

# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

## SEPTEMBER 10, 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 Vigil	5PM
Sunday	8 :30AM & 11AM
Monday + Friday	12PM
(except First Friday)	
Tuesday-Thursday	7AM
First Friday	6PM
Saturday	8AM

### ADORATION

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

### CONFESSION

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

### Office Hours 9AM-4PM

### Monday-Friday

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



23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." - Mt 1815

### 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

### MINISTRIES

Finance Cou		Gary Krutul
Pastoral Co		tul@sncomm.com Jackson Kulick
Pastoral Col		
A.L. C.		<u>@brgtshirts.com</u>
Altar Server	-	Jackson Kulick
		endbrgtshirts.com
Religious Ed	lucation Committee	Suzanne Bailey
		<u>slank@ntelos.net</u>
Social Minis		Chuck McCurdy
		<u>wm@virginia.edu</u>
St. Vincent		(434) 226-8022
		info@svdp-ht.org
Works of M	ercy and Funerals	Sharon Dudley
		mforterparish.org
Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound		
		Alicia Vinklarek
	nunionvisit@holyco	
Wedding Co		Heather Burns
	weddings@holyco	
Regina Cael	i Homeschool Co-o	<b>p</b> Samantha Van Dyke
	samantha k	epler@gmail.com
Parish Life	<u>samantna.</u>	Elizabeth Gilbert
	parishlife@holyco	
High School	Youth Group	Emily Pierson
-	outhgroup@holyco	•
Website		on and Mona Reglow
<u>N</u>	/ebmaster@holyco	
Building and	d Grounds	Ed Mickiewicz
Extraordina	ry Ministers of the	e Eucharist
		Heather Burns
Haiti		Ginny Zeller
Lectors		Matt Freeman
Offertory Co	ounters	Lee Faust
Sacristans		Suzanne Bailey
Uganda		Theresa Lynch
Ushers	[	Dennis Dougherty

### Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time September 10, 2023

For the faithful response of all those being called by Christ to take up their crosses and follow Him as a priest, deacon, sister or brother, 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 (9/9)

5 PM Vigil Mass SUNDAY (9/10) Twenty-Third Sunday in **Ordinary Time** Altar Flowers donations appreciated 8:30 AM Mass 9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation 11 AM Mass 12:30-1:30 PM RCIA 4:30 PM ANNUAL PARISH POTLUCK PICNIC Pen Park, Pavilion 3 MONDAY (9/11) 10:30-12:30 PM Food Pantry 12 PM Mass 6:30-7:30 PM Confession **TUESDAY (9/12)** 7 AM Mass 10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry WEDNESDAY (9/13) 7 AM Mass 10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry 6:30-7:30 PM Confession 7 PM Choir THURSDAY (9/14) 7 AM Mass 12-1 PM Soup Kitchen 6:30 PM Confession 7-8 PM Holy Hour FRIDAY (9/15) 9-11:30 AM Regina Caeli Homeschool Co-op 12 PM Mass 6:30-7:30 PM Confession SATURDAY (9/16) 8 AM Mass 5 PM Vigil Mass SUNDAY (9/17) Twenty-Fourth Sunday in **Ordinary Time** Altar Flowers donated By the Stelow Family 8:30 AM Mass 9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation 11 AM Mass 12:30-1:30 PM RCIA 4 PM Vespers 4:30 PM Youth Group

### SAINTS OF GOD Blessed are You

9/9 Saint Peter Claver 9/10 Saint Thomas of Villanova 9/11 Saint Cyprian

#### **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. **5 PM** Members of the Parish 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 **11 AM** Nicholas Ryan (Lannon Family) 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.

