

December 1, 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.**



ST. JOSEPH'S

SHRINE OF

ST. KATHARINE DREXEL

P.O. Box 808

28 Cameron Street

Columbia, VA 23038

p: 434.589.5201

e: pastor@saintspeterpaul.org

w: saintjosephcolumbia.org

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKENDS

1st Saturday 10am: SPP

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

1st Saturday 9:00am: SPP

Saturday 4pm: SPP

Sunday 8:30am: St. Joseph's

HOSPITAL VISITS:

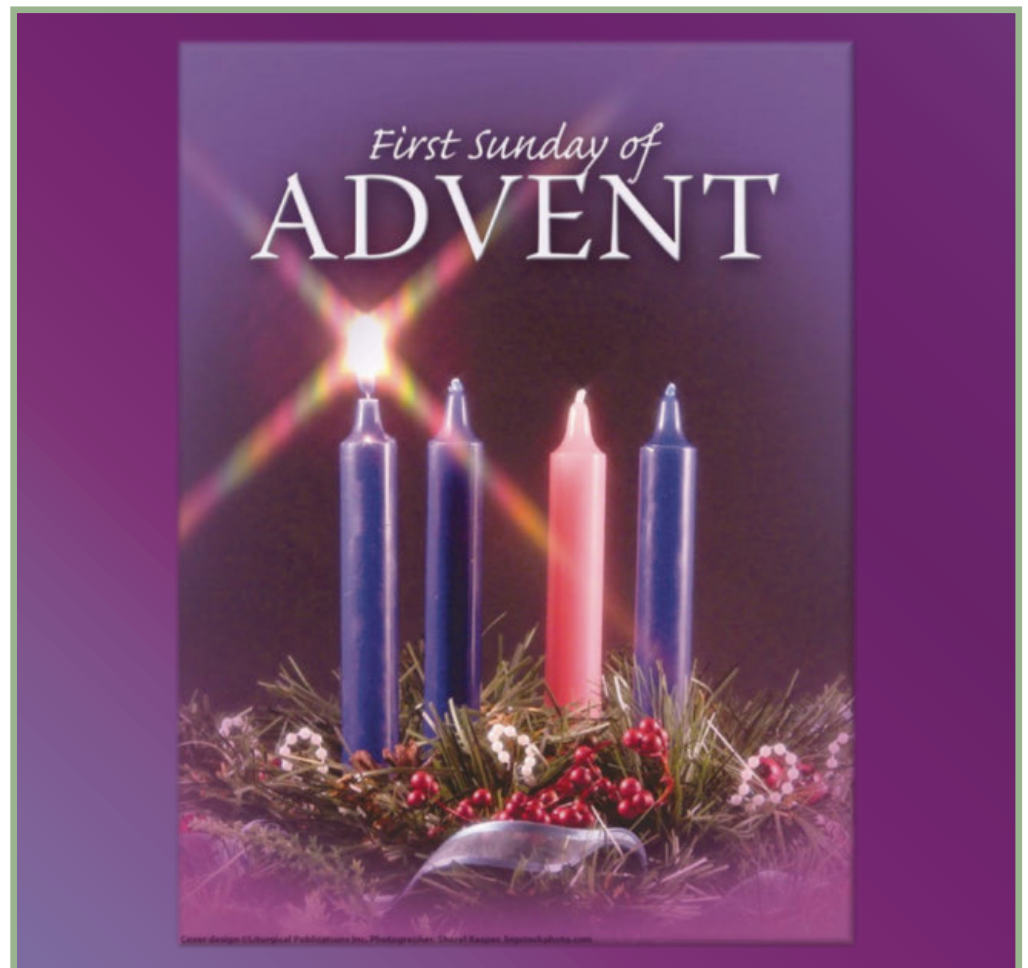
Call Parish Office

or Rectory: 434.589.5200

HOMEBOUND:

