

HOLY COMFORTER

MARCH 31, 2024

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208 East Jefferson Street Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

C 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

(except First Friday)

Tuesday + Wednesday 8AM*
Thursday* + First Friday 6 PM
Saturday 8 AM`

*See Bulletin Calendar for Easter Octave

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 7-8 PM
Sunday 1:30 PM

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9 AM - 4 PM

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



Pastor

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

Deacon (Retired)

Rev. Mr. Henry Vinklarek

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

Soup Kitchen: Thurs 12PM-1PM

MINISTRIES

Finance Council Gary Krutul

gkrutul@sncomm.com

Pastoral Council Maria-Andrea Gerling Ospina

maria.ospina@gmail.com

Altar Servers Jackson Kulick

Jackson@brgtshirts.com

Religious Education Committee Suzanne Bailey

slank@ntelos.net

Social Ministries Chuck McCurdy

St. Vincent de Paul (434) 226-8022

Holy Trinity Conference info@svdp-ht.org

St. John Vianney Vocations Ministry

Paula Ospina paula.ospina.0616@gmail.com

Works of Mercy and Funerals

mercy@holycomforterparish.org

Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound Alicia Vinklarek 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 heather@holycomforterparish.org
Haiti Ginny Zeller
Lectors Matt Freeman
Offertory Counters Lee Faust

Ifaust@comcast.net

Sacristans Suzanne Bailey

slank@ntelos.net

Uganda Theresa Lynch

Ushers Dennis Dougherty

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 (3/30) HOLY **SATURDAY**

8 AM Tenebrae

8 PM Easter Vigil Mass Following Mass, Parish Reception for Newly Initiated, Brian Hess. (Commons)

SUNDAY (3/31) EASTER SUNDAY

9 AM Mass

11:00 AM Mass

MONDAY (4/1)

OFFICE CLOSED

No Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

TUESDAY (4/2)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

WEDNESDAY (4/3)

12 PM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

THURSDAY (4/4)

12 PM Mass

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

FRIDAY (4/5) FIRST FRIDAY

6 PM Mass

7-8 PM Adoration and Confession SATURDAY (4/6)

8 AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (4/7)

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

8:30 AM Mass

11 AM Mass

12:30 PM RCIA

3 PM Divine Mercy Holy Hour

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 12 PM Darlene Sacco (Peter Saaco) already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

4/3 Saint Benedict the African

4/4 Saint Isadore of Seville

4/5 Saint Vincent Ferrer

4/6 Saint Crescentia Hoess

4/7 Saint John the Baptist de La Salle

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 (3/30)

8 PM III & Homebound Members of the Parish **Brian Hess** (Melinda Wells DRE, RCIA Catechists and Parish)

SUNDAY (3/31)

9 AM John Daffy and His Family (Fr Joseph Mary)

11 AM Lee Faust and Family (Fr Joseph Mary)

MONDAY (4/1)

12 PM Kevin Haag and Family

TUESDAY (4/2)

12 PM Holy Comforter Staff and Volunteers

WEDNESDAY (4/3)

12 PM Alexis Miller (Maria Danley) Michael Ngo

THURSDAY (4/4)

Wyant Family

FRIDAY (4/5)

6 PM All Priests in Richmond Diocese

SATURDAY (4/6)

8 AM Lenon Family 5 PM † Arthur Eddleston (Sherry Schemmel) Maria-Andrea Gerling and Family

SUNDAY (4/7)

8:30 AM Members of the Parish 11 AM Gilbert Family

SAINTS OF GOD

3/30 Saint Peter Regalado 3/31 Saint Stephen of Mar Saba 4/1 Saint Hugh of Grenoble

4/2 Saint Francis of Paola

PARISH NEWS



GIFTS FROM GOD

GIFTS FROM GOD

Due to a publication deadline, our Offertory Report for the Week Ending March 24, 2024 will appear in next week's Bulletin.

SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR April

ALL MONTH Christian Formation + Haiti + Justice and Peace

4/14/2024 Catholic Relief Services

4/28/2024 Outreach

"ALL GOOD GIVING AND EVERY PERFECT GIFT IS FROM ABOVE..." James 1:17

To meet our parish annual operating expenses of \$455,000, it is necessary for our 221 registered and active families to contribute \$2,059 per year, or about \$40 per week. If you are already tithing \$40 or more per week, thank you. If you are not, but are able to, please know how much your support is needed, especially at this time. May God bless you abundantly.

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!

2024 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL:

Sharing His Love with Others

The 2024 Appeal will provide critical funding to three key areas of our Diocesan Church: Empowering the Next Generation, Providing for Those in Need, and Strengthening Catholic Communities.

Our Outreach Ministry has benefited directly from the Appeal through a Fuel and Hunger Grant, and we receive back a portion of all funds collected. Our goal this year is to raise \$25,200, and our parish share will be used for church repairs and maintenance. Brochures are available in the Church and the Commons, or scan the QR code here to contribute now.





