

GOOD NEWS

Church of the Redeemer's Monthly Newsletter



Celebrating the Saints

By Father Jim Cowles

Many popular devotional practices involve the veneration of the saints. The saints have a special place in the Body of Christ, which includes both the living and the dead. The word "saint" in the Catholic Church typically refers to the group of holy souls who are united to God in Heaven.

The word itself is derived from the Latin word Sanctus, meaning "Holy," and in general refers to all the faithful who strive after a life of holiness. The most common usage is in referring to those men and women who lead exemplary lives of holiness. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains why the Church singles out specific individuals with this title.

By canonizing some of the faithful, i.e., by solemnly proclaiming that they practiced heroic virtue and lived in fidelity to God's grace, the Church recognizes the power of the Spirit of holiness within her and sustains the hope of believers by proposing the saints to them as models and intercessors. The saints have always been the source and origin of renewal in the most difficult moments in the Church's history. CCC 828

In this month of March, we celebrate and remember the lives of many saints including St. Patrick on March 17th, and St. Joseph on March 19th. St. Patrick's influence on Ireland was so profound that many biographers have attributed numerous legends to him. God humbled Patrick, set him on fire with zeal as a missionary, and then used that fire to purify many thousands of people. The story of St. Patrick is an interesting one peppered with a mix of fact and fiction. One of the more surprising aspects of St. Patrick's life is that he wasn't born in Ireland but rather in Britain in the 5th century.

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You Have Put on Christ



In the month of February, the following child was baptized.

- Peyton Ann Carroll

Heavenly Father, grant that this child grows in grace and love. May she learn to follow Jesus through the influence of the Holy Spirit. She is a true child of yours, and we pray she serves you faithfully all their days. We pray for guidance and strength for the parents and family of this child. May their example, wise counsel, and love lead her to live a life of strength, righteousness, faith, love, joy, and peace. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.



In Memoriam



Please pray for the repose of the souls listed below, and for Christ's comforting presence for their families during this time of loss.

- Greg Baker
- Jerry McCarthy

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



March: Month of St. Joseph



*St. Joseph, Patron of the universal Church,
pray for us!*

"For Catholics, March is the month devoted to St. Joseph, patron saint of workers, families, homes, and a happy death. It is interesting to think of it this way: February is devoted to the Holy Family, followed by March devoted to St. Joseph, who is head of that family. In the words of St. Thomas Aquinas, "Some saints are privileged to extend to us their patronage with particular efficacy in certain needs, but not in others; but our holy patron St. Joseph has the power to assist us in all cases, in every necessity, in every undertaking." - aletia.org



Saints, from page 1

St. Joseph, the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster father of Our Lord, Jesus, receives rare praise in the Bible. Joseph is often– referred to as “a just man” and the ‘father in the shadows.’ In fact, none of Joseph’s words are written in the gospels and little was recorded about his life.

St. Joseph’s feast day is celebrated in many parts of the world through Masses, novenas, merriment, and reflection. The Feast of St. Joseph is celebrated with great festivity by the Italian American community. On this day, individuals engage in fasting and abstinence while preparing or distributing meals to those in need.

We pray in thanksgiving for all the saints. They serve as examples, intercessors, mentors, protectors, and role models, for Christians on earth. Saints of God, come to our assistance!



Emmaus Journey: A Retreat for Grieving Parents, April 13

Of all the pains that life can hand us, arguably the most searing is the death of a child. A parent’s world irrevocably and horrifically changes forever. As Jesus joined his distraught disciples on the road to Emmaus after his crucifixion, we ask him to join us as we struggle through this horrendous journey of grief daily.

To meet the spiritual needs of parents whose children of any age have died, no matter how long ago, the Diocese of Richmond now offers the Emmaus Journey: a faith-based, day-long, spiritual retreat for grieving parents led by a team that includes grieving parents, spiritual directors, priests, deacons, and parish leaders. The Emmaus Journey offers a safe place where you can seek peace, comfort, and hope. Join us at Redeemer on Saturday, April 13th for an all-day retreat with other parents who know something of your pain. If you have questions or want to register, contact Diane Atkins at datkins@churchredeemer.org or at 804-746-4911.





Jesus Cleansing the Temple, 1874 (Oil on Canvas)

by Carl Bloch

John 2:13-25

Gospel for the Third Sunday of Lent



Lent: Pray, Fast, Give

Each day during Lent, we invite you to reflect on how your Lenten sacrifices can help our elderly here in RVA by supporting programs that provide compassionate, quality care and safe housing for seniors. Redeemer will be joining in prayer and almsgiving with the residents of Saint Francis – Manchester. We hope you picked your donation box on Ash Wednesday. With your donations this Lent, you can help us, help others!



Did you know?

