

# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

## MARCH 26, 2023

#### CONNECT WITH US

- 208 East Jefferson Street Charlottesville, Virginia 22902
- 📞 Phone: (434) 295-7185
- 📇 Fax: (434) 220-1464
- office@holycomforterparish.org
- holycomforterparish.org

### 📃 MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil5 PMSunday8 :30 AM & 11 AM\*Monday + Friday12 PM(except First Friday)7 AMTuesday-Thursday7 AMFirst Friday6 PMSaturday8 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

\*We livestream our 11AM Sunday Mass on our Facebook page: facebook.com/holycomfortercville

> Please Send Bulletin Submissions by 3 PM Mondays to <u>dre@holycomforterparish.org</u>



5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live." - Jn 11:25

#### Pastor

Very Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi, V.F. jmlukyamuzi@richmonddiocese.org Deacon Rev. Mr. Henry Vinklarek deaconhenry@holycomforterparish.org **Administrative Business Manager** Mary Frances Lilly office@holycomforterparish.org **Receptionist/Office Assistant** Melinda Crews reception@holycomforterparish.org **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

5	Finance Council	Gary Krutu	I
1		gkrutul@sncomm.com	n
1	Pastoral Council	Jackson Kulick	
ŀ	<u>j.</u>	lackson@brgtshirts.com	<u> </u>
	Altar Servers	Jackson Kulick	
	<u>j.</u>	Jackson@brgtshirts.com	
	<b>Religious Education Com</b>	mittee Suzanne Bailey	
		<u>slank@ntelos.net</u>	<u>i</u>
	Social Ministries	Chuck McCurdy	1
		<u>cwm@virginia.edu</u>	u
	St. Vincent de Paul	(434) 226-8022	2
5	Holy Trinity Conference	info@svdp-ht.org	3
1	Works of Mercy	Sharon Dudley	
	(Eucharistic Ministry to H	Homebound & Funerals)	)
	mercy@l	holycomforterparish.org	g
	Wedding Coordinator	Heather Burns	
weddings@holycomforterparish			
	Regina Caeli Homeschoo	•	
		Samantha Van Dyke	
		antha.kepler@gmail.com	
	Parish Life	Emily Piersor	
		holycomforterparish.org	
	High School Youth Group	• •	
	<u>youthgroup@l</u>	holycomforterparish.org	3

#### PARISH VOLUNTEERS

Building and Grounds Extraordinary Ministers of	Ed Mickiewicz the Eucharist
	Heather Burns
Haiti	Ginny Zeller
Lectors	Matt Freeman
Offertory Counters	Lee Faust
Sacristans	Suzanne Bailey
Uganda	Theresa Lynch
Ushers	Dennis Dougherty

#### Fifth Sunday of Lent March 26, 2023

That priests, deacons, sisters and brothers who, for the sake of Christ, have suffered the loss of all things, will be strengthened in their vocations to bring many souls to the knowledge of salvation, 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.

### THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

#### SATURDAY (3/25) ANNUNCIATION

8 AM Mass 5 PM Vigil Mass SUNDAY (3/26) FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT Altar flowers donated in Memory of **Coll Family Members** 8:30 AM Mass 9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation 11 AM Mass 12 PM RCIA 4:30 PM SEVEN LAST WORDS CONCERT Reception following MONDAY (3/27) 10:30-12:30 PM Food Pantry 12 PM Mass 6:30-7:30 PM Confession **TUESDAY (3/28)** 7 AM Mass 10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry WEDNESDAY (3/29) 7 AM Mass 10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry 6:30-7:30 PM Confession NO YOUTH GROUP 7 PM Choir THURSDAY (3/30) 7 AM Mass 12-1 PM Soup Kitchen 6 PM-9 PM Penance Service with Adoration and Confession 7-8 PM Holy Hour FRIDAY (3/31) 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 KofC Soup Supper 7 PM Confession SATURDAY (4/1) 8 AM Mass (Blessings of Objects after Rosary) 5 PM Vigil Mass

## SAINTS OF GOD Blessed are You

3/25 Annunciation of the Lord 3/26 Saint Catherine of Genoa 3/27 Saint Gregory of Narek

#### SUNDAY (4/1) PALM SUNDAY

8:30 AM Mass 9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation 11 AM Mass 12 PM RCIA 4:00 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 SATURDAY (3/25) sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of **5 PM** Members of the Parish 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 THURSDAY (3/30) 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.

