



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

JANUARY 7, 2024

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	5 PM
Sunday	8:30 AM & 11 AM
Monday + Friday	12 PM
<i>(except First Friday)</i>	
Tuesday-Wednesday	7 AM
Thursday + First Friday	6 PM
Saturday	8 AM

ADORATION

Thursday	7-8 PM
First Friday	7-8 PM

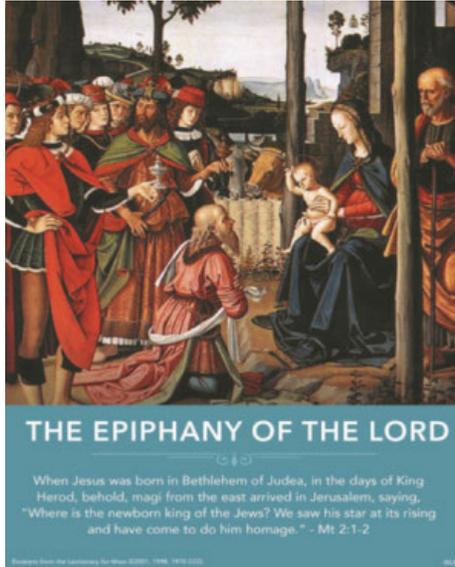
CONFESSION

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

Office Hours

Monday-Friday	9 AM - 4 PM
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Please Send Bulletin Submissions
by 3PM Mondays to
dre@holycomforterparish.org



Pastor

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

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Henry Vinklerek
deaconhenry@holycomforterparish.org

Administrative Business Manager

Mary Frances Lilly
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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

Soup Kitchen: Thurs 12PM

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@holycomforterparish.org
- Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound** Alicia Vinklerek
communionvisit@holycomforterparish.org
- Wedding Coordinator** Heather Burns
weddings@holycomforterparish.org
- Regina Caeli Homeschool Co-op** Samantha Van Dyke
samantha.kepler@gmail.com
- Parish Life** Elizabeth Gilbert
parishlife@holycomforterparish.org
- High School Youth Group** Emily Pierson
youthgroup@holycomforterparish.org
- Website** Erin Ferguson & Mona Peglow
webmaster@holycomforterparish.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

The Epiphany - January 7, 2024

That our young people will be open to their unique vocation through prayer and will adore Christ the King by their faithfulness to His call,
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 (1/6)

9:30 AM Epiphany/Deacon Henry Retirement Celebration Potluck

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (1/7) EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Christmas Flowers donated by Parishioners

8:30 AM Mass

9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation

10 AM Walking with Moms Ministry

11:00 AM Mass

12:15 PM Walking with Moms Ministry

12:30 PM RCIA

4:30 PM Youth Group

MONDAY (1/8)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

TUESDAY (1/9)

7 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY (1/10)

7 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

7 PM Choir

THURSDAY (1/11)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6 PM Mass

7-8 PM Adoration and Confession

FRIDAY (1/12)

12 PM Mass

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

SATURDAY (1/13)

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (1/14) SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Christmas Flowers donated by Parishioners

8:30 AM Mass

9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation

11:00 AM Mass

12:30 PM RCIA

4:40 PM Youth Group

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

1/9 Saint Adrian of Canterbury

1/10 Saint Gregory of Nyssa

1/11 Blessed William Carter

1/12 Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys

1/13 Saint Hillary of Poitiers

1/14 Saint Gregory Nazienzen

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@holycomforterparish.org

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY (1/6)

5 PM Members of the Parish

SUNDAY (1/7)

8:30 AM † Catherine and † Peter Colo (Marlene Wood)

11 AM † Jane Till Danilek

MONDAY (1/8)

12 PM Vincent Nguyin (Thuy Vu)

TUESDAY (1/9)

7 AM Maria Nguyin (Thuy Vu)

WEDNESDAY (1/10)

7 AM Lannon Family (Fr. Joseph Mary)

THURSDAY (1/11)

6 PM Stewart Family (Fr. Joseph Mary)

FRIDAY (1/12)

12 PM Karafa Family (Fr. Joseph Mary)

SATURDAY (1/13)

8 AM Kulick Family (Fr. Joseph Mary)

5 PM Anderson Family (Fr. Joseph Mary)

SUNDAY (1/14)

8:30 AM Members of the Parish

SAINTS OF GOD *Blessed are You*

1/6 Saint Andre Bessette

1/7 Saint Raymond of Penafort

1/8 Saint Angela Foligno

PARISH NEWS



GIFTS FROM GOD

WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 24 , 2023

Offertory	\$19,046
Weekly Offertory Budget	(\$8,750)
Above Weekly Budget	\$10,296

WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

Offertory	\$3,780
Weekly Offertory Budget	(\$8,750)
Below Weekly Budget	(\$4,970)

Thank you for your generous financial support of our parish throughout 2023. These contributions are of tremendous assistance to our overall Parish operations and the good works of our ministries. May God bless you abundantly in the new year!

