

January 9, 2022



STS. PETER & PAUL PARISH

4309 Thomas Jefferson Parkway
Palmyra, VA 22963

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday 9:00am-3:00pm

p: 434.589.5201 parish office

f: 434.589.4463

e: office@saintspeterpaul.org

pastor@saintspeterpaul.org

karen.davidson@saintspeterpaul.org

w: saintspeterpaulpalmyra.org

OUR VISION

To expand and strengthen the Christian Community in which the Gospel of Jesus Christ is demonstrated and fulfilled.

OUR MISSION

In the spirit of our patron saints and missionaries, we commit ourselves to a pilgrimage of faith through Evangelization, Sanctification and Social Service ministries.



ST. JOSEPH'S

SHRINE OF

ST. KATHARINE DREXEL

P.O. Box 808

28 Cameron Street

Columbia, VA 23038

p: 434.842.3970

e: pastor@saintspeterpaul.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekends

Saturday 5pm: SPP

Sunday 9am: St. Joseph's

11am: SPP

Weekdays

Wednesday-Friday 9am: SPP

Thursdays 5pm: St. Joseph's

Holy Days

Vigil 7pm: SPP

Holy Day 9am: St. Joseph's

Noon: SPP

Confession

Saturday 4pm: SPP

Sunday 8:30 am: St. Joseph's
(or by appointment)

Hospital Visits:

