



JANUARY 21, 2024 | 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

312 Tazewell Avenue, Tazewell, VA 24651

(276) 988-4626 | parishoffice@holyfamilyswva.org | facebook: search Holy Family SWVA

ST. THERESA'S

312 Tazewell Ave.
Tazewell, VA 24651

ST. ELIZABETH'S

160 Merrick Lane
Pocahontas, VA 24635

ST. MARY'S

1122 Farmer Street
Richlands, VA 24641

ST. JOSEPH'S

1007 Independence Rd.
Grundy, VA 24614

PROCESSIONS

Every procession in the Liturgy is a sign of the pilgrim Church, the body of those who believe in Christ, on their way to the Heavenly Jerusalem. The Mass begins with the procession of the priest and ministers to the altar. The Book of the Gospels is carried in procession to the ambo. The gifts of bread and wine are brought forward to the altar. Members of the assembly come forward in procession—eagerly, attentively, and devoutly—to receive Holy Communion. We who believe in Christ are moving in time toward that moment when we will leave this world and enter into the joy of the Lord in the eternal Kingdom he has prepared for us.

The Call of the First Disciples

The first disciples whom Jesus Christ called were not men of great theological education, nor with wide social influence, nor with impressive social background. They were just simple hardworking people with no important background or credentials. Hence, we can say that Jesus Christ entrusted His mission not in the hands of men and women whom the world considers great and famous, but in the hands of ordinary people. Jesus Christ does not call those who are qualified; He qualifies those whom He calls.

We are all called also to be disciples of Christ. By virtue of the sacrament of baptism, we share in the mission of Christ. Hence, we have the obligation to spread the good news. And Jesus demands from us our commitment. We should learn from the first disciples who are called by Jesus. Simon Peter and his brother Andrew left their nets and followed Jesus. James and John left their boat and their father and followed Him. The disciples left their security and their successful careers as the nets and fishing boat signify. They chose Christ rather than the comfort of a family as Zebedee, the father, stands for. Once Jesus calls and chooses us, we must hold on to Jesus. The ideal way to respond to God's call is immediately, unconditionally, and wholeheartedly. Let us be committed to God. We should have a change of heart and let God take control of us.

Have you noticed that there were no spoken words or direct answers from the four disciples? Their actions speak for themselves. They left everything and everyone for Jesus. Without hesitation and without condition, they just did what Jesus told them. Likewise, God must be first and foremost for us. Everything is secondary to God. Everyone takes second place. Remember what Jesus wants and needs are ordinary people who will give their whole life, their total time, and complete talents for Him.

We are now the hands and the feet of Jesus Christ. Jesus depends on us for continuing the mission of the first disciples. We are their successors. Like the first disciples, we are also sent to spread the Good News.

Amen.



Fr. Renier Supranes

Mk 1:14–20

After John had been arrested,
Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God:
"This is the time of fulfillment.
The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel."

As he passed by the Sea of Galilee,
he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the
sea;
they were fishermen.
Jesus said to them,
"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."
Then they abandoned their nets and followed him.
He walked along a little farther
and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John.
They too were in a boat mending their nets.
Then he called them.
So they left their father Zebedee in the boat
along with the hired men and followed him.

PRIEST ADMINISTRATOR

Fr. Renier Supranes
rsupranes@richmonddiocese.org
(276) 385-7312

OFFICE MANAGER/ BOOKKEEPER

Lydia St. Peter

OFFICE HOURS

Mon–Fri 9:30AM – 2:30PM

Please call the parish office
to make arrangements for
the **Sacraments of Baptism,**
Anointing of the Sick or
Holy Matrimony as well as
funerals. **Reconciliation** is
available from 30 minutes
before a scheduled Mass.

MASS TIMES

SATURDAY

4PM – St. Joseph's
6PM – St. Mary's

SUNDAY

9AM – St. Elizabeth's
11:30AM – St. Theresa's

TUESDAY & FRIDAY

10AM – St. Theresa's

Cover image:

John Martin, *Repentance of
Nineveh*, 1840

Prayer as Petition

Barb Szyszkiewicz, *simplycatholic.com*



“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God” (Phil 4:6-7).

Prayer of petition, quite simply, is asking for God’s help. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus encourages us to place our needs before God in prayer. In giving us the Lord’s Prayer (Mt 6:9-13), Jesus instructs us to ask God for what we need, trusting that God both knows our needs and loves us enough to give us what is good for us. “Which one of you would hand his son a stone when he asks for a loaf of bread, or a snake when he asks for a fish? If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good things to those who ask him” (Mt 7:9-11).

At the same time, Jesus emphasizes in the Lord’s Prayer that we need to express, along with our needs, our willingness to accept God’s will. Jesus, in his own prayer at Gethsemane, offers an example of how to pray this way: “Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; still, not my will, but yours, be done” (Lk 22:42).

