

June 23, 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 religioused@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.



e: pastor@saintspeterpaul.org w: saintjosephcolumbia.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

YOUTH MASS

Last Sunday of the Month

CONFESSION

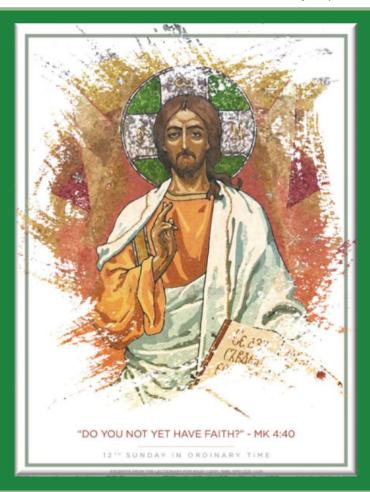
Saturday 4pm: SPP Sunday 8:30am: St. Joseph's (or by appointment)

HOSPITAL VISITS:

Call Parish Office or Rectory: 434.589.5200

HOMEBOUND:

Call Parish Office to schedule Communion



EVANGELIZE

SANCTIFY

SERVE

ELCOME



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

Dennis Barberio

YOUTH MUSIC MINISTER

Townes Mullinex |

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

Celeste Shapiola | 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

Rev. David M. Ssentamu | 434.589.5200

Rev. Mr. Robert Allen | 434.589.0941

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Karen Davidson | 434.589.5201

FAITH FORMATION

Celeste Shapiola | 434.589.5201

BULLETIN & ANNOUNCEMENTS DEADLINE

Fridays-1 week in advance-In writing to karen.davidson@saintspeterpaul.org

All Man

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 JUNE 23, 2024

Sunday: Jb 38:1, 8-11/Ps 107:23-24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-31

(1b)/2 Cor 5:14-17/Mk 4:35-41

Ìs 49:1-6/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/ Monday:

Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80

Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/Ps 48:2-3ab, Tuesday:

3cd-4, 10-11/Mt 7:6, 12-14

2 Kgs 22:8-13; 23:1-3/Ps 119:33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40/Mt 7:15-20 Wednesday:

Thursday: Kgs 24:8-17/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9/Mt 7:21-29 2 Kgs 25:1-12/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/Mt 8:1-4 Friday:

Vigil: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Gal 1:11-20/Jn 21:15-19 Saturday:

Day: Acts 12:1-11/34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/2

Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19

Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24/Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11, 12, 13 Next Sunday:

(2a)/2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15/Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35b-43

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 23, 2024

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday: Monday: The Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Tuesday: Wednesday:

Thursday: St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Friday: Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr Saturday: Sts. Peter And Paul, Apostles 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Next Sunday:

JUNE 2024

HONOR YOUR LOVED ONE WITH A SPECIAL MEMORIAL

ALTAR FLOWERS

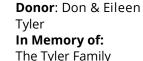
BREAD & WINE

Donor: Don & Eileen

Tyler

In Memory of:

The Finn Family





SANCTUARY CANDLE

Donor: Don & Eileen

Tyler

In Memory of: The Egan Family



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





12th Sunday in Ordinary Time June 23, 2024

"He indeed died for all, so that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him, who for their sake died, and was raised." Is Christ calling you to die to self and live for Him as a priest or religious brother or sister? Talk to your priest or reach out to the

Office of Vocations at 804.359.5661

Or via email:

vocations@richmonddiocese.org





Summer with the Saints Nativity of St. John the Baptist – June 24th

Ordinarily, the Catholic Church celebrates saints on the day of their death or martyrdom, signifying the day of their heavenly birthday. However, there are three earthly birthdays the Church celebrates: Jesus on December 25th, Mary on September 8th, and St. John the Baptist on June 24th.

