

PRINCE *of* PEACE

CATHOLIC CHURCH

621 Cedar Road
Chesapeake, Virginia 23322

Tel 757-547-0356

(Answering service on call after hours)

Fax 757-436-6477

Father John Bosco Walugembe, *Pastor*
jwalugembe@richmonddiocese.org

Sister Dolores Sabisky, IHM,
Pastoral Associate
sister.dolores@popparish.org

Parish Email

pop.office@popparish.org

Parish Website

www.popparish.org

Mass Live Stream

www.facebook.com/
popchurchchesapeake/
or youtube.com

Diocesan Website

www.richmonddiocese.org

Bulletin Deadline

Tuesdays at noon

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Friday, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Masses

Saturday 5:00 P.M.

Sunday 9:00 A.M. &
11:00 A.M. *Livestreamed*

Tuesday-Friday 9:00 A.M.

Reconciliation

Every Saturday at 3:30 - 4:45 P.M.

Register in the Parish

Welcome! To join the parish,
please contact our office at
pop.office@popparish.org.

“*Rejoice*

in the Lord always;
again, I will say,

Rejoice

Let your gentleness be
known to everyone.

The Lord is near.”

– Philippians 4:4-5



STAFF

PARISH SECRETARY:
Mrs. Shannon Schmidt

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:
Mrs. Melody Smith

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT COORDINATOR:
Mrs. Kelly Bruno

MUSIC MINISTER:
Mr. Joseph Guardino

BOOKKEEPER:
Mrs. Pam Lerach

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR:
Mr. John Leonard

CHAIRPERSONS
Parish Council:
Mark Shepard757-567-8592
Finance Council:
Barb Blumfelder757-548-1951

MINISTRY CHAIRPERSONS
Christian Formation:
Heather Thomas757-619-8776
Community Life:
Sheila Gargiulo716-244-2031
Evangelization/Peace & Justice:
Mary Riley757-560-6444
Liturgy:
Debbie Tucker757-436-0456
Stewardship:
Alan Cole757-802-5820

CALENDAR OF EVENTS THIS WEEK: DECEMBER 15-22, 2024

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

9:00 a.m. Mass
10:15-11:00 a.m. Combined Music Rehearsal
11:00 a.m. Mass
1:00 p.m. Baptism Preparation Session (Virtual)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

No Daily Mass

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

9:00 a.m. Mass
6:00 p.m. Simbang Gabi Mass and Social

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

9:00 a.m. Mass
10:00-11:30 a.m. Food Pantry Open
5:00-6:30 p.m. Sonlight in Rooms 4 and 5
5:00-6:00 p.m. Children's Choir
6:00-7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

9:00 a.m. Mass
10:30-11:30 a.m. Daytime Choir Rehearsal
7:00-8:00 p.m. Holy Hour

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

9:00 a.m. Mass
2:00-8:00 p.m. Parish Directory Photography in Rooms 4 and 5
6:00-8:00 p.m. Family Paint Night

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:00-11:00 a.m. Breakfast with Santa in Rooms 9 and 10
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Parish Directory Photography in Rooms 4 and 5
3:00-5:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Christmas Party in Parish Hall
3:30-4:45 p.m. Reconciliation

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

9:00 a.m. Mass
10:15-11:00 a.m. Youth Fundraiser Bake Sale After Masses
11:00 a.m. Combined Music Rehearsal
11:00 a.m. Mass

MASS INTENTIONS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

9:00 a.m. Jamie Parnada †

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

9:00 a.m. Alfonso Olayvar †

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

9:00 a.m. Timothy Advincula †

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

9:00 a.m. Stanley M. Span †

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

5:00 p.m. Chiong Quieng Lo †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

9:00 a.m. John Lenahan †
11:00 a.m. For the Parishioners
† denotes deceased

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE QUOTE FOR MEDITATION

December 15, 2024:

Third Sunday of Advent

Luke 3:16 "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

December 22, 2024:

Fourth Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Micah 5:1-4a

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

As we pray for peace and an end to violence throughout the world, we as a parish community will pray the Prayer to St. Michael after Mass. The prayer will be prayed after the Final Blessing and before the Recessional.

