



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

FEBRUARY 22, 2026

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

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

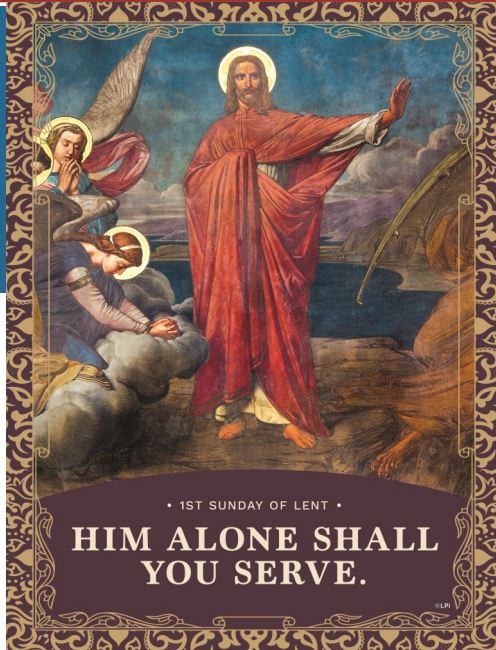
CONFESSION

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 1:30PM Monday
dre@holycomforterparish.org



Pastor

Rev. Father Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi
jmlukyamuzi@richmonddiocese.org

Administrative Business Manager

Mary Frances Lilly
office@holycomforterparish.org

Receptionist/Office Assistant

Melinda Crews
reception@holycomforterparish.org

Liturgy Coordinator

Alicia Vinklarek
liturgy@holycomforterparish.org

Music Coordinator

Querida Hills
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 Alicia Vinklarek

MUSIC MINISTRY Querida Hill

Lectors – Matt Freeman

Sacristans – Suzanne Bailey slank@ntelos.net

Altar Servers — Jackson Kulick

Jackson@brgtshirts.com

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

Christian Initiation of Adults (CIA)

Diane Auger Smith

dianeaugersmith@gmail.com

THIY (Band of Brothers) Steven Sisman

mensgroup@holycomforterparish.org

Youth Group—Anna Sisman/Tristan Majewski

youthgroup@holycomforterparish.org

SOCIAL MINISTRIES Chuck McCurdy

cwm@virginia.edu

Outreach-Soup Kitchen/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 434-226-8022

K of C—Nicholas Pierson gk3670@vakofc.org

PARISH COMMUNITY LIFE Elizabeth Gilbert

parishlife@holycomforterparish.org

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 (2/21)

7 AM TMIY: Band of Brothers

8AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

GOOD SHEPHERDS OF BETHLEHEM

WILL BE OFFERING HANDMADE RELIGIOUS ITEMS FROM THE HOLY LAND AFTER ALL WEEKEND MASSES.

SUNDAY (2/22) First Sunday in Lent

Sanctuary Decorations Donated In Loving Memory of Alfred, Signe, and Peter Klauser and Paula Klauser Jones

8:30 AM Mass

9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation

11 AM Mass Rite of Sending

12:30 PM RCIA

1 PM Confession

2 PM Mass

MONDAY (2/23)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

TUESDAY (2/24)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY (2/25)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6-8 PM Adoration

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

THURSDAY (2/26)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6 PM Mass followed by Adoration

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

FRIDAY (2/27)

12 PM Mass

12:30- 3 PM Adoration following Mass

5:45 PM Stations of the Cross with

Soup Supper following

6:30 PM Confession

7-8:30 PM Youth Group

SATURDAY (2/28)

6:30 AM TMIY: Band of Brothers

8AM Mass

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (3/1) First Sunday in Lent

Sanctuary Decoration Donations are Appreciated

8:30 AM Mass

9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation

11 AM Mass Rite of Sending

12:30 PM RCIA

1 PM Confession

2 PM Mass

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

We welcome you to join our Holy Comforter Parish Family. Registration Forms are in the Office and on the Commons Credenza.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE EUCHARIST

Lord Jesus Christ, in the Sacrament of the Eucharist, You left us the outstanding manifestation of your limitless love for us. Thank You for giving us the opportunity to experience this love in receiving the Sacrament at this Mass. May Your Eucharistic presence keep us ever free from sin, fortified in faith, pervaded by love for God and neighbor, and fruitful in virtue, that we may continue to receive You throughout life and attain final union with You at death.
Amen

2/25 Blessed Sebastian of Aparicio

2/26 Saint Maria Bertilla Boscardin

2/27 Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows

2/28 Blessed Daniel Brottier

3/1 Saint David of Wales

MASS INTENTIONS

TO REQUEST MASS INTENTIONS:

