



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

JANUARY 12, 2025

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 Mass	2 PM
Monday + Friday	12 PM
Tuesday + Wednesday	8 AM
Thursday	6 PM
Saturday	8 AM

ADORATION

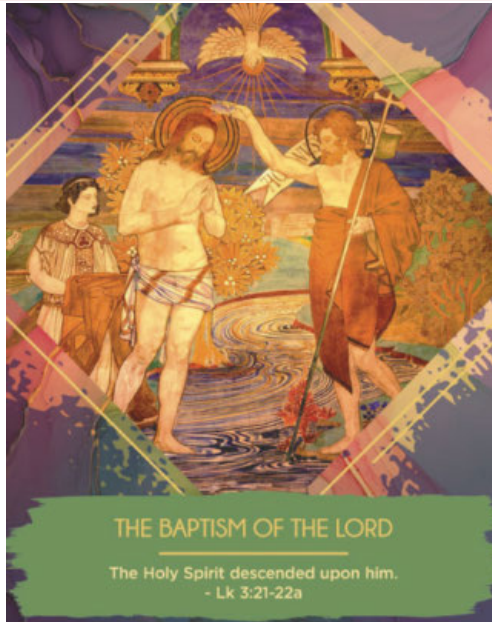
Monday	1-3PM
Wednesday	6-9PM
Thursday	7-8PM
Friday	1-3PM

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

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

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 (1/11)

8 AM Mass
5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (1/12) Baptism of the Lord

Altar Flowers Donated by
Holy Comforter Parishioners
8:30 AM Mass
9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation
11 AM Mass

12:30 PM RCIA
1 PM Confession
2 PM Gregorian Mass

MONDAY (1/13)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry
12 PM Mass
12:30-3 PM Adoration
6:30 PM Confession

TUESDAY 1/14)

8 AM Mass
10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry
6 PM Schola

WEDNESDAY (1/15)

8 AM Mass
10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry
6-9 PM Adoration
6:30 PM Confession

7 PM Choir

THURSDAY (1/16)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen
6 PM Mass
Followed by Adoration and Confession

FRIDAY (1/17)

12 PM Mass
1-3 PM Adoration
6:30 PM Confession

SATURDAY (1/18)

8 AM Mass
5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (1/19)

Altar Flowers Donated by
Holy Comforter Parishioners
8:30 AM Mass
9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation
11 AM Mass

12:30 PM RCIA
1 PM Confession
2 PM Mass

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

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 (1/11)

8AM Brennen McCoy
5PM Avention Grimes

SUNDAY (1/12)

8:30AM Deacon Andrew Clark
11AM Members of the Parish
2PM Dick and Sherry Schemmel

Monday (1/13)

12PM Ed and Jeanne Mickiewicz

TUESDAY (1/14)

8AM Simon Ospina (Paula Ospina)

WEDNESDAY (1/15)

8AM Kirkland Family

THURSDAY (1/16)

6PM Lapinell Family

FRIDAY (1/17)

12PM † Floyd M. Artrip (Maliwan Atrip)

SATURDAY (1/18)

8AM Nicholas & Emily Pierson
And Family
5PM Members of the Parish

SUNDAY (1/19)

8:30AM † Virginia Davis
(Holy Comforter Staff)
11AM † Rita Squillace (Joe Hartman)
2PM † Kristin Stevens

SAINTS OF GOD

1/11 Blessed William Carter
1/12 Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys
1/13 Saint Hilary of Poitiers
1/14 Saint Gregory of Nazianzen

1/15 Saint Devasahayam Pillai
1/16 Saint Berard and Companions
1/17 Saint Anthony of Egypt
1/18 Saint Charles of Sezze
1/19 Saint Fabian

PARISH NEWS



GIFTS FROM GOD

GIFTS FROM GOD

Week Ending January 5, 2025


Offertory	\$8,384
Weekly Offertory Budget	(\$9,100)
Below Weekly Budget	(\$716)

GIFTS FROM GOD

Week Ending December 29, 2024

Offertory	\$10,462
Weekly Offertory Budget	(\$9,100)
Above Weekly Budget	\$1,362

GENEROSITY IS AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE

 For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life (John 3:16).