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

MASS COUNTS: DECEMBER 7-8, 2024

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	139
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	364
Sunday	11:00 a.m.	273
Total:		776

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER by Saint Alphonsus Liguori

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

ORATIO IMPERATA:

God Our Father, we come to You in our need to ask Your protection against the 2019 N-Coronavirus that has claimed lives and has affected many. We pray for Your grace for the people tasked with studying the nature and cause of this virus and its disease and of stemming the tide of its transmission. Guide the hands and minds of medical experts that they may minister to the sick with competence and compassion, and of those governments and private agencies that must find cure and solution to this epidemic. We pray for those afflicted; may they be restored to health soon. Grant us the grace to work for the good of all and to help those in need. Grant this through Our Lord, Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Please note, as a Community of Faith, we offer our prayers for the sick. With so many requests for prayers, we have begun rotating names. Please be assured that sick loved ones and friends continue to be prayed for... Each week, our petition for the sick states "For the sick.... especially all those who have asked for our prayers, including..."

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS: Patricia Byrne, Rosa Iglesia, Margaret Gillaspie, Minnette Mergen, Walter Quigley, Tom Boone, June Baiocco, Christine Harrington, Carolyn Seigle, Marie Kiesel, Louise Phillips, Dick DeLong, Joan Crane, Marie Kuenzer (MC), Susan Ott, Mary Oliver, Rodney Grenne, Barbara Sullivan, Mary Anne Agne, Phyllis Hunt, Maureen Anderson, Steve Blum, Jane & Rick Gallagher, Anita York, and Diane Davis.

CHESAPEAKE HEALTHCARE CENTER: Mary Thatcher, Mike Walker, Rafaela Martinez.

AT HOME: Edward Gasca, Molly Newman, Shawn Ries, Elma Alviar, Beth Ryker, Betssie Ellen Reed, Shirley Byrd, Kathryn Marks, Elisa Agudelo, Jean Lamont, Emily Lutz, Kathryn Marks, Fannye Wickley, Gene DiPascale, Joseph Evan, Patty and Al Russell, Ada Murphy, Sherri Yewitt, Paul Michael Thomas, and Heather Speicher.

IN THE HOSPITAL: Mike Zimmerman

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Paul Keel, Sal Alvarado, Kalin Kines, Mary Wisenburg, Cristina Almaden, Alex Frenette, James Roy, Delores Caccamo, Jim Daffron

ASSISTIVE HEARING DEVICES

Our new sound system is now working with assistive hearing devices for use during Mass. While we recommend you bring your own earbuds; however, we do have headsets you may borrow. Please see an usher for assistance.



Preparing Our Hearts

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Mon, Dec. 16	St. Gregory
Wed, Dec. 18	St. Stephen
Thurs, Dec. 19	St. John the Apostle

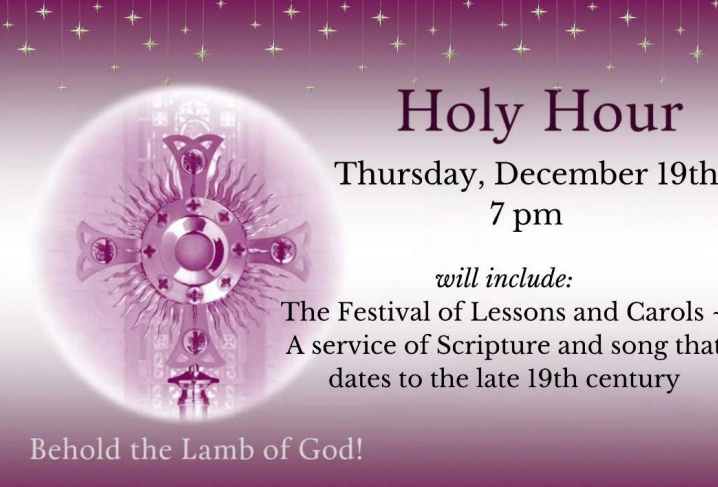
ALL SERVICES BEGIN AT 7:00 P.M.

