



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

FEBRUARY 6, 2022

CONNECT WITH US

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🌐 hollycomforterparish.org

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil* 5 PM
Sunday 8 AM + 11 AM
Traditional Latin 2 PM

Monday + Friday 12 PM
(except First Friday)
Tuesday-Thursday 7 AM
First Friday 6:30 PM
Saturday 8 AM
*Masks Required
Thursday Holy Hour 7 PM

CONFESSION

Monday, Wednesday, Friday~ 6:30-7:30 PM
Thursday 6:30-7 PM
~First Friday & Holy Hour 7 PM-8 PM

Office Hours Mon-Fri 9 AM-3 PM

For those in a vulnerable category or who feel insecure, we invite you to attend Saturdays at 5 PM or to take advantage of the opportunity to view the 11 AM Sunday Mass via livestream on our Facebook page: facebook.com/hollycomforterville

*Send Bulletin submissions by 3 PM Mondays
dre@hollycomforterparish.org*



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him. - Lk 5:10-11

STAFF

PASTOR

Very Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi, V.F.
jmlukyamuzi@richmonddiocese.org

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Henry Vinklerek
deaconhenry@hollycomforterparish.org

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music@hollycomforterparish.org

Director of Religious Education

Melinda Wells (434) 295-6559
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Outreach

(434) 293-8989
Bridget Davis + Jack Engler + Heather Burns
outreach@hollycomforterparish.org
Food Pantry Tue & Wed 10:30 AM-1:30 PM and
Soup Kitchen Thursday 12 PM

Interns

Martin Beers
martin@hollycomforterparish.org
Brennen McCoy
brennen@hollycomforterparish.org

MINISTRIES

Finance Council Gary Krutul
gekrutul@sncomm.com

Pastoral Council Jackson Kulick
Jackson@brgtshirts.com

Altar Servers Jackson Kulick
Jackson@brgtshirts.com

Christian Formation Committee Suzanne Bailey
slank@ntelos.net

Social Ministries Chuck McCurdy
cwm@virginia.edu

St. Vincent de Paul (434) 226-8022

Holy Trinity Conference info@sudp-ht.org

Works of Mercy (and Funerals) Sharon Dudley
mercy@hollycomforterparish.org

Wedding Coordinator Heather Burns
weddings@hollycomforterparish.org

Regina Caeli Homeschool Co-op Samantha Van Dyke
samantha.kepler@gmail.com

Parish Life Emily Pierson
parishlife@hollycomforterparish.org

Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound

Barbara Rainville
consultrainville@aol.com

High School Youth Group Intern Martin Beers
martin@hollycomforterparish.org
Intern Brennen McCoy
Brennen@hollycomforterparish.org

PARISH VOLUNTEERS

Building and Grounds Ed Mickiewicz

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Heather Burns

Haiti Ginny Zeller

Lectors Matt Freeman

Offertory Counters Lee Faust

Sacristans Suzanne Bailey

Uganda Theresa Lynch

Ushers Dennis Dougherty

Director of Information and Webmaster Matt Blumenfeld

Give your spouse the gift of a special Valentine. The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience teaches a technique of loving communication that you can use for the rest of your lives. Sign up today for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on Feb 7-28, 2022 in CHANTILLY, VA and Mar 25-27, 2022 in Warrenton, VA. Early sign up is recommended. See our website at: <https://renewmarriage-vasouth.org/>

OUR MISSION STATEMENT -We, the members of Holy Comforter Parish, united in faith by God, nourished by Jesus through the Word and the Eucharist, and guided by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, believe that we are called to worship, formation, service, and evangelization within our parish, our local communities, and all those in need.

