



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

DECEMBER 3, 2023

CONNECT WITH US

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Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

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🌐 hollycomforterparish.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	7-8 PM
First Friday	7-8 PM

CONFESSION

Mon, Weds, Fri	6:30-7:30 PM
Thursday	6:30-8 PM
First Friday	7 PM
Sunday	1:30 PM

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9 AM - 4 PM

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



Pastor

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

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Henry Vinklerek
deaconhenry@hollycomforterparish.org

Administrative Business Manager

Mary Frances Lilly
office@hollycomforterparish.org

Receptionist/Office Assistant

Melinda Crews
reception@hollycomforterparish.org

Director of Liturgy and Music

Daniel Kirkland
music@hollycomforterparish.org

Director of Religious Education

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

Outreach

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

MINISTRIES

Finance Council	Gary Krutul gkrutul@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@svdp-ht.org
Works of Mercy and Funerals	mercy@hollycomforterparish.org
Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound	Alicia Vinklerek communionvisit@hollycomforterparish.org
Wedding Coordinator	Heather Burns weddings@hollycomforterparish.org
Regina Caeli Homeschool Co-op	Samantha Van Dyke samantha.kepler@gmail.com
Parish Life	Elizabeth Gilbert parishlife@hollycomforterparish.org
High School Youth Group	Emily Pierson youthgroup@hollycomforterparish.org
Website	Erin Ferguson & Mona Peglow webmaster@hollycomforterparish.org
Building and Grounds	Ed Mickiewicz
Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Heather Burns
Haiti	Ginny Zeller
Lectors	Matt Freeman
Offertory Counters	Lee Faust lfaust@comcast.net
Sacristans	Suzanne Bailey
Uganda	Theresa Lynch
Ushers	Dennis Dougherty

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

That the hearts and minds of those called to serve the Lord as priests and religious brothers and sisters will be enriched in Christ and prayerfully graced with abundant spiritual gifts to serve Him, 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.

PRAYER & WORSHIP



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (12/2)

8 AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (12/3) First Sunday of Advent

Altar Flowers donated by Melinda

Crews in Memory of Her Sister,

Deborah Okada

8:30 AM Mass

9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation

11 AM Mass RCIA Rite of Acceptance

Catechumens Brian Hess and Sydney Tapscott

12:30-1:30 PM RCIA

4:30 PM Saint Nicholas Celebration Potluck

MONDAY (12/4)

10:30-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

TUESDAY (12/5)

7 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY (12/6)

7 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

7 PM Choir

THURSDAY (12/7)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6 PM Vigil Mass Immaculate Conception

7 PM Compline and Adoration

FRIDAY (12/8) Immaculate Conception

12 PM Mass

SATURDAY (12/9)

8 AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (12/10) Second Sunday of

Advent

Altar Flowers donations are

appreciated

8:30 AM Mass

9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation

11 AM Mass

12:30-1:30 PM RCIA

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 (3x) 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.

12/5 Saint Sabas

12/6 Saint Nicholas

12/7 Saint Ambrose

12/8 Immaculate Conception the
Blessed Virgin Mary

12/9 Saint Juan Diego

12/10 Blessed Adolph Kolping

NEW 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@holyccomforterparish.org

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY (12/2)

8 AM Pat and John Conaway, Jeff McMullen and Catherine Allen
(Gina Petroni and Mark Conaway)

5 PM Members of the Parish

SUNDAY (12/3)

8:30 AM Thanksgiving to God for all Blessings

11 AM RCIA Catechumens Brian Hess and Sydney Tapscott

MONDAY (12/4)

12 PM † Robert Herron (Jack Engler)

TUESDAY (12/5)

7 AM In Thanksgiving for Dominique Faust and her life (Lee Faust and Family)

WEDNESDAY (12/6)

7 AM In Thanksgiving for Dominique Faust and her life (Lee Faust and Family)

THURSDAY (12/7)

6 PM In Thanksgiving for Dominique Faust and her life (Lee Faust and Family)

FRIDAY (12/8)

12 PM In Thanksgiving for Dominique Faust and her life (Lee Faust and Family)

SATURDAY (12/9)

8 AM In Thanksgiving for Dominique Faust and her life (Lee Faust and Family)

5 PM In Thanksgiving for Dominique Faust and her life (Lee Faust and Family)

SUNDAY (12/10)

8:30 AM Members of the Parish

11 AM In Thanksgiving for Dominique Faust and her life (Lee Faust and Family)

SAINTS OF GOD

Blessed are You

12/2 Blessed Rafal Chylinski

12/3 Saint Francis Xavier

12/4 Saint John Damascene

PARISH NEWS



GIFTS FROM GOD

WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 19, 2023

Offertory	\$5,401
Weekly Offertory Budget	(\$8,750)
<i>Below Weekly Budget</i>	\$3,349

Due to an early publication deadline, the Offertory Report for Week Ending November 26, 2023 will appear in next week's Bulletin.

