

December 17, 2023

"The Eucharist - Our Life, Our Hope!"



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: 434.589.5201

Celebrating 140 years!

e: pastor@saintspeterpaul.org

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKENDS

Saturday 5pm: SPP

Sunday 9am: St. Joseph's

11am: SPP

WEEKDAYS

Wednesday-Friday 9am: SPP

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

**THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

THE LORD, YOUR GOD, IS IN YOUR MIDST,
A MIGHTY SAVIOR;
HE WILL REJOICE OVER YOU WITH GLADNESS,
AND RENEW YOU IN HIS LOVE.

—ZEPHANIAH 3:17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1979 CCD.

GLPI

EVANGELIZE

SANCTIFY

SERVE

WELCOME



ADMINISTRATION

PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Doug Mullinex | 434.981.6950

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

Steve Momper | 434.977.5453

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Charles Nicholson | 434.365.9712

CEMETERY

Mandy Tolano | 540.595.7173

PARISH LIFE

JUSTICE & PEACE

Mitzi Crane | 434.589.2552

RESPECT LIFE

David Cauffield | 814.525.0594

PRISON MINISTRY

Will Kulick | 540.308.5152

GOOD SHEPHERDS

Patricia Travers | 434.953.5432

PARISH NURSE

Catherine Heffley | 757.813.1992

LITURGY & WORSHIP

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Sid D'Amico | 434.996.4325

USHERS

Frank Pilk | 571.239.3373

LECTORS

Cynthia Aycock | 434.996.6065

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Dianna Campagna | 434.286.3665

ALTAR SERVERS

Nicole Amato | 434.589.7987

SACRISTY

Mary Ann Mason | 434.589.6141

GREETERS

Rose Meyer | 434.589.5018

EVANGELIZATION & EDUCATION

CCD/YOUTH GROUP

Christina Nealy | 434.589.5201

RCIA/BIBLE STUDY

Cynthia Aycock | 434.996.6065

SUPPORTED GROUPS

CURSILLO

Ellie Henrietta | 434.981.3551

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Doug Mullinex | 434.981.6950

PASTOR

Rev. David M. Ssentamu | 434.589.5200

DEACON

Rev. Mr. Robert Allen | 434.589.0941

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Karen Davidson | 434.589.5201

FAITH FORMATION

Christina Nealy | 434.589.5201

BULLETIN & ANNOUNCEMENTS DEADLINE

Fridays-1 week in advance-In writing to

karen.davidson@saintspeterpaul.org



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.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 17, 2023

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/
1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/
Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:
57-66

Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/
Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 17, 2023

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday: St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Friday:

Saturday: St. John of Kanty, Priest

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve

DECEMBER 2023

HONOR YOUR LOVED ONE WITH A SPECIAL MEMORIAL

BREAD & WINE IN MEMORY OF

O'Reilly &
Lyttle Families

DONOR

Bill & Veronica Lyttle



SANCTUARY CANDLE IN MEMORY OF

Fred Mariutto

DONOR

Diana Mariutto



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



ENCOUNTER

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 17, 2023

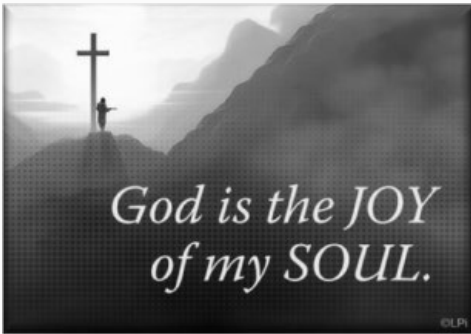
“The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me.” God is empowering you for a specific purpose! How will you respond to so great a love? Is He asking you to follow Him by serving in the priesthood of consecrated life? Talk to your priest or reach out to the

Office of Vocations at:

804-359-5661

Or email

vocations@richmonddiocese.org



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

3rd Sunday of Advent

Why do we believe in Jesus and the Catholic Church? Why should we continue to do so? We’ve never seen him face-to-face (at least not most of us, I assume). Most of us have never had mystical visions of angels or saints. We live in the same world as our atheist and secularists friends. Why do we believe in Christ if we’ve never seen him?

