



# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

## FEBRUARY 2, 2025

### CONNECT WITH US

- 208 East Jefferson Street  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902
- Phone: (434) 295-7185
- Fax: (434) 220-1464
- [office@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:office@holycomforterparish.org)
- [holycomforterparish.org](http://holycomforterparish.org)

### MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil	5 PM
Sunday	8:30 AM, 11 AM, 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

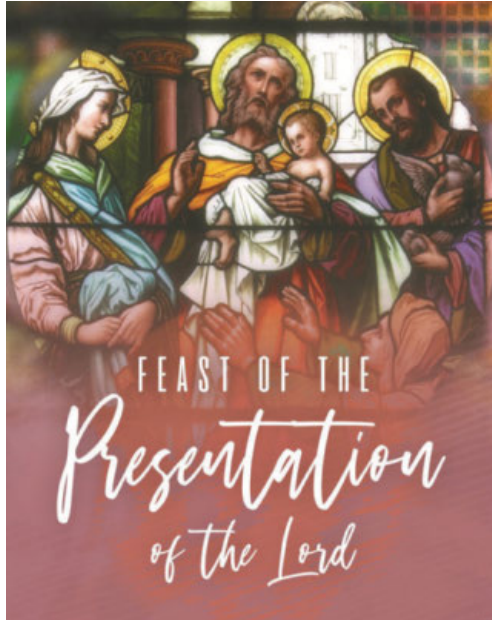
### CONFESSION

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](mailto:dre@holycomforterparish.org)



### Pastor

Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi  
[jmlukyamuzi@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:jmlukyamuzi@richmonddiocese.org)

### Administrative Business Manager

Mary Frances Lilly  
[office@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:office@holycomforterparish.org)

### Receptionist/Office Assistant

Melinda Crews  
[reception@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:reception@holycomforterparish.org)

### Director of Liturgy and Music

Daniel Kirkland  
[music@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:music@holycomforterparish.org)

### Director of Religious Education

Melinda Wells (434) 295-6559  
[dre@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:dre@holycomforterparish.org)

### Outreach (434) 293-8989

Bridget Davis + Jack Engler +  
Heather Burns  
[outreach@holycomforterparish.org](mailto: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](mailto:gkrutul@sncomm.com)
- Pastoral Council** Maria-Andrea Gerling Ospina  
[maria.ospina@gmail.com](mailto:maria.ospina@gmail.com)
- Altar Servers** Jackson Kulick  
[Jackson@brgtshirts.com](mailto:Jackson@brgtshirts.com)
- Religious Education Committee** Suzanne Bailey  
[slank@ntelos.net](mailto:slank@ntelos.net)
- Social Ministries** Chuck McCurdy  
[cwm@virginia.edu](mailto:cwm@virginia.edu)
- St. Vincent de Paul** (434) 226-8022
- Holy Trinity Conference** [info@svdp-ht.org](mailto:info@svdp-ht.org)
- St. John Vianney Vocations Ministry**  
Paula Ospina [paula.ospina.0616@gmail.com](mailto:paula.ospina.0616@gmail.com)
- Works of Mercy and Funerals**  
[mercy@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:mercy@holycomforterparish.org)
- Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound** Heather Burns  
[communionvisit@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:communionvisit@holycomforterparish.org)
- Wedding Coordinator** Heather Burns  
[weddings@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:weddings@holycomforterparish.org)
- Regina Caeli Homeschool Co-op** Samantha Van Dyke  
[samantha.kepler@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.kepler@gmail.com)
- Parish Life** Elizabeth Gilbert  
[parishlife@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:parishlife@holycomforterparish.org)
- That Man is You: Band of Brothers** Steven Sisman  
[steven.sisman@gmail.com](mailto:steven.sisman@gmail.com)
- High School Youth Group** Emily Pierson  
[youthgroup@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:youthgroup@holycomforterparish.org)
- Website** Erin Ferguson & Mona Peglow  
[webmaster@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:webmaster@holycomforterparish.org)
- Building and Grounds** Ed Mickiewicz
- Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist**  
Heather Burns [heather@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:heather@holycomforterparish.org)
- Lectors** Matt Freeman
- Offertory Counters** Lee Faust  
[lfaust@comcast.net](mailto:lfaust@comcast.net)
- Sacristans** Suzanne Bailey  
[slank@ntelos.net](mailto:slank@ntelos.net)
- Haiti** TBD
- 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 (2/1)

8 AM Mass

Blessings of the Objects following the Rosary.

