

February 23, 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 colleen.smith@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

1st Saturday 10am: SPP Saturday 5pm: SPP Sunday 9am: St. Joseph's 11am: SPP

WEEKDAYS

Tuesday - Noon 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

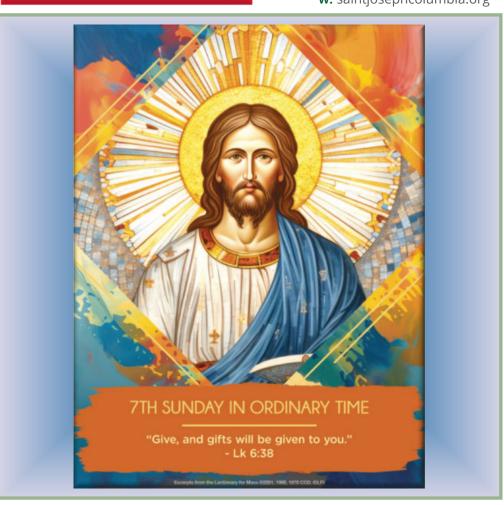
1st Saturday 9:00am: SPP Saturday 4pm: SPP Sunday 8:30am: St. Joseph's

HOSPITAL VISITS:

Call Parish Office or Rectory: 434.589.5200

HOMEBOUND:

Call Parish Office to schedule Communion



WELCOMF



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

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

Rev. David M. Ssentamu | 434.589.5200

Rev. Mr. Robert Allen | 434.589.0941

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Colleen Smith or | 434.589.5201 Karen Davidson

FAITH FORMATION

Celeste Shapiola | 434.589.5201

BULLETIN & ANNOUNCEMENTS DEADLINE

Fridays-1 week in advance-In writing to 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 FEBRUARY 23, 2025

1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/1 Cor 15:45-49/ Sunday:

Lk 6:27-38

Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29 Monday:

Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/

Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Sir 4:11-19/Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175/

Mk 9:38-40

Thursday: Sir 5:1-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mk 9:41-50

Sir 6:5-17/Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35/ Friday:

Mk 10:1-12

Saturday: Sir 17:1-15/Ps 103:13-14, 15-16, 17-18/

Mk 10:13-16

Next Sunday: Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 (see 2a)/

1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-4

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23, 2025

Sunday: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Thursday: St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and

Doctor of the Church

Next Sunday: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 23 - MARCH 1, 2025

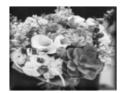
HONOR YOUR LOVED ONE WITH A SPECIAL MEMORIAL

ALTAR FLOWERS BREAD & WINE SANCTUARY CANDLE Donor: Donor:

In Memory of: In Memory of: In Memory of:



Donor:





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.



7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME FEBRUARY 23, 2025

"Love your enemies and do good to those who hate you." (Luke 6:20)

Priests, religious brothers and sisters, and married couples each are called to live out a Vocation rooted in love and forgiveness. Is God calling you to witness to His mercy and compassion through a religious vocation?

Talk to your priest or reach out to the Office of Vocations 804.359.5661

Or via email: 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

COME IN:

4309 Thomas Jefferson Parkway (Parish Hall)



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – JUDGEMENT AND LOVE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini Reflection: It saddens me that Christians have somehow gained this reputation as a people who judge, who condemn. Today's Gospel is an invitation for us to consider how we engage with people who disagree with us — or maybe even actively dislike us.

Judgment and Love

"Oh, well. I'm going to hell anyway, right?"

I have a few family members and friends who are not practicing Catholics who say this to me from time to time. It's always spoken in a teasing manner, with a wink and a shoulder shrug, usually to explain away some sort of minor misbehavior they feel guilty about.

It saddens me that Christians have somehow gained this reputation as a people who judge, who condemn. I think in part it stems from a misunderstanding on the part of unchurched people (and lots of churched ones, too) regarding what constitutes "judging." It is absolutely not "judging" someone to disagree with a personal decision, whatever that decision may be, or to decline from participating in that decision. We all have functioning consciences; we are all supposed to discern the moral goodness of any action before we take it.

