

# 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 9, 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

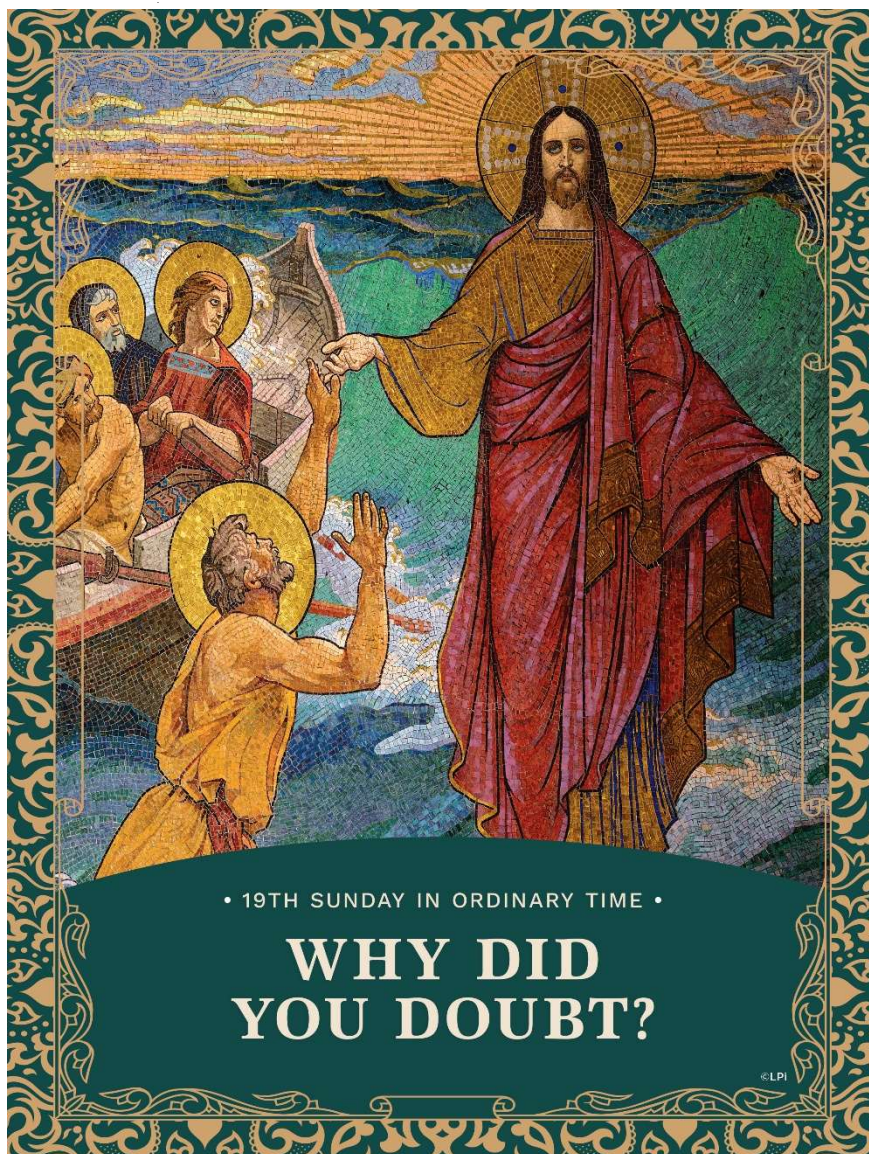
\* \* \*

## 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 9, 2026

|                   |                                                                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday:</b>    | 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Rom 9:1-5/Mt 14:22-33 |
| <b>Monday:</b>    | 2 Cor 9:6-10/Ps 112:1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9/Jn 12:24-26                         |
| <b>Tuesday:</b>   | Ez 2:8-3:4/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131/Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14         |
| <b>Wednesday:</b> | Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 18:15-20                      |
| <b>Thursday:</b>  | Ez 12:1-12/Ps 78:56-57, 58-59, 61-62/Mt 18:21-19:1                       |
| <b>Friday:</b>    | Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or 16:59-63/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Mt 19:3-12           |
| <b>Saturday:</b>  | Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56  |

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Matthew 14:22-33

As a young, newly ordained priest, I admired a senior priest who was gifted, beloved, and had changed countless lives. But soon I learned that he had fallen in catastrophic and destructive ways. The painful juxtaposition of good and evil was complex to process. How could someone so seemingly good also be so broken and deceptive? It forced me to confront a sobering truth: leadership in the Church is no guarantee against weakness or sin.