PASTORAL COUNCIL VACANCIES

Prince of Peace currently has three Pastoral Council vacancies. In coordination with Father John Bosco, Council develops the Parish Mission Statement, vision, plans and policy. Please contact the Church Office for more information at 757-547-0356.

ALTAR SERVER MINISTRY

Prince of Peace Altar Server Ministry still has room to grow. This Ministry is open to our young parishioners – girls and boys – who have received First Holy Communion. Parents of those interested in joining are asked to please contact Mark Falcon at 703-409-7733.



Holy Hour
 Thursday, December 19th
 7 pm

will include:
 The Festival of Lessons and Carols -
 A service of Scripture and song that
 dates to the late 19th century

Behold the Lamb of God!



2024 PRINCE OF PEACE CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 24
 No 9:00 a.m. Mass
 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.: Vigil Christmas Masses

Wednesday, December 25
 10:00 a.m. Mass (livestreamed)

Thursday, December 26-Friday, December 27:
 No Daily Masses

Saturday, December 28
 5:00 p.m. Mass: Vigil Feast of the Holy Family

Sunday, December 29
 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses: Feast of the Holy Family
 (11:00 a.m. Mass livestreamed)

Tuesday, December 31
 9:00 a.m. Daily Mass – No Vigil Mass

Wednesday, January 1
 10:00 a.m. Mass: Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
 (livestreamed)

The Parish Office is closed
 Monday, December 23rd-Wednesday, January 1st



Text "Give" to 757-300-0155 or visit our website www.popparish.org to sign up for E-Giving. This helps to reduce our mailing costs. After your account is set-up, please email pop.office@popparish.org to let us know to stop mailing your envelopes. Thank you for your generosity!

UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS

PoP Capital Improvement	December 14/15, 2024
Catholic Charities/Parish Needs	December 24/25, 2024
PoP Capital Improvement	January 11/12, 2025

2024 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL SHARING HIS LOVE WITH OTHERS

As part of the Catholic Community Foundation of the Diocese of Richmond Annual Appeal, Prince of Peace has received our second of four parish sharing checks this month in the amount of \$6,452.50. This brings our total parish share to date \$25,611.09. Thank you for your support of the many Diocesan ministries in our parish and helping to renovate our church for our 50th Anniversary.

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS: Baptismal Preparation – In preparation to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism with an infant, the parents are asked to attend a Baptismal Preparation Session at Prince of Peace. Sessions are being held by Zoom. The sessions will begin at 1:00 p.m. and last 45 minutes to an hour. The next sessions scheduled at Prince of Peace:

- **Sunday, December 15, 2024**
- **Sunday, January 19, 2025**
- **Sunday, February 16, 2025**

Parents are asked to register for the sessions by visiting our parish website at popparish.org. Go to the *Sacrament* tab and scroll down to *Baptisms*. Anyone with questions, please contact Sister Dolores at the Parish Office.

ADULT CONFIRMATION: For any adult Catholic who has never been confirmed, sessions are held throughout the year. For more information, please call Sister Dolores at the Parish Office or email her at Sister.Dolores@popparish.org.

OCIA: Thinking of joining the Catholic Church??? Prince of Peace parish community offers “Order of Christian Initiation of Adults” (OCIA) process for those adults seeking to learn more about and join the Catholic Christian Faith. OCIA is for those who are not yet baptized and also for Christians of other denominations who choose to seek full Communion with the Catholic Church. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested in learning more about the OCIA journey, please contact Sister Dolores at the Parish Office at 757-547-0356, or email Sister.Dolores@popparish.org.

