

August 3, 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 jnyanzi@richmonddiocese.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

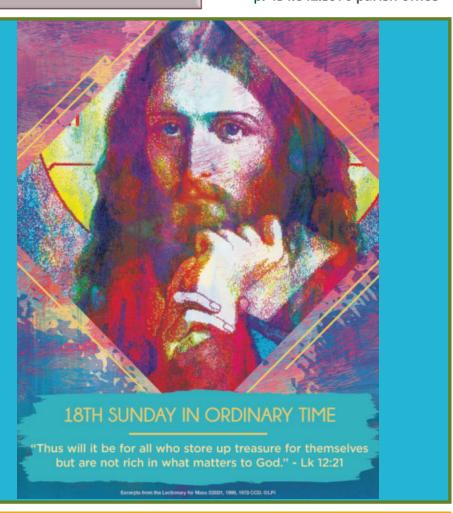
1st Saturday 9:00am: SPP Saturday 4pm: SPP Sunday 8:30am: St. Joseph's

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 | 434.989.2667

GREETERS

Rose Meyer | 434.589.5018

EVANGELIZATION & EDUCATION

CCD/YOUTH GROUP

Celeste Shapiola | 434.589.5201

OCIA/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

Marianne Stewart-Carbocci | 804.922.7001

LITURGY & WORSHIP

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Denny Barberio | 434.981.0678

YOUTH MUSIC MINISTER

Sarah Kenney |

SACRISTAN

Jennifer Dennis | 804.641.8941

USHERS

Marvin Jackson |

Carroll Morse | 434.589.4106

LECTORS

Melissa Kenney | 434.589.3416

ALTAR SERVERS

Michael Cary | 434.842.3095 Melissa Kenney | 434.589.3416

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

Danielle Carter-Bledsoe |

FORMATION & EDUCATION

CCD

Celeste Shapiola | 434.981.1405

PRISON MINISTRY

Will Kulick | 540.308.5152

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

ROUNDTABLE CHAIRMAN

Denny Barberio | 434.981.0678

LADIES AUXILIARY

Debbie Blackburn | 804.815.3732



ENCOUNTER

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

AUGUST 3, 2025 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Luke 12:13-21

Recent studies suggest that millennials will be the first generation in America to be worse off than their parents in terms of financial earnings and job status. Many lament this. I propose that this week's Gospel provides a hopeful way to see the trend as good news.

The Lord Jesus says, "Take care to guard against greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist in possessions" (Luke 12:15). Greed damages us with the deception that we are what we possess. But to Jesus, this is simply not true. What makes us happy is who we are, who we become.

Does not the expectation that every generation should do better than their parents subtly mask the poison of greed? A similar attitude is mirrored in the man who demands that Jesus justly arrange his share of the family inheritance. Despite the injustice, Jesus will not play that game. In fact, he seems to prefer that the man have less than his parents. What good would having more be to this man if he becomes enslaved and miserable by greed? What good would it be for us to have more if it means we become much less?

In allowing the man to have less, Jesus opens a space for him to become more: a man free to love. In that much more meaningful sense, perhaps he was better off than his parents. Maybe the millennials will be, too. — Father John Muir

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 3, 2025

Sunday: Eccl 1:2; 2:21-23/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 (1)/

Col 3:1-5, 9-11/Lk 12:13-21

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mt 14:13-21

Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13/

Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt 1:16-19/

Lk 9:28b-36

Thursday: Nm 20:1-13/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 16:13-23

Friday: Dt 4:32-40/Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21/Mt 16:24-28 Saturday: Dt 6:4-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 47 and 51/Mt 17:14-20

Next Sunday: Wis 18:6-9/Ps 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22 (12b)/

Heb 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12/Lk 12:32-48 or 12:35-40

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 3, 2025

Sunday: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Monday: St. John Vianney, Priest

Tuesday: The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major

Wednesday: The Transfiguration of the Lord

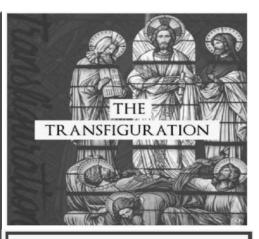
Thursday: St. Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs;

St. Cajetan, Priest

Friday: St. Dominic, Priest

Saturday: St. Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and Martyr

Next Sunday: 19th 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







CCD every Sunday at 9:30AM, Sts. Peter & Paul. Meet in St. Francis Hall.
CCD every Sunday at 10:30, St. Joseph's.
Meet in the parish hall.

