



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

**MARCH 12,
2023**

CONNECT WITH US

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- 📠 Fax: (434) 220-1464
- ✉ office@holycomforterparish.org
- 🌐 holycomforterparish.org
- ✚ **MASS TIMES**

Saturday Vigil	5 PM
Sunday	8 :30 AM & 11 AM*
Monday + Friday (except First Friday)	12 PM
Tuesday-Thursday	7 AM
First Friday	6 PM
Saturday	8 AM

ADORATION

Thursday	7 PM-8 PM
First Friday	7 PM-8 AM

CONFESSION

Monday, Wednesday, Friday	6:30-7:30 PM
Thursday	6:30-8 PM
First Friday	7:30 PM
Sunday	1:30 PM

Office Hours

Monday-Friday	9 AM-4 PM
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*We livestream our 11AM Sunday Mass on our Facebook page:
facebook.com/holycomforterville

Please Send Bulletin Submissions
by 3 PM Mondays to
dre@holycomforterparish.org



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him and he would have given you living water." - Jn 4:10

Pastor

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

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Henry Vinklerek
deaconhenry@holycomforterparish.org

Administrative Business Manager

Mary Frances Lilly
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Receptionist/Office Assistant

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Director of Liturgy and Music

Daniel Kirkland
music@holycomforterparish.org

Director of Religious Education

Melinda Wells (434) 295-6559
dre@holycomforterparish.org

Outreach

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

Intern

Carl Baumann
Cbaumann@richmonddiocese.org

MINISTRIES

- Finance Council** Gary Krutul
gekrutul@sncomm.com
- Pastoral Council** Jackson Kulick
Jackson@brgtshirts.com
- Altar Servers** Jackson Kulick
Jackson@brgtshirts.com
- Religious Education 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** Sharon Dudley
(Eucharistic Ministry to Homebound & Funerals)
mercy@holycomforterparish.org
- Wedding Coordinator** Heather Burns
weddings@holycomforterparish.org
- Regina Caeli Homeschool Co-op** Samantha Van Dyke
samantha.kepler@gmail.com
- Parish Life** Emily Pierson
parishlife@holycomforterparish.org
- High School Youth Group** Emily Pierson
youthgroup@holycomforterparish.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

Third Sunday of Lent

March 12, 2023

For all those thirsting
to know their vocations in Christ,
that they will be open to the waters
of prayer and drink fully
of the Holy Spirit who leads them,
we pray to the Lord.

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.

PARISH NEWS



GIFTS FROM GOD

WEEK ENDING MARCH 5, 2023

Offertory	\$9,869
Weekly Offertory Budget	(\$8,500)
Above Weekly Budget	\$1,369

SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR MARCH

ALL MONTH Catholic Virginian + Christian Formation + Easter Flowers + Justice and Peace

3/12/2023 Outreach

3/19/2023 Catholic Relief Services

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL

In today's Gospel story, the woman at the well meets Jesus. Jesus moves her so much that she goes into the village, no longer abashed by her bad reputation, and tells everyone that she found the Messiah. Dramatic, to be sure.

Others in the town immediately began to believe in Jesus because of her. The Samaritan woman's stark transformation gave her words credibility. Soon after, the townspeople deepened their faith in Jesus by directly encountering him.

Jesus used the Samaritan woman's words to introduce a whole village to him. Our parish can spread faith in the same way through the Annual Diocesan Appeal. This Lent, we ask you to prayerfully consider how you can help meet the mission of our Church and be a light for others through your heartfelt support. Together, we can demonstrate to our local neighborhood how wonderful He truly is. Through our actions, they will believe our word that He is alive. Jesus, lead us!

LITURGICAL NOTES

Entrance: My eyes are forever turned towards the Lord; for he shall release my feet from the snare; look upon me and have mercy on me, for I am abandoned and destitute.

Offertory: The ordinances of the Lord are right, bringing joy to all hearts, sweeter than honey or the honeycomb. Therefore your servant will observe them.

Communion: The sparrow has found herself a home, and the turtle dove a nest in which to lay her young: at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God! Blessed are they who dwell in your house, they shall praise you for ever and ever.