5 PM Vigil Mass Candlemas Blessing of Candles following Mass

*The Good Shepherds of Bethlehem after all weekend Masses*

### Sunday (2/2) Presentation of The Lord

Altar Flowers Donated by Alicia Vinklerek in Memory of Deacon Henry Vinklerek (Father will bless any candles by request after the 8:30 and 11am Masses.)

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 (Candlemas Blessing of Candles following Mass)

### MONDAY (2/3)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

12:30-3 PM Adoration

6:30 PM Confession

### TUESDAY (2/4)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6 PM Schola

### WEDNESDAY (2/5)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6-9 PM Adoration

6:30 PM Confession

7 PM Choir

### THURSDAY (2/6)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6 PM Mass

Followed by Adoration and Confession

### FRIDAY (2/7)

12 PM Mass

1-3 PM Adoration

6:30 PM Confession

### SATURDAY (2/8) 8 AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

### SUNDAY (2/9) Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time

Second Collection: Outreach

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

12:30 PM RCIA

1 PM Confession

2 PM Mass

#### GIFT CARD REQUESTS ALERT

*If you receive an email or a text that APPEARS to be from Father Joseph Mary requesting you to purchase a gift card, rest assured this is a scam. Please report all cybercrime to the FBI at [www.ic3.gov/default.aspx](http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx).*

#### 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

2/5 Saint Agatha

2/6 Saint Paul Miki and Companions

2/7 Saint Colette

2/8 Saint Josephina Bakhita

2/9 Saint Jerome Emiliani

## 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 (2/1)

8AM Ill and Homebound

5PM Donna Weston (Heidi Hess)

#### SUNDAY (2/2)

8:30AM Members of the Parish

11AM Brad and Debbie Ferguson  
(Mary Hellman)

2PM Brian Hess (Heidi Hess)

#### Monday (2/3)

12PM Nelly Jayrequi (Martha Ospina)

#### TUESDAY (2/4)

8AM Simon Ospina (Paula Ospina)

#### WEDNESDAY (2/5)

8AM Ancestors of Lauren O'Neill

#### THURSDAY (2/6)

6PM Joshua and Sandra Jordan and Family  
(Father Joseph Mary)

#### FRIDAY (2/7)

12PM Lee and Dominique Faust and Family  
(Father Joseph Mary)

#### SATURDAY (2/8)

8AM Edward and Anna Stelow and Family  
(Father Joseph Mary)  
5PM † Mable P. Nodaro (Michele Skarvelis)

#### SUNDAY (2/9)

8:30AM Kevin Haag and Family  
(Father Joseph Mary)

11AM Members of the Parish

2PM † Charles Weber, Sr.  
(Diane Auger Smith)

## SAINTS OF GOD

2/1 Saint Ansgar

2/2 Presentation of The Lord

2/3 Saint Blaise

2/4 Saint Joseph of Leonissa

# PARISH NEWS



## GIFTS FROM GOD

### GIFTS FROM GOD

Week Ending January 26, 2025

Offertory **\$8,639**

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

Below Weekly Budget **(\$461)**

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



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 FEBRUARY

**ALL MONTH** Christian Formation + Haiti + Justice and Peace

**2/9/2025** Outreach

**2/23/2025** Maintenance Fund

**2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal: Sharing His Love with Others** The 2025 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 been awarded a \$2,500 Fuel and Hunger grant each year which is funded by the Appeal. And, last year our parish share of contributions made was over \$8,000. Thank you for your support!

## LITURGICAL NOTES

**Entrance (*Suscipimus*):** We have received your mercy, O God, in the midst of your temple; even as your name, so al-so does your praise extend to the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with righteousness.

**Offertory (*Diffusa est gratia*):** Grace has been poured out on your lips; therefore, God has blessed you for ever, world without end.