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 JANUARY

- ALL MONTH** Catholic Virginian + Christian Formation + Justice and Peace
- 1/01/2024** Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- 1/14/2024** Outreach
- 1/21/2024** Respect Life
- 1/28/2024** Maintenance Fund

LITURGICAL NOTES

Entrance: Behold, the Sovereign Lord is coming; kingship, government and power are in his hands.

Offertory: The kings of Tarshish and the islands shall offer presents; the kings of the Arabians and of Sheba shall bring gifts; all the kings of the earth shall adore him, all nations shall serve him.

Communion: We have seen his star in the East, and we have come with our gifts, to worship the Lord.

The Epiphany (Greek for "manifestation") commemorates Christ's self-revelation to the Gentiles or non-Jews in the persons of the Magi, signifying that His saving mission was ultimately for the benefit of the whole world. Early in the Church's history, this holyday also traditionally commemorated Christ's manifestations at the wedding at Cana and the baptism in the Jordan, forming a triptych of Jesus' revelations of His Divinity. Today, the Magi offering their gifts to the newborn Lord are a sign of the submission of the entire world to the dominion of Jesus Christ. He came not only to save Israel from their bondage to sin but the whole world. Christ's mission of overcoming the power of sin began with the fulfillment of the Old Law with all its precepts and was then widened in scope with the New Law to include renewal of the heart. This is why the Antiphons for this Sunday speak of both the historical adoration of the Magi and the coming age when "all the kings of the earth shall adore him". Jesus won back creation by the shedding of His precious Blood, and it is left to us to cooperate with Him in reclaiming the souls of our neighbors for the Kingdom. At the end, everything and everyone will be subject to Him; let us find consolation and joy in this reality and never lose heart in our efforts to evangelize! *Daniel Kirkland, Director of Liturgy and Music*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

Happy Epiphany Sunday!

*May you experience the joy and peace
in the gift of Christ's Real Presence,
and share His love with others!*

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

1 Samuel 3:3b-10,19
The Lord calls Samuel.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10
A prayer of commitment to follow the will of the Lord.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a,17-20 Paul reminds the Corinthians that their bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit.

Gospel

John 1:35-42
John the Baptist recognizes Jesus as the Lamb of God, and Jesus receives his first followers.

January 7, Epiphany of Our Lord

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, Charlie Anne Xavier and family, and Mary Ann Ziminski.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Charlotte, Kent and Brittney Anderson, Leroy Anderson and Felicia Anderson, Fr. Stephen Arabadjis, Blandine Attey, Fr. Dan Bain, Christine Bentejac, Maureen Bradley, Mary Caretti, 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



"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you...yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand." – Mother Teresa. As we celebrate this blessed and holy season, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Holy Trinity Conference shares the hope your support to brings to our neighbors in need. Thank you! You are invited to join us in our journey to prepare the way of the Lord by helping the needy in our community. May your heart be open to God's call to service to help our neighbors in need. We meet at 7 pm on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month at the Church of the Incarnation. If you would like more information about our conference, or if you would like to donate, please visit our website at www.svdp-ht.org or email us at info@svdp-ht.org

MINISTRIES

OUTREACH: Thank you, parishioners, abundantly for your generous contributions and donations to the Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen during the 2023 year! Wishing you a blessed New Year! USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

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.

PARISH LIFE: Epiphany-Saturday January 6th we will have an Epiphany Party Breakfast Potluck at 9:30am **AND we will also be celebrating the retirement of Deacon Henry. Please bring a dish to share! Sign up in flocknote.**

WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED: The Walking with Moms in Need ministry will meet on the first and third Sundays of January at 10:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. (January 7 and 21) in the stairwell library in the Commons. Contact Garrett Smith gsmith@garrettsmithlaw.com (434) 960-7775. www.walkingwithmoms.com.