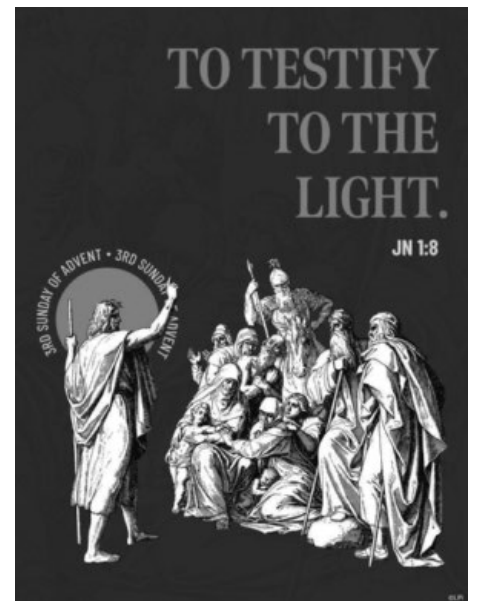
The simple, symbolic answer the Gospel presents to us this week might surprise us: we believe because of John the Baptist. Early in John’s Gospel we hear: “There was a man sent from God, his name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him.” The Baptist powerfully announces Jesus. This is a historical fact, and it is also now a pattern at work in our lives.

John the Baptist stands for the entirety of the old covenant, everything entrusted to the Jewish people. And yet he prophetically opens the door to something entirely new in Jesus, to the revival and fulfillment of God’s promises. In every generation, and in every human life, God continues to do this. He has done it through people named Augustine,

Francis, Catherine, Theresa, and countless others. In my life, the Baptist’s spirit has come through persons named Eric, Paul, Mary, and Ron. I challenge you to name at least three people through whom God has announced the coming of Jesus in your life. Consciously thank God for their testimony. And let’s commit ourselves to listening to the spirit of John the Baptist testify again this week so that we might more strongly believe in the light.

— Father John Muir

©LPi



PARISH YOUTH



Religious Education
CCD classes meet every Sunday
at 9:30am and conclude
after the 11:00am Mass.

Please **welcome** Christina Nealy as the new part-time Coordinator! She is not new to this ministry as she is currently one of our Catechists. She takes on her new role effective December 18th. Blessings, Chris!



Sr. Madrine resigned from her position as **Coordinator of Religious Education and Youth Ministry** for personal reasons. She is wished the very best as she continues on the journey. Blessings, Sr. Madrine!

We **thank** Doug Mullinex for his interim service in the position so there was no interruption in the program. Blessings, Doug!

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 571.212.4445



Nativity Exhibit at Lessons & Carols. December 17th at 2:00pm. Please wear RED & GREEN!

SHARING THE GOSPEL

People noticed John the Baptist. He loved God, and he used words honestly. He really wanted to help people change and grow closer to God. He stood out as someone really different and special. People came from all around to hear him and learn about him. When people asked him questions, he pointed them to Jesus.

MISSION FOR THE WEEK

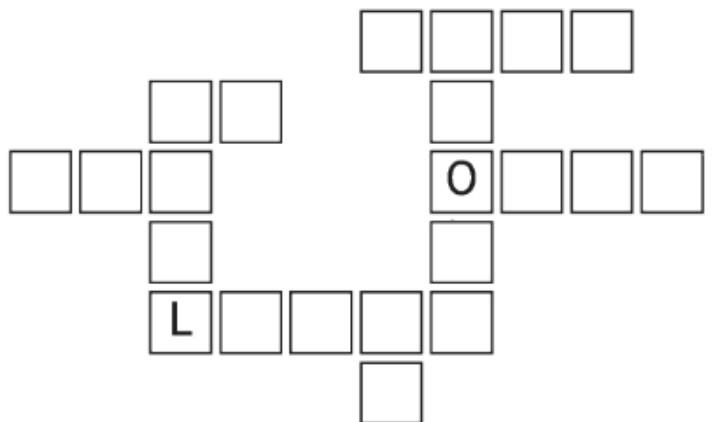
Ask a friend if he or she is ready to meet Jesus.

PRAYER

Jesus, help me to be different because I love you. Amen.

PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:
He came only to tell about the light.



INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTIONS: DECEMBER 16 - DECEMBER 24, 2023

* Represents Saint Joseph's Parish

Saturday	12/16	5pm	Patti Markle	D	Michael & Nancy King
Sunday	12/17	9am*	Misa Pro Populo		
Sunday	12/17	11am	Patti Markle	D	Janis & Royal Duffy
Tuesday	12/19	12noon	Roma Maurer Lopina	D	Charlie & Betty Maurer
Wednesday	12/20	9am			
Thursday	12/21	9am			
Friday	12/22	9am			
Saturday	12/23	5pm	Misa Pro Populo		
Sunday	12/24	9am*	Thomasín Cunningham	D	John & Christine Stewart
Sunday	12/24	11am	Brian Redding	D	Charlie & Betty Maurer

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All those who serve our country particularly . . .



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

Pray God keeps them in His care.



REMEMBER *in your prayers*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Michael Amato, Maria Boice, Patricia Brammer, Sharon Cassidy, Nicole Colley, The Compton Family, Jean Dalsky, Connie D'Amico, Me'Shelle Durant, Bill Ellis, Bob Fint, Patricia Golgosky, Patrick Granville, Mary Anne Grimes, Phyllis Guthrie, Jack Hartwell, John Hobby, Regina Humanitzki, Tony Ingilleri, Sue Ingilleri, Margaret Johnson, Ron Johnson, Carolyn Kerrigan, Tom Kinter, Marie Knighting, Jackie Kraemer, Judi Kuhlow, Marcia Lagomarsino, Annie & Joe Lodato, Art Menard, Joan Merk, Haynes McKinley Morris, Jr., Irene Nadig, Rose Patterson, Donald Raab, Margaret Reilly, Carol Scampoli, Mary Ellen Scango, Carol Starowicz, Marylou Stock, Anna Sturhann, Claire van Nierop, Cornelia Waters, Mike Waters and June Wimer.

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

December Wedding Anniversaries

If you are celebrating your wedding anniversary in December and wish to be part of the marriage blessing at Mass on January 6th and 7th, please notify the office by **Friday, December 22nd.**

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

DAY	DATE	TIME	PLACE
Sunday	Dec. 24th	6:00pm	SPP
		7:00am	SPP
Monday	Dec. 25th	9:00am	SJ
		11:00am	SPP

EVERDAY STEWARDSHIP

Pew Count Sat. - Sun. - NOT AVAILABLE DUE TO EARLY PUBLICATION	Dec 9/10 PUBLICATION
First Offering	\$
First Offering: Faith Direct	\$ 2,097
Total	\$
December MTD Debt Reduction	\$

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

Our next DEBT REDUCTION Collection is

JANUARY 6 & 7

Thank you and God bless you for your continued support.

Our next monthly Bake Sale January 6 & 7, 2024, after each Mass. Donations accepted before Mass. Thank you!

Luke 2:11 - "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

As Christmas is rapidly approaching, this is our time to celebrate the birth of Jesus our Lord and savior. So, amidst the presents, cookie decorating and Christmas parties, remember, Jesus is the reason for the season.

Your eGiving donations allows our ministry to continue to provide gifts to the community and you can easily get started by:

- Visiting faith.direct/VA249
 - Calling Faith Direct Customer Service at 866.507.8757
- Peace and blessings to your family this Christmas season!



CHRISTMAS DINNER

Monday
December 25th, 2023
1:00 PM
St. Francis Hall

Donations for Christmas dinner are gratefully accepted in the designated box.

Bring a side or dessert to share

Sign-up on the sheet on the kitchen door in the Commons

Do you know of someone who is in need of help to care for a loved one?

Most of us have heard of JABA, but many of us do not know about the services JABA provides for caregivers, for adults with disabilities and for seniors in general in our community. JABA's Helpline is 434.817.5244 or toll-free 833.559.2428. go online at jabacares.org. JABA's "Aging Services Coordinators" can advise on types of help available and connect people to local providers. They have information about qualifying for public-funded services, as well as financial assistance.

CHILD CARE HELP NEEDED:

A new family in our community is looking for a person who would enjoy helping them with care for their one year old daughter at their home at Lake Monticello. They are looking for a trustworthy, reliable, loyal, and responsible person, who likes working with children and could work between the hours of 8:30am and 1:30pm three days a week. Their one year old daughter is walking already, is very sociable, and is starting to communicate and explore the world around her. While the parents' schedules include working in and outside the home, the helper would be expected to play with the child at home, go for walks, play at the park, change diapers as necessary, prepare light snacks, and do some simple housework while the child is napping.

