



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

MARCH 1, 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

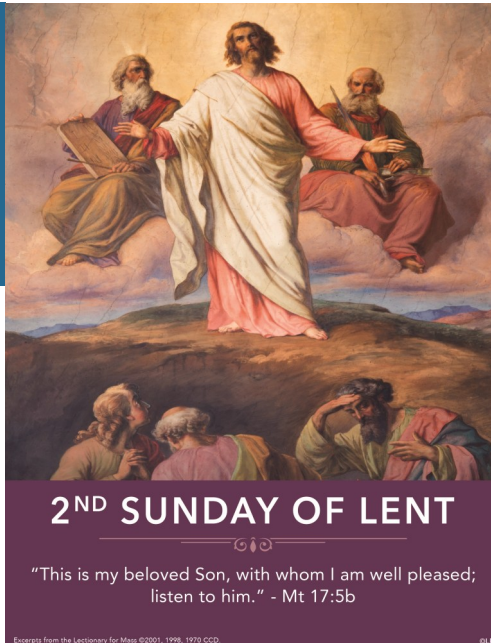
CONFESSION

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
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- Liturgy Coordinator**
Alicia Vinklarek
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- 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 (2/28)

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

12:30 PM RCIA

1 PM Confession

2 PM Gregorian Mass

MONDAY (3/2)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

TUESDAY (3/3)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY (3/4)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6-8 PM Adoration

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

THURSDAY (3/5)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6 PM Mass followed by Adoration and Evening Vespers

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

FRIDAY (3/6)

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 (3/7)

6:30 AM TMIY: Band of Brothers

8 AM Mass

8 AM-12 PM First Reconciliation

Retreat (LL after attending Mass)

5 PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (3/8) Third Sunday in Lent

Sanctuary Decoration Donations are Appreciated

8:30 AM Mass RCIA-First Scrutiny

9:45-10:45 AM Christian Formation

11 AM Mass RCIA-Penitential Rite

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

3/4 Saint Casimir

3/5 Saint John Joseph of the Cross

3/6 Saint Mary Ann

of Jesus of Paredes

3/7 Sts Perpetua and Felicity

3/8 Saint John of God

MASS INTENTIONS

TO REQUEST MASS INTENTIONS:

Contact the Parish Office

434-295-7185

Reception@holycomforterparish.org

SATURDAY (2/28)

8AM The Ill and The Homebound
Children in HC First Sacraments

5PM Nicky Athey and Family

(Fr. Joseph Mary)

Michele Skarvelis

(Alicia Vinklarek)

SUNDAY (3/1)

8:30AM Baby Longville

(Veronica Longville)

Matthew Schrank and Family

(Melinda Wells)

11AM Members of the Parish

2PM Special Intention

(Patricia McAdams)

MONDAY (3/2)

12PM Christopher Dusang (Elisa Schnur)

TUESDAY (3/3)

8AM † Douglas McAdams

(Patricia McAdams)

WEDNESDAY (3/4)

8AM Matthew Schnur (Elisa Schnur)

THURSDAY (3/5)

6PM Matthew Schnur (Elisa Schnur)

FRIDAY (3/6)

12PM Christopher Dusang (Elisa Schnur)

SATURDAY (3/7)

8AM † Nicholas Sala (Emily Sacco)

5PM Nicki and Crispin Athey and Family
(Fr Joseph Mary)

SUNDAY (3/8)

8:30AM Baby Longville

(Veronica Longville)

11AM † Sharon Victoria Smith

(Richard Nordin)

2PM Members of the Parish

SAINTS OF GOD

2/28 Blessed Daniel Brottier

3/1 Saint David of Wales

3/2 Saint Agnes of Bohemia

3/3 Saint Katharine Drexel

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 \$3,649
- Online Giving \$2,380

Weekly Offertory Budget (\$9,500)

Below Weekly Budget (\$3,471)

