

# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

# MAY 11, 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 +      | 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 |
|-------------------|-------------|
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Please Send Bulletin Submissions by 3PM Monday <u>dre@holycomforterparish.org</u>



**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER** 

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish." - Jn 10:27-28a

#### 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** gkrutul55@gmail.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 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** Religious Education Committee-Suzanne Bailey slank@ntelos.net RCIA—Diane Auger Smith + Victoria Lannon dianeaugersmith@gmail.com 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 SOCIAL MINISTRIES 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 Haiti- Robert O'Brien raobfpc@gmail.com 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 (5/10)

8 AM Mass 5 PM Vigil Mass SUNDAY (5/11) Fourth Sunday in Easter **Altar Flower Donations Appreciated** 8:30 AM Mass **11 AM** Mass May Crowning and First Holy Communion 12:30 PM RCIA **1 PM** Confession 2 PM Mass **MONDAY (5/12)** 10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry 12 PM Mass 1-3 PM Adoration 6:30-7:30 PM Confession **TUESDAY (5/13)** 8 AM Mass 10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry WEDNESDAY (5/14) 8 AM Mass 10:30-12:30 PM Food Pantry 6 PM Choir 6-9 PM Adoration 6:30-7:30 PM Confession **THURSDAY (5/15)** 12-1 PM Soup Kitchen 6:00 PM Mass **7 PM** Confession 7-8 PM Adoration FRIDAY (5/16) 12 PM Mass 1-3 PM Adoration 6:30-7:30 PM Confession SATURDAY (5/17) 8 AM Mass 2:30-4 PM Vatican II Talks (LL) 5 PM Vigil Mass

### SAINTS OF GOD

5/10 Saint Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i 5/11 Saint Ignatius of Laconi 5/12 Saint Leopold Mandic

#### SUNDAY (5/18) Fifth Sunday in

Easter Altar Flower Donations Appreciated 8:30 AM Mass 11 AM 12:30 PM RCIA **1 PM** Confession 2 PM Mass 4:30 PM Chesterton Spring Concert

#### Prayer for the Eternal Repose of the late Holy Father's Soul

"O God, who in your wondrous providence chose your servant Pope SATURDAY (5/10) Francis to preside over your Church, 8AM Matthew Schnur (Elisa Schnur) grant, we pray, that, having served as the Vicar of your Son on earth, he SUNDAY (5/11) may be welcomed by him into eternal glory. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever 2PM † Manuel O. Calderon (Mona Peglow) and ever." O Lord!

#### 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 FRIDAY (5/16) there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen

5/13 Saints Our Lady of Fatima 5/14 Saint Matthias 5/15 Saint Isadore the Farmer 5/16 Saint Margaret of Cortona 5/17 Saint Paschal Baylon 5/18 Saint John I

### 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

5 PM † Jane Til Danilek

8:30AM Members of the Parish 11AM † Sabina Di Sante (Silvia de Paolo) † Pam Heron (Cindy Reedy)

#### MONDAY (5/12)

Eternal rest grant unto Pope Francis, 12PM Matthew Schnur (Elisa Schnur)

#### **TUESDAY (5/13)**

8AM Simon Ospina (Paula Ospina) Stephanie Crews in Honor of her Birthday(Melinda Crews)

† Pam Heron (Cindy Reedy)

#### WEDNESDAY (5/14)

8AM Matthew Schnur (Elisa Schnur)

#### THURSDAY (5/15)

6 PM Matthew Schnur (Elisa Schnur)

12PM † Coby Savona, Sr (Alicia Vinklarek)

#### SATURDAY (5/17)

8AM For the Souls in Purgatory (Patricia McAdams) 5 PM Members of the Parish

#### SUNDAY (5/18)

8:30AM † John Joseph Valloric (Sylvia Valloric) 11AM Rachael Stewart and Family 2PM † Maximus and Personal Intentions (Silvia Di Paolo)

## PARISH NEWS

### GIFTS FROM GOD

#### **GIFTS FROM GOD**

| Week Ending May 4, 2025 |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Offertory               | \$3,738   |
| Weekly Offertory Budget | (\$9,100) |
| Below Weekly Budget     | (\$5,362) |



IS IT TIME TO REVIEW YOUR LEVEL OF OFFERTORY GIVING?



