

St. Joseph's Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel

February 18, 2024

"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

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKENDS Saturday 5pm: SPP Sunday 9am: St. Joseph's 11am: SPP

Weeкdays 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

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

p: 434.589.5201

ST. KATHARINE DREXEL P.O. Box 808 28 Cameron Street Columbia, VA 23038

Celebrating 140 years!



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mess @2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

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**

Larry Boice | 434.510.7677 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

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

ССD/Youтн 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 All lle an

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 FEBRUARY 18, 2024

Sunday:
Monday: Tuesday: Wednesday: Thursday: Friday: Saturday: Next Sunday:

Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (see 10)/1 Pt 3:18-22/ Mk 1:12-15 Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46 Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15 ay: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32 : 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19 Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26 Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48 day: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18, 2024

Sunday:1st Sunday of LentMonday:Presidents' DayTuesday:Vednesday:Wednesday:St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the ChurchThursday:The Chair of St. Peter the ApostleFriday:St. Polycarp, Bishop and MartyrSaturday:2nd Sunday of Lent

FEBRUARY 2024 HONOR YOUR LOVED ONE WITH A SPECIAL MEMORIAL

BREAD & WINE





SANCTUARY CANDLE

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

- ALERT: As weather conditions turn adverse, tune in to

the local ABC, CBS, NBC stations for CLOSING announcements.



1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

February 18th, 2024

"I establish My covenant with you." If in your listening to the Lord you are sensing the invitation to follow Christ as a priest, deacon, sister, or brother, talk to your priest or reach out to the

Office of Vocations at 804.359.5661

Or via email:

vocations@richmonddiocese.org





GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

February 18, 2024 1st Sunday of Lent

When I feel down, I sometimes watch the famous "Double Rainbow" video on YouTube to feel better. It's hilarious. A young man camping in Yosemite Park sees two rainbows stretching across the sky. He bursts into a kind of ecstasy. "Double rainbow, all the way! Oh my God!" he announces. Then he starts to weep. He cries out, "What does it mean?" Beneath the humor of his glorious overreaction is the deep intuition we all have, I think, when we see the colorful bow in the sky. This Sunday, God sends a rainbow to Noah, and to us. What does it mean?

Long before YouTube had the double rainbow, Dante's medieval poem The Divine Comedy featured one in his image of paradise. Seeing two rainbows, he muses that one is born of the other. The bow is God's promise of peace. For Dante, it's even more: nature's encrypted image of the Trinitarian God. One visible rainbow (God the Son) is begotten of another usually invisible one (God the Father) united by invisible light between them (God the Spirit). Like invisible light, Trinitarian glory surrounds us in every moment — but Jesus has made it visible in his glorious body.

Lenten challenge: This might seem silly, but this Lent I invite you to find a rainbow and meditate on it. You might have to make one yourself, like this current desert-dweller will. Gaze on it. See there a natural gift from the Creator, saying to you, "Here I am! I will love and protect you, surrounding you in My glory." This Lent let's embrace that with confidence, rain, or shine.

— Father John Muir

PARISH YOUTH



Classes meet every Sunday at 9:30a and conclude after the 11:00a Mass.

Volunteer teachers and teacher's aides needed:

Volunteers are needed as teachers, assistants and substitutes for 2024-2025 school year. We also need assistants and subs for the remainder of this year. If you are interested in helping guide the children in faith we would love to have you come help. Please send Christina Nealy an email at

Religioused@saintpeterandpaul.org

I look forward to working with you!

SHARING THE GOSPEL

In today's Gospel, Jesus spent forty days in the desert. Jesus stayed close to God, and he followed God's directions every day of his life. When Satan came to test Jesus he was ready. Jesus passed every test beautifully. He said "No" to temptation. When you write spelling words over and over and over, it is easier to remember them. If you are learning a new language, it helps to make flash cards to practice with. Once you memorize all your words, taking the test is pretty easy. The more you read the Bible and do what God asks in his word, the easier it will be for you to pass Satan's tests, too.

PRAYER

God, help me to stay close to you so that I am ready for my tests. **Amen.**

CHARLOTTESVILLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL is accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year!