Compensation - \$20 per hour.

If interested, please contact Dr. Andrea Loving at Andrea.Freska@live.com. or 703-679-0051.

UPCOMING EVENTS



ADULT FORMATION CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

includes RCIA, offering instruction to unbaptized and non-Catholic persons with interest in being members of the Catholic faith.

Classes meet every Sunday @ 9:30am.



ROOM SCHEDULE

Sat	16-Dec	Confessions	4:00p	Church
		Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church
		Nativity Exhibit Sneak Peek	6:00p	F
Sun	17-Dec	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's
		CCD/RCIA	9:30a	Hall
		Christmas Brunch Potluck	10:00a	St. Joseph's Hall
		Mass	11:00a	Church
		Lessons & Carols/ Nativity Exhibit	2:00p	F
Mon	18-Dec	Bible Study	1:00p	E
Tues	19-Dec	Yoga	11:00a	F
		Mass/Confessions	12:00p	Church
Wed	20-Dec	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Troop 138/1138	6:30p	F
		Finance Committee	7:00p	123
Thurs	21-Dec	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Cursillo	6:00p	123
Fri	22-Dec	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Adoration	9:30a	Church
		Benediction	3:00p	Church
Sat	23-Dec	Confessions	4:00p	Church
		Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church
Sun	24-Dec	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	11:00a	Church
		Christmas Eve Mass	6:00p	Church
Room Ledger:		F - St. Francis (Hall)	R - St. Raphael (Church)	
		E - St. Elizabeth (Hall)	M - St. Michael (Church)	
		C - Commons (Church)		

BIBLE STUDY

Mondays

1:00 - 2:00pm
St. Elizabeth room
Parish Hall

STS. PETER & PAUL

Religious Store

NOW OPEN

religiousstore@saintspeterpaul.org

Great Gift Ideas:

- Rosaries
- Prayer Cards
- Jewelry
- Greeting Cards
- Crucifixes
- Books
- Home Goods
- and More

Hours:

Saturday
3:00-4:30
6:00-6:45
Sunday
9:30-10:30
12:00-1:00
or
By Appointment

SIGN UP TO SPEND AN HOUR WITH JESUS

in the Adoration Chapel

M - Th, 6am - 8pm

Pope Francis reiterates the importance of spending time in Adoration, "for only through silent Adoration will the Word of God live in our words; only in His presence will we be purified, transformed, and renewed by the fire of his Spirit. Brothers and sisters, let us adore the Lord Jesus!"


Contact: Denise Minor - dminor92@gmail.com



You're invited to . . .

Lessons & Carols
And Nativity Exhibit

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH, 2023
STS. PETER AND PAUL CHURCH
2:00PM IN ST. FRANCIS HALL



May the season be merry and bright!

**COME AND ENJOY AN
 AFTERNOON OF
 MUSIC, STORIES,
 COOKIES, SANTA,
 AND FELLOWSHIP.**

THE NATIVITY EXHIBIT AT LESSONS & CAROLS



You are invited to attend our Nativity Exhibit!
**Join us at Lessons & Carols on Sunday,
 December 17th at 2:00pm. Thank you to those
 who "loaned" their Nativity for this event,
 making it special!**
Please wear RED & GREEN!

PARISH NURSE NEWS:
Senior Coffee Social
Wednesday, December 27th, 2023
10:00AM in the Commons
*We'll continue talking about the book,
The Fourth Quarter of Your Life, chapter 21,
"Living Meaningfully in a Trivial Culture".*
Come join us for coffee and conversation, even if your new.
757.813.1992 or caheffley@aol.com.

STS. PETER AND PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH IS SEEKING A MUSIC DIRECTOR

The part-time Director of Music (DM) is responsible for planning and facilitating music at parish liturgical celebrations. This includes, but is not limited to weekend liturgies, funerals, weddings, Feast Days and prayer services. The DM works closely with the Parish Staff, especially the Pastor, in coordinating music for these celebrations, and provides training for musicians (i.e. Cantors and Pianists) in and outside of the parish.



JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Knowledge of the Catholic Mass and liturgical documents: Sacrosanctum Concilium (Constitution of the Sacred Liturgy), The Roman Missal (2011 edition), The General Instruction on the Roman Missal (GIRM), Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship, Music in Catholic Worship. Ability to express ideas clearly both in written and oral communication. Project a friendly spiritual atmosphere to parishioners. Organize tasks to facilitate their timely accomplishment.

