



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

DECEMBER 15, 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
Sunday Gregorian Mass	2 PM
Monday + Friday	12 PM
Tuesday + Wednesday	8 AM
Thursday	6 PM
Saturday	8 AM

ADORATION

Monday	1-3PM
Wednesday	6-9PM
Thursday	7-8PM
Friday	1-3PM

CONFESSION

Mon, Weds, Fri	6:30-7:30 PM
Thursday	7-8 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@richmonddiocese.org

Administrative Business Manager
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office@holycomforterparish.org

Receptionist/Office Assistant
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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

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.

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
cwm@virginia.edu
- 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** Heather Burns
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
- That Man is You: Band of Brothers** Steven Sisman
steven.sisman@gmail.com
- 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
- Lectors** Matt Freeman
- Offertory Counters** Lee Faust
lfaust@comcast.net
- Sacristans** Suzanne Bailey
slank@ntelos.net
- Haiti** TBD
- Uganda** Theresa Lynch
- Ushers** Dennis Dougherty

PRAYER & WORSHIP



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (12/14)

8 AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (12/15) Third Sunday of

Advent

Second Collection: Retired Religious

Altar Flowers Donated by Therese Auger in

Honor of the Auger Family & Smith Family

8:30 AM Mass

9:45 AM-10:45 AM Christian Formation

11 AM Mass

12:30 PM RCIA (LL)

1 PM Confession

2 PM Gregorian Mass

4:30 PM Festival of Nine Lessons & Carol

Downstairs Reception following concert

MONDAY (12/16)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

1 PM-3 PM Adoration

TUESDAY 12/17

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6 PM O Antiphon Vespers

WEDNESDAY (12/18)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6-9 PM Adoration

6:30 PM Confession

7 PM O Antiphon Vespers

THURSDAY (12/19)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6 PM Mass

Followed by Adoration and Confession

6 PM O Antiphon Vespers

FRIDAY (12/20)

12 PM Mass

1 PM-3 PM Adoration

6:30 PM Confession

SATURDAY (12/21)

6 AM Rorate Mass

8 AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (12/22) Fourth Sunday of

Advent

Second Collection: Maintenance Fund

Altar Flowers Donated by Holy Comforter

8:30 AM Mass

9:45 AM-10:45 AM Pageant Rehearsal

11 AM Mass

12:30 PM RCIA (LL)

1 PM Confession

2 PM Gregorian Mass

3:30 PM O Antiphon 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 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

12/18 Blessed Anthony Grassi

12/19 Blessed Urban V

12/20 Saint Dominic of Silos

12/21 Saint Peter Canisius

12/22 Blessed Jacopone da Todi

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONER

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 (12/14)

8AM † Dr Mark Shaffrey

(Garrett and Diane Smith)

5PM † Donald E. Jones (Shannon Lagarde)

SUNDAY (12/15)

8:30AM † Polly Bristol

11AM Members of the Parish

2PM † Bert Conley

Monday (12/16)

12PM Nate Capps (Diane Auger Smith)

TUESDAY (12/17)

8AM Sharon Dudley

WEDNESDAY (12/18)

8AM Megan West (Jack Engler)

THURSDAY (12/19)

6PM † Robert Shrigley

FRIDAY (12/20)

12PM Heather Burns

SATURDAY (12/21)

8AM Steven and Anna Sisman and Family

5PM RCIA Catechumen & Candidates

SUNDAY (12/22)

8:30AM Michael and Rebecca Toscano
and Family

11AM Deceased Friends and Family
(Sandra Jordan)

2PM Members of the Parish

SAINTS OF GOD

12/14 Saint John of the Cross

12/15 Saint Mary Frances Schervier

12/16 Blessed Honoratus Kozminiski

12/17 Saint Hildegard of Bingen

PARISH NEWS



GIFTS FROM GOD

GIFTS FROM GOD

Week Ending December 1, 2024


Offertory **\$13,787**

Weekly Offertory Budget **(\$9,100)**

Above Weekly Budget **\$4,687**

Due to a publication deadline, the Offertory report for Week Ending December 8, 2024 will appear in next week's Bulletin.

PARISH ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

 Copies are available in the Commons. To access Holy Comforter's online giving, please click on the QR code.

SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR DECEMBER

ALL MONTH Christian Formation + Haiti + Justice & Peace

12/1/2024 Christmas Flowers

12/8/2024 Outreach

12/9/2024 Immaculate Conception

12/15/2024 Retired Religious

12/22/2024 Maintenance Fund

12/25/2024 Catholic Charities

STOCK DONATION INSTRUCTIONS

Donations of stock may be made to Holy Comforter 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

Introit: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Let your forbearance be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Do not be anxious over anything; but in all manner of prayer, let your requests be made known unto God. *The third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete Sunday" because the first word of the introit (entrance antiphon) is Gaudete, which is a Latin imperative that means "Rejoice!" What is striking about the chant melody is that "rejoice" is set fairly low in the range and is understated. The reason for this particular artistic choice is, I think, bound up in the phrase that follows (unfortunately omitted in the sung English antiphon): "Let your forbearance be known to all men." Our joy is one of patient waiting, not exuberant partying. We don't know when He will return, so Advent is here to reawaken us from the pursuit of hopes that lull us to sleep (wealth, power, comfort, etc.) and to set our sights on the one steady hope that enlivens us: Christ will return and glorify those who faithfully served Him while awaiting the end of all things. It is a quiet, strong hope that gives us courage to overcome everything – hence the chant melody soars at the phrase, "Do not be anxious over anything", encapsulating the optimism of a soul who is assured of salvation. This is the joyful answer to the prayer of the Introit on the first Sunday of Advent, "let none who hope in you be confounded." Let us rejoice and not give up hope! *Daniel Kirkland, Director of Liturgy & Music**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

RCIA Rite of Acceptance and Welcome

Last week, was the Rite of Acceptance for our unbaptized RCIA inquirer, Catechumen Brandon Gillespie. The rites also give parishioners the opportunity to witness and support our Catechumens and Candidates as they journey into our glorious Catholic Church. This Sunday, at the 8:30AM Mass, parishioners will witness the Rite of Welcome for the baptized, our Candidates. *Please remember our Catechumen and Candidates in your prayers and Rosaries. As well, please introduce yourself, welcoming them to Holy Comforter. You are their community and your support is very important to making them feel at home. Thank you!*

Brandon Gillespie (Catechumen)

Kennedy Kahle (Candidate)

Tristan Morris (Candidate)

CALLING ALL ACTORS...CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT!!!

Actors are needed for the Children's Christmas Eve Pageant. If your child or children are interested, please contact Melinda Wells, DRE. *All parts, except Mary, are available!*

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading Micah 5:1-4

The ruler of Israel is promised to come from Bethlehem.

Responsorial

Psalm 80:2-3,15-16,18-19

A prayer for God's salvation

Second Reading Hebrews 10:5-10

Through his obedience to God's will, Christ consecrated all.

Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

Mary visits Elizabeth, who sings praise to Mary and her child.

December 15, Third Sunday of Advent

PARISH NEWS



PLEASE PRAY FOR

PARISHIONERS

(Includes ill, injured, homebound, and caregivers.)

Ann Carothers, Teresa Cook, Veronica Deighan, Kelton Flinn, Jolene Green, Colette Hall, Jim and Bobbie Hoskins, Ann Jackson, Mary Nguyen, Ed Shaffrey, Mae Trentanove, Mary Wheeler, Denise Wilcox, 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, Mary Caretti, Kaylee Carter, Petra Vera Chavez, Molly Clarke, Stephanie Crews, Nancy Joan Debiese, Jimmy Dominguez, Linda Doyle, Fr. Gerald Fogarty, Sue Gilbert, Paula Goodburn, Genevieve Halfen, Liana Haseltine, Mark Rowland Huckabe, Kajihara Family, Betty Kapeluch, Kelly Lembo and Family, Joan Lincks, Mike & Sibylle Llewellyn, Shannon and Coty Lockett, Chelsea Massey, Dot McAllister, Michael McNeil, Fr. Richard Mooney, Melodie Mougeolle and Children, Robert Maute, Lia Thoms Price and Family, Lawrence Randolph, Randall Saathoff and Family, Yulia Savona, Matthew Schrank and Family, David Shrank and Family, Joseph Schrank and Family, Tara Singh, Aiden Smith, Christopher Tomaselli, Paul and Meghan Thoms, Scotty Thoms, Alicia Vinklarek, Brendan and Maria Walsh, Don and Lisa Wells, and Residents and Staff of Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention.

MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY

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

If you would like your family member/fellow parishioner added, email the Works of Mercy ministry mercy@holycomforterparish.org or please call the church office at 434-295-7185.

To request Holy Communion or a visit from Father Joseph Mary please contact the office 434-295-7185 or email reception@holycomforterparish.org

Bonjour! Join Father David from Saints Peter and Paul and Father Joseph Mary from Holy Comforter on an unforgettable spiritual journey to France from April 24th to May 4th, 2025. *Our 11-day pilgrimage includes first-class hotel accommodation, round-trip airfare, breakfast and dinner, entrance fees, train fares, deluxe motorcoach, and so much more! We will take you through breathtaking locations, from the picturesque town of Lisieux, poignant Omaha Beach, historic Mont-Saint-Michel, magnificent Chartres Cathedral, and serene Nevers. Experience each destination's rich history and spiritual significance as we embark on this once-in-a-lifetime adventure. Our itinerary includes visits to sacred sites such as Lourdes and Paray-le-Monial, daily Mass celebrations, and iconic landmarks such as the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, and the beautiful Basilica of Sacre Coeur. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to immerse yourself in the beauty and wonder of France. **Book today with Alba's Tours, LLC**, and prepare for an enriching and unforgettable experience! **Au revoir!***

