We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are

LIFE
LIBERTY AND
the pursuit of Happiness
POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION

Our Families: We pray that today’s families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.

VOCATION GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

That more men and women will learn from Jesus and discover that the yoke of their vocation is perfectly suited to them and respond with humble, gentle service as priests, deacons and consecrated religious, we pray to the Lord.

YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

PARISH OFFERTORY & STEWARDSHIP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week Ending Current Month</th>
<th>Offertory Received</th>
<th>ACH &amp; Electronic Giving</th>
<th>Total Giving</th>
<th>Offertory Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6/7/2020</td>
<td>$ 6,818</td>
<td>$ 2,113</td>
<td>$ 8,931</td>
<td>$ 13,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/14/2020</td>
<td>$ 8,729</td>
<td>$ 1,380</td>
<td>$ 10,109</td>
<td>$ 13,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/21/2020</td>
<td>$ 4,177</td>
<td>$ 9,481</td>
<td>$ 13,658</td>
<td>$ 13,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6/28/2020</td>
<td>$ 8,808</td>
<td>$ 7,274</td>
<td>$16,082</td>
<td>$ 13,548</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buildings &amp; Grounds</td>
<td>$ 1,412</td>
<td>$ 1,412</td>
<td>$ 2,824</td>
<td>$ 1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$30,124</td>
<td>$20,242</td>
<td>$50,372</td>
<td>$55,990</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

May Offertory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>May Offertory</th>
<th>May Offertory Budget</th>
<th>Year to Date Offertory July-May</th>
<th>Year to Date Offertory Budget July-May</th>
<th>Thank you for your consideration and support of St. Nicholas.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$ 56,385</td>
<td>$ 53,596</td>
<td>$ 649,789</td>
<td>$ 659,828</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Buildings & Grounds has been included in the offertory budget so we have moved it to the top section of the report*

LIVING OUR MISSION, LOVING OUR CHURCH

Capital Improvement Giving

Week: $440
Month: $1,975
To Date: $257,136

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

We want to thank each and every one of you who have continued to give in this time of crisis whether online, by mail, or by dropping off your envelope. You are a necessary part of our parish and we are thankful for you! Your support is such a blessing and we look forward to being fully reunited in worship and sacraments in the weeks ahead.

WeShare Online Giving

As we prepare for the “summer slump,” we ask that you prayerfully consider signing up for recurring online offertory by visiting the parish website at stnicholasvb.com.
**14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**CALENDAR**

**Sunday, July 5**

*The Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

- 8:30 a.m. MASS with Facebook Livestream
- 11:00 a.m. MASS

**Monday, July 6**

Office Closed for the Holiday

**Tuesday, July 7**

- 10:00 a.m. DAILY MASS
- 10:30 a.m. EUCHARISTIC ADORATION with Facebook Livestream
- 5:30 p.m. BENEDICTION

**Wednesday, July 8**

- 10:00 a.m. DAILY MASS

**Thursday, July 9**

- 10:00 a.m. DAILY MASS w/ Facebook Livestream

**Friday, July 10**

- 10:00 a.m. DAILY MASS w/ Facebook Livestream
- 6:00 p.m. CHRISM MASS at Richmond Cathedral with Facebook Livestream

**Saturday, July 11**

- 4:30 p.m. RECONCILIATION
- 5:30 p.m. VIGIL MASS

**Sunday, July 12**

- 8:30 a.m. MASS with Facebook Livestream
- 11:00 a.m. MASS

**MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR**

Dear Parishioners,

We are excited to be entering into phase 3 of our reopening and worshipping together with some of you at daily and weekend Masses. Please review changes to our Mass schedule and plan on arriving 30 minutes early to give us time for screening and ushering you to your seat.

We encourage the vulnerable to COVID, those concerned about the safety of gathering, and those 65 not to attend weekend Masses but rather continue celebrating weekend Masses via Livestream. Wednesday's Daily Mass is designated specifically for those vulnerable to COVID-19. Know that our prayers are with you at this time of separation! Bishop Barry Knestout has extended the dispensation from Sunday Mass attendance for those in these categories.