Applications for JK (students must turn 4 by September 30, 2024) through 8th grade can be submitted through our website: <u>www.cvillecatholic.org/admissions</u>. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a tour, please reach out to <u>admissions@cvillecatholic.org</u>.

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

YOUTH FROM STS PETER AND PAUL AND ST JOSEPH

Each group meets from 6-7:30pm on their respective day each month for fellowship, activities and service. Volunteer support is needed for both groups.

Grades K - 5: March 15th Middle/High School: March 14th

Please contact Chris Nealy with questions at <u>religioused@saintspeterpaul.org</u>.

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:										
	SPIRIT JESUS DESERT				FORTY SATAN TESTED			ANIMALS ANGELS BELIEVE		
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R	А	Ν	Τ	Μ	А	L	S	J	0	R
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0	Т	Т	Μ	Υ	В	Α	L	Υ	Т	А

INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTIONS: FEBRUARY 17 - 25, 2024

* Represents Saint Joseph's Parish

Saturday	2/17	5pm	Barbara Sipress	D	Bob & Muriel Toepfert
Sunday	nday 2/18 9am* Andrew Fornecker		D	Fred & Betsy Gunnels	
Sunday	nday 2/18 11am Misa Pro Populo				
Tuesday	2/20	12Noon	Witold Witkowski-birthday	Ι	The Witkowski family
Wednesday	2/21	9am	Imgard Trampusch	D	Erickson Family
Thursday 2/22		9am	Jim Serovy	D	Jane Morgan
Friday	2/23	9am	June Wimer	D	Sonja Erikson
Saturday	2/24	5pm	Barbara Sipress	D	Royal & Janis Duffy
Sunday	2/25	9am*	Misa Pro Populo		
Sunday	2/25	11am	Kenneth Maher	D	Nancy & Michael King

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.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Michael Amato, Maria Boice, Patricia Brammer, Sharon Cassidy, Nicole Colley, The Compton Family, Jean Dalsky, Me'Shelle Durant, Bill Ellis, Caroline Faulkner, Bob Fint, Patricia Golgosky, 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 Lodato, Art Menard, Joan Merk, Haynes McKinley Morris, Jr., Irene Nadig, Rose Patterson, Donald Raab, Margaret Reilly, Carol Scampoli, Mary Ellen Scango, Judy Snyder, Carol Starowicz, Marylou Stock, Anna Sturhann, Claire van Nierop, Cornelia Waters, Mike Waters

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

February Wedding *G*inniversaries

If you are celebrating your wedding anniversary in February and wish to be part of the marriage blessing at Mass on March 2nd or 3rd, please notify the office at 434.589.5201 by Friday, February 23rd, 2024.

Harm happened in isolation. Healing can happen together.

As a community, we strive to support survivors of child sexual abuse on their journey toward healing and wholeness.

For those who have suffered abuse by clergy residing in the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, we invite you to join virtually, March 6th at 7:00pm. Spouses and affected community members are also welcome. These gatherings, led by an independent facilitator, will offer a safe environment for participants to connect, share, support, and heal.

These meetings will be held the first Wednesday of each month.

If you would like more information, or the virtual meeting link, please call the Victim Assistance Coordinator at 877.887.9603 or email dana@atreeplanted.org.



EVERDAY STEWARDSHIP

The Debt F	FEB 3/4	Pew Count Sat 110 Sun 190				
Our next D	\$ 4,288	First Offering				
	\$ 2,202	First Offering: Faith Direct				
M	\$ 6,490	Total				
Thank y	\$ 1,950	February MTD Debt Reduction				
	U! \$ 371	February Bake Sale, Thank YOU!				

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

Our next DEBT REDUCTION Collection is

March 2nd & 3rd

Thank you and God bless you for your continued support.