PRAYER & WORSHIP



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (2/5) First Saturday

8 AM Mass

9 AM-10:30 AM Altar Server Practice

10:30 AM-12 PM Volunteer Appreciation Brunch

5 PM Vigil Mass (Masks Required)

SUNDAY (2/6) FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME

8 AM Mass

9:15-10:15 AM Christian Formation

9:45 AM RCIA

11 AM Mass (Livestream)

1:30 PM Confession

2 PM Latin Mass

MONDAY (2/7)

12 PM Mass

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

TUESDAY (2/8)

7 AM Mass

10:30 AM-1:30 PM Food Pantry

7 PM-8:30 PM HS Youth Group (LL)

WEDNESDAY (2/9)

7 AM Mass

10:30 AM-1:30 PM Food Pantry

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

THURSDAY (2/10)

7 AM Mass

12 PM Soup Kitchen-Bag lunch

6:30 PM-7 PM Confession

7 PM-8 PM Holy Hour

FRIDAY (2/11)

9 AM-12 PM Regina Caeli Homeschool Co-op

12 PM Mass

2:45 PM-4 PM Penitential Psalms & Rosary of Reparation

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

SATURDAY (2/12)

8 AM Mass

10:30-12 AM Volunteer Appreciation Brunch

5 PM Vigil Mass (Masks Required)

Second Collection Outreach

SUNDAY (2/13) SIXTH SUNDAY IN

ORDINARY TIME Second Collection Outreach

8 AM Mass

9:15-10:15 AM Christian Formation

9:45 AM RCIA

11 AM Mass (Livestream)

1:30 PM Confession

2 PM Latin Mass

Prayer for Protection

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of the American People, and all people, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen. Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Hail Mary (x3) Adopted from Pope Francis

Act of 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 into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment 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.

Rosary of Reparation

Join us at Holy Comforter every Friday. The *Penitential Psalms* begins at 2:45 PM with *Rosary of Reparation* at 3 PM. For more information, please email Tina Blumenfeld, tmsblum@gmail.com

Welcome New Parishioners

We welcome you to join our Holy Comforter Parish Family. Registration forms in the office and on the Commons Credenza.

TO REQUEST MASS INTENTIONS

Contact the Parish Office (434) 295-7185

reception@holycomforterparish.org

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY (2/5)

8 AM Intentions of McAdams Family (Patricia McAdams)

5 PM Members of Parish

SUNDAY (2/6)

8 AM Deceased Priests of Diocese of Richmond (Patricia McAdams)

11 AM † Laurie Ann Hilton (Hilton Beard Family)

2 PM † Leonard Riccardi (Peter Zinman)

MONDAY (2/7)

12 PM † Martha Melacon (Deacon Henry and Alicia Vinklerek)

TUESDAY (2/8)

7 AM Christopher Dusang

Wednesday (2/9)

6 PM † Martha Melacon (Alicia Vinklerek)

Thursday (2/10)

6 PM Matthew Schnur

FRIDAY (2/11)

12 PM † Jane Till Danilek
The Sick, especially Holy Comforter Parishioners (Father Joseph Mary)

SATURDAY (2/12)

8 AM Matthew Schnur

5 PM Personal Intention (Mary Frances Lilly)

SUNDAY (2/13)

8 AM John Higginbotham (Dotty and George Lilly)

11 AM Members of the Parish

2 PM Matthew Schnur

SAINTS OF GOD *Blessed are You*

2/5 Saint Agatha

2/6 Saint Paul Miki and Companions

2/7 Saint Collette

2/8 Saint Josephine Bakhita

2/9 Saint Jerome Emiliani

2/10 Saint Scholastica

2/11 Our Lady of Lourdes

2/12 Saint Apollonia

2/13 Saint Giles Mary of Saint Joseph

PARISH NEWS



GIFTS FROM GOD

WEEK ENDING JANUARY 30, 2022

OFFERTORY	\$6,208
WEEKLY OFFERTORY BUDGET	(\$8,300)
BELOW WEEKLY BUDGET	(\$2,092)

SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR FEBRUARY

ALL MONTH Christian Formation + Haiti + Justice and Peace

2/13/2022 Outreach

Have you ever done a “trust fall”?