We have upgraded our sound system in Genesis Hall! Genesis Hall has entered the 21st century as we just replaced our analog sound system with a digital one. This new system will be much more user friendly, allowing us to consistently produce quality sound for all of our church and community events. We have also installed a new camera to livestream Adult Faith Formation talks, etc. from the Hall as well. We are grateful for the continued financial support of Redeemer Parishioners to allow these important upgrades to be installed.

Easter Lillies

If you would like to sponsor an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one, you can make a donation through the church office or online through e-giving. The deadline is Thursday, March 21. Please make checks out to Church of the Redeemer and in the memo line-Easter Lily.



CDA Scholarship

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court of Redeemer's Angels #2456 is pleased to offer annual scholarships to Redeemer high school seniors who plan to continue their education by attending a college or vocational school in the Fall. Applications are available on the youth table in the commons or on Redeemer's homepage at www.churchredeemer.org – go to 'About Us' then 'Church Organizations.' Applications, transcripts, letter of recommendation, and essay must be received no later than May 3, 2023. We look forward to hearing from our Redeemer youth!



CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Roman Catholic Church

Lent/Easter Schedule

Wednesday, Feb. 14: Ash Wednesday Mass 12:00 pm, Family Service 5:30 pm, Soup Supper 6:00 pm, Mass 7:00 pm

Friday, Feb. 16: Fish Fry 5:30–7:00 pm, Youth Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

Friday, Feb. 23: Children's Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

Friday, Mar. 1: Youth Live Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

Friday, March 8: Fish Fry 5:30–7:00 pm, Overcoming Racism Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

Wednesday, March 13: Parish Reconciliation Service 7:00 pm

Friday, March 15: Youth Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

Friday, March 22: Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm

Monday, March 25: Taize Service 7:00 pm

Thursday, March 28: Holy Thursday Mass 7:00 pm

Friday, March 29: Good Friday Liturgy 7:00 PM

Saturday, March 30: Blessing of Baskets 12:00 PM, Easter Vigil 7:30 PM

Sunday, March 31: Easter Sunday Masses 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Days of Fasting & Abstinence: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fasting (a single full meal) and abstinence from meat. Other Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat. Fasting is required by all Catholics ages 18–59; abstinence for Catholics 14 years and older.

PRAYER · FASTING · ALMSGIVING



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**Welcome!**

Last November, the parish began using Flocknote as the primary means of communication. This process is ongoing and takes time to adjust to. If you haven't already, join our Flocknote for the weekly reminder emails, emergency notifications, and more!

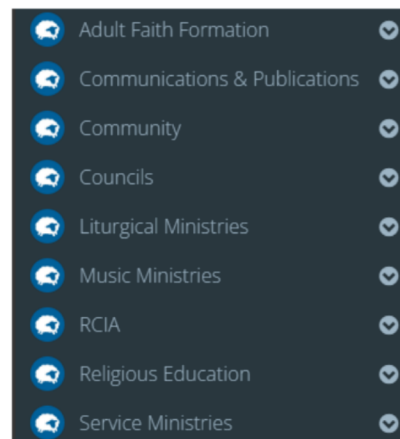
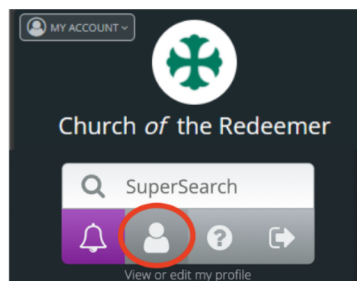
New to Flocknote?

Returning Member?

Go to churchoftheredeemer.flocknote.comHead to churchoftheredeemer.flocknote.com/login

Enter your information. Redeemer did import contact information from ParishSoft so it is possible that your information is already in our system. You will be notified if this is the case.

Login with your email or phone.



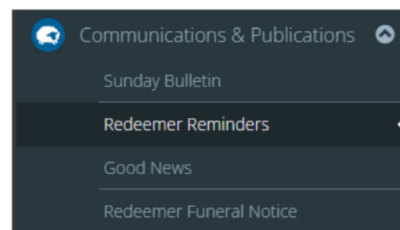
Check your contact information by clicking on the person icon. Make sure that your name, email, and cell-phone number are up to date so you don't miss any notes!

Join Flocknote groups to start receiving notes from your ministry leaders. To receive the weekly Redeemer emails, make sure you are a member of the "Redeemer Reminders" group located under "Communications and Publications."



Access Flocknote on your browser, on mobile device through the Flocknote App, or view notes in your email inbox!

Still have questions? Contact the parish office!





BUTTERFLY BALL



*Making Father
Daughter Memories
For Girls 4-10*

Saturday, April 20

6:30-8:30 pm

www.HaitiToday.org for details