But it is judging someone if we allow their decisions to impact how we treat them.

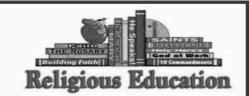
Today's Gospel is an invitation for us to consider how we engage with people who disagree with us — or maybe even actively dislike us. Much is said these days of the "culture wars." I certainly don't disagree that it can often feel like you're fighting a war when you're trying to live as the Church teaches. The forces against you often seem overwhelming and nefarious. And guess what? They are.

But we need to remember who the enemy really is. The enemy is not other children of God, even if they are children of God who are actively promoting ideas that are wrong. Perhaps these people are misguided and mistaken. Perhaps they are misled by the devil. Have we not all been misled by him at some point?

We must interact lovingly with people who think differently and live differently from us. The Christian life absolutely demands it.

PARISH YOUTH





CCD every Sunday at 9:30AM

Meet in St. Francis Hall

PRAYER

Dear God, Help me to love other people the way you love me. Amen.

SHARING THE GOSPEL

TREAT OTHERS THE WAY YOU WANT TO BE TREATED. GOD DOESN'T WANT US TO TREAT OTHER PEOPLE THE SAME WAY THEY TREAT YOU. CHOOSE TO BE KIND, EVEN WHEN OTHER PEOPLE ARE MEAN. CHOOSE TO FORGIVE, EVEN WHEN SOMEONE HAS HURT YOU.

Youth Group



Celebration

STS. PETER & PAUL

February 28th, 5:30 - 7:30pm

Come get a taste of traditional Mardi Gras food; bring a dish to share; kid's activities

Let Celeste know if you can help.

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

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.

€ PU	ZZLE mble these words from today's Gospel:	
love	pray lend	
good bless	give reward kind pity	
DHESS		
lvoe	Love	
gvie		
ptyi		
ldne		
besls		
godo		
pary		
rwrdea		
knid		
When s	SSION comeone hurts your feelings this week, lof getting even, pray for that person.	

INTENTION

MASS INTENTIONS: FEBRUARY 22 - MARCH 2

*DEDDECENITO CT	T. IOSEPH PARISH
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Saturday	2/22	5pm	Msgr. Eugene Yennock	D	Marsha Bisgrove
Sunday	2/23	9am*	John A. Rogan, Jr.	D	Patricia
Sunday	2/23	11am	Misa Pro Populo		
Tuesday	2/25	12pm	Kevin Lynch	D	Don & Eileen Tyler
Wednesday	2/26	9am	Sr. Emma	D	Sonja Erickson
Thursday	2/27	9am			
Friday	2/28	9am	Riley Canada	D	Carolyn Holcomb
1st Saturday	3/1	10am			
Saturday	3/1	5pm	Fr. David	ı	Michael & Nancy King
Sunday	3/2	9am*	Misa Pro Populo		
Sunday	3/2	11am	Cosmo DiFazio	D	Burger 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 Kuhlow, William Furst, Matt Hendl, Damien LaForenza, Russ Marron, Adam Warren, Christopher McCarthy, Zach Marron, Joseph Ayuso, loe and Sophia Murphy, Iosiah Noble, Iose Langoria, Alex Ostrowski, Henry Land and Matthew Reinitz.

Pray God keeps them in His care.



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 Kuhlow, Judi Kuhlow, 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.



Thank you for your ongoing support of our parish community and its mission.

We are excited to introduce GiveCentral, our new online giving platform that will replace FaithDirect by early April. GiveCentral is convenient, secure, and user-friendly.

You can set up your recurring gift, add your payment method, you can check the box to cover the processing fee (allowing your gift to go even farther) and create your login credentials.

