

July 13, 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 office@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.



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

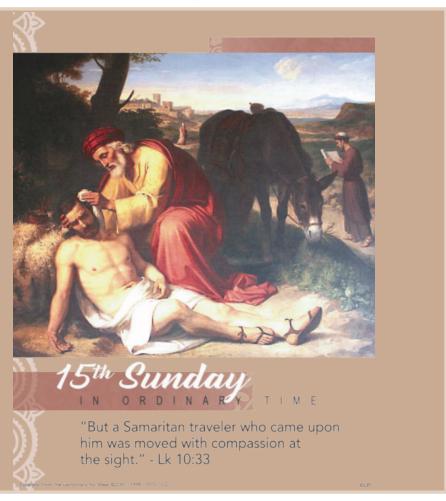
1st Saturday 9:00am: SPP Saturday 4pm: SPP Sunday 8:30am: St. Joseph's

HOSPITAL VISITS:

Call Parish Office or Rectory: 434.589.5200

HOMEBOUND:

Call Parish Office to schedule Communion



WELCOME



STS. PETER AND PAUL

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

Deacon Ed Handel | 804.622.5192

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 I

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

John Sawyer | 434.589.0741

ADMINISTRATOR

Rev. John Nyanzi | 434.589.5200

DEACON

Rev. Mr. Robert Allen | 434.589.0941

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Colleen Smith | 434.589.5201

FAITH FORMATION

Celeste Shapiola | 434.589.5201

BULLETIN & ANNOUNCEMENTS DEADLINE

Wednesdays-1 week in advance of bulletin date-in writing to office@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.

PARISHIONER

UPDATES FOR BOTH CHURCHES:

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 M- F, 9:00 - 3:00 PM: 4309 Thomas Jefferson Parkway (Parish Hall)

This bulletin also is distributed in an "Email Blast" on Friday afternoon. If you would like to receive the bulletin electronically and/or are not receiving the "Blast," please send your email to office@saintspeterpaul.org.



SAINT JOSEPH/SHRINE TO ST. KATHARINE DREXEL ADMINISTRATION

Jennifer Dennis | 434.842.3970

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

CCE

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



ENCOUNTER

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

July 13, 2025 15th Sunday n Ordinary Time Luke 10:25-37

I used to be a bad neighbor. I'd get wrapped up in my life and ignore those around me. Then I found sage advice from Benjamin Franklin to this effect: to be a better neighbor, ask someone to do a favor for you. It's counterintuitive, isn't it? Tell strangers that I need their help? Yuck. I'll risk looking needy. Worse, I'll be indebted to them. But I tried it, and it works like a charm. Recently I asked my neighbor Alan for a hacksaw, and Inga for an egg. They kindly obliged, and our friendship is growing.

This week we hear a scribe of the law cynically ask Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10:29). Like him, we prefer to keep the list of our "neighbors" as short as possible. It requires less interruption and inconvenience. But when Jesus tells the parable of the Good Samaritan, he exposes the lonely, cold-heartedness tendency of the scribe's (and our) heart. My "neighbor" is anyone I encounter who manifests a concrete need. There isn't time to require any other credential because human need opens us to the happy reciprocity which is love.

Jesus' words challenge us this week to ask a neighbor for help in some small way. How marvelous that God himself shows us how. He moves into our world and asks us to love Him with small deeds of love. Maybe that's where Ben Franklin got the idea.— Father John Muir

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 13, 2025

Sunday: Dt 30:10-14/Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37

Col 1:15-20/Lk 10:25-37

Monday: Ex 1:8-14, 22/Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8/Mt 10:34—11:1 Tuesday: Ex 2:1-15a/Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34/Mt 11:20-24 Wednesday: Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7/Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Ex 3:13-20/Ps 105:1 and 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27/

Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Ex 11:10—12:14/Ps 116:12-13, 15 and 16bc, 17-18/

Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Ex 12:37-42/Ps 136:1 and 23-24, 10-12, 13-15/

Mt 12:14-21

Next Sunday: Gn 18:1-10a/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5 (1a)/Col 1:24-28/

Lk 10:38-4

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 13, 2025

Sunday: 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Monday: St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

Tuesday: St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Wednesday: Our Lady of Mount Carmel St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest Next Sunday: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time