LITURGICAL NOTES

Entrance: I am risen, and I am always with you, alleluia; you have placed your hand upon me, alleluia; your wisdom has been shown to be most wonderful, alleluia, alleluia.

Offertory: The earth trembled and was still, when God arose in judgment, alleluia.

Communion: Christ, our Paschal Lamb, has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore, let us keep the feast by sharing the unleavened bread of uprightness and truth, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Happy Easter! Christ is risen! Something we notice immediately in the music of the Church is the return in spades of the word "alleluia", a word meaning roughly "praise the LORD". It is not merely a command to praise God, though; Inherent in the word itself is a great deal of joy – hence, it was omitted during the somber season of Lent. The Church cannot contain her joy at the return of her Spouse, so we find alleluias everywhere! Also worthy of note (so many aspects of this Sunday deserve our attention!) is the psalm used for the Entrance Antiphon. Psalm 139(138) is about God's Providence for those who serve Him: "Lord, thou hast proved me and known me". Christ fulfilled all of the Psalms during His time on earth, and we, by virtue of our incorporation into His Mystical Body (the Church), share in this fulfillment, so to speak. Jesus was obedient to the Father unto death and rose thereafter; by our faithfulness, we too shall rise from death. And we are not alone because Jesus trod the path already. So let us rejoice this day that the Lord has won the victory and that we can share in that victory through perseverance and not alone. As a certain hymn says, "What a friend we have in Jesus!" Alleluia! Christ is risen! Daniel Kirkland, Director of Liturgy and music

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

Alleluía! Alleluía! He is Risen! Happy Easter!!!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

First Reading Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

The first community of Christians grows as its members meet to pray and break bread.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 118:2-4,13-15,22-24 God's love is everlasting.

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:3-9

We have new hope because of Jesus' Resurrection.

Gospel

John 20:19-31

Thomas believes because he sees Jesus.

PARISH NEWS



PLEASE PRAY FOR

PARISHIONERS

(Includes ill, injured, homebound, and caregivers.)
Ann Carothers, Sharon Dudley, Kelton Flinn, Erin Ferguson,
Eileen Foster, Jolene Green, Colette Hall, Barbara Isak, Ann
Jackson, Mary Nguyen, Ed Shaffrey, Shawn Simpson-Smith, Mae
Trentanove, Deacon Henry and Alicia Vinklarek, Mary Wheeler,
Denise Wilcox, Sara Winter, Charlie Anne Xavier and family, and
Mary Ann Ziminski.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Blanding Attey, Ben and Katherine Barahona, Mary Benfante, Christine Bentejac, Hope Brown, Max and Hadley Burch, Cora, Mary Caretti, Stephanie Crews, Jimmy Dominguez, Fr. Gerald Fogarty, Sue Gilbert, Genevieve Halfen, Kajihara Family, Betty & Tony Kapeluch, Joan Lincks, Mike & Sibylle Llewellyn, Shannon and Coty Lockett, Michael McNeil, Melodie Mougeolle and Children, Robert Maute, Lia Thoms Price and Family, Randall Saathoff and Family, Matthew Schrank and Family, David Shrank and Family, Joseph Schrank and Family, Yulia Savona, Aiden Smith, Paul and Meghan Thoms, Scotty Thoms, Brendan and Maria Walsh, Don and Lisa Wells, and Mary Ann Uzzo.

MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY

Matthew Mickiewicz, Benjamin Schrank, Elijah Schrank, Jonathan Schrank, and Joey Smith.

HOLY COMFORTER BULLETIN PRAYER LIST: In an effort to maintain the prayer lists and ensure they are current, the lists will be cleared once per quarter. If you would like your family member, or fellow parishioner added (back) to the prayer list, please email the Works of Mercy ministry at mercy@holycomforterparish.org or please call the church office at 434-295-7185.

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



Happy Easter! As we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ let's review the fruits of our Lenten season. Your generosity provided 4 mattresses, so several young

friends no longer sleep on the floor in a sleeping bag. They often can provide for their day-to-day expenses but with an unexpected illness or car repair bill are not able to make ends meet. I have grown spiritually under the leadership of Deacon Tony and in my gratitude for everything that I have been given. Thank you for your support of the Society of St Vincent de Paul during our Eastertide campaign. We regularly meet at 7 pm on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month at the Church of the Incarnation. Our next meeting will be April 2nd in the Conference Room at the Church of the Incarnation. You are welcome to attend a meeting and see if this ministry may be calling you. 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: During the month of February, the Food Pantry gave out 187 food bags to 432 individuals. We served 379 sit down meals during Soup Kitchen. We appreciate your continued support through your contributions and donations to Outreach. Thank you and have a Blessed Easter! The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. PARISH LIFE: Please rsvp in flocknote. Would you like to be more involved in the community life of Holy Comforter's Parish? Consider joining Holy Comforter's Parish Life Ministry! Email Elizabeth Gilbert, Elizgilbert@gmail.com

<u>WORKS OF MERCY:</u> We are looking for 2 individuals to bring communion to people in hospitals, nursing homes, or other residences. If interested, email mercy@holycomforterparish.org. *ACT OF MERCY:* Don Burch, a longtime parishioner, departed this life on March 10, 2024. Please pray for his eternal rest in God's abode. Funeral services will be private.

WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED MINISTRY: Walking With Moms In Need reminds you if you took home a LifeSpring baby bottle, to be generous. We have already returned several full bottles. Bottles may be returned in the Commons after Mass on Easter Sunday or on the following Sunday. A few extra bottles are available in the Commons if you missed picking one up earlier.

HAPPY EASTER FROM THE HAITI MINISTRY: Hope for Haiti Golf Tournament: May 16 is the 4th annual golf tournament. We will need volunteers on the day of the event and in the days ahead to recruit old/new sponsors. We ALSO need golfers! To join the planning committee, contact Dan Wassilchalk at dmw9v@uvahealth.org. Father Aysmith and the parish of St. Michel, thank you. St. Michel School school serves 600+ students from pre-K-HS completion. Sponsorships are \$150 per year. There are 130 unsponsored students. Please pray for Haiti! Please also pray for the repose of Joan McDonald, a dear friend and pillar of the ministry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOB OPENINGS AT CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL: seeking the following for the 2024-2025 school year: Elementary Teacher (JK-5) and a PT Elementary Spanish Teacher. Please send resume, Diocesan Application, 3 letters of reference, and a copy of your teaching license to Charlottesville Catholic School, Attn: Vada Fallica, Principal; 1205 Pen Park Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901 or via email to v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org. CCS is looking for summer maintenance help. Duties would include (but are not limited to) painting and moving classroom furniture. If you are interested in this position, please contact Frank Murphy, Business Manager, by email at f.murphy@cvillecatholic.org, or 434-964-0400.

Saint Anne Catholic School (grades PreK-8) located in Bristol, Virginia, seeks dynamic and highly qualified candidates for the position of principal beginning for the 2024-2025 school year. For the full ad and to apply please visit https://bit.ly/3tkkco7

The Catholic Diocese of Richmond is seeking a Full Time Facilities Maintenance Technician at the Pastoral Center. For the full ad and how to apply, please click here https://bit.ly/3HQzKU8. For questions, see Kelly Shumate, HR Generalist /Recruiter at jobs@richmonddiocese.org

FROM THE PASTOR





CLOSE YOUR EYES AND OPEN YOUR EARS TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Part XIII

Very Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi, V.F.

"I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will dwell in hope...

Psalms 15:8-11

Alleluia, the Lord is risen. Psalm 16:10 is a key the apostles used to defend the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord: "For you will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption." Both Peter and Paul strongly suggested that this verse looks forward to and predicts the fact that although Christ died on the cross, He did not undergo corruption and decay. This prediction, in turn, leads to the conclusion that Jesus is now alive by the resurrection on what we call Easter Sunday. This is our supreme hope as Christians.

The resurrection gives to Christians everywhere strength at every turn in life. It makes us sensitive to humanity with all its limitations, sufferings, and needs.

Resurrection has immense power to liberate, to uplift, to bring about justice, to effect holiness, to cause joy. In a true sense, joy is the keynote of the Christian message.

My wish is that the message of the Resurrection may bring joy to all who open their hearts to it. . . . Faith is our

source of joy. We believe in a God who created us so that we might enjoy human happiness—in some measure on earth, in its fullness in heaven.

We are meant to have our human joys: the joy of living, the joy of love and friendship, the joy of work well done. We who are Christians have a further cause for joy: Like Jesus, we know that we are loved by God our Father. This love transforms our lives and fills us with joy. It makes us see that Jesus did not come to lay burdens upon us. He came to teach us what it means to be fully happy and fully human. Therefore, we discover joy when we discover truth—the truth about God our Father, the truth about Jesus our Savior, the truth about the Holy Spirit who lives in our hearts.

We all have been called to accept this joy in our lives. It is given to us again each day in the Eucharist, in which the paschal mystery is renewed: in a sacramental, mystical way the sacrifice of Christ is made present with its culmination in the mystery of the resurrection. The life of grace, which we carry within us, is the life of the risen Christ. Consequently, through grace, joy beats within us, and nothing can take it away. As Jesus promised his disciples: "Your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you" (Jn. 16:22). By our baptism we rose with Christ, so we say: "Restore to me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with a willing spirit." Psalm 51:12.

To be continued...

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



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