Contact the Parish Office

434-295-7185

Reception@holycomforterparish.org

SATURDAY (2/21)

8AM Dominic Nguyen (Fr Joseph Mary)

5PM Colette Hall and Kelton Flinn
(Alicia Vinklarek)

SUNDAY (2/22)

8:30AM Members of the Parish

11AM Baby Longville
(Veronica Longville)

2PM Ethan Longville
(Veronica Longville)

MONDAY (2/23)

12PM Vu and Thuy Nguyen
(Fr. Joseph Mary)

TUESDAY (2/24)

8AM James Hoskins (Fr. Joseph Mary)
In honor of Greg Gerling's Birthday
(Maria and Lucas Gerling)

WEDNESDAY (2/25)

8AM † Victoria and † Ruben Engracia
(Maria Engracia)

THURSDAY (2/26)

6PM Richard and Mary Ziminski
(Fr Joseph Mary)

FRIDAY (2/27)

12PM † Normand and † Therese Auger
Deceased Members of the Parish and
Benefactors of Holy Comforter

SATURDAY (2/28)

8AM The Ill and The Homebound

5PM Nicki Athey and Family
(Fr Joseph Mary)
Michele Skarvelis
(Alicia Vinklarek)

SUNDAY (3/1)

8:30AM Baby Longville
(Veronica Longville)

11AM Members of the Parish

2PM Special Intention (Patricia McAdams)

SAINTS OF GOD

2/21 Saint Peter Damian

2/22 Chair of Saint Peter

2/23 Saint Polycarp

2/24 Blessed Luke Belludi

PARISH NEWS



PARISH SUPPORT



“THERE IS NO MORE PROFITABLE PRACTICE AS A COMPANION TO HOLY AND SPIRITUAL FASTING THAN THAT OF ALMSGIVING.”

Pope St. Leo the Great (400-461 A.D.)

Week Ending February 15, 2026

Offertory Contributions

- In Pew and By Mail \$4,005
- Online Giving \$1,755

Weekly Offertory Budget (\$9,500)

Below Weekly Budget (\$3,740)

WEEKLY OFFERTORY BUDGET

Our parish operating budget for the current fiscal year is \$494,000 which requires us to receive offertory contributions of **\$9,500 per week**. In order to meet our obligations, it is necessary for our 225 families to contribute \$2,200 per year, or about \$42 per week. Thank you for your support!

SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR FEBRUARY

ALL MONTH Christian Formation + Haiti + Justice and Peace

2/8/2026 Outreach

2/18/2026 Ash Wednesday (*Saint Vincent de Paul, Holy Trinity Conference*)

2/22/2026 Maintenance Fund

YOUTH MINISTRY BAKE SALE

Thanks to your generosity, **\$3,878** was raised to assist students planning to attend the Steubenville Youth Conference this summer! To contribute, please select YOUTH MINISTRY EVENTS in our Online Giving portal. Thank you for your support!!

2026 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL *Sharing His Love with Others*



Our parish goal this year is to raise **\$27,950**.

Thanks to your support of last years' Appeal, our Parish received nearly \$14,000 which was of tremendous assistance to our overall Parish

operations and the good works of our ministries, especially in this time of ever-rising operating expenses. Your generosity will be appreciated!



SCAN HERE to support Holy Comforter! Thank You!!

LITURGICAL NOTES

A big thank you to all who volunteer for our Liturgy. You are amazing! From Altar Servers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, Ushers and the Choir. Now that we are in the Lenten Season, let us reflect on God's love for us and our call to serve. For me, I find it to be an honor that God allows me to serve in any capacity.

Just a reminder that we have now begun the Stations of the Cross at 5:45 pm, followed by Lenten Soup Supper, coordinated with by our Knights of Columbus and Parish Life Ministry. Another big thank you to our Knights of Columbus and our Parish Life Ministry for supporting our Parish.

God Bless, Alicia Vinklerek, LMC

FAST AND ABSTINENCE (From the United States Conference on Catholic Bishops) Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. See the USCCB website for more details.