Call Parish Office

to schedule Communion



EVANGELIZE

SANCTIFY

SERVE

WELCOME



ADMINISTRATION

PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Doug Mullinex | 434.981.6950

FINANCE COUNCIL CHAIR

Steve Momper | 434.977.5453

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Charles Nicholson | 434.365.9712

CEMETERY

Frank Pilik | 804.622.5196

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 | 434.981.0678

YOUTH MUSIC MINISTER

Townes Mullinex |

USHERS

Frank Pilik | 571.239.3373

LECTORS

Cynthia Aycock | 434.996.6065

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Dianna Campagna | 434.286.3665

ALTAR SERVERS

Nicole Amato | 434.589.7987

SACRISTY

Linda Mangiaracina |

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

Bob Maher | 540.717.2241

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

Celeste Shapiola | 434.589.5201

BULLETIN & ANNOUNCEMENTS DEADLINE

Fridays-2 weeks in advance-In writing to
karen.davidson@saintspeterpaul.org



Whether you are a visitor,
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 1, 2024

Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 (1b)/
1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mt 15:29-37

Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/
Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/
Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

Next Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)/
Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 1, 2024

Sunday: 1st Sunday of Advent

Tuesday: St. Francis Xavier, Priest

Wednesday: St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Friday: St. Nicholas, Bishop

Saturday: St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 2024

HONOR YOUR LOVED ONE WITH A SPECIAL MEMORIAL

BREAD & WINE

Donor: Diana Mariutto
In Memory of: Fred Mariutto

SANCTUARY CANDLE

Donor: Diana Mariutto
In Memory of: Fred Mariutto



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



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 1, 2024

“Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.”

(Lk 21:36). God calls us to be watchful and alert to His voice.

Is He calling you to the priesthood or consecrated life? Be open and vigilant in prayer and talk to your priest or reach out to the

Office of Vocations
804.359.5661

Or via email:
vocations@richmonddiocese.org



Chesterton Academy Game Night: Fri., Dec. 6th, 5:30 pm

Let the games begin!

Eighth graders and current high schoolers are invited to an evening of fun and games at Chesterton Academy of St. John the Evangelist. This is a great opportunity to check out Charlottesville's affordable classical high school in the Catholic tradition. For event details and registration, visit ChestertonSJE.org or contact us at info@ChestertonSJE.org. Shadow Days are also available, and a [new video](#) posted to our web site offers a glimpse inside this high school with a higher purpose.



ENCOUNTER

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Remembering Advent

It always makes me laugh a little, these apocalyptic Gospel readings that come at the beginning of Advent.

What a funny juxtaposition — all of us stringing twinkle lights and wrapping presents, with Jesus thundering on about the end of the world. It’s Christmas! Don’t be a owner. Pour me some more eggnog and turn up the Nat King Cole.



Well, except it’s not Christmas. It’s Advent.

There’s nothing wrong with the cultural accessories that have developed alongside this religious holiday. There’s nothing wrong with the twinkle lights and the eggnog. But here’s the thing:

when Satan knows we’re watching the front gate, he slips in the back door. And something I’ve found is that one back door he likes to use in my life is Cultural Christmas.

I love Cultural Christmas. I tend to overdo Cultural Christmas. I overschedule, I overdecorate, I overgift. All this “over” leads to — you guessed it! — overwhelm. “The anxieties of daily life,” as Jesus describes in today’s Gospel, make my heart drowsy. My spiritual Christmas joy, time and time again, is diminished — all because I embrace Cultural Christmas and ignore Advent. Satan sneaks in with the twinkle lights and the Christmas carols and he snatches The Present like the nasty little Grinch he is. He photobombs my experience of the religious holidays with the anxieties I so willingly embrace because of the production that is Cultural Christmas.

So, remember to rest this Advent, folks. Rest your heart. Rest your hands. Watch the back door and the front. Remember that this is the perfect time to be thinking about the state of your soul and not just the state of your house.