Please take a moment to read the official guidelines from the Diocese of Richmond before attending Mass so you are aware of the new regulations in place. Note that face coverings are continue to be required by all present at the liturgy (ages 10 and older). Official guidelines can be found at https://bit.ly/3fLmsce.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work together for a safe reopening of our Mass celebrations.

Journeying Together in Christ,
Fr. Jun Balarote

**FAITH LIKE A CHILD**

**Everyday Stewardship—Recognize God in your Ordinary Moments**

If you Google Search recommendations on how to raise generous children, almost every list of ideas begins with — or at least contains — the directive for adults to be good models of generosity themselves. Our children learn from our actions much more than from our words. Of course, when I think back over the years while my children were growing up, I think I may have learned as much from them as they learned from me. There is a time between early childhood and middle school where a child seems to be freer to give and share than at any other time in life. It is around the age of First Communion when the cries of “mine” turn to laughter and smiles, and the urge to be a part of something bigger than oneself leads to sharing. Before you know it, the child hits the preteen years, and once again, he or she becomes the center of the universe.

I believe that the previous paragraph is all true, however, the stages described seem to repeat themselves throughout adulthood. Don’t you agree? Sometimes we fall into seeing ourselves as the center of the universe, or we become consumed by our state in life or with what we have acquired. Also, we at times are generous and loving people. It is sin that draws us back into ourselves and away from any meaningful life of stewardship and generosity. In order to be freed for love, we need role models to help us see what really matters. We need to reflect on the example of many of our brothers and sisters in Christ. And, yes, we need to look to children who may be at the point in their lives where sharing is fun, and love is something in abundance.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

**PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.
PHASE THREE UPDATES

Reception of Holy Communion by the Faithful
During phase 3 of reopening, Holy Communion may be distributed to the faithful outside of Mass with permission from the pastor. Communion to the Homebound has inherent risks to vulnerable individuals. Caution must be considered when taking communion to someone’s home. Those bringing communion are strongly encouraged to exercise caution when bringing communion to the infirm, elderly homebound, or nursing homebound (e.g., wearing a face covering and gloves; maintaining social distancing; disinfecting the pyx following distribution; following any other recommendations from the CDC. If those bringing communion are making multiple communion visits in a given day, they may wish to consider a separate pyx.

Dispensation from Sunday Mass Obligation
The vulnerable to COVID, those concerned about the safety of gathering, and those 65 and over are encouraged not to attend weekend Masses but rather continue celebrating weekend Masses via Livestream. Wednesday's Daily Mass is designated specifically for those vulnerable to COVID-19. Bishop Barry Knestout has extended the dispensation from Sunday Mass attendance for those in this category.

Mass Livestreaming
Due to COVID-19, Mass is being livestreamed for use on various Diocesan and parish digital media accounts including, but not limited to, the parish website and The Catholic Virginian, and social media platforms. If you do not wish to be captured by live streaming, please refrain from attending that particular Mass time.

If you have an urgent pastoral need, such as last rites, confession, funeral Masses, or more, please contact the parish emergency number at 757-286-7256.

CATHOLIC Q&A

Kissing The Altar At Mass
Question: Why do priests kiss the altar at the start of Mass? Answer: Our churches and chapels are filled with symbols. We might think of the more common symbols (like the crucifix, statues, stained-glass windows, vestment color and altar cloths) as well as major symbols (such as the paschal candle and the baptismal font). But there are some things that we can take for granted in our sacred spaces, because unfortunately, they seem to just be part of the building, including three of the main symbols of our liturgy: the ambo (lectern), the chair for the priest celebrant, and the altar.