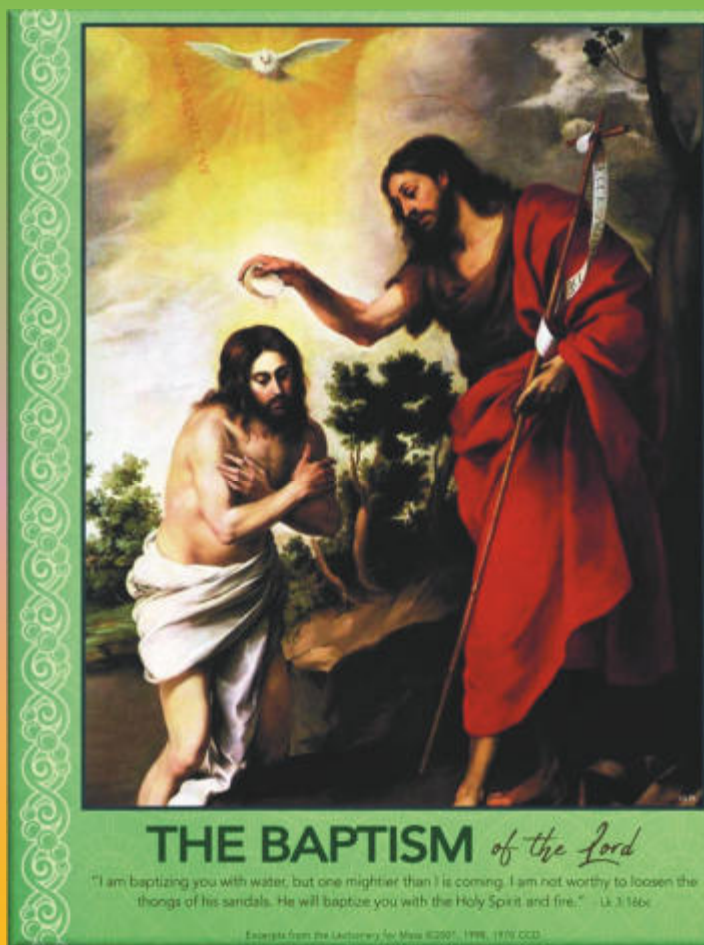
Call Parish Office

Or Rectory: 434.589.5200

Homebound: Call Parish

Office to schedule

Communion



Evangelize



Sanctify



Serve

WELCOME



ADMINISTRATION

Pastoral Council Chair

Doug Mullinex, 434-989-2667

Finance Council Chair

Marlene Weaver, 434.589.2062

Buildings and Grounds

Rich Scampoli, 434.326.2151

Cemetery

Mandy Tolano, 540.595.7173

Parish Life

Pat Amato, 434.589.7811

Justice & Peace

Mitzi Crane, 434.589.2552

Respect Life

David Cauffield, 814.525.0594

Prison Ministry

Will Kulick, 540.308.5152

Good Shepherds

Frank Feliciano, 434.242.0735

LITURGY & WORSHIP

Director of Music

Sid D'Amico, 434.996.4325

Ushers

Eddie Griffin, 434.996.6008

Lectors

Cynthia Aycock, 434.996.6065

Extraordinary Ministers

Veronica Lyttle, 434.589.4010

Altar Servers

Deacon Bob, 434-589-0941

Sacristy

Mary Ann Mason, 434.589.6141

Greeters

Rose Meyer, 434.589.5018

EVANGELIZATION & EDUCATION

CCD/Youth Group

John Verga, 434.315.4496

RCIA

Cynthia Aycock, 434.996.6065

Bible Study

June Wimer, 434.589.2863

Celeste Shapiola, 434.981.1405

SUPPORTED GROUPS

Cursillo

Ellie Henrietta, 434.981.3448

Knights of Columbus

Scott Harrison, 434.964.6853

Pastor

Rev. David Martin Ssentamu,
434.589.5200

Deacon

Rev. Mr. Robert Allen, 434.589.0941

Administrative Assistant

Karen Davidson, 434.589.5201

Receptionist

Marianne Stewart-Carbocci

Custodian

Patricia Harrison

Whether you are a visitor or new to our parish, interested in becoming Catholic, seeking to return to the practice of your faith, or an active member of our parish, we are pleased that you have come.

Bulletin & Announcements Deadline

Fridays-1 week in advance-In writing to

karen.davidson@saintspeterpaul.org

Readings for the week of January 09, 2022

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/
Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/
Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/
Jn 2:1-11

Observances for the week of January 09, 2022

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Friday:

Saturday:

Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

JANUARY 2022

HONOR YOUR LOVED ONE WITH A SPECIAL MEMORIAL

BREAD & WINE

Donor
Bill & Veronica Lyttle

Memorial
The O'Reillys, Lyttles,
and Brophys



ALTAR FLOWERS

Donor
Florann Burnett

Memorial
George Burnett



SANCTUARY CANDLE

Donor
Bill & Veronica Lyttle

Memorial
The O'Reillys, Lyttles,
and Brophys



Or have a Mass said for a loved one. Contact the office for availability.



BAPTISM OF THE LORD January 9, 2022

**"I, the LORD, have called
you for the victory of
justice," Do you feel the
Lord calling you to
consider becoming a
priest?**

**Call
Father Brian Capuano
at
804-359-5661**

Or write

vocations@richmonddiocese.org



ENCOUNTER

YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

As we enter into the Year of the Eucharist for our parishes, the foundation is based on Pope Francis' words in an audience in 2014 where he said:

"How do we live the Eucharist ... when we go to Mass on a Sunday? What is it for us? Is it just an opportunity to celebrate, a consolidated tradition, a way of getting one's bearings and feeling better, or is it something more?". Then he went on to indicate three signs for understanding how we experience this relation.

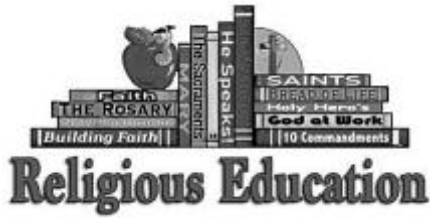
The first is our way of living with others. "In the Eucharist Christ renews the gift of Himself that He made on the Cross", he explained. "His entire life is an act of the fullest sharing of Himself for love. This is why He loved to stay with the disciples and with those He met. For Him, this meant sharing their yearnings, their problems, that which stirred their soul and their life. Now, when we participate in the Holy Mass, we find ourselves with many people ... but the Eucharist that I celebrate, does it lead me to consider them as brothers and sisters? Does it inspire me to go towards the poor, the sick, the marginalized? Does it help me to recognize Christ's face in them?"

