

December 15, 2024

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations." (Matthew 28:19)



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

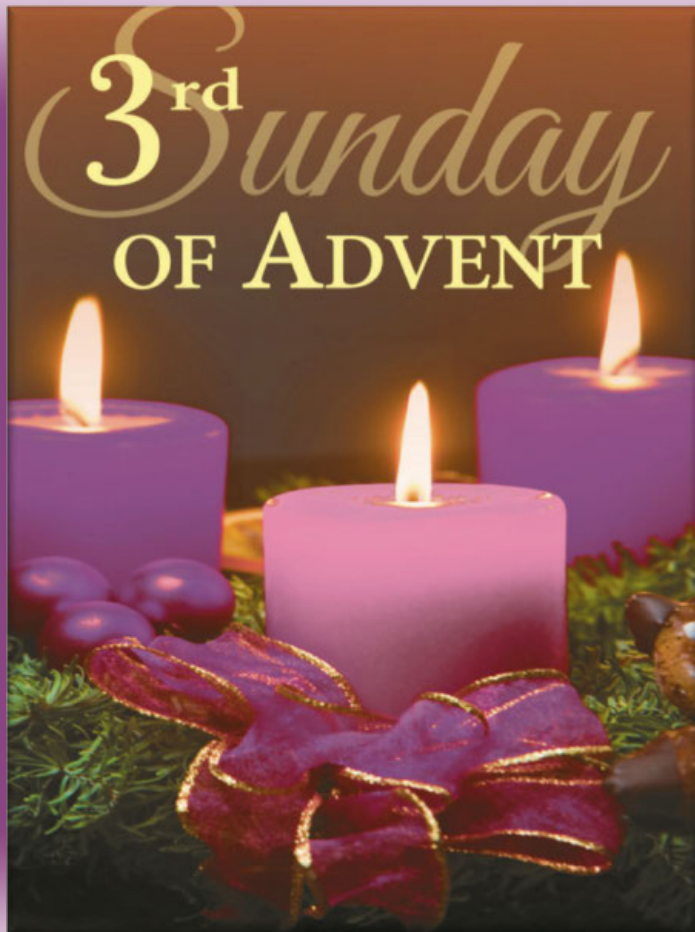
Sunday 8:30am: St. Joseph's

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-1 week 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 15, 2024

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 (6)/Phil 4:4-7/
Lk 3:10-18

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/
Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17

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

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

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

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

Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 (4)/Heb 10:5-10/
Lk 1:39-4

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15, 2024

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

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

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 2024

HONOR YOUR LOVED ONE WITH A SPECIAL MEMORIAL

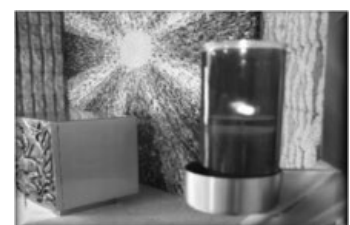
BREAD & WINE

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.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 15, 2024

*“Rejoice in the Lord
always.”* (Philippians 4:4)

Are you filled with joy at the Lord’s invitation to serve Him in priesthood or consecrated life? This deep sense of joy is a sign that God may be calling you to share His love for others in a special way. Talk to your priest or reach out to the

Office of Vocations
804.359.5661

Or via email:

vocations@richmonddiocese.org



JOB OPENING

Sts. Peter and Paul is looking for
an

Administrative Assistant

This full-time position requires one to maintain an efficient parish office to serve the pastor and people of the parish; to maintain accurate financial records, personnel files and prepare all necessary correspondence. Interested candidates should send a letter of interest, resume and Diocesan

application to:

Father David

pastor@saintspeterpaul.org

434.589.5201



ENCOUNTER

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

DECEMBER 15, 2024

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

On a bright Spring morning, a passerby once saw St. Francis of Assisi hoeing a row of beans and asked him, “What would you be doing right now if you knew this was the last day of your earthly life?” The Saint responded, “I’d keep hoeing this row of beans.” Preparing for this world to end — whether by our death or by Jesus’ glorious coming — invites us to live not in the past or the present, but deeply in the present moment.