These three objects are placed in a specially designated area called the sanctuary. They are the places where the Word of God is proclaimed, where the priest prays and presides at the celebration, and where the bread and wine are offered by the priest during the Eucharistic Prayer. Although each of these objects is sacred because of the role they play in our worship, the altar holds a special place. In a document containing the rules and instructions for the Mass — the “General Instruction of the Roman Missal” — we read: “The altar on which the Sacrifice of the Cross is made present under sacramental signs is also the table of the Lord to which the People of God is called together to participate in the Mass, as well as the center of the thanksgiving that is accomplished throughout the Eucharist” (no. 296).

One of the ways that we recognize the importance of the altar is when the priest and deacon kiss the altar at the beginning of Mass. Kissing is an ancient act of devotion. Remember, we also kiss the cross on Good Friday, and the deacon or priest kisses the “Book of the Gospels” after the Gospel is proclaimed. This act of devotion reminds us that the altar is a symbol of Jesus, the “living stone” (see 1 Peter 2:4), the foundation stone of our faith. It is a symbol gesture, but it is a powerful reminder of the One on whom our faith is built and in whose name we gather as the “household of faith” (see Galatians 6:10).

To learn more, see the “Catechism of the Catholic Church” (no. 1382-1383).
14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CONFIRMATION
Congratulations to our newly Confirmed! Please keep them in your prayers as they witness to their faith with the guidance of the Holy Spirit in their lives!

Mallory Berning
Jarred Bowdoin
Alana Cecchini
Kendall Coss
Shannon Costello
Andrew Gille
Todd Hallberg
Sophie Hatfield
Stella Johnson
Avery Mangels
Isabeau Spears
Anna Stedje-Larsen
Seth Stoddard
Shannon Webner

RCIA
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults
R.C.I.A. is a program for those interested in becoming members of the Catholic Church. With the gift of Jesus’ Precious Blood on the Cross and the Eucharist, let us reflect on the freedom given to us through our Baptism into Him to be heirs of the promise and liberated from sin. The RCIA process is THE WAY by which persons become “citizens of the Kingdom” through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Inquiry sessions will begin in September, but for more information and any questions contact Steve Branning in the office.

STEUBENVILLE LIVE
Since we can’t all gather in person this summer, Steubenville Conferences are moving online! Join me for Steubenville Live, the first virtual Steubenville Youth Conference, on July 17-18, 2020. If you’re over Zoom classes, don’t worry – you won’t just be staring at a screen the whole time or watching a bunch of pre-recorded talks. #SteubieLive will be live streamed from #SteubieFL and completely interactive. With tens of thousands of teens and their families tuning in to encounter the life-changing love of Christ, this could be the biggest Steubenville Conference ever!!

Visit steubenvilleconferences.com/live to learn more.

FOOD PANTRY
We are currently in need of the following items for our food pantry: pancake syrup, pancake mix, old fashion rolled oatmeal, grits, 2# canned ham, canned chicken, canned beef stew, tuna fish, baked beans, jars of apple sauce, canned pineapple, fruit cocktail, peas/raisins/peaches, hamburger helper (any type), jelly, peanut butter (smooth), instant mashed potatoes, Rice-A-Roni, meaty soups/ cooking sauce soups, laundry detergents, bar soap, stuffing mix, saltine crackers, jello, 2# sugar/salt/ground pepper

We are no longer in need of food cards at this time. Thank you for your generosity!

VBS
Vacation Bible School is happening! It will take place the last week of July. Currently, we are putting together an awesome modified version where families can safely join in on all of the fun through our live stream. As the details come together we will give you more information!

FLEA MARKET COLLECTION
Donations are now being accepted for our flea market in the Social Hall. We could use your unwanted furniture, housewares, toys, books, sporting goods, etc. Please call Peggy Rose or Janet McCarragher for large items or with any questions. Thank you for your generosity!
A & L Hair Garden
3333 Virginia Beach Blvd. #22
Virginia Beach, VA 340-1805

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Located right across the street!
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757-486-4469

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Dr. Anthony W. Savage
Hilltop 428-1110
Kempsville 495-3643
Onley 787-7878
Member American Association of Orthodontists

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