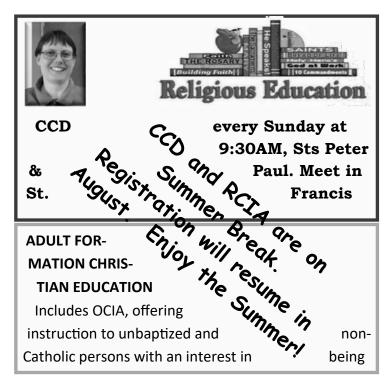
SPEND AN HOUR WITH JESUS

Hours: M - Th, 6am - 8pm

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

> Contact: Denise Minor dminor92@gmail.com





Expand your Understanding of the Bible. Consider joining one of our Bible Study Groups.

Celeste's Bible Study Calendar for the 2025-2026 year:

Tuesdays at St. Joseph starting at 6:30

August 19 - October 7: Romans

October 21 - November 18: A Biblical Walk Through

January 13 - March 3: Ephesians

March 17 - May 26: James

Wednesdays at Sts. Peter & Paul starting at 4:00

August 20 - October 8: Romans

October 22 - November 19: A Biblical Walk Through

the Mass

January 14 - March 4: Ephesians

March 18 - May 27: James

Rejoice Bible Study - led by Cynthia Nicholson

Mondays at 1:00pm at Sts. Peter & Paul

September 8 - May 18

Christmas Break December 15 - 29

The Maccabean Revolt

- Maccabees 1 & 2
- Book of Sirach
- Proverbs 21,22, & 23

FAITH FORMATION

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.

SHARING THE GOSPEL

JESUS WANTS YOU TO LOVE YOUR
NEIGHBORS. HE WANTS YOU TO HELP
YOUR NEIGHBORS. YOU COULD HELP THE
PEOPLE WHO LIVE NEXT DOOR, OR THE
PEOPLE THAT GO TO YOUR CHURCH. BUT
JESUS WANTS YOU TO THINK BIGGER
THAN THAT. JESUS WANTS YOU TO HELP
PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD - NO MATTER
WHERE THEY LIVE, AND NO MATTER WHAT
THEY BELIVE

PRAYER

Dear God, show me how to help others around the world.



INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTIONS: JULY 12 - JULY 20

*REPRESENTS ST. IOSEPH P.	ARISH

Saturday	7/12	5pm	Dan Collins	D	Michael & Nancy King	
Sunday	7/13	9am*	Misa Pro Populo			
Sunday	7/13	11am	David Garner	D	Murial and Bob Toepfert	
Tuesday	7/15	12Noon	Deceased Murphy & Burger families	D	Burger & Kenny families	
Wednesday	7/16	9am	Tracy DiPalo	D	Angela & Bob Maher	
Thursday	7/17	9am				
Friday	7/18	9am	Graznya & Slawek Witkowski-anniversary	1	The Witkowskis	
Saturday	7/19	5pm	Misa Pro Populo			
Sunday	7/20	9am*	Mari Lou Page	D		
Sunday	7/20	11am	Jean Pilk	D	Frank Pilk	

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 & Kathleen O'Malley, James Fulford, Rhett Hartwell, Andrew Thompson, Carl Alexande Luxhoj, 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, Matthew Reinitz.

Pray God keeps them in His care.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Philomena Alonso, Jean & Mary Louise Bernard, Sharon Cassidy, Nicole Colley, The Compton Family, Douglas, Caron, Jean Dalsky, Connie D'Amico,Deb DiGeronimo-DiPalo, Jim Dooley, Samuel Dunton, Me'Shelle Durant, Bill Ellis, Frank Feliciano, the Fellins, Patty Frawley, Mary Anne Grimes, Phyllis Guthrie, John Hobby, Regina Humanitzki, Sue Inghilleri, Margaret Johnson, Ron Johnson, Carolyn Kerrigan, Marie Knighting, Jim Kraemer, George Kuhlow, Judi Kuhlow, Marcia Lagomarsino, Judie Lancaster, Annie Lodato, Bob Maher, Jean Main, 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. Peggy Thomas, Cornelia Waters, Mike Waters, Walter Welham

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

Please join the **Flower Guild**.

Contact the office with questions at 434-589-5201

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

You now can request Masses for your loves ones, living or deceased for 2026 (as well as the remainder of 2025).