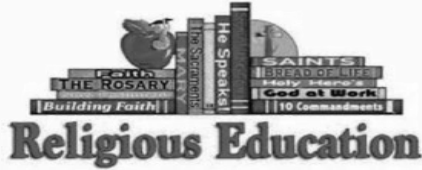
(Even though, yes, I know, the guests are coming any minute.)

PARISHIONER UPDATES:

If you move, change your email or phone number, no longer need envelopes, etc., let us know. We don’t want you to miss anything!

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

PARISH YOUTH



**Classes meet every
Sunday at 9:30AM
Meet in St. Francis Hall**

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

Lessons & Carols at Sts. Peter & Paul

December 15 - 2:00 - 4:00pm

All youth are invited to create a Nativity scene to be displayed during Lessons and Carols on December 15. **All scenes must be 3D**, no drawings or paintings. Use any materials you have on hand, for example: clay/play dough, Popsicle sticks, cardboard boxes and tubes, building blocks/Legos, natural materials (rocks, sticks, grass). All nativity scenes need to be turned in by December 9 to Celeste.

If you have a Nativity scene that you would like to display during Lessons & Carols, please bring it to St. Francis Hall on Saturday, December 14 between 10am - 2pm.

PRAYER

*Dear God, when I am afraid, help me to be brave
and trust in you. I know heaven will be wonderful.
Amen.*

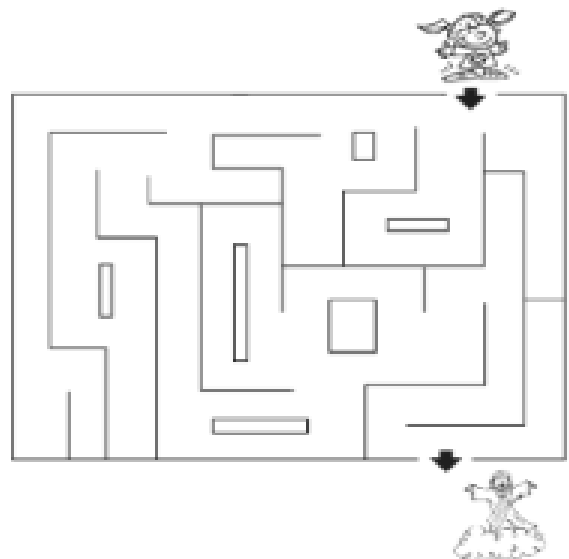
SHARING THE GOSPEL

One day Jesus will come back to take us home to live with him in heaven. So when scary things happen around us, we do not need to be afraid. We can stand up tall, because we know heaven will be so much better than this world.

Inquiries about the **sacrament of Baptism**, or any of the sacraments, should be directed to Celeste at religioused@saintspeterpaul.org for registration and prep information.

PUZZLE

Help this child find the path to God.



MISSION

Write down one thing that scares you. Tell God about it, and ask him to help you to be brave.

INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTIONS: NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 7, 2024

*REPRESENTS ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Saturday	11/30	5pm	Bdorothy Taylor	D	Bob & Muriel Toepfert
Sunday	12/1	9am*	John Rogan Jr.	D	Patricia
Sunday	12/1	11am	Samantha Buonomo	D	Royal & Janis Duffy
Tuesday	12/3	12 pm	Eileen Tyler	I	The Rosary Ladies
Wednesday	12/4	9am	Ralph Altieri	I	John Condon
Thursday	12/5	9am	Lera Zimmerman	D	Bob & Cathy Heffley
Friday	12/6	9am	Clayton Adams	D	Royal & Janis Duffy
Saturday	12/7	5pm	Dottie Taylor	D	Anthony & Patricia Amato
Sunday	12/8	9am*	Misa Pro Populo		
Sunday	12/8	11am	Dottie Taylor	D	Michael & Nancy 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, Russ Marron, Adam Warren, Christopher McCarthy, Zach Marron, Joseph Ayuso, Joe and Sophia Murphy, Josiah Noble, Jose Langoria, Alex Ostrowski, and Matthew Reinitz.