Salary will be commensurate with education and experience.

Interested candidates should submit their diocesan application (<https://richmonddiocese.org/office/office-of-human-resources/>), cover letter and resume to the Pastor.

pastor@saintspeterpaul.org

**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS' SERVICES**

Are you a U.S. Veteran in need of help? Visit the Fluvanna Community Center, 5725 James Madison Hwy by appointment only, on the first Wednesday of each month from 9am to 11:30am. Call Pamela Zirkle or Jeannette Flint at 434-529-6431 to schedule. www.dvs.Virginia.gov

What Will Your Legacy Be?

Does your husband have a Will? If not, you may be risking a great loss of financial security. Both of you should have a will prepared as soon as possible.

Does your wife have a Will? In the event of a common disaster, the courts will look to your wife's Will in the distribution of your estate. Be prepared.

Do your parents have a Will? Check to see that they do. It will help avoid estate complications and has tax implications.



Catholic Health Initiatives for Uganda

Do you have old sneakers you no longer wear?

**Catholic Health Initiatives
for Uganda
can use them! There is a box at
the front door where they may
be placed.**

Just sneakers, please!

*Catholic Health Initiatives for Uganda is a
501(c) (3) non-profit entity.*

All donations are tax deductible.

Thank you for your support!

Catholic Q & A

THE SIGN OF PEACE

Question:

Why do Catholics give the sign of peace to one another at Mass?

Answer:

The sign of peace is a part of the Mass that takes place immediately after we offer the Lord's Prayer. Inspired by the Jesus' words to his first followers, we stand together in a spirit of communion to pray as Jesus taught us: "Our Father who art in heaven..." In this prayer, we call for the coming of God's kingdom in all its fullness and ask that God provides for our needs — "Give us, this day, our daily bread" — to forgive our sins and to bring us to the joy of heaven.

It is almost natural, then, that the rite of peace would follow. As the celebrant prays that Christ's peace will fill our hearts, our communities, the Church, and the whole world, we extend to those around us a sign of peace (usually a hug or a handshake) as a symbol of the communion that we experience now and will experience forever in the fullness of the reign of God.

We are also reminded of Jesus' teachings that if we are at prayer and remember that a brother or sister is holding something against us, then we are to go and seek reconciliation with them before we continue our prayer (see Matthew 5:23). And so, the sign of peace also reminds us of the need to truly be in communion — united in love and peace — with God and one another before we approach the altar to receive the Eucharist.

So, the next time you're at Mass and the time comes for the sign of peace, remember that this is a moment to celebrate the gift of Christ's peace that each of us has received from God and to pass that peace along to those around us. We need this moment to practice, because this is also the same peace of Christ that we are instructed to carry out into the world at the end of Mass when the priest or deacon says to us, "Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life."

ST. JOSEPH'S Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel

INTROSPECTIVE

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

A CONSTANT COMPANION

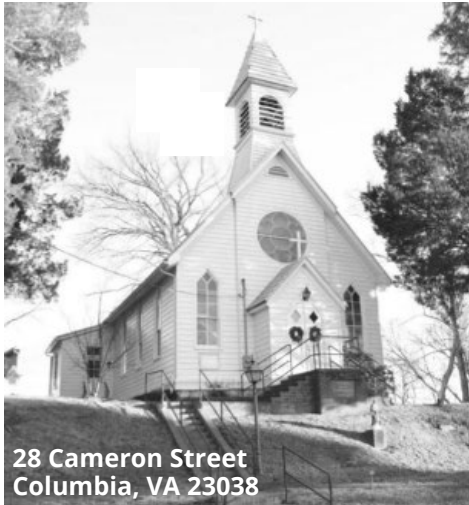
As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi



28 Cameron Street
Columbia, VA 23038

p: 434.589.5201
e: pastor@saintspeterpaul.org
w: saintjosephcolumbia.org

PASTOR, Fr. David Ssentamu | 434.589.5200

ADMINISTRATION

PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Debbie Blackburn | 804.815.3732

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

Fred Gunnels | 434.960.6092

LITURGY & WORSHIP

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Denny Barberio | 434.981.0678

