

March 9, 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

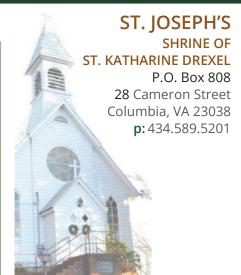
- e: office @saintspeterpaul.org pastor@saintspeterpaul.org colleen.smith@saintspeterpaul.org religioused@saintspeterpaul.org
- w: saintspeterpaulpalmyra.org

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

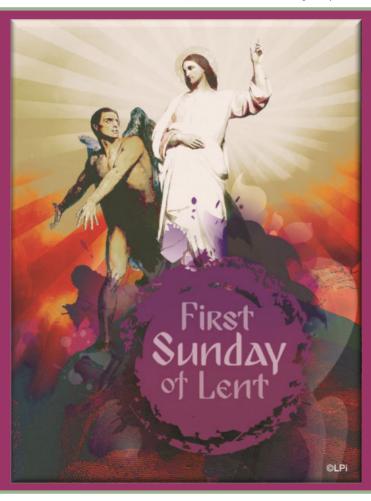
1st Saturday 9:00am: SPP Saturday 4pm: SPP Sunday 8:30am: St. Joseph's

HOSPITAL VISITS:

Call Parish Office or Rectory: 434.589.5200

HOMEBOUND:

Call Parish Office to schedule Communion



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

DEACOR

Rev. Mr. Robert Allen | 434.589.0941

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Colleen Smith | 434.589.5201

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 MARCH 9, 2025

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Ps 91:1-2, 10-11, 12-13,

14-15 (see 5b)/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

Monday: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/

Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/

Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/

Mt 5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday: Gn 15:5-12, 17-18/Ps 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14/

Phil 3:17—4:1 or 3:20—4:1/

Lk 9:28b-36-11, 12-13, 14-15/

Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-1

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 9, 2025

Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent, Daylight Savings Time begins

Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent

WEEK OF MARCH 9 - MARCH 15, 2025

HONOR YOUR LOVED ONE WITH A SPECIAL MEMORIAL

BREAD & WINE

Donor:

Don & Eileen Tyler In Memory of:



SANCTUARY CANDLE Donor:

In Memory of:



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.



1ST SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 9, 2025

"You shall worship the Lord, your God, and Him alone shall you serve." (Luke 4:8)

This Lenten season, reflect on your life's direction. Are you being called to serve God with an undivided heart as a priest or religious brother or sister or deacon?

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)



ENCOUNTER



Pilgrims of Hope

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I would like to welcome you to the campaign of fighting sin during this Jubilee Year of Hope as Pope Francis has named it. As it were, we are pilgrims, on a journey leading us home – to heaven. In our fight, we are aware that oftentimes we are overcome, and consequently, we find ourselves on the ground. Yet, as Pilgrims of Hope, and Jesus being Our Hope, we look up to him, asking him to

lift us. We never give up; we fight harder. Lent makes our fight and Hope even more alive.

At the start of Lent, as we are marked with ashes on our foreheads, we are reminded that we are dust, and that we shall return to dust. The other formula calls us to repent and believe the gospel. While keeping all that at the back of our mind, the Church calls its members to three works and duties for Lent, namely: Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. These three attest to our belief and conviction that we are dust and returning to dust, while repenting and believing the gospel of Christ, Our Hope.

As we start this Lent, I would like to remind ourselves that we are dust, and to dust we shall return. A Christian aware that s/he is dust and returns to dust has hope in the Lord who turns us to dust, and also brings life out of dust. Our life hidden and buried with Christ, must necessarily find its meaning in Christ's resurrection. Ideed, Lent eventually leads us to the Joy of the Resurrection at Easter.

Prayer connects a Christian to his God and creator who is the very reason for his being. But as we pray, we are made aware that man does not live on bread alone (cf. Mt. 4:4), and so prayer leads to fasting – that surrendering to the word that comes from the mouth of God. As we fast, we are acknowledging that earthly and material world is good, but it's not the end. This prompts us to share our earthly goods with those in need as we give Alms. Earthly goods are better enjoyed when they are shared with fellow pilgrims on this journey leading home; especially those in need or less privileged than us.