To meet our parish annual operating expenses of \$473,200, it is necessary for our 226 registered and active families to contribute \$2,094 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.

SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR JANUARY

ALL MONTH Catholic Virginian + Christian Formation + Justice and Peace

1/12/2025	Outreach
1/19/2025	Respect Life
1/26/2025	Maintenance Fund



LITURGICAL NOTES

Offertory: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord; the Lord God is our light, alleluia, alleluia.

The Baptism of the Lord is the second manifestation (or "epiphany") of Jesus' identity as our Divine Savior. Traditionally, the Epiphany season consisted of a triffecta of manifestations: the first and most well-know is the one in the manger to the Magi; the second is today's feast and the third will be commemorated next Sunday (only on Year C), the wedding at Cana. The Baptism is a particularly interesting feast because not only does Our Lord reveal a little about His identity, but He also reveals the nature of His mission. Having a divine nature as well as human, He was sinless. By allowing Himself to be baptized, however, He made an act of repentance for sins He did not commit, revealing that He came to take on our guilt and offer us complete pardon. It is a magnificent display of God's Justice and Mercy walking hand-in-hand in perfect unity, well beyond our human understanding. This feast also marks the end of the Church's Christmas festivities. We return to the liturgical color green (representative of hope among other things) tomorrow and being the process of awaiting the holy preparations of Lent. For the last time, a Merry Christmas to all!

Daniel Kirkland, Director of Liturgy & Music

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

A very Merry Christmas to everyone! As we journey into the new year, I pray God blesses us all with a renewed sense and knowing of His passionate love for us! May this renewing of our hearts and minds, carry us through all that we may encounter, and be a witness to everyone we interact with. Please remember to keep our RCIA Catechumen and Candidates in your prayers and reach out to them as God provides you with opportunities to make them feel welcome!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

SECOND SUNDAY
IN
ORDINARY TIME

First Reading *Isaiah 62:1-5*

God delights in Israel and will rejoice as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride.

Responsorial

Psalm 96:1-2,2-3,7-8,9-10

A song in praise of God's marvelous deeds

Second Reading *1 Corinthians 12:4-11*

All spiritual gifts originate from the same Spirit.

Gospel

John 2:1-11

Jesus performs his first sign at a wedding feast in Cana.

PARISH NEWS



PLEASE PRAY FOR

PARISHIONERS

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

Mary Calderon, Ann Carothers, Teresa Cook, Connie Flamm, Kelton Flinn, Jolene Green, Colette Hall, Jim and Bobbie Hoskins, Ann Jackson, Mary Nguyen, Ed Shaffrey, Mary Showalter, 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, Gene Flamm, 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 Vinklerek, 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@holycorforterparish.org or 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@holycorforterparish.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.

*The 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: During the 2024 calendar year, we served 2,091 families and 5,320 individuals in food pantry. We thank you for supporting Outreach with your time, donations and contributions. For the month of January, any kind of canned soup would be appreciated! The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, HOLY TRINITY CONFERENCE: We appreciated your donations to the Christmas lights campaign that have helped provide families with utility cost assistance this Christmas season. For more information or to donate: <https://www.svdp-ht.org/>

WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED MINISTRY: The Walking with Mom's in Need Ministry will meet bi-weekly for the next four eight weeks beginning January 19, continuing February 2, 16 and March 2. Please join us as we complete our study period! Meetings will be at 10:00 am in the library.