As the prophet who bridges the two Testaments, St. John the Baptist's miraculous birth shows continuity with the miraculous births of the Old Testament with the coming of Christ. In Luke 1:5-25, Zechariah doubted the message of the angel Gabriel that he would have a son because his wife "Elizabeth was barren, and [they] both were advanced in years." The Old Testament is filled with events and people that are types or prefigurements of the New Testament, and Elizabeth's barrenness echoes back to Hannah's barrenness in 1 Samuel 1:1-28. The Lord answered Hannah's prayer for a son when she conceived and gave birth to Samuel. Samuel would grow up in service of the Lord, become the last of the Judges of Israel, and anointed David to be King of Israel. Just as Samuel prepared the way for David to become King of Israel, so too did St. John the Baptist "go before the Lord to prepare his ways" (Luke 1:76).

Physical limitations and struggles are not an issue for God, who has created everything that exists in the universe. God's Creation consists not only of all the plants and animals in our world, and it also includes every human that has ever come into existence. This beauty of Creation is seen in the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, as God worked around the obstacle of Elizabeth's barrenness to give St. John the Baptist the gift of life, the grace to recognize Jesus's presence in Mary's womb, and to spread the news of the presence of God in the world to his mother Elizabeth by leaping in her womb.

Charlie Tamayo



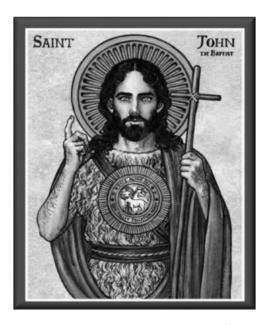
2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal:

Sharing His Love with Others
A Message from Fr. David

I want to provide a brief update on our 2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal effort at Sts. Peter & Paul. I am pleased to tell you that we are 70% of target towards our parish goal of \$17,310 with \$12,062 Total Raised.

For many of you who have not yet had the opportunity to support the Appeal, you should have recently received a letter from me requesting your support of this year's effort. I sincerely hope you will join me in helping to not only meet but exceed this year's goal!

Please visit <u>richmondcatholicfoundation.org/appeal</u> to make a secure online donation or visit our parish office for a hard copy pledge card. Every gift, no matter the amount, makes a difference. Thank you very much for your prayerful consideration of support. God bless.



PARISH YOUTH



Blessings for the summer! Look for 2024-2025 registration info late summer.



Please welcome
Celeste Shapiola, the
new Coordinator of
Religious Education and
Youth Ministry for
Sts. Peter & Paul and
St. Joseph. She is busy
planning a year of
faith-filled enrichment
for all.

Welcome aboard!

SHARING THE GOSPEL

THE DISCIPLES OF JESUS HAD A VERY SCARY NIGHT, BECAUSE THEIR FAITH WAS NOT VERY STRONG YET. THEY WERE CROSSING THE SEA IN THEIR BOAT, JUST AS JESUS ASKED THEM TO DO, WHEN A HUGE STORM CAME UP. THEIR BOAT WAS FILLING UP WITH SO MUCH WATER THEY THOUGHT THEY WOULD DIE. WHEN THEY WOKE JESUS UP, HE SIMPLY SPOKE TO THE WIND AND THE WAVES, AND THE STORM STOPPED COMPLETELY. NOW THEY WERE REALLY SCARED. WHO WAS JESUS ANYWAY? THE WIND AND WAVES LISTENED TO HIM!

PRAYER

Dear God, sometimes I feel afraid, too. Help me to remember that you are stronger than any problem I have. Amen.

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

The sacrament of <u>Baptism</u> will occur on the 2nd Sunday of the month at the 11:00am Mass. Please contact <u>religioused@saintspeterpaul.org</u> for registration and prep information. The next dates are: **July 14th and August 11th**



INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTIONS: JUNE 22 - JUNE 30, 2024

*REPRESENTS ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Saturday	6/22	5pm	Judy Kinney	D	Karen Davidson	
Sunday	6/23	9am*	George Barrows	D	Debbie Blackburn	
Sunday	6/23	11am	Misa Pro Populo			
Wednesday	6/26	9am	Joe Lodato	D	John Condon	
Thursday	6/27	9am	Margie Kehoe	D	Charlie & Betty Maurer	
Friday	6/28	9am	Patricia Bozza	D	Gerard & Link Zink	
Saturday	6/29	5pm	Joe Lodato	D	Anthony & Patricia Amato	
Sunday	6/30	9am*	Misa Pro Populo			
Sunday	6/30	11am	Gary Johnson	D	Bob & Angela Maher	