50th Anniversary Parish Directory

PHOTO SESSIONS STILL AVAILABLE DEC. 20-21

CHURCH CODE: VA270
Password: photos
WWW.UCDIR.COM

YEAR-END GIFT GIVING

This is the season we give thanks to God for all He has done for us this past year and throughout our lives. It is also a good time to begin considering how we might give back some of our wealth or assets to Him with a special year-end gift. **Gift giving is a great way to thank God for these blessings.**

Take advantage of the charitable tax deduction for gifts made before December 31 (benefits of income tax deductions, capital gains savings, and other financial benefits), and consider the variety of gift options available to you. Your gift to your parish can make a great difference. There are a variety of ways you can contribute a gift. The easiest and most direct methods are donations of cash, stock and IRA Charitable Rollover. For more information on how you can help make a difference by contributing a year-end gift to our parish, please contact the Parish Office.



Prince of Peace Donor Tree

The Prince of Peace Donor Tree in the Commons of the Church is a permanent means for our community to offer remembrances and to mark milestones; etching in time significant events in our Parish Family. This ongoing project raises capital for future Parish needs. The tree was installed May 20, 2018 to coordinate with the birth of the Church on Pentecost Sunday. Like our Parish, we'd love to see our tree grow in commemoration of our 50th Anniversary. To place an order, please contact the Parish Office or Alan Cole at alan.cole@popparish.org.

Christian Formation

CF NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTIAN FORMATION 2024-2025

There are three class models this year:

- **Friday Family Faith** – 1st Fridays, 6:30-8:30 p.m., remaining three classes per month are homeschooled
- **Elementary Classes** – Sunday mornings, 10:05-10:55 a.m., between both Masses
- **Youth Ministry** – Sunday evenings, 6:00-8:00 p.m., twice a month, plus events
- **Peer Ministry** – Sunday evenings, 5:00-8:00 p.m., twice a month, plus events



If you have any questions, please contact:
 Elementary Formation – Melody.Smith@popparish.org
 Middle School/High School Formation & Peer Ministry – Kelly.Bruno@popparish.org

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) will resume January 5th.

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO YOUTH IN MOTION

CHRISTMAS Bake Sale

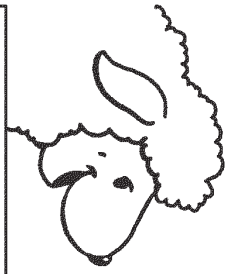
DECEMBER 21 - 22

PLEASE DROP OFF SMALL LOAF SWEET BREADS, CAKES, PIES, COOKIES OR OTHER TREATS TO THE RECEPTICLE OUTSIDE THE SOCIAL HALL DOORS THE WEEK BEFORE: DROP OFF BY 5 PM SATURDAY, DEC. 21.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH



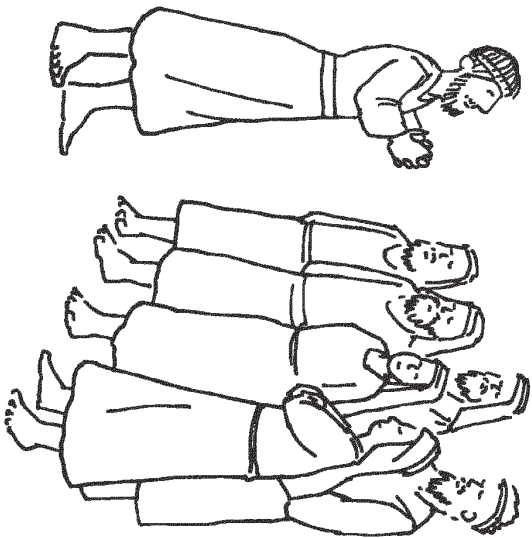
Sign up for Flocknote and receive Parish communications, ministry updates and information about Parish happenings. Simply text “POP” to **84576** and follow the prompts. Please call the Parish Office if you need assistance.



And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, ...

Fit the word parts on the blanks below to finish the words.
Hint: The word parts are NOT listed in order.