We often satisfy our thirst for love with paltry substitutes and distractions from the pain of that emptiness. The order of things becomes reversed: created things or relationships become an end in themselves and God secondary. Since all created things decay eventually and feelings are ephemeral, we find ourselves wanting more and try to fix this by clinging more vigorously to these things (or people), allowing for opportunities to sin and become enslaved. God alone will satisfy our deepest longings; the readings and Propers this weekend all point us to that truth with rich images of thirst, living water, the sweetness of God's commands, and birds finding a place to rest. This is why the Church strips down her liturgies during Lent – we are venturing into a spiritual desert to free ourselves firstly from attachments to evil things, but also from attachments to good things that could get in the way of deepening our relationship with God. Flowers are not to be found in the sanctuary, the music is more subdued (and the Gloria and Alleluia omitted), the organ is generally silenced, and the vestments are penitential. Let us renew our commitment during this graced period to let God love us and to love God above everything. Then all the good things in life will find their proper place as gifts from a loving God and not gods themselves. Daniel Kirkland, Director of Liturgy and Music

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

RCIA Rites this Saturday 5 PM Mass

- ◆ First Scrutiny (Catechumen Aaron Wissinger)
- ◆ Penitential Rite (Candidates: Michelle Morton, James Wyant)

Please remember Holy Comforter's RCIA participants in your prayers. We have such a wonderful community here at Holy Comforter. Please reach out and welcome them into our Parish Family!

HOLY COMFORTER CHILDREN'S TRIDUUM PROJECT

Cardboard egg cartons are needed for a wonderful project to emphasize and help teach to Holy Comforter's Children the meaning of the Easter Triduum. Please leave your cardboard egg cartons in the baskets on the Religious Education Table in the Commons.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

First Reading

1 Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a

Samuel is sent to anoint David as king.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 23:1-6

The Lord is our shepherd.

Second Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

The Ephesians are told to live as children of light.

Gospel

John 9:1-41 Jesus heals the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man.

March 12, Third Sunday of Lent

PRAYER & WORSHIP



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (3/11)

8 AM Mass

9:15AM-12 PM First Reconciliation Retreat

5 PM Vigil Mass (RCIA Rites:

1st Scrutiny and Penitential)

SUNDAY (3/12) THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Second Collection-Outreach

8:30 AM Mass

9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation

11 AM Mass

12:00 PM RCIA

4 PM Vespers

MONDAY (3/13)

10:30-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

TUESDAY (3/14)

7 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY (3/15)

7 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6:30 PM Confession

6:30-8:30 PM Youth Group

7 PM Choir

THURSDAY (3/16)

7 AM Mass

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6:30 PM Confession

7-8 PM Holy Hour

FRIDAY (3/17)

9 AM-12 PM Regina Caeli Homeschool Co-op

12 PM Mass

1 PM-5:30 PM Adoration

5:45 PM Stations of the Cross

6:30 PM Potluck Soup Supper

7 PM Confession

SATURDAY (3/18)

8 AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (3/19) FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Second Collection-Catholic Relief Services

8:30 AM Mass

9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation

11 AM Mass (Blessing & Cake for Birthdays and Anniversaries following Mass)

12:00 PM RCIA

4 PM Vespers

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.

3/14 Saint Maximilian

3/15 Saint Louise de Marillac

3/16 Saint Clement Mary Hofbauer

3/17 Saint Patrick

3/18 Saint Cyril of Jerusalem

3/19 Saint Joseph, Husband of Mary

NEW PARISHIONERS

Ms. Sabrina Jordan

Mr. Woojin Park

*Kieran & Grant McDowell
and Magdalena & Hanorah*

We welcome you to join our Holy Comforter Parish Family. Registration

TO REQUEST MASS INTENTIONS

Contact the Parish Office (434) 295-7185

reception@holyccomforterparish.org

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY (3/11)

8 AM Bernie Seward (Heide Seward)

5 PM † Anne Stallard

SUNDAY (3/12)

8:30 AM † Thomas Detolla (Charlie Francolini)