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 NOVEMBER

ALL MONTH Christian Formation + Haiti + Justice and Peace
12/08/2023 Feast of the Immaculate Conception
12/10/2023 Outreach
12/24/2023 Maintenance Fund
11/25/2023 Catholic Charities

ANNUAL REPORT Please pick up a copy of our Parish Annual Report in the Commons or read it on our website or in Flocknote.

STOCK DONATION INSTRUCTIONS

Your firm can send the shares through the Depository Trust Company (DTC) to Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Here are the details: **Schwab's DTC number:** 0164

Account Name: HOLY COMFORTER CATHOLIC CHURCH
Account Number: 2162-7521

IRA QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS If you have an IRA and are 72 years of age, you can make a tax-free charitable gift directly from your Individual Retirement Account to our parish of up to \$100,000. **It helps you and it helps us.**

- **How it helps you:** it can lower your taxable income and count towards your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) .
- **How it helps us:** we can put your gift to use right away to support our parish operations and the good works of our ministries.

LITURGICAL NOTES

Entrance: Unto you have I lifted up my soul. O my God, I trust in you, let me not be put to shame; do not allow my enemies to laugh at me; for none of those who are awaiting you will be disappointed.

Offertory: Unto you, O Lord, have I lifted up my soul; O my God, I trust in you, let me not be put to shame; do not allow my enemies to laugh at me; for none of those who are awaiting you will be disappointed.

Communion: The Lord will bestow his loving kindness, and our land will yield its fruit.

Now begins the time of expectant waiting for the coming of the Lord, manifested firstly in a lowly manger in time and then as the triumphant King of all creation at the end of time. At the beginning of this season, the Church calls us to persevere in doing good as we await that glorious Second Coming at the end when the good will be rewarded with beatitude and the wicked with damnation. We must take care of our souls and cultivate an abiding trust in God's Providence, even when we do not see Him clearly acting in our lives. Hence the Church offers us Psalm 24 (25) in the Entrance and Offertory Antiphons as a prayer of the heart: "let me not be put to shame[...for none[...]]awaiting you will be disappointed." Let us learn to rely on God in all things and let Him be our strength in weariness because His very Self will be the reward of the Blessed. If He is everything to us now when we have so many other things pulling at our hearts, how much happier will we be when all tribulations fade away in eternity as dreams and we are left with the One Who satisfies every good desire of our hearts and INFINITELY more! Come, Lord Jesus, and save Your people.

Daniel Kirkland, Director of Liturgy and Music

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

ADVENT IS COMING!!! SAVE THE DATES!!!

- ♦ **Sunday, Dec. 3, 9:45AM-10:45AM: Advent Presentation by Brian and Darlene Beard**
- ♦ **Sunday, Dec. 3, 2023, 4:00PM: Saint Nicholas Celebration/Potluck**
- ♦ **Sunday, Dec. 17, 2023, 10:15AM: Children's Christmas Eve Pageant Rehearsal**
- ♦ **Sunday, Dec. 24, 9:45AM: Children's Christmas Eve Pageant Rehearsal**
- ♦ **Sunday, Dec. 24, 4:30PM: Children's Christmas Eve Pageant**
Posada event to be announced...Everyone is invited!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Second Sunday Of Advent

First Reading Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

Isaiah tells the people to prepare a way for the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 85:9-14

The Lord's salvation is near.

Second Reading 2 Peter 3:8-14

Peter teaches that we must always be holy because the return of the Lord cannot be predicted.

Gospel Reading Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist preached repentance and baptized the people, in preparation for the one who would baptize with the Holy Spirit.

December 3, First Sunday of Advent

PARISH NEWS



PLEASE PRAY FOR

PARISHIONERS

(Includes ill, injured, homebound, and caregivers.) Eileen Bracuti, Stephanie Crews, 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 Vinklerek, Mary Wheeler, Denise Wilcox, Sara Winter, and Charlie Anne Xavier.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Charlotte, Kent and Brittney Anderson, Leroy Anderson and Felicia Anderson, Blandine Attey, Fr. Dan Bain, Christine Bentejac, Maureen Bradley, B. 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, Karen Allison Monger, 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 or reception@holycomforterparish.org



If you would like to help, please join us at 7 pm on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month at the Church of the Incarnation. Please join us! For more information about our ministry or to donate, please visit our website at www.svdp-ht.org or email us at info@svdp-ht.org. Thank you! As members of the Society, we seek to bring personally, in a truly brotherly or sisterly and self-less spirit, some moral and material help to our neighbors in affliction, whether from destitution, sickness, unemployment, or imprisonment. **Give the Gift of Light this Christmas** - As we enjoy the warmth and glow of our bright Christmas lights, many families are facing the possibility of not having electricity in their homes. A donation to our St. Vincent de Paul Holy Trinity Conference will help us to provide utility cost assistance. You can bring some light and warmth to local families in need this Christmas. Advent Blessings!