It’s a pretty crazy concept. With your eyes closed and arms folded over

your chest, you fall straight backwards. Of course, there’s a very important element that hasn’t yet been mentioned: someone is standing behind you, ready to catch you.

The “trust fall” illustrates such an important truth: we are only willing to take a risk, to “fall,” when someone we trust is with us.

In our Gospel today, Peter commits to his own “trust fall,” casting in his nets after a whole night of fruitless fishing, all because he trusts the Lord and the Lord instructs him to. As a parish, we’re doing a “trust fall” right now, as we strive to respond to our Annual Diocesan Appeal. It can feel like a big risk to ask to be vulnerable and ask our community members to help meet our diocesan needs, but we do it because we trust—both in the Lord, but also in all the people who make up this parish community—including you.

Maybe contributing to the Annual Diocesan Appeal feels like a risk for you. Which is fine! The key, however, is to never forget that we’re not doing this alone. We’re taking part in the Annual Diocesan Appeal as part of a diocesan community we trust, and with the love and support of a Lord who never leaves us. When we change our perspective from “fear” to “trust,” how does our willingness to give change? Take some time today to ground yourself in trust of the Lord, and see how your heart responds.

LITURGICAL NOTES

Entrance: Come, let us worship God and bow down before the Lord; let us shed tears before the Lord who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

Offertory: Render secure my footsteps in your paths so that my feet do not slip; incline your ear and hear my words; display your wonderful mercies, O Lord, Savior of those who place their hope in you.

Communion: I will go in to the altar of God, to the God who gives joy to my youth.

Again, God’s manifestation of Himself inspires adoration and gratitude. The Entrance and Communion Antiphons are especially worshipful and nicely complement the strikingly mystical vision of Isaiah in the first reading, who fell in adoration before the Divine Presence and lamented his unworthiness. We are called to “shed tears before the lord” because His absolute perfection highlights our own imperfections as sunlight demarcates shadow. These tears ought to flow from love of God, Whom we would not wish to offend by our sins. Our appropriate response to the presence of the Divine Majesty is beautifully embodied in the hopeful Offertory Antiphon – that God would display His “wonderful mercies” toward those who “place their hope in [Him]”. It is these same tears of love that compel Simon to beg our Lord to depart from him because of his sinfulness, but He had other plans for the soon-to-be Rock of the Church. Liturgy at its very essence embodies this encounter of man with God. It is the wedding of heavenly and earthly things, an encounter with the transcendent God (heaven) shrouded in ritual and symbolism (earth). Take time at Mass today to make yourself aware of the presence of God all around you but especially in the tabernacle and offer Him your heartfelt adoration, trusting in His mercy to help you through your trials until you next encounter Him again at Mass. Venite adoremus!

Daniel Kirkland, Director of Liturgy and Music

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Melinda Wells, Director of Religious Education
dre@holyccomforterparish.org

CALENDAR

- ◆ **February 6, Sunday, 9:15-10:15 AM:** Christian Formation/Sacraments
- ◆ **February 6, Sunday, 9:45-10:45 AM:** RCIA
- ◆ **February 8, Tuesday, 7:00-8:30 PM:** High School Youth Group
- ◆ **February 27, Sunday, 8 AM Mass:** RCIA Rite of Sending

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

Jeremiah 17:5-8

Put trust and hope in the Lord, not in human beings.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 1:1-4,6

Blessed are those who follow the law of the Lord.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20

Our hope for resurrection is sure because Christ has been raised from the dead.

Gospel

Luke 6:17,20-26

Jesus teaches the crowd the way to happiness.