In all humility, we reach out to God, knowing that he is the source of all good things, including for-

givenness. Prayers of contrition, expressing sorrow for our sins and asking for God’s mercy, help to bring us back into communion with God and each other, according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church (see No. 2631). Psalms 51 and 130 are beautiful expressions of prayers of contrition. In the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Lk 18:9-14), the prayer, “O God, be merciful to me, a sinner!” is a humble prayer of contrition.

Many of the psalms are prayers of petition, often including themes of contrition (Psalms 51 and 130, for example) and need for protection (Psalms 4, 6, 10, 13, and 17, among many others). Some psalms, such as 94, 98, 99, 137, and 147, also express anticipation of the coming of God’s Kingdom, just as Jesus echoes, “Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven” (Mt 6:10).

Prayers of petition are often very spontaneous: “God, help me!” Even if we feel far from God, we are able, in our supplication, to turn to him for help. Every need, the Catechism reminds us, “can become the object of petition” (No. 2633). We should not be afraid to approach God to entrust him with our needs, in ordinary times as well as desperate ones. Bringing these needs to God is a humble way to acknowledge his goodness, kindness, power, and mercy. Even in the most difficult times, when “God, help me!” or “God, help us!” is as much as we can muster, we are encouraged to ask for God’s help.

We are also encouraged to persevere in this kind of prayer. In the parable of the persistent widow (Lk 18:1-8), Jesus underscores the need to “pray always without becoming weary.” God hears and answers those who have faith, and that faith is shown in our determination not to give up when our prayer is not answered immediately or in the way we expect.

Where do we see this in the Mass?

One of the first things we do at Mass is pray for God's mercy and forgiveness of our sins during the Penitential Act. Just before the Eucharistic Prayer, we petition God to accept and bless the gifts we offer to him. One of the options for the Memorial Acclamation contains a prayer of petition: "Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free." The Lord's Prayer and Lamb of God are both prayers of petition, as is our prayer after the Lamb of God: "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed." By the time we approach the altar to receive the Lord in the Eucharist, we have prayed for God's mercy at least four times.

3 practical ways to pray this way

- Pray an Act of Contrition every day.
- When you pray in petition, be sure to close with the Lord's Prayer or simply the words, "your will be done."
- Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet, a prayer of trust in the Lord and the power of his mercy.

What do the saints say about prayer of petition?

"God bestows many things on us out of His liberality, even without our asking for them: but that He wishes to bestow certain things on us at our asking, is for the sake of our good, namely, that we may acquire confidence in having recourse to God, and that we may recognize in Him the Author of our goods." (St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica*)

Christ's Prayer for Unity

It's natural to think of the institution of the Eucharist when the Last Supper comes to mind. The sacramental memorial of Christ's paschal mystery is, after all, "the source and summit of the entire Christian life" (*Lumen Gentium*, No. 11).

A close reading of John's Gospel, however, sheds a different light on the Last Supper. In fact, he doesn't write about the institution of the Eucharist directly at all. Instead, John primarily focuses on Jesus washing the feet of His apostles — an act of charity par excellence, connecting his impending sacrifice to service.

But there's yet another aspect of John's narrative of the Last Supper which sticks out. It comes from Jesus' lengthy prayer to His Father — Christ's prayer for unity.

Fully aware of humanity's fallen nature, Jesus anticipated the struggles and strife that would plague His followers in the future. And so here, in the context of the first Eucharist, Jesus offers a prayer pleading for unity among His followers. He indicates that the very credibility of His message hinges upon that unity.

"I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me" (Jn 17:20-21). Jesus prays that Christians be united "that the world may believe." And yet we aren't.

The regrettable separations and divisions in Christendom over the last millennium have been met in the last century by a realization of one of Christ's last wishes. The ecumenical movement seeks to bring about the unity Christ wills for His Church — not to water down the deposit of the Faith handed on by Christ to the Church to a least common denominator. Since the Second Vatican Council the Catholic Church has been entirely committed to ecumenism. While much of the work to accomplish unity is handled at higher levels, we each need to do our part.

mass intentions

Date **Intention**

1/20 SATURDAY

4PM No Mass

6PM No Mass

1/21 SUNDAY

9AM No Mass

11:30AM Margaret McDonagh †

stewardship of treasure

Donations Received as of January 14 (Week 29)		
CHURCH	ATTENDANCE	OFFERINGS
St. Joseph's	11	\$407
St. Elizabeth's	16	\$475
St. Mary's	16	\$1,020
St. Theresa's	62	\$1,379
Total	105	\$3,281
Outside Donations		
Year to Date Received		\$92,231
Goal		\$81,983
Ahead/Behind Goal		+ \$10,248