The grace of being forgiven and willing to forgive is a second sign. "In reality, those who celebrate the Eucharist do not do so because they believe themselves to be better, or wish to appear better than others, but because they are aware that they are always in need of being accepted and regenerated in God's mercy, made flesh in Jesus Christ. If anyone among us does not feel in need of God's mercy, if he does not consider himself to be a sinner, it is better that he not go to Mass! We go to Mass because we are sinners and because we wish to receive God's forgiveness, to participate in Christ's redemption, his forgiveness. That 'I confess' that we say at the beginning is not merely a 'pro forma', it is a true act of penance! ... In that bread and that wine we offer and around which we gather, the gift of the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins is renewed every time. This best summarizes the deepest sense of the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus, and in turn it opens our hearts to the forgiveness of our brothers and to reconciliation".

The relationship between the Eucharistic celebration and the life of our Christian communities is the third sign. "It must always be clear that the Eucharist is not something that we do; it is not our commemoration of what Jesus said and did. No. It is an act of Christ! It is a gift from Christ, Who is made present and gathers us around Him, to nourish us with His Word and His life. This means that the mission and the very identity of the Church spring from this, from the Eucharist, and there they assume their form. ... a celebration may prove to be impeccable, beautiful, from an external point of view, but if it does not lead to an encounter with Jesus, the risk is that it does not lead to the nourishment of our hearts and lives. Through the Eucharist, instead, Christ wishes to enter into our existence and the permeate it with his grace, so that in every Christian community there is coherence between liturgy and life".

The Pope concluded by encouraging us to "live the Eucharist with a spirit of faith and prayer, of forgiveness, of care for the needs of many of our brothers and sisters, in the certainty that the Lord will grant that which he has promised – eternal life".

PARISH YOUTH



For the safety of our children, if you are not attending Mass, you may pick up your child in the Commons in the front of the church before Mass.

We are in need of teachers and substitutes to help in classrooms.

Youth Group

We are in need of volunteers to help make Youth Group successful. Please prayerfully consider giving your time and talent to help the kids grow in their faith.

**Next meeting is on
January 21st:
MOVIE NIGHT**

CONTACT: john.verga@saintspeterpaul.org

SHARING THE GOSPEL

Your Dad says, "Wash your hands, please. It is almost time to eat." After you wash your hands really well, your Dad smiles. He says, "That's my boy. You did a good job!" In today's Gospel, it was time for Jesus to be baptized. After his baptism, Jesus talked to God his Father in prayer. Jesus did everything his Father asked. God was happy with his Son and said, "I'm pleased with you."

PRAYER

God, I want to make you and my parents happy.



Join Scouting!

Do you have a son or daughter between the ages of 11 and 17? Now is the perfect time to sign him or her up for Scouts. The Scouting program helps youth develop academic skills, self-confidence, ethics, leadership skills, and citizenship skills that influence their adult lives.

For more information contact:

Boy Scouts Troop 138 (boys):

Chuck Palmer

charleswpalmeriv@gmail.com

INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTIONS: JANUARY 8 - 16, 2022

* Represents Saint Joseph's Parish

Saturday	1/8	5pm	Fred Mariutto	D	Diana Mariutto
Sunday	1/9	9am*	Misa Pro Populo		
Sunday	1/9	11am	Barbara Totaro	D	Ed and Kathy Seroskie
Wednesday	1/12	9am	Richard Meadows	D	Linda & Bill Gilligan
Thursday	1/13	9am	Kathleen Reardon Palmer	D	June Wimer
Thursday	1/13	5pm*	No Mass		
Friday	1/14	9am	Amante Family	D	Catherine Amante
Saturday	1/15	5pm	Gloria Hipskind	D	Anthony & Pat Amato
Sunday	1/16	9am*	Misa Pro Populo		
Sunday	1/16	11am	Connie LaRocco	D	Steve & Mary Dictenberg

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All those who serve our country, particularly . . .