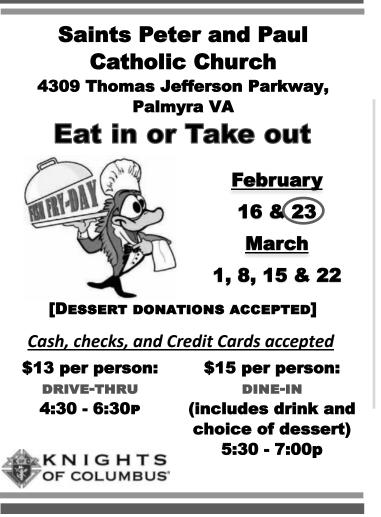
Our next monthly Bake Sale is March 2nd & 3rd after each Mass. Donations accepted before Mass. Thank you!

This is the time of year when keeping our new year's resolutions may become challenging. If we even made any. Well, here's an easy new year's resolution to feel good about: streamline your offertory giving and simplify your support! Now is a great time to stop using checks/envelopes and switch to eGiving - it's simple to sign up from your computer, smartphone or tablet, to set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

Recurring gifts help give our parish a steady, consistent offertory that strengthens the programs, services and ministries we lead for our church families and for those in need throughout the community.

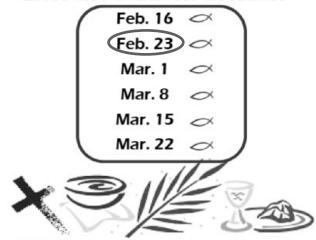
Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/VA249 or call 866.507.8757. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God bless you!





Lenten Lunches

Fridays during Lent after the Stations at noon



Time: 12:30pm Location: Commons

Please sign up to bring soup or sandwiches to share.

UPCOMING EVENTS

					V L			
				Scouts Pinewood Derby	8:00a	E/F		
o con for the	Sa Sa		17-Feb	Confessions	4:00p	Church		
ADULT				Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church		
FORMATION				Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's		
			18-Feb	Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's		
CHRISTIAN		Sun		CCD/RCIA Faith Formation	9:30a	Parish Hall		
EDUCATION				Mass	11:00a	Church		
includes RCIA,				Scouts Blue/Gold Banquet	12:00p	E/F		
offering			19-Feb	OFFICE CLOSED - Presid		,		
instruction to		Mon		Rejoice! Bible Study	1:00p	E		
unbaptized and		_		Yoga	11:00a	F		
non-Catholic		Tues	20-Feb	Finance Committee	7:00p	123		
persons with		Wed	21-Feb	Mass	9:00a	Church		
interest in		Wed		Scouts	6:30p	F		
being members of	121	Thurs	22 Fab	Mass	9:00a	Church		
the Catholic faith.	Ψ	Inuis	22-1°CD	Cursillo	6:00p	123		
	占		23-Fed	Mass	9:00a	Church		
Classes meet	Š			Adoration	9:30a	Church		
every Sunday @	ROOM SCHEDULE	Fri		Stations of the Cross/Lenten Lunch	Noon	Church/C		
9:30am.				Benediction	3:00p 4:30/	Church		
۵. ۲۰۰۰ آیک				Fish Fry Drive Thru/Dine In	4.30 / 5:30p	Parking Lot/F		
			24-Feb	Wimer Funeral/Reception	10:00a	Church/C		
		Sat		Confessions	4:00p	Church		
BIBLE STUDY				Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church		
	$\ $		25-Feb	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's		
Mondays		Sun		Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's		
				Longwood College Choir	10:00a	St. Joseph's		
1:00 - 2:00pm				CCD/RCIA Faith Formation	9:30a	Parish Hall		
St. Elizabeth				Mass	11:00a	Church		
room				F - St. Francis (Hall)		Raphael		
		Boom			(Churc	nj Michael		
Parish Hall		коот		E - St. Elizabeth (Hall)	(Churc			
				C - Commons (Church)				
STS. PETER & PA				, 				
		SIGN UP TO SPEND AN HOUR WITH JESUS						
Religious Store		in the Adoration Chapel						
NOW OPEN		M - Th, 6am - 8pm						
religiousstore@saintspeterpaul.org		Pope	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					
Great Gift Ideas: Rosaries								
Prayer Cards Jeweiry G	<u>Saturday</u> 1:00-4:30 1:00-6:45	His presence will we be purified, transformed, and renewed by the fire of his Spirit. Brothers and sisters, let us adore the Lord Jesus!"						
Crucifixes 9:	Crucifixes 9:30-10:30 Books 12:00-1:00			Contraction of the second s				
Home Goods and More By A		Contact	: Denise Minor - <u>dminor92@gmail.cor</u>	92@gmail.com				
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NULL SALES

N. 2.



Married Couples! Why not give yourselves a weekend away from it all. Time away from the pressures of work and everyday responsibilities. A chance to talk and listen to that special someone who loves you. If that sounds good to you, sign up now for a

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend.