SACRISTAN

Jennifer Dennis | 804.641.8941

USHERS

Marvin Jackson |
Carroll Morse | 434.589.4106

LECTORS

Melissa Kenney | 434.589.3416

ALTAR SERVERS

Michael Cary | 434.842.3095
Melissa Kenney | 434.589.3416

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

Danielle Carter-Bledsoe |

FORMATION & EDUCATION

CCD

Celeste Shapiola | 434.981.1405

PRISON MINISTRY

Will Kulick | 540.308.5152

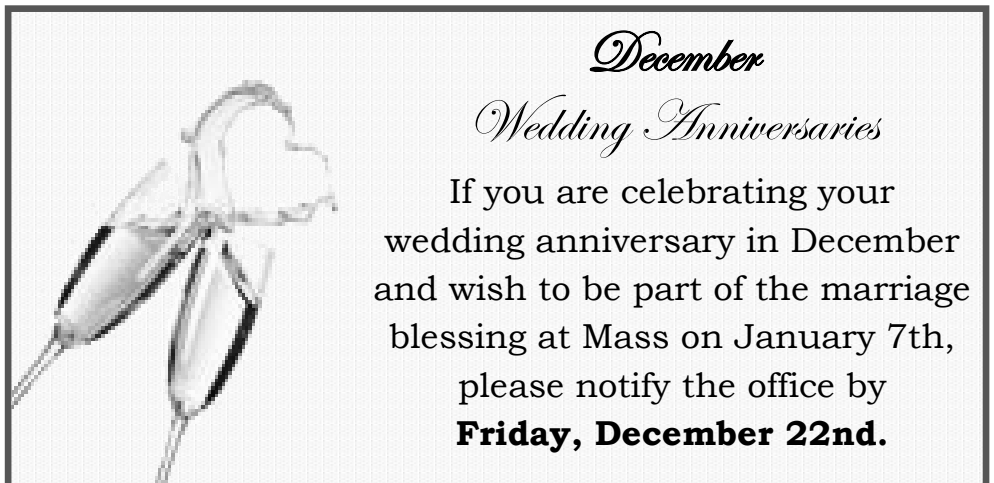
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

ROUNDTABLE CHAIRMAN

Denny Barberio | 434.981.0678

LADIES AUXILIARY

Debbie Blackburn | 804.815.3732





RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

TESTIMONY

When my grandmother heard the news that my cousin had fallen from a second-story window, she immediately went and washed her hair.

Grandma had been sitting alone in her house, listening to the morning radio when the announcer shared a news bulletin stating that the previous night, a little boy with the same name as her grandson, living in the same community and of the same age, had fallen onto the pavement from a window on the second floor of his house. He had been rushed to the hospital but miraculously survived his injuries.

She thought she was hallucinating and wanted to look pretty when the “men in white coats” came to take her away. Thus, the hair-washing.

As it happens, the whole story was true — it was her grandson, but this was before the age of mobile phones and had happened so late at night that his parents had been unable to notify any family members before the whole thing showed up on the news.

It wasn't until my grandmother received a phone call from another relative corroborating the story that she realized it hadn't been a figment of her imagination. What a waste of styled hair, no hospital committal for her that day.

There are certain truths that we cannot accept unless they are supported by the testimony of others. We find them to be unbelievable without the reassurance of another person whispering, “It’s okay. I see it, too.”

This is the value of testimony, and the purpose of John the Baptist and every saint who ever died with the name of Jesus Christ on their lips. And this is the sacred duty of all the baptized, to give testimony with our words and our actions.

How will you testify today?

“He was not the light, but came to testify to the light.” — John 1:8

©LPi

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

- MaryEllen Agolia * Bradford Barrows *
- Maria Correa * Nona Dooley *
- Alice Galvez-Sobral * Mauricio Granados *
- Will Kulick * Andy Mallory *
- India Martin * Angelica Motta *
- Odila Motta * Oscar Motta *
- Thelma Motta * Denise Pillar *
- Christine Stewart * John Stewart *
- Jordan Watkins * Diane Wolfe *

If you have pictures or ministry information to be added 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 at least 6 months out.



CCD meets every Sunday after Mass.

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Our annual Christmas Brunch/Lunch is today, Sunday, December 17th, after Mass. It will be Potluck, as usual.



For a full schedule of planned celebratory activities, please visit our website and Facebook pages.

**All events are themed with a focus on history, faith, education or community.*



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