

January 26, 2025

*“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

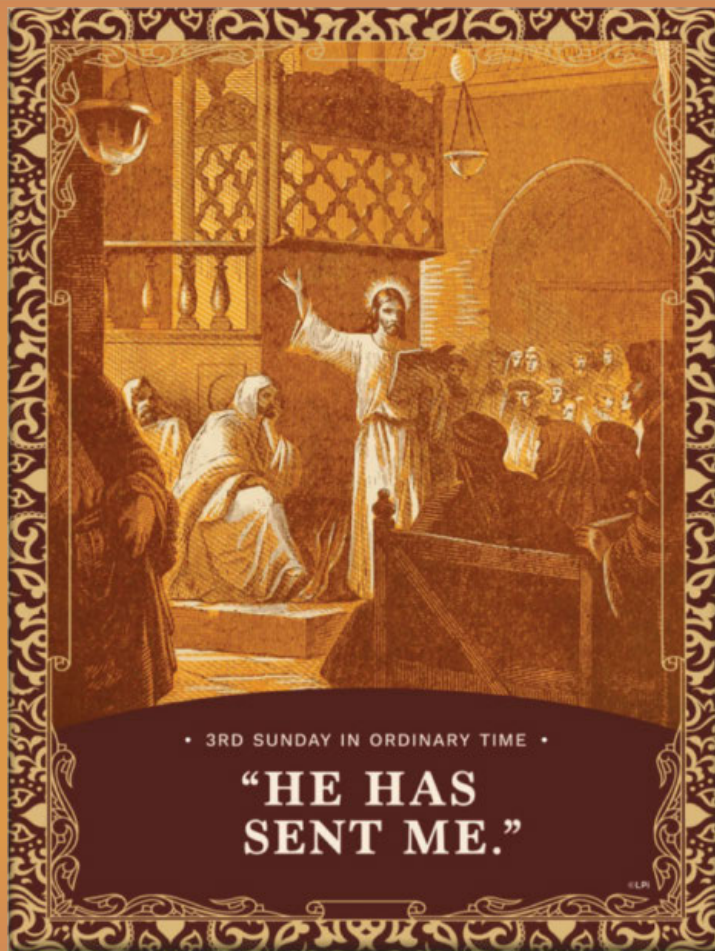
Sunday 8:30am: St. Joseph's

**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 Pilk | 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 Pilk | 571.239.3373

### LECTORS

Cynthia Nicholson | 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 Nicholson | 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 or | 434.589.5201

Colleen Smith

### FAITH FORMATION

Celeste Shapiola | 434.589.5201

### BULLETIN & ANNOUNCEMENTS DEADLINE

Fridays-1 week in advance-In writing to

[colleen.smith@saintspeterpaul.org](mailto:colleen.smith@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 JANUARY 26, 2025

Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 (see Jn 6:63c)/  
1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21  
Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Mk 3:22-30  
Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2 and 4ab, 7-8a, 10, 11/Mk 3:31-35  
Wednesday: Heb 10:11-18/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4/Mk 4:1-20  
Thursday: Heb 10:19-25/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Mk 4:21-25  
Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34  
Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Mk 4:35-41  
Next Sunday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/  
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 26, 2025

Sunday: 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time;  
Celebrate Catholic Schools Week  
Monday: St. Angela Merici, Virgin  
Tuesday: St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church  
Friday: St. John Bosco, Priest  
Next Sunday: The Presentation of the Lord,  
World Day for Consecrated Life

## JANUARY 2025

### HONOR YOUR LOVED ONE WITH A SPECIAL MEMORIAL

#### BREAD & WINE

**Donor:** Bob & Angela  
Maher  
**In Memory of:**  
Donna Horan



#### ALTAR FLOWERS

**Donor:** Bob & Angela  
Maher  
**In Memory of:**  
Donna Horan



#### SANCTUARY CANDLE

**Donor:** Bob & Angela  
Maher  
**In Memory of:**  
Donna Horan



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

## WEATHER ALERTS:

Now that winter has arrived, please tune in to CBS19 or NBC29 for the latest on closures.



