

HOLY COMFORTER

APRIL 20, 2025

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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 + Wed 8 AM
Thursday 6 PM
Saturday 8 AM

ADORATION

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

CONFESSION

 Sunday
 1 PM

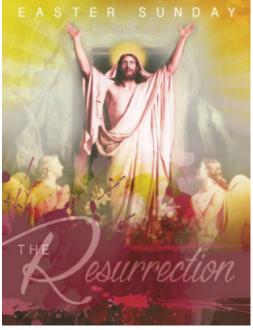
 Mon + Wed + Fri
 6:30—7:30 PM

 Thursday
 7—8 PM

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9 AM—4 PM

Please Send Bulletin Submissions by 3PM Monday 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
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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

MINISTRIES CHAIRS

FINANCE COUNCIL Gary Krutul

gkrutul@sncomm.com
Offertory Counters—Lee Faust

PASTORAL COUNCIL Maria-Andrea Gerling Ospina maria.ospina@gmail.com

LITURGY AND WORSHIP Daniel Kirkland

Lectors – Matt Freeman

Sacristans – Suzanne Bailey <u>slank@ntelos.net</u> Ushers – Dennis Dougherty

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Heather Burns heather@holycomforterparish.org

Funerals and Works of Mercy Ministry

<u>mercy@holycomforterparish.org</u> Homebound Eucharistic Ministry

communionvisit@holycomforterparish.org

Weddings weddings@holycomforterparish.org
Altar Flower Guild – Jeanne Mickiewicz

Jean4greens@yahoo.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Melinda Wells

Religious Education Committee—
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RCIA—Diane Auger Smith + Victoria Lannon
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<u>gregnbuk@gmail.com</u>
Regina Caeli Homeschool Cooperative –

Samantha VanDyke <u>samantha.kepler@gmail.com</u>

That Man Is You—Steven Sisman steven.sisman@gmail.com

Youth Ministry – Anna Sisman

youthgroup@holycomforterparish.org

SOCIAL MINISTRIES Chuck McCurdy

cwm@virginia.edu

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

Walking with Moms in Need –

Garrett Smith <u>gsmith@garrettsmithlaw.com</u> Haiti– Robert O'Brien <u>raobfpc@gmail.com</u>

Uganda—Gregory Lannon gregnbuk@gmail.com Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Holy Trinity

Conference – info@svdp-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

BUILDING AND GROUNDS Greg Gerling ggerling1@netscape.net

MAINTENANCE Ed Mickiewicz

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 (4/19)

8 AM Tenebrae (No Mass)

8 PM Easter Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (4/20) Easter Sunday

Easter Flowers Provided by Numerous Donors Listed in Today's Bulletin

7 AM Gregorian Mass

9 AM Mass

11 AM Mass

MONDAY (4/21)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

TUESDAY (4/22)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

WEDNESDAY (4/23)

10:30-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

THURSDAY (4/24)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6:00 PM Mass

FRIDAY (4/25)

No Regina Caeli Co-op

12 PM Mass

SATURDAY (4/26)

8 AM No Mass

9-12 PM 1st Holy Communion Retreat

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (4/27) Second Sunday in

Easter Divine Mercy Sunday

Easter Flowers Provided by Generous Donors

8:30 AM Mass

9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation

11 AM Mass

12:30 PM RCIA

1 PM Confession

2 PM Mass

3 P Divine Mercy Chaplet

SAINTS OF GOD

4/19 Saint Giana Berretta Mola 4/20 Saint Conrad of Parzham

4/21 Saint Anselm

4/22 Saint Adalbert of Prague

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

4/23 Saint George

4/24 Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen

4/26 Saint Pedro de San Jose Bentancur

4/26 Saint Louis Mary Grignion de Montfort

4/27 Saint Peter Chanel

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 (4/19)

8PM † Mary Tran (Maliwan Altrip)
Peter and Beth Frazier

SUNDAY (4/20)

7AM Members of the Parish 9AM † Maryann Showalter (Ed and Anna Stelow) 11AM Peter and Beth Frazier

MONDAY (4/21)

12PM Peter and Beth Frazier

TUESDAY (4/22)

12PM Simon Ospina (Paula Ospina)

WEDNESDAY (4/23)

12PM Keven and Katherine Couvillion (Rogers and Mary Hellman)

THURSDAY (4/24)

6 PM Tom Frazier

FRIDAY (4/25)

12PM Deceased Members of the Parish and Benefactors of Holy Comforter

SATURDAY (4/26)

8AM No Mass

5 PM † Normand Auger (Therese Auger)

SUNDAY (4/27)

8:30AM Miranda Schrank & John Schrank (Melinda Wells)

11AM Michael Auger in Honor of His Birthday (Therese Auger)

2PM Members of the Parish

PARISH NEWS



GIFTS FROM GOD

GIFTS FROM GOD

Due to an early publication deadline, the Offertory Report for Week Ending April 13, 2025 will appear in next week's Bulletin.