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

Peter & Philomena Alonso, Michael Amato, Jean & Mary Louise Bernard, Sharon Cassidy, Nicole Colley, The Compton Family, Jean Dalsky, Connie D'Amico, Catherine Doherty, Carol Donohue, Samuel Dunton, Me'Shelle Durant, Bill Ellis, Caroline Faulkner. Frank Feliciano, Bob Fint, Patricia Golgosky, Mary Anne Grimes, Phyllis Guthrie, John Hobby, Donna Horan, Regina Humanitzki, Tony Inghilleri, Sue Inghilleri, Margaret Johnson, Ron Johnson, Carolyn Kerrigan, Tom Kinter, Marie Knighting, Jackie Kraemer, Judi Kuhlow, Marcia Lagomarsino, Annie Lodato, Zachary W. Mayo II, Art & Judy Menard, Joan Merk, Haynes McKinley Morris, Jr., Irene Nadig, Rose Patterson, Donald Raab, Margaret Reilly, Carol Scampoli, Kathy Seroskie, Carol Starowicz, Marylou Stock, Anna Sturhann, Rob Toepfert, Jr. Cornelia Waters. Mike Waters

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

PRAYER FOR INNER PEACE

Jesus,

Speak your command of "Quiet! Be still!" into the dark recesses of my mind — my fears, concerns, and anxieties. Be with me, at every moment, no matter the storm. Fix my eyes upon you. Amen.



BIRTH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST





Member updates:

If you have recently moved, changed your phone number or email, please keep the office informed so you don't miss out on important information.

Call: 434.589.5201
Email: office@saintspeterpaul.org
Come in: 4309 Thomas Jefferson Parkway
(Parish Hall)

EVERDAY STEWARDSHIP

Pew Count Sat 93 Sun 156	June 8/9	
First Offering	\$ 2,491	
First Offering: Faith Direct	\$ 2,623	
Total	\$ 5,114	
JUNE - MTD Debt Reduction	\$ 4,891	

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

Our next DEBT REDUCTION Collection is

JULY 6 & 7

Thank you and God bless you for your continued support.

Our next monthly Bake Sale is <u>July 6 and 7</u> after each Mass. Donations accepted before Mass. Thank you!

Online donations through Faith Direct help sustain our parish ministries and keep our offertory consistent during the busy summer vacation months. If you make the switch today, you'll be giving steady, consistent support to the parish ministries you care about most in the months ahead - even if you're out of town during summer weekends.

Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/VA249, or call their Customer Service team at 866.507.8757.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family. God bless you.

MARRIED COUPLES. Give your marriage a well deserved vacation. Plan to go on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience and come back with a marriage that is refreshed and full of energy! We love to have priests on our experiences as well, so invite your favorite priest and give their vocation some new vitality!

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 with any questions. Here are a few upcoming experiences:

- September 27-29, 2024 Herndon, VA (15 slots left!)
- October 11-13, 2024 College Park, MD
- November 15-17, 2024 Virginia Beach, VA

Turn in your old sneakers to do good things in Uganda!

Make A Friend Be A Friend Bring A Friend To Christ

MEN'S FALL TEAM FORMATION BEGINS

The Men's Cursillo Rector, Dennis Moler, introduced his Team for the October 31-Nov. 3, 2024, weekend at Camp Overlook. They will soon begin formation and we ask you to keep them all in prayer. We are accepting applications for the Men's Weekend NOW – applications can be downloaded from the Valley Cursillo website at

www.valleycursillo.com

and the deadline is October 8th, 2024. It is ALWAYS a good time to make an invitation to Men and Women who you feel would be open to strengthening their relationship with Christ and furthering their spiritual journey. Don't wait for a weekend to be announced – make your invitation and let the weekend come around! We are attaching "the Role of the Sponsor" to remind Cursillistas of who would make a good candidate and the sponsor's responsibilities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

4:00p

Church

Confessions



ADULT FORMATION CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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

Classes will resume in September. Have a blessed summer.