Pray God keeps them in His care.



REMEMBER in your prayers

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Peter & Philomena Alonso, Michael Amato, Jean & Mary Louise Bernard, Sharon Cassidy, Nicole Colley, The Compton Family, Jim Cullinan, Jean Dalsky, Connie D'Amico, Carol Donohue, Samuel Duntun, Me'Shelle Durant, Bill Ellis, Frank Feliciano, David & Pat Garner, Patricia Golgosky, Mary Anne Grimes, Michael Gross, Phyllis Guthrie, John Hobby, Regina Humanitzki, Sue Inghilleri, Margaret Johnson, Ron Johnson, Carolyn Kerrigan, 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, Douglas Robinson, Carol Scampoli, Kathy Seroskie, Carol Starowicz, Marylou Stock, Anna Sturhann, Rob Toepfert, Jr. Cornelia Waters, Mike Waters, and Walter Welham

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



As a Parish, we strive to be good stewards of our resources. Many families have moved away from Envelopes and are now using Faith Direct to fulfill their generous stewardship commitments to our parish and the wider church through electronic donations. We also have found that many are not using their envelopes that we mail out. Help us to reduce our envelope and postage expense and at the same time support us in a secure and convenient way by enrolling with Faith Direct. It's easy to get started. Here are ways to sign up: Visit faith.direct/VA249 or Call Faith Direct Customer Service at 866.507.8757.

Thank you and may God bless your generosity.

Prayer for the first week of Advent Prayer of Expectation

Dear God,
As we prepare for Your arrival, align our hearts and homes to Your will.
Pour into us Your grace, as we wait in joyful expectation.
Amen.

EVERDAY STEWARDSHIP

Pew Count Sat. - 87 Sun. - 215	November 16 & 17
First Offering	\$ 3,535
First Offering: Faith Direct	\$ 2,435
Total	\$ 5,970
Nov MTD Debt Reduction	\$ 3,397

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

Our next DEBT REDUCTION Collection is

DECEMBER 7 & 8

Thank you and God bless you for your continued support.

Our next monthly Bake Sale is Dec. 7 & 8 after each Mass. Donations accepted before Mass. Thanks!

#IGIVECATHOLIC/GIVING TUESDAY IS COMING TO SAINTS PETER AND PAUL ON DECEMBER 3RD



Advance giving begins on November 18, and all donations received during advance giving, including offline donations, will count toward our December 3, 2024 event.



Proceeds from #IGiveCatholic/Giving Tuesday, offline donations made between November 18 and December 10, and any donations we receive in person or by mail will be added to the funds already raised (\$28,649) to continue to build an emergency reserve dedicated to keeping our parish in good repair for years to come.

We are going to make our Giving Tuesday, December 3rd a festive day to stop by St. Francis Hall to celebrate with volunteers between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 pm.
<https://richmond.igivecatholic.org/organizations/saints-peter-paul-catholic-church>

THE *Angel* TREE IS HERE!

STS. PETER & PAUL CHURCH HELPING OTHERS

Volunteer to Adopt an individual and spread Christ's joy this holiday season! Be an angel for a neighbor by providing gifts or gift cards.

Stop by the Angel Tree in the front entrance and select a gift tag, return gift(s), wrapped, with tag attached, by Sunday, December 8th.

Our individuals in need come from the Department of Social Services. Purchase as much or as little as you feel comfortable.

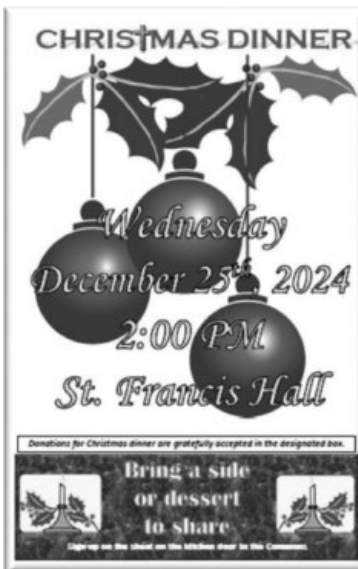
Save the Date!

