

# 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](mailto:busmgr@centralvacatholiccluster.org)  
[www.centralvacatholiccluster.org](http://www.centralvacatholiccluster.org)

## OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday—Thursday  
9:00 am—3:00 pm

**Aug 2, 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, Norma Ruiz, Lauro  
Ramirez, Allen Queen, Susan Castro,  
Althea Mattos, Geneseli Ramirez

\* \* \*

## 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

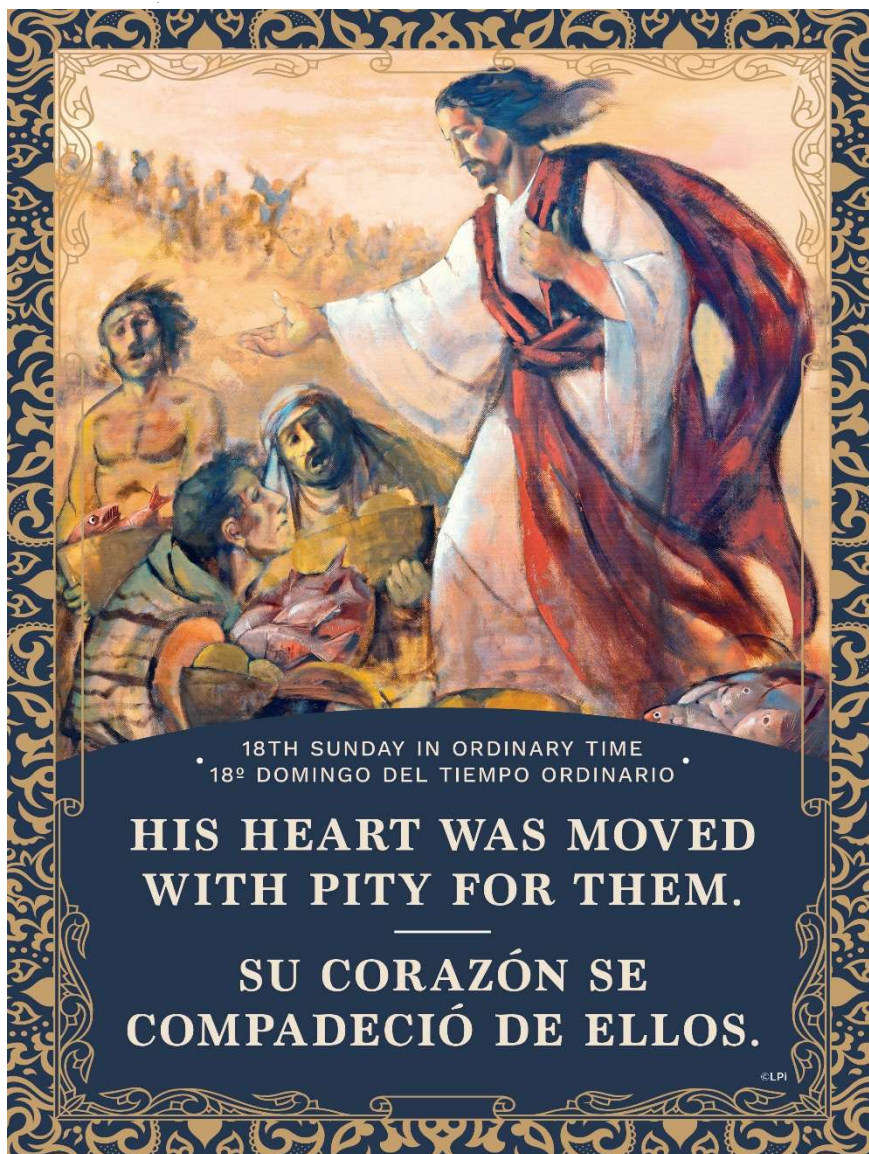
709 Buffalo Street  
Farmville, VA 23901

### Mass:

Saturday 5:00 pm,  
Sunday 8:00 am, and Sunday 10:30 am

### St. Theresa Parish Council

Email: [sttheresascc@gmail.com](mailto: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 needs donations, especially: spaghetti sauce and pasta, cereal, mac & cheese, hamburger helper, rice, applesauce, canned fruit, baked beans, and tuna. Please make sure to check the expiration dates on any donated items. We served 60 people on July 22<sup>nd</sup>