Michael Bohtelo, Devon Burger, Gerard Holodak, Sarah and Taylor Graese, Raymond Markle, Kevin and Kathleen O'Malley, Katie Marron, James Fulford, Rhett Hartwell, Andrew Thompson, Sasha and Lonnie Kuhlow, William Furst, Matt Hendl, Luke Marron, Damien LaForenza, Mark Mason, Russ Marron, Christopher McCarthy, Amanda Illig, Zach Marron, Josiah Noble, Jose Langoria, Joseph Ayuso, Alex Ostrowski, Adam Warren, and Matthew Reinitz.

Pray God keeps them in His care.



January Wedding Anniversaries



If you are celebrating your

Marriage Anniversary in

January

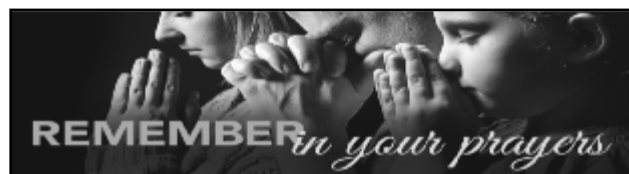
and would like to be part of the

Marriage Blessing at Masses on

February 5th & 6th

please contact the office by

Friday, January 28th.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Michael Amato, Melissa Bowling, Doug Caron, the Compton family, Jean Dalsky, Emily Desgrosiellier, Bill Ellis, Ann Gasparro, Patricia Golgosky, Patrick Granville, Mary Anne Grimes, Phyllis Guthrie, Tom Harrison, Jack Hartwell, Margaret & Ed Johnson, Ron Johnson, Carolyn Kerrigan, Tom Kinter, Judi Kuhlow, Jackie Kraemer, Marcia Lagomarsino, Bill Lyttle, Patti Markle, Tom Miglas, John Misorek, Irene Nadig, Rose Patterson, Jeanine Polansky, Peggy Powell, Donald Raab, Joel Rivera, Carol Scampoli, Mary Ellen Scango, Carol & Ted Starowicz, Marylou Stock, Bob Toepfert, Claire van Nierop, Cornelia Waters, Mike Waters and Ellen Stoppe Wenger.

Please call the office at **434.589.5201** for homebound or hospital visits.

JOIN THE CHURCH CHOIR

Contact Sid D'Amico - Music Director - 434.996.4325



EVERDAY STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Pew Count Sat. - Sun. -	12/26
First Offering	\$ 9,635
First Offering: Faith Direct	\$ 2,022
Total	\$ 11,657
January MTD Debt Reduction \$ 1,533	
January Bake Sale Revenue \$ 237	

The Debt Reduction collection occurs at the beginning of each month.

**Our Next DEBT REDUCTION Collection
THIS WEEKEND.**

NEXT MONTH: FEB. 5/6

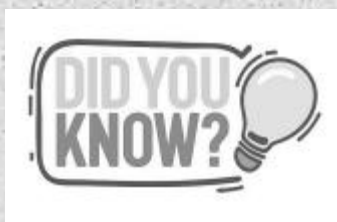
God bless you for your continued support.



Throughout the Christmas season, people in need right here in our community turn to Sts. Peter and Paul for help. We must be there for them and share Christ's love. To do that, we need your help.

Your generous online donations are needed now to help sustain Christmas ministries that reflect the promise of God's love. COVID-19 and news of its variants continue to cause upheaval and uncertainty, giving ministries added importance. Your kindness will help families all around us.

We prayerfully request that you consider signing up for eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet. You can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/VA249. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God bless you.



◇ **Now that severe weather is near, you can tune in to NBC29 or CBS19 to get up-to-date information about closings or delays?**

You can join our Legacy Society by remembering Sts. Peter and Paul in your estate plans.

Call the office for more information.



