

# GOOD NEWS

Church of the Redeemer's Monthly Newsletter



CHURCH OF THE  
**REDEEMER**

*Roman Catholic Church*

## A New Face for Redeemer

By Alec McGuire

It is an exciting time to be at Redeemer! At the precipice of the 50th anniversary of Redeemer's founding, the parish now has a completely new brand identity. I would like to thank Chris Lewis of Baritus Catholic who did phenomenal work for our rebranding project.

The Redeemer icon consists of Christ holding his cross, the instrument of his redemptive act. His right hand gesture signifies two realities: First, the two joined fingers denote the hypostatic union of Christ's two natures: divine and human; Second, the three raised fingers refer to the three divine persons of the Holy Trinity.

The parish color palette consists of five colors. The primary colors are evergreen, gold, and white with black and wheat as the secondary color group. A style guide for the parish features all the branding assets of the parish, size guidelines, and use violations. Over the month of November, the parish will be updating its digital and physical platforms including: the parish website, bulletin, Facebook, YouTube, Flocknote, and Good News!

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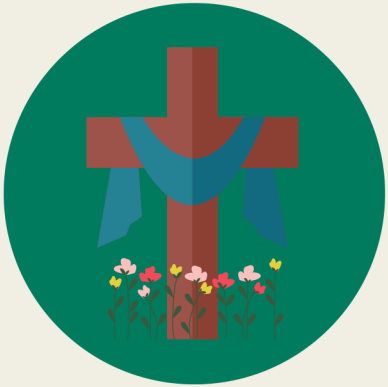
[churchofthereedeemer.flocknote.co  
m](https://churchofthereedeemer.flocknote.com)



## You Have Put On Christ

In the month of October, Marlowe Cahalan and Landon Cruz were baptized into the Body of Christ!

*Heavenly Father, grant that these children grow in grace and love. May they learn to follow Jesus through the influence of the Holy Spirit. They are true children of yours, and we pray they serve you faithfully all their days. We pray guidance and strength for the parents and family of these children. May their example, wise counsel, and love lead them 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 to be with their families during this time of loss.

- Chuck Toombs
- Dr. George Gray
- Betty Duke

*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.*



## Month of the Dead

The Church devotes the month of November to praying for the faithfully departed.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26

## St. Gertrude's Prayer

*Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.*



## Pilgrimage to National Shrine

By Sonia Garcia

Luis and I participated in the Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception sponsored by the Diocese. It was a wonderful experience. Although we had been there before, the magnificence of the basilica remains incredible. The rosary was prayed in various languages and was followed by Mass conducted by Bishop Knestout and five priests. The procession after Mass was a powerful and moving experience. Overall, it was a wonderful spiritual experience alongside nearly a thousand fellow Virginian Catholics. Our most precious treasure is our faith!



Photo courtesy of The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception



CHURCH OF THE  
**REDEEMER**  
+  
*Roman Catholic Church*



# 42nd Annual Craft Bazaar

8725 Meadowbridge Road, Mechanicsville

Saturday, November 18, 2023

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

110+ Craft Vendors



Breakfast

Lunch

Bake Sale

Door Prizes

Raffle Tickets  
3/\$5.00

Photos with  
Santa Claus



Santa Shop

Children can shop for family & friends

\$1.00 donation at the door gets you a door prize ticket.  
Bring a can of non-perishable food and receive a BONUS  
door prize ticket!



## Redeemer Parishioners on a Marian Pilgrimage – A Journey of Faith

By Diane Atkins

Pilgrimages are a beautiful way to grow in faith, to seek solace, and community. Six Redeemer parishioners recently did just that—on a Marian Pilgrimage through France, Spain, and Portugal led by our very own Spiritual Director, Deacon Chris Malone! It was beautiful to participate in daily prayer led by Deacon Chris accompanied by the joyful voice of Cindy—what a blessing!



The trip began in Lourdes, France, where Our Lady appeared to St. Bernadette, proclaiming herself the "Immaculate Conception." They were blessed to attend Mass at the Grotto of Massabielle, where the Virgin Mary appeared 18 times. Everyone especially loved participating in the Candlelight Procession and praying the Rosary with thousands of other Catholics from around the world. Maybe you spotted them on EWTN?

While in Spain, the group took a cable car way up into the mountains to visit the Black Madonna of Montserrat, an awe inspiring devotion to the Blessed Mother located in a Benedictine Monastery. Time to light a candle and pray for loved ones back home made this spot on top of the world truly a blessing for all.

The travelers visited Barcelona (and the magnificent Gaudi's La Sagrada Familia), made time for a quick dip in the Mediterranean Sea, then on to Zaragoza where Mary appeared to St. James—and he prayed, through Mary's intercession, for those who suffer misfortune, those who suffer from loneliness, ignorance, or hunger. May we all be blessed like St. James to feel Mary's love and receive encouragement to grow our faith and lead a life of service to others.

As the journey continued, the group made their way to Fatima, Portugal, one of the most well-known Marian Shrines. Here, Mary appeared times six before three peasant children near the village in 1917. The group was able to stand in the spot where, in October 1917, over 70,000 people witnessed the Miracle of the Sun. Deacon Chris celebrated Mass on that very spot. Wow! The group was greatly moved by a visit to the Church of St. Stephen (Church of the Holy Miracle), which contains the oldest recorded Eucharistic Miracle, which has been on continuous display since 1269.