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK: AUGUST 2, 2026

|                   |                                                                                         |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday:</b>    | Is 55:1-3/Ps 145:8-9, 15-16, 17-18/Rom 8:35, 37-39/Mt 14:13-21                          |
| <b>Monday:</b>    | Jer 28:1-17/Ps 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95, 102/Mt 14:22-36                                  |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>   | Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29, 22-23/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14 |
| <b>Wednesday:</b> | Jer 31:1-7/Jer 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/Mt 15:21-28                                           |
| <b>Thursday:</b>  | Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9                               |
| <b>Friday:</b>    | Na 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Dt 32:35cd-36ab, 39abcd, 41/Mt 16:24-28                           |
| <b>Saturday:</b>  | Hb 1:12-2:4/Ps 9:8-9, 10-11, 12-13/Mt 17:14-20                                          |

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Matthew 14:13-21

In his song, "Lose Yourself," the artist Eminem raps, **"the mood all changed."**

We all know that moment when the mood changes, when life turns from lighthearted to deadly serious. That happens in today's Gospel. Jesus has just heard that John the Baptist, his cousin, forerunner, and friend, has been murdered. As Matthew tells us, **"When Jesus heard of it, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself."** Until now, he had been teaching in parables and healing quietly. But John's death signals a new phase. The shadow of the Cross begins to fall. Evil shows its teeth.

And how does Jesus respond? Not with rage or despair. He goes to a lonely place to go into deep communion with his Father. From that silence comes action. He feeds the multitude. Out of grief comes generosity. Out of sorrow, life.

This is the rhythm of every disciple's life. When tragedy or violence breaks our hearts, we face a choice. We can react, or we can retreat into prayer — like and with Christ. This is the hidden place where pain becomes compassion and compassion becomes self-gift.

*Lord Jesus, when life intensifies, draw me into Your quiet strength. In that hidden place with You and the Father, turn my heartbreak into the bread of love for the world. Amen.*

— Father John Muir

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

## PARISH REGISTRATION NOW ONLINE

Have you been thinking about becoming a registered member of one of our cluster parishes? You can now register online by simply scanning the QR code. If you prefer a paper registration form, those are also available. Please contact the cluster office, and we'll be happy to provide one.



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## CLOTHES MINISTRY

Come shop every Wednesday!

Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Location: Basement of the Parish Center

Women's clothing: Petite through 3XL

Men's clothing: Medium through XL

All proceeds benefit the Food Pantry.

Thank you for supporting this ministry!

— Ministry Team

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## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATES

### OCIA

Begins: Sunday, September 13

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Parish Center Basement

### Adult Ed

Begins: Sunday, September 20

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Parish Center

If you need more information about OCIA or Adult Ed please contact the cluster office.

## 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, August 4

5:30 pm Lisa Farley

Wednesday, August 5

5:30 pm † Pam Angello

Thursday, August 6

9:00 am Dudley Suave

Friday, August 7

9:00 am † Maragret Pope

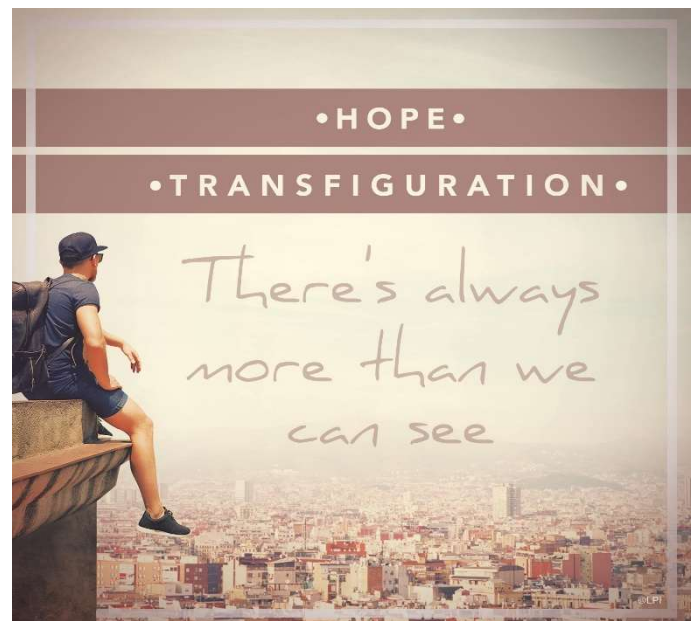
Saturday, August 8

5:00 pm † William Brandt

Sunday, August 9

8:00 am † Lois Gager

10:30 am † Pam Angello



## KIDS CORNER- AUGUST 2<sup>ND</sup>

### PRAYER-

Lord, thank you for giving me enough to share.

