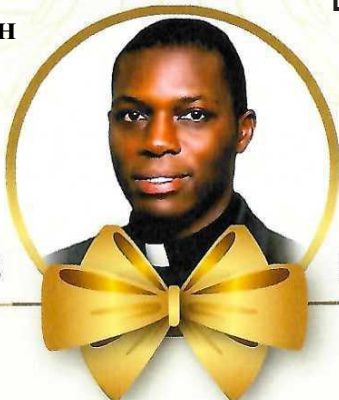


Saint Mary

OF THE ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
AUGUST 6, 2023



2013

2023

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY 5:00 PM

SUNDAY 8:30 AM

(+Lena Lorenzo requested by The Lorenzo Family)

SUNDAY 11:00 AM

(People of the Parish)

REV. FR. MUDDU ALEXANDER

My Priesthood, 10 Years Later.

Jesus tells the disciples "It was not you who chose me. It was I who chose you." Unworthy as I am, God chose this imperfect instrument for the sanctification of his people and to be a minister of his joy, "that your joy may be complete."

I do not know how to be anything less than a joyful priest. Yes, there are days that I may be cross or in an unpleasant mood, but when I sanctify God's people through the sacraments and especially in the celebration of the Eucharist, I must do it with joy. I do not know how to do it any other way. I became a priest because I felt this joy that Jesus speaks of in the Gospel. This joy that overwhelms our hearts and must be shared is a joy that I spend at every weekly day mass and Sunday trying to pass on to God's holy people.

And as a minister of God's joy, I realize that I am also called to serve. "no one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." I joyfully lay down my life for each and every one of you that I call friends, parishioners, family, and strangers because I was called to serve all. I lay down my life so that you might know Jesus and then share his joy, his love, and his presence with the entire world.

When I was a youth chaplain and in charge of the seminarians welfare at St. Joseph's Catholic Parish Nansana in Uganda, I used to tell the seminarians that the Church needed a new kind of priest: priests who are joyful and courageous. We need priests who will set the world on fire, will boldly proclaim the truth of Christ no matter the consequences, and sanctify the world through their words and actions.

But the Church needs committed laity as well who are joyful and courageous. These are difficult times that we are going through, and we must have the courage to stand with our priests on the truths that Christ taught us and spread the joy of Christ to a broken world. As a priest, I am called to sanctify you so that you may in turn bring that joy and that holiness into the world.

Ten years of service and I realize that I am just getting warmed up. Ten years of fruits that I see here before me and others who through God's grace received fruit from this imperfect servant in an unexpected way. Even after all this time, I am still humbled when I approach this altar to break the bread and to share with all of you the living presence of Christ.

There is no greater adventure than the priesthood. There is no greater life. And on this day, I thank you for allowing me to serve you, to absolve you, to feed you, to preach to you, to anoint you, to love you, and for simply allowing me to be your priest.

As I celebrate this anniversary, I think of Saint Joseph's Aid Society Kigando which takes care of the poor, abandoned, neglected and orphans. I would be extremely blessed if you joined me in making a donation to this home in Uganda for my anniversary. You can make out a check to St. Mary's and put St. Joseph's Aid Society Uganda in the memo line

BIENVENIDOS

ALL ARE WELCOME
TODOS SON BIENVENIDOS
VŠETCI SÚ VÍTANÍ

VITANI



THE HOLY MASS EXPLAINED

As Catholics, we know that the Holy Mass is the center of our faith and the source of divine life. Hence, the Church teaches us to participate in the Holy Mass regularly on Sundays and on Holydays of obligation and also on weekdays, whenever possible. If we understand the value of the Mass, we will certainly participate in it actively and regularly. I feel that a simple explanation on each part of the Mass may help you to recognize the value of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Jesus offers Himself:

The Holy Mass is, first of all, a holy celebration, because it is Christ who acts in the person of a priest. Jesus Christ offers himself for us, as he offered on the Cross. Hence, we say that Mass is the same sacrifice of Jesus Christ, offered on the altar in an unbloody manner. Just like Jesus offered his body and blood on the Cross, he offers for us on the altar. The difference is that Jesus offered himself visibly on the Cross but on our altar, He offers himself invisibly and in an unbloody manner, hidden under the appearance of bread and wine.

Faith matters:

A Catholic, who says that he/she loves Christ would not fail to love the Mass. To love the Mass does not mean just being present and nothing more; it means to be present with faith and devotion and to take part actively in the Mass realizing that it is the Sacrifice of the Cross being renewed on the altar. Participation in the Mass involves basically our faith. Without faith, all that one would see on the altar is just bread and wine; just gestures, symbols and nothing more. It is only through faith, we acknowledge that at the consecration of the bread and wine, they are changed into the body and blood of Jesus Christ. If one would come for Mass without faith, the person would easily feel bored or get distracted. Without faith, one would fail to understand what Christ's death on the Cross would mean for us. Hence Faith is the most required disposition when we come to participate in the Mass.

