



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

FEBRUARY 16, 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, 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

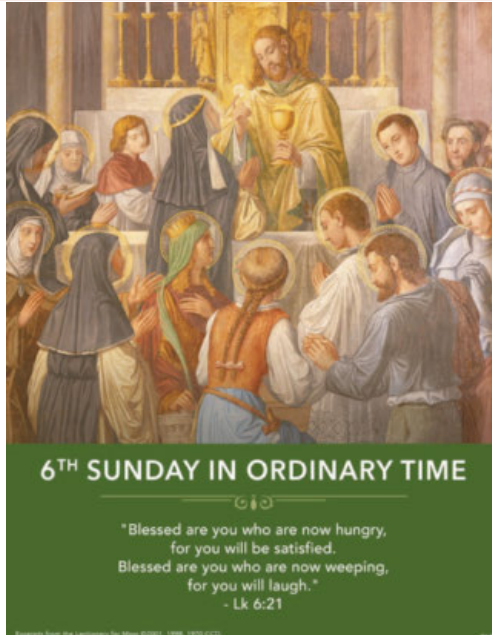
CONFESSION

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



6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Blessed are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied.
Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will laugh."
- Lk 6:21

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
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 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

Conference – info@sudp-ht.org

K of C—Nicholas Pierson gk3670@vakofc.org

PARISH COMMUNITY LIFE Elizabeth Gilbert

parishlife@holycomforterparish.org

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 (2/15)

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

9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation

11 AM Mass

12:30 PM RCIA

1 PM Confession

2 PM Mass

MONDAY (2/17)

Presidents Day-Office Closed

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

12:30-3 PM Adoration

6:30 PM Confession

TUESDAY (2/18)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6 PM Schola

WEDNESDAY (2/19)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6-9 PM Adoration

6:30 PM Confession

7 PM Choir

THURSDAY (2/20)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6 PM Mass

Followed by Adoration and Confession

FRIDAY (2/21)

9-11:45 AM Regina Caeli Co-op

12 PM Mass

1-3 PM Adoration

6:30 PM Confession

SATURDAY (2/22)

8 AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (2/23) Seventh Sunday in Ordinary time

Second Collection: Maintenance Fund
Altar Flowers Donated Anonymously

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.

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

2/18 Blessed John of Fiesole

2/19 Saint Conrad of Pienza

2/20 Sts. Jacinta and Francisco Marto

2/21 Saint Peter Damian

2/22 Chair of Saint Peter

2/23 Saint Polycarp

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 (2/15)

8AM Lee & Dominique Faust and Family
(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)

Monday (2/17)

12PM Ancestors of Lauren O'Neill

TUESDAY (2/18)

8AM Lloyd Thomas Smith III in Honor of His
Baptism (Diane Auger Smith)

WEDNESDAY (2/19)

8AM Simon Ospina (Paula Ospina)

THURSDAY (2/20)

6PM Martha Ospina (Mel Crews)

FRIDAY (2/21)

12PM Mary Woloski (Kate Burke)

SATURDAY (2/22)

8AM † Naomi Wells (Melinda Wells)

5PM Members of the Parish

SUNDAY (2/23)

8:30AM Matthew and Miranda Schrank
and Family (Melinda Wells)

11AM Stephanie Crews (Mel Crews)

2PM Lia Thoms Price (Melinda Wells)

SAINTS OF GOD

2/15 Saint Claude de la Colombiere

2/16 Saint Gilbert of Sempringham

2/17 Seven Founders of the
Servite Order

PARISH NEWS



GIFTS FROM GOD

GIFTS FROM GOD

Week Ending February 9, 2025

Offertory **\$17,716**

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

Above Weekly Budget \$8,616

“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 (*Esto mihi*): Be unto me a protecting God and a house of refuge, to save me; for you are my support and my refuge; and for the sake of your name you will lead me and nourish me.

Offertory (*Benedictus es Domine*): Blessed are you, O Lord, teach me your commandments. O Lord, you are blessed, teach me your commandments. With my lips have I declared all the judgments spoken by your mouth.

Communion (*Manducaverunt*): They ate and were fully satisfied; the Lord gave them all that they desired; they were not deprived of their wants.

Today's Propers historically come from the pre-Lenten season of preparation mentioned in last week's bulletin, this time from Quinquagesima—or "fiftieth" (approximately)—Sunday, i.e., fifty days to Easter. Again, it is fitting for us to begin considering how we will spend our Lent preparing to celebrate the mysteries of Jesus Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. In the Gospel today, Jesus reverses our conceptions of blessedness by exalting the poor, the hungry, the mourning, and the persecuted. It would appear that the Offertory and Communion Antiphons address hunger in a spiritual manner. God's commandments are life-giving, and we will never find ourselves hungry if we adhere to the kind of life God is calling us to. God's ways are not ours, so the Bread of Life, prefigured in the manna spoken of in the Communion, gives us the strength to persevere, especially when it means persecution. The Offertory Antiphon depicts this happiness in musically interesting ways. The phrase, "Blessed are you...teach me..." is repeated, which is a device in Hebrew poetry used for emphasis. The melody is identical both iterations until "your commandments", substantially lengthening "tuas" (your) as if to pause meditatively and express the hunger of the soul. It concludes with a beautiful descending gesture on the words "your mouth", musically showing God's answer to the prayer, His commandments descending into the heart through the inspirations of the Holy Spirit. Ponder this as we sing today the hymn, Jesus, My Lord, My God, and My All: "O help us love Thee more and more."