BUILDING FUND

St. Mary: \$105
St. Theresa: \$241

please pray for

Louise Serreno*
Gerry Hankins
Clarence Moore
Lexi Cox
Sarah Wall
Tammy Bennett
Margaret Wasilewski
Nick Ulate
Frannie & Rayburn Minton
Sue Bailey
Christian Lambert
Shane Neal
Pete Belcher
Lucas Boyd
Ralph Heldreth
Chris Jessie
Leo Brown
Carolina Ferrare
Junior Aiken
Jeanne Hash
Lara Marshall
Carol & Jim Shumate
Andrew Satmary
Christian Marshall
Alice Godin
Bryan Gunter
Michael Beavers
Natalie Dodge
Roger Empson
Dreama Ritter
Chris Lambert
Mary Muncy
Cindy Lambert
Helen Petro

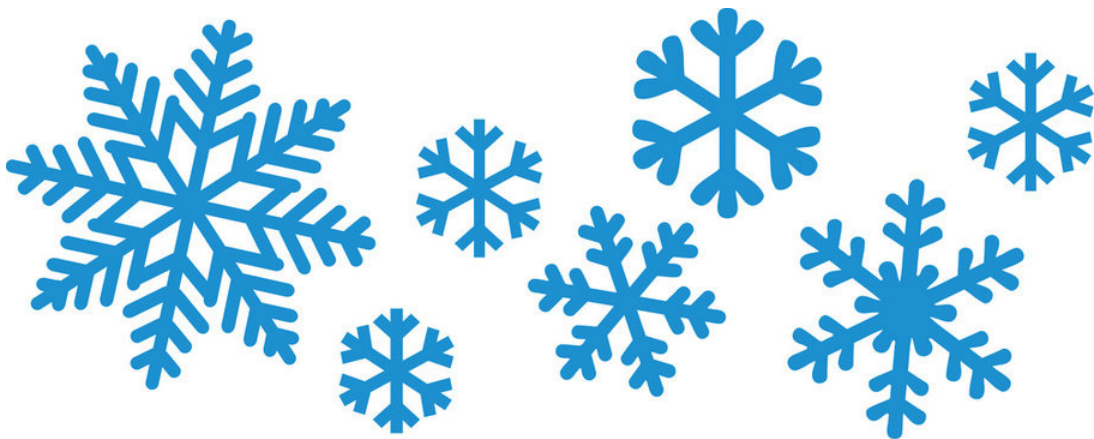
Clinard Coleman
Joan Harrison
Joe & Yvonne Blevins
Kyle Brown
Sarah Walters
Amelia Proffit
Maurice Law
Dennis & Frances Savage
Nancy Jo Testerman
Josh Cornwell
John Shumate
Doug Vance
Russ Hatfield
Connie Pace
Jody Hamilton
Annette Pike
Sharon Mullady
Veronica Ross
Skip Reynolds
Danny McNamara
Louie Negroni
Mary Gobble
Karen Hart
The Dalton family
Allen & Melody James
Betty Tabor
Joseph Romeo
Denise Campbell
Joelle Bolling
Sara Griffith
Chuck Blevins
Tom Farrell
Sally Rash
Kim Shoun

council members

PARISH COUNCIL:
Tonya Hylton, Frannie Minton, Ralph Shawver, Barbara Jones, Donna Lambert, Maria Farris, Zach Hash

FINANCE COUNCIL:
Kathy & Bob Buchanan, Randy Bolling, Doug Vance, Anne Danko, Jim Talbert, Jackie Shawver, Lydia St. Peter

No parish news or events this week!



birthdays & anniversaries:

JANUARY 22: Maria Ciaccio, Felicia deCourcey | **24:** Steve Hakins | **25:** Jim Ciaccio

"The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent and believe in the Gospel."
-Mk 1:15



Appalachian Family Care LLC



18765 Riverside Dr.
Vansant, VA 24656
Tel. (276) 935-2880
Fax (276) 935-2889

Located in Food City
Owner: Frannie Minton

DOMINION DRIVEWAY & PARKING LOT PAVING, INC.

- Paving
- Concrete
- Grading
- Landscaping
- Demolition
- Gravel
- Topsoil
- Patio Paver
- Retaining Walls



2927 Adria Road
North Tazewell, VA 24630
Phone: 276-979-8504
Email: pave4u@roadrunner.com

Amanda Hankins-Shrader – 276-701-5840

Scott Shrader – 276-970-3004

www.DominionDriveway.com



3224 CUMBERLAND ROAD
BLUEFIELD, WV 24701



PRO SHOP - SNACK BAR - BILLIARDS

CARL MARIOTTI, JR.
LORETTA HAMMOND

304-325-7037