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 MARCH

ALL MONTH Catholic Virginian + Christian Formation + Justice and Peace

3/1/2026 Easter Flowers

3/8/2026 Outreach

3/15/2026 Catholic Relief Services

3/22/2026 Maintenance Fund

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

This month of March, is dedicated to St. Joseph. Let us reflect on his role in the Holy Family and ask him to pray for us, especially for husbands and their families. This month is significant, as the whole month is our liturgical season of Lent, symbolizing penance and reflection. We have a lot of opportunity during this month to pray, reflect and repent. See below:

- During Lent, we added Evening Vespers on Thursdays following Mass and during Adoration. Please come join us & pray with us.
- St. Joseph's Feast Day, Thursday, March 19th, 6 pm Mass. We will have a light reception for all the Joseph's in our Parish and their families. Please come and enjoy with us.
- Our Lenten Penance Service is Tuesday evening, March 24th.
- The Solemnity of the Annunciation of our Lord is Wednesday, March 25th. We will have Mass at 8 am, then again 6 pm Mass in Latin followed by Compline.
- Don't forget our Stations of the Cross, every Friday at 5:45 PM, followed by Soup Supper hosted by Parish Life and the Knights of Columbus.

Please see Religious Education below for more events at Holy Comforter during this Lenten season.

God Bless,

Alicia Vinklarek LMC, Coordinator of Liturgy

Religious Education

Melinda Wells, DRE

dre@holycomforterparish.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

- ◆ **Christian Formation and Sacraments:** Sundays, 9:45-10:45AM
- ◆ **RCIA:** Sundays, 12:30-1:30PM
- ◆ **First Reconciliation Retreat:** Saturday, March 7, 8-12PM
- ◆ **First Scrutiny (Catechumens-Unbaptized):** Mar. 8, 8:30AM 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 "Appreciating the Sacraments of Penance through the Eyes of St. John Vianney":** Sunday, March 22, 10AM
- ◆ **Family Stations of the Cross:** Friday, April 3, 12PM

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

First Reading *Exodus 17:3-7*

God tells Moses to bring forth water from the rock.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 95:1-2,6-9

Sing joyfully in the presence of the Lord.

Second Reading *Romans 5:1-2,5-8*

Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel Reading *John 4:5-42*

Jesus reveals himself to the Samaritan woman at the well.

PARISH NEWS



PLEASE PRAY FOR

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, Suzanne Lank, 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 434-295-7185.

To request Holy Communion or a visit from Father Joseph Mary, please call the church office 434-295-7185 or reception@holycomforterparish.org


Women's Cursillo Weekend: Thursday afternoon, April 23rd - Sunday, April 26th in Keezletown, VA. A Cursillo Weekend is a 3-day spiritual retreat to raise awareness of Christ and for formation as a Christian leader. Cursillo provides spiritual nutrition, inspiration, and friendship for your journey. Join Catholic women of all ages and be filled with the joy Christ offers. Please go to www.valleycursillo.com for information and the application. Contact Garrett Smith at (434) 960-7775 for a sponsor, or for more info. *The Application deadline is March 26th.* Men's Cursillo Weekend will be October 1-4, 2026.

SAVE THE DATE! CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL invites you to their 30th Anniversary Gala & Auction on Saturday, April 18th at the Omni Charlottesville Hotel. Celebrate 30 wonderful years with a fabulous evening of fun, fellowship, music, and joyful celebration. Registration details coming soon! Shine in faith and learning—CCS JK—8th applications now being accepted for the 2026–2027 school year! To schedule a tour or for more information contact : admissions @cvillicatholic.org

MINISTRIES

OUTREACH: We appreciate all who give to the Food Pantry and Soup Kitchen through donations, contributions and time. For the month of March, donations of canned fruits would be appreciated. Thank you and God Bless!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, HOLY TRINITY CONFERENCE:

 Lent is a time of giving and The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Holy Trinity Conference is please to announce the receipt of a \$15,000 grant from the Diocese of Richmond Fuel and Hunger Fund. Made possible by the Annual Diocesan Appeal, this generous gift will support our neighbors in need throughout Charlottesville and Albemarle County.