PARISH NEWS



PLEASE PRAY FOR

PARISHIONERS (includes ill, injured, homebound, and caregivers) Emmett Dudley, Jolene Green, Colette Hall, Pam Heron, Barbara Isaac, Victoria Lannon, Michael Ludgate, Scarlett Makielski, Kitty Moore, Mary Mullen, Mary Nguyen, Marian Ortmann, Mary Polce, Shawn Simpson-Smith, Deacon Henry Vinklerek, Mary Wheeler, Denise Wilcox, Charlie Anne and Andre Xavier and their two children.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Charlotte, Kent and Brittney Anderson, Blandine Attey, Christine Bentejac, Maureen Bradley, Tom Cassidy, Roxanne Crittenden, Steven D'Arca, Virginia Davis, Joe Ferguson, Beth Howard, Andrew Hunt & Family, Kajihara Family, Steve Kirchmeyer, Coty Lockett, Frank McClendon, Melodie Mougeolle and Children, Josephine Nampijja, Aimee Nyriamugisha, Isaak & Ada Pyatetsky, Randall Saathoff, Julia Savona, Daniel and Shirley Shifflett, David Shrank, Jonathan Shrank, Aiden Smith, The Sullivan Family, Brendan and Maria Walsh, B. Waugh Crigler, Lisa Wells, Henry Francis Wojtala, Andrew Wood, and Carol Wood.

MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY

Joey Smith, Matthew Schrank, Benjamin Schrank, Jonathan Schrank, Elijah Schrank, Nick Bruno, Nathaniel Byrd, Jeffrey Jaeger, Pete Bakke, Michael Eiermann, Tom Logan, Trey Linebrink, Charles G. Ellison, and Matthew Mickiewicz

PLEASE NOTE: If you would like a name added or removed, please call the Office 434.295.7185 or email reception@holycomforterparish.org



To arrange to receive Holy Communion or a visit from Father Joseph Mary, please call the office 434.295.7185

Holy Comforter Parishioners, Francis & Erminia Olimpio-Poni Janabio are fundraising to adopt their orphaned niece, Sarafina, in South Sudan. *Please use this link for more information;*
<https://www.gofundme.com/f/a-better-life-for-sarafina>

MINISTRIES

OUTREACH: We appreciate your continued contributions and donations to Outreach! In 2021, we gave food pantry bags to **973 households/ 2,670 individuals**. And served lunches to **3,017** people during soup kitchen. Both Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen are safely taking place by the 3rd Street door. Thank you for helping your neighbors in need. God Bless!

SVdP: Thank you to all who donated to St. Vincent de Paul Holy Trinity Conference in 2021. Last month our Keep the Lights On fundraiser, received \$8,000. It enabled us to help many friends with unpaid utility bills so their service was restored. Also, we received a \$4,000 grant from the Diocese of Richmond Fuel and Hunger Fund. It is only with such support that we can help our friends in need, for which we are very grateful and truly blessed. Thank you for helping us help others.

HAITI: Bi Parish Haiti Committee: Dan Wassilchalk 434 852-6126 or dmw9v@virginia.edu. **Ginny Zeller** ginnyannZeller@gmail.com.

Haiti Committee website:

<https://info941709.wixsite.com/haiti-committee-site/news>

The next Haiti mission trip will be February 13-23 with the possibility of late arrivals in Santo Domingo on 15 February. A Valentine themed sponsorship fair will be held at St. Thomas on the weekend of February 12-13 in the Parish Hall. A \$150 a year donation assures that a child will be educated and have at least one healthy meal a day

THE WORKS OF MERCY MINISTRY: invites all Holy Comforter parishioners to pray the Our Lady of Lourdes Novena for our parish's sick and homebound along with our own private intentions, from February 2—11, ending on the eve of Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day, which is World Day of the Sick. Please either email: mercy@holycomforterparish.org and we will email you the novena. You can also sign-up and pick up a novena copy in the Commons. Thank you and God bless you for your precious prayers on behalf of Holy Comforter's sick and homebound and for others in need

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What is the Synod on Synodality? This is an initiative of our Church to hear from every Catholic worldwide on "Communion, Participation, & Mission". You are invited to review the "Participant's Guide" which can be accessed through the Diocesan website or Flocknote, and there will be hard copies available in the Commons for the next few weeks. Use the Guide to formulate & record your thoughts. Expect further information on how to share your ideas with Parish facilitators soon.