This same point is on display in the simple advice given by the wild and eccentric John the Baptist. He speaks of the one who is to come who will baptize “with the Holy Spirit and fire” (Luke 3:16). Despite the bizarre awesomeness of this announcement, he tells his listeners to engage in the present moment with simple acts of justice and love as their preparation for Jesus’ coming, sharing their clothes and food, eliminating greedy and underhanded practices, being content with their wages. It’s so undramatic. But how many actually did it? We don’t know. How many of us will commit ourselves to these types of humble and demanding practices in our lives? That’s what we should be doing now in our present moment, not worrying about the future.



Advent challenge: Name one way you are doing the bare minimum towards others in your daily life. Or name something you are doing because you are not content with your financial situation. Pray: “Jesus, if it is your will, help me to stop doing these things this week. Help me prepare for your coming.”

Then make the appropriate changes.

Father John Muir

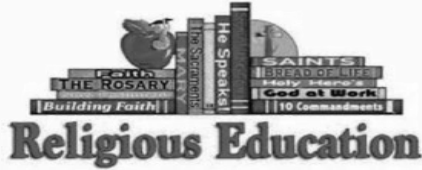
PARISHIONER UPDATES:

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

Our youth will be displaying their 3D Nativity creations at this year's Lessons & Carols.

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, help me to share happily with others. Amen.

SHARING THE GOSPEL

How can you show you love God? Instead of keeping all your clothes and food, share some with people who don't have any. Be happy and thankful for all God has given you. When you love God more than money, you will be happy to share.

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**
Complete the picture.



 **MISSION**

The next time you go grocery shopping with your parents, ask if you can pick out some foods to share with the poor. As a family, talk about how thankful you are for the many ways God takes care of you.

INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTIONS: DECEMBER 14 - DECEMBER 22, 2024

*REPRESENTS ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Saturday	12/14	5pm	Dominick Capuano	D	Gerard & Linda Zink
Sunday	12/15	9am*	Misa Pro Populo		
Sunday	12/15	11am	Joe Lodato	D	Michael & Nancy King
Tuesday	12/17	12noon	Baby Vincent Earl	D	Gerard & Linda Zink
Wednesday	12/18	9am	Ralph Altieri	I	John Condon
Thursday	12/19	9am			
Friday	12/20	9am	Albert Myers	D	Bob & Cathy Heffley
Saturday	12/21	5pm	Giovanni & Anna Capuano	D	Gerard & Linda Zink
Sunday	12/22	9am*	William Keyser	D	Carol Hannum
Sunday	12/22	11am	Misa Pro Populo		

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, Jean & Mary Louise Bernard, Sharon Cassidy, Nicole Colley, The Compton Family, Jim Cullinan, Jean Dalsky, Connie D'Amico, Samuel Dunton, Me'Shelle Durant, Bill Ellis, Frank Feliciano, the Fellins, Patty Frawley, 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, George Kuhlow, Judi Kuhlow, Marcia Lagomarsino, Annie Lodato, Zachary W. Mayo II, Joan Merk, Haynes McKinley Morris, Jr., Irene Nadig, Rose Patterson, Margaret Reilly, Douglas Robinson, Carol Scampoli, Kathy Seroskie, Carol Starowicz, Marylou Stock, Anna Sturhann, Rob Toepfert, Jr. Cornelia Waters, Mike Waters, the Williams 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.

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What do we call an ornamental canopy above an altar inside a church?

Answer: Baldachin or Baldachino

EVERDAY STEWARDSHIP

Pew Count Sat. - 121 Sun. - 160	11/30 & 12/01
First Offering	\$ 3,652
First Offering: Faith Direct	\$ 2,435
Total	\$ 6,087
Dec MTD Debt Reduction	\$ 1,077

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

Our next DEBT REDUCTION Collection is

JANUARY 4 & 5

Thank you and God bless you for your continued support.