Religious Education

Melinda Wells, DRE
dre@holyccomforterparish.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

- ◆ **Christian Formation and Sacraments:** Sundays, 9:45-10:24AM
- ◆ **Christian Initiation of Adults:** Sundays, 12:30-1:30 PM
- ◆ **Rite of Sending (*Catechumens-Unbaptized*):** February 22, 11 AM Mass
- ◆ **First Scrutiny (*Catechumens*):** March 8, 8:30 AM Mass
- ◆ **Penitential Rite (*Candidates-Baptized*):** March 8, 11 AM Mass
- ◆ **Second Scrutiny (*Catechumens*):** March 15, 11 AM Mass
- ◆ **Third Scrutiny (*Catechumens*):** March 21, 5 PM Mass
- ◆ **Lenten Talk by *Father Joseph Mary*:** March 22, 10AM
- ◆ **Family Stations of the Cross:** April 3, 12PM

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

First Reading *Genesis 12:1-4a*
God promises Abram a great blessing.
Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 33:4-5, 18-20, 22
God's mercy is upon those who trust in God.

Second Reading *2 Timothy 1:8b-10*
Through God's grace we are called to holiness.
Gospel Reading *Matthew 17:1-9*
Jesus is transfigured on the mountain in the presence of Peter, James, and John.

PARISH NEWS

PLEASE PRAY FOR



MINISTRIES

PARISHIONERS

(Includes ill, injured, homebound, and caregivers) Eileen Bracuti, Ann Carothers, Teresa Cook, Connie Flamm, Kelton Flinn, Jolene Green, Colette Hall, Jim and Bobbie Hoskins, Ann Jackson, Cassandra Johnson-Francisco, Patricia McAdams, Mae Trentanove, Mary Wheeler, and Mary Ann Ziminski.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Alex Ahn, Leroy and Felicia Anderson, Blandine Attey, Ben and Katherine Barahona, Christine Bentejac, Max and Hadley Burch, Stephen Crews, Kaylee Carter, Petra Vera Chavez, Lauren Rundall, Stephanie Crews, Roxanne Crittenden, Nancy Joan Debieese, Jimmy Dominguez, Linda Doyle, Gene Flamm, Fr. Gerald Fogarty, Charlie Foster, Brad and Debbie Ferguson, Sue Gilbert, Paula Goodburn, Dan Grogan, Fr. Theodore J. Haag, OFM, Genevieve Halfen, Liana Haseltine, Margaret Heritage, Maddie Hermack, Wilem Hommel, Mark Rowland Huckabe, Joe Kanapell, Betty Kapeluch, Kelly Lembo and Family, Joan Lincks, Mike & Sibylle Llewellyn, Shannon and Coty Lockett, Chelsea Massey, Dot McAllister, Brett McQuhae, Cullen McQuhae, Michael McNeil, Fr. Richard Mooney, Robert Maute, Mary Nguyen, Lia Thoms Price and Family, Lawrence Randolph, Saathoff Family, Coby Savona, Kathryn Savona, Schrank Family, Tara Singh, Aiden Smith, Christopher Tomaselli, Brendan and Maria Walsh, Residents and Staff of Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention, Williams Family and Napier Family

MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY

Matthew Mickiewicz, Elijah & Jonathan Schrank, and Joey Smith, Nathaniel Byrd

If you would like your family member or fellow parishioner added or removed from the lists, contact the Works of Mercy Ministry mercy@holycomforterparish.org or church office 434-295-7185.

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

reception@holycomforterparish.org

George and Katherine Awwad, representatives of The Good Shepherds of Bethlehem will be visiting our parish this

weekend. They will be offering a beautiful collection of hand-carved olive wood religious items made by Christian families in Bethlehem and the surrounding Holy Land villages.


Your purchase directly supports these families and helps sustain a Christian presence in the land of Jesus' birth, where many are struggling due to conflict and limited economic opportunities. Your support makes a real difference for them.

Charlottesville Catholic School: "Now is the time to seize the day!" Join CCS as their middle school drama department presents Disney's Newsies JR. on February 27 & 28 at 6:30PM in the school gym. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by visiting cvillecatholic.org/events/

Nurturing God-Given Gifts-Inspiring Tomorrow's Leaders. CCS is accepting Applications for the 2026-2027 School Year Serving students in Jr Kindergarten through 8th Grade For more info, or schedule a tour see admissions@cvillecatholic.org

OUTREACH: With the melting of the snow and ice, we are back to our normal operation in Food Pantry! For the month of March, we would appreciate donations of canned fruits. Your donations are appreciated!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, HOLY TRINITY CONFERENCE:

 As Vincentians, we have the opportunity in visiting our friends to get to know them, albeit briefly, and to hear a piece of their life story. In meeting them, we are better able to recognize the Lord through them. Our next meeting is on March 3, 2026 in the Church of the Incarnation's Conference Room at 7pm. For more information visit our website at www.svdhp-ht.org or email us at info@svdp-ht.org