HAITI: This is the first Sunday of the New Year and a time of resolutions and hope. What you and your ministry are currently providing is support to Saltadare, a village, that houses our twin parish church, pre-K through 13th grade college (School), and clinic. Possibly our prayers, example, and aid, whether spiritual, physical, or material will provide what is needed. **OUR FIRST RESOLUTION IS SPIRITUAL, THAT IS TO PRAY FOR HAITI AND ST. MICHEL.** Our next resolution is the following; we currently have over seven hundred students, but only 535 are sponsored. We set a goal to have those students 165 students sponsored by June 31. Thank you so much for your support and consideration to support. Please pray for Haiti and Saltadare.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is an urgent need for sacristans who can launder and iron our easy-care altar cloths and to change the cloths with each liturgical season. If you can serve the parish in this special way, please contact the office or Suzanne Bailey at (434) 326-3166 or slank@ntelos.net.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: ASSISTANT COORDINATOR OF CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN FORMATION Church of the Incarnation has an opening for a bilingual Assistant Coordinator in the Children's Christian Formation Program. Primarily would serve the Spanish-speaking families and catechists in the children's religious education program and sacraments. 10 hour/week position, with daytime, weekend, and occasional nighttime hours required. If you are interested, please visit the Parish Office or Contact: Missy Bishop, Coordinator of Children's Christian Formation, via email at missyb@incarnationparish.org or call the office at (434) 973-4381.

FROM THE PASTOR



CLOSE YOUR EYES- OPEN YOUR EARS TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Part I

Very Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi, V.F.

**“When the angel entered Mary’s home, he greeted her and said, “You are favored by the Lord! The Lord is with you.”
Luke 1:28**

Pope Francis has announced that the Church will celebrate a JUBILEE YEAR IN 2025 with the theme of **“Pilgrims of Hope.”** In preparation for the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis is asking Catholics to prepare by dedicating time in the following manner:

- ◆ 2023: Study the documents of the Second Vatican Council.
- ◆ 2024: Focus on prayer.

As we enter into the new year 2024, in response to the announcement of the Holy Father, here at Holy Comforter, we will take on the theme of Prayer by prayerfully becoming more attentive to the Word of God as the Holy Spirit works in our lives. Thus; **“We close our eyes But open our ears to the Holy Spirit”.** We have for our teacher, the Blessed Virgin Mary who was attentive to the communications of God and because the Holy Spirit was attentive to her, she was able to respond to the voice of God, the WORD BECAME FLESH.

On our spiritual journey, listening to the Holy Spirit and hearing

God's voice are so important to nurturing our faith and making wise decisions. This practice involves tuning in to God's divine guidance and wisdom that He imparts through the Holy Spirit. If we're eager to improve our ability to hear His voice, here are some indispensable steps we can start with.

Becoming aware of the presence of God in our Worship:

Engaging in heartfelt worship through songs, prayers, and meditation not only brings you closer to God but also creates an atmosphere conducive to hearing His voice. When you immerse yourself in worship, your heart becomes more receptive to the whispers of the Holy Spirit. As you express your adoration and surrender, you open the door for divine communication.

Practicing the presence of God means for us to cultivate constant awareness of Jesus' presence as he promised, “I will be with you till the end of time”. As we go about our daily tasks, staying in a constant state of awareness that Jesus is present with us-- especially through Holy Spirit, in the Eucharist, and in your fellow Christians. This peaked focus builds a receptive culture in our hearts and minds, a conducive environment for hearing His guidance.

Scriptures are our treasure box of divine wisdom and truth.

Regularly reading and meditating on the Bible helps us familiarize ourselves with God's voice, character, promises, and His ways. As we dive into the Word, we become sharper in recognizing God's voice. The more we immerse ourselves in His Word, the clearer His voice becomes. If we know Jesus' basic truths, when we hear a voice, we will know whether it is within His teachings or not. John 10:27 says, “My sheep listen to my voice, I know them, and they follow me” with regard to being fooled by another voice

Clear communication with God can be hindered by unresolved issues in your relationship with God OR with your neighbor, i.e. unconfessed sin OR holding on to anger! Asking God to reveal areas in need of repentance is a crucial step in the process of hearing His voice. When we acknowledge and repent (repent and believe the gospel) we create a space for unhindered communion with God. Confession and repentance open our hearts' channels through which the Holy Spirit can guide us without any hindrance. “If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened” (Psalm 66:18).

To be Continued...

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

January 7, Epiphany of Our Lord

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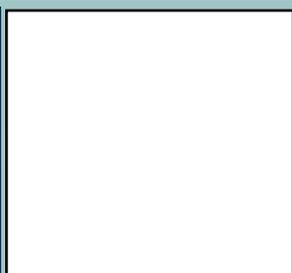
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