UPCOMING EVENTS

ROOM SCHEDULE

Sat	8-Feb	Confession	4:00p	Church
		Vigil Mass - Baptism of the Lord	5:00p	Church
Sun	9-Feb	Confession	8:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass - Baptism of the Lord	9:00a	St. Joseph's
		RCIA	9:30a	Lounge
		CCD	9:45a	Hall/Church
		Mass - Baptism of the Lord	11:00a	Church/FB
Mon	10-Feb	Rejoice! Bible Study	1:00p	E
Tues	11-Feb	Parish Council	7:00p	E
Wed	12-Feb	Mass	9:00a	Church
Thurs	13-Feb	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Cursillo	6:00p	123
Fri	14-Feb	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Adoration	9:30a	Church
		Benediction	3:00p	Church
Sat	15-Feb	Confession	4:00p	Church
		Vigil Mass - 2nd Sunday in OT	5:00p	Church
Sun	16-Feb	Confession	8:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass - 2nd Sunday in OT	9:00a	St. Joseph's
		RCIA	9:30a	Lounge
		CCD	9:45a	Hall/Church
		Mass - 2nd Sunday in OT	11:00a	Church/FB
<div><div>Room Ledger:</div><div><div>F - St. Francis (Parish Ctr)</div><div>E - St. Elizabeth (Parish Ctr)</div><div>FB - Facebook</div></div><div><div>R - St. Raphael (Church)</div><div>M - St. Michael (Church)</div><div>C - Commons (Church)</div></div></div>				

Rejoice!

Bible Study

Catholic Letters of James, Peter, John & Jude

Mondays @ 1pm in St. Elizabeth

Contact: June Wimer

(434-589-2863)



This program provides instruction to unbaptized and non-Catholics who are interested in becoming full members of the Catholic Church. If you, a spouse or a friend is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, direct your inquiries to the office at 434-589-5201.



**SIGN UP
TO SPEND AN HOUR WITH
JESUS
in the Adoration Chapel
M - Th, 6am - 8pm**

Contact June:
Phone: 434-589-2863
Email: wimer2001@yahoo.com

**GENERATE DONATIONS
ALL YEAR WHILE SHOPPING THROUGH AMAZON**

Whenever you shop deals at
smile.amazon.com, Amazon will
donate a portion of its proceeds to
Sts. Peter and Paul Church.



Here's how: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1570812>

**FIRST EVER MEMORY ALBUM
OF STS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH**

Many exciting things are happening as we prepare for our 40th Anniversary, and there is so much history to honor!

In continued preparation for our 2026 Celebration, we invite you to share your special thoughts and memories about Sts. Peter & Paul Church. What is your first recollection? When did you arrive? Who was our Pastor at that time? What significant experiences here hold a special place in your heart?

Our goal is to create an archive of your presence in our parish family for today and for future generations. If you have something to share with us, please contact Eileen or Tim Monahan at emttouch@gmail.com.

Thank you for your participation in this fun, memorable journey!



Grief Share will return for another 13-week session in the fall.



Planning 2022 Golf Tournament and Awards Dinner: For the past 16 years, Maggie and I have organized the annual *Saints Peter & Paul Golf Tournament and Awards Dinner*. We

believe it is now time for a change of hands, and perhaps, new ideas for this annual fund raising event. It is vital this source of additional financial revenue be continued to both benefit our church, and also a chance to enjoy a day of fun with family and friends. If anyone is interested in assuming this responsibility, please contact us at 434.589.4551 and we will explain the planning procedure, provide all instructions, checklists, be available for any assistance, etc. Please consider volunteering to assume

this role, as planning and scheduling need to begin soon.

Jim Cullinan, Golf Chairperson

Do you have room in your heart, space in your home, and a desire to make a difference in the life of a young person in your community? HopeTree Family Services is in search of people like you to welcome a young person into your home through foster care. Foster care is a temporary arrangement during a time that a child or teen cannot live with his or her birth family. HopeTree provides foster parents with the training, support, and resources they need in order to care for the young people placed in their homes. If you want to learn more about this opportunity, please RSVP for ONE of HopeTree's **Online Information Sessions**:

January 13th, 6:30pm-7:30pm
January 20th, 12:00pm-1:00pm
January 27th, 6:30pm-7:30pm

February 10th, 6:30pm-7:30pm
February 17th, 12:00pm-1:00pm
February 24th, 6:30pm-7:30pm



For more information or to RSVP
contact Abigail Lee at
AbigailS@HopeTreeFS.org
or visit our website
www.HopeTreeFosterCare.org

**Thank
you!**

Because of your
contributions to the Annual
Diocesan Appeal, we
requested and were

awarded grant funds for both the **Respect Life
March (\$387)** and **Fuel & Hunger (\$3,000)**.