On Wednesday, **December 18**, meet us at Gia's Italian Restaurant for Dinner (198 Turkey Sag Trail, Palmyra). Identify yourself as a SPP parishioner and 10% of your dinner purchase (dine in or take out) will come back to the Parish as a gift.

CALL FOR GOOD SHEPHERDS:

Occasionally 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



UPCOMING EVENTS



ADULT FORMATION CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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

Sundays
9:30am



ROOM SCHEDULE

Sat	30-Nov	Baptisms	11:00a	Church
		Confessions	4:00p	Church
		Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church
Sun	1-Dec	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's
		CCD	10:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	11:00a	Church
Mon	2-Dec	Bible Study	1:00p	123
		KoC Meeting	6:00p	E
Tues	3-Dec	Mass	12:00p	Church
Wed	4-Dec	Mass	9:00a	Church
		COAT Meeting	9:45a	Commons
		Scouts	6:30p	E/F
Thurs	5-Dec	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Koc Round Table	6:00p	St. Joseph's
		Cursillo	6:00p	123
Fri	6-Dec	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Adoration	9:45a	Church
		Benediction	3:00p	Church
		Aycock/Nicholson Rehearsal	3:30p	Church
		Aycock/Nicholson R.Dinner	5:00p	Commons
Sat	7-Dec	Nicholson/Aycock Wedding	10:30a	Church, E/F
		Confessions	4:00p	Church
		Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church
		Bake Sale after Mass	6:00p	Commons
Sun	8-Dec	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's
		CCD/RCIA/Adult Formation	9:30a	Church
		CCD	10:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	11:00a	Church
		Bake Sale after Mass	12:00p	Commons

BIBLE STUDY

Mondays

1:00 - 2:00pm

Room 123

December 2 is the last meeting in 2024

SENIOR COFFEE SOCIAL

Wednesday, December 18
10:00 am, Commons

Topic for Discussion
"My Favorite Gift Ever"

SPEND AN HOUR WITH JESUS

Hours: M - Th, 6am - 8pm

Block schedule for those who want a regular weekly adoration time is posted on the wall in the hall across from the Religious Store.

Any Questions?

Contact: Denise Minor - dminor92@gmail.com



PARISH TRIP TO FRANCE

APRIL 24 - MAY 4, 2025 \$5,449

For further information, please contact:

Alba Kim:

Phone: (804) 298-4035

Email: tours@albastours.com

Website: albastours.com

***Register by December 2nd, 2024 to ensure your spot on this very special journey.**

EYE GLASSES FOR UGANDA

Do you have old eye glasses that aren't helpful any more? Are they just piling up? Wondering what you can do with them? There is a collection box in the entrance of the church to deposit any unused, or even brand new eye glasses, which will help people in Uganda.



The KoC Toy Drive

The Knights of Columbus are collecting brand new, in the box and tagged toys for Santa to deliver to those in our two parishes that need a little help bringing joy to the children this Christmas. Toys for boys and girls of all age groups are needed. Please place unwrapped toys under the Knights table at the back of the commons. Thank you so much for your generosity. We truly cannot make with happen without donations from our parishioners.

The KoC Helps Santa

The Knights of Columbus are working with Santa Claus to help our two parishes and our families. Things get a little tight for us all sometimes, and Christmas time is no exception. If you find yourself this Christmas season in need of a little help putting toys under the tree for your children please contact us so we can talk to Santa. Discretion will be of the utmost importance. Only one Knight will be directly involved with those who call, and he will speak directly to Santa. Please Contact David Cauffield for more information and assistance 814.525.0594

STS. PETER & PAUL *Religious Store*

religiousstore@saintspeterpaul.org

We're celebrating our 1st year!