MINISTRIES

OUTREACH: We continue to feed our neighbors in Food Pantry on Mon, Tues and Wed 10:30am - 12:30pm and serving lunch during Soup Kitchen on Thurs from 12-1pm. We appreciate your generous support of Outreach through your donations and contributions this year. Thank you and have blessed Advent season. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

Advent Toy and Gift Drive: Holy Comforter is participating in the Salvation Army Angel Tree and Stocking Stuffer Programs. Please buy a toy for a child ages Newborn - 12-years old or a gift for child 13- to 17-years old. Return the unwrapped gifts to the box at Church no later than **Friday, Dec 15**. Thank you for sharing the joy of Christmas with a child! Thank you!

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 info about joining our mission to visit/pray for the ill & recovering, and parish homebound.

WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED: The Walking With Moms In Need ministry will hold a meetings on December 10 at 10:00 a.m. and at 12:30 p.m. in the stairwell library below the Commons. For information about our ministry, please contact Garrett Smith gsmith@garrettsmithlaw.com or call (434) 960-7775. General info; visit www.walkingwithmoms.com.

HAITI: Hoping everyone had a pleasant and Happy Thanksgiving. Father Asmith wanted me to pass on his thanks for the warm welcome received at last week's Sunday Masses. Also thank you for supporting the St. Michel students by providing their sponsorships. We have many things to be thankful for, that is not the case in Haiti. Sponsorship, helping feed and educate a child, does give a ray of hope to the child and family. We have been at this ministry for forty years and we have seen vast improvements in our twin parish, physically, and in the medical system, clinic, and educational, St. Michels. This is through the kindness and caring of Holy Comforter. Thank you and please pray for Haiti.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our annual Lessons & Carols Concert will take place on **Sunday, December 17 at 4:30pm**. Dinner will be provided, please bring a festive dessert! If you plan to attend the dinner *please RSVP in the Flocknote*.

Boy Scout Troop 17 invites young men ages 10-18 and their parents/guardians, to our upcoming open house Tuesday December 5th, 7:00-8:30, in the Stone Chapel at Church of the Incarnation Are you interested in facilitating outdoor skills, STEM skills, adventure, launching 6-foot rockets, citizenship, and preparing your boys to become independent and mature young men? If the answer is **YES**, then the Boy Scouts of America has just the program you are seeking. Troop 17 is one of the oldest troops in Charlottesville and chartered by the Church of the Incarnation. Please visit our website: <http://www.troop17bsa.org/>. For information, contact John Gilday, corriganwolfe@gmail.com.

FROM THE PASTOR



ADVENT 2023

LET US GET READY FOR THE SAVIOR

Part I

Very Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi, V.F.

“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

John 1:29

Advent is a very special time of the year that sometimes gets lost in the bright lights of the Christmas season it precedes. The first day of Advent is the first day of a new Liturgical (or church) year and begins a four-week period of preparation for the nativity of Jesus Christ at Christmas. It prepares us to be open to the gifts that come with this season, particularly hope and expectation. We encounter what happens when we taste our longing and can say, "Come, Lord, Jesus" at a deeper and more personal level.

There is more to Advent than just preparing for Christmas, however. More than simply preparing us to be in a state of readiness, Advent can also draw us into the mystery of being one who is called to prepare the way for Jesus, in our world, for others. The Advent Season is all about reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth in the world as it is today. It is a time for faith communities and families to remember, through prayer, reflections, special music, and good deeds what the true meaning of Jesus' birth is. There are many different Christian traditions associated

with the season, which I may not get into details.

While we reflect on this gift of God to humanity, "His coming to dwell among us", like John the Baptist, we don't call attention to ourselves. We point the way to Jesus. We say, *"Look, there he is."* *"Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!"* When we point the way to Jesus, Who is mercy, we become ambassadors of His mercy. One of the most effective ways we can do this is to let ourselves not only be filled with the good news personally but to let ourselves fall in love with Jesus – to fall in love with His story, His example, His way of being, His trust in the Father, His parables, His healing presence. Everything about Jesus becomes more and more attractive to us. We come to Him and learn from Him. Our very being "proclaims the greatness of our God".

Advent points us to Jesus, the fulfillment of the Messianic era, the Kingdom of God. At His first coming, which we celebrate at Christmas, Jesus showed us His humility, His love for us, and His heart of grace toward sinners and those who suffer. At His second coming, which we look forward to in Advent, He will complete what He started at his birth, bringing a final end to suffering, sin, and death, restoring His creation, and setting up a new kingdom of righteousness and peace. "God keeps his promises" indeed. He comes to deliver us from every evil that upsets our relationship with God and with one another.

Let us open our hearts to Jesus. May we not be like the innkeeper who had no room for Jesus. May our focus not be on the busyness and rushing in the holiday season or on buying and receiving gifts. Instead, let's focus our minds on the miracle of when our Savior was born in a lowly stable and held in the arms of His virgin mother and the eternal peace that was ushered in along with His birth. May Christ give us a longing for His renewed presence among us.

To be Continued...

Should you have any questions about our Catholic Faith, please contact Melinda Wells, DRE, at dre@holyccomforterparish.org.

December 3, First Sunday of Advent

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