Our next monthly Bake Sale is Jan. 4 & 5 after each Mass. Donations accepted before Mass. Thanks!

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Wednesday
December 25th, 2024
2:00 PM
St. Francis Hall

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

Bring a side or dessert to share

Display on the table on the kitchen door in the Commons.

You're invited to . . .

Lessons & Carols
and Nativity Exhibit

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, 2024
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.



#iGIVECATHOLIC/GIVING TUESDAY ON DECEMBER 3RD WAS A GREAT SUCCESS. THANK YOU TO ALL THE ORGANIZERS AND ALL WHO PARTICIPATED AND CONTRIBUTED.

KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS "100 CLUB"

NOVEMBER WEEKLY \$25 WINNERS

- 11/06 #04 JOE KERRIGAN
- 11/13 #05 JEAN BOCKMAN
- 11/20 #57 ROGER BURNS
- 11/27 #70 DAVE THOMAS

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.

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



BIBLE STUDY

Mondays

1:00 - 2:00pm

Room 123

Next meeting is January 6, 2025

ROOM SCHEDULE

Sat	14-Dec	Lessons & Carols Set Up	10:00a	E/F
		Confessions	4:00p	Church
		Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church
Sun	15-Dec	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's
		CCD/RCIA/Adult Formation	9:30a	E
		CCD	10:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	11:00a	Church
		LESSONS & CAROLS	2:00p	E/F
Mon	16-Dec			
Tues	17-Dec	Mass/Confessions	12:00p	Church
Wed	18-Dec	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Senior Coffee Social	10:00a	Commons
		Scouts	6:30p	E/F
Thurs	19-Dec	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Yoga	11:00a	F
		Cursillo	6:00p	123
Fri	20-Dec	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Adoration	9:45a	Church
		Benediction	3:00p	Church
		Scout EOY Overniter	6:00p	E/F
Sat	21-Dec	Confessions	4:00p	Church
		Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church
Sun	22-Dec	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	11:00a	Church

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 31 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

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

GIVE YOUR SPOUSE A SPECIAL GIFT THIS CHRISTMAS

Sign up now for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend and receive the gift of a great marriage. Making a weekend will help you put a little Christmas in your marriage every day!



For more information or to register, go to WWME.org, click "Apply" and search for your desired location. Feel free to contact Donald & Helen Dudley at 757-690-1369 or donald.helen.dudley@wwme.org with any questions. Here are a few upcoming experiences:

- January 7 - February 18, virtual (Tuesday evenings)
- January 21 - February 2 Myrtle Beach, SC
- March 7 - 9 Rehoboth Beach, DE
- March 14 -16 Jessup, MD and Ocean City, NJ
- March 21-23 Emerald Isle, NC

Catholic Q & A

QUESTION:

With Christmas fast approaching, can you give me some practical tips to prepare myself and my family that will help us stay grounded in what this holiday is really about? With all the commercialism, it's easy to stray.

ANSWER:

Happy times and events bring fond memories and a renewed sense of love and kinship with others. The anticipation is half the joy of the event itself. The coming of the Lord is that kind of event that people have been looking forward to for generations with fervent hope and desire. It gave them strength and courage as they waited for the coming of the Lord.

We know that Christmas is rushed. Sales begin in August and carols blare long before the season begins. Everyone laments the commercial aspects of the season, but as Advent begins, do something to help you be more mindful of the Lord's coming. Use an Advent wreath, or enthrone the Bible prominently, or read the readings from the Bible assigned to each day. Postpone the tree and decorations until closer to Christmas. Establish new family rituals, customs and prayers that help remind everyone that we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Fasting, daily Mass, a special celebration of reconciliation, reaching out to those alienated from family or society, and visiting the homebound manifest the love of the Christ Child and the Holy Family. Resist the temptation to rush the season. In his own time and in his own way, God will come. Our task is simply to be watchful and ready.



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/4f2q5Ji>
- **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/3XiBTZ>
- 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.



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 *

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.