These funds helped defray some of the cost of the van that was hired to transport the marchers to Richmond and also to provide assistance to those in need for housing or utilities. Thank you for giving.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

January 9, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord

"We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ."

— Pope Francis

What reference point do you use when making decisions? Many times, impulse takes control and decisions are made based solely on emotion and desire. We all know that these types of decisions can often get us into trouble. When a person has a confident sense of who they are and a real understanding of what is important and of value, the likelihood of kneejerk impulsive choices diminishes. Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed and purposeful decisions. By this simple gesture, God claims us as His own and provides us with the identity and purpose we need to properly live life.

It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly about. Issues surrounding the sacredness of life, the meaning of death, the protection of those most vulnerable, care for the weak and the poor, offering hospitality to those in search of a home, the purpose and proper place of work, how to create a just social order, caring for creation, and understanding our roles as heralds and stewards are just a few of the wonderful gifts baptism brings. When we make decisions based on things such as these core Gospel truths we really act as Christ himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how we live our baptism.

It is difficult to walk against the tide. Yet, that is precisely what baptism calls us to do. Although we are sinners, in need of mercy and far from perfection we are called to order our life and make decisions based upon the wisdom and guidance of Almighty God. He alone is the one who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity is a popularity contest? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor to steady us in the tempests of life and God is very pleased. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear.

©LPi



ST. JOSEPH'S Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel



28 Cameron Street
Washington & Cameron Street
P.O. Box 808
Columbia, VA 23038

p: 434.842.3970
e: pastor@saintspeterpaul.org
w: saintjosephcolumbia.org

ADMINISTRATION

Pastoral Council Chair

Debbie Blackburn, 804.815.3737

Finance Council Chair

Pat Morse, 434.589.4106

LITURGY & WORSHIP

Director of Music

Denny Barberio, 434.981.0678

Refreshment Committee

Pat Morse, 434.589.4106

Ushers

Marvin Jackson

Carroll Morse, 434.589.4106

Lectors

Jo Hardy, 434.989.2609

Extraordinary Ministers

Danielle Murphy, 703.969.2123

Altar Servers

Michael Cary, 434.842.3095

Melissa Kenny, 434.589.3416

FORMATION & EDUCATION

CCD

Celeste Shapiola, 434.981.1405

Prison Ministry

Will Kulick, 540.308.5152

Knights of Columbus

Roundtable Chairman

Denny Barberio, 434.981.0678

Ladies Auxiliary

Danielle Murphy, 703.969.2123

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

I Hope I Am Like Him

“Who is this Christ? Is he like you?”

Perhaps you’ve heard this story, often attributed to the life of St. Teresa of Calcutta. A sick man asked her this question, as he marveled at her tireless service to himself and others in the name of someone named Jesus Christ.

“He is nothing like me,” the saint is said to have answered. “But I hope I am like him.”

Though the authenticity of this exchange cannot be verified, its message rings perfectly true: all the value of our stewardship lies in its relativity to the one in whose name we perform it.

Consider the figure of John the Baptist — a magnificent, towering character even purely from a literary or historical perspective. A martyr who fed on wild locusts and boldly spoke truth to power — a man so great some mistook him for the Messiah.

But why is he great? Because he prepared the way. All his accomplishments and escapades mean nothing if they are taken out of the context of salvation history. He only makes sense relative to Christ — and this is exactly as he wanted it. “One worthier than I is coming,” he insists. And because of that humility and that total embrace of God’s will, he is given one of the greatest honors in the New Testament — he baptizes the Son of God.