___ur m ___ds yo ___ j ___us
 h ___ts Ch ___ ___uar ___ ___ll
 ...wi | | | g ___d ___ur
 ___ear ___ and yo ___ in ___
 in ___rist ___es ___

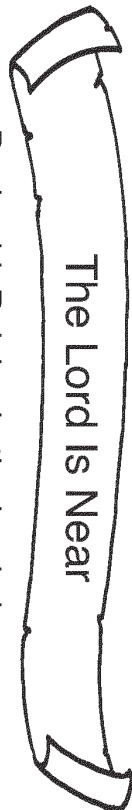


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Ages 7+

December 15, 2024 • Philippians 4:4-7



The Lord Is Near

Paul said: Rejoice in the Lord always.
I will say it again: Rejoice!

Circle the hidden letters. R E J O I C E



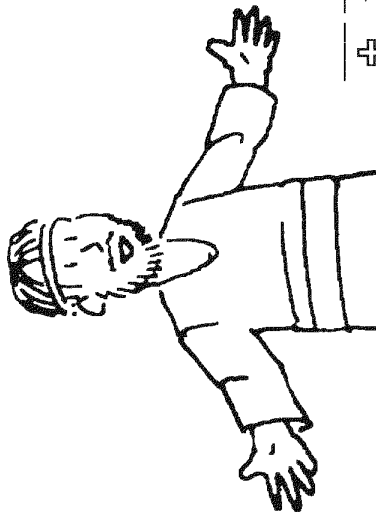
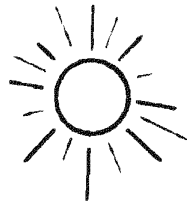
Enter your SECRET CODE to unlock games @ games.childrensbulletins.com

SECRET CODE
WYYC78

What did Paul then say?

Use the code to write the letters on the blanks.

◆ = D	⊙ = I	● = O
☀ = E	⊕ = L	■ = R
★ = H	□ = N	○ = T



e _ _ y _ u _
 ⊕ ☀ ○ ● ■

g e _ _ e _ e s s
 ☀ □ ○ ⊕ ☀ □ ☀

b e _ e v _ e _ _
 ☀ ☀ ☀ ⊙ ◆ ☀ □ ○









_ _ a _ _
 ○ ● ⊕ ⊕

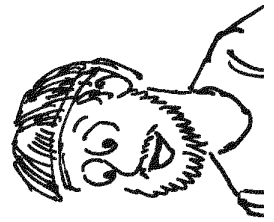
e _ _
 ○ ★ ☀ ⊕ ● ■ ◆

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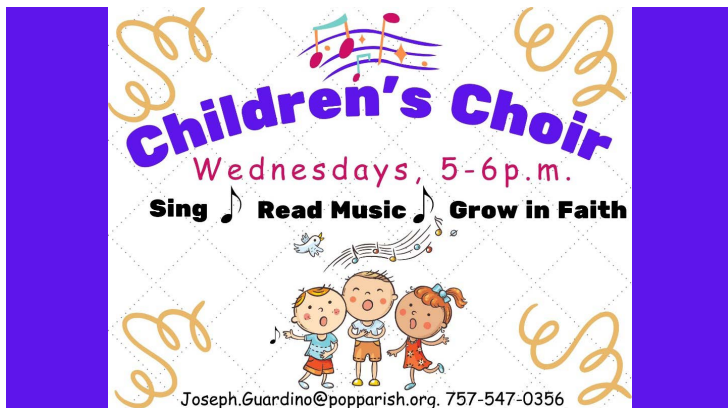
Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, ...

Write the name of each item. Then read the letters in the darker boxes from top to bottom, and write the word on the blank below.

							
		Q					
B					C		
			T				P



... with thanksgiving, present your _____ to God.



YOUNG ADULT

THEOLOGY ON TAP

The goal of Theology on Tap in the Diocese of Richmond is to provide a place for young adults (roughly ages 21-35) to gather, delve into a Catholic topic, and connect with other young adults in the area. All young adults, whether single or married, are welcome!
Date: Last Thursday of the month

Location: Locations rotate every month, contact Chloe for more information.

Time: 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Contact: Chloe Barnes at oliviafreeman804@outlook.com.

