



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

JULY 12, 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
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**Please Send Bulletin Submissions
by 1:30PM Monday
dre@holycomforterparish.org**



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold." - Mt 13:23

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

Christopher Gilbert
liturgy@holycomforterparish.org

Music Coordinator

Querida Hills
music@holycomforterparish.org
Jeremy Thompson
jeremy@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 Vinklerek

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, Works of Mercy Ministry and Home-

bound Eucharistic 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

TMIY (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— Vacant

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: As members of Holy Comforter Catholic Church, located in Charlottesville, VA, redeemed by Jesus Christ and sustained by the Word and the Eucharist, we pursue growth in holiness. We are called to worship, discipleship, evangelization, and charity, bringing the presence of the risen Christ to our parish and all those in need, consistent with the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church.

PRAYER & WORSHIP



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SATURDAY (7/11)

8 AM Mass

9-11 PM *Children's Saturday with the Holy Family!* (LL)

5PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (7/12) Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Altar Flowers donated by Erin and Joe Ferguson in honor of their Wedding Anniversary

Second Collection: Outreach

8:30 AM Mass RCIA Penitential Rite

11 AM Mass

1 PM Confession

2 PM Mass

MONDAY (7/13)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

TUESDAY (7/14)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY (7/15)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6-8 PM Adoration

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

THURSDAY (7/16)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6 PM Mass followed by Evening Prayer and Adoration

7-8 PM Confession

FRIDAY (7/17)

12 PM Mass followed by Adoration until 3 PM

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

SATURDAY (7/18)

8 AM Mass

9-11 PM *Children's Saturday with the Holy Family!* (LL)

5PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (7/19) Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Altar Flowers donated In honor of Ed & Anna Stelow's wedding anniversary

Second Collection: Outreach

8:30 AM Mass

11 AM Mass

1 PM Confession

2 PM Mass

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS

Daniel & Paloma and Sophia Gingerich

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

Please join us to celebrate Father Joseph Mary's Birthday Wednesday July 15th after the 8am Mass for a potluck breakfast. Please sign up! to bring a dish or two in flocknote!

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@holycorforterparish.org

SATURDAY (7/11)

9 AM Laura Sullivan & Logan Davis on their Wedding Day

(Michael Sullivan & Nancy Vilar)

5PM In Celebration of Liam Michael Kelly's Birth (Michael Del Rosso)

SUNDAY (7/12)

8:30AM Elizabeth Schnur (Elisa Schnur)

11AM Richard Nordin, Sr (Richard Nordin)

Lisa Misraje and Family (Melinda Wells)

2PM Members of the Parish

† Joseph Smith (Patricia McAdams)

MONDAY (7/13)

12PM † Deacon Henry (Alicia Vinklerek)

† Mable P. Dodaro

(Michele Skarvelis)

TUESDAY (7/14)

8AM Alicia Vinklerek in Honor of her Birthday (HC Staff)

† Mildred J. Chrzastek (Michele Skarvelis)

WEDNESDAY (7/15)

8AM Fr. Joseph Mary in Honor of his Birthday (HC Staff)

THURSDAY (7/16)

6PM Francis & Sandra Di Paolo

(Silvia Di Paolo)

† Peggy Lynn Cox (Jack Engler)

FRIDAY (7/17)

12PM Elizabeth Schnur (Elisa Schnur)

Lannon Family

SATURDAY (7/18)

8:30 Elizabeth Schnur (Elisa Schnur)

5PM Members of the Parish

SUNDAY (7/19)

8:30AM Stephen Crews

11AM † Charles McCranor (Eileen Lavis)

2PM Deceased Members of the Michael Savino Family (Patricia McAdams)

SAINTS OF GOD

7/11 Saint Benedict

7/12 Saints John Jones and John Wall

7/13 Saint Henry

7/14 Saint Kateri Tekakwitha

7/15 Saint Bonaventure

7/16 Our Lady of Mount Carmel

7/17 Saint Frances Solano

7/18 Saint Camillus de Lellis

7/19 Saint Mary Mackillop

PARISH NEWS



PARISH SUPPORT

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Week Ending June 28, 2026

Offertory Contributions

- In Pew and By Mail \$4,561
- Online Giving \$1,487
- Weekly Offertory Budget (\$9,500)
- Below Weekly Budget (\$3,452)

Week Ending July 5, 2026

Offertory Contributions

- In Pew and By Mail \$5,844
- Online Giving \$4,152
- Weekly Offertory Budget (\$10,000)
- Below Weekly Budget (\$4)

WEEKLY OFFERTORY BUDGET

God calls us to be generous with all our gifts, including our treasure. Our faith teaches us this through the Scriptures; **"Honor the Lord with your wealth, first fruits ..." (Prv. 3:9)**



Our parish operating budget for the current fiscal year is \$520,000 which requires us to receive offertory contributions of **\$10,000**

per week. In order to meet our financial obligations, it is necessary for our 224 registered and active families to contribute \$2,322 per year, or about **\$45 per week.** Thank you for your support!

SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR JULY

ALL MONTH Catholic Virginian + Christian Formation + Justice and Peace

7/12/2026 Outreach

7/26/2026 Maintenance Fund

MONEY MINUTE

We accept your contributions for several **Diocesan and National Collections** throughout the year. Thanks to your generosity, over \$17,000 has been forwarded to benefit those in need! Holy Trinity Conference. Thank you for your support!

SCAN HERE to support
Holy Comforter!
Thank You!!



LITURGICAL NOTES

Why is July Dedicated to the Precious Blood?

Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition hand down to us devotion to the Most Precious Blood. Take St. Peter, for example:

*"You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your fathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the **precious blood of Christ**, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot."* (1 Peter 1:19)

In more recent years, Pope Pius IX instituted the *Feast of the Most Precious Blood* in July of 1849, after he was exiled during the Italian War for Independence. Initially, the appeal to Heaven was to end the war. Eventually, the entire month of July became dedicated to the Most Precious Blood.

The Church encourages us to honor and recognize with particular attention this month the blood Jesus shed for us during His passion and crucifixion.

How can we do this? There are many ways, but we could begin by making an intentional *offering* of ourselves at Masses in July, we can *thank* God for the gift of eternal life, and we can *invite* others to honor our Lord and entrust their whole hearts to Him.

Christopher Gilbert, Liturgy Coordinator

Religious Education

Melinda Wells, DRE dre@holycorforterparish.org

Children's Saturdays with the Holy Family!

Attention all kids 5-10! July 11, 18, 25, 9:00-11:00AM in the lower level. It will be a fun time of teaching, crafts, and so much more!

Older teens are most welcome and needed to help! Please wear comfy clothes and bring a big smile and a sweet tooth! Sign-up is on the RE Table in the Commons...For questions, please contact Sherry Schemmel at 434-851-8144 or Melinda Wells, DRE

Religious Education Committee

Are you curious about Holy Comforter's history? Join other parishioners to explore our archive and share ideas for a history of Catholic Charlottesville. Text or call Anna Stelow at 434-249-2825.

The Religious Education Committee is looking for new members who are interested in participating in the formation process for Holy Comforter's Parish Family. To learn more, contact Suzanne Bailey at slank@ntelos.net or Melinda Wells, DRE.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading *Wisdom 12:13,16-19*

God has shown himself to be a God of justice and mercy.

Responsorial Psalm *Psalm 86:5-6,9-10,15-16A* prayer to God for mercy.

Second Reading

Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit intercedes for us with God.

Gospel *Matthew 13:24-43* Jesus offers parables about the Kingdom of Heaven and explains them to his disciples.

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, Bobbie Hoskins, Ann Jackson, Patricia McAdams, Mary Wheeler, 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, Travis Cole, Stephanie Crews, Roxanne Crittenden, Nancy Joan Debiese, Linda Doyle, Tarina Esclapez, Gene Flamm, Alexander Faust, Lisa -Jane Faust, Fr. Gerald Fogarty, Charlie Foster, Brad and Debbie Ferguson, Sue Gilbert, Paula Goodburn, Brian Gough, Dan Grogan, Fr. Theodore J. Haag, OFM, Genevieve Halfen, Liana Haseltine, Margaret Heritage, Maddie Hermack, Wilem Hommel, Ed Rodgers, Mark Rowland Huckabe, Joe Kanapell, Sharon Lawrence, Kelly Lembo and Family, George Lilly, Joan Lincks, Mike & Sibylle Llewellyn, Shannon and Coty Lockett, Michael Paul Maloney, Chelsea Massey, Robert Maute, Patrick Mayer, Patrick McAdams, Dot McAllister, Brett McQuhae, Cullen McQuhae, Michael McNeil, Fr. Richard Mooney, Greg Mullenax, Mary Nguyen, Lucy Pardee, Lia Thoms Price and Family, Lawrence Randolph, Anne de Rigal, Saathoff Family, Coby Savona, Kathryn Savona, Schrank Family, Melancon Family, Tara Singh, Aiden Smith, Pat Tinberg, Christopher Tomaselli, Brendan and Maria Walsh, Residents/Staff of Blue Ridge Juvenile Detention, Williams Family, Napier Family

MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY

Matthew Mickiewicz, Benjamin and Elijah 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

The Catholic Diocese of Richmond is seeking the following positions: **Parish and School Auditor** to support the Office of Finance. For the full ad and to apply, click <https://bit.ly/3Swatao> **Administrative Coordinator** to support the Office of the Vicar for Clergy. For the full ad and to apply, click <https://bit.ly/4fXnKCD> **Executive Director of Campus Ministry** to serve the Catholic Campus Ministry at the College of William & Mary, in Williamsburg, VA. For the full ad and how to apply, click <https://bit.ly/4dl5uM4> **Director of Human Resources**. For the full ad and how to apply, click <https://bit.ly/4unnHED>. **Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction** for the Office of Catholic Schools. For the full ad and apply, click bit.ly/4eMlqWC For any questions, please contact Kelly Shumate, HR Generalist/Recruiter at jobs@richmonddiocese.org