9/12 Most Holy Name of the BVM 9/13 Saint John Chrysostom 9/14 Exaltation of the Holy Cross 9/15 Our Lady of Sorrows 9/16 Saint Cornelius 9/17 Saint Robert Bellarmine

### NFW PARISHIONERS

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

SATURDAY (9/9)

#### SUNDAY (9/10)

8:30 AM In Thanksgiving for Father Joseph Mary's Safe Return

MONDAY (9/11) 12 PM Father Dan Kelly

**TUESDAY (9/12) 7 AM** † Jack Reidy (Lannon Family)

WEDNESDAY (9/13) 7 AM † Geraldine Trist (Emma Trist)

THURSDAY (9/14) 7 AM Father David Ssentamu

FRIDAY (9/15) 12 PM Father Michael Suarez

#### **SATURDAY (9/16)**

8 AM Deacon Henry 5 PM † Joseph Stanley (Mary Frances Lilly and Family)

### SUNDAY (9/17)

8:30 AM Members of the Parish 11 AM Geraldine Trist (Emma Trist)

### PARISH NEWS

### GIFTS FROM GOD

#### WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

Offertory	\$9,827
Weekly Offertory Budget	(\$8,750)
Above Weekly Budget	\$1,077

### OFFERTORY

Father Joseph Mary and the leaders of our Finance and Pastoral Councils presented the financial needs of our parish in June. The costs associated with operating our at the same time our Offertory income fell short of been necessary for us to withdraw savings to meet our monthly obligations.

Increasing your financial support of our Parish will provide tremendous assistance to our overall Parish operations and the good works of our ministries. Please visit:

https://holycomforterparish.org/online-giving/ for the **Online Giving** link or scan this QR code to support Holy Comforter Parish! THANK YOU!!

### eGIVING

Through our secure **Online Giving** program, you can set up recurring or one-time gifts for our Offertory, our parish ministries, and for all Diocesan and National collections.

Please click or scan the Online Giving **QR code** to be directed to our giving portal. Thank you for your support of Holy Comforter!

### SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

ALL MONTH Catholic Virginian + Christian Formation + Justice and Peace

9/10/2023	Outreach
9/17/2023	Maintenance Fund
9/24/2023	Retired Religious

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Twenty-Fourth Sunday In **Ordinary Time** 

First Reading Sirach 27:30-28:9 Those who seek God's mercy must be merciful toward others. Responsorial Psalm Psalm 103:1-4,9-12 A song of praise to God who is kind and merciful.

### LITURGICAL NOTES

Entrance: You are righteous, O Lord, and right is your judgment; deal with this servant of yours according to your mercy.

Offertory: I prayed to my God, I, Daniel, and I said: "Hearken, O Lord, unto the prayers of your servant, and cause your face to shine upon your sanctuary; look with forgiveness upon this nation over whom your name has been invoked, O God." Communion: Make vows unto the Lord your God, and accomplish them, all you who gather around him to present offerings; to the awesome God who takes away the life of princes; he is greatly feared by all the kings of the earth. Today's Propers are exceedingly worshipful, calling us to meditate on God's perfect Justice and our need for Divine Mercy. It is always especially interesting when the prophet Daniel is invoked as a proper text because he is so mystical, which is fitting for an offertory verse where the mystical re-presentation of Calvary begins to take shape. There also seems to be an interesting dialogue between the readings and parish rose significantly during the past fiscal year and the Propers. The Old Testament and Gospel speak of the responsibility of correcting sinners with the Gospel placing a special emphasis on the Church's role in calling expectations by approximately 3%. Since July 1<sup>st</sup> it has sinners to repentance. In the Offertory Antiphon, Daniel is asking for forgiveness "upon this nation over whom your name has been invoked". Whereas the Entrance Antiphon asked for mercy on an individual level, the Offertory is dealing with the corporate sin and, if read in the light of the Gospel, perhaps those of the Church, "over whom your name has been invoked". It is beneficial to remember that while the Church is perfect in her teaching, she is marred by the sins of her members, both laity and clergy. Let us ever remember to keep Pope Francis, Bishop Barry, Fr. Joseph Mary, and all our priests and deacons in our prayers, for their words and actions will be judged more severely since they are God's representatives to us. Lord Jesus, "deal with this servant of yours according to your mercy"! Daniel Kirkland, Director of Liturgy and Music

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

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

CHRISTIAN FORMATION STARTS THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 9:45-10:45AM **ON THE LOWER LEVEL FOR GRADES K-12** 

Registration forms are on the RE Table in the Commons and on Holy Comforter's Website and payments can be made online as well.