PARISH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

Copies are available in the Commons, in Flocknote, and on our Website.

St. John Chrysostom once said, "Not to enable the poor to



share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life." In other words, almsgiving is not optional. It's justice. The goods we have—time, money, talents—are

entrusted to us for the sake of others.

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 APRIL

ALL MONTH Christian Formation + Haiti + Justice and Peace

4/13/2025 Outreach **4/17/2025** Holy Thursday **4/18/2025** Holy Land Good Friday

4/27/2025 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.
Brochures and return envelopes are available in the pews and in the Commons.

To date, we have raised \$25,768 which is 94% of our \$27,280 parish goal! Thank you for your support!!

LITURGICAL NOTES

Sequence (Victimae Paschali laudes): Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. | The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; and Christ, the undefiled, hath sinners to his Father reconciled. | Death with life contended: combat strangely ended! Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. | Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. | The tomb the Living did enclose; I saw Christ's glory as He rose! | The angels there attesting; shroud with grave-clothes resting. | Christ, my hope, has risen: He goes before you into Galilee. | That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. Victorious King, Thy mercy show! Amen. Alleluia.

There is a kind of liturgical poetry that has persisted in our days from the medieval Church called "sequences." As the name implies, they follow after (i.e., are sequential to) something else. The Alleluia chant expresses the joy of the Gospel message by musical prolongation of the final syllable -ia. It is musical jubilation, and the long string of notes on the final syllable thus came to be called a "jubilus." Over time, composers set words to these wordless notes, and thus the sequence was born. Victimae Paschali laudes is one of only five that survived the reforms of the Council of Trent. It is delightfully bardic, calling on Christians to offer worship to Christ, justifying this command with a riveting story of battle and victory, confirmed by the witness of Mary Magdalene ("Tell us, Mary"). How fitting that so great a thing as the Resurrection should be expressed in song! It is the language of the divine, and so God was pleased that the mystery of the Resurrection of Jesus should be clothed in music, for how can words alone express the unending joy that belongs to those who give themselves over to a new life in Christ? Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. Amen! Alleluia! He is Risen! Daniel Kirkland, Director of Liturgy & Music

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

YOUR PRAYER INTENTIONS TAKEN ON PILGRIMAGE

Dear Holy Comforter Parishioners, Father Joseph Mary will be leaving on Pilgrimage to France, Thursday, April 24. He would like to offer you the opportunity to have him place your intentions at the shrines he will visit, e.g. St. John Vianney in Ars, Basilica of St. Therese of Lisieux, Our Lady of Lourdes, etc. Please contact Father Joseph Mary to benefit from his generous and wonderful spiritual gift to our Parish Family.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

2ND SUNDAY IN EASTER 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 Reading
John 20:19-31

Thomas believes because he sees Jesus.

PARISH NEWS

PLEASE PRAY FOR

PARISHIONERS

(Includes ill, injured, homebound, and caregivers)
Ann Carothers, Phil Carr, Teresa Cook, Connie Flamm,
Kelton Flinn, Jolene Green, Colette Hall, Jim and Bobbie
Hoskins, Ann Jackson, Mary Nguyen, Mae Trentanove,
Alicia Vinklarek, 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, Stephen Crews, Brad and Debbie Ferguson, Max and Hadley Burch, 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, Margaret Heritage, Maddie Hermack, 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, Geraldine Newton, Fr. Richard Mooney, Melodie Mougeolle and Children, Robert Maute, Lia Thoms Price and Family, Lawrence Randolph, Randall Saathoff and Family, Maya Sanchez, Coby Savona, Matthew Schrank and Family, David Schrank 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

295-7185.

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 <u>mercy@holycomforterparish.org</u> or call the church office at 434-

To request Holy Communion or a visit from Father Joseph Mary, please call the office 434-295-7185 or email

reception@holycomforterparish.org

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL has job openings for the 25-26 school year: 6th Grade Language Arts Teacher, Learning Specialist, & Director of Development. Please send resume, Diocesan application, three letters of reference, and a copy of your teaching license to Charlottesville Catholic School, Attn: Vada Fallica, Principal; 1205 Pen Park Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901 oto v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org.

MINISTRIES

<u>OUTREACH</u>: Thank you, parishioners, for your continued support through your time, donations and contributions. During the month of March, we gave out 170 food pantry bags to 537 individuals in Food Pantry. For the month of April, donations of canned tuna are appreciated. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and leader. We wish all a blessed Easter!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, HOLY TRINITY CONFERENCE:

We continue to provide assistance to those facing eviction or utility cut off through the ministry of going to visit our friends in their homes. We thank you for your donations to SVdP. If you are interested in joining SVdP or making a donation, please go to https://www.svdp-ht.org

WORKS OF MERCY MINISTRY: A few volunteers and some of our youth groups have made cards that have brightened the days of residents at the Cedars Nursing Home. We want to make more cards and hope you can join us. Contact mercy@holycomforterparish.org if you are interested in participating. You do not need artistic talent, and all materials will be provided. Think on this: What if you found yourself alone in a nursing home this Easter; receiving a spiffy and creative card could be like receiving a lifeline.