HAITI: Recent positive events in the Tri-Parish Ministry such as funds raised at the auction/dinner, our first pre-med and pre-nursing students from St. Michel accepted at universities in years, and our first container via the Dominican Republic in two decades successfully transiting in weeks, reflect the same glimmer of hope and resilience as the Haitians amid continued adversity. Despite the darkness, there is always the potential for light and transformation. This comparison highlights the universal quest for redemption and the unwavering belief in a better tomorrow. Please pray for Haiti.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3670 is grateful for parishioner support of its Coats for Kids program in 2024. We spent more than \$2800 on new coats during November and December, and we gave away 60 coats at the Incarnation Food Pantry as well as 33 coats at the Holy Comforter Food Pantry. An additional 25 coats were purchased for the WALK program in the Charlottesville Public Schools and 15 more for the City of Promise in the Star Hill neighborhood. The Knights were able to buy these 133 new coats with money collected from parishioners in previous years. But our treasury is so depleted that we cannot purchase coats for 2025. PLEASE HELP. Send a check today to Knights of Columbus 3670, PO Box 7251, Charlottesville 22906. Thanks again for your support of KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS programs for Church and community.

WOMEN'S CURSILLO WEEKEND: April 24 - 27, 2025 at Blessings Lodge at Camp Overlook. Applications are due by March 27, 2025. Space is limited and candidates are accepted on a first received basis. Sponsors and pastoral approval are required (and will be arranged by contacting the Parish Coordinator). Active catholic women on their spiritual journey are invited to participate in this inspiring short course on how to deepen your Christian living in the world See Parish Coordinator, Garrett Smith with any questions (434 960-7775). If you have already experienced a Weekend, remember to "make a friend, be a friend, and bring a friend!"

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD -- JANUARY 12, 2024: "I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice," Do you feel the Lord calling you to consider becoming a priest? Call the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, to speak with Fr. Matthew Kiehl, Vicar for Vocations; or write to vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

FROM THE PASTOR



WE ARE PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Part II

Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi

**“Can a mother forget the baby at her breast
and have no compassion on the child she has borne?
Though she may forget, I will not forget you!”
Isaiah 49:15**

“The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, To announce a year of favor from the Lord”. (Is.61:1 & Lk.4:18-19). Of all the profound truths written by the prophets in the Old Testament, why did Jesus choose this verse from prophet Isaiah for this time? Because Jesus had a purpose. A mission about to begin and his mission is valid up to our generation. Isaiah spoke prophetic words of encouragement and admonition to his people. Isaiah’s name meant, “the Lord saves,” which so perfectly proclaimed the message God used him to deliver. *We must rely* on God alone. Putting our hope in any other source will only lead to disaster. Isaiah offered a voice of truth in a time when God’s people sometimes strayed from the Lord’s ways. Yet these God-inspired words would hold more significance than Isaiah could possibly know. As Isaiah was authorized and directed to proclaim liberty to the Jews in Babylon, so was Christ, God’s messenger, to publish a more joyful jubilee to a lost world. And

such a message is very appropriate to us the “the Pilgrims of Hope”.

Jesus moved among people offering healing, mercy, and grace to all people. He continues to give unconditional love to all, regardless of where we came from or what we’d done. What a life-giving message. Having given such an opportunity, we must also step up to do our part to accept that unconditional love otherwise we face what the letter to the Thessalonians points out, when we refuse to follow Christ. “He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might.”(2Thes. 1:8-9).

When Jesus told the world the Spirit anointed him to proclaim the good news, he also told us who he came to save. The poor, brokenhearted, captives, and prisoners. He came for you and me. So this year of favor is relevant for us. Are you poor in spirit today? Has the baggage you’ve carried for years crippled you under its weight? 2025 is here to take away such a baggage from you. “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Mt. 5:3).

Has loss or grief left you brokenhearted? Do you feel alone, like no one cares? This opportunity of grace 2025 is for you. **“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me”**(Jn. 14:1).

Have you been bound by addiction? Or felt like you’re suffocating, overwhelmed, and can’t break free? This time around you are to be set free. “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free”(Gal.5:1).

We should also keep in mind the words of the promise from our Lord that: “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you”(Jn. 14:26). So as **pilgrims of hope**, we can rejoice today knowing the Holy Spirit guides us, just like He did with Jesus. Whether we face daily struggles or life’s most difficult challenges, the Holy Spirit empowers us to keep moving forward. He will be our strength, our guide, and our comfort. All we need to do is ask him.

TO BE CONTINUED...

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

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