Stop by the Parish Office to request Mass Intentions

Suggested donation - \$10 per Mass

BREAD & WINE FLOWERS

Donor: Control of the Cullinan To Family For Management 1

In Memory of: Jim Cullinan Donor: The Cullinan Family

In Memory of: Jim Cullinan

SANCTUARY CANDLE

Donor:

The Cullinan Family

In Memory of: lim Cullinan







WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

If you are celebrating your wedding anniversary in July and wish to be part of the marriage blessing at Mass on August 2nd and 3rd, please notify the office by Friday, July 19, 2025.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Sts Peter & Paul Pew Count Sat 125 Sun 225	06/28 & 06/29	
Offertory	\$ 3,806	
E-Giving	\$ 2,287	
Peter's Pence	\$ 742	
Total	\$ 6,835	
St. Joseph's	06/22	
Offertory	\$ 1,113	



Supporting the 2025 Annual Diocesan Appeal is about supporting important ministries of our Catholic Church. For example, did you know that the Appeal:

Funds the cost of room, board, tuition, and health insurance for our seminarians.

Supplements health insurance and long-term care for our priests who have given their lives in service to the Church.

Defrays the cost of providing ongoing professional, spiritual, and theological formation for our priests.

If you have not yet made a commitment, will help to not only meet but exceed this year's goal!

Please visit <u>richmondcatholicfoundation.org/appeal</u> to make a secure online donation or visit our parish office for a hard copy pledge card. Thank you for partnering with us on this important ministry of our Catholic Church.

Sts. Peter and Paul Debt Reduction collection occurs at the beginning of each month.

Our next DEBT REDUCTION Collection is

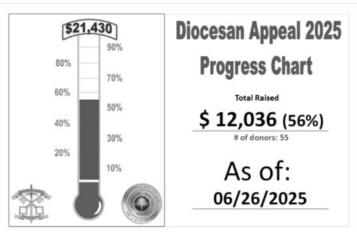
August 2 & 3.

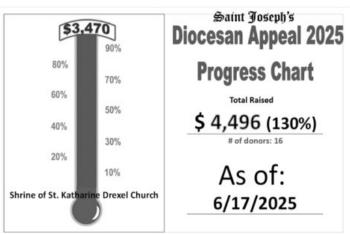
Thank you and God bless you for your continued support.



Thank you to all who have switched over from FaithDirect to Give Central and also to the "newbies" who have decded to take the plunge to give on-line through Give Central. If you have not signed up, you can visit www.givecentral.org or call the Office and we will help you.

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





Sts. Peter and Paul next monthly Bake Sale is August 2 & 3 after each Mass. Donations accepted before Mass.

UPCOMING EVENTS

	Sat	12-Jul	Confessions	4:00p	Church		
EDULE	sat	12-Jul	Vigil Mass	9:00a	Church		
			Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's		
		13-Jul	Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's		
			Mass	11:00a	Church		
	Mon	14-Jul					
	7 0-	15 7 1	Mass	12:00p	Church		
	Tues Wed	15-Jul 16-Jul	Al-Anon	7:00p	St. Michael		
			Mass	9:00a	Church		
			Sr. Coffee Social/Fork Union Srs.	10:00	Commons		
		17-Jul	Scouts	6:30p	E/F		
ː	/D1-		Mass	9:00a	Church		
ROOM SCHEDULE	Thurs Fri	17-Jul 18-Jul	Cursillo	6:00p	123		
			Mass	9:00a	Church		
			Adoration	9:30a	Church		
			Benediction	3:00p	Church		
	0-4	19-Jul	Confessions	4:00p	Church		
	Sat	19-Jui	Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church		
	Sun	20-Jul	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's		
			Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's		
			Mass	11:00a	Church		
			F - St. Francis (Hall)	R - St. Raphael (Church)			
	Room Led	ger:	E - St. Elizabeth (Hall)	M - St. Mich	M - St. Michael (Church)		
			C - Commons (Church)				

On July 14th, we celebrate the feast of the "Lily of the Mohawks." St. Kateri Tekakwitha is the first Native American woman to be canonized. Orphaned by a smallpox outbreak, Kateri survived with severe scarring and impaired eyesight. Despite tragedy, she was a devout girl at a young age, often building crosses from sticks in the woods. When she was 18, she began secret instruction in the Catholic faith with French missionaries. Her commitment to Christianity and vow of virginity was misunderstood and ridiculed by her fellow villagers. She escaped to a nearby mission, where she attended daily Mass, taught the children, and cared for the sick and the elderly. Sometimes the greatest misunderstandings can come from those closest to us. Like St. Kateri, God invites us to be faithful to our commitments of faith and to always respond in love.