# ENCOUNTER

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**Mini Reflection:** Jesus didn't come to fix the brokenness of the world. He came to fix our brokenness. He offers us not relief from the trials of life, but an answer to the question of how to live in joy, in love and in purpose in the midst of these evil days.

## These Evil Days

“Alas, that these evil days should be mine.”

If you've ever seen “The Lord of the Rings,” you might recognize this quote from “The Two Towers.” The words are spoken by King Theoden at the grave of his only son and heir, as Theoden contemplates the coming war for Middle Earth, a war which has already claimed the life of his son, a war he wants no part of, a war that seems utterly hopeless and unwinnable.


*These evil days.*

You don't have to be a fantasy enthusiast or even a Tolkien fan to identify with Theoden here. We have all experienced this same feeling of despair, perhaps increasingly in this age of technology and social media, when the ills of the whole world — violence, injustice, moral disorder and chaos — are in our faces, on our phones, looming over our days.

But when we despair like this, we forget an important truth: this is the time of fulfillment, and we are lucky enough to be living through it.

Yes, the world is broken. It was broken two thousand years ago, too, when Jesus stood up in the synagogue on the Sabbath and read the words of the prophet Isaiah: “He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives...and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.”

Jesus didn't come to fix the brokenness of the world. He came to fix our brokenness. He offers us not relief from the trials of life, but an answer to the question of how to live in joy, in love and in purpose in the midst of these evil days.

  
3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
JANUARY 26, 2025

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.”*

(Luke 4:18)

Are you being called to share Christ's message of hope through a life of service to the Church? Explore your vocation with openness. Talk to your priest or reach out to the

Office of Vocations  
804.359.5661

Or via email:  
[vocations@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:vocations@richmonddiocese.org)

## PARISHIONER

### UPDATES:

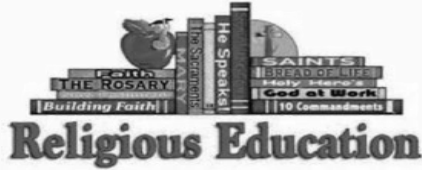
If you move, change your email or phone number, no longer need envelopes, etc., let us know. We don't want you to miss anything!

**CALL:**  
**434.589.5201**

**EMAIL:**  
**[office@saintspeterpaul.org](mailto:office@saintspeterpaul.org)**

**COME IN:**  
**4309 Thomas Jefferson  
Parkway (Parish Hall)**

# PARISH YOUTH



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

## PRAYER

*Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to help us.*

## SHARING THE GOSPEL

The prophet Isaiah wrote about Jesus a long time before he was even born. When Jesus read Isaiah's words, they described Jesus perfectly. Jesus did come to free people from sin, to help those in pain, and even to help blind people see.

## CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Chesterton Academy of St. John the Evangelist is Charlottesville's affordable, classical high school in the Catholic tradition. Enrollment applications for 2025-2026 are due January 31. An essay competition will be held on February 8 for students who have applied, the winner to receive a \$5,000 tuition credit! See our website for details, as well as info on tours and shadow days: [ChestertonSJE.org](http://ChestertonSJE.org).

## 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](mailto:charleswpalmeriv@gmail.com) 571.212.4445

Inquiries about the **Sacrament of Baptism**, or any of the Sacraments, should be directed to Celeste at [religioused@saintspeterpaul.org](mailto:religioused@saintspeterpaul.org) for registration and prep information.