If you have an account with FaithDirect, you will soon be receiving an email invitation to make the switch to GiveCentral. If you don't want to wait or you're new to on-line giving go to www.givecentral.org.

We truly appreciate your commitment to Sts. Peter/Paul.



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

Pew Count	02/08 & 02/09		
Sat 110 Sun 210	02/08 & 02/09		
First Offering	\$ 3,972		
Faith Direct	\$ 2,390		
Total	\$ 6,362		
FEB MTD Debt Reduction	\$ 2,833		

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

Our next DEBT REDUCTION Collection is

MARCH 1 & 2

Thank you and God bless you for your continued support.

Our next monthly Bake Sale is <u>March 1 & 2</u> 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. All applicants must have a sponsor.

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

REMEMBER & LOVED ONE WITH & SPECIAL GIFT

The remembrance can be for an anniversary, a birthday, in thanksgiving, or to remember 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)

40 Days for Life

(Spring 2025 Campaign)

Join us for an hour of peaceful and prayerful presence each Wednesday, starting on March 5th through April 9th, 2025.

Saints Peter and Paul Knights of Columbus Council #11475 invites any and all parishioners to join us on Wednesdays from 10 to 11 AM.

We maintain a vigil and pray in front of Planned Parenthood (2964 Hydraulic Road) in Charlottesville during that same hour, each Wednesday. (Mark your calendar for March 5, 12, 19, 26, and April 2 and 9. For carpool information or directions, call **Larry Boice, 434-510-7677.** There is ample parking across the street from the site, for those who choose to meet us there.

If you cannot physically join us, please **pray** to end abortion, **wherever** you happen to be!

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

Sat 22-Feb Pinewood Derby 8:00a Church	
Vigil Mass 5:00p Church	
Confessions 8:30a St. Joseph's	
Mass 9:00a St. Joseph's	
Sun 23-Feb	
Sun 23-Feb CCD 10:30a St. Joseph's	
YouthvMass	
Blue & Gold Banquet 11:00a E/F	
Potluck Luncheon 12:15p Commons	
Mon 24-Feb Rejoice Bible Study 1:00p E KoC Officers 7:00p E Mass 12:00p Church Tues 25-Feb Bible Study - Luke 6:30p St. Joseph's	
Mon 24-Feb KoC Officers 7:00p E	
KoC Officers	
Tues 25-Feb Bible Study - Luke 6:30p St. Joseph's	
Tues 25-Feb Bible Study - Luke 6:30p St. Joseph's Al-Anon 7:00p M	
Mass 9:00a Church	
Wed Mass 9:00a Church	
Wed 26-Feb Senior Coffee Social 10:00a Commons Bible Study - Luke 4:00p 122 Scouts 6:30p E/F Worship Committee 7:00p 123	
Wed 26-Feb Bible Study - Luke 4:00p 122 Scouts 6:30p E/F Worship Committee 7:00p 123	
Scouts 6:30p E/F Worship Committee 7:00p 123	
Worship Committee 7:00p 123	
Mass 9:00a Church	
Thurs 27-Feb Yoga 11:00a E/F	
Cursillo 6:00p 123	
Mass 9:00a Church	
Fri 28-Feb Adoration 9:45a Church	
Benediction 3:00p Church	
Confessions 9:00a Church	
1st Saturday Mass & Rosary 10:00 Church	
Sat 1-Mar Confessions 4:00p Church	
Vigil Mass 5:00p Church	
Bake Sale After Mass 6:00p Church	
Confessions 8:30a St. Joseph's	
Mass 9:00a St. Joseph's	
Sun 2-Mar CCD/RCIA/Adult Formation 9:30a E/F	
CCD 10:30a St. Joseph's	
Mass 11:00a Church	
Bake Sale After Mass 12:00a Church	

SENIOR COFFEE SOCIAL

Wednesday, February 26 10:00 am, Commons

Bob Maher and Jamie Hicks rescheduled for March 12

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





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

STS. PETER & PAUL Religious Store

religiousstore@saintspeterpaul.org

HOURS:

