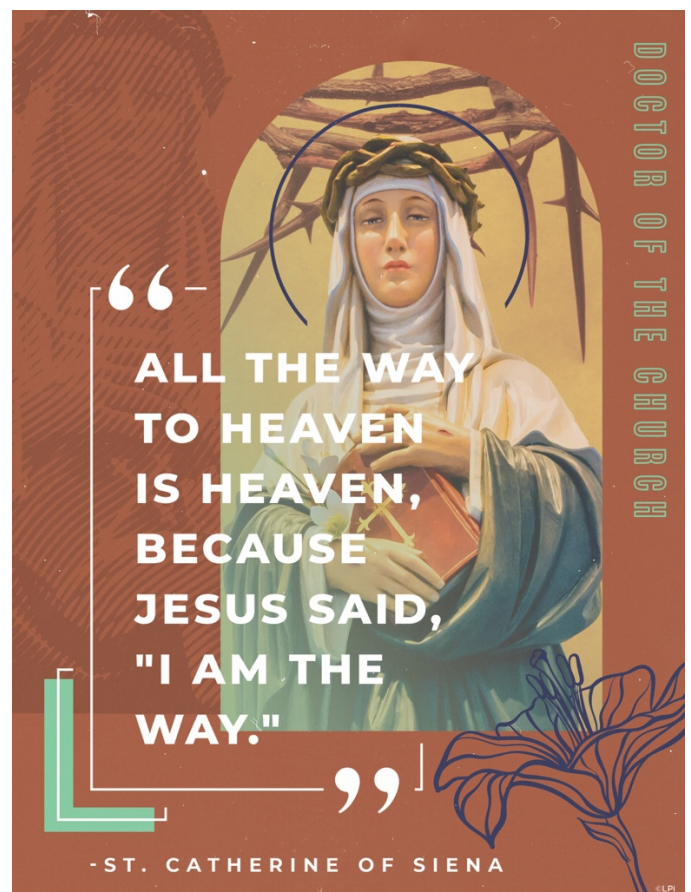
“If anyone wishes to be first,” Christ told the Apostles in the Gospel of Mark, “he must become the last of all and the servant of all.” (Mark 9:35).

True humility does not require us to ignore, underestimate or hide our gifts — it merely demands that we use these gifts rightly, with the knowledge that they are from our Creator and meant for His glory, not our own. “Man is a beggar before God,” said St. Augustine.

The Blessed Mother is the perfect model of this, and her Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) is a blueprint for a life lived in joyful humility.

Humility, says the Catechism, is also the key to a fruitful prayer life: “Humility is the foundation of prayer. Only when we humbly acknowledge that ‘we do not know how to pray as we ought,’ are we ready to receive freely the gift of prayer.” (CCC 2559)

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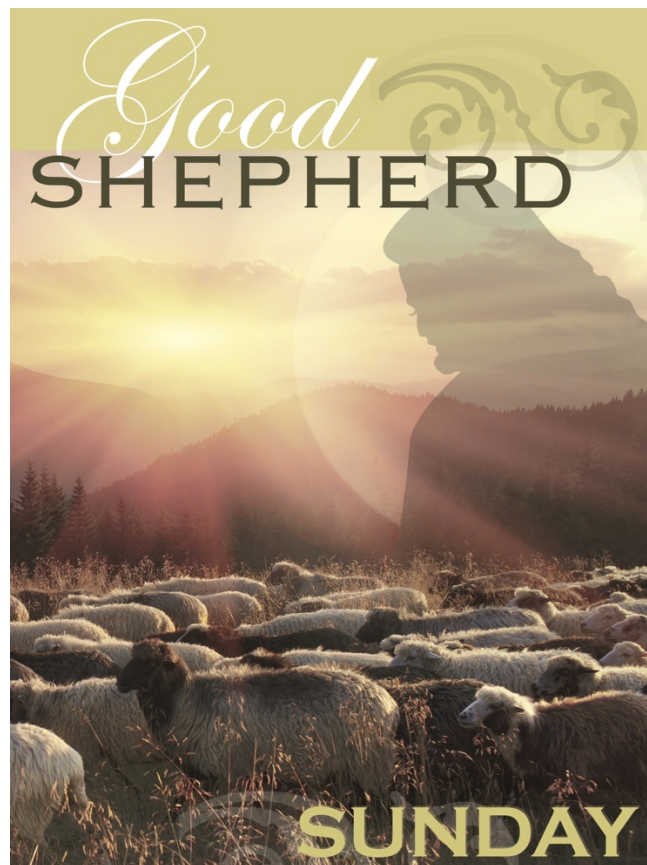
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Easter; Word Day of Prayer for Vocations
Monday	
Tuesday	St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest
Wednesday	St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Thursday	
Friday	1 st Friday Mass, IHM, 6:00 pm
Saturday	1 st Saturday Mass, St Theresa, 9:00 am