HOURS:

SATURDAY

3:30 - 4:30pm

6:00 - 6:45pm

SUNDAY

12:00 - 1:00pm

For a limited time,
the store is offering
custom Christmas T-shirts.

Pick from pre-selected designs
and colors to create the shirt of
your liking.



Did you know...

You can put your tax dollars to work for Catholic Schools?

Join over **3,500** donors in our Diocese who have provided over **\$54M** in scholarships to thousands of Catholic school students...

...and **receive 65% of your donation back** as a Virginia state tax credit.



McMahon Parater
Scholarship Foundation

804.622.5184
mpsf@richmonddiocese.org

Catholic Q & A

QUESTION:

What's the story behind the Advent wreath?

ANSWER:

Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreaths adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. *Gaudete* means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas.



DIOCESE OF RICHMOND JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- **Diocesan Synod Program Manager** as it prepares for the 2025 Jubilee Year. The Diocese plans to hold a Diocesan Synod from Pentecost 2025 to Pentecost 2026, creating a space for community to engage in meaningful conversations, come together in faith, and pray collectively, united in the Eucharist. To apply, go to <https://bit.ly/4f2q5Jj>
- **Saint Mary Star of the Sea Catholic School** (grades PreK-8) located in Hampton, Virginia, seeks dynamic and highly qualified candidates for the position of **Principal**. To apply, go to <https://bit.ly/3YOPzPU>
- Diocesan position as **Administrative Assistant** to support the Office for Evangelization. To apply, go to <https://bit.ly/3XliBTZ>
- Full Time **Information Technology Specialist** to work in the Christiansburg area. To apply, go to <https://bit.ly/4dJhIrV>
- **Coordinator of Campus Ministry** to serve the Catholic Campus Ministry at Roanoke College in Salem, VA. To apply, go to <https://bit.ly/3zMqVAK>
- Diocesan position as full time **Accounting Manager** for the Office of Finance. To apply, go to <https://bit.ly/4eSK7Wh>
- The Catholic Diocese of Richmond seeks a **Director of Development for Catholic Campus Ministry at William & Mary** in Williamsburg, VA. To apply, go to <https://bit.ly/4eM6IJH>
- **St. John the Apostle Catholic School** (grades PreK-8) located in Virginia Beach, VA. is seeking dynamic and highly qualified candidates for the position of **Principal**. To apply, go to <https://bit.ly/48OqFOr>
- **St. Gregory the Great Catholic School** (grades Prek-8) located in Virginia Beach, VA is seeking dynamic and highly qualified candidates for the position of **Principal**. To apply, go to <https://bit.ly/3YKFW8m>
- **All Saints Catholic School** (grades PreK-8) located in Richmond, VA, seeks dynamic and highly qualified candidates for the position of **Principal**. To apply, go to <https://bit.ly/3UOEMr2>

For any questions, please contact Kelly Shumate, HR Generalist / Recruiter at jobs@richmonddiocese.org

We have a limited number of 2025 church calendars available.
Limit one per Household, please. Available in the Commons.



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

PREPARING THE MANGER

Where do you fall in the “Christmas-songs-in-November” debate — do you like them, tolerate them, or outright hate them? There’s no theological problem with Christmas songs in November outside of worship, even if it’s not everyone’s cup of tea. But there is a problem with getting so caught up in the baggage of the season — the trimmings, the gifts, the celebrations, all of which are marvelous in their own way — that you forget to prepare the manger.

PRAYER REQUESTS



Mary Ellen Agolia * Bradford Barrows *
David Carbocci * Maria Correa *
Nona Dooley * Bob Fermoye *
Alice Galvez-Sobral * Mauricio Granados *
Andy Mallory * India Martin *
Angelica Motta * Odila Motta *
Oscar Motta * Thelma Motta *
Ron Offley * Denise Pillar * John Stewart *
Jordan Watkins * Diane Wolfe *



Every good Catholic knows that Lent is a penitential season. It’s hard to miss that point — Lent doesn’t even have any fun songs you can groove to on the radio. We are pretty good at recognizing that Lent calls us to examine ourselves. To deny ourselves. To give of ourselves. And most of all, Lent calls us to prepare, as a good steward does, for the return of our master.