## PUZZLE

Circle these words from today's Gospel:

SPARE	FREEDOM	LORD
CHOSEN	SIGHT	JESUS
POOR	SUFFERS	TRUE

I	A	M	J	L	U	I	T	L	A
S	B	C	H	O	S	E	N	V	E
U	P	A	T	R	H	A	R	T	I
F	R	E	E	D	O	M	A	W	H
F	N	H	C	A	L	E	I	W	S
E	F	O	J	E	S	U	S	H	P
R	B	D	S	M	I	W	L	G	I
S	I	G	H	T	L	P	O	O	R
T	Q	E	W	A	S	F	L	W	I
I	A	T	R	U	E	M	J	E	T

## MISSION

Look up Isaiah chapter 61 and read it with your family. Then read Luke 4:14-21. Jesus kept all of those promises!

# INTENTIONS

## MASS INTENTIONS: JANUARY 25 - FEBRUARY 2

\*REPRESENTS ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Saturday	1/25	5pm	Claire van Nierop	D	Anthony & Patricia Amato
Sunday	1/26	9am*	Juan Mendoz Perez	D	John & Christine Stewart
Sunday	1/27	11am	Misa Pro Populo		
Tuesday	1/28	12pm	June Hess	D	Frank Pilk
Wednesday	1/29	9am	Jeanne Pilk	D	Frank Pilk
Thursday	1/30	9am			
Friday	1/31	9am			
First Saturday	2/01	10am	Carol Donahue	D	The Donahue Family
Saturday	2/01	5pm	Misa Pro Poulo		
Sunday	2/02	9am*	Debra Rogan	D	
Sunday	2/02	11am	Cosmo DiFazio, Sr.	D	Kenny Family

### 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 Kuhlrow, 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, Henry Land and Matthew Reinitz.

**Pray God keeps them in His care.**



The new year is filled with hope and promise as we seek to grow our vital ministries, explore new ways to share the good news of Christ's love and reflect His care and mercy to those in need throughout the community. To continue to make a difference in 2025, we are reaching out to our parishioners.

Begin the new year with eGiving to help sustain and build ministries throughout 2025 that reflect the steadfast promise of God's love. The need is great in our community, and your generous online gifts will help people around us..

Sign up today by visiting [faith/direct/VA249](http://faith/direct/VA249) or call their Customer Service team at 866.507.8757.

Thank you and may God bless your generosity.



### 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, Jim Kraemer, George Kuhlrow, Judi Kuhlrow, Marcia Lagomarsino, Annie Lodato, Zachary W. Mayo II, Joan Merk, Haynes McKinley Morris, Jr., Irene Nadig, Rose Patterson, Gladys Pfeiffer, 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.



**F**lowers are expensive; throw in delivery on top of that! The cost adds up fast. In order to control the cost but still have beauty in the church, we are seeking volunteers to arrange fresh flowers to sit atop the tabernacle every week. We are seeking enough people so that no one has to do it every week. To find out more details of what is involved, please contact the office with questions at 434.589.5201.

# EVERDAY STEWARDSHIP

<b>Pew Count</b> Sat. - 124   Sun. - 232	01/11 & 01/12
First Offering	\$ 3,361
Faith Direct	\$ 2,312
Total	\$ 5,673
Jan MTD Debt Reduction	\$ 2,793

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

**Our next DEBT REDUCTION Collection is**

**FEBRUARY 1 & 2**

*Thank you and God bless you for your continued support.*

Our next monthly Bake Sale is **February 1 & 2** after each Mass. Donations accepted before Mass. Thanks!

## Women's Cursillo Weekend

### Save the Date Now

Cursillo is a 3-day encounter to enrich your Spirituality and raise awareness of Christ in every moment of your life.

The next *Women's Cursillo Weekend* will be held **Thursday, April 24th (7:00pm) through Sunday, April 27th (5:00pm), 2025, at the Blessings Lodge on the campus of Camp Overlook in Keezletown, VA. The Theme of the Weekend is "Anointed".**

Pope Francis made a Cursillo and recognizes how "Cursillos help people encounter Jesus, helping them understand that living in the Grace of God is beautiful." Cursillo recognizes we aren't meant to walk this journey of life alone – we need *Spiritual Nutrition* that comes from sharing with other believers to enhance our journey and share tools for a deeper connection with Christ. Come walk this journey alongside other Catholic women and be filled with the JOY Christ offers each one of us.