BIBLE STUDY

Mondays

1:00 - 2:00pm Resuming on September 16

Sat	22-Jun		1	
Sat	22-JuN	Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church
Sun	23-Jun	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	11:00a	Church
Mon	24-Jun	K of C Officers	7:00p	Е
Tues	25-Jun	Yoga	11:00a	F
		K of C Assembly Meeting	5:00p	E/F
Wed	26-Jun	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Senior Coffee Social	10:00a	Commons
		Scouts	6:30p	F
Thurs	27-Jun	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Cursillo	6:00p	123
Fri	28-Jun	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Adoration	9:30a	Church
		Benediction	3:00p	Church
Sat	29-Jun	Confession	4:00p	Church
		Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church
Sun	30-Jun	Confession	8:30a	St. Joseph's
		Youth Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's
		Youth Mass	11:00a	Church
		PARISH PICNIC	12:30p	E/F
Room Ledger:		F - St. Francis (Hall)	R - St. R	Raphael (Church)
		E - St. Elizabeth (Hall)	M - St. 1	Michael (Church)

Senior Coffee Social Wednesday, June 26 at 10:00 am

ROOM SCHEDULE

in the Commons

We welcome Forney Shell, author of Mastering the Bucket List: From Planning to Action and Having a Successful Life: No Permission Needed.

SPEND AN HOUR WITH JESUS

C - Commons (Church)

The Chapel is <u>temporarily closed</u> while the water leak is investigated.
Adoration can be done in the church.
You are especially invited to all day adoration in the church on Fridays from 9:30a - 3:00p. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Contact: Denise Minor - dminor92@gmail.com





CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What are the three occasions where ashes are used liturgically?

Ash Wednesday, the dedication of a church building, and the consecration of an altar.

PARISH TRIP TO FRANCE April 24 - May 4, 2025 \$5,449

The travel agent will be here on Sunday,
September 15th at 12:30pm to talk about the
trip and answer any questions.
Step by the Parish Council bulletin board in

Stop by the Parish Council bulletin board in the Commons to find out what is/not covered.



Annual Golf Classic

Monday, September 9th, 2024 Spring Creek Golf Club 109 Clubhouse Way Zion Crossroad, Va. 22942



This tournament is our biggest fundraiser of the year and allows us to continue to provide needed health care for the poorest of the poor in Uganda.

To participate, sponsor, donate or learn more about our tournament, us the following link or scan the QR code www.charitygolftoday.com/catholichealth

Attention all rising 8th - 12th graders! Do you have plans June 24-28th from 9 am to 12 pm? Join us for the "Dive Into Poetry" half-day camp, hosted by Chesterton Academy of St. John the Evangelist! Whether you like or loathe poetry, you will enjoy this fun and engaging class, acquire useful skills, and get to preview our school. The week concludes with a pool party and an open mic opportunity. CASJE is a classical high school joyfully rooted in the Catholic tradition, opening this August in Charlottesville. Daily Mass, the Socratic seminar, and affordable tuition set this high school apart. Learn more and register for camp at ChestertonSJE.org.



Jean Marron Memorial Mass

The Marron family invites
you to join in the celebration of
Jean's life as she departs
on her final journey:

Tuesday, July 16, 2024 11:00AM

Please RSVP to Juleswmarron@gmail.com

Catholic Q & A

Question:

We are considering homeschooling our children. Does this present a problem when it is time for them to receive the sacraments? What must we do?

Answer:

Homeschooling is legal in all fifty states and like other types of education, has its advantages and its drawbacks. There are many factors to consider, and each family has to decide what the best way to educate its children is. With religious education, many dioceses have a formal policy that outlines procedures and expectations, some of which include more than just academic information. Call the religious education office to find out what they are for your area.

