

CENTRAL VIRGINIA CATHOLIC CLUSTER



CLUSTER OFFICE: 700 BUFFALO STREET • FARMVILLE, VA 23901

CLERGY AND STAFF

Rev. Christopher Hess, *Pastor*
Rev. Matt Kelly, *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Mr. Emmett McLane, *Deacon*
Karel Bailey, *Director of Religious Education*
Tammy Hinchey, *Business Manager*

CONTACTS

Office: 434-392-3934
Emergencies: 434-414-1493
busmgr@centralvacatholiccluster.org
www.centralvacatholiccluster.org

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday—Thursday
9:00 am—3:00 pm

July 12, 2026

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

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

IHM 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

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

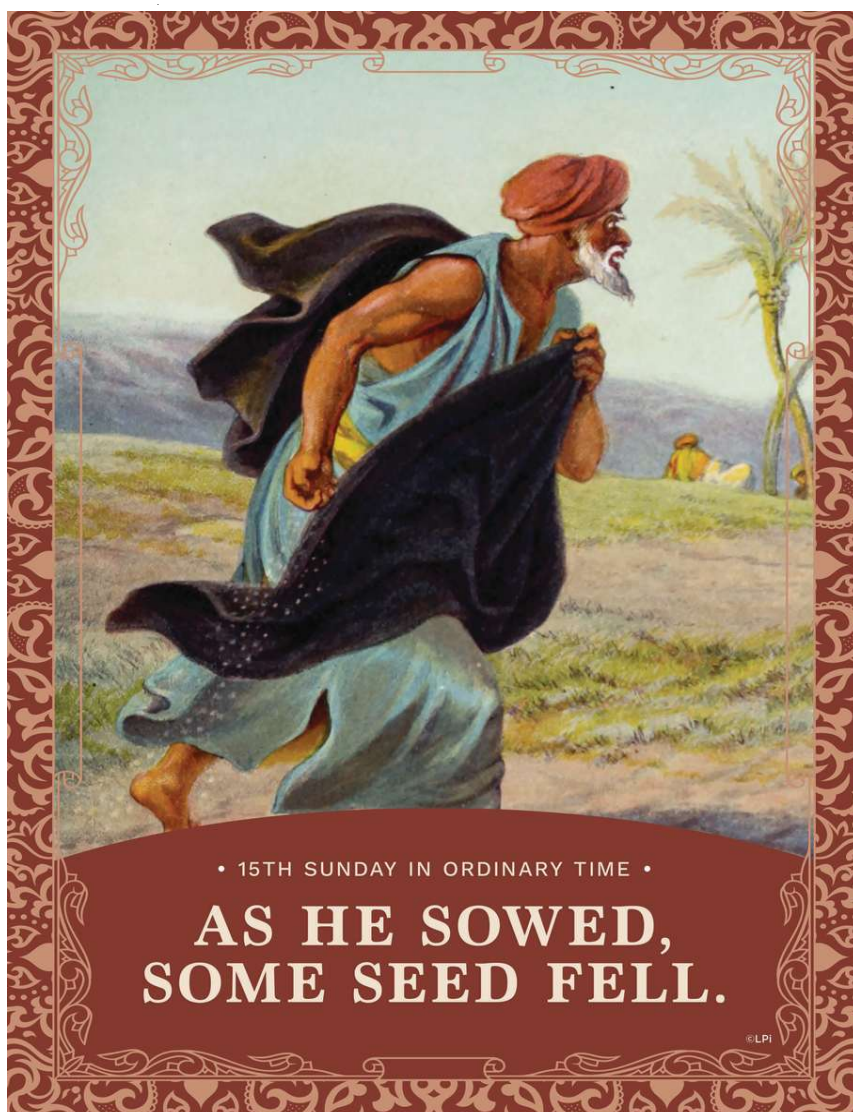
* * *

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, Sarai Blincoe, Tracy
Carilli, Ann Mayo, 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

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

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS

Saturdays at 4:00 pm until 4:45 pm 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, baked beans, and mac & cheese. Please make sure to check the expiration dates on any donated items. We served 33 people on July 1st.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: JULY 12, 2026

Sunday:	Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
Monday:	Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/Mt 10:34-11:1
Tuesday:	Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8/Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday:	Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15/Mt 11:25-27
Thursday:	Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21/Mt 11:28-30
Friday:	Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 12abcd, 16/Mt 12:1-8
Saturday:	Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14/Mt 12:14-21

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sometimes I feel capable of absorbing almost anything except God's Word. My mind soaks up song lyrics, sports trivia, and endless online content. But what was the reading at Mass this morning? I struggle to recall. That realization discourages me, and it leads to an uncomfortable question. What is my heart really for? Is it shaped for constant information and distraction, or is it truly designed for God? Am I capable of deeply receiving His Word?

Jesus speaks directly to this today with a simple image. "The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it." By comparing the Word of the Kingdom to a seed, Jesus reveals something hopeful about us. The human heart is made for that seed. Soil and seed belong together. No matter how compacted, rocky, or overgrown the ground has become, the Sower never stops sowing.

God loves our hearts. He sees them as a farmer sees his fields, full of potential. Human hearts can indeed "understand the Word." Understanding does not mean mastering information. It means letting the Word sink in, interacting with it, and giving it a home. It means trusting that, beneath the surface, God is at work in quiet and hidden ways.

When we allow the Holy Spirit to loosen the soil of our hearts through prayer, repentance, and simplicity, the same Word that created the universe begins to bear fruit in us, 30, 60, even a hundredfold.

