

HOLY COMFORTER

FEBRUARY 9, 2025

CONNECT WITH US

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office@holycomforterparish.org

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

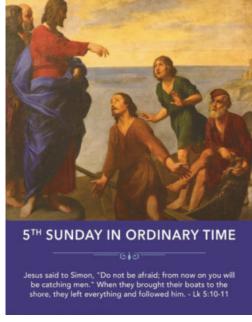
CONFESSION

Mon, Weds, Fri 6:30-7:30 PM Thursday 7-8 PM

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9 AM - 4 PM

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



Pastor

Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi 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 <u>music@holycomforterparish.org</u>

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 CHAIRS

FINANCE COUNCIL Gary Krutul

gkrutul@sncomm.com

Offertory Counters

PASTORAL COUNCIL Maria-Andrea Gerling Ospina

maria.ospina@gmail.com

LITURGY AND WORSHIP Daniel Kirkland

Music Ministry, Altar Servers Lectors – *Matt Freeman*

Sacristans – Suzanne Bailey slank@ntelos.net

Ushers – *Dennis Dougherty*

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist –

Heather Burns heather@holycomforterparish.org
Funerals and Works of Mercy Ministry

mercy@holycomforterparish.org

Homebound Eucharistic Ministry

communionvisit@holycomforterparish.org
Weddings

weddings@holycomforterparish.org Altar Flower Guild – *Jeanne Mickiewicz* Jean4greens@yahoo.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Melinda Wells

Children's Formation, Sacramental Preparation,

Adult Education, Library

Religious Education Committee—

Suzanne Bailey slank@ntelos.net

RCIA—Diane Auger Smith / Victoria Lannon

dianeaugersmith@gmail.com

-Victoria Lannon gregnbuk@gmail.com

Regina Caeli Homeschool Cooperative –

Samantha VanDyke samantha.kepler@gmail.com

That Man Is You – Steven Sisman

steven.sisman@gmail.com

Youth Ministry – Anna Sisman

youthgroup@holycomforterparish.org
CHARITY AND OUTREACH Chuck McCurdy

cwm@virginia.edu

Outreach (Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry) - Bridget Davis bridget@holycomforterparish.org

Walking with Moms in Need -

Garrett Smith gsmith@garrettsmithlaw.com

Uganda—Gregory Lannon gregnbuk@gmail.com

Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Holy Trinity

Society of St. Vilicent de Faul, Holy IIII

Conference - info@svdp-ht.org

K of C—Nicholas Pierson gk3670@vakofc.org

PARISH COMMUNITY LIFE Elizabeth Gilbert

<u>parishlife@holycomforterparish.org</u>
Holy Comforter Sociable Seniors 55+ —

Barbara Cassidy bcc32968@gmail.com

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 (2/8) 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

MONDAY (2/10)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

12:30-3 PM Adoration

6:30 PM Confession

TUESDAY (2/11) Our Lady of Lourdes

End of III and Homebound Novena

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6 PM Schola

WEDNESDAY (2/12)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6-9 PM Adoration

6:30 PM Confession

7 PM Choir

THURSDAY (2/13)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6 PM Mass

Followed by Adoration and Confession

FRIDAY (2/14)

12 PM Mass

1-3 PM Adoration

6:30 PM Confession

SATURDAY (2/15)

8 AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (2/16) Sixth Sunday in Ordinary

time

Altar Flowers Donated Anonymously in Gratitude to God

8:30 AM Mass

SAINTS OF GOD

2/8 Saint Josephina Bakhita 2/9 Saint Jerome Emiliani 2/10 Saint Scholastica 2/11 Our Lady of Lourdes

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.