For more information or to register, go to <u>WWME.org</u>, click "Apply" and search for "Virginia" or your desired location. Feel free to contact Mark and Cathy Stangler at 703.378.4150 or mstang1987@aol.com. Here are a few upcoming experiences:

- April 12-14, 2024 Herndon, VA
- May 3 5, 2024 Kickory, NC
- September 27 29, 2024 Herndon, VA

PARISH NURSE NEWS

SENIOR COFFEE SOCIAL Wednesday, February 28th, 2024 10:00AM in the Commons

We'll continue talking about the "Fourth Quarter of Our Lives" as we explore Chapter 24: <u>You Content</u> <u>Diet</u> (p. 131). Inventory the types of things you usually watch, listen to or read. This content has an impact on our minds an mood. Please join us for discussion and fellowship.

757.813.1992 or caheffley@aol.com.

Ccasionally we might have a parishioner who needs a temporary helping hand or can no longer drive. Can you make time to help with a ride to a doctor's appointment, church, bank or to the grocery store? This is what the "Good Shepherd "ministry is about. With your name in my call file, you might be asked to be a temporary good Samaritan (Shepherd}. To learn more about Good Shepherds ministry, please contact:

Patricia Travers at 434-953-5432

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.

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

pastor@saintspeterpaul.org



Knights of Columbus and Sts. Peter & Paul

<u>Schedule:</u>

9:15 AM	Meet in churc	Meet in church parking lot				
	Drive to Richn	Drive to Richmond, park in GRCC				
	garage (351 N	garage (351 N. 3 rd Street)				
11:00 AM	March for Life	March for Life Rally @ Bell Tower				
12:00 PM	Virginia Marc	Virginia March for Life begins				
Retu	rn to GRCC parki	ng lot for return trip.				
For d	irections, addres	sses, or other info,				
call:	Larry Boice	434.510.7677				
	or <u>text</u> him at	571.719.9339				

<u>2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal –</u> <u>Sharing His Love with Others</u>

Catholic Community Foundation of the Diocese of Richmond 2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal

This weekend we have information in the pews available for those wishing to give to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Those who have selflessly given previously have, most likely, already received pledge materials at home. Please prayerfully consider what you might be able to give. Last year 30 parishioners from Sts. Peter and Paul contributed \$6,055 against a goal of \$17,980 (or 34%) to the Bishop's Appeal. Even though the goal was not met, from that, we received back over \$1,240, which helped to cover some operating expenses. The appeal also funds grants, such as the Fuel & Hunger Grant, from which we received \$3,000 (this helps us grant funds to those in the community that find themselves temporarily struggling to make ends meet). This year our goal is \$17,310.



Join us for an hour of peaceful and prayerful presence each Wednesday during Lent, February 14 - March 20. Saints Peter and Paul Knights of Columbus Council #11475 invites any and all to join us on Wednesdays. We maintain a vigil and pray in front of Planned Parenthood in Charlottesville from 10 - 11am. For carpool information or directions, call Larry Boice, 434.510.7677. There is ample parking across the street from the site, for those who choose to meet us there.

Catholic Q & A

Vestment Colors

Question:

What do the colors of the priest's and deacon's vestments mean?

Answer:

In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the colors of the vestments evolved over the course of several centuries and there was wide variation both in the colors used, and in the feasts and seasons associated with particular colors. It was Pope Innocent III (d. 1216) who gave us the basic outline that was later prescribed by Pope Saint Pius V in 1570. The various colors remind us of the dominant themes of a particular season or celebration.

 \cdot White: Used for the seasons of Christmas and Easter and in celebrations of the Lord, of Mary, the angels, and saints who were not martyrs. This color is also used in Masses for the dead, at baptisms, weddings and other festive celebrations.