3/28 Saint Catherine of Bologna 3/29 Saint Ludovico of Casoria 3/30 Saint Peter Regalado 3/31 Saint Stephan of Mar Saba 4/1 Saint Hugh of Grenoble 4/2 Saint Francis of Paola

## NEW PARISHIONERS

LEROY & LILY SPENCER AND CHILDREN

We welcome you to join our Holy Comforter Parish Family. Registration Forms are in the Office and on the Commons Credenza.

#### TO REQUEST MASS INTENTIONS Contact the Parish Office (434) 295-7185 reception@holycomforterparish.org

#### MASS INTENTIONS

**8 AM** † Helen Savino (Patricia McAdams)

#### SUNDAY (3/26)

8:30 AM † Arthur Stein **11 AM** † Thomas Kostelac (Kostelac Family)

MONDAY (3/27) 12 PM George Lilly (Mary Frances Lilly)

#### **TUESDAY (3/28)**

7 AM George Lilly (Dotty Lilly) Julie Kajihara (Melinda Wells)

#### WEDNESDAY (3/29)

7 AM † Antoinette Ditizio (Patricia McAdams)

7 AM † Elizabeth Smith (Patricia McAdams)

#### FRIDAY (3/31)

12 PM Deceased Members of Parish and Benefactors of Holy Comforter

#### SATURDAY (4/1)

8 AM Diane Auger Smith **5 PM** Nathaniel Capps for Healing

#### **SUNDAY** (4/2)

8:30 AM † Mary Morrisard-Larkin (Jim and Marlene Satica) 11 AM Members of Parish

### PARISH NEWS

### **GIFTS FROM GOD**

#### WEEK ENDING MARCH 19, 2023

Offertory (Online Giving)	\$11,825
Weekly Offertory Budget	(\$8,500)
Above Weekly Budget	\$3,325

#### 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, Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. In doing so, he forecasts two events: his return from the dead and ours.

Death, and the events that follow, are challenging and often hide at the edge of our consciousness. It drives us to avoid aggressive drivers, work harder, or hold close the ones we love at goodbyes.

As difficult as death is, the Resurrection is our hope and Lent is our time to pray, give and spread the word! "I am the Resurrection and the Life," says Jesus (John 11:25). When you support our Annual Diocesan Appeal, you enable us to deliver this same hope and mercy to those in need.

### LITURGICAL NOTES

**Entrance:** Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly nation; from wicked and deceitful men deliver me, for you are my God and my strength.

**Offertory:** I will praise you, O Lord, with my whole heart; deal bountifully with your servant, that I may live and observe your word; revive me according to your word, O Lord.

**Communion:** When the Lord saw the sisters of Lazarus in tears near the tomb, he wept in the presence of the Jews and cried: Lazarus, come forth. And out he came, hands and feet bound, the man who had been dead for four days. This Sunday was traditionally called "Passion Sunday" because the original Gospel focused on the tension that arose between Jesus and the Pharisees when He very poignantly accused them of blindness and hardness of heart and also solemnly declared His divinity, which directly led to their plotting to have Him killed. The memory of that Gospel is still present in the entrance antiphon where the Psalmist (and now Christ) pleas for deliverance from the "ungodly nation", i.e., those Jews who had become blind to the Prophets and Scriptures and refused to believe in Christ, and by extension those who are opposed to goodness because of their blindness due to sin. Because this is the beginning of Christ's Passion, we cover our statues to remind us that He was taken away from us for a time. Against this interesting historical backdrop is placed the Gospel for Year A, which tells of the raising of Lazarus from the dead. It is striking because we see that, as darkness increases, God's glory is more greatly magnified. The Apostles were afraid to return to Judea because of the Jews, and yet Jesus returned to raise Lazarus from the dead, that all might believe in Him – by far one of his most stunning miracles. When we find ourselves in the darkness of our sins or decaying societal values, let us turn to God and ask Him to "revive me according to your word".

Daniel Kirkland, Director of Liturgy and Music

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

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

#### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION WITH BISHOP BARRY KNESTOUT

- Monday, 7 PM, Confirmation Practice-St. Thomas Aquinas Univ. Parish
- Wednesday, 7 PM Confirmation Rite-St. Thomas Aquinas Univ. Parish

Please Keep Holy Comforter's Confirmands, Hannah Gentry and Josephine Dougherty in your prayers.

#### HOLY COMFORTER CHILDREN'S TRIDUUM PROJECT

**CARDBOARD EGG CARTONS ARE STILL NEEDED** for a wonderful project to help teach Holy Comforter's Children the meaning of the Easter Triduum. Please leave your **cardboard egg cartons** *in the baskets on the RE Table*.

# NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Gospel at the Procession with Palms Matthew 21:1-11 Jesus enters Jerusalem as the crowd waves palm branches and shouts, "Hosanna!"

#### First Reading

Isaiah 50:4-7 The Lord's Servant will stand firm, even when persecuted. Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 22:8-9,17-20,23-24* A cry for help to the Lord in the face of evildoers

#### Second Reading

tomb.

Philippians 2:6-11 Christ was obedient even to death, and God has exalted him. Gospel

Matthew 26:14—27:66 Jesus is crucified, and his body is placed in the

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**PARISHIONERS** (includes ill, injured, homebound, and caregivers) Normand Auger, Eileen Bracuti, Stephanie Crews, Emmett Dudley, Kelton Flinn, 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 Vinklarek, Mary Wheeler, Denise Wilcox, Sara Winter, and Charlie Anne Xavier.

#### FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Charlotte, Kent and Brittney Anderson, Blandine Attey, Fr. Dan Bain, Christine Benteejac, 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, 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
2023 Appeal Overall Target	<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 <u>mercy@holycomforterparish.org</u> 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

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

<u>HELP NEEDED OFFERTORY COLLECTION</u> Consider joining our collection counter team! We love our parish and are dedicated to our service. Plenty of street parking is available when we meet at 8 AM on alternating Mondays. Please contact Mary Frances Lilly 434.295.7185 or <u>office@holycomforterparish.org</u> with questions or to volunteer.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL is a network of friends,

inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness, and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need. We seek the face of Christ in all we meet. 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. 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. 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. Thank you! God bless you for your prayerful consideration.

JOIN US FOR THE 28TH ANNUAL CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL GALA AUCTION, which will be held on Saturday, April 29 at the Omni Hotel. The Gala Auction is a fabulous evening for the CCS community to come together and support the school! Featuring cocktail hour and a seated dinner, live and silent auctions, and anumber of fun raffles, this is our school's biggest fundraising effort each year–you don't want to miss it!

### FROM THE PASTOR



### WELCOMING LENT 2023 Part V Very Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi, V.F.

#### "Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,' and you forgave the guilt of my sin" Psalm 32:5

We have passed the halfway point in our Lenten journey; during this season we have been spending time with the Word of God and receiving reassurance of forgiveness. We have heard words like "God is our refuge and our fortress", that we live "under the protective cover of God's wings", and heard the promise of God's steadfast love surrounding us. These are words of divine grace that offer us comfort and encouragement, especially when life's circumstances are challenging.

Forgiveness is the greatest gift that we can receive. The whole reason why Jesus came among us as a man and suffered and died for us on the cross was to give us the gift of reconciliation with his Father and with our brothers and sisters. His whole purpose was to heal the conflict that had been caused by the sin of Adam. Jesus' goal is for us to be brought into a perfect union with His Father and with each other. He wants us all to have that amazing experience of being forgiven—not just for a moment but for all eternity. Psalm 32 promises happiness to those whose transgressions are forgiven and whom God has deemed not guilty, and **"in whose spirit there is no deceit**". However, the psalmist warns that "while I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer" (Ps. 32:3). What we need to know and appreciate is that, when forgiven, we will be happy and filled with joy, but first we have to acknowledge the presence of that sin, about which the Psalmist confesses having kept silence about. If we're to experience the blessings and joy of forgiveness, we need to acknowledge our sin.

The season of Lent invites us to look more closely at our lives and ask whether there are signs of deceit or guile, signs of iniquity, transgression, or sin! What we call sin comes in different forms, but whatever form it takes, it can be destructive. Some sin is personal, and some sin is systemic. When it comes to the systemic forms, it's like a virus in the water. Think for a moment of racism. Why does racism exist in our culture? Are we born racist? I don't think so. Or, rather, do we soak it in like a virus that's present in the water? We may not be fully aware of its presence, but when we drink the water of our culture, we become infected. As we know, this virus is prevalent and destructive.

While the Psalmist at first kept silent about his sin, eventually he confesses: "I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,' and you forgave the guilt of my sin" (Ps. 32:5). In this there is blessing and happiness and joy! So, let's not be stubborn like a horse or mule and refuse to acknowledge what we know to be true about ourselves. May we embrace the promise that while "many are the torments of the wicked... steadfast love surrounds those who trust the LORD" (Ps. 32:10). When we let go of our own self-righteousness and trust in God's grace, there is joy. Everyday we can celebrate Jesus—the salvation He won for us by dying and rising from the dead, His precious gift of new life in Him, and the way He pours out his mercy upon us when we repent.

#### To be continued...