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.

It’s harder for us to remember that with Advent, but Advent is just as much of an opportunity for penance, preparation, and reconciliation to God — and just as much reason, too. The very name of the season — “advent” — encourages us to focus on what is coming, not what is already here. Be on guard, the readings tell us today, “so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and (the coming of the Lord) catch you unexpectedly, like a trap.”

So let us not forget — our master’s advent is upon us. And let us ask ourselves: how can we prepare the manger?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

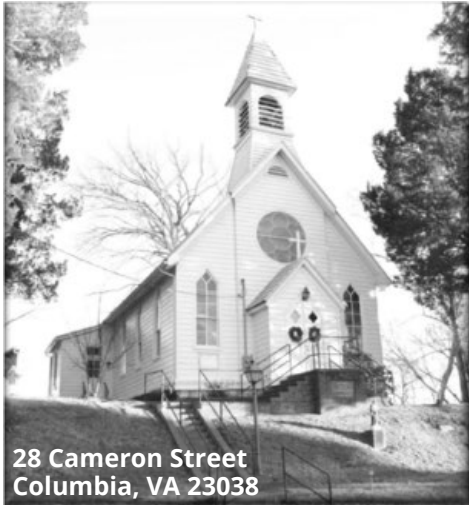


PARISH SURVEYS (English and Spanish) handed out last weekend and this weekend should be **returned by December 1** and placed in the box in the Parish Hall.

CCD
Meets every Sunday
at 10:30 AM

OFFERTORY
NOVEMBER 17TH \$ 683
M & R \$ 5
Thank you for your generosity!

ST. JOSEPH'S Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel



28 Cameron Street
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
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INTROSPECTIVE

GOSPEL MEDIATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

December 1, 2024
1st Sunday of Advent

When I was a young priest, about one year after ordination, I was called to the hospital to anoint a dying mother of three young children. She had a painful, terminal cancer. After celebrating Last Rites with her, I said, "Don't be afraid." She looked me square in the eye from her hospital bed and said, "Oh Father, I am in a lot of pain, but I am not afraid. Something wonderful is about to happen." A few days later she died.

Christians face the ending of our personal various "worlds" in a totally unique way. This first Sunday of Advent, Jesus says that when people see their world falling apart, they find themselves "fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world" (Luke 21:26). In our fear, our natural response is to check out, to hide our heads in drunkenness, distraction, and false securities. But Jesus commands us to "look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." He then compares what's coming to a lovely summer in full bloom. That's what the cross and resurrection empower us to do, as strange as it may seem.

Advent challenge: What world in your life is collapsing? A relationship, a dream, a work opportunity? Maybe you're troubled by a crumbling world in the political or economic sphere. Or maybe someone you love is seriously ill or dying. Name that world or worlds. Then pray: "Lord, help me to not faint with fear. Help me to raise my head and see your redemption coming." — Father John Muir

Lessons & Carols at Sts. Peter & Paul December 15 - 2:00 - 4:00pm

All youth are invited to create a Nativity scene to be displayed during Lessons and Carols on December 15. **All scenes must be 3D**, no drawings or paintings. Use any materials you have on hand, for example: clay/play dough, Popsicle sticks, cardboard boxes and tubes, building blocks/Legos, natural materials (rocks, sticks, grass). All nativity scenes need to be turned in by December 9 to Celeste.

If you have a Nativity scene that you would like to display during Lessons & Carols, please bring it to St. Francis Hall on Saturday, December 14 between 10am - 2pm.

St. Joseph Parish Activities

December 1	Novena of the Rosary in Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe After 9:00 AM Mass, weekdays will be at 7pm.
December 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe Rosary 5:30 PM Mass 6:00 PM Food and Fellowship after Mass

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