This August and September, I will start explaining the Holy Mass for your benefit and for the benefit of your children. Through my simple effort, I would like that you may be enlightened so as to understand the value of the Holy Mass.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

(office hours 9 AM—1 PM Tuesday—Thursday)

Monday, August 7	OFFICE CLOSED
Tuesday, August 8	9:00 AM Adoration; 10:00 AM MASS ; 11:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry; 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Food Pantry
Wednesday, August 9	9:00 AM Adoration; 10:00 AM MASS
Thursday, August 10	9:00 AM Adoration; 10:00 AM MASS (<i>Father Muddu's 10th Anniversary of his Ordination</i>); 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Food Pantry
Friday, August 11	Church closed for cleaning in AM
Saturday, August 12	4:00 PM - 4:50 PM Confessions; 5:00 PM MASS (<i>+Harold A. Larsen requested by Anna Larsen Porter</i>)
Sunday, August 13	8:30 AM MASS (<i>+Tony Lorzeno from the Lorzeno Family</i>); 9:45 AM Spanish Rosary; 11:00 AM MASS ; Noon Back to School Ice Cream Social

RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION FOR 2023-2024 IS OPEN

We are doing online registration only. Please use the QR code or the link below to register.

Directions:

Select My Own Church

Select My Education tab on side menu

It'll bring you to the Step 1: Review current family details Page (please review information before continuing).

Go to Step 2: Select Enrollment Term

Select 2023-2024 term

Then go to Step 3: Add Students

Hit the +Student tab and using the drop down tab, select student you are registering and then hit Save Student. Continue to Step 3 until all students are registered.

When all students are registered, hit Submit Registration. That will bring you to a confirmation page and the completion of the registration process. You will also receive an email when your registration has been accepted.



QR Code for Registration:

This will bring you to the login in page of our ParishSoft Home Page or you can go to www.richmond.parishsoftfamilysuite.com

BACK TO SCHOOL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Parents and families:

PLEASE JOIN US for a Back to School Ice Cream social immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday, August 13th.



Vanilla ice cream and toppings will be provided. We will also have some popsicles for those who are dairy free!

Father Alex will be joining us to kick off the social.

This will be a fun way to get together and kick off the new school year.

Can't wait to see you all there!

REMINDER:

PLEASE MARK "CAPITAL CAMPAIGN" IN THE MEMO LINE OF YOUR CHECK WHEN SUBMITTING YOUR PLEDGE DONATIONS

VOCATIONS

"Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Rise, and do not be afraid.'

If simplicity of life and the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience especially attract you, discover that life as a priest, deacon, sister or brother. Call Father Brian Capuano 804-359-5661 or e-mail: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

WEEKLY MASS READINGS

7 AUGUST 2023 - MONDAY : **Numbers 11:** 4b-15; **Psalms 81:** 12-13, 14-15, 16-17; **Matthew 14:** 13-21

8 AUGUST 2023 - TUESDAY : **Numbers 12:** 1-13; **Psalms 51:** 3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7,12-13; **Matthew 14:** 22-36 or **Matthew 15:** 1-2, 10-14

9 AUGUST 2023 - WEDNESDAY : **Numbers 13:** 1-2, 25-14: 1, 26a-29a, 34-35; **Psalms 106:** 6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22,23; **Matthew 15:** 21-28

10 AUGUST 2023 - THURSDAY : **Second Corinthians 9:** 6-10; **Psalms 112:** 1-2, 5-6, 7-8, 9; **John 12:** 24-26

11 AUGUST 2023 - FRIDAY : **Deuteronomy 4:** 32-40; **Psalms 77:** 12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21; **Matthew 16:** 24-28

12 AUGUST 2023 - SATURDAY : **Deuteronomy 6:** 4-13; **Psalms 18:** 2-3a, 3c-4, 47 and 51; **Matthew 17:** 14-20

13 AUGUST 2023 - SUNDAY : **Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**
First Kings 19: 9a, 11-13a; **Psalms 85:** 9, 10, 11-12, 13-14; **Romans 9:** 1-5; **Matthew 14:** 22-33



SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

August 6—Repair and Maintenance
August 15— Assumption

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"...then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.'" - MATTHEW 17:5

When Peter, James and John heard this they immediately fell prostrate to the ground and they "were very much afraid." We, too, may respond the same way when we hear God's voice. How many times do you become fearful when invited to participate more fully in the life of the Church? Or, when someone says something negative about the Church, are you afraid to respond? Remember, we too, are beloved sons and daughters of God; Jesus is there to help us, but we need to listen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

That we recognize that we are beloved sons and daughters of God and to listen for His voice every day.