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 6PM Ed & Marianne Walendowski & Family 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 SATURDAY (2/15) if You were already there and unite myself 8AM Lee & Dominique Faust and Family wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

2/12 Saint Apollania

2/13 Saint Giles Mary of St. Joseph

2/14 Saint Cyril of Methodius

2/15 Saint Claude de la Colombiere

2/16 Saint Gilbert of Sempringham

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@holycomforterparish.org

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY (2/8)

8AM Edward and Anna Stelow and Family (Father Joseph Mary)

5PM † Mable P. Dodaro (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)

† Douglas McAdams (Patricia McAdams)

Monday (2/10)

12PM Kevin Gallagher and Family (Father Joseph Mary)

TUESDAY (2/11)

8AM Simon Ospina (Paula Ospina)

WEDNESDAY (2/12)

8AM Ancestors of Lauren O'Neill

THURSDAY (2/13)

(Father Joseph Mary)

FRIDAY (2/14)

12PM † John G. Engler (Jack Engler)

(Father Joseph Mary)

5PM Special Intention (Mary Frances Lilly)

SUNDAY (2/16)

8:30AM Members of the Parish

11AM † Adele P. Lavadia and † Adelaida Predilla (Pat Cuadros)

2PM † Ted Kirchmeyer

(Melinda Wells and Julie Kajihara)

† Douglas McAdams (Patricia McAdams)

PARISH NEWS



GIFTS FROM GOD

GIFTS FROM GOD

Week Ending February 2, 2025

Offertory \$4,607 **Weekly Offertory Budget** (\$9,100)

Below Weekly Budget (\$4,493)

"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

Maintenance Fund 2/23/2025

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 (Venite, adoremus): Come, let us worship God and bow down before the Lord; let us shed tears before the Lord who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

Offertory (Perfice aressus meos): Render secure my footsteps in your paths so that my feet do not slip; incline your ear and hear my words; display your wonderful mercies, O Lord, Savior of those who place their hope in you. Communion (Introibo): I will go in to the altar of God, to the God who gives joy to my youth.

The Offertory and Communion chants are ancient antiphons formerly assigned to Sexagesima Sunday or the "sixtieth" (approximately) day from Easter. It was a season of pre-Lenten preparation – a preparatory season for a season of preparation. How careful the Church was in ensuring we made a good Lenten journey! With Lent a little less than a month away, it is a good time to consider how we will spend it preparing for Eastertide. It begins, as the Gospel shows us, with answering Jesus' call to follow him. The Offertory, appropriately chosen for this Gospel, asks God to guide our footsteps. Musically, the chant is fairly understated, rising significantly only on the words "your paths", a gesture indicating how far above our ways are God's ways. Rhetorically, one gets the sense that the music is reflective of the spirit of the text, which is humble and realizing the need for God's assistance and pleading in a low voice. The Communion chant, also from the old Sexagesima Sunday, is a beautiful response to the Offertory. Our footsteps will be made secure by approaching the altar of God to receive our spiritual nourishment and the strength to follow the narrow way. The music draws our attention to the words "gives joy to my youth" with melismas (many notes per syllable) – in this instance both musical gestures of joy and rhetorical devices calling us to meditate upon these words. We have the benefit of hindsight, knowing that Jesus was willing to die for love of us. Let us recall with affection this great love and resolve to follow Him more and more closely. DANIEL KIRKLAND, DIRECTOR OF LITURGY & MUSIC

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Join us for an exciting 8-week Great Adventure Bible Study by Ascension Press - Sundays, 10-11AM, Music Room. The study began 1/26 and 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! Please contact Steven Sisman at Steven.Sisman@gmail.com. Feel free to join us at any point during the series. Cost:\$5.95 for online access to workbook & videos.

We hope to see you there!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME First Reading Jeremiah 17:5-8 Put trust and hope in the Lord, not in

human beings. Responsorial

Psalm 1:1-4,6

Blessed are those who follow the law of the Lord.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20 Our hope for resurrection is sure because Christ has been raised from the dead.

Gospel

Luke 6:17,20-26

Jesus teaches the crowd the way to happiness.

February 9, Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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, 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 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. 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 Parav-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

<u>OUTREACH</u>: During the month of January, we handed out 144 food bags to 399 people in Food Pantry. And we served 253 meals at our Thursday Soup Kitchen. We thank the students at CCS and the congregants at CBI for providing homemade bread items and desserts, respectively. And thank you, parishioners, for your continued support to Outreach with your time, donations, and contributions. For the month of February any kind of canned vegetable is welcome. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and leader.