VIRTUS:

All Catechists, Assistants, VYMs, people in leadership roles, and those serving minors or vulnerable adults are required to register for and attend a one-time class, VIRTUS Protecting God's Children. Registration for the class will initiate the Safe Environment Screening which is required every five years. Please email our POP safe environment coordinator Melody.Smith@popparish.org for more information.

MEN'S GROUP

Prince of Peace is starting a Men's Group in January: Men of St. Joseph. Anyone interested is asked to contact Sister Dolores for more details.



GRAND GROUP NEWS

We wish everyone a blessed Christmas time and look forward to seeing current and new members at our annual Birthday Celebration on **January 7, 2025**. Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on the 7th followed by a potluck "soup" lunch. There will be games, prizes, and lots of fun. We welcome all Seniors with a little extra time on their hands and would like to meet really great people. We are certain you will enjoy ALL our 2025 planned activities. Contact Joan or Judy for more details.
 Please contact Joan at 757-287-6779 or stanjam22@aol.com or Judy at 757-472-6008 or judithflorance@cox.net with any questions.

PEACE AND JUSTICE:
 We strive to live the love of Christ
 by sharing it with those in our community.

THANK YOU!

A special thank-you to all of the many parishioners that contributed to the Thanksgiving meals provided to 150 seniors and 50 people living on the streets. Another very special thank-you goes to the kitchen, packing, sorting, and driving crews. Thank you for making Thanksgiving a true gift to so many! Your support has made a meaningful difference in the lives of those you served.

FOOD PANTRY: BE A LIGHT TO THE WORLD

The Food Pantry this past November gave food to 308 families and a total of 1,155 family members. A God bless you, and thank you from our guts goes out to our Food Pantry Volunteers, Parishioners and Patrons for their time, food and financial support.

If you have not contributed toward the Food Pantry, it is not too late. Help to defray the cost of the food with a financial gift. Thank you and God bless.

FOOD COLLECTION DATES

Saturday and Sunday: January 4 and 5 (Mark your calendars. Drop off food bags before each Mass in the Commons. Thank you.)

HOLIDAY FOOD PANTRY HOURS:

Food Pantry Closed: December 23-January 6, 2025

We are in need of: Spaghetti Sauce, Ramen Noodles, Canned: Tuna, Soups, Fruit and Vegetables

Drop off before all Masses on the benches in Commons

Consider a monthly financial contribution and the pantry will do the shopping. How much? Just remember you can't out give the Lord. Talk it over with the Holy Spirit; He will guide you.

How can I contribute to the Food Pantry:

Food Pantry Contribution Box: Located in the commons, on table near entrance to social hall.

Offertory Basket at Mass: Check made out to POP Church and in Memo: Food Pantry

E-Giving...Go to church Website, www.popparish.org, to sign up for church giving. Follow POP ParishSOFT prompts for donation to Food Pantry Funds.

Church Office

Mail: Prince of Peace Catholic Church, 621 Cedar Road, Chesapeake, VA 23322

Please consider a year-end gift to The Prince of Peace Food Pantry Endowment Fund. It is a Gift that keeps on giving throughout the years.



HELPING OUR HOMELESS CHESAPEAKE NEIGHBORS

Agape Feast is an ecumenical homeless outreach ministry at Prince of Peace. The ministry is in dire need of shelf-stable food donations items, like fruit cups, chicken, cracker packs, individual serving size raisin packs, and more. We distribute

and serve about 160 meals a week to people who are living on the streets, in their vehicles, or in encampments. Your donation of the food items we need is incredibly valuable to those we serve. It is as easy as going to this **QR Code, ordering and having items sent to POP – Homeless Meals**. The address will be available for you to choose once you go to check out. If you have any questions at all, please just email cooeybrooks@cox.net. Thank you.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE VOLUNTEERS

Agape Feast of Prince of Peace needs at least 6 people to become Team Members for our Parking Lot Food Distribution Program. The distribution takes only about 30 minutes (4 days every 2 1/2 months before regular travel times to work). Please consider being a part of the team that makes such a huge difference in the lives of those we serve. Please speak with Katerina Blackstone for information at 757-288-6766.