Let us pray during this Lent that our Hope in the Lord, Jesus may grow stronger, and that as Pilgrims of Hope, nothing ever stands between us and Our Lord, Jesus Christ. May Mother Mary, that woman of Hope and mother of Hope intercede for us during our campaign against sin.

Blessings to you All!

Fr. David

Your brother on the Journey



PARISH YOUTH





CCD every Sunday at 9:30AM

Meet in St. Francis Hall

PRAYER

Dear God, help me not to be selfish. Help me to be more like Jesus. Amen.

SHARING THE GOSPEL

JESUS WAS POWERFUL, AND THE DEVIL KNEW IT. JESUS COULD HAVE USED THE POWER HE HAD SELFISHLY, TO GET WHATEVER HE WANTED, FOOD, LANDS TO RULE, OR EVEN ANGELS TO COME RUNNING. INSTEAD JESUS CHOSE TO SAVE HIS POWER TO DO WHAT GOD WANTED.

Diocesan Work Camp

The Diocesan Work Camp will be held Saturday, June 21, 2025, through Friday, June 27, 2025 in the area surrounding Bristol and Abingdon. Work Camp is open to all high school-aged youth (rising 9th graders through graduated 12th graders). The week requires that youth give of themselves to serve others and to grow spiritually. It will be a challenging week that will provide many learning opportunities for participants and will push them both physically and spiritually. Throughout the week they will be living in intentional Christian community and will spend most days serving others by repairing and updating homes. The work projects will take place in the surrounding communities. Saint Anne Catholic School in Bristol will serve as our home base where participants and adults will sleep, eat, and participate in evening programming. Registration dates: Early Bird Registration is \$375 and ends on March 19th. Registration after this is \$425 and ends on May 1st.

Please contact Celeste for more info or to register.

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.



1" Sunday of Lent • Luke 4:1-13

INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTIONS: MARCH 8 - MARCH 16

*REPRESENTS ST. JOSEPH PARISH

Saturday	3/8	5pm	Ralph Altieri	D	John Condon
Sunday	3/9	9am*	John Dennis, Sr.	D	Jennifer Dennis
Sunday	3/9	11am	Misa Pro Populo		
Tuesday	3/11	12noon			
Wednesday	3/12	9am	Bobby Fint	D	John Condon
Thursday	3/13	9am			
Friday	3/14	9am			
Saturday	3/15	5pm	Bobby Fint	D	Anthony & Pat Amato
Sunday	3/16	9am*	Misa Pro Populo		
Sunday	3/16	11am	Sr. Bernadette	I	Eileen Tyler

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, 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 have probably received 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.

March

Wedding Anniversaries

If you are celebrating your wedding anniversary in March and wish to be part of the marriage blessing at Mass on April 5th or 6th, please notify the office by Friday, March 22, 2025.

Please join the **Flower Guild**. Two open spots. Contact the office with questions at 434-589-5201

EVERDAY STEWARDSHIP

Pew Count Sat 103 Sun 205	02/23 & 02/24
First Offering	\$ 3,161
E-giving	\$ 2,543
Total	\$ 5,604
FEB MTD Debt Reduction	\$ 2,983

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

Our next DEBT REDUCTION Collection is

APRIL 5 & 6

Thank you and God bless you for your continued support.

Our next monthly Bake Sale is <u>April 5 & 6</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