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

3:30 - 4:30pm

12:00 - 1:00pm

6:00 - 6:45pm

BOOKS: 20% off February 17th – March 30th

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 www.ec.ac., 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:

March 7 - 9 Rehoboth Beach, DE

March 14 -16 Jessup, MD and Ocean City, NJ March 21-23 Emerald Isle, NC

Lenten Lunches

Fridays during Lent after the Stations at noon

Mar. 7 <

Mar. 21 🗢

Mar. 28 🗢

Apr. 4 🕢

Apr. 11



Time: 12:30pm

Location: Commons

Please sign up to bring soup or sandwiches to share.

Catholic Q & A

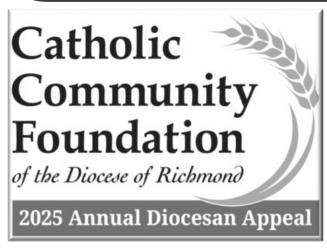
Question:

Is Ash Wednesday a holy day of obligation?

Answer:

Despite the often packed churches, you may be surprised to hear that the answer is no! Holy days of obligation commemorate a particular event (such as the birth of Christ at Christmas) or celebrate particular people (such as Mary's Immaculate Conception or the feast of All Saints). Ash Wednesday is a day of penance, fasting, and abstinence to begin the season of Lent. In a sense, it focuses on a *concept* rather than something particular and concrete.

Of course, repentance ought to be reflected in particular, concrete ways! That's one of the reasons that attending Mass on Ash Wednesday is a very good idea. It marks the beginning of a solemn season of penance. Despite all its comparisons to the desert, Lent can be very fruitful for our spiritual growth! Beginning this season with the celebration of Mass and the reception of ashes is a sign of our commitment to God and to spiritual growth.



2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal: Sharing His Love with Others

When you contribute to the 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal, you are supporting 21 important ministries of our Catholic Church that help thousands of people across our Diocese with needs such as:

- Groceries as well as heating, rent and shelter assistance to children, families in need, and the elderly across the Diocese.
- ♦ Health insurance and long-term care for our priests who have given their lives in service to the Church.
- ◆ Assistance to mission parishes such as funds for capital improvements, outreach ministries, and specific ministry costs.

To see the full list of ministries supported by the Appeal, please visit richmondcatholicfoundation.org/appeal.

POTLUCK LUNCHEONS

Sts. Peter & Paul will be hosting potluck lunches following the Youth Masses on the last Sunday of the month. Meat and dessert will be provided. All you need to do is bring a side-dish to share. There will be a sign-up sheet on the kitchen door in the Commons.



Feb. 23

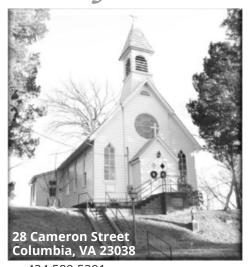
All parishioners are invited to attend, especially families, so we can get to know our fellow parishioners.

Question: In Italy, where can you find the painting of the crucifixion that, according to tradition, spoke to Saint Thomas Aquinas?

The Church of San Domenico in Naples.

There is a basket in the Church entry to collect your <u>Palms from last Easter</u>. The basket will be available to drop off your palm leaves until the end of February.

ST. JOSEPH'S Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel



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 l

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

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

I sometimes spend more money than I should. I make decisions based upon my wants and not my needs. Those actions can create a financial difficulty or circumstance where more sacrifice is needed. Instant gratification or selfish impulses can create havoc in one's bank account, marriage, or family. All these issues to deal with simply because I wanted what I wanted and I got it. Yes, it sounds like the actions of a child.

However, I know I am not alone. We all can easily find ourselves acting in this manner. This is why it struck me to listen once again to the words of Jesus when he says, "Do to others as you would have them do to you." The words are reminiscent of another of Jesus' phrases, "Love your neighbor as yourself." The problem is that too often I would like for others to fulfill my wants instead of needs, and I can seemingly love myself by doing what I already mentioned above.