ASSISTANCE FOR 65+ OR AT-RISK PARISHIONERS

During this time when you may be self-quarantining due to your age or because you are high risk, if you need assistance with grocery shopping or other high importance errands, please give our Parish Office a call at 757-547-0356. We will contact a parish volunteer to call you to assist you with your needs.

FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

Attention, all Parish Musicians, Singers, and lovers of music: Our choir and instrumental groups are preparing for an exciting, song-filled 50th Jubilee Year. For the 2024-2025 Year, we will have a Christmas Concert, participate in Simbang Gabi and Jubilee Mass, and introduce new music from Gregorian Chant to Contemporary Christian! In order to make this happen, we need you. If you have sung or played with us in the past, coming from another parish music program, or are new to music, *you are welcome!* Please see the Music Director, Joseph Guardino at Joseph.guardino@popparish.org or 757-547-0356, if you are interested in joining.

PRINCE OF PEACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Scan Now

There's a place for everyone in the Music Ministry

<https://popparish.org/ministries/music-ministry/>

Can't Make It Out For Wednesday Night Choir Rehearsals?

Join us for a new Daytime Choir Rehearsal

Thursdays, 10:30 - 11:30 am

FORMED.ORG:

Prince of Peace offers a wide variety of Catholic movies, educational programs, seminars, books, and spiritual exercises for all POP families and adults at no cost to them. Here is how to get signed up!

1. Go to www.formed.org.
2. Click on the blue "Sign up as a Parishioner" button.
3. Enter: "Prince of Peace, 621 Cedar Road, Chesapeake, VA"
4. Enter your Name and Email.

PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Puebla, Mexico City, Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Pyramids, Ocatlan, Tlaxcala – Daily Mass with Fr. John Bosco Walugembe. **MARCH 14-19, 2025 (six days).**

Tour cost: \$2,399.00 with taxes from Norfolk, VA.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TOUR: Round-trip airfare from Norfolk, VA; All entrance fees in the itinerary; Five nights accommodations at four-star hotel; five breakfasts, five dinners; daily Mass; hotel taxes, baggage handling, service charges.

Not included: Tips to driver and guide, lunch, drinks, personal items, travel insurance, baggage allowance.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS: Contact Josie Anacta at 757-729-5685 (cell) or email louieanacta@gmail.com.



GIVE YOUR SPOUSE A SPECIAL GIFT THIS CHRISTMAS

Sign up now for the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend and receive the gift of a great marriage. Making a weekend will help you put a little Christmas in your marriage every day! For more information or to register, go to WWME.org, click "Apply" and search for "Virginia" or your desired location. Feel free to contact Donald and Helen Dudley at 703-646-1521 or donald.helen.dudley@wwme.org with any questions. Here are a few upcoming experiences:

- * January 7-February 18, virtual (Tuesday evenings)
- * March 14-16, Jessup, MD and Ocean City, NJ
- * March 21-23, Emerald Isle, NC



PRINCE OF PEACE SIMBANG GABI MINISTRY

The *Simbang Gabi* is an ancient but little-known custom of preparing for the coming of the Child Jesus. It is a long-treasured Philippine tradition, originally a series of "dawn Masses" for nine consecutive days before Christmas Day. Its liturgical significance emanates from the Season of Advent, being the time of spiritual preparation and purification to welcome and receive the Child Jesus in our midst. The Mass at Dawn, *Simbang Gabi*, is a Novena to the Blessed Mother. It starts every December 16th and is one of the oldest and most important religious celebrations in the Philippines. Here in the United States, Filipino immigrants brought with them this distinct tradition which has planted deep roots in many states like California, New York, Chicago, New Jersey, and in Virginia receiving a strong and unequivocal support by the bishop of the Diocese of Richmond and the Office of Ethnic Ministries.



Tuesday, December 17, 2024, 6:00 p.m. Simbang Gabi Mass and Social: Volunteers and help are always needed. Please contact Val and Nelia Macasaet at 757-482-5064 or 757-737-1506, or email neliamacasaet@gmail.com. Thank you all.