HOLY COMFORTER'S MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP! All youth in grades 6 through 8 are invited to *Middle School Youth Group on Fridays from 7-8:30pm*. There will be fun, fellowship, and faith-building. Please email youthgroup@holycomforterparish.org to contact Anna Sisman and Tristan Majewski for more information, registration, and calendar,

WALKING WITH MOMS IN NEED: We are helping LifeSpring Pregnancy Centers by collecting baby bottles filled with alms this Lent in support of pregnant women and mothers in need. We will be handing out this Sunday and next Sunday after each of the Masses. Please bring the bottles back with your donations before or after any of the Masses on the Sunday before Easter, March 28 and 29. *You can also show your respect for life* by supporting the 2026 Charlottesville Walk for Life which will take place on April 26. You can sign up and walk with our parish or support a walker with a donation. For more info visit the Walking with Moms in Need webpage.

THAT MAN IS YOU: Band of Brothers men's ministry is running a 90-day Men's Exodus challenge starting January 5th and continuing through the end of Lent. We will be using the paper version, so no purchase is necessary. The challenge will be led by our fellow parishioner, Salva Sierra. Contact Steven Sisman, mensgroup@holycomforterparish.org

HAITI: This weekend the Haiti Tri Parish Ministry will host the first of the Tri Parish Sponsorship Fairs in St. Thomas Hall at St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish. Please stop by after Mass to meet ministry members, learn more, or renew your sponsorship. Your generosity strengthens both our parishes and our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

Announcements

St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish is seeking a mission-driven Business Manager to oversee the financial and administrative operations of the parish. Email Lori Donlon at admin@stauva.org.

TREASURES OF THE TRADITION: Adult Formation sponsors two online reading groups this spring: **(1) Dante's Inferno.** A slow (8 pp / week) and thoughtful trip through the great poet's imagination of hell, focusing on theological and psychological issues. Weekly; starts late February. **(2) Reading Scripture: The Tradition.** Explore vital questions about how to interpret the Bible by reading Church Fathers, Doctors, and Vatican documents. Every other week from early March.

Everyone's first meeting is a free trial, with reasonable rates and a sliding scale thereafter. Schedule is set by the group's needs, so as soon as possible, email John Bugbee bugbee@TheTreasures.org or visit <https://TheTreasures.org> for more info!

FROM THE PASTOR



Suffering That Leads to Victory

Part I

Rev. Fr. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi

**"If we suffer, we shall also reign with him:
if we deny him, he also will deny us."**

2 Timothy 2:12

St. Basil the Great who lived between (675-749 AD) said; "When mankind was estranged from God by disobedience, our God and Savior made a plan for raising us from our fall and restoring us to friendship with himself. According to this plan Christ came in the flesh, he showed us the gospel way of life, he suffered, died on the cross, was buried and rose from the dead. He did this so that we could be saved by imitation of him and recover our original status as sons and daughters of God by adoption".

The season of Lent the 40 days of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, is an opportunity to focus and work on all that could help us to become more like Christ. Lent mimics the 40 days Jesus spent fasting and praying in the desert. It is a time to unite personal sufferings and sacrifices with the Passion of Christ, moving from self-centeredness to God-centeredness. Practices like fasting, prayer, and almsgiving are not just to be done, but to help detach from worldly,

material desires and embrace the cross. This is intended to break attachments to comfort and sin. The goal is to move beyond just giving things up and to achieve a true, inner conversion of heart. It is a time for renewal, repentance, and preparing for the joy of Easter.

*Taking Christ for his model, Paul said that he wanted to become like him in his death in the hope that he too would be raised from death to life. And in his letter to the Romans said: **"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".(6:5).***

*We imitate Christ's death by being buried with him in baptism. If we ask what this kind of burial means and what benefit we may hope to derive from it, it means first of all making a complete break with our former way of life, and our Lord himself said that this cannot be done unless a man is born again- **"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God"(Jn.3:3).**In other words, we have to begin a new life, and we cannot do so until our previous life has been brought to an end. When runners reach the turning point on a racecourse, they have to pause briefly before they can go back in the opposite direction. So also when we wish to reverse the direction of our lives there must be a pause, or a death, to mark the end of one life and the beginning of another. This season is a time for conversion, turning away from sin and toward a, more disciplined, "new way to live" that aligns with Gospel values. In fact this is a time to realize that we cannot transform ourselves, but rather rely on God's grace and mercy to renew us. This season invites a deliberate "descent into the desert," a time to unclutter life and refocus on God's call to love and serve others. Let us do it.*

To be Continued...

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