

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

AUG 23, 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
Dottie Zimolong (Chair), Victor Adaniel, Steve Biernesser, Sarai Blincoe, Tracy Carilli, Ann Mayo, Victor Cruz, Lynn Skakum, Cindy Scheu

21st Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 16:18-19

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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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 66 people on Aug 12th

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: AUGUST 23, 2026

Sunday:	Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2a, 2b-3, 6 and 8/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20
Monday:	Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51
Tuesday:	2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday:	2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday:	1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51
Friday:	1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday:	1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/Mk 6:17-29

GOSPEL MEDITATION

August 23, 2026

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 16:13-20

The first time I stood inside St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, its majesty overwhelmed me. The sheer beauty of Michelangelo's dome seemed to lift my soul right out of my body. Later, I joined the Scavi tour that winds below the basilica, down into the ancient pagan cemetery where Peter was buried. There, in the dim light and narrow passageways, I found myself looking at the bones of a murdered Jewish fisherman, his feet cut off so his crucified body could be taken down more easily.

What a paradox. Above me, the most glorious church ever built. Beneath me, the remains of a backwater fisherman. But this man dared to answer Jesus' question, "Who do you say that I am?" And crowning that immense dome above his tomb are the words from today's Gospel, "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church."

Within you and me is the drama of the lowest and the highest. Every time we confess Christ, humbly, imperfectly, maybe even trembling, we enter that same mystery. The dust of our humanity, touched by the splendor of heaven. God's presence and our dry bones together. Humility and glory. May our lives embrace both the lowest and the highest, like that great basilica, as we profess Jesus.

— *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 25

5:30 pm † Kent Reeves

Wednesday, August 26

5:30 pm † Jim McGrory

Thursday, August 27

9:00 am Lisa Szarszewski

Friday, August 28

9:00 am † Fredrick Reeves

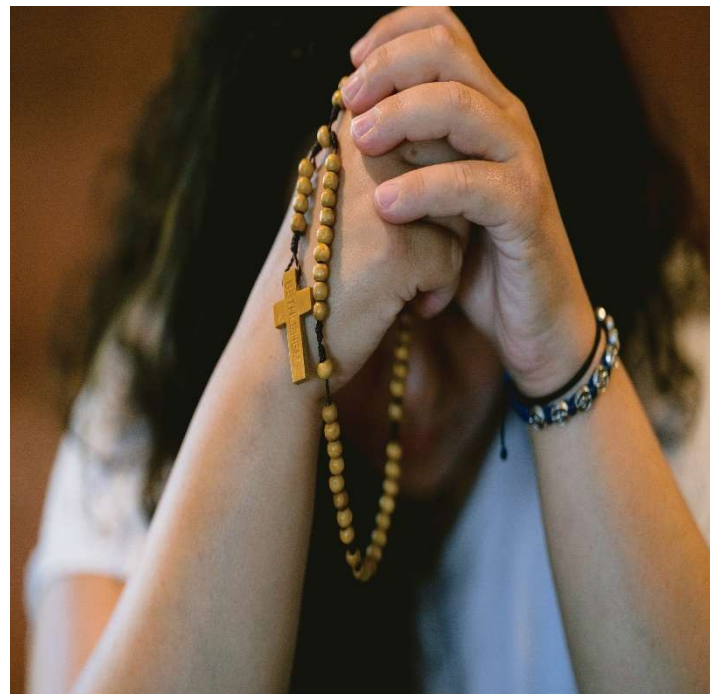
Saturday, August 29

5:00 pm † Bill Brandt

Sunday, August 30

8:00 am † Don and Carolyn Webber

10:30 am † Fredrick Reeves



KIDS CORNER- AUGUST 23RD

PRAYER-

Jesus, now I can tell everyone that you are Christ, our Savior.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK:

I will share my favorite Bible verse about Jesus with a friend.



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 16:13-20

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. Morning Prayer, also called Lauds, is designed to sanctify the morning and recall the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Paper copies from the Liturgy of the Hours will be provided for anyone unfamiliar with this universal prayer of the Church. All are welcome.

WALK FOR LIFE

The Pregnancy Support Center of Southside Virginia's Walk for Life will take place in Farmville on Saturday, September 19th at 8:30 am. Please consider joining our Central Virginia Catholic Cluster team by walking with us on that day or making a donation. Find instructions to donate online in the bulletin insert, or look for someone with a fundraising form to sponsor after Mass.

ANNUAL CLUSTER PICNIC & 2ND ANNUAL PASTOR'S CUP COMPETITION

Your Invited!

Central Virginia Catholic Cluster
Annual Cluster Picnic &
2nd Annual Pastor's Cup
Competition



Sunday, September 20, 2026
Sacred Heart Parish Picnic Shelter
More Information Will Follow

2nd Annual Pastor's Cup
Catechism Challenge

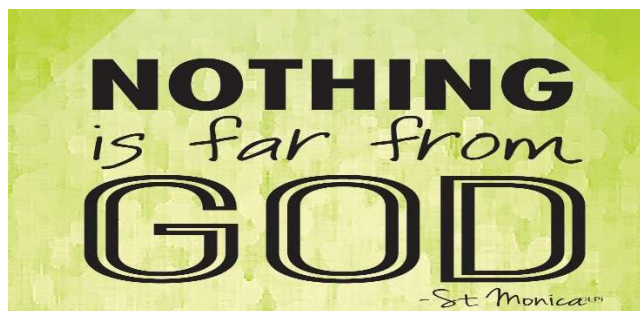
Held at the Cluster Picnic
Each Parish & CCM Field a Team
Four Teams, One Champion

Pastor's Cup
©Central Virginia Catholic Cluster
Catechism Challenge
Champion

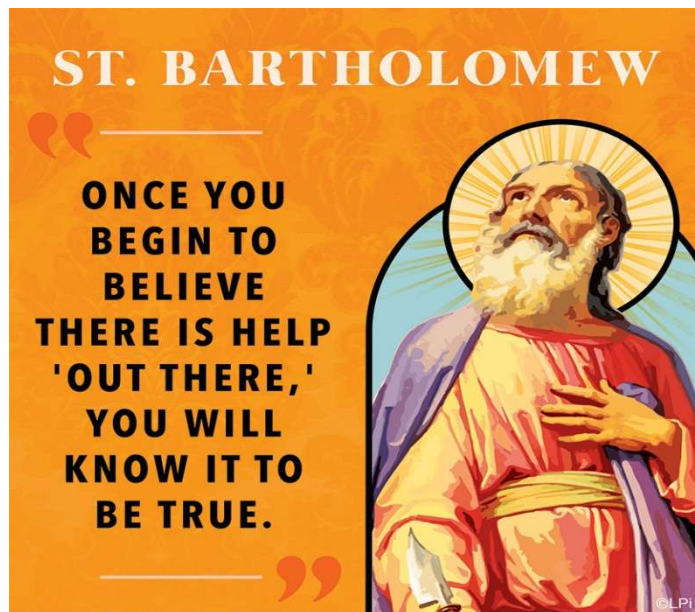
Defending Champions: CCM
More Information Will Follow

OBSERVANCES OF THE WEEK

Sunday: 21th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Bartholomew, Apostle
Tuesday: St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest
Wednesday: -
Thursday: St. Monica
Friday: St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Saturday: The Passion of St. John the Baptist



MONDAY- AUGUST 24TH ST. BARTHOLOMEW



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: Libby Smith 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.

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