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. Join us as we complete our study period! Meetings will be at 10:00 am in the library. please contact Garrett Smith (434) 960-7775

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

33 DAYS TO EUCHARISTIC GLORY is the first ever Eucharistic Consecration which is an initiative of your Parish Council. This unprecedented spiritual resource presents profound truths, astonishing historical facts, powerful practical examples, a daily virtue to adopt, extraordinary prayers, and inspiring stories—all in an easy-to-follow daily format. The first "group" will begin on February 26, engage for 33 days, and culminate with a public Consecration at Holy Mass on Laetare Sunday, March 30. The book can be purchased new for \$19.79 or used for \$6.39 if you do an Amazon search for " 33 Days to Eucharistic Glory by Matthew Kelly." You should also consider obtaining the associated Journal. See the Flocknote to join a new group for more info and Q & A.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADMISSIONS OPEN HOUSE:

Charlottesville Catholic School is accepting applications for admissions for new students for the 2025-2026 year. The application is available, www.cvillecatholic.org. An Admissions Open House will be held on Wednesday, February 12 from 4:00PM-6:00PM for anyone interested in learning more about the school. Contact admissions@cvillecatholic.org if you have any questions, or to schedule an individual tour.

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 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. Please see Holy Comforter Parish contact, 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!"

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - February 9, 2025 - World Marriage Day & National Marriage Week: "They left everything and followed him." (Luke 5:11) As we celebrate World Marriage Day, we honor the beauty and commitment of married couples who follow Christ together. Just as the apostles left behind their former lives to follow Jesus, couples are called to embrace their vocation of marriage with faith and trust, journeying together toward holiness. Take this opportunity to renew your marriage vows in your heart.

FROM THE PASTOR





WE ARE PILGRIMS OF HOPE Part VI

Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi

"But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed." Isaiah 53:5

Thank you, Jesus. Thank you for the cross. Thank you that in our own brokenness, we find You and become victors.

As followers of Jesus Christ, we are not meant to be too

comfort-able in the present world. Our hope is not here. Our hope is not visible. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen" (Heb. 11:1). Jesus might suggest to us that pain itself is not the issue, but the purposes for which we endure and tolerate pain are what really matters. When you endure pain so as to help your children grow and mature...is that not a healthy pain that responds to the call to equip our young ones to live well in the world? When you open yourself to the pain of rejection when you court a potential lifetime mate...is that not a healthy pain that makes possible the gift of covenantal life together with another? When you gladly claim your Christian belief in the face of a few who might scoff at your outdated religious mysticism...is that not a healthy pain that

allows you to demonstrate the depth of your gratitude for God's calling in your life?

Jesus would suggest to us that there are certainly things in this world which are worth the pain they cause. Experiences that mold us in ways that less challenging experiences will never do. Hardships that we endure, not because we find some selfish pride in our endurance, but simply because through our suffering we honor the one who suffered for us – that one who has fashioned us to experience this pretty amazing life at all of those times when we are not called to suffer. Jesus has a word for this kind of life that has optimism in the face of suffering; it is called "taking up your cross and following Jesus." It is not passive, it does not justify evils committed that we cannot prevent, it does not excuse us from trying to correct evils that can be prevented. It is not a posture we accept grudgingly with long faces and bitter attitudes.

Taking up the cross is what Jesus did for us, and through it God fashions for us an experience that in not quite like anything else the world can offer us. There is satisfaction in this cross-bearing life. There is purpose in this life, especially in a world that pursues painkillers instead of crosses. And dare we say, there is joy in this life because it is modeled after the one whose own life has saved our lives...that one who made cross-bearing a good thing, a holy choice, a lifegiving act—Jesus Christ, the one we have been called to follow, affirm, and who energizes our journey as PILGRIMS OF HOPE.

If we share the same faith in Jesus Christ as the saints throughout history, then we share the same hope. Someday we will see Him face to face. Someday we will experience and enjoy "God's glory" perfectly (Rom. 5:2). Someday we will be clothed with immortal, glorified bodies. We will receive "the crown of righteousness" (2 Tim. 4:8) and reign with Jesus Christ forever. These truths provide the basis for our hope.

TO BE CONTINUED...

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



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