11 AM Members of the Parish

MONDAY (3/13)

12 PM Lillian Connor (The Stelow Family)

TUESDAY (3/14)

7 AM Shelly Ott

WEDNESDAY (3/15)

7 AM Kenneth Machost

THURSDAY (3/16)

7 AM Carl Baumann

FRIDAY (3/17)

12 PM † Annie Wallace (The Allen Family)

SATURDAY (3/18)

8 AM All Seminarians of Richmond Diocese

5 PM Anne Marie Gaglio

(Dotty and George Lilly)

Lucas Gerling

(Greg and Maria Andrea Gerling)

SUNDAY (3/19)

8:30 AM † Jane Til Danilek

11 AM Members of the Parish

SAINTS OF GOD

Blessed are You

3/11 Saint John Ogilvie

3/12 Blessed Angela Salawa

3/13 Saint Leander of Seville

PARISH NEWS



PLEASE PRAY FOR

PARISHIONERS (includes ill, injured, homebound, and caregivers) Normand Auger, Eileen Bracuti, Stephanie Crews, Emmett Dudley, Eileen Foster, Jolene Green, Colette Hall, Barbara Isak, Ann Jackson, Victoria Lannon, Mary Nguyen, Mary Polce, Ed Shaffrey, Shawn Simpson-Smith, Mae Trentanove, Deacon Henry and Alicia Vinklerek, Mary Wheeler, Denise Wilcox, Sara Winter, and Charlie Anne Xavier.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Charlotte, Kent and Brittney Anderson, Blandine Attey, Sonia Bell, Christine Bentejac, Maureen Bradley, Tom Cassidy, B. Waugh Crigler, Roxanne Crittenden, Virginia Davis, Father Gerald Fogarty, Joe Ferguson, Richard Harmer, Cindy Harris, Sallie Harris, Beth Howard, Andrew Hunt & Family, Anthony & Elizabeth Kapeluch, Kajihara Family, Steve Kirchmeyer, Teena and Raymond Klein, Chris Irwin Krupka, Shannon and Coty Lockett, Eduardo Mendes and family, Melodie Mougeolle and Children, Mary Mullen, Josephine Nampijja, Aimee Nyriamugisha, Isaak & Ada Pyatetsky, David Rathburn, Kathy Robinson, Residents and Staff of the Blue Ridge Detention Center, Randall Saathoff, Matthew Schrank and Family, David Shrank and Family, Joseph Schrank, Yulia Savona, Daniel and Shirley Shifflett, Aiden Smith, The Sullivan Family, Mary Ann Uzzo, Brendan and Maria Walsh, Monica Wadium, Don and Lisa Wells, Henry Francis Wojtala, Andrew Wood.

MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY

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

**To request Holy Communion or a visit from Father Joseph Mary, or to add or remove a name, please contact the office 434.295.7185
reception@holycomforterparish.org**

2023 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (Case for Support Overview)

CASE ELEMENT	TARGET
<u>2023 Appeal Overall Target</u>	<u>\$3,989,235</u>
Empowering The Next Generation	\$817,056
Providing For Those in Need	\$1,405,000
Strengthening Catholic Communities	\$1,272,179
Building an Effective Annual Appeal	\$495,000



Holy Comforter Parish target is \$25,150 and we will receive 30% of contributions up to that goal and 50% of all contributions over it. All proceeds will be used here for church maintenance.
Please scan the QR code to contribute.

MINISTRIES

OUTREACH: We appreciate your generous support to Outreach thorough your contributions and donations. During the month of February, we gave out **99** bags of food to **266** individuals in Food Pantry and served **250** meals in Soup Kitchen. Please leave your food donations in the basket in the Commons. Thank you and God Bless! (This USDA pantry is an equal opportunity provider).