POPE LEO XIV'S MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION

APRIL: For priests in crisis

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.



PRAYER LIST

Heavenly Father, we lift up those on our prayer list today. Surround them with Your peace, comfort them in their needs, and grant them strength for each new day. May Your presence be felt in every moment. Amen.

SACRED HEART: Mary Hind, Scott Crawford, Joy, Crawford, Jean Watts, Evelyn Harland, John Ehman, Teresa Holdren, Terry & Tiffany Reynolds, Willie Selig, Shirley Ehman, Tibis Davis, Tammy Hinchey.

IMMACULATE HEART

OF MARY: Diane Menting, José Luis Ruiz, Jr, Nancy Ortega, Michael Blevins, John Paul Parson, Mae Luedtke, Cristina Castellanos, Phyllis Hernandez, Albert Cruz, Eleanor Drebeck, Maria Fuentes, Angel Velez-Ortiz, Josef Sablan, Marion Constante, Pam Blevins, Jerry Smith, Gus Mitchell, Rose Gratton, Richard

Whitmore, Tine & Christina Van Wart, Naleen Cordle, Alex Ruiz, Jocelyn Garcia, Barbara & Ronnie McKenna, Jeannie Peters, Renard McCrary-Ortiz, Paul Semtner, Susan McKenna, Devie Misorski.

ST. THERESA: Pat O'Halloran, George Ghrelin, Tina Ehman, Edwin Sebolt, Shirley Ehman, Eniko Swanick, Pat Ely, Anna Marie Nolan, Peg Giordano, Cecily Hill, Ed Slate, Nancy Pempel, Louis & John Wunnenberg Jr, Leise Wells, Kyler Latta, Kimberly Pope, Danielle Luckraft, Helanna Shaw, Davis Bonar, Anne Loveless, the Cozza family, Pam Levinson, Evelyn Litchford, Daniel Spada, Mitzi B., Shaunna Smith, Meagan Smart, Barbara Botts, Karen Karrow, Alice Moses, David Bennett, Rusty Carter, Bill Bradley, Greg Spencer, Noreen Quinlan Celeste, Patrick & Caitlin Duggan, Ashley Redd, Shan Biron, Jenny Bobko, Ashley Wallace, Chuck Gendrow, Kayia DeVivo, Alice Moser, Kerry John Matthews, Bruce Long,

Donna Moon, Carly, Michelle Reynolds, Karen Kulla, Julia Shields, Chris Johnson, 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, Taylor Armstrong, Tiffany King, Evangeline King, Maddox Cox, John Hardman, Dennis Maglione, Bill Krout, the Blake family, Donnie Dionisio, Rylan Charlton, Katie Abston, Joe Bridge, Melanie Faircloth, Jefferson Page, Sean Burns, Steve Hind Jr, Taylor Anctil, Andrew Michael Collins, Aran McMurtray, Fritz Julian, Micael Irvine, Troy Howard, Tyler Moore, Efren Aranzamendez, Ryan Aranzamendez, Joshua Duggan, Zachary Varner, Jaimie Bliss Pempel, Christopher Selig, Matthew Lepalm, Dawn Hollick, Deborah and Chris Goodman.

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