**Communion (*Responsum*):** Simeon had received a revelation from the Holy Spirit, that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. *The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is a kingly festivity. Forty days after His birth, the Blessed Virgin Mary, still a virgin after the miraculous birth of Jesus, is ritually "purified" (this feast was formerly called the "Purification of the BVM") and brings her Son to the temple to dedicated Him to God, as was the custom of the firstborn sons. The texts for this feast are very rich in describing God's self-revelation in this ritual presentation. The Offertory beautifully captures both the traditional Marian character of this feast and its Christocentric theme. Psalm 44 (45) is often used in reference to Our Lady (Immaculate Conception, Assumption, etc.), but here we can see it also referring to Simeon, filled with the Holy Spirit, praising Christ. In fact, the first verse of the Psalm is: "My heart overflows with noble words. To the king I address the song I have made". One can sense the ecstasy he is experiencing. The Alleluia chant (often different from the translated "acclamation") in a marvelous turn of phrase declares, "The old man carried the Child, but the Child governed the old man." And then of course there is Simeon's canticle "Lord, now you let your servant go in peace..." with the Church homing in on his proclamation of Christ as a "light of revelation". Hence candles are blessed, and the church is adorned with more light. Truly, this feast is the crown of the Epiphany season! Enjoy this final breath of Christmastide as we enter into the somber preparations for the Paschal mysteries.*

DANIEL KIRKLAND, DIRECTOR OF LITURGY & MUSIC

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Melinda Wells, Director of Religious Education  
[dre@holycorforterparish.org](mailto:dre@holycorforterparish.org)

**Treasures of the Tradition: RE Adult Formation offers** two new reading groups beginning early February: **1. Dante's Purgatorio (weekly)** - A riveting and intriguing tale of ascent toward the Divine, this "medieval self-help book" can help us on the path even today. We'll read just 7-8 pages per session, so newcomers will find the poem accessible and the experienced can dig in deeply! **2. How to Read "The Book"? (every other week)** - Augustine, Jerome, Origen, and many more will show us the variety of ways the Bible has been read across the centuries, with an eye to discovering how we might best read it in our own challenging moment. *Open to all; first meeting a free trial, with reasonable rates & sliding scale thereafter.* Meeting times TBD by group needs, so please contact John Bugbee [bugbee@thetreasures.org](mailto:bugbee@thetreasures.org) ASAP if interested!

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

FIFTH SUNDAY  
IN  
ORDINARY TIME

**First Reading** *Isaiah 6:1-2a,3-8*  
Isaiah describes his vision and call from the Lord.

**Responsorial**  
*Psalm 138:1-5,7-8*  
A song of thanks to God who saves us

**Second Reading** *1 Corinthians 15:1-11*  
Paul reminds the Corinthians of the gospel that he announced to them.

**Gospel**  
*Luke 5:1-11*  
The fishermen (Simon, James, and John) leave their fishing boats and follow Jesus.

February 2, Presentation of The Lord

# PARISH NEWS



## PLEASE PRAY FOR

### PARISHIONERS

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

Ann Carothers, Teresa Cook, Connie Flamm, Kelton Flinn, Jolene Green, Colette Hall, Jim and Bobbie Hoskins, Ann Jackson, Mary Nguyen, Mary Showalter, Mae Trentanove, Mary Wheeler, Denise Wilcox, and Mary Ann Ziminski.

### FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Leroy and Felicia Anderson, Blanding Attey, Ben and Katherine Barahona, Mary Benfante, Christine Bentejac, Hope Brown, Brad and Debbie Ferguson, 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, Douglas McAdams, 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@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:mercy@holycomforterparish.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@holycomforterparish.org](mailto: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.** *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:** 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. If you are interested, please contact Garrett Smith (434) 960-7775

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Join us for an exciting 8-week Great Adventure Bible Study by Ascension Press - Meeting Sundays, beginning January 26, 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM, Music Room. This study is perfect for anyone who wants to go deeper in their faith and explore the Bible in a new way. No prior knowledge is required! **Contact:** Steven Sisman ([Steven.Sisman@gmail.com](mailto:Steven.Sisman@gmail.com)) **Feel free to join us at any point during the series. Cost:** \$5.95 for online access to workbook and videos. We hope to see you there!

**HAITI:** Despite the darkness, there is always the potential for light and transformation; for redemption and the unwavering belief in a better tomorrow. Please pray for Haiti!