Registration for PreK-12th grade and OCIA is happening throughout August. You may pick up a form in The Commons at Sts Peter & Paul or in the Parish Hall at St. Joseph's.

Forms are also available at both offices.

ADULT FORMATION CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Classes begin September 7, 2025.

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

Sunday: 9:30am at Sts Peter & Paul 10:30 at St. Joseph's

FAITH AND FAMILY FUN DAY

When: August 23, 2025 - 9:00-12:00

Who: All families and Catechists from Sant Joseph's

and Saints Peter and Paul

Where: Saints Peter and Paul Parish Hall

Happenings: Prayer, family activity, and games

Please bring a snack to share

We look forward to seeing you there

COMBINED YOUTH MASS

September 28 with the youth from Saint Joseph's and Saints Peter and Paul. Please plan to attend the 11:00 am Mass on this weekend. There will be a potluck/pizza lunch following Mass.

NEW HOMESCHOOL GROUP

This group supports families like yours on your homeschooling journey and offers a variety of opportunities for connection, learning, and fun. Our activities will be held on the second Thursday of the month at St. Joseph's. Our first gathering will be Thursday, September 11 at 9:30am. Father John will offer Mass at 11:00am.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please contact Celeste Shapiola at religioused@saintspeterpaul.org.

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

PREVIEWS GIVE US A QUICK PEEK AT A MOVIE, IN HOPES THAT WE WILL WANT TO SEE MORE.

THIS WEEK, WE CELEBRATE JESUS'
TRANSFIGURATION. THAT'S WHEN GOD GAVE PETER, JAMES, AND JOHN A PREVIEW OF THE RISEN JESUS, THE JESUS THEY WOULD SEE AGAIN ONE DAY. JESUS GLOWED BRIGHTLY.

MOSES AND ELIJAH CAME TO TALK WITH JESUS.
THEN A GREAT CLOUD COVERED EVERYONE, AND GOD SAID JESUS WAS HIS SON. JESUS WAS THE SAVIOR THAT GOD'S PEOPLE HAD BEEN WAITING FOR.

PRAYER

Dear God, thank you showing us through your word that Jesus is our Savior. Amen.



INTENTIONS

MASS INTENTIONS: AUGUST 2 - 10

*REPRESENTS ST. JOSEPH PARISH

1st Saturday	8/2	10am	Jonathan Duran & Luigi	D	Elizabeth Kosierowski
Saturday	8/2	5pm	Misa Pro Populo		
Sunday	8/3	9am*	Leslie Ferguson and William Rogan	I	Patricia
Sunday	8/3	11am	Barbara Totaro	D	The Totaro Children
Tuesday	8/5	9am			
Wednesday	8/6	9am			
Thursday	8/7	9am	Fr. Deogratis Bukemya	I	Jamie Hicks
Friday	8/8	9am			
Saturday	8/9	5pm	Fr. David	I	Michael & Nancy King
Sunday	8/10	9am*	Misa Pro Populo		
Sunday	8/10	11am	Lawrence Robers	D	Deacon Bob

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 Alexander 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, 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 Il, 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

SANCTUARY CANDLE

Donor: Totaro Children

Donor: Totaro Children

Donor: Totaro Children

In Memory of: Barbara Totaro

In Memory of: Barbara Totaro

In Memory of: Barbara Totaro









EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

Sts Peter & Paul Pew Count Sat 125 Sun 158	07/19 & 07/20	
Offertory	\$ 3,584	
E-Giving	\$ 2,277	
Debt Reduction	\$ 100	
Cash Reserve	\$ 568	
Total	\$ 6,529	
St. Joseph's	07/20	
Offertory	\$ 993	

Support CHIU in the Parish Hall Saturday, September 13 from 1-4 pm for a Chili Cook-Off!

A battle of local churches to see whose chili reigns supreme. Admission will be by donation to benefit health centers in rural Uganda. Come and support a great cause!

Also, contact Jamie Hicks (jamiefeather @yahoo.com) if you have a secret family chili recipe and want to represent Sts. Peter & Paul or St. Joseph's in the cook off.

