



# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

## MARCH 8, 2026

### CONNECT WITH US

- 208 East Jefferson Street  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902
- Phone: (434) 295-7185
- Fax: (434) 220-1464
- [office@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:office@holycomforterparish.org)
- [holycomforterparish.org](http://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](mailto:dre@holycomforterparish.org)



#### Pastor

Rev. Father Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi  
[jmlukyamuzi@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:jmlukyamuzi@richmonddiocese.org)

#### Administrative Business Manager

Mary Frances Lilly  
[office@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:office@holycomforterparish.org)

#### Receptionist/Office Assistant

Melinda Crews  
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#### Liturgy Coordinator

Alicia Vinklarek  
[liturgy@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:liturgy@holycomforterparish.org)

#### Music Coordinator

Querida Hills  
[music@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:music@holycomforterparish.org)

#### Director of Religious Education

Melinda Wells (434) 295-6559  
[dre@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:dre@holycomforterparish.org)

#### Outreach (434) 293-8989

Bridget Davis + Jack Engler + Heather Burns  
[outreach@holycomforterparish.org](mailto: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](mailto:gkrutul55@gmail.com)

Offertory Counters—Lee Faust

**PASTORAL COUNCIL** Maria-Andrea Gerling Ospina  
[maria.ospina@gmail.com](mailto:maria.ospina@gmail.com)

**LITURGY AND WORSHIP** Alicia Vinklarek

**MUSIC MINISTRY** Querida Hill

Lectors – Matt Freeman

Sacristans – Suzanne Bailey [slank@ntelos.net](mailto:slank@ntelos.net)

Altar Servers — Jackson Kulick

[jackson@brgtshirts.com](mailto:jackson@brgtshirts.com)

Ushers – Dennis Dougherty

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

Heather Burns [heather@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:heather@holycomforterparish.org)

Funerals and Works of Mercy Ministry

[mercy@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:mercy@holycomforterparish.org)

Homebound Eucharistic Ministry

[communionvisit@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:communionvisit@holycomforterparish.org)

Weddings [weddings@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:weddings@holycomforterparish.org)

Altar Flower Guild – Jeanne Mickiewicz

[Jean4greens@yahoo.com](mailto:Jean4greens@yahoo.com)

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** Melinda Wells

Religious Education Committee—

Suzanne Bailey [slank@ntelos.net](mailto:slank@ntelos.net)

Christian Initiation of Adults (CIA)

Diane Auger Smith

[dianeaugersmith@gmail.com](mailto:dianeaugersmith@gmail.com)

THIY (Band of Brothers) Steven Sisman

[mensgroup@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:mensgroup@holycomforterparish.org)

Youth Group—Anna Sisman/Tristan Majewski

[youthgroup@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:youthgroup@holycomforterparish.org)

**SOCIAL MINISTRIES** Chuck McCurdy

[cwm@virginia.edu](mailto:cwm@virginia.edu)

Outreach-Soup Kitchen/Food Pantry

Bridget Davis [bridget@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:bridget@holycomforterparish.org)

Walking with Moms in Need –

Garrett Smith [gsmith@garrettsmithlaw.com](mailto:gsmith@garrettsmithlaw.com)

Haiti– Robert O’Brien [raobfpc@gmail.com](mailto:raobfpc@gmail.com)

Uganda-Gregory Lannon [gregnbuk@gmail.com](mailto:gregnbuk@gmail.com)

Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Holy Trinity

Conference – [info@sudp-ht.org](mailto:info@sudp-ht.org) 434-226-8022

K of C—Nicholas Pierson [gk3670@vakofc.org](mailto:gk3670@vakofc.org)

**PARISH COMMUNITY LIFE** Elizabeth Gilbert

[parishlife@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:parishlife@holycomforterparish.org)

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS** Greg Gerling

[ggerling1@netscape.net](mailto: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 (3/7)

6:30 AM TMIY: Band of Brothers

8 AM Mass

8 AM-12 PM First Reconciliation Retreat following Mass (LL)

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

### MONDAY (3/9)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

### TUESDAY (3/10)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

### WEDNESDAY (3/11)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6-8 PM Adoration

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

### THURSDAY (3/12)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6 PM Mass followed by Adoration and Evening Vespers

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

### FRIDAY (3/13)

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

6:45-9:00 PM RCIA Retreat

7-8:30 PM Youth Group

### SATURDAY (3/14)

6:30 AM TMIY: Band of Brothers

8 AM Mass

9 AM Altar Server Training

5 PM Vigil Mass

### SUNDAY (3/15) Fourth 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

## MASS INTENTIONS

### TO REQUEST MASS INTENTIONS:

Contact the Parish Office

434-295-7185

[Reception@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:Reception@holycomforterparish.org)

### SATURDAY (3/7)

8AM † Nicholas Sala (Emily Sacco)

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

### SUNDAY (3/8)

8:30 AM Baby Longville (Veronica Longville)

Kevin Hagg and Family (Fr Joseph Mary)

11AM † Sharon Victoria Smith (Richard Nordin)

2PM Members of the Parish

### MONDAY (3/9)

12PM Christopher Dusang (Elisa Schnur)

### TUESDAY (3/10)

8AM † George Farrell (Michael Del Rosso)