### MISSION FOR THE WEEK:

I will give five loaves of bread and two fish (or some other food) to the food pantry.



18th Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 14:13-21

## 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.

## LIFE MINISTRIES

Each year, the Life Ministries Committee secures Respect Life Grant money from the Diocese of Richmond to help our local Pregnancy Support Center of Southside Virginia. This year, our contributions were earmarked for two specific items: the purchase of BrightCourse volunteer training materials and sponsorship of the 2026 Walk for Life. Joey Yoder, PSC Executive Director, sends her thanks for both our financial support of their mission and the parishioners who serve at the Center. In particular, she asked that we honor Lizbeth Araujo-Vasquez, who serves as Client Advocate Volunteer to their Spanish-speaking clients. When you see her, please thank Lizbeth for her commitment! Look for more information on September's Walk for Life in the weeks to come.

## FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

The Food Pantry is currently in need of donations, especially spaghetti sauce, pasta, cereal, macaroni and cheese, Hamburger Helper, rice, applesauce, canned fruit, baked beans, and tuna.

Please check the expiration dates on all donated items before bringing them in.

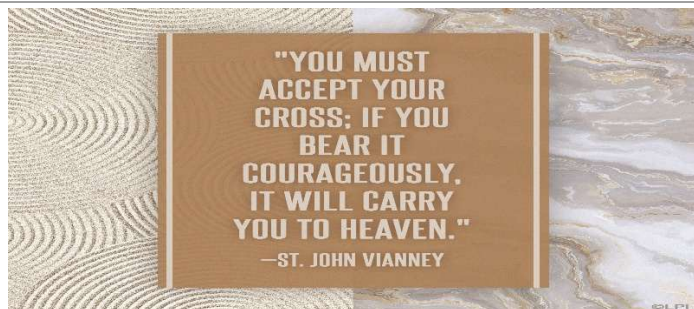
BEAR THE FRUIT  
OF GOD'S LOVE



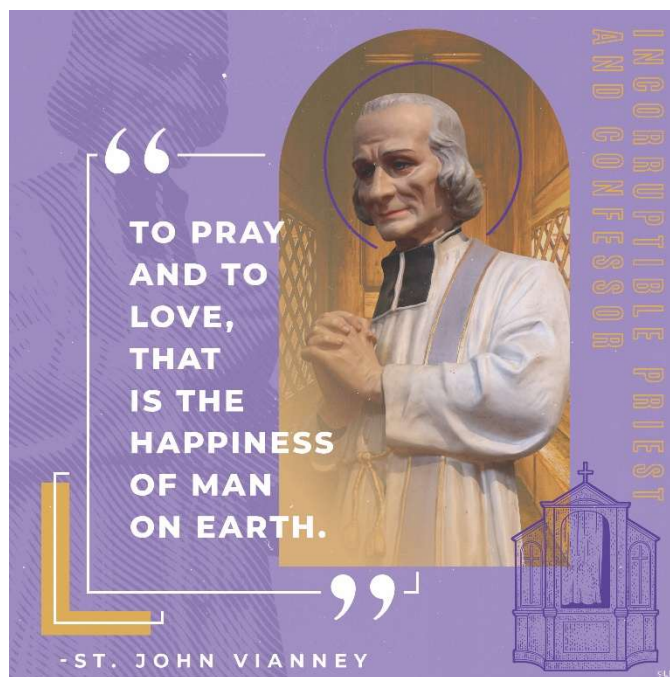
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## OBSERVANCES OF THE WEEK

Sunday: 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 Monday: -  
 Tuesday: St. John Vianney, Priest  
 Wednesday: The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major  
 Thursday: The Transfiguration of the Lord  
 Friday: St. Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs; St. Cajetan, Priest  
 Saturday: St. Dominic, Priest



## SAINT OF THE WEEK: ST. JOHN VIANNEY



## 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, 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, 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.

## Advertise in Our Church Bulletin!

**Contact Carey Woodington**

cwoodington@4LPi.com  
(800) 950-9952 x8966



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