Peter teaches that truth in this week's Gospel. When he sees Jesus walking on the sea, Peter does what leaders do. He goes first. **"Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."** But when he sees how strong the wind is, he becomes frightened and, beginning to sink, cries out, **"Lord, save me."** Immediately, Jesus stretches out his hand and catches him.

St. Thomas Aquinas observes that Peter overcomes the greater danger of the waves but falters before the lesser threat of the wind. This is the paradox leaders often face. It is not always the great trials that undo us, but the smaller, quieter temptations, such as subtle fears and compromises, that lead us to sink.

The good news is that Jesus does not abandon Peter. He saves him before it is too late. Our frail humanity lives within a rhythm of grace, risk, failure, and mercy. Jesus helps Peter overcome both the obvious and hidden sources of fear, and he promises to do the same for us. So, let us pray for all, especially our spiritual leaders.

— Father John Muir

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

## PARISH REGISTRATION NOW ONLINE

Have you been thinking about becoming a registered member of one of our cluster parishes?



- Become an official member of our parish family.
- Help us better serve and stay connected with our parish community.

If you prefer a paper registration form, those are also available.  
Please contact the Cluster Office, and we'll be happy to provide one.

## ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE (ST. THERESA PARISH ONLY)



Support our parish through secure online giving.

- Make a one-time donation
- Set up recurring donations

Simply scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to make a secure gift.

**Thank you for your generosity and support!**

## 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 11  
5:30 pm † Betty Chase

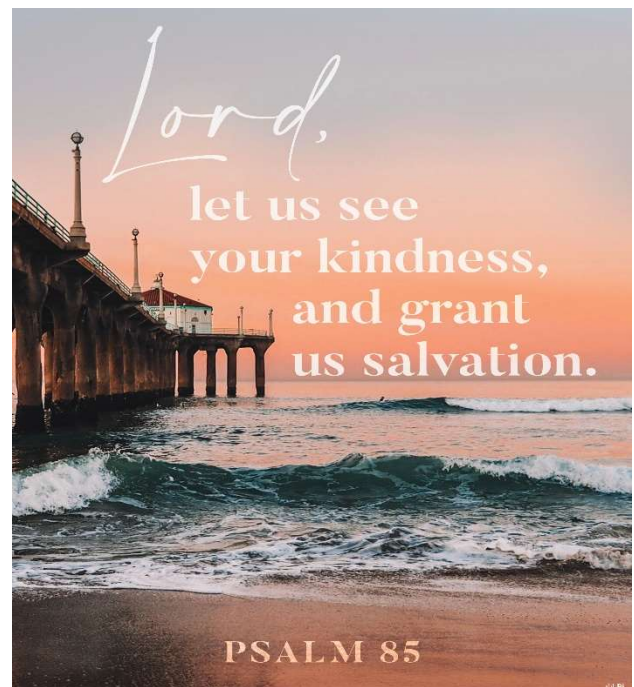
Wednesday, August 12  
5:30 pm † Stuart Chase

Thursday, August 13  
9:00 am † Fr. Ed Dowling

Friday, August 14  
9:00 am † Robert Pope Jr.

Saturday, August 15  
5:00 pm † Todd Schinabeck

Sunday, August 16  
8:00 am † Tom Mayo  
10:30 am Parishioners of the Cluster



## KIDS CORNER- AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup>

### PRAYER-

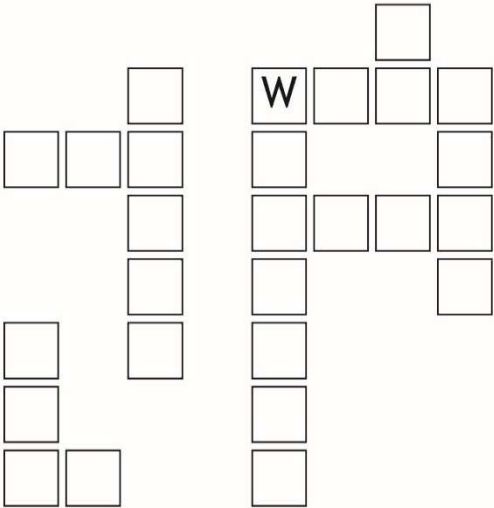
Jesus, I thank you for showing me how powerful you are.