 \cdot Red: As the color of both blood and fire, red is used on Palm Sunday and Good Friday, as well as Pentecost and special celebrations of the Holy Spirit. Moreover, red is used on the feasts and memorials of the Apostles and those saints who died as martyrs.

• Violet: The color for Advent and Lent. Violet may also be used in Masses for the dead and on All Souls Day (November 2).

 \cdot Green: A color of life and hope, green is used throughout Ordinary Time.

• Other colors: Rose may be used on the Third Sunday of Advent and the Fourth Sunday of Lent, black may be used in Masses of the dead and on All Souls Day, gold or silver may be used on solemn occasions in place of white, red, or green.

PARISH TRIP IN 2025 SAVE THE DATE:

April 24 - May 4, 2025

Looking for details on this? Information can be found on the Parish Council bulletin board in the Commons.

ST. JOSEPH'S Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel



Columbia, VA 23038 p: 434.589.5201 e: pastor@saintspeterpaul.org w:saintjosephcolumbia.org

PASTOR, Fr. David Ssentamu | 434.589.5200 **DEACON,** Rev. Mr. Robert Allen | 434.589.0941

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

Lent and the Flood

I would bet money that somewhere in your church this Lent, there's a bare tree branch draped in purple fabric and an empty bowl filled with rocks.

I'm not poking fun, the desert imagery that surrounds the season of Lent isn't a cliché — or if it is, it's only because clichés are essentially true. Lent is the desert. Lent is the wilderness. Lent is the time of less.

But what if Lent was also the flood?

It seems counterintuitive, floods are excessive, and we don't think of Lent as a time for superabundance. Lent is when we limit experiences outside of ourselves in order to limit proclivities within ourselves. Lent is not a time for anything to be washing over us, consuming us, carrying us away on a tide.

Unless...it is.

Consider the flood of the Old Testament. An act of destruction, yes, but also an act of purification. An endurance test for the soul, an epic trust fall exercise between God and Noah in which Noah had to ride the literal waves, clinging to life as God wiped away everything familiar. Everything sinful.

In Lent, we relinquish our weaknesses and our infirmities to the flood. It's frightening, certainly. But it's also exciting. Because just as the flood destroys everything, it also makes everything possible. It is a baptism.

Lent, like the flood, makes the world new.

"Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit." — 1 Peter 3:18



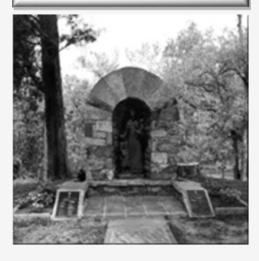


PRAYER REQUESTS

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: <u>kenneymg@gmail.com</u>

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.



<u>2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal –</u> <u>Sharing His Love with Others</u>

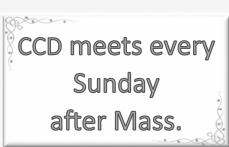
Catholic Community Foundation of the Diocese of Richmond 2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal

This weekend we have information in the pews available for those wishing to give to the Annual Diocesan Appeal. Those who have selflessly given previously have, most likely, already received pledge materials at home. Please prayerfully consider what you might be able to give. Last year 8 parishioners from St. Joseph contributed \$1,020 against a goal of \$3,880 (or 26%) to the Bishop's Appeal. Even though the goal was not met, from that, we received back \$530, which helped with needed repairs. The appeal also funds grants, such as the Fuel & Hunger Grant, from which we received \$750, and the Home Missions Grant, from which we received \$10,000. (These 2 grants helped with assisting those in need and the roof repair). This year our goal is \$3,530.



FEB 4 \$ 752 Maintenance/Repair \$81

Thank you for your generosity!





Join us for a special presentation from the Longwood College Choir on Sunday, February 25th.

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

As we prepare to close out our year-long celebration of St. Joseph/Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel's 140 years, our final event is Mass, lead by Bishop Barry Knestout on Sunday, March 17, 2024 at 11:00am. A potluck meal is in the works. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the Parish Hall. Invitations will go out and must be returned by March 1st.



For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com

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