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 after each of the Masses. Filled Bottles are due back before or after any of the Masses on 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 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. Please Contact Steven Sisman, mensgroup@holycomforterparish.org

HAITI: Last weekend at St. Thomas, our Sponsorship Fair was a success: 29 new student sponsorships and \$350 raised through coffee and muffins. We have now surpassed 10% growth in new sponsorships for the year. We are restarting our Food for the Poor outreach to assist Saltadere families facing food scarcity. Our next meeting on March 1, 1PM, Room 2 at St. Thomas.

Announcements

HOLY COMFORTER'S ALTAR GUILD is looking for a flower arranger to help beautify our sacred space. If you are interested and have some flower arranging skills, please contact Jean Mickiewicz at Jean4greens@yahoo

SAVE THE DATE! HOLY COMFORTER IMPACT TEAM invites you to the annual **Nehemiah Action** to be held Tuesday, March 24 6:30-8:30pm at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Performing Arts Center at Charlottesville High School. 29 religious congregations, including the three Charlottesville Catholic parishes, will be petitioning local leaders for improved bus service, an Affordable Housing Trust Fund in Albemarle County (like the one in Charlottesville) and a program to address gun violence Contact Suzanne Bailey for more info at slank@ntelos.net or (434) 326-3166

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 the 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, email John Bugbee bugbee@TheTreasures.org or visit <https://TheTreasures.org> for more info!

FROM THE PASTOR



Suffering That Leads to Victory

Part II

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

Suffering with Christ during Lent is a call to unite personal hardships, sacrifices, and limitations with Jesus’s Passion, finding redemptive meaning rather than mere despair. This spiritual discipline moves beyond simply enduring pain to actively sharing in Christ’s suffering, which ultimately leads to resurrection, transforming trials into spiritual growth and deepening, sacrificial love. **Lent invites us to “taste” suffering—through fasting, prayer, and almsgiving**—to connect with the unmet desires and limitations of the human experience, mirroring Christ’s journey in the desert. By consciously offering personal struggles, one finds that they are never truly alone but are accompanying the crucified Lord.

Our Catholic Church teaches us that by our own suffering we share in Christ’s salvific suffering for us. We should, therefore, not try to avoid suffering but to welcome it. So hear what some saints say about suffering with Christ: “Now I rejoice in what I am suffering for you, and I fill up in

my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ’s afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church” (**St. Paul- Col. 1:24**). “... our Lord Jesus, whose footsteps we ought to follow, called his betrayer “friend,” and offered himself willingly to his executioners. Therefore, all those who unjustly inflict upon us tribulations, anguish, shame and injuries, sorrows and torments, martyrdom and death, are our friends whom we ought to love much, because we shall gain eternal life by those things which they make us suffer. And let us hate our body with its vices and sins, because by living in pleasures it wishes to rob us of the love of our Lord Jesus Christ and eternal life, and to lose itself with everything else in hell”(**St. Francis of Assisi**). “Whenever anything disagreeable or displeasing happens to you, remember Christ crucified and be silent” (**St. John of the Cross**). “Trials and tribulations offer us a chance to make reparation for our past faults and sins. On such occasions the Lord comes to us like a physician to heal the wounds left by our sins. Tribulation is the divine medicine”. (**St. Augustine of Hippo**). “Whether we will or not, we must suffer...There are two ways of suffering — to suffer with love, and to suffer without love. The saints suffered everything with joy, patience, and perseverance, because they loved. As for us, we suffer with anger, vexation, and weariness, because we do not love. If we loved God, we should love crosses, we should wish for them, we should take pleasure in them”(**St. John Vianney**).

I invite you also to consider this that every time we pray the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary especially the fourth mystery, Jesus carrying His cross, we pray that we can take on our sins, failures, suffering, and offer them up in union with Christ, thereby lighten the load of His cross. If we suffer now, we have to look to the parable of Lazarus and the rich man, to predict the final reward that faith promises us.

To be Continued...

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