From Holy Comforter Parishioner, Dominique Faust: *"I would like to thank all of you, my precious fellow parishioners for all your prayers for my recovery. It is going smoothly, thanks be to God, to our great pastor and to each one of you. God's blessings rest on you all always. With my love and prayers for you and your families, Dominique"*

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – February 6, 2022 World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send?" Do you think that the Lord wants to send you as a priest? Call the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, to speak with Fr. Brian Capuano; or write to vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

THE SACRISTAN MINISTRY IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS to maintain the beauty of our church altar by caring for the altar cloths and altar linens. Service as a sacristan is a lovely way to quietly serve the parish. **Parent/Teen teams are welcome and encouraged to volunteer!** Training will be provided. For more information, please contact Suzanne Bailey at slank@ntelos.net or (434) 326-3166.

FROM THE PASTOR



Where is the Star? The Journey with the Magi. Part V

Very Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi, V.F.

"After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed." Matthew 2:9-10

T.S. ELLIOT In his poem; "Journey of the Magi," written from the point of view of one of the Magi has this to say; ***"A cold coming we had of it. Just the worst time of the year. For a journey, and such a long journey.....then at dawn we came down to a temperate valley, wet, below the snow line, smelling of vegetation; Then we came to a tavern with vine-leaves over the lintel, Six hands at an open door dicing for pieces of silver, and feet kicking the empty wineskins. But there was no information, and so we continued and arrived at evening, not a moment too soon. Finding the place; it was (you may say) satisfactory. All this was a long time ago, I remember, And I would do it again, but set down. This: were we led all that way for Birth or Death? There was a Birth, certainly, We had evidence and no doubt. I had seen birth and death But had thought they were different; this Birth was Hard and bitter agony for us, like Death, our death. We returned to our places, these Kingdoms, But no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation, With an alien people clutching their gods. I should be glad of another death."***

What the Magi truly exemplify is what all Christians ought to exemplify: a willingness to go on seeking God and his ways. The

Magi dropped everything to travel to see Jesus, and what they discovered in the end is what many Christians often fail to see: that the journey is far more important than the destination. Of course, Eliot's work is fiction, but the principles presented in it, along with the true historical evidence, is enough to make a point.

Before the journey even began, the Magi had to be ready and waiting. Had the Magi not been faithful to watching and waiting for God's signs, they could have easily marked up the star as an astrological event, instead of a sign from God. But, because of their faith, they knew the moment they saw the star that they had to move.

As followers of Christ, like the Magi, we must be ready and waiting, watching for a sign from God which tells us to move. The Magi did not stop and worry about whether the journey would be difficult or dangerous. They moved on faith, and faith alone. This "leap of faith," as it is often called, is something which many Christians seem to have lost today. We have become content to simply watch for signs that God is *there*, instead of seeking to move. Our faith is not to be stagnant we must move on and grow.

Eliot concludes the poem with a line from one of the Magi: ***"I should be glad of another death." Eliot thought that this journey would have been so difficult that the Magi would have considered it like death; and yet, when they saw the Christ child, when they saw what it was at the end of this journey, one of the Magi said that he would be glad to go through it all over again.***

Today, few Christians are willing to journey at all. Many stop halfway through because of the difficulty of it all. We often forget the end goal and the transformative purpose of the journey itself. Like the Magi, we too will stand before Christ one day, and He will ask us whether we made the journey because the journey is more important than the goal.

The worst thing we do as Christians is look at life as if it is some horrible thing that prevents us from seeing God. Even with the Fall, God does not wish us to only be looking towards death; He wants us to experience and enjoy life to the fullest. He does not promise the journey will be easy, but He does promise that it will be worth it in the end, when you hold on to the **STAR and SETTLE with HIM.**

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Ed, John and Jeanne Mickiewicz

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