WORKS OF MERCY MINISTRY: is pleased to announce an opportunity to serve Holy Comforter's homebound or hospitalized members as an Extraordinary Minister (EM) of Holy Communion. If you are looking for a meaningful way to "give back," this ministry promises richness. Training is provided. Call the parish office (434) 295-7185 or email mercy@holycomforterparish.org if interested. A commitment to this ministry could be a great way to start off your Lenten program. Also, *a parishioner who lives at the Colonnades on Barracks Road need s a ride to Sunday's 11AM Mass. Please email mercy@holycomforterparish.org*

HAITI: The Haiti Arts and Crafts team offered \$2,500 to be used for the movement of the water line away from the road to prevent breakage. This is the line from the Saltadare River into Saltadare, less than a half mile. The "Saltadare" Water Committee texted me Thursday morning saying they had a water line breakage at the Losyann River. The evening before Matt Hantzmon, CEO of Hexagon Energy, offered to pay for the funded water project. he said that he would pay for the serious break. The repair will be \$1500. We were very fortunate that the break was at the base of the line going under the river. And very blessed to have the donation from Matt to repair it. Thank you and for your prayers for St. Michel and Saltadare

ANNOUNCEMENT

THE SECULAR ORDER OF DISCALCED CARMELITE COMMUNITY of Saint Elizabeth of the Trinity meets at St. Francis in Staunton on the 2nd Sunday each month from 11:30-4:00PM. If you are interested in learning more or feel called to Carmelite way of life, please visit, Sunday, March 12, 2023. Contact Patricia McAdams at 286-4055 or email pamcadams@yahoo.com. Flyers are in the Commons Area .



VINCENTIANS ARE LOOKING FORWARD ATTENDING THE IMPACT MEETING for the Nehemiah Action on Tuesday,

March 20, 2023, in lieu of our regular meeting. Your almsgiving helps to prevent evictions, utility disconnections and relieve stress in the hearts of many struggling neighbors. Those we visit share in God's blessings from the charity of our Catholic Community. Thank you. We are in urgent need of members who can speak Spanish to help us support and communicate with our many Spanish speaking friends in need. If you would like to help us by joining the Society, please contact us at info@svdp-ht.org or call (434) 226-8022, and we will get back to you. Thank you! God bless you for your prayerful consideration.

FROM THE PASTOR



WELCOMING LENT 2023:

Part III

Very Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi, V.F.

“What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? For your loyalty is like a morning cloud, and like the dew which goes away early” Hosea 6:4

The steadfast and faithful love of God remains and endures, even when we do not. This is seen time and time again in the Bible where God’s people fell into sin and turned their backs on God, yet God continued to stand by His people. We all fail and sin against ourselves, each other, and ultimately against God. As the psalmist David wrote after he had committed adultery with Bathsheba, **“Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge” (Ps. 51:4).**

In the first letter of John, it says **“we love because He first loved us” (1 Jn. 4:19).** We can love others, but we are still imperfect sinners who get things wrong and hurt people at times. However, God’s love does not change for **He is the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb. 13:18).** The greatest

demonstration of God’s love for the world is found in the person of Jesus and His work on the cross. It was only God Himself who could deal with unfaithful and sinful people and the power of sin and death in our broken world. Jesus loves us with an unfailing love because He is love.

It is up to each of us whether or not we turn away from our sins and believe and trust in Jesus, who out of love for us in our broken, helpless, sin-filled state died for every one of us. His blood paid the penalty that our sins deserved so that we would not have to experience the full and just wrath of God who hates sin. **“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Rm. 5:8).** We are free when we receive what Jesus did for us on the cross through repenting of our sins and following Him with our life. Jesus is the greatest hope for our broken world.

So, what does the broken body of Jesus mean for our brokenness? It means healing, as the prophet says: **“But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all” (Is. 53:5-6).** Jesus defeated the power of sin and death on the cross. God will execute justice in His final judgement and evil will end. When we trust in Jesus, we have the hope of eternal life where we will be with Him forever. His broken body has paved the way for us to share in the glorious resurrection, and the temporary pain we endure in this world will be no more.

We often shoulder the burdens of our own sin and the anxieties and frustrations of others. Yet Jesus takes that from us. We were not meant to carry the weight of the world on our shoulders. Any shame or guilt we feel can be confessed before God because Jesus has reconciled us to Himself. The requirement for us is to repent and experience the joy of God’s mercy.

To be Continued...

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