A stewardship way of life means that I wisely steward what I have, and I cannot give what I do not have. Have you ever given someone a present you couldn't afford and think that was love? It wasn't. We don't show love by giving what we do not possess. We show love by meeting another's needs and by sharing our very self with them. At our core, what we long for from others more than anything else is love. Would I have others give me lavish gifts and shower me with empty compliments or would I have them give to me something much more valuable: the love in their hearts? In turn, I need to love myself more by realizing that no purchase will offer fulfillment more than the love of God shown to me in Christ Jesus.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

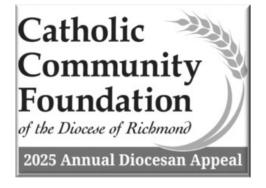
Through Baptism,

we welcome Russell Gerard Morris into the church today.

Born: November 13, 2024 to James & Abi Morris

Welcome to the Church, Russell!

St. Gerard Majella, pray for us!



(See page 9 for this week's message)

BIBLE STUDY AT ST. JOSEPH

-The Gospel of LUKE-

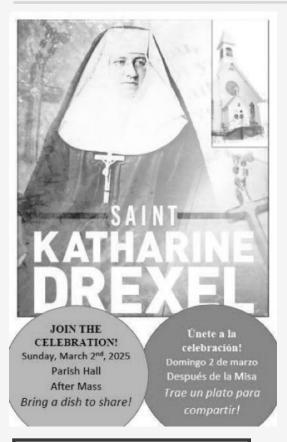
Join us Tuesday evenings

from

6:30 - 7:30pm

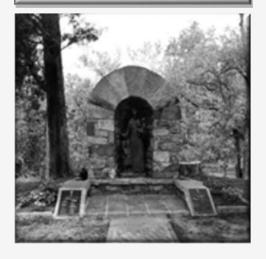
in the Parish Hall

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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.



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

February 23, 2025 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 6:27, 27-38

One of my favorite new singers/songwriters is Noah Kahan. I'm a little biased because, like me, he is originally from Vermont. In a fine song entitled "Stick Season," he sings of his hope to "cancel out the darkness I inherited from dad." This lyric articulates his painful recognition of a dark spiritual "inheritance" from his father, and his hope to be free of it. We all inherit some degree of evil from our earthly forebears. It's easy to feel doomed to repeat their darknesses.

But we're not so doomed, thank God. This week's Gospel proclaims this. Whatever good or bad we received from our parents, we have a more definitive and perfect inheritance in God. Jesus commands us, "Be merciful just as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:36). We have a perfect Father in heaven and are destined to inherit and reflect that perfect and merciful love. We have an inheritance of light, not darkness, and thus a whole new possibility of magnanimous love. Like any inheritance, this is a free gift to us.

What are we destined to repeat? Not the darkness of our earthly parents. We are destined to be a reflection of God's life. Jesus liberates us from the inevitability of repeating whatever evils and imperfections are in our familial or cultural upbringings. It's time to claim that perfect inheritance.

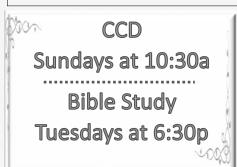
— Father John Muir



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 *

Stations of the Cross and Soup Suppers will begin on March 7. Every Friday evening, we will begin with a soup supper at 6:00, followed by Stations at 6:30. Contact Will Kulick for more information.

Youth Group: The Mardi Gras Celebration will be at Saints Peter & Paul on February 28, 5:30 - 7:30 Denny will prepare traditional Mardi Gras food. There will be games for the kids too. Contact Celeste if you can bring a dish or help with set up.



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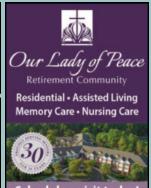


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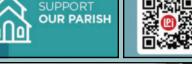
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