MINISTRIES

OUTREACH: For the month of December, donations of canned fruits would be appreciated. We kindly thank you for your time, donations and contributions to Outreach all year! The 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 donate new toys for children newborn to 12-years-old and new gifts for children 13- to 17 years-old. Return unwrapped gift no later than this Sunday, December 15th. We will be collecting for one more week! Thank you for sharing the joy of Christmas with a child!

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: Please give the gift of light this Christmas. Please help us bring light and warmth to our local families. Please donate today at www.svdp-ht.org. Happy Advent Blessings!



PARISH LIFE MINISTRY: Please join us for a potluck breakfast following the Rorate Caeli Mass at 6 AM on Saturday December 21st. Please sign up in flocknote to bring a dish or two to share!

THAT MAN IS YOU! BAND OF BROTHERS **We will take a small break and kick off the Spring session on Saturday, February 8th, 2025.** We look at the leadership role that has been entrusted to men and address the temptations and struggles men face in a culture that attacks authentic manhood. If interested, please email Steven Sisman steven.sisman@gmail.com

WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED MINISTRY: Helping Moms in Need. If interested, please contact Garrett Smith at 434-960-7775

WORKS OF MERCY: Are you doing any works of mercy? Works of Mercy Ministry would like to hear, mercy@holycomforterparish.org.

HAITI: Your efforts at St. Michel in Saltadere, Haiti serve as vital lifelines for the community, providing spiritual nourishment, education, and healthcare. The school sponsorship program provides both physical and mental nourishment. It empowers children with knowledge and hope for a better future. The Sponsorship program needs constant renewal and support if we are to address these immediate needs and continue to sow seeds of hope and resilience, fostering a community that can withstand and eventually overcome its trials. Please consider being a sponsor and a blessing to Haiti. Please pray for St. Michel and Saltadere.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT -- DECEMBER 15, 2024: Do you rejoice in the Lord? Is He asking you to consider a vocation as a priest? Call Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, to speak with Fr. Matthew Kiehl, Vicar for Vocations or email vocations@richmonddiocese.org

THE INTERIOR CASTLE BOOKSTORE: In preparing for Christmastide, consider stopping in at *The Interior Castle Bookstore* in Lexington! Featuring works by Tomie dePaola during December. We are selling stocking stuffers as well as honey and other items from monasteries across the country. Open Saturdays 10-4pm and by appointment (928-606-2682), 6 South Randolph St. Lexington, VA Please see our website <https://www.theinteriorcastle.org>

FROM THE PASTOR



WAITING ON GOD TO FULFILL HIS PROMISE

Part II

Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi

“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not loose heart.”

Galatians 6:9

Do you find waiting a burden? You are not alone; a lot of people desire instant results, immediate success, and swift answers even to prayers. Many people experience anxiety while waiting. Situations such as waiting for important news, waiting for a text back from someone, or waiting to speak up in a meeting could have differing results depending on whether we wait or act right away. Waiting stress can also arise when preparing to take off on an airplane, riding as a passenger in a car, or getting stuck in traffic longer than expected. Advent calls us to renew our hope and confidence in the promises of God. It is a call to renewed faith in the God who never changes, who pledges himself to his people eternally, and who has publicly demonstrated his covenant faithfulness at Calvary.

And so now, in our waiting, we trust in the promises of God. We trust that God is with us and will never leave us or forsake us. We trust that there is

now no condemnation for those of us found in Christ. We trust nothing can separate us from the love of God. We trust that this momentary suffering is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory. We trust that Jesus will indeed return one day, just as he left. We trust that at his final judgment, we will find refuge in

the blood of the Lamb. We trust that in his new creation, we will experience unbroken fellowship with God, completely absent of any sin, suffering, pain, sorrow, or death.

Waiting teaches us patience, perseverance, and the importance of surrendering our desires to God’s perfect plan. It reveals our dependence on Him and invites us to seek His guidance and wisdom. It is during the waiting that God often molds us into the person He wants us to be, preparing us for the blessings and responsibilities ahead.

As we wait, let us be encouraged by the examples of our forefathers in faith like Abraham, Noah, King David and others. Let us remember that God’s timing is perfect, and His ways are higher than ours. Let us seek him wholeheartedly, trust in his faithfulness, and take comfort in knowing that He is working behind the scenes, coordinating every detail according to His perfect purpose.

To be Continued...

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

December 15, Third Sunday of Advent

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