SAVE THE DATE -- JULY 26

The Knights of Columbus are holding a 30th Anniversary Council Dinner on July 26th to honor the five original members who still are parishioners here of the original 30 who formed the Council in 1995. This also will be the KoC annual awards dinner and the entire parish is invited.

The cost is \$10 per adult and \$5 for children under 12. Sign-up sheets are in The Commons after every Mass.

Join us for the celebration with these five special members.

Catholic Q & A

Ouestion:

When Jesus says, "You cannot serve both God and mammon," what does he mean? What is mammon?

Answer:

When you hear Scripture proclaimed each Sunday, remember it wasn't originally written in English. Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek — these ancient tongues were the original language of our Old and New Testaments. Most of the time, all of the words are translated into our native language. Sometimes, a word or two is left in the original language. Such is the case in this Scripture passage.

Mammon is an ancient Aramaic word referring to money, wealth, or profit. Earthly wealth isn't bad in itself, nor does it automatically exclude us from being a disciple of Jesus. But what dominates our life? To serve money — that is, to seek accumulation of wealth for its own sake and to structure our lives around it — is morally problematic. What good is our wealth if it isn't at the service of others? What good is our wealth if its pursuit leads us to selfishness, obsession, greed, envy, and comparison? There are many things that can be opposed to our service of God — power, prestige, popularity. Ultimately, something in our lives will be our master. But there is only one God worth serving.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini reflection: As Christians we know that everyone is our neighbor. It's drilled into us from the first time we hear this reading. But do we approach the victims that we see? Or do we draw away from the suffering of others in fear and confusion, thinking: "That's not my problem"?

Crossing the Street

It takes a cold, hard, godless heart to step over a wounded man on the street.

But in the parable of the Good Samaritan, the priest and the Levite didn't step over the half-dead traveler. I think we picture them doing so, in our collective imagining of this well-known story, but the words of the Gospel are quite clear. "When he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side," Jesus says of both.

So they saw him. They saw his need. It made them uncomfortable; it confused them — many scholars have said that Judaic law concerning the touching of dead bodies might have made them reluctant to approach — and so they decided the simplest way to file this situation in the Not My Problem category was to cross the street.

But that still leaves a half-dead guy on the road. And we all, 2,000 years later, still think of the priest and the Levite as cold and hard and godless — even if they didn't want to be, even if they didn't think of themselves that way — because the bottom line is, they didn't see the half-dead guy as their problem.

As Christians we know that everyone is our neighbor. It's drilled into us from the first time we hear this reading.

Well, I don't know about you, but I find myself crossing the street a lot more than I should.

There is so much pain and suffering in the world. We certainly can't begin to alleviate it all. But we have to start with the pain and the suffering that we see, that's right in front of us — even if it's something we really, really want to ignore. Even if we find it inconvenient or confusing or scary or weird.

The heroism of the Good Samaritan wasn't in his selfless actions, although those were certainly commendable. It was in his courage. "He approached the victim," Jesus said.

Can we approach the victims we see? Do we have that courage?

The Catholic Diocese of Richmond is seeking a highly qualified **Family Services Advisor** to serve at **Saints Peter and Paul Cemetery** in Palmyra, VA.

This position is part of the Offices of Cemeteries and is responsible for guiding families through pre-need and at-need cemetery planning using a compassionate "Family First" approach. A practicing Catholic is strongly preferred.

The role includes responsibilities in both community outreach and cemetery operations, including assisting at committal services, presenting memorial design options, and maintaining regular follow-up with families. Attention to detail, knowledge of Microsoft Office, and familiarity with the structure and teachings of the Catholic Church are key requirements.

The position currently is part-time and reports to the Director of Cemeteries.

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

CATHOLIC TRIVIA - JUST FOR FUN

Question: Which Old Testament prophet foretold the Virgin Mary and her conception of Jesus?