### WEDNESDAY (3/11)

8AM Matthew Schnur (Elisa Schnur) Kevin Gallagher and Family (Fr. Joseph Mary)

### THURSDAY (3/12)

6PM Matthew Schnur (Elisa Schnur)

### FRIDAY (3/13)

12PM Christopher Dusang (Elisa Schnur)

### SATURDAY (3/14)

8AM † Richard Higgins (Michael Del Rosso)

5PM Peter Del Rosso (Michael Del Rosso)

### SUNDAY (3/15)

8:30AM † Karol Wojcikowski (Michael Del Rosso)

11AM † Tony LoBianco (Michael Del Rosso)

2PM † Joseph and † Rose Savino (Patricia McAdams)

## SAINTS OF GOD

3/7 Sts Perpetua and Felicity

3/8 Saint John of God

3/9 Saint Frances of Rome

3/10 Saint Dominic Savio

3/11 Saint John Olgilvie

3/12 Blessed Angela Salawa

3/13 Saint Leander of Seville

3/14 Saint Maximilian

3/15 Saint Louise de Marillac

# 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 \$3,013
- Online Giving \$2,150

Weekly Offertory Budget (\$9,500)

*Below Weekly Budget (\$4,337)*

### 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 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

The combined choirs at Holy Comforter will soon begin rehearsals for the Holy Week Masses. The rehearsals will begin this Sunday, March 8th beginning at 3:30 and continue for the following three Sundays. If you are interested in joining this choir, please contact our Music Director at [music@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:music@holycomforterparish.org). Choral experience and music reading ability would be beneficial.

Another reminder of our upcoming opportunities for prayer and reflection.

- During Lent, we added Evening Vespers on Thursdays following Mass and during Adoration. Please come join us and 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.
- March 22nd, beginning at 10 am, Fr. Joseph Mary will give a talk in the Church on "Appreciating the Sacrament of Penance through the eyes of St. John Vianney."
- Our Lenten Penance Service is Tuesday evening, March 24th.
- The Solemnity of the Annunciation of our Lord is on 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, followed by Soup Supper hosted by Family Life and the Knights of Columbus.

God Bless,  
Alicia Vinklerek LMC, Coordinator of Liturgy

## Religious Education

*Melinda Wells, DRE*  
[dre@holycomforterparish.org](mailto:dre@holycomforterparish.org)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CALENDAR

- ◆ **Christian Formation and Sacraments:** Sundays, 9:45-10:45AM
- ◆ **RCIA:** Sundays, 12:30-1:30PM
- ◆ **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 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

**First Reading**  
*1 Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a*  
Samuel is sent to anoint David as king.  
**Responsorial Psalm**  
*Psalm 23:1-6*  
The Lord is our shepherd.

**Second Reading** *Ephesians 5:8-14*  
The Ephesians are told to live as children of light.  
**Gospel Reading** *John 9:1-41* Jesus heals the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man.

# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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.

**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 [@cvillegatholic.org](mailto:@cvillegatholic.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! The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

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

 Meetings occur on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 7pm. Our next meeting is March 17, 2026, via Zoom. You are welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information about our conference, or to donate, visit [www.svdph-ht.org](http://www.svdph-ht.org) or email [info@svdph.org](mailto:info@svdph.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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:bugbee@TheTreasures.org) or visit <https://TheTreasures.org> for more info!

# FROM THE PASTOR



## Suffering That Leads to Victory

Part III

*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. Paul In his own experience of suffering he said to the Romans: “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us”(8:18). For sure we live in a fallen world filled with suffering and groaning. The creation itself groans. We, as the people of God, groan. We see suffering and misery. We have a fallen creation. We have the Son of God who suffered. But amid the hardships, what we find in the suffering of Christ keeps us moving forward with the hope of a glorious life with God. And Paul again wrote this: “Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or*

*famine or nakedness or danger or sword?--- in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us”(Rm8:34-37).*

We all have a choice when it comes to suffering. While we do not have the power to control our circumstances, we can choose how we respond to suffering. There are only two choices: Bitterness or holiness. Philippians 1:29 says that it has been granted to us not only to believe in Jesus but also to suffer with Him. In the same way that God has granted us the gift of belief in Jesus, He also grants us the gift of sharing in Christ’s suffering.

But why would part of God’s mission be for His children to suffer? As earthly parents, have instincts to protect their children from suffering, but because of their love them, they allow them to experience sometimes suffering for their good. Because parents are wiser than their children, they see temporary discomfort of their children as beneficial for the greater reward. How much more so is God able to do the same in our suffering? And Hebrew 12: 5-6 says this; “My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline, and do not lose heart when he rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and he chastens everyone he accepts as his son”.

There are two main pieces of God’s mission in suffering that Paul identifies. First, in suffering we identify more deeply with Christ. If we choose holiness, suffering will result in a deeper union with our Savior. We will experience Him in ways we never would if we resist God’s ways. Second, suffering gives us a unique ministry to others. Because we experience God’s comfort so deeply during suffering, we are equipped to comfort others in a more meaningful way. No one can comfort a widow, a parent who has lost a child, or a person battling cancer more deeply than someone who has faced the same loss, grief, and struggle.

Each hardship we face brings a choice. Will you resist God’s calling in Christ to know Him and make Him known to others, or will you trust Him by submitting to His work in your life?

***To be Continued...***

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*Ave Maria*

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