DANIEL KIRKLAND, DIRECTOR OF LITURGY & MUSIC

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Melinda Wells, Director of Religious Education
dre@holycorforterparish.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 is \$5.95 for online access to workbook & videos.

We hope to see you there!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

SEVENTH SUNDAY
IN
ORDINARY TIME

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.

February 16, Sixth 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 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 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



MINISTRIES

OUTREACH: During the month of January, we served 253 meals at our Thursday Soup Kitchen. We thank the students at the CCS and the congregants at CBI for providing homemade bread item 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 fruit is welcome. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, HOLY TRINITY CONFERENCE: We continue to provide assistance facing evictions and utility cut offs through the unique ministry of going to visit our friends in their homes. If you are interested in the work of the SVdP, please join us for our next meeting on Tues, Feb 18 at 7pm at the Church of the Incarnation. For more information or to donate, please see <https://www.svdp-ht.org/>

PARISH LIFE: Join us for a *Mardi Gras potluck on Tuesday March 4th at 5:30pm*. We will celebrate with king cake and carry on our tradition of burying the Alleluia banner for lent. Please sign up in flocknote to bring a dish, or two!

WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED MINISTRY: will meet bi-weekly through March 2. Join us as we complete our study period! Meetings are 10pm in the library. Garrett Smith (434) 960-7775

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

33 DAYS TO EUCHARISTIC GLORY is the first Eucharistic Consecration which is an initiative of your Parish Council. This 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 begins 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 info and Q & A.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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!”

FROM THE PASTOR



WE ARE PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Part VII

Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:2

In the Gospel, Jesus makes a forceful statement: **"Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple"** (Lk. 14:27). Saint Paul, in one of his letters, speaks of one of his own crosses, his imprisonment, and in many of his letters Paul explains his profound insights on how we are to view Christ's cross as well as our own crosses, thus, becoming Christ's disciples. Paul asserts that the message of the cross, of Christ crucified, was a stumbling block to the Jews and foolishness to the Greeks (1 Cor 1:22-23). The Jews were expecting a glorious and powerful king who would defeat their enemies. For the Greeks, as Thomas Aquinas notes, *"it seemed opposed to human wisdom that God should die, and that a just and wise man should willingly give himself over to a most shameful death."*

Contrary to the expectations of both Jews and Gentiles, the Gospel proclaims a *crucified Messiah*. Utter foolishness! However, Saint Paul vigorously asserts that the cross remains central in Christian life: **"here we are preaching a crucified Christ"** (1 Cor 1:23); again, **"during my stay with**

you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ" (1 Cor 2:2). The crucified Christ is God's way of fully sharing our humanity. During his earthly life, Jesus experienced the whole range of human joys and sufferings. Though divine, Jesus was totally and completely human. Also, Christian faith holds that Jesus remains fully human—even in the glory of heaven (one of the sure human bodies in heaven).

Jesus experienced the full reality of physical and mental pain on the cross. The crucifixion is God's radical manifestation of his solidarity with us in all our sufferings. Is this a stumbling-block? "Absolutely not!" would be Saint Paul's answer. This "crucified Christ" is **"the power and wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom; God's weakness is stronger than human strength"** (1 Cor 1:24-25). We are invited to measure our lives constantly against the way of Jesus, against the pattern of the Gospel, against the norm of the cross—*not* an easy thing to accept. Here we are dealing with paradox, with measuring rods of effectiveness not according to human wisdom but in accord with the foolishness of God!

As we journey through life with all its joys and sorrows, I share with you a simple formulation of one of my Theology professors of how Jesus is in solidarity with us. "We cannot have a *cross-less Christ* (an "un-crucified" Jesus); yet, we never have a *Christ-less cross* (sorrows or sufferings where Jesus is absent from our lives)." Indeed, a profound paradox, one of the central mysteries of our faith!

The cross is still a stumbling block and foolishness to many. However, to us who have been called, it remains **"the power and wisdom of God."** In short, Christ crucified is central for living as Jesus' disciples and as PILGRIMS OF HOPE. It is bold to claim that the cross of Christ is our hope. It is even bolder to believe and live the cross as our only hope. This is the hope that we have as we fix our eyes on Jesus. We have the hope of eternal life with Him, where there will be no more tears, no more pain, and no more suffering. We have the hope of being with Him forever in glory.

TO BE CONTINUED...

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

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