The Prophet Isaiah.

Prayer for Charity

Give me the grace, Lord, to truly see those around me: the overlooked, the uncomfortable, the odd and disliked. Your kingdom is one of belonging, help us to be the types of neighbors who see and respond with Godly generosity.

Amen.

Sts. Peter and Paul

40th Anniversary News



40th Anniversary raffle tickets are selling out quickly. Remaining tickets can be purchased after each Mass, online through GiveCentral, or the Church Office.

Sts. Peter and Paul 40th Anniversary Monogrammed shirts can be ordered through our religious gift store.

Submit your favorite recipes now for the Sts. Peter and Paul 40th Anniversary Cookbook. Directions and online submittal forms can be found online in the weekly Blast announcement, and the parish website. Paper forms are located in the parish office.

Your Help is Needed: Volunteer Drivers for Good Shepherd Ministry

Extend a hand and make a difference!
The Good Shepherd Ministry is seeking kind-hearted individuals to step forward and help in a meaningful way. We need volunteers who can occasionally assist with driving fellow Parishioners, who are unable to drive, to their medical appointments. This small act of service can have a profound impact on someone's life. If you want to learn more and think you can help, please call the office (434-589-5201).

Charlottesville Catholic School

Now enrolling for the 2025-2026 school year!

Charlottesville Catholic School nurtures students' God-given gifts while fostering acceptance, respect, and compassion. We prepare students in Junior Kindergarten through 8th Grade to become confident leaders, advocates, and stewards who make a difference in the world.

To learn more or apply: admissions@cvillecatholic.org or visit www.cvillecatholic.org/admissions.

STS. PETER & PAUL Religious Store

religiousstore@saintspeterpaul.org

HOURS:

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

3:30 - 4:30pm

12:00 - 1:00pm

6:00 - 6:45pm

Large selection of Religious Cards for all Occasions

POTLUCK LUNCHEONS

Sts. Peter & Paul will be hosting potluck
lunches following the Youth Masses on the last Sunday of
the month-- bring a lunch dish to share. There is a
sign-up sheet on the kitchen door in the Commons.

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



July 27

"I PLACE MUCH OF MY HOPE FOR THE FUTURE IN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER". (Pope Saint John Paul II)

Your honeymoon was a special time. Wherever you went, the things you saw and did were secondary. Just being together was most important. The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend has the same focus. The weekend centers entirely on your relationship. It is a positive, simple common sense, private experience between you and your spouse that revitalizes marriage by helping you to see again those loving qualities in each other that you may be taking for granted. Upcoming experiences are noted below:

- September 12-14, 2025 Richmond VA
- October 24-26, 2025 Jessup MD
- November 7-9, 2025 Rehoboth Beach DE
- February 13-15, 2026 Waynesboro VA
- March 6-8, 2026 Hampton VA

For more information please call 757-690-1369 or to register, go to <u>WWME.org</u>, click "Apply" and search for your desired location.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

What Jesus Doesn't Say

"If Jesus wanted us to (fill in the blank), he would have said so."

We hear this argument applied to every controversial topic under the sun — and even some not-socontroversial topics, too. Whenever someone is trying to make a case for a decision they have already made, they call in Jesus' scriptural silence on the matter as their expert, unimpeachable witness.

And sure, there's much Jesus doesn't talk about in the Gospels. But by this logic, we would have to assume that Jesus doesn't care, for instance, if we drive well over the speed limit (he doesn't discuss cars and highways in the Bible) or what we do online (he never mentions the Internet or websites at all!), when we know that certainly is just not the case.

Like the scholar of the Jewish law who challenges Jesus to define who exactly his "neighbor" is, we can argue semantics all we want. But if we rest in prayer and look deep into our hearts, we know what path we need to take, and it's usually not the easy one.

I find that I do this plenty in ways that are far more subtle. I lament that the situation facing me is not sufficiently "black and white." I become frustrated by the shades of moral grey and toss up my hands, claiming I don't know what the right answer is, insisting that I can't be blamed for the ramifications of whatever decision I make.

What I need to be doing in these situations is asking God for His guidance, even if it makes me nervous. I need to be like the scholar. He was brave enough to ask, even though I think he knew he wouldn't particularly like the answer. Let's strive for that same courage.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JULY 13, 2025

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.