### MISSION FOR THE WEEK:

When you are afraid, ask Jesus for help. Remember how powerful he is.

**PUZZLE**  
Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares.

Jesus went out to them,  
walking on the lake.



**MISSION**  
When you are afraid, ask Jesus for help.  
Remember how powerful he is.

## 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.

## LITURGY OF THE HOURS

Join us for Morning Prayer each Wednesday at 7:00 am at St Theresa beginning on Wednesday, August 5. Morning Prayer, also called Lauds, is designed to sanctify the morning and recall the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It lasts about 15 minutes. Paper copies from the Liturgy of the Hours will be provided for anyone unfamiliar with this universal prayer of the Church. All are welcome.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

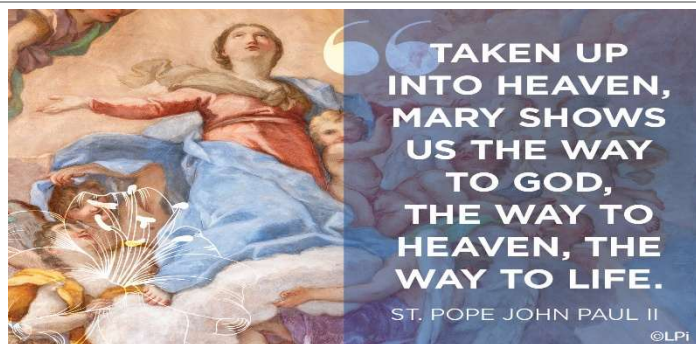
Vacation Bible School was a great success! Fifteen children joined VBS for a fun-filled week of learning as they explored dinosaurs and Digging Up God's Truth together.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated supplies, volunteered their time, or supported Vacation Bible School in any way. Your generosity and dedication helped make this a wonderful experience for the children!

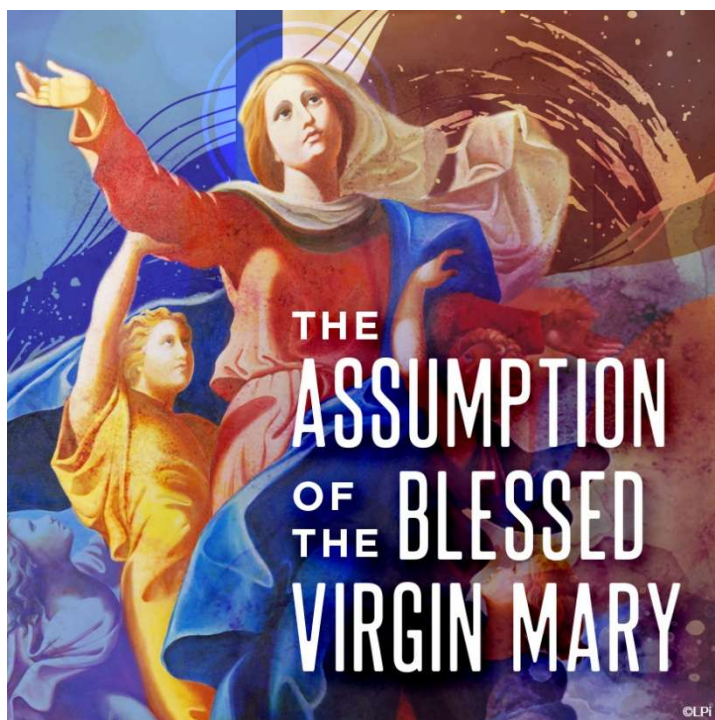


## OBSERVANCES OF THE WEEK

Sunday: 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
 Monday: St. Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr  
 Tuesday: St. Clare, Virgin  
 Wednesday: St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious  
 Thursday: Sts. Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs  
 Friday: St. Maximillian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr  
 Saturday: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



## SATURDAY-AUGUST 15<sup>TH</sup>



### 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, 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, 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!

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(800) 950-9952 x8966



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