Teach us to give and not count the cost – St. Ignatius of Loyola

Join Us To Help

DECORATE the Church

Sunday, December 22nd following 11 a.m. Mass
 Monday, December 23rd when poinsettias arrive
 Poinsettia Watering Helpers Needed during the Christmas Season.

For more information contact Joni Dillabough 757-228-2125

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 8240:

Attention, Catholic Men! Have you ever thought of joining the Knights of Columbus? The Knights of Columbus is the largest fraternal Catholic organization in the world. Men age 18 and over, who are practicing Catholics, are strongly encouraged to join for a variety of reasons. All Knights strive to be Catholic gentlemen, to learn more about their faith, and are dedicated to putting their faith in action in support of their church, family, community, and, yes, charities that help benefit children, the elderly, the handicapped, and the homeless. Prince of Peace Knights of Columbus Council 8240 has existed for over 35 years. Working together in unity and fraternity, the Brothers have helped countless families, individuals, church programs, and benefits over the years. We make a difference! Come join us. For more information, please contact Grand Knight Frank Kenney at greatfx35@gmail.com or call 757-615-6285.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF EASTERN VIRGINIA

Are you or a loved one struggling with grief, depression or anxiety?

Catholic Charities of Eastern Virginia offers mental health counseling for children, adolescents and adults, as well as marriage counseling services. Appointments are available in person or via telehealth. Fees are charged on a sliding scale according to income and subsidies are available. Please call 757-467-7707 to make an appointment today!

Want to make a difference in the lives of others and live out your Catholic faith? Pregnant? Need Help?

Please call or text Catholic Charities 24/7 at 757-274-4952 for pregnancy counseling services. All help is free and confidential. Let our professional staff support you whether parenting or making a plan of adoption. You are not alone!

Working hard but not getting ahead?

Catholic Charities has multiple mentoring initiatives designed to help families move from surviving to thriving! Call Erika Crosby at 757-456-2366 for more information on our economic initiatives. All services are free.

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Pictured left to right, front: Nick Vacca, Betty Vacca, Joanne Ervin, Ruth Koon, Pam Lerach, Sharon Lynch, Judith Florance, Bishop Knestout Back: Gayle Hoppenjans, Stephen Ervin, Paul Hoppenjans, Keith Koon, Tom Lynch, Mary Williams



PRINCE OF PEACE HONORED BY BISHOP KNESTOUT FOR LEGACY GIVING

Members of the Lumen Christi Legacy Society from Prince of Peace attended its annual Mass and Luncheon in Richmond on October 22. The event, hosted by the Catholic Community Foundation of the Diocese of Richmond, honors the over 300 members of the Society throughout the Diocese. Mass was celebrated by Bishop Barry Knestout, followed by a luncheon where members of the Society met with the Bishop and the staff of the Foundation. Bishop Knestout honored Prince of Peace Parish for having the highest attendance among all parishes and blessed the commemorative plaque honoring Society members. The plaque will be on display in the church commons. Membership in the Lumen Christi Legacy Society is an honor for those who have remembered their church in their estate plans. At the event, The Catholic Community Foundation reminded members that it has partnered with a free, online resource that can guide anyone through the process of creating a legally valid will in about 20 minutes: FreeWill.com/RichmondCatholicFoundation. If you would like more information about Catholic estate planning, or including the parish in your plan, please contact the Parish Office at 757-547-0356.

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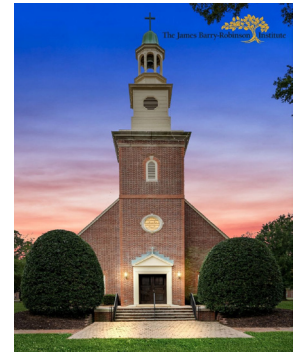
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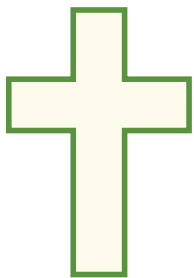
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