ROOM SCHEDULE

Room 123

Mondays

1:00 - 2:00pm

Wednesdays

4:00-5:00pm

SENIOR COFFEE SOCIAL

Wednesday, March 26 10:00 am, Commons

Bob Maher & Jamie Hicks On Uganda Trip March 12

Sat	8-Mar	Confessions	4:00p	Church			
Sat		Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church			
		DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS					
	9-Mar	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's			
Sun		Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's			
		CCD/RCIA/Adult Formation	9:30a	E			
		CCD	10:30a	St. Joseph's			
		Mass	11:00a	Church			
Mon	10-Mar	Rejoice Bible Study	1:00p	E			
	11-Mar	Mass	12:00p	Church			
Tues		Bible Study - Luke	6:30p	St. Joseph's			
		Al-Anon	7:00p	123			
Wed	12-Mar	Mass	9:00a	Church			
		Senior Coffee Social	10:00a	Commons			
	12-Mar	Bible Study - Luke	4:00p	122			
		Scouts	6:30p	E/F			
Thurs	13-Mar	Mass	9:00a	Church			
		Yoga	11:00a	E/F			
		Cursillo	6:00p	123			
		Mass	9:00a	Church			
		Adoration	9:45a	Church			
	14-Mar	Stations of the Cross	12:00p	Church			
Fri		Lenten Lunch	12:30p	Commons			
		Fish Fry Days	3:00p	E/F			
		Benediction	3:00p	Church			
		Stations of the Cross	6:30p	St. Joseph's			
Sat	15-Mar	Confessions	4:00p	Church			
Sat		Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church			
	16-Mar	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's			
		Joint Youth Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's			
Sun		CCD/RCIA/Adult Formation	9:30a	E/F			
		CCD	10:30a	St. Joseph's			
		Mass	11:00a	Church			
		F - St. Francis (Hall)	R - St. 1	Raphael (Church)			
Room L	edger:	E - St. Elizabeth (Hall)	M - St.	Michael (Church)			
	C - Commons (Church)						

C - Commons (Church)

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL AT WORK:

On behalf of Bishop Knestout and the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, Sts. Peter and Paul has been awarded a \$3500 grant from the Fuel and Hunger Fund, made possible through the generous support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal by the people of the diocese. These funds are used exclusively for direct assistance in protecting the dignity of all human life.

Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church

4309 Thomas Jefferson Parkway, Palmyra VA



March 7, 14, 21, 28 April 4 & 11

Drive-thru: 4:30 - 6:30 Dine-in: 5:00 - 7:00

Cash, checks, and Credit Cards accepted \$13 per person: DRIVE-THRU



\$15 per person: DINE-IN (includes drinks and choice of dessert)

Lenten Spare Change Cans



LENTEN COIN CANS

are available to collect loose change.

Proceeds will go to help those in need this year.

Pick one up, fill it up!

Turn cans in April 5 - 13

Thank you so much for your continued support!

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



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 <u>WWME.org</u>, click "Apply" and search for your desired location. Feel free to contact Donald & Helen Dudley at 757-690-1369 or <u>donald.helen.dudley@wwme.org</u> 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. 14 <

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:

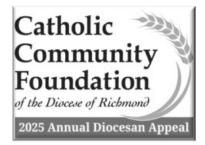
After attending our parish retreat and feeling much better and stronger about my faith, I want to make this Lent worthwhile. What can I do to keep the spirit and practice of Lent?

Answer:

You've already taken the first step by going on the parish retreat. It is important for us to "tune up" our faith, taking some time to renew ourselves through prayer, meditation and education. By deepening our knowledge and understanding of faith, we are often better attuned to its richness and meaning for our life.

Lent is an intense retreat, a forty-day period of reflection and penance that prepares us to celebrate the passion, death and resurrection of Christ. Our communication with God and our awareness of him is the purpose of prayer. Setting aside extra time each day helps intensify the season. Prayer includes daily Mass, Stations of the Cross, communal penance services and private confession. Making restitution for sin as well as disciplining our hearts and minds to focus on God is the purpose of penance. It helps us restore a sense of balance to our souls, thrown off kilter by sin. Penance includes personal sacrifice, self-denial, fasting, almsgiving and charitable works.

Finally, spiritual practices help us sharpen our understanding and insight into the meaning and understanding of our faith. When you take your faith seriously, you do what is necessary to follow Jesus more closely, to integrate your life and your faith more carefully.



This weekend the Diocese of Richmond is conducting the 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal – Sharing His Love with Others. The Appeal not only provides an opportunity for you to support important ministries that impact many programs outside of our parish boundaries, it also supports the services the Diocese provides directly to our parish such as the Fuel and Hunger Fund grant that we just received. In addition, our parish receives back a portion of the funds collected.

Our portion of the overall goal here at Sts. Peter & Paul is \$21,430. Every gift, no matter the amount, makes a difference. To donate you can scan the QR Code in the pews or go to: 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.



Mar 30

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

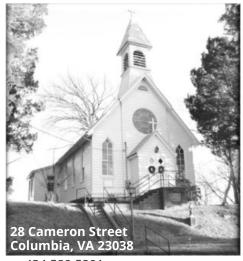
Question: What is the name of the first book of the New Testament?