Applications and more about Cursillo are available at [www.valleycursillo.com](http://www.valleycursillo.com). All applicants must have a sponsor.

Contact Ellie Henrietta 434-981-3551 for questions and more information. **Application deadline is March 27<sup>th</sup>.**

## REMEMBER A LOVED ONE WITH A SPECIAL GIFT

The remembrance can be for an anniversary, a birthday, in thanksgiving, or to remember our deceased loved ones.

Stop by the Parish Office to arrange to have the Bread and Wine, Flowers, and/or Candles donated for someone you love. All donations are for one week (Sunday through Saturday).

**Altar Flowers \$25      Bread & Wine \$25**  
**Candles \$30**  
**Masses \$10 (per Mass)**

Join us for a new Bible Study group that meets on Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:00 at St. Joseph or Wednesday at Sts Peter and Paul from 4:00 - 5:00.

We are studying the Gospel of Luke. which starts with the birth of John the Baptist and continues through Jesus' public ministry, passion, death, resurrection, and ascension. As we journey through this Gospel, we will encounter Jesus in a new way and learn how Jesus' teachings fit into our lives.

## Prayer of Mission

Spirit of the Living God, anoint me to bring your love, light, and freedom to the places you call. From the heights to the depths: you are there, you are actively moving, and when you call, you will also provide. Amen.



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## ADULT FORMATION CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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

**Sundays**  
**9:30am**



## BIBLE STUDY

Room 123

**Mondays**  
1:00 - 2:00pm

**Wednesdays**  
4:00-5:00pm

## ROOM SCHEDULE

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

<b>Sat</b>	<b>25-Jan</b>	Confessions	4:00p	Church
		Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church
		Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser	6:30p	St. Joseph's
<b>Sun</b>	<b>26-Jan</b>	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
<b>Mon</b>	<b>27-Jan</b>	Rejoice Bible Study	1:00p	123
		KoC Officers	7:00p	122
<b>Tues</b>	<b>28-Jan</b>	Mass	12:00p	Church
		Bible Study - Luke	6:30p	St. Joseph's
<b>Wed</b>	<b>29-Jan</b>	Mass	9:30a	Church
		Senior Coffee Social	10:00a	Commons
		Bible Study - Luke	4:00p	123
		Scouts	6:30	E/F
		Worship Committee Mtg	7:00p	123
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>30-Jan</b>	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Yoga	11:00a	E/F
		Cursillo	6:00p	123
<b>Fri</b>	<b>31-Jan</b>	Mass	9:00a	Church
		Adoration	9:45a	Church
		Benediction	3:00p	Church
<b>Sat</b>	<b>1-Feb</b>	1st Saturday Mass & Rosary	10:00a	Church
		Confessions	4:00p	Church
		Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church
		Bake Sale After Mass	6:30p	Commons
<b>Sun</b>	<b>2-Feb</b>	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's
		Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's
		CCD/RCIA/Adult Formation	9:30a	E/F
		CCD	10:30a	St. Joseph's
		Youth Mass	11:00a	Church
		Bake Sale After Mass	12:00a	Commons
<b>Room Ledger:</b>		<b>F</b> - St. Francis (Hall)	<b>R</b> - St. Raphael (Church)	
		<b>E</b> - St. Elizabeth (Hall)	<b>M</b> - St. Michael (Church)	
			<b>C</b> - Commons (Church)	

## SENIOR COFFEE SOCIAL

**Wednesday, January 29**  
**10:00 am, Commons**

**Bob Maher will talk about his most recent trip to Uganda**

## SPEND AN HOUR WITH JESUS

**Hours: M - Th, 6am - 8pm**

A 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](mailto: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](tel:(804)298-4035)

**Email:** [tours@albastours.com](mailto:tours@albastours.com)

**Website:** [albastours.com](http://albastours.com)

## 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.



## 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**

**434-953-5432**

## CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

**Question:** What do we call the successors of the apostles in communion with the pope?

**Answer:** Bishops.

**STS. PETER & PAUL** *Religious Store*

[religiousstore@saintspeterpaul.org](mailto:religiousstore@saintspeterpaul.org)

## HOURS:

**SATURDAY**

3:30 - 4:30pm

6:00 - 6:45pm

**SUNDAY**

12:00 - 1:00pm

**40% off Christmas items; ends TODAY!**



Since 1974, **National Catholic Schools Week** has been the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States.

It starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2025 is January 26 – February 1. Join Charlottesville Catholic School in this celebration of the value Catholic education provides to young people and its contributions to our church, our communities, and our nation. Charlottesville Catholic offers the only Junior Kindergarten through 8th grade Catholic education in our area, educating many children from our local parishes.

For more information on enrollment or how you can become involved with Charlottesville Catholic School, contact Admissions Coordinator, Christine Fowlkes ([ch.fowlkes@cvillecatholic.org](mailto:ch.fowlkes@cvillecatholic.org)).

## GIVE YOUR SPOUSE A SPECIAL GIFT THIS NEW YEAR

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](http://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](mailto:donald.helen.dudley@wwme.org) with any questions. Here are a few upcoming experiences:

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:

I've heard that love is a theological virtue. What does that mean?

## ANSWER:

Charles Shultz, the creator of the *Peanuts* comics wrote, "I love mankind ... it's people I can't stand!" This good humored comment gets at an important truth. St. John wrote a very strong statement in one of his letters: "If anyone says 'I love God,' but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen" (1 John 4:20). How often do we say "I love the homeless," but ignore the parish food drive? Or insist on the importance of respecting others, but don't bother to say hello to our cashier? If we can't love an individual person, we might not love people like we think, and we certainly need to work on our love for God.

Love is "the theological virtue by which we love God above all things for His own sake, and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God" (CCC 1822). God knows acts of love of Him and others isn't always easy. So He invites us to pray for the grace to do it. The virtue of love gives us the grace and strength we need to offer our lives to God and love people in our lives, especially those who are difficult to respect, tolerate, and care for. Real love, of course, is risky. Real love wills the good of the other when we just want good for ourselves. Real love gets up on the cross when we'd prefer to take a nap in Gethsemane. Real love changes things.

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Remember that time when you arrived at school to take a test or quiz on material you failed to read? Maybe it was on a classic book or a chapter in a science textbook. Did your blood pressure go sky high and the sweat start to show on your forehead? Squirming in the seat, you wondered what you could have done to avoid feeling this way. Then it came to you: you should have read what you were supposed to read!

Procrastination, indifference, poor scheduling of time, and stubbornness are all reasons why we fail to be prepared for a situation that arises in our lives. We lack commitment in doing what we are asked to do or what we know we should do. This is certainly true in our spiritual lives as well. We may choose to bear the label of disciple or good steward, but we don't really prepare ourselves for the daily journey of life.

Sacred Scripture can prepare us more fully for the circumstances of life, but not if we fail to read it. The words contained there are Spirit and life for us. They help us to understand where we fit into the Body of Christ and how we are to respond to the daily call of Christ. Everyday Stewards should be committed to reading and reflection of the Word of God. We know we should spend time with God's Word, but too often we fail to due to the same reasons already mentioned. When we failed to read in school, perhaps we failed the test and it hurt our grade. When we fail in life due to lack of preparedness, sometimes the consequences are more severe.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

### A Food For The Poor Clergy Speaker Will Be Visiting Your Church

Founded in 1982, Food For The Poor works to end the suffering of impoverished children and their families in the Caribbean and Latin America.