THE ST. PHILAMENA GROUP

The group's vision is to be a faith-filled ministry supporting and serving one another, sharing faith and forming lasting bonds in the Catholic community. Being a Catholic parent/guardian is believed to be a beautiful and challenging vocation, and this group is here to provide encouragement and support. We invite all the families (moms, dads, grandparents, aunts, and uncles) of young children: newborn through age 5 (not yet in kindergarten) to join us. Our first meeting will be Thursday September 4, 2025. We will meet at Sts Peter and Paul in the commons at 9:45am. If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please contact Celeste Shapiola at religioused@saintspeterpaul.org.

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

Our next DEBT REDUCTION Collection is

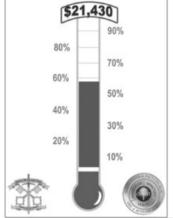
THIS WEEKEND.

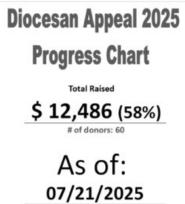
Thank you and God bless you for your continued support.

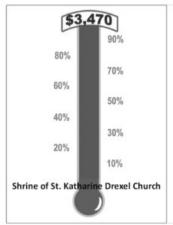


If you have not yet switched over to Give Central, you can visit www.givecentral.org or call the Office and we will help you.

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









Sts. Peter and Paul next monthly Bake Sale is THIS WEEKEND after each Mass. Donations accepted before Mass.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ROOM SCHEDULE	Sat	2-Aug	Confessions	9:00a	Church	
			1st Saturday Mass & Rosary	10:00a	Church	
			Parish Mission & Brunch	11:00a	Commons	
			Confessions	4:00p	Church	
			Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church	
			Bake Sale After Mass	6:00p	Commons	
	Sun	3-Aug	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's	
			Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's	
			Mass	11:00a	Church	
			Bake Sale After Mass	12:00p	Commons	
	Mon	4-Aug	KoC Meeting	6:00p	E/F	
			Mass	9:00a	Church	
	Tues Wed	5-Aug 6-Aug	Troop Committee	6:30p	122	
			Al-Anon	7:00p	St. Michael	
			Mass	9:00a	Church	
	Thurs	7-Aug	Scouts	6:30p	E/F	
			Mass	9:00a	Church	
			KoC Roundtable & Women	6:00p	St. Joseph's	
			Cursillo	6:00p	123	
	Fri Sat	8-Aug 9-Aug	Mass	9:00a	Church	
			Adoration	9:30a	Church	
			Benediction	3:00p	Church	
			Garcia Quiceanera	8:00a	E/F	
			Sick/Home Ministry Mass	10:00a	Church	
			Confessions	4:00p	Church	
			Vigil Mass	5:00p	Church	
	Sun	10-Aug	Confessions	8:30a	St. Joseph's	
			Mass	9:00a	St. Joseph's	
			Mass	11:00a	Church	
	Room Ledger:		F - St. Francis (Hall) R - St. Raphael (Church)			
			E - St. Elizabeth (Hall)	M - St. Mic.	M - St. Michael (Church)	
			C - Commons (Church)			

The next Men's Cursillo Weekend will be held Thursday, September 11th (7:00pm) through Sunday, September 14th (5:00pm), 2025, at the Blessings Lodge on the campus of Camp Overlook in Keezletown, VA.

The Theme of the Weekend is "Here I Am, Lord". A Cursillo is a 3-day encounter to enrich your Spirituality and raise awareness of Christ in every moment of your life. 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. Come walk this journey alongside other Catholic men of all ages and be filled with the JOY Christ offers each one of us.

Our own Russ Jennings will lead the weekend as Rector. Applications and more about Cursillo are available at www.valleycursillo.com or Contact Ellie Henrietta for more information and applications at (434) 981-3551. Application deadline is August 21st.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The Barn

It's 9:08 on a Saturday morning, and I am too darn busy for confession.

I've probably written before about how hard I find it to get to confession — I say 'probably' because I really can't remember. I whine about it so frequently that it's hard to tell if I've made it the subject of a written piece or if it is simply an oft-recited refrain from the Litany of Colleen's Perpetual Complaints.

During the week, it's tough to get to confession because I have little kids who are attached to me like Velcro, and I don't need them listening in on (and eventually repeating to everyone) my sins. On the weekend it's a little easier, but our parish doesn't offer it before or after Sunday Mass, just on Saturdays. Saturday is when I get most of my work done, so getting absolution usually comes at the expense of productivity.

