



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMFORTER

JULY 26, 2026

CONNECT WITH US

📍 208 East Jefferson Street
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

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✉️ 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**



17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field,
which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and
sells all that he has and buys that field." - Mt 13:44

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 Christopher Gilbert

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 (7/25)

8 AM Mass

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

5PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (7/26) Seventeenth

Sunday in Ordinary Time

Altar Flowers donated in Honor of Beloved Son, Sammy
Second Collection: Maintenance Fund

8:30 AM Mass

11 AM Mass

1 PM Confession

2 PM Mass

MONDAY (7/27)

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

12 PM Mass

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

TUESDAY (7/28)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

WEDNESDAY (7/29)

8 AM Mass

10:30 AM-12:30 PM Food Pantry

6-8 PM Adoration

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

THURSDAY (7/30)

12-1 PM Soup Kitchen

6 PM Mass followed by Evening Prayer and Adoration

7-8 PM Confession

FRIDAY (7/31)

12 PM Mass followed by Adoration until 3 PM

6:30-7:30 PM Confession

SATURDAY (8/1)

8 AM Mass

5PM Vigil Mass

SUNDAY (8/2) Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Altar Flowers donated Anonymously to the Glory of God

8:30 AM Mass

11 AM Mass

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@hollycomforterparish.org

SATURDAY (7/25)

8:30AM Mona Peglow

5PM Elizabeth Schnur (Elisa Schnur)

SUNDAY (7/26)

8:30AM Members of the Parish
Patrick Hennig (Heidi Hess)
† Frank Tabor (HC Staff)

11AM † Jane Till Danilek

2PM Members of the McAdams
Family (Patricia McAdams)

MONDAY (7/27)

12PM † Normand and † Therese Auger
(Diane and Garrett Smith)

TUESDAY (7/28)

8AM Patrick Henning (Heidi Hess)

WEDNESDAY (7/29)

8AM Gwendolyn Olivia Hess
(Heidi Hess)

THURSDAY (7/30)

6PM Gerard Kenealy (Joseph Tolbert)

FRIDAY (7/31)

12PM Deceased Members of the
Parish and Benefactors of HC

SATURDAY (8/1)

8:30AM The ill & the Homebound

5PM Patrick Hennig (Heidi Hess)

SUNDAY (8/2)

8:30AM Father Joseph Mary
(Heidi Hess)

11AM Members of the Parish

2PM Gwendolyn Olivia Hess
(Heidi Hess)

SAINTS OF GOD

7/25 Saint James

7/26 Saints Joachim and Anne

7/27 Saint Titus Brandsma

7/28 Blessed Stanley Rother

7/29 Sts Martha, Mary and Lazarus

7/30 Blessed Solanus Casey

7/31 Saint Ignatius of Loyola

8/1 Saint Alphonsus Liguori

8/2 Saint Eusebius of Vercelli

PARISH NEWS



PARISH SUPPORT

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Week Ending July 19, 2026

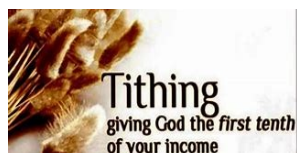
Offertory Contributions

- In Pew and By Mail \$7,442
- Online Giving \$1,139

Weekly Offertory Budget (\$10,000)

Below Weekly Budget (\$1,419)

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 parishioners 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

7/19/2026 Venezuela Earthquake Relief

7/26/2026 Maintenance Fund

MONEY MINUTE

The Catholic Virginian is produced by the Diocese and mailed to all registered families. Our parish was assessed over \$7,600 last year to support the cost of this service. To help us offset this expense, we distribute contribution envelopes six times per year, and accept contributions online. Your donations totaled \$1,500 last year and the remaining \$6,100 was funded by your offertory contributions. If you would like to receive the paper, please contact our office to be added to the mailing list. Thank you for your support!

SCAN HERE to support
Holy Comforter!
Thank You!!



LITURGICAL NOTES

What are **Indulgences** and why do we still have them?

Indulgences can be difficult to understand because they capture several truths that need to be grasped: 1) the consequences of sin 2) the authority of the Church 3) the relationship of the members of the Body of Christ 4) Purgatory

The first part of the definition says, "An indulgence is a remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven..."

The primary effect of sin is the loss of grace, the loss of heaven, which is an eternal consequence. The secondary effect of sin is the impact it has on our lives on this side of heaven, which are temporal consequences (in time, not in eternity). Through his sacrifice on the Cross, the free gift of eternal life is given to any who would embrace and receive it. And yet, the impact of sins in this life still remains. Consider that after David is convicted about his adultery and writes the beautiful repentant Psalm 51, the Lord forgives him, yet there is still an earthly consequence (2 Sam 12). Or consider that St Paul tells the Corinthians that some of them have become ill or even died because they have received the Eucharist unworthily (1 Cor 11). The secondary consequences of sin are real.

Next, a look at how the Church can remove these earthly consequences.

In Christ, Christopher Gilbert, Liturgy Coordinator

Religious Education

Melinda Wells, DRE dre@holycomforterparish.org

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! To learn more, please contact Suzanne Bailey at slank@ntelos.net or Melinda Wells, DRE.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading Isaiah 55:1-3

The Lord will renew his covenant with the descendants of David.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 145:8-9,15-18

The Lord provides for his people.