### **READING GROUPS ON THE EUCHARIST AND DANTE**

The Treasures of the Tradition program, sponsored by RE Adult Formation, offers two discussion groups starting in September:

(1) The Eucharist Through the Centuries: In line with this year of Eucharistic revival, come read what Scripture, church fathers, and spiritual writers across the ages have taught. Every other week.

(2) Dante's Divine Comedy: Join companions on a potentially soul-changing journey through Dante's whole wonderful cosmos. Weekly.

Groups meet online, and everyone's first session is free, with reasonable rates (sliding scale) thereafter. More info at TheTreasures.org. Register now, schedule TBD by participant needs, email bugbee@thetreasures.org

> Second Reading Romans 14:7-9 We belong to the Lord. **Gospel Reading** Matthew 18:21-35 Jesus teaches that we must forgive one another as God has forgiven us.

### PARISH NEWS

### **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

**PARISHIONERS** (includes ill, injured, homebound, and caregivers) Eileen Bracuti, Stephanie Crews, Emmett Dudley, Kelton Flinn, Eileen Foster, Jolene Green, Colette Hall, Barbara Isak, Ann Jackson, Victoria Lannon, Mary Nguyen, 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, B. Waugh Crigler, Roxanne Crittenden, Virginia Davis, Hung Dinh, Arthur Eddleston, Father Gerald Fogarty, Richard Harmer, Cindy Harris, Sallie Harris, Beth Howard, Andrew Hunt & Family, Julie Kajihara & Family, Betty and Tony Kapeluch, Teena and Raymond Klein, Chris Irwin Krupka, Mike & Sibylle Llewellyn, Shannon and Coty Lockett, Eduardo Mendes and family, Melodie Mougeolle and Children, Mary Mullen, Josephine Nampijja, Aimee Nyriamugisha, Sally Paget-Brown, 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, Paul and Meghan Thoms, Mary Ann Uzzo, Brendan and Maria Walsh, Don and Lisa Wells, Henry Francis Wojtala.

#### **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 <u>reception@holycomforterparish.org</u>



### **MINISTRIES**

**OUTREACH**: During the month of July, we handed out 141 food bags to 376 individuals in Food Pantry and served 333 lunches during Soup Kitchen. We appreciate your generous support of Outreach through your contributions and donations. Many thanks and Blessings! (This institution is an equal opportunity provider.)

PARISH LIFE: Please Join us for our annual Parish Picnic on Sunday September 10th at 430pm at Pen Park Pavilion 3. It will also be a potluck so please bring a dish (or two!) to share. See you there! SAVE THE DATE: Please join us for a potluck dinner in celebration of the Feast of the Archangels on Friday September 29th at 5pm in the basement. Please bring a dish to share! See Flocknote to sign up. THE WORKS OF MERCY: Our mission is to strengthen our parish community through the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. Email Sharon Dudley at mercy@holycomforterparish.org for more information about joining our mission to visit/pray for the ill & recovering, and the parish homebound.

WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED: Parishioners are invited to drop in and learn more about Walking with Mom's In Need, at our station at the Parish picnic on Sunday, September 10. We would love to share information with you. We will also assemble in the Commons after the 11:00 am Mass on September 24, and will be present at the ministry fair after each of the October 15 Masses. For information about our ministry, please contact Garrett Smith at (434) 960-7775 or gsmith@garrettsmithlaw.com, and for general information please visit www.walkingwithmoms.com.