And that, friends, right here, is my barn. Productivity. That's the proverbial storehouse of my earthly harvest. For the rich man in the parable, it's a literal barn, filled to bursting with sellable crops. For you it might be money or your job title or what your life looks like to other people on social media. For me, it's Getting Things Done. That's my barn, the repository that holds the whole of my worldly preoccupations.

And it's so full I want to tear it down and build a new one. A bigger one. One that can hold more worry, more time for work, more focus on output and crossing things off a to-do list. Vanity of vanities, indeed.

If I die tonight, the deadlines will go unmet, and no one will even notice. But God, when He meets me in the world to come, will surely ask me why I couldn't take 45 minutes to accept a gift He tried again and again to give me.

I have to burn the barn, friends. I don't want to, but I have to. I'm closing my laptop and going to church.

July Wedding Anniversaries

Congratulations to all couples at Sts.

Peter & Paul and St. Joseph's who
celebrated their wedding
anniversary in the month of July,
especially:

James & Benita Grooms

23 years

Joe & Annette Silver

46 years

Roman & Florence Bakke

56 years

Charlottesville Catholic School

We nurture each student's God-given gifts by instilling acceptance, respect, and compassion. Our students grow to become advocates, leaders, and stewards—confident collaborators, achievers, and creators who are prepared to make a meaningful difference in the world. Now Accepting Applications for Junior Kindergarten through 8th Grade for the 2025–2026 school year! For more information, contact: admissions@cvillecatholic.org

DEVOTIONS, EXPLAINED! Holy Hour

A holy hour is the practice of spending one hour's time in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, praying and meditating on the agony of Jesus Christ. More broadly, a holy hour can also refer to any 60 minutes set aside in prayer and reflection, whether in church or elsewhere.

The holy hour devotion dates to the late 17th century, when St. Margaret Mary Alacoque received visions of Jesus Christ. In these visions, the Lord requested that St. Margaret Mary spend one hour every Thursday evening lying prostrate and meditating upon his agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. This practice calls back to the Gospel of Matthew, which tells of Jesus' desire for the disciples to "remain here and keep watch with me" (Mathew 26:38) as he awaited his passion.

Holy hours can be made privately or in community, and the USCCB has created a variety of different holy hour formats that can be found at <u>usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/eucharistic-devotion.</u>

Sts. Peter and Paul

40th Anniversary News



Important 40th Anniversary upcoming dates:

- High Tea Social/Fundraiser September
 6. Tickets are limited to 48 guests (\$20 each or sponsor a table for \$120) and will go on sale after all Masses starting on July 26.
- Fall Fest/Trunk or teat October 24
- Lessons & Carols/Live Nativity -December 13

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).

Volunteers are needed to help with laundering and repairing vestments for the Church. This would include washing, pressing and mending cassocks, surplices and other items as needed.

Please call, text, or email Linda Mangiaracina if you can help. (434)989-2667 or <u>LMANGIARACINA@GMAIL.COM</u>

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.



August 31

"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 We Store in the Barn

I once knew a godly woman who had truly tasted the bitterness of this earthly life. This woman knew pain. She knew sacrifice. She knew hard labor and loss, including the death of a cherished child. She worked each day at a low-paying job, waiting patiently for her 65th birthday, when she could retire and devote herself full-time to her grandchildren. She crossed off the dwindling days on her calendar like a first grader waiting for Christmas.

Ninety-eight days before she was set to retire, she died suddenly. Her name was erased from the schedule at work and penciled over with that of her replacement hire.

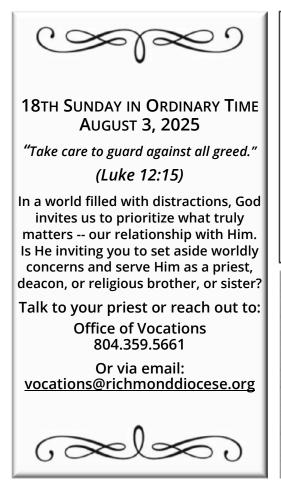
All things are vanity.

I think we all know someone like this, don't we? If the details aren't exactly the same, the outline of the story is: someone labors "with wisdom and knowledge and skill," in the words of Ecclesiastes. And what profit comes to him? Sorrow and grief all his days. The proverbial barn filled with harvest and left to rot.

But I'll let you in on a secret: this isn't a sad story. I've only told you part of it.