Second Reading Romans 8:35,37-39

Nothing can separate us from the love of God.

Gospel Reading Matthew 14:13-21

Jesus feeds the crowd with five loaves and two fish.

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, 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 Debieese, 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 Huckabee, 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, Dan Newton, 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@holycorforterparish.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@holycorforterparish.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. Please click <https://bit.ly/4fXnKCD> for the full ad and to apply. **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/4dI5uM4> **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 full ad and apply, click bit.ly/4eMlqwC For any questions, contact Kelly Shumate, HR Generalist/Recruiter at jobs@richmonddiocese.org

OUTREACH: Thank you, parishioners, for your support of Outreach through your donations, volunteering, and contributions. It is wonderful! For the month of July donations: **chunky soups** and for the month of August: **canned vegetables** are appreciated. God Bless! The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY, HOLY TRINITY CONFERENCE:



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, HOLY TRINITY CONFERENCE: As our faith grows, so does our yearning to serve. Meetings occur on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7 pm, with our next on **August 4th** in The Church of the Incarnation Conference Room. You are welcome to attend. For more information about our conference, or to donate, visit www.svdp-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, email youthgroup@holycorforterparish.org to reach out to Anna Sisman. 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@holycorforterparish.org

HAITI: The Tri-Parish Haiti Committee will host: Richard Joseph, Director of Education for the Diocese of Hinche on Sunday, July 26 at St. Thomas Aquinas Church. The meeting will be in Room 9 at 1 PM. All are welcome! St. Michel School in Saltadère now serves over 630 students, offering one of the strongest curriculums in the region and among the highest national exam success rates. Each \$175 sponsorship provides tuition, supplies, and a daily meal—often the child's only one. Let us continue to build hope, one child at a time.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Discover Charlottesville Catholic School! Join the CCS family, where faith, friendship, and academic excellence come together! Accepting applications for Junior Kindergarten–8th Grade for the 2026–2027 school year. Please contact admissions@cvillecatholic.org to learn more or schedule a tour,

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 Garrett Smith at (434) 960-7775, Karen or Roy Norville at 540-246-2371 for more information.

CASIE Game Night! Calling all rising 8th graders and high school students for Game Night on August 7th from 5-9 PM, where strategy, wit, and teamwork take center stage. Bring your competitive spirit, your sense of humor, and a friend. We look forward to seeing you there! Parents are invited to stop in and learn more about our affordable classical high school in the Catholic tradition. Register on our website: www.chestertonsje.org/. If you have any questions, please call the school at 434-381-4284.

FROM THE PASTOR



The Precious Blood That Saved Us

Part III

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

We believe that a single drop of Jesus’ blood contains the value to redeem the entire world, offering grace, cleansing from sin, and eternal salvation through Christ’s ultimate sacrifice. Just as the Old Covenant between God and the Israelites was sealed with blood (of calves and goats), the New Covenant was sealed with the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, for **“without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin.”** (Heb. 9:22). John Chrysostom relates that “the blood and water that flowed from Christ’s side, when opened by a lance as He hung on the Cross, symbolized the mysteries of the altar – the Blessed Sacrament

– and baptism. “For it was from these that the holy Church was founded, through the bath of regeneration and the renewal of the Holy Spirit. ... Thus from His side did Christ build up the Church, as from Adam’s side his wife Eve was brought forth.”

God has revealed His great design of mercy for us and that the Holy Trinity is entirely engaged in the work of our salvation as Jesus shed his blood. Jesus’ Face bloody from the wounds of the crown of thorns and His Heart pierced by the lance, the mercy of God was poured upon mankind. Thus, Our Lord Jesus Christ, to make us see the gravity of sin and the immensity of pardon, and consequently be able to touch our hearts, wished to merit the grace of our salvation, paying on the Cross the whole price in His sorrow and His *blood*. The story of the visionaries of Fatima is told that, Lucia and her cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto, saw the Angel of Fatima in the autumn of 1916 at the Cabeço: **“Suspended in mid-air was to be seen a Chalice and a large Host onto which fell some drops of Blood from the face of the Crucified and from a wound on His breast. These drops ran down over the Host and fell into the Chalice.”**

So then we should look upon the chalice with tender devotion and love knowing the gift we have been given. We are unworthy, but nonetheless, He has given His Blood to each one of us to strengthen us and so we may grow in deeper intimacy with Him. He has given His priests the grace to bring forth His Precious Blood in their weak and vulnerable hands because of His ever greater love for us.

St. John XXIII issued an apostolic exhortation on the Precious Blood, *Sanguis Christi*, in which he states: ***As we now approach the feast and month devoted to honoring Christ’s Blood — the price of our redemption, the pledge of salvation and life eternal — may Christians meditate on it more fervently, may they savor its fruits more frequently in sacramental communion. Let their meditations on the boundless power of the Blood be bathed in the light of sound biblical teaching and the doctrine of the Fathers and Doctors of the Church. How truly precious is this Blood is voiced in the song which the Church sings with the Angelic Doctor : Blood that but one drop of has the world to win .All the world forgiveness of its world of sin. [Adoro te Devote, St. Thomas Aquinas] Unlimited is the effectiveness of the God-Man’s Blood — just as unlimited as the love that impelled him to pour it out for us....***

To be continued...

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