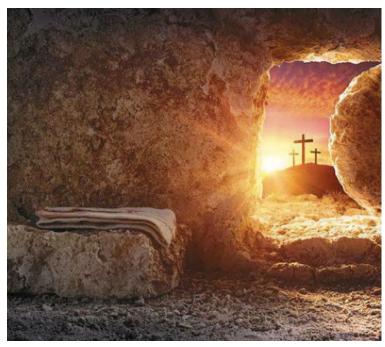
ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Learn about the Theology of the Body over eight sessions with Christopher West from Ascension Press. Discover how our creation as male and female helps us understand the meaning of human existence. Join to find out how our bodies make visible the invisible. We will continue our study with episode 2 on Sunday, April 27th at 10 am, in the piano room (LL). For more info, please email Steven Sisman, at steven.sisman@gmail.com WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED MINISTRY: As Lent comes to an end, and we enter into the Easter season, Walking with Moms in Need reminds all parishioners to return your baby bottles supporting Lifespring Pregnancy Centers. Please drop baby bottles off with a ministry member at the door as you arrive or leave this Sunday or Easter Sunday. You may also drop your bottles in the crate on the credenza before or after the weekend Masses or in the parish office. **HAITI:** "A Happy, Blessed, and Holy Easter from the Haiti Tri-Parish Committee and St. Michel Parish, Saltadere, Haiti. Under Father Asmith's leadership, we procured a significant quantity of food and diesel fuel for the parish. Though it cannot feed all the hungry, it ensures sustenance for the most vulnerable. With a border pass and support from Dominican partners, we can access bulk food markets at normal fuel rates—an Easter blessing! We urge all who can, to please contribute to the Haiti Emergency Food Fund. Every dollar directly aids in purchasing food and fuel, sustaining this vital mission. God Bless and Happy Easter, Bob Frome"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 second "cadre" will begin on May 6, engage for 33 days, and culminate with a public Consecration at Holy Mass on Pentecost Sunday, June 8. For more info, please email Steve Ham at Steven_ham@comcast.net

FROM THE PASTOR





TO VICTORY WITH CHRIST

Part I

Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi

"For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his."

Romans 6:5

Buried with Christ and raised with Him too; What is there left for me to do? Simply to cease from struggling and strife, Simply to walk in newness of life. Glory be to God!

Living with Christ, who dieth no more, Following Christ, who goeth before; I am from bondage utterly freed, Reckoning self as dead indeed. Glory be to God! (Hymn by-T. Ryder).

The above word from the scripture and from the Hymn by T. Ryder resonate well with the journey of Lent we have been taking with Christ to Victory. As followers of Jesus Christ, we all want to live a triumphant Christian life. The Bible assures us that God and His Son Jesus are Victors and that believers can share in their victories: "But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 15:57). In a practical sense, how can we experience the victorious life that has been made possible in Christ? How can we achieve victory in Jesus?

Victory ultimately belongs to the Lord our God (1 Sam. 17:47). Since the days of Israel's Exodus from Egypt, whenever God's people depended on Him alone, He gave them victory over their enemies (Ex. 15). Old Testament prophets consistently pointed to a future Savior who would bring the fullest expression of God's triumph: "Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey" (Zech. 9;9 and Ps. 110:1). We know these prophecies refer to Jesus Christ, the promised Messiah, who has overcome the world and conquered death and sin.

Jesus won the supreme victory at the cross. Sin was atoned for, and the power of sin and death was broken (Jn. 12:31). After Christ's crucifixion and burial, He rose from the dead three days later, and now we share that victory. Satan thought he had won the ultimate contest with the death of Christ. Instead, that death released our chains, set us free from the prison of sin, and disarmed the supernatural powers of evil: "When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross" (Col. 2:13-15).

The key to achieve victory in Jesus is FAITH in Christ: "For everyone

born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God" (1 Jn. 5:4-5). The first step to victory in Jesus is accepting Christ as Savior. We receive the Lord by grace through faith, and we live in His victory by grace through faith as well. Our salvation is a gift of God's grace, and our victory in Jesus is a gift of God's grace (Eph. 2:4-8). Victory in Jesus is real and attainable now because our Lord Jesus has defeated Satan and every evil power of the world. We achieve victory in Jesus by resting in Christ (Matt. 11:28) and trusting Him to triumph for us (Rom. 5:17). While we remain on earth, the Lord reigns victorious through those who have been delivered from the kingdom of darkness and translated into His glorious kingdom of light (1 Pt. 2:9). However, a day will come when the victories of Jesus will be fully realized and celebrated in the new heaven and earth: "He will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The LORD has spoken" (Is. 25:8). THE LORD IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

TO BE CONTINUED...

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



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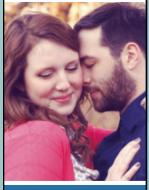
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