Matthew. : Lansur

Talent Show for Uganda—Fundraiser for the next Medical Mission Sunday, June 22nd, 2:00 pm, Sts. Peter & Paul, E/F.

Funds raised will support the next medical mission to be held at St. Francis of Assisi in Kitakyusa next January. Lunch will be provided. There is no charge, but donations will be greatly appreciated. Contact Bob Maher atpaws618@embarqmail.com or (434)589-1170 for more information.

ST. JOSEPH'S Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel



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

Melissa Kenney | 434.589.3416

ALTAR SERVERS

Michael Cary | 434.842.3095 Melissa Kenney | 434.589.3416

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

Danielle Carter-Bledsoe I

FORMATION & EDUCATION

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

INTROSPECTIV

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

It will take too long. I can't spare it. I don't know anybody. I am just too busy. How many excuses can you think of to put forth as reasons why you should say no to the call of Jesus Christ? Wait. You didn't know to whom those responses were directed? We say no to many things and many people, but we wouldn't say no to Jesus. Really?

During this Lenten season, like all the other seasons, we will be asked to respond in many different ways. There will be fasting, almsgiving, and abstinence from certain foods. There will be invitations to various devotions and formational studies. We will be asked to reflect on our faith and then dive deeper.

The argument will be made by some that many of these things are being asked of us by others and not Jesus. Of course, that will just be another excuse like those above. For every calling upon us comes with a temptation to take the easy way out or to minimize the value of the request.

We will stay caught up in an endless cycle of excuses that lead us nowhere. That is unless we simply choose to stop the madness and say YES! This Lent, give up and give in. Let God take over as you surrender all you are and have to Him. Now is the time to turn to Jesus. No more excuses.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL AT WORK:

On behalf of Bishop Knestout and the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, Saint Joseph has been awarded a \$1200 grant from the Fuel and Hunger Fund, made possible through the generous support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal by the people of the diocese. These funds are used exclusively for direct assistance in protecting the dignity of all human life.

March Youth Activities at St. Joseph

- March 14 Join us for Soup Supper and Stations of The Cross, 6:00 -7:30pm. Let Celeste know if you can bring soup
- March 16 Combined Youth Mass at St. Joseph. Pancake breakfast after Mass No CCD classes this week
- March 29 Confirmation Retreat at St. Joseph
- Pre-filled Easter Eggs Needed for the Easter Egg Hunt. Drop off at the back of the Church, March 9 - 30

BIBLE STUDY AT ST. JOSEPH

-The Gospel of LUKE-

Join us Tuesday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30pm in the Parish Hall



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.

Sundays at 10:30a **Bible Study** Tuesdays at 6:30p



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

March 9, 2025 1st Sunday of Lent Luke 4:1-13

One of the most fascinating moments in American history is when George Washington could have become the king of the newly liberated United States and didn't. At the height of his power and fame, on Dec. 23, 1783, he resigned his commission as Commander-in-Chief, and went home. The astonished King of England remarked that in doing so, Washington was "the greatest man in the world." Greatness is often defined by what we could do but don't. Greatness is measured by the temptations we overcome.

Jesus' greatness is revealed in his victory over temptations, too. The three offered him by the devil contain, we might say, all potential possible temptations: food, power and fame. They correspond to the triple human needs of body, soul and spirit. In overcoming these three, he says "no" in essence to every and even the greatest temptation. We see that every desire of his humanity — body, soul and spirit — is perfectly united to God, to love. This is a power available to each member of his body. It is the path to true greatness. How can we, who so easily fall into even small temptations, find the power to overcome large ones? By entering into the great dynamics of Jesus' temptations.

Lenten challenge: This first week of Lent, list some concrete ways you can overcome temptations that correspond with your desires. For example, you may give up snacks between meals, choose not to participate in an activity of which you are an expert, and decide to reduce social media posting by 50%. It may not seem like much, but by saying "no" to the tyranny of food, power, and fame (in this example), you'll discover true greatness.

— Father John Muir



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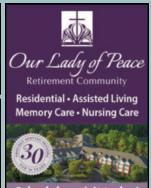
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