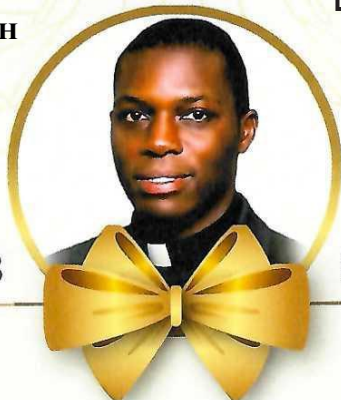


Saint Mary

OF THE ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 30, 2023



2013

2023

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY 5:00 PM

SUNDAY 8:30 AM

(+Wanda Gregory requested by Yvette & Rob Piper)

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, July 31	OFFICE CLOSED; 7:00 PM - A Walk Through The Mass Part 3
Tuesday, August 1	9:00 AM Adoration; 10:00 AM MASS ; 11:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry; 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Food Pantry
Wednesday, August 2	9:00 AM Adoration; 10:00 AM MASS
Thursday, August 3	9:00 AM Adoration; 10:00 AM MASS ; 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Food Pantry
Friday, August 4	Church closed for cleaning in AM; 7:00 PM First Friday Adoration
Saturday, August 5	4:00 PM - 4:50 PM Confessions; 5:00 PM MASS
Sunday, August 6	8:30 AM MASS ; 9:45 AM Spanish Rosary; 11:00 AM MASS

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

VIRTUS ADMINISTRATOR

What is VIRTUS? VIRTUS focuses on educating teachers, parents, volunteers and other adults who interact with children about sexual abuse and providing them with information to help prevent abuse.

We are looking for a VIRTUS Administrator for our church. The Administrator will oversee training and monitor ongoing compliance through the VIRTUS database. The Administrator is responsible for background checks and periodically checks the database to verify all volunteers complete the monthly online training bulletins. All training can be done online. Please contact the office at 804-448-9064 or office@saintmarycc.org if you are interested.



SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

August 6—Repair and Maintenance
August 15— Assumption

Eucharistic



Adoration

THIS FRIDAY:

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

This coming Friday, August 4h, at 7:00 PM we will be having our First Friday Adoration at 7:00 PM. We are hoping that parishioners, especially our teenagers, will join us this Friday and every 1st Friday night of the month in Adoration at 7:00 PM. I invite you to **MAKE A COMMITMENT TO SPEND ONE HOUR IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.**

WEEKLY MASS READINGS

31 JULY 2023 - MONDAY : **Exodus 32: 15-24, 30-34; Psalms 106: 19-20, 21-22, 23; Matthew 13: 31-35**

1 AUGUST 2023 - TUESDAY : **Exodus 33: 7-11; 34: 5b-9, 28; Psalms 103: 6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13; Matthew 13: 36-43**

2 AUGUST 2023 - WEDNESDAY : **Exodus 34: 29-35; Psalms 99: 5, 6, 7, 9; Matthew 13: 44-46**

3 AUGUST 2023 - THURSDAY : **Exodus 40: 16-21, 34-38; Psalms 84: 3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11; Matthew 13: 47-53**

4 AUGUST 2023 - FRIDAY : **Leviticus 23: 1, 4-11, 15-16, 27,34b-37; Psalms 81: 3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab; Matthew 13: 54-58**

5 AUGUST 2023 - SATURDAY : **Leviticus 25: 1, 8-17; Psalms 67: 2-3, 5, 7-8; Matthew 14: 1-12**

6 AUGUST 2023 - SUNDAY : **Transfiguration of the Lord Feast
Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14; Psalms 97: 1-2, 5-6, 9; Second Peter 1: 16-19; Matthew 17: 1-9**

REMINDER:

A WALK THROUGH THE MASS, PART 3, IS ON MONDAY, 7/31, at 7:00 PM

VOCATIONS

"Ask and you shall receive. Seek and you shall find. Knock and it will be opened to you."

Ask in prayer to know your vocation! Seek and find ways to serve! Knock on the doors of those who can help guide you! Do you think God may be offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Call Father Brian Capuano 804-359-5661 or e-mail: vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

That we learn to put our trust in God in everything we do.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." - ROMANS 8:28

Do you really trust God? Do you really believe that God will provide all that you need? Faith is a challenge for everyone at times. Putting our trust in God, in everything we do, in good times and in bad, means that God's plan for our lives may be quite different than what we planned. When one door closes, another one opens. Trust in God, His plan is always better.

Community/Diocesan Events

FOOD PANTRY IS IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING:



MACARONI & CHEESE AND PANCAKE SYRUP



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, Kelly Searer, John Signor, William Simulcik, Isabel Sipe, Rodney Smith, Laurie Snowman, John Speck, Linda Stanton, Barbara Storen, Ron Summers, 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 prepara-

tion is typical), and Anointing of the Sick, or to receive a home visit

or home blessing. Call the office at 804-448-9064.

10306 Ladysmith Road P.O. Box 396 Ladysmith, VA 22501

www.saintmarycc.org