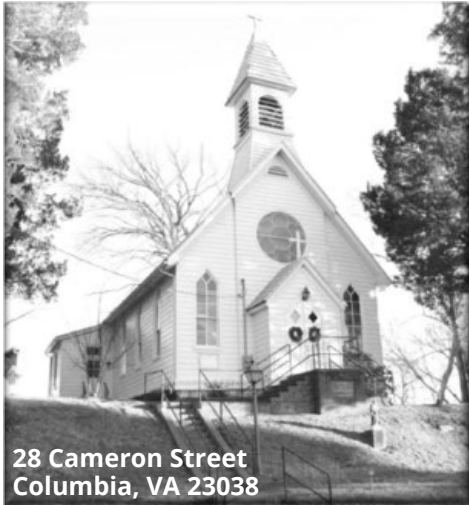


**FFTP** FOOD FOR THE POOR

[www.FoodForThePoor.org/churchalliances](http://www.FoodForThePoor.org/churchalliances)

# 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

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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### PLACE YOUR WORKS IN THE WORLD

One of the things about Scripture is that even the smallest word and shortest phrase can be critical to the overall message. When you take a quiet moment to rest with the Word, you find how quickly the most mundane sentence can reach out and grab you, pulling you into a deeper contemplation of some truth you hadn't even considered until then.

But we often fail to act as the Israelites in the Book of Nehemiah, standing before the Water Gate "listening attentively." Whether it's at Mass during the Liturgy of the Word or at home poring over the Bible, time after time we find ourselves less mindful than we could be. Our ears accept the sounds of the words and our eyes glance over the shape of the letters.

But are we mindful — truly?

The best answer is hopefully at least sometimes. There are always tasks to be completed, problems weighing on our minds that we can't quite give over to God. We lose ourselves in these things instead of in Scripture. We "clock in" with Bible reading instead of "diving in."



We can never forget that the words of the Lord are spirit and life. They are the soil that quickens the seed of all stewardship. There is no mindfulness, no prayer, no graciousness, no gratitude or accountability or sense of commitment unless there is the Word.

So let us pray today for mindfulness, that our every action will be grounded in the law of God — giving it true spirit and life.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS





**PRAYER REQUESTS**



- Mary Ellen Agolia \* Bradford Barrows \*
- David Carbocci \* Maria Correa \*
- Nona Dooley \* Bob Fermoyle \*
- 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](mailto: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.



**GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

**January 26, 2025**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**  
**Luke 1:14, 4:14-21-12**

A young couple in my parish told me they were expecting their second child, a baby boy. I knew that their five-year old only child Emma had been desperately wanting to be a big sister for years, so I said, "Emma must have been so happy when you told her the news." "Actually," they said, "she burst into tears. She wanted a baby sister!" How often in life God wonderfully fulfills our desires and we are sad because we don't approve of the way he does it. We want to control the gift and the delivery method.

The same thing occurs in the Gospel this week when Jesus announces in his hometown that the promise of an Anointed One bringing glad tidings to the poor is "fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:21). After a moment of elation, his fellow townsfolk realize this man is the way God is fulfilling his promises, and they erupt into a violent outburst. So Jesus departs. How sad for them.

Every single Sunday at Mass, including this one, some version of this happens to many of us. God's word announces the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ, and we easily overlook or disdain it. His way is almost never according to our narrow expectations. What's required of us is to set these aside, and to embrace a new openness to God's gifts, no matter how he wishes to give them. God is fulfilling his promises the way He likes — why be sad? — Father John Muir

**Examination of Conscience.** The practice of examining one's conscience dates to the very beginning of the Christian faith. It simply calls for reflection on one's actions, making note of lapses in judgment that should be confessed in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

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 .....  
**Bible Study**  
**Tuesdays at 6:30p**

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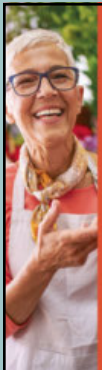
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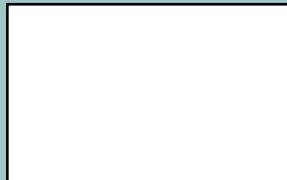
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