

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 30, 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



22nd Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

"For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" Matthew 16:25-26

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

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 64 people on Aug 19th

READINGS FOR THE WEEK: AUGUST 30, 2026

Sunday:	Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27
Monday:	1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday:	1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday:	1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday:	1 Cor 3:18-23/ Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11
Friday:	1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40/Lk 5:33-39
Saturday	1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21/Lk 6:1-5

GOSPEL MEDITATION

August 30, 2026

Matthew 16:21-27

Do you know what it is like to be thrilled by the power of Christian faith one moment and then utterly fail in it the next? I do. That is Peter in today's Gospel. After last week's bold confession, he now hears Jesus speak of suffering and death, and something in him recoils. He takes Jesus aside and tries to correct him. Jesus responds with the shocking rebuke, **"Get behind me, Satan."**

Peter is the mirror of every disciple. We love Jesus until he contradicts the script we have written for our lives. Peter does not reject Jesus. He rejects a *suffering* Jesus. So do we, whenever we avoid a hard responsibility, resist a demanding relationship, or cling to comfort instead of choosing love. We want a Lord who supports our plans, not one who overturns them.

Yet Jesus does not discard Peter. He redirects him. **"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."** In effect, Jesus says, stop trying to lead me. Let me lead you. Discipleship does not begin with heroism or clarity but with surrender. It means trusting that God's path to life often passes through places we would never choose.

Peter is all of us. We move from insight to confusion, from confidence to correction. That is why we should have hope. Jesus patiently teaches us again and again. Trust me. Get behind me. Follow me. When we stop fighting the crosses that come and start carrying them with him, we discover a freedom deeper than comfort and a love stronger than fear.

— *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

Faith Formation

Signups continue after each Mass throughout August.

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, September 1
5:30 pm † Tom Mayo

Wednesday, September 2
5:30 pm † Peter Menting

Thursday, September 3
9:00 am Billy Brown

Friday, September 4
9:00 am † Lois Gager

Saturday, September 5
5:00 pm Ida Campagna

Sunday, September 6
8:00 am † James Royce Dunn
10:30 am † Kent Reeves



KIDS CORNER- AUGUST 30TH

PRAYER-

Heavenly Father, give me strength to share your love.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK:

Give your time this week to help someone who needs it.



Give of your time this week to help someone who needs it.



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.

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

The Annual Cluster Picnic and Pastor's Cup Competition will be held on Sunday, September 20th at Sacred Heart. More information will be coming soon!

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.

These funds help the Center to continue offering the following: pregnancy testing, peer counseling, referrals when needed, post-abortive support, limited STI testing, abortion pill reversal, prenatal vitamins, limited-obstetric ultrasound, classes to help new parents, baby clothes and supplies. Let's help them walk with our local moms and dads in need

To register or make a donation, please see a Life Ministries Member after Mass or scan the QR code below.

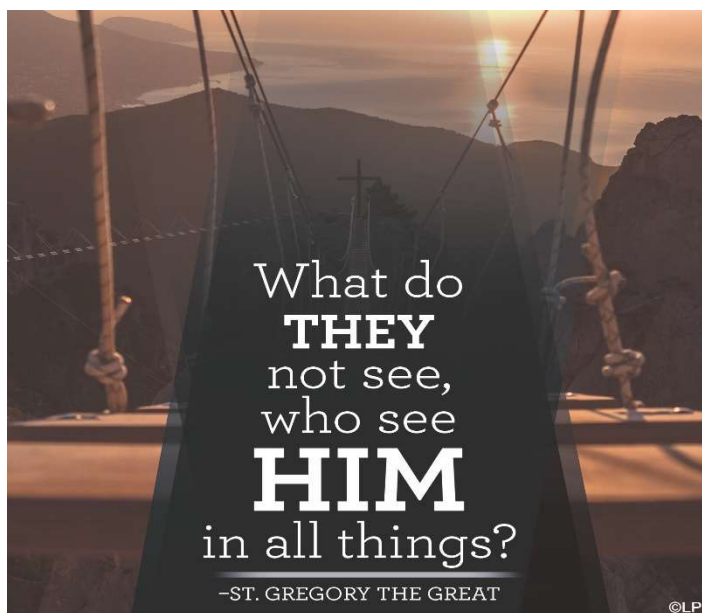


OBSERVANCES OF THE WEEK

Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: -
Tuesday: -
Wednesday: -
Thursday: St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
Friday: -
Saturday: -



THURSDAY- SEPTEMBER 3RD ST. GREGORY THE GREAT



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: Sean Irvine, 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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