HAITI: Planning for the Hope for Haiti Golf is THREE Sundays away From tee time! Father Walter will be there! Please email Dan at DMW9V@uvahealth.org or 434-243-6047. St. Michel School starts on 11 September; sponsors are needed. Your donation or sponsorship feeds the hungry and educates the child. You may use the Parish Giving and choose Haiti.Pray for Haiti and Saltadare.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

EUCHARISTIC MIRACLES EXHIBIT Oct. 20-22 - SAVE THE DATE! Your

Parish Council, responding to Father's desire to deepen our knowledge of, and love for Christ in the Eucharist, will present a display on Eucharistic Miracles of the World, compiled by Blessed Carlo Acutis. A first class relic of Blessed Carlo will also be available for veneration. Details to follow. For more information contact John Allison, johncatworth@yahoo.com or see this article:

<u>https://www.catholicherald.com/article/local/eucharistic-miracles-</u> of-the-world-exhibition-starts-may-13/

THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND, OFFICE FOR EVANGELIZATION, is seeking a Program/Marriage Preparation Coordinator and an Associate Director of Christian Formation. For the full ad and how to apply, please go to <u>https://bit.ly/44ACWfL</u>. THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND, OFFICE FOR EVANGELIZATION & OFFICE FOR SOCIAL MINISTRY is seeking an Administrative Assistant. For the full ad and how to apply, go to <u>https://bit.ly/3PoZzzk</u>. For any questions, please contact Kelly Shumate, HR Generalist / Recruiter at jobs@richmonddiocese.org.

Catholic Church of the Holy Comforter | Charlottesville, Virginia

### THIS YEAR'S "EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL, PART III Communion, Vertical and Horizontal

John Bugbee

Last week we were asking how belief in the real transformation of the Eucharistic bread and wine might make us prepared to act differently, and we began looking at the earliest written account of the Lord's Supper, the one in First Corinthians. In that passage Paul is addressing two different practical problems relevant to the small assembly of Christians in Corinth. Chapter 10 is the conclusion of Paul's long and complex answer to the question of whether it is permissible to eat food that has been used as a ceremonial sacrifice to pagan idols. Chapter 11 turns to a problem with some uncharitable behavior happening within the community.

The first discussion gives rise to the famous verse (10:16) that Catholics of all stripes have sung, many times, in one hymn or another: "The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a *koinōnía* of Christ's blood? The bread that we break, is it not a *koinōnía* of Christ's body?" I mentioned last week that that key Greek word has a number of possible meanings, and that looking into them can help us discover what belief in the Eucharistic transformation must mean. All of the possibilities are rooted in some notion of commonness, of having something in common, but that leaves a range of options: 'participation'? 'fellowship'? 'sharing'? 'communion'?

The meaning unquestionably present in Chapter 10 is frankly staggering, if one stops to consider it; but many of us have heard it so often that it has lost its shock value. Paul clearly wants to say that the wine is a 'participation,' a taking-part, in Christ's blood. What that means to him is not obvious, and the ideal next step, a full discussion of the problem about food offered to idols, won't fit on this page. But the short version is that Paul says that eating such food can be permitted, since idols are merely human creations and have no power of their own — but *only* if eating the food won't scandalize any onlookers who are not certain about that fact.

That does not yet tell us, of course, what this 'taking part in Christ's blood' really means. Paul does not spell it out here, but another famous line from his *second* discussion, in Chapter 11, shows at least part of what he has in mind. Immediately after his quick description of the Lord's Supper (vv.23–25), he adds a conclusion: "For however many times you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the death of the Lord, until he comes" (26). A person who takes this meal "unworthily," he goes on to say, will be "liable for the Lord's body and blood" (27).

That is what is staggering: both verses indicate that what Christian communicants 'take part' in is this awful event, this bloody murder of the one human among all humans who definitively had done nothing deserving of death. The implications are heavy. First of all, this participation must mean that we should be ready to suffer, to undergo things done to us by others, things that we would never spontaneously choose — even if they hurt quite a lot; ultimately even if they kill us. But we can hope, secondly, that we are participating in something else too: on the other side of the Passion is the Resurrection, and Christ's followers from early on have thought of the two events as inseparable. In that case our sharing in, our deep connection to, this center-of-the-world event suggests a two-sided wisdom. Suffering is real, unavoidable, and not to be denied. But we trust it is not the final word.