(Luke 10:27)

Is God calling you to love him with a life of service to others in the Church? Pray about how you can fulfill this greatest commandment through a vocation.

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

Or via email: vocations@richmonddiocese.org



SENIOR COFFEE SOCIAL

2ND & Last Wednesday of the month 10:00 am, Commons

Special Social - hosting the **Fork Union** Seniors on July 16

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

BIBLE STUDY

(ON SUMMER BREAK)

STS PETER AND PAUL **MONDAYS 1:00-2:00 WEDNESDAYS 4:00-5:00**

ST. JOSEPH **TUESDAYS 6:30-7:30**



MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO – ALENTAR UN ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA

13 de julio de 2025 XV Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

"Vete y haz tú lo mismo" (Lucas 10:37). Esta parábola es muy rica en enseñanza. Si revisamos



nuestra propia vida, descubriremos que en diferentes circunstancias actuamos como los personajes representados en ella. ¿Cuántas veces hemos sido como el que pasó de largo y se hizo el que no vio lo que pasaba? Y lo hacemos con frecuencia en la propia familia: vemos el sufrimiento y pensamos: "Solo les pasa a ellos por no poner cuidado o por tontos." Hoy pongamos atención en el posadero que, al pedido del buen samaritano, cumplió con su trabajo al pie de la letra. En lenguaje actual se llama responsabilidad y cuidado. Pidamos al Señor que nos dé la apertura e iniciativa del samaritano, pero también la responsabilidad del posadero, para que sanara el hombre que fue asaltado.

¿Cuántas veces nosotros damos rodeos para ayudar a alguien en necesidad? ¿Qué podemos aprender hoy de esta enseñanza de Jesús? El hombre no tiene nombre, precisamente, porque nos representa a cualquiera de nosotros que necesita cuidado. Hombre o mujer de cualquier raza o nación está implícito en esta parábola. ¡Es la historia de la humanidad a través de los años! Sin embargo, existe otro pequeño detalle para dar ayuda al que está en apuros: acercarte y escuchar su historia para poder curar sus heridas. A veces nos toca pagar a alguien para que haga el trabajo; otras veces, hacerlo nosotros. Y es ahí donde está el secreto: hacerlo juntos en Cristo.

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Lo que Jesús no dice

"Si Jesús hubiera querido que (llenar el espacio en blanco), lo habría dicho."

Escuchamos este argumento aplicado a todos los temas controvertidos bajo el sol, e incluso a algunos temas no tan controvertidos también. Cada vez que alguien está tratando de defender una decisión que ya ha tomado, recurre al silencio bíblico de Jesús sobre el asunto como su testigo experto e irreprochable.

Y claro, hay muchas cosas de las que Jesús no habla en los Evangelios. Pero según esta lógica, tendríamos que asumir que a Jesús no le importa, por ejemplo, si manejamos muy por encima del límite de velocidad (él no habla de autos y carreteras en la Biblia) o lo que hacemos en línea (él nunca menciona el ¡Internet o sitios web en absoluto!), cuando sabemos que ciertamente ese no es el caso.

Como el erudito de la ley judía que desafía a Jesús a definir quién es exactamente su "prójimo," podemos discutir la semántica todo lo que queramos. Pero si descansamos en oración y miramos profundamente en nuestro corazón, sabemos qué camino debemos tomar, y generalmente no es fácil.

Encuentro que hago esto bastante de maneras que son mucho más sutiles. Lamento que la situación a la que me enfrento no sea lo suficientemente "blanco y negro." Me siento frustrado por los tonos de gris moral y levanto las manos, afirmando que no sé cuál es la respuesta correcta, insistiendo en que no se me puede culpar por las ramificaciones de cualquier decisión que tome.

Lo que necesito hacer en estas situaciones es pedirle a Dios que me guíe, aunque me ponga nervioso. Necesito ser como el erudito. Fue lo suficientemente valiente como para preguntar, aunque creo que sabía que no le gustaría particularmente la respuesta. Luchemos por esta misma valentía.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



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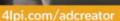
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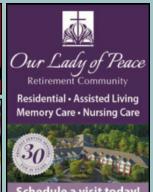


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