MINISTRIES

OUTREACH: During the month of June, we handed out food bags to 465 individuals in the Food Pantry and served 373 meals in the Soup Kitchen. We appreciate the continued giving by parishioners to Outreach through donations, volunteering, and contributions. For the month of July, **chunky soups** donations would be welcomed. The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, HOLY TRINITY CONFERENCE:



As Vincentians, our faith steadily steers us to reaching outside ourselves and toward others in love. Meetings occur on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm. Our next meeting will be on July 21st via Zoom. You are welcome to attend. For more information about our conference, or to donate, visit www.svdhp-ht.org or email info@svdp-ht.org

HC Middle School Youth Group: Middle School Youth Group will not meet over the summer but stay tuned for announcements and occasional get-togethers. **EPIC 2026** on August 8 at Blessed Sacrament Huguenot School in Powhatan, VA. **EPIC** is a high-energy day focused on two things: (1) building community & friendships with other Catholic middle school youth, and (2) encouraging zeal for our Catholic faith. To register, please reach out to Anna Sisman at youthgroup@holycomforterparish.org. More information can be found in the Commons.

THAT MAN IS YOU: BAND OF BROTHERS, Holy Comforter's Men's Ministry, meets Saturday mornings. For information, please contact Steven Sisman, mensgroup@holycomforterparish.org

CHILDREN'S SATURDAY'S WITH THE HOLY FAMILY: Attention all kids 5-10! *July 11, 18, 25, 9:00-11:00 in the lower level. It will be a fun time of teaching and crafts.* Older teens are most welcome to help! Please wear comfy clothes and bring a big smile and a sweet tooth! Questions? Please contact Sherry Schemmel at 434-851-8144 or Melinda Wells, DRE, dre@holycomforterparish.org.

ANNOUNCEMENT

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL: ENROLLING FOR 2026-2027! Do you know a family who is looking for a Christ-Centered education? Charlottesville Catholic School is currently accepting applications for the 2026-27 school year for grades Pre-K through 8th. For more information email admissions@cvillecatholic.org, call 434-964-0400, or visit www.cvillecatholic.org/admissions. The school office will remain open during the summer Monday–Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

MEN'S CURSILLO WEEKEND will be held October 1-4, 2026, at The Blessings Lodge at Camp Overlook in Keezletown. Applications can be found online at www.valleykursillo.com and are due by September 3rd. Applicants must have a sponsor who has made a Cursillo weekend. The Theme of the weekend is "Open Our Hearts, Lord". Call Karen or Roy Norville at 540-246-2371 for more information.

FROM THE PASTOR



The Precious Blood That Saved Us

Part I

Rev. Fr. Joseph Mary Lukyamuzi

**“For you know that it was not with perishable things
such as silver or gold that you were redeemed...
but with the precious blood of Christ,
a lamb without blemish or defect.”**

1 Peter 1: 18-19

The Catholic Church designates **July** as the Month of the Precious Blood of Jesus. This month-long devotion focuses on meditating upon the physical blood Jesus shed for the redemption of humanity, as well as the sacramental blood present in the Eucharist. The early Fathers say that the Church was born from the pierced side of Christ, and that the sacraments were brought forth through His Blood.

Historically, Pope Pius IX instituted the Feast of the Precious Blood in 1849, and Pope Pius X later assigned the fixed date of July 1st to the feast. While the liturgical calendar has seen

revisions, the entire month of July remains dedicated to honoring this price of salvation.

The feast was removed from the General Roman calendar in 1969, because the Most Precious Blood of Christ the Redeemer is already venerated in the solemnities of the **Passion, of Corpus Christi**, of the **Sacred Heart of Jesus**, and in the feast of the **Exaltation of the Cross**. But the Mass of the Most Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ is placed among the Votive Masses.

The Precious Blood which we worship is the Blood which the Savior shed for us on Calvary and reassumed at His glorious Resurrection; it is the Blood which courses through the veins of His risen, glorified, living body at the right hand of God the Father in heaven; it is the Blood made present on our altars by the words of Consecration; it is the Blood which merited sanctifying grace for us and through it washes and beautifies our soul and inaugurates the beginning of eternal life in it. By this devotion the Church also reminds us of the first drops of blood that flowed for our redemption on the day when Jesus was circumcised. How about that sweat of blood during his agony. St. Luke the Physician talks about in his gospel; **“And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down the ground” (Lk.22:44)**. And the unhappy, despairing Judas casts the blood-money down in the temple. **“I have sinned by betraying innocent blood!” (Mt. 27:4)**.

In the scourging chamber we see the Lord in deepest humiliation; under strokes the divine Blood spurts out over the floor. Christ is led before Pilate. Pilate shows the blood-covered Body to the crowds: *Ecce homo!* We go through Jerusalem's streets following the bloody footsteps to Golgotha. Down the beams of the Cross-blood trickles. A soldier opens the sacred side, Water and Blood gushed forth. Each drop that flowed from the wounds of the Savior is a pledge of man's eternal salvation. All races of the earth have been ransomed, and all individuals, who will allow the saving power of the Sacred Blood to be applied to their soul, are heirs of heaven.

To be continued...

O Most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, we honor, worship and adore Thee. Heal the wounds our souls and wash away the sins of the whole world. O Precious Blood, have mercy. Amen.

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