A long-time parishioner called the office recently to apologize. He said when the parish began accepting contributions online in 2015, he set

up recurring payments and has made no increase in his gift since then! The following week he brought in a "make-up" check!!

We are so grateful to him. Our operating costs have been steadily rising over the last several years, which has required us to withdraw over \$35,000 from our savings to meet our obligations.

If your weekly gift to Holy Comforter needs to be updated, please know how much that increase in support is needed, especially at this time. **May God bless you abundantly.** 

#### SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR MAY

ALL MONTH Catholic Virginian + Christian Formation + Justice and Peace 5/11/2025 Outreach

5/25/2025 Maintenance Fund

#### PARISH SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

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

### 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal: *Sharing His Love with Others*

We have reached our \$27,280 parish goal! Thank you for your support!!

Brochures and return envelopes are available in the pews and in the Commons.

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

FIFTH SUNDAY IN EASTER First Reading Acts of the Apostles 14:21-27 Paul and Barnabas proclaim the good news in many places. Responsorial Psalm Psalm 145:8-9,10-11,12-13 A song of praise to God.

### LITURGICAL NOTES

**Entrance** (*Misericordia Domini*): The earth is full of the mercy of the Lord, alleluia; by the word of the Lord, the heavens were established, alleluia, alleluia.

**Offertory** (*Deus, Deus meus*): O God, my God, from daybreak do I watch for you; and in invocation of your name will I lift up my hands.

**Communion** (*Ego sum pastor bonus*): I am the good shepherd, alleluia; I know my sheep and my own know me, alleluia, alleluia.

This is Good Shepherd Sunday in which the Lord teaches us that we will learn to recognize His voice as we grow in the life of grace. The Communion Antiphon, which presents us with the Gospel passage, is unique among the chants for its extensive use of the half step (the smallest distance between two notes in Western music) between Mi and Fa. It is a plaintive melody filled with the desire of the Shepherd to find the lost sheep. There is also an allusion to the Offertory Antiphon, which has a similar melody though not as poignant. In a way, they are complementary of each other – the one being our call to God and the other His response to us. The Offertory in particular presents a good lesson to our First Communicants this weekend - we must yearn to be with Jesus, we must keep watch for Him even from our waking moments. Only in this way will we find the strength to get through our days because we know or learn to know that all things pass away, but our true Love is eternal, and He wants us to be with Him forever. Let us take to hear the words of the Communion hymn today: "Sweet Sacrament, we Thee adore! O help us love Thee more and more." *Easter blessings to all! Daniel Kirkland, Director of Liturgy & Music* 

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

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

#### May Crowning, First Holy Communion AND Father Joseph Mary's Ordination Anniversary!

May Crowning and First Holy Communion is this Sunday morning, May 11, at the 11PM Mass. A pew will be reserved in the front for each of the nine families. (A banner will be placed on end of each pew). After First Communion pictures are taken with Father, there will be a celebration with cake in the Commons area.

We will also be celebrating Father Joseph Mary's Ordination Anniversary ...44 Years and going! Please use this opportunity to thank Father Joseph Mary for his many years of dedication to God and Holy Comforter's Parish Family!

Join us as we share in the joy of First Communion and Father Joseph Mary's 44th Ordination Anniversary!

> Second Reading Revelation 21:1-5a John describes his vision of a new heaven and a new earth. Gospel Reading John 13:31-33a,34-35 Jesus gives his disciples a new commandment: love one another.

## PARISH NEWS

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR



(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**

Matthew Mickiewicz, Benjamin Schrank, Elijah Schrank, Jonathan Schrank, and Joey Smith.

If you would like your family member/fellow parishioner added, email to Works of Mercy Ministry <u>mercy@holycomforterparish.org</u> or call the church office at 434-295-7185.

#### To request Holy Communion or a visit from Father Joseph Mary, please call the office 434-295-7185 or email <u>reception@holycomforterparish.org</u>

<u>CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL</u> has job openings for the 25-26 school year: Librarian, 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 or to <u>v.fallica@cvillecatholic.org</u>.

<u>33 Days to Eucharistic Glory</u> 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

### MINISTRIES

**OUTREACH:** Thank you, parishioners, for your support during the Lenten season through your donations, time, and contributions to the Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen. For the month of May, donations of canned vegetables are appreciated. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and leader. Have a blessed Easter season!

#### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, HOLY TRINITY CONFERENCE:

Please consider donating to SVdP to enable us to help others with their rent and utilities bills through our Eastertide Campaign. You can donate by check or online. For more information and to donate, please visit <u>https://www.svdp-ht.org</u>. Thank you and Happy Easter!

PARISH LIFE: Please join us for our annual PENTECOST PICNIC on Sunday June 8th at 430pm at the McIntyre Park Shelter behind the YMCA. It will be a potluck picnic so please bring a dish to share! ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: How has Vatican II informed our roles as members of the Church? Read and discuss several documents from the Second Vatican Council with Fr. Nicholas Hartman, O.P. of St. Thomas Aguinas University Catholic Church on four Saturday afternoons in May and June from 2:30-4:00 p.m. in the Lower Level of Holy Comforter Catholic Church: May 3 [Dei Verbum (Divine Revelation)]; May 17 [Dignitatis Humanae (Religious Liberty)]; June 21 (tentative) [Lumen Gentium (the Church)--Part 1, selected excerpts]; June 28 (tentative) [Lumen Gentium (the Church) Part 2, selected excerpts] See https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist\_councils/ ii vatican council/index.htm for a free print-out or purchase from a variety of online booksellers. Contact Suzanne Bailey (434-326-3166 / slank@ntelos.net or Melinda Wells, DRE

<u>"Band of Brothers (BOB) is finishing up Year 1 of "That Man is You".</u> Thank you to everyone for their involvement. Starting in June, BOB will start meeting outdoors at Washington Park on Saturday mornings from 6:30-7:30 am, to read St Augustine's confessions alongside Custos, a 33 day consecration to St Joseph. Please text Steven Sisman 434-465-5783 if interested.

HAITI: PRAY FOR HAITI AND HELP FUND HAITI EMERGENCY FOOD FUND Despite the violence and turmoil, our tri-parish ministry presses on—initiating student health exams, providing physical textbooks for the first time, and preparing to open a new computer lab. Action manifests hope. Perseverance fulfills the Gospel's promise. We are collecting funds for Haiti's emergency food effort. Donations marked "For Haiti food" will directly support this mission. To date, 1.5 tons of rice, beans, and oil have been distributed.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST SUMMER** 

**POETRY CAMP** June 23-27, 2025 9am-12am, Rising 9th-12th graders Do you love poetry? Or do you feel like you just don't "get" poetry? Either way, join Mr. Isak Bond to learn the tools and techniques of the best poets. Students will keep a poet's notebook to write imitations and original works. The week will conclude with an "open mic" poetic celebration of words featuring camp members' own original writing. Please registration at <u>https://www.chestertonsje.org/</u>. For details, please contact Linda Kenny <u>lkenny@chestertonsje.org</u> 434-381-4284

### FROM THE PASTOR





THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY and THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS Part I Rev. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi "Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene" John 19:25

Did Jesus appear to his mother after His Resurrection? The National Catholic Register has an article (April 6, 2021) featuring some partial answers to the above question by the great Pope. St. John Pual II: "The Gospels mention nothing about Jesus appearing to his mother Mary after his Resurrection. Do we ever wonder whether he did see her? After all, she was his mother, the first to see him at the Nativity, his birth. She was the first Christian from the moment of the Annunciation and Incarnation. Wouldn't he want to see his mother first?

"If the evangelists didn't write about Mary's encounter with her risen Son Jesus, 'this can perhaps be attributed to the fact that such a witness would have been considered too biased by those who denied the Lord's Resurrection, and therefore not worthy of belief,' John Paul II said in 1997. 'How could the Blessed Virgin, present in the first community of disciples (Acts 1:14), be excluded from those who met her divine Son after he had risen from the dead?" asked John Paul II. "Indeed, it is legitimate to think that the Mother was probably the first person to whom the risen Jesus appeared.' Posing another question, he asked rhetorically if Mary's not joining the women going to the tomb at dawn can 'indicate that she had already met Jesus? Those women had been faithful and had been at the Cross. Of course, Our Lady had been the most faithful of all.'"