Let’s examine our lives in the light of their relativity to Christ. How do we prepare the way? When Christ comes to us, what do we do? How do we leave ourselves open to be actors in God’s plan?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi

If you have pictures or
ministry information to
add to St. Joseph’s
website, please email

Melissa at:

kenneymg@gmail.com

If you would like to honor a loved
one by having a Mass said for
them, contact the office at

Sts. Peter and Paul
at 434.589.5201 to arrange
an available date.



*January
Weddings Anniversaries*

*If you are celebrating your
Marriage Anniversary in **January**
and would like to be part of the
Marriage Blessing at Mass on
February 6th, please contact the office by
Friday, January 28th.*



St. Katharine Drexel

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Bradford Barrows * Maria Correa *
 Nona Dooley * Alice Galvez-Sobral *
 Mauricio Granados * India Martin *
 Bill Miller * Pat Morse * Angelica Motta *
 Odila Motta * Oscar Motta *
 Thelma Motta * Denise Pillar *
 Bill Servais * Jordan Watkins *
 Diane Wolfe *

If you or anyone you know is homebound or needs to be added to our parish sick list, please fill out the short form on our parish's "Pray for Our Sick" page. If you'd like to join our parish email list to keep up with our parish and the needs of our parishioners, please sign up on our parish website:

<http://www.saintjosephcolumbia.org/>



CCD

CCD classes meet each Sunday after Mass. Registration forms are available in the Parish Hall. For more info, please contact Celeste Shapiola.

cshapiola@yahoo.com
 or call 434-981-1405

REMINDER

**NO Masses on
 Thursdays at St. Joseph
 during January.**

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

CHRISTMAS	\$
December 26th	\$

Many thanks to All for your support!

BAPTISMAL BIB

Question:

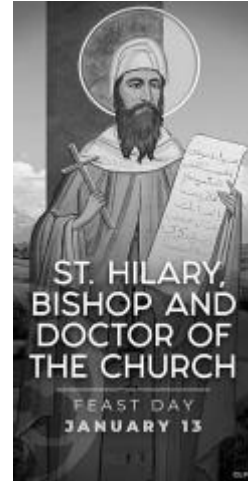
At my grandson's Baptism, the priest put a bib on the baby. I do not remember seeing this before. Why is this done? Is it something new?

Answer:

When an adult is baptized, there is a part in the ceremony when the newly baptized is vested in a white garment. It is symbolic of the changes that baptism brings in the life of the baptized as they are freed from the bonds of sin and brought into the saving grace of Christ. Realities that are so profound are symbolically presented so that we might better grasp and understand them.

Infants are often dressed in a baptismal dress, which is the baptismal garment. In some places, the bib is used as a kind of baptismal garment. At the place in the ceremony where the investiture takes place, the bib is used. Some are poncho-like and fit over the baby's head. Others are simply placed on the baby's chest. If the baby is dressed in a white garment, nothing else is needed. The prayer says it all: "See in your white garment the outward sign of your Christian dignity ... bring that dignity unstained into the everlasting life of heaven." In baptism, we are given our purpose and goal in life as believers and this is symbolized by the white garment.

©LPi



Born a pagan, St. Hilary (c. 315 – c. 367) studied philosophy and the meaning of life, eventually making his way through the bible. He became a convert and was appointed bishop of Poitiers in 353. Sometimes referred to as the Hammer of the Arians, St. Hilary defended the

Nicene Creed against a popular heresy, Arianism. He was exiled to Phrygia for opposing Roman emperor Constantius II, who preferred the heresy which denies Christ's divinity. From Phrygia St. Hilary fought with his pen, zealously writing against the heresy.

Eventually he was allowed to return to Poitiers, but did so by a circuitous route, preaching against Arianism all the way. St. Hilary was likely the first writer of hymns in the West, his writings on the Trinity, Psalms and Gospel of Matthew survive today. St. Hilary was created Doctor of the Church, a title given to those who provided important contributions to theology and doctrine, in 1851 by Pope Pius IX.

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