This woman heard, daily, the voice of God, and against it she never hardened her heart, whatever news it brought her. This woman loved as hard as she worked. Every action was a form of evangelization. To talk to her was to feel the embrace of Christ.

As much as she waited for that retirement that never came, it was never the harvest in her barn. This is what it means to be a true steward: to seek what is above.— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



SENIOR COFFEE SOCIAL

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

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

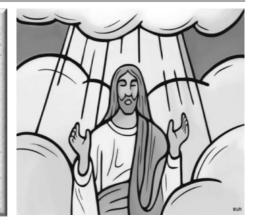
charleswpalmeriv@gmail.com 571.212.4445

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

3 de agosto de 2025 XVIII Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

A todos nos gusta hacer planes, tener metas y llegar a ellas. Eso nos pone contentos porque nos va bien en la vida y pensamos: "Qué bien, he luchado tanto que ya puedo disfrutar de lo que tengo". Pero nos olvidamos de lo más importante: en las metas nunca contamos contigo. Nos olvidamos de que sólo Tú, Señor, nos darás la auténtica libertad y felicidad. No está la vida en poseer bienes. "Eviten con gran cuidado toda clase de codicia, porque, aunque uno tenga todo, no son sus posesiones las que le dan vida" (Lucas 12:15).

Vale preguntarnos: ¿Cuál es el centro de tu vida? ¿Cuál es la meta en tu vida? ¿Está tu felicidad en lo que posees, en tu estatus social, en lo que dirá la gente de ti? Cuidado, nos advierte Jesús: "Esta misma noche vas a morir. ¿Quién se quedará con lo que has preparado?" (Lucas 12:20).

"Jesús percibe nuestros problemas, nuestras debilidades, nuestras necesidades; invita a convertirnos a la fe en la Providencia, saber compartir lo poco que somos y tenemos, y no cerrarnos nunca en nosotros mismos" (Papa Francisco). El tener muchos bienes y prestigio no es malo, lo que Dios desea es que aprendamos a ser desprendidos, es decir, generosos. No equivoquemos el proyecto de nuestra vida; la abundancia es pasajera, todo se queda al morir. Solo las riquezas espirituales serán eternas. "Esto vale para toda persona que amontona para sí misma en vez de acumular para Dios" (Lucas 12:21)

LA CORRESPONSABILIDAD DIARIA - RECONOCE A DIOS EN TUS MOMENTOS ORDINARIOS

Dios nos da lo que Necesitamos

Hace unos meses, mi esposa y yo ayudamos a mi hijo mayor a mudarse a su primer apartamento verdadero. Se estaba mudando para comenzar su primer trabajo de verdad y estaba emocionado y cauteloso al mismo tiempo. Instalarlo a él me recordó cuando su madre y yo estábamos empezando. Recibimos un viejo sofá de su tía, algunos artículos de cocina de mi madre y muchas otras cosas de amigos y parientes para que pudiéramos comenzar ese nuevo viaje en nuestras vidas. No teníamos mucho. Pero nos teníamos el uno al otro, y teníamos amor. Mirando hacia atrás, fueron tiempos grandiosos.

A veces, pensamos que las posesiones materiales dan evidencia de una vida bien vivida. Artefactos de nuestros viajes, colecciones que llevan tiempo para acumular y que proporcionan pistas sobre nuestros intereses, y varias fotografías e imágenes que adornan nuestras paredes. Sin embargo, aquellos que han vivido vidas de dolor y dificultades tienen muchos de los mismos artículos. No solo nuestras cosas no constituyen una evidencia real de cómo ha sido realmente nuestra vida, sino que tampoco hacen mejor nuestras vidas.

Lo que hará que sea una vida bien vivida será el amor y la compasión que hayamos experimentado, principalmente con Dios que nos ama tan profundamente. Debido a ese amor, Dios nos da lo que necesitamos, aunque no siempre lo que queremos. Más cosas nunca equivaldrán a nada en comparación con lo que Dios nos proporciona. Si reflexionáramos más sobre esa verdad, quizás gastaríamos menos tiempo acumulando cosas y más tiempo simplemente amando.

En ese día conmovedor, quería darle a mi hijo más cosas materiales de las que era posible. Sin embargo, lo que realmente necesitaba el entonces, necesita ahora, y necesitara siempre, es mi amor. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



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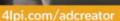
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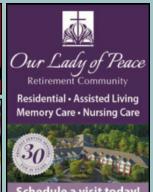


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