Blessed Virgin's presence at Calvary and her perfect union with the Son in his suffering on the Cross seem to postulate a very particular sharing on her part in the mystery of the Resurrection.' Thus, this appearance would be part of 'completing in this way her participation in all the essential moments of the paschal mystery.'"

"So it's reasonable to think that Mary, as the image and model of the Church which waits for the Risen One and meets him in the group of disciples during his Easter appearances, had had a personal contact with her risen Son, so that she too could delight in the fullness of paschal joy."

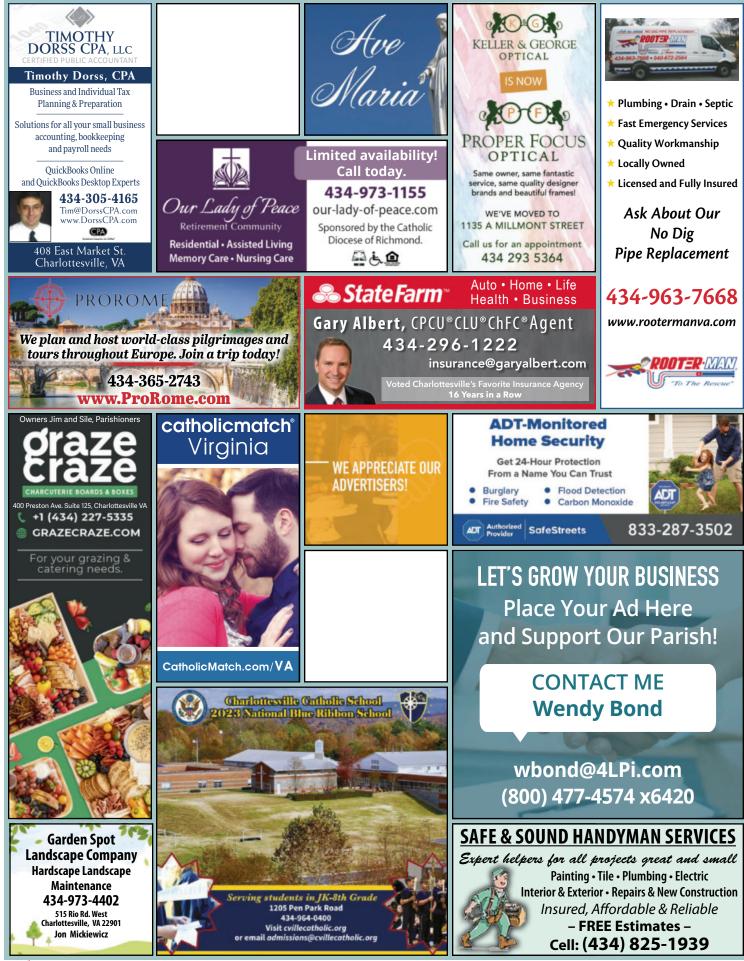
Mary's presence during the events of the Crucifixion is a heartbreaking image in Christian tradition. The Gospel of John specifically notes her presence at the foot of the cross, where Jesus, even in agony, entrusted her to the care of the beloved disciple, symbolizing her role as the mother of all Christians (Jn 19:26-27). However, the Gospels do not explicitly mention Mary at the Resurrection. Despite this, tradition and theological reflection suggest that Mary would have been among the first to believe in and perhaps witness the risen Christ, given her close relationship with her Son and her profound faith. Theologically, Mary is seen as the first disciple, and her experiences during the Easter season highlight themes of faith, trust, and maternal love. She models for all believers how to stand steadfast in faith, even in moments of great personal loss and uncertainty. The joy of the Resurrection is made even more touching considering the sorrow she endured, offering a profound example of spiritual perseverance and hope.

Mary's role during the Easter season offers a unique perspective on the events of Christ's passion, death, and resurrection. Her example of faith and devotion provides a model for us believers to follow, and her maternal care for all Christians invites us to seek her intercession and support on our spiritual journey. As the Church celebrates the resurrection of Christ, reflecting on Mary's role enriches the understanding of this joyous season and highlights the interconnectedness of the Communion of those who saw and believed with those who have not seen yet believe.

To be continued...

"John Paul II offered yet another reason for believing Jesus appeared first to his mother: 'The unique and special character of the Melinda Wells, DRE, dre@holycomforterparish.org

Should you have any questions about our Catholic Faith, please contact



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