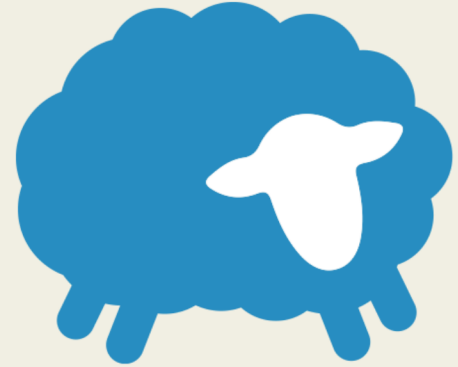
All this happened, and of course, so much more! All of the pilgrims returned to Virginia and Redeemer, a little bit changed. Transformed by the beauty of the countries visited, by the faith of our friends (both new and old), by the sacred stories of our Mother Mary, and by the hallowed time shared in daily prayer, Mass, and Eucharist.

If you get a chance to go on a Marian Pilgrimage—Do It! And if you get to go with Chris, Cindy, Diane, Judy, Larry, Susan, or Yvonne—Definitely Do It! Be sure to stop any of us and ask about our trip—we would love to tell you all about it! Pull up a chair!



## Join Redeemer's Flocknote

Redeemer now has one place to connect with to get information and updates from both the parish and the ministries you are a part of. Join groups to receive email and text message notifications. Flocknote will also be replacing Constant Contact as the primary way Redeemer communicates with its parishioners. You can sign up by going to [churchoftheredeemer.com](http://churchoftheredeemer.com) or texting CHURCHREDEEMER to 84576. All you need is an email and cell phone number! We have already imported many of our parishioners into our contact list, but do not worry! Flocknote will recognize your information and sign you in without a problem.



*Keep in touch with us via  
email and text!*



**TEXT**  
**CHURCHREDEEMER**  
**TO 84576**



**OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:**

[churchoftheredeemer.flocknote.com](http://churchoftheredeemer.flocknote.com)

Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View full privacy policy & terms at [flocknote.com/txt](http://flocknote.com/txt).



## No Room at the Inn: Helping Our Neighbors Near and Far

Redeemer's No Room at the Inn weekend is just a month away and there are many ways you can participate in this annual event that helps our neighbors near and far who are experiencing housing insecurity. This year's beneficiaries are Mechanicsville Churches Emergency Functions (MCEF), Moments of Hope, and Redeemer's Haiti ministry. Since 2008, the event has raised more than \$366,000.

The weekend begins Friday, December 1 with a preview gala and continues Saturday and Sunday with an opportunity to view 200 nativities from around the world and participate in fun activities in the family room.

**November 18-19:** A new beneficiary this year, Moments of Hope Outreach, will be speaking at all three weekend Masses to tell us about their work in Hanover and greater Richmond. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses for our famous Diamond in a Box raffle, a beautiful nativity from Fatima, and for the Gala. This year's diamond is a bracelet worth \$900 donated by Diamonds Direct.

**November 19:** Deadline to submit this [form](#) to loan a nativity for the display.

**November 24:** You can start your Black Friday shopping at the No Room online Auction [redeemerva.schoolauction.net/noroom2023/](https://redeemerva.schoolauction.net/noroom2023/). Bidding will conclude at 10:00 p.m. on December 1.

**November 25-26:** Tickets will be on sale after all Masses for our famous Diamond in a Box raffle (\$25), a beautiful nativity from Lourdes (\$1 each or 6 for \$5), and for the Gala (\$30).

**December 1:** 7:00-10:00 p.m. No Room Preview Gala! Tickets are \$30 in advance; \$35 at the door. Amazing food and spirits, silent and live auctions complement the 200 nativities.

**December 2:** 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Nativity display and family room open. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$1 for 18 and under.

**December 3:** 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Nativity display and family room open. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$1 for 18 and under.

**Thanks to our Gold Sponsors:** Commercial Electric Inc., Diamonds Direct, Commonwealth Blinds and Shades, Hear Virginia, Kelleher HVAC, Liberty Homes, and Thompson McMullan





## Advent 2023

Dec. 1 — No Room at the Inn Gala (Adults Only) | 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Dec. 2 & 3 — No Room at the Inn Nativity Exhibit & Children's Room  
Sat. 10:00 am – 8:00 pm, Sun. 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Dec. 8 — Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)  
12:00 Noon & 7:00 pm

Dec. 10 — Advent Concert & Reception | 3:00 pm

Dec. 13 — Parish Reconciliation Service | 7:00 pm

Dec. 16 — Simbang Gabi Mass | 5:30 pm

Dec. 17 — Gaudete Sunday | Children's Christmas Play | 4:00 PM

Dec. 17 — Taize Prayer Service | 6:30 pm

Dec. 24 — 4th Sunday of Advent | 10:00 am\*

## Christmas Liturgies

Dec. 24 — Christmas Eve | 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, 9:00 pm\*

Dec. 25 — Christmas Day | 10:00 am

Dec. 31 — Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph  
5:30 pm vigil, 8:00 am, 10:00 am

Jan. 1 — Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)  
5:30 pm vigil, 12 noon

\*This year the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve fall on the same day. Catholics are obligated to go to Mass for both the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas, so only going to a Christmas Eve Mass will not satisfy that obligation.