Lord Jesus, Sower of life, soften the soil of my heart. Let Your Word take root in me again, and bring forth the fruit You desire. Amen.

— **Father John Muir**

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

CATHOLIC RELIEF:

There will be a second collection at all Masses on July 11th and 12th to assist the victims of the Venezuela earthquake. For parishioners who would prefer to make a donation electronically, you can contribute directly through Catholic Relief Services using the QR Code below:



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

Join us for an exciting week of Vacation Bible School at St. Theresa Catholic Church!

Theme: *Digging Up God's Truth*

Dates: July 20th–24th

Time: 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Location: St. Theresa Parish Center, 700 Buffalo St., Farmville, VA

Children ages 4–12 are invited to enjoy an evening of faith and fun!

Registration will take place on-site on the first day. This event is free and open to the public, so invite your friends to join us for some fun!

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE CHAIR NEEDED

The St. Theresa Hospitality Committee is seeking a new Chair! If you've been considering becoming more involved in parish life and have a heart for serving others with a knack for leading, this may be the perfect opportunity for you.

The Chair is supported by a dedicated team of committee members who work together to make our parish a warm and welcoming community, so you won't be serving alone.

Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to share your gifts in service to our parish. For more information, please contact the church office.

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING

A prayer meeting will be held on the last Sunday of every month at 1:00 p.m. in the St. Theresa Parish Center and will last 1.5 hours. All are welcome.

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Mass intentions may be requested for loved ones, for special occasions, or in memory of someone who has passed away. A donation is suggested with each Mass intention. To schedule an intention, please visit or call the Cluster office. Requests and donations may also be submitted through the Sunday collection.

Tuesday, July 14

5:30 pm † Rosemary Osborne

Wednesday, July 15

5:30 pm † Deceased Members of the Donovan Family

Thursday, July 16

9:00 am † Deceased Members of the Burleson Family

Friday, July 17

9:00 am Dudley Sauve

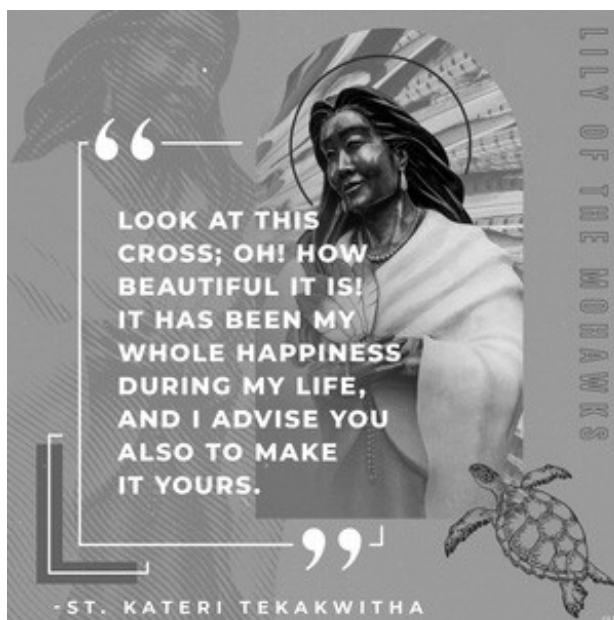
Saturday, July 18

5:00 pm † Mildred Ridenour

Sunday, July 19

8:00 am † Thomas Osborne

10:30 am † Rosemary Osborne



KIDS CORNER- PLANT GOD'S LOVE

This Sunday's Gospel: Jesus tells the story of a farmer who scattered seeds. Some seeds grew into healthy plants, while others did not. Jesus reminds us that God's Word is like a seed. When we listen to Him and live with love and kindness, that seed grows in our hearts!

Can You Grow Like Good Soil?

This week, see if you can:

- Pray each day.
- Help someone without being asked.
- Be kind to a friend or sibling.
- Read one Bible story with your family.
- Thank God for something each night.



PUZZLE

Unscramble words from today's Gospel:

farmer
soil
root

rocky
thorns
path

birds
choked
seed

frame

f a r m e r

sede

ptah

brisd

rkyoc

tohrsn

rtoo

cohekd

silo



MISSION

Visit a garden center. Learn why plants need good soil to grow.

SPECIAL THANKS

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who generously donated jelly and jam supplies.



QUARTERLY PARISH COLLECTIONS

IHM Monthly Regular Collection	YTD Collected April 2026	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$4873.00	\$74,809.66	\$57,281.59	\$17,528.07
SH Monthly Regular Collection	YTD Collected April 2026	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$3824.50	\$33,483.50	\$35,655.17	(\$2174.67)
STT Monthly Regular Collection	YTD Collected April 2026	YTD Collection Budget	Overage or (Shortage)
\$20,347.82	\$230,293.11	\$215,172.86	\$15,120.25

OBSERVANCES OF THE WEEK

Sunday: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Henry
Tuesday: St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin
Wednesday: St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Thursday: Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Friday:
Saturday: St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL'S FEAST DAY

The date of July 16 was chosen for her feast day because it marks the day the Virgin Mary appeared to Saint Simon Stock in 1251 and gave him the scapular. This apparition holds a central place in Carmelite spirituality and tradition.



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, Joy Crawford, Jean Watts, Evelyn Harland, John Ehman, Teresa Holdren, Terry & Tiffany Reynolds, Willie Selig, Shirley Ehman, Tibis Davis, Elliott Levonian, Lynne Lee.

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, 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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