In general, though, an appointment with your parish priest to discuss your situation is the best first step. An opportunity to discuss what is available, what the expectations are for each sacrament, and how you can best prepare your child helps make your time of preparation more effective. The priest can direct you to good catechetical materials, parent information classes, and other choices and possibilities for your child. All parents need to be part of their child's religious education, taking a lead in instilling the values and beliefs of their faith.

Communication and information helps us all to teach and preach the Gospel as Jesus did.





ST. JOSEPH'S Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel

28 Cameron Street Columbia, VA 23038

p: 434.589.5201e: pastor@saintspeterpaul.orgw: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

YOUTH MUSIC MINISTER

Sarah Kenney |

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 I

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

INTROSPECTIVE

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Right now, you and I are only worried about one of only two things: wind or water. Bear with me. This week we hear the account of the terrified disciples waking Jesus in a sea-storm. He chastises them for their lack of faith, and then, "rebuking the wind, he said to the sea, 'Quiet, be still!" He rebukes the wind and stills the water. In the Bible wind and water represent the two most fundamental poles of our experience of creation. Wind means heaven, spirit, that which gives identity, unity, order, light. Water stands for earth, variation, potential, that which can be drawn into identity, darkness, chaos.

Too much "wind" is when things get way too rigid, abstract and ideological — when we face oppressive leaders and tyrants, when we get addicted to our own way of doing things, when our attention is too narrowly focused on one thing. Too much "water" is excessive novelty, passivity, indifference, and chaos — when our attention is too broadly diffused on many things, when things seem to be crumbling without direction into the dark abyss. We know both terrifying experiences all too well.

The point of the miracle is that God in Christ is the One who brings final cosmic harmony between these two vital but threatening forces. He ultimately does so from the wood of the cross, when he breathes forth the wind of his spirit and pours forth the water from his side to establish a new creation, filled with harmonious peace. When the wind and water are out of control, trust him. — Father John Muir



Want to be more involved in parish life but not sure what there is to do? Come to our *Ministry Fair* TODAY after Mass! Prayerfully consider how you can volunteer your time and talents at Saint Joseph.

All are welcome!



PRAYER REQUESTS

Mary Ellen Agolia * Bradford Barrows * David Carbocci * Maria Correa * Nona Dooley * Alice Galvez-Sobral * Mauricio Granados * Andy Mallory * India Martin * Angelica Motta * Odila Motta * Oscar Motta * Thelma Motta * Denise Pillar * Warren Rose * 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.



WAKING GOD

A show of hands, ladies and gentlemen. Have any of you been given the silent treatment and had absolutely no idea why?

On the flipside, have any of you have sworn you're not going to demean yourself by explaining, for the thousandth time, that you need extra help with the kids before soccer practice, or that you feel ignored when your spouse doesn't ask how your day went?

But sadly, love doesn't give you the ability to read minds. And in the end, we learn the lesson again and again, we have to verbalize our feelings, our needs, our wants. Expecting your partner to anticipate your needs is guaranteed to end badly.

It's the same with God, even though, oddly enough, He does have the ability to read minds. But He still desires us to explain ourselves to Him, doesn't He? "I'm feeling scared of this." "I'm really worried about that." "God, I think I need x, y and z. Help me. Please."

Jesus slept on that boat, as it was tossed and turned by the waves, until his disciples woke him. "Why were you sleeping?" they ask. Well, geniuses, he was sleeping because they hadn't woken him up yet. They had wasted time cowering in fear, waiting for him to act. They gave him the silent treatment and they didn't even know it.

God doesn't desire us to verbalize our needs as a way of keeping us submissive. He's not that petty. What He desires is the communication — that's what really counts. That act of opening yourself up, of becoming vulnerable, of relying on Him, trusting Him. If it feels like God is asleep in your life, ask yourself this, have you tried waking Him up?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



JUNE 9 \$ 990 M & R \$5

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