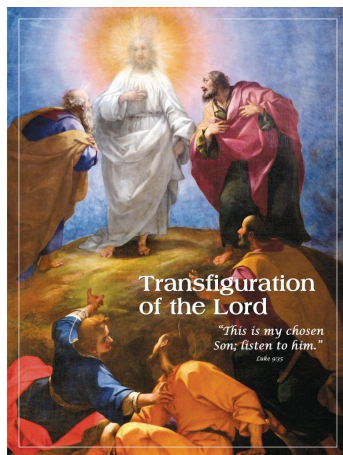
Congratulations to Father Alex on his upcoming 10th Anniversary (August 10th) of his Priestly Ordination

Thank you for your devoted service and commitment to God and His church. You have been a joyful witness to all.

God Bless You on Your Anniversary



Community/Diocesan Events



FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:

PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY



QR CODES

Capital Campaign



Online Giving



Parish Registration



FORMED



Bishop Knestout encourages anyone aware of sexual abuse of minors on the part of clergy or staff of our diocese to notify civil authorities, call the Attorney General's Clergy Abuse Hotline at 1-833-454-9064, and reach out to the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Jennifer Sloan at 1-877-887-9603.



Pray for the Sick of our Parish



Amber Wilber Anderson, David Arnold, Rosemary Baez, Estelle Bareford, Thad (Pete) Beach, Monica Bell, Susan Bennett, The Biddulph Family, Robert Bingaman, Joe Blackburn, Jr., John Bolecek, Maria Bridge, Barry Carrington, Aiden Christensen, Daniel Clarke, Nancy Coffield, Doreen Distensa, Brian Eckert, Levie Edmond, Michael Fisher, Jessica French, Andrew Fresler, Deacon Dave Geary, The Hannick Family, Laura Harris, Paula Hass, The Jayger Family, Alice Karkutt, Tony Ketrick, Deacon Frank Leaming, Nina Leaming, Barbara Litten, Dawn Long, Carly Max, Michael McFadden, Andrew Newchok, Peggy Opel, Eva Ortiz, Robert Pecht, Bill Pickett, Marge Polivka, Anna Porter, Makayla Prevost, Shirley Riden, Chole Rochester, Ritchie Rodebaugh, Marjie Schwind, Kelly Searer, John Signor, William Simulcik, Isabel Sipe, Rodney Smith, Laurie Snowman, John Speck, Linda Stanton, Barbara Storen, Ron Summers, The Taylor Family, Julian Thomas, The Townsend Family, Janie Wagner, The Wheeler Family, Joan Williams, Judy Yanes

As always, prayer is an important way Catholics can respond to any crisis as we express our dependence on God. We continue to stand in solidarity with all those affected by the COVID disease as well as those health care professionals who care for them. We ask parishioners to keep these people in mind in your daily prayers.

Names will be removed after 6 months. If you would like to add/remove someone to the Sick of our Parish list, please call Chris Nowark at 804-448-9064 or email her at office@saintmarycc.org. Thank you.

GOD BLESS

PARISH OFFICE

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Phone: 804-448-9064*Fax: 804-448-5464*Email: office@saintmarycc.org

Rev. Alexander Muddu, Pastor.....804-448-9064
.....amuddu@richmonddiocese.org
Deacon Dave Geary.....540-710-3364
.....djgeary4531@comcast.net
Deacon Frank Leaming.....804-761-5714
.....fnleaming@aol.com
Karen Weil, Office Bookkeeper.....804-448-9064
.....bookkeeper@saintmarycc.org
Chris Nowark, Office Manager.....804-448-9064
.....office@saintmarycc.org

Pastoral Council Chairperson, *Jim Lepp*.....540-841-2346
Finance Council Chairperson, *Tina Sebak*.....540-842-4608
Food Pantry, *Barbara & Don Logan*.....804-449-1811
Knights of Columbus, *Ron Wisniewski*.....804-448-4348
Children's Liturgy of the Word, *Annette Jewell*.....804-305-7566
Religious Education Coordinator, *Deacon Dave*.....804-448-9064
.....djgeary4531@comcast.net
Music Ministry, *Valerie Sparks*.....804-572-1768
RCIA, *Deacon Frank Leaming*.....804-761-5714
Prayer Shawl Ministry, *Penny Geary*.....honeybepenny@comcast.net
Liturgical Ministries, *Deacon Frank Leaming*.....804-761-5714
St. Mary and Sts. Cyril and Methodious. Cemetery Inquiries,
Gloria Bolecek.....804-633-4320
African American Cemetery Inquiries, *Joan Cormier*....804-466-0458
Sacraments of Baptism, Matrimony (a minimum of 6 months preparation is typical), and Anointing of the Sick, or to receive a home visit or home blessing, Call the office at 804-448-9064.

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www.saintmarycc.org