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

THE WELL THAT NEVER DRIES UP

Depending on how your mood is today, the words of Paul will hit you differently. "Rejoice always," he tells us. Well, if your football team is poised to win this weekend or next, maybe you're really feeling this vibe. But if you've got a long slog at work ahead of you this week and a to-do list that only seems to grow and never shrink, it may make you grumble. "Rejoice always? Always? When I'm tired? Cranky? When I'm sick of doing and giving? Thanks, Paul. I'll be sure to scribble that phrase on a Post-It and stick it to my dashboard for when some entitled punk inevitably cuts me off on tomorrow's morning commute."

When we feel this way, we know it's time to head back to the well. Think of all the places in Scripture where God compares His love, His mercy, His salvation to water. And not just any water — living water, water that moves. God's strength is not a stagnant puddle sure to evaporate and disappear. It's water you can keep coming back to. It's water that never dries up.

Which is good news for us, because we never stop failing to do what we should, never stop failing to feel the joy and the compassion and the selflessness we are called to. We need a source of living water if we are going to 'rejoice always.' To be everyday stewards, we need a well that never empties.

The fountain of salvation never dries up. There is always more there for us to draw from. It's a sign of His commitment — so let us, in turn, be committed to Him.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Prayer for the third week of Advent Prayer with St. John the Baptist

Through the intercession of St. John the Baptist, help us to remember the least fortunate, and how caring for them shares in the caring of the beloved Christ-child. Bring Your generosity into our community.

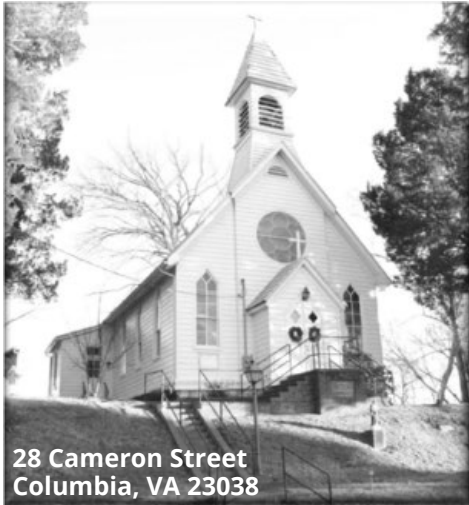
Amen.

CCD
 Meets every Sunday
 at 10:30 AM

OFFERTORY
 DECEMBER 1ST \$ 922
 BUILDING FUND \$80
 M&R \$105
 Thank you for your generosity!

ST. JOSEPH'S Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel

INTROSPECTIVE



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

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 |

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

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

ASKING THE QUESTION

I have found in my life that if I am certain of the answer to a big and complicated question — right away, no doubts or hesitations — there is a high likelihood that the answer is actually the wrong one.

Because most of the time the truth is buried beneath a thicket of pride, prejudice, and ignorance. To find our answers, we have to be ready to put the gardening gloves on and pick through the thorns. We have to pray. We have to reflect. We have to question ourselves and others. We have to examine our feelings. And then we have to pray some more.

See, I would be willing to bet that the tax collectors and soldiers knew. Deep in their hearts, they knew.

They knew when they approached John the Baptist and asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” that his reply was not going to be: “Keep doing exactly what you’re doing.”

They had heard this guy preach. They knew what he was about: repentance. They might not have known exactly what John the Baptist was going to tell them to do, but they knew whatever it was, it was going to be a challenge. It was going to turn their lives upside down.

I give them credit for asking the question. That’s a hard thing to do, and I don’t do it enough. Too often, I’m afraid to ask the question.

How do I love this person? How do I live out my baptismal call in this particular situation? How do I draw water from the fountain of salvation — and how do I do it with joy, as we are commanded by the Psalms?

Christmas is ten days away. Are we asking the question?

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Lessons & Carols at Sts. Peter & Paul

December 15 - 2:00 - 4:00pm

Our youth will be displaying their 3D Nativity creations at this year’s Lessons & Carols.

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.

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