That understanding of the Eucharistic *koinōnía* is, so to speak, 'vertical': it is about our sharing in, coming to have something in common with, Christ. The other major possibility puts more emphasis on the 'horizontal' dimension, the commonality among believers who share the sacrament. It emerges more clearly from Paul's discussion in Chapter 11. Actually it would be more accurate to say that it *is* that discussion, since Paul's whole goal is to correct some practices that have made the Lord's Supper a source of division (or 'schism,' 11:18) rather than of unity. If anyone is tempted to

think of this horizontal dimension as of minor importance - to think that as long as all is in order between me and Christ, it does not matter if there is serious disagreement or hostility between me and my fellow Christians — he or she should read Chapter 11 again. For Paul, such a situation fundamentally contradicts what the sacrament is, to such a depth that he can say (v.20) that when the Corinthians gather in such a way, they are no longer eating the Lord's Supper at all! Besides, if one looks closely, the demand for horizontal sharing has been present all along, inseparable from the vertical sharing. It was already embedded in Paul's answer to the question about eating sacrificed food: what finally determines a yes or no is not something about the food, but the effect the eating would have on one's fellow Christians. And even before this, immediately after the verse about koinonía that got us started, Paul has stressed horizontal unity right along with the vertical: "Because the bread is one, we, the many, are one body, for we all partake of the one bread" (10:17).

So if we want to know how the Eucharistic transformation asks us to act differently, here are two ways. We are called to give up our own wills, to be ready to suffer and ultimately to die; and we are called to strive for union, for generous and genuine love, with all our fellow Christians. If we take those last four words seriously we will have to think hard about which calling is more difficult! If all means all - if it means that lady in the next pew whom I heard making a really withering comment four years ago; that former business associate who still won't settle his debts square - if it means Those People who think of themselves as Christians but routinely vote for a political party that I dislike; or the people who go to That Other Mass and whose liturgical preferences leave me cold then nearly all of us have work to do. No less than the Corinthians, we live in a church that has its painful divisions. (Too often our divisions simply track the unimaginative feuds of our national politics!) From the earliest years the church has known that we must, in some sense, get over such divisions; that if our vertical 'communion' with Christ and the Trinity is going to have any chance at being real, it absolutely requires horizontal 'communion' with our fellow communicants. That doesn't tell us how to make it happen, nor even, in any great detail, what the result looks like. Presumably it will not mean that all Catholics should join the same political party, or develop identical desires about the liturgy. But at very least it suggests that our allegiance to the 'body of Christ' - to this community of people united by the Eucharist in an attempt to follow, and become unified with, Jesus - should count for more than those other loyalties.

That may, in a funny way, increase our ability to look squarely at those subsidiary disagreement. If I am forbidden from simply writing my fellow communicant off as an idiot, I will have to go about the much more difficult business of trying to understand how he finds value in those idiotic political opinions (or liturgical preferences) of his. And *that* means that at some level, even if (at first) only mentally, I will have to change. Which is at least one thing that the Eucharistic transformation — of the bread and wine into Body and Blood, and of us believers into Christ's Body — is all about.

1. Romans 6:8–9: "If we have died with Christ, we believe that we also will live with him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more..." And many theological writers will say that the body and blood that become present in the Eucharist are the body and blood of the *resurrected* Christ.\

A third option: *koinōnia* can also mean a *pledge* or external *sign* of fellowship, like the 'contribution' of Rom 15:26 and 2 Cor 9:13.
Similarly the Vatican II document *Lumen gentium* links the two kinds of sharing into a joint center of Christian life: "If we continue to love one another and to join in praising the Most Holy Trinity . . . we will be faithful to deepest vocation of the church" (sec. 51; cf. *Catechism* 775, 959, 1108).



For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com