**ALTAR FLOWER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** The Altar Flower Ministry needs volunteer arrangers. If you have experience and interest, please contact Jeanne Mickiewicz [Jean4greens@yahoo.com](mailto:Jean4greens@yahoo.com)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHESTERTON ACADEMY ESSAY COMPETITION: DEADLINE EXTENDED TO FEB. 7TH!** Have a current or rising high schooler? They're invited to compete for a \$5,000 tuition credit at Chesterton Academy of St. John the Evangelist, Charlottesville's classical high school in the Catholic tradition. To qualify, their enrollment application must be submitted by Feb. 7th. The essay competition will be held on February 8th, 10-11:30 am at CASJE. See website for details and to schedule a tour or shadow day! [ChesteronSJE.org](http://ChesteronSJE.org)

**WOMEN'S CURSILLO WEEKEND: April 24 - 27, 2025 at Blessings Lodge at Camp Overlook.** Applications are due by March 27, 2025. Space is limited, first received basis. Sponsors & 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 experienced a Weekend, remember to "make a friend, be a friend, and bring a friend!"

**PRESENTATION OF THE LORD- FEBRUARY 3, 2025 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR CONSECRATED LIFE:** "Before you were born, I consecrated you." Do you think that you may be called by the Lord to serve Him as a priest? Call the Vocations Office, (804) 359-5661, to speak with Fr. Matthew Kiehl, Vicar for Vocations; or write to [vocations@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:vocations@richmonddiocese.org).

# FROM THE PASTOR



## WE ARE PILGRIMS OF HOPE

### Part V

Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi

***“And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.” Romans 5: 2-4***

If suffering has a purpose, then there is reason to believe that good things will come out of what doesn't seem good. Through the cross we move in hope to victory! I've never met anyone who wanted to go through hardship and difficulty. I've never heard anyone say, *“I can't wait till suffering comes my way”* or *“I'm loving this painful season. I wish I had more of this in my life.”* We're inclined to run away from pain and suffering rather than move toward it. Look in your house! How many painkillers do you have with you? But in Romans 5, Paul suggests a different and radical reaction to hardship and difficulty: hope and joy. He even has the courage to say that we **“glory in our suffering”**; some translations say, **“we rejoice in our suffering.”** That statement alone raises the questions, *“Why?”* and *“How?”*

We live in a broken world. At some point, pain and suffering will crash into our lives. It's not a matter of if, but when. And when it does, we can be caught in the trap of believing, *“There's no way out. This is it. This will be my reality forever.”* But in Romans 5, Paul tells us that hope in suffering is possible. It's a hope that is anchored in the cross. Paul reminds us in v. 8 that, **“While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”** Christ's death

is a reminder of His overwhelming love for us. If Jesus was willing to die for us while we were in rebellion to Him, how much more will He care for us, His children, when tragedy strikes.

The cross reveals that Jesus can identify with our pain. In hardship, He knows what we are feeling because He has experienced it Himself. He knows what it's like to be betrayed by a close friend. He has experienced the shame of being accused of something He didn't do. He has endured physical pain that feels like it will never end. Just because Jesus can empathize with our suffering, however, doesn't mean all our pain will magically go away, nor will it lessen the grief and sorrow we're bound to experience; but it does help us see there's a bigger picture at work.

The cross is also intimately linked to the resurrection. The reason we can have hope in suffering is because, with Jesus, death leads to new life. Therefore, we can be assured that our pain isn't wasted. Jesus is with us in the midst of it, and it very well could be leading to something new – but to receive it, something old first may have to die. The shift from death to life not only fuels our hope, but it's also the seedbed of joy.

Joy in the midst of suffering isn't fabricated happiness that's disconnected from the reality of one's circumstances. Rather, it's a deep-seated conviction that everything is going to be okay. It comes from the assurance that Jesus is Lord of all. It's grounded in the hope of the larger story of God making all things new (Rev. 21:5).

While suffering can often knock us down and cause defeat, the cross and resurrection empower us to get back up and face another day. While pain and hardship, over time, can cause us to grow angry and bitter, focusing on Jesus and the victory He has secured can help us remain hopeful and full of joy. Nobody wants to suffer, but if we stay connected to Christ, He'll redeem our suffering in unexpected ways. I recommend that you take a moment and invite Jesus into your pain. Ask Him to help you see your circumstances through the lens of the cross and resurrection so that hope might be restored. For we are PILGRIMS OF HOPE.

**TO BE CONTINUED...**

*Should you have any questions about our Catholic Faith, please contact Melinda Wells, DRE, [dre@holyccomforterparish.org](mailto:dre@holyccomforterparish.org).*

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