

PRINCE OF PEACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

621 Cedar Road, Chesapeake, VA 23322 757-547-0356 • www.popparish.org

STAFF

PARISH SECRETARY:

Mrs. Shannon Schmidt

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Mrs. Melody Smith

YOUTH/YOUNG ADULT COORDINATOR:

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Mr. Joseph Guardino

BOOKKEEPER:

Mrs. Pam Lerach

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

COORDINATOR:

Mr. John Leonard

CHAIRPERSONS

Parish Council:

Mark Shepard......757-567-8592

Finance Council:

Barb Blumfelder......757-548-1951

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

MASS INTENTIONS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

9:00 a.m. Rayden Baul †

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

10:00 a.m. Zenaida Irezares †

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

9:00 a.m. Romulo Calubaquib †

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

9:00 a.m. Mark J. Stangler †

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

5:00 p.m. Al Frenette †

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

9:00 a.m. Dr. Robert Windorf † 11:00 a.m. For the Parishioners

† denotes deceased

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS THIS WEEK: DECEMBER 29, 2024- JANUARY 5, 2025

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00 a.m. Mass

10:15-11:00 a.m. Combined Music Rehearsal

11:00 a.m. Mass

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30

No Daily Mass

Office is Closed

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31

9:00 a.m. Mass followed by Praying of the Rosary

No Vigil Mass

Office is Closed

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1

10:00 a.m. Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God Mass,

Holy Day of Obligation (livestreamed)

Food Pantry is Closed Office is Closed

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

9:00 a.m.

Mass followed by Praying of the Rosary

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

9:00 a.m.

Mass followed by Exposition and Adoration

of the Blessed Sacrament

10:30-11:30 a.m. Knights of Columbus in Parish Hall for First Friday

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

3:30-4:45 p.m.

Reconciliation

5:00 p.m. Mass

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5 9:00 a.m.

Mass

Youth Fundraiser Waffle Sunday after Masses Elementary Christian Formation Epiphany Party

10:00-11:00 a.m. Combined Music Rehearsal 10:15-11:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

6:00-8:00 p.m. Middle and High School Christian Formation

THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE QUOTE FOR **MEDITATION**

December 29, 2024:

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

Luke 2:19 "His mother kept all these things in her heart."

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

January 1, 2025:

Mary, The Holy Mother of God

1st Reading: Numbers 6:22-27 2nd Reading: Galatians 4:4-7 Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

January 5, 2025:

The Epiphany of the Lord

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

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.

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.



JANUARY 1, 2025 – SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

Holy Day of Obligation 10:00 a.m. Mass (livestreamed)

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, we do have headsets you may borrow. Please see an usher for assistance.

2025 LIST OF NATIONAL, DIOCESAN and Parish COLLECTIONS

Name of Collection	Date of Collection
PoP Capital Improvement	January 11/12
Respect Life Collection	January 19
PoP Capital Improvement	February 15/16
PoP Capital Improvement	March 15/16
Catholic Relief Services (4th Sunday of Lent)	March 30, 2025
PoP Capital Improvement	April 19/20
PoP Capital Improvement	May 17/18
Diocesan Home Missions	May 25
PoP 50th Anniversary	June 2
PoP Capital Improvement	June 14/15
Peter's Pence	June 29
PoP Capital Improvement	July 19/20
PoP Capital Improvement	August 9/10
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	August 15, 2025
PoP Capital Improvement	September 20/21
PoP Capital Improvement	October 11/12
World Mission Collection [combined, shared equally among World Mission Sunday/Black & Indian Missions/Catholic Home Missions Appeal] (Penultimate Sunday in Oct)	October 19
Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA	November 8/9
Retired Religious	December 14
Catholic Charities (Christmas Day) (1/2 church needs)	December 25



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!

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.

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: Bill Holtsnider, Richard Higgins, 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: Patricia Byrne, Mary Thatcher, Mike Walker, Rafaela Martinez.

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

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED: Shirley "Minnette" Mergen, Maurice Eley, Linda Carlberg, Paul Keel

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.

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. Gifting 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.

OUR TREASURES TO THE LORD									
WEEK ENDING	OFFERTORY		E-GIVING		GENERAL PARISH OPERATIONS	OVER/(SHORT)*			
November 3	\$ 9,073.19	\$	7,023.00	\$	7,980.80	\$	8,115.39		
November 10	\$ 7,526.00	\$	6,493.00	\$	24,394.92	\$	(10,375.92)		
November 17	\$ 6,495.86	\$	4,633.00	\$	2,608.24	\$	8,520.62		
November 24	\$ 8,287.00	\$	4,328.00	\$	16,084.53	\$	(3,469.53)		
Total	\$ 31,382.05	\$	22,477.00	\$	51,068.49	\$	2,790.56		
*Amount in () indicates negative		FISCAL YTD WEEK COLLECTION							
Funds collected:		NOVEMBER 24, 2024							
Capital Improvement:		\$	14,781.00	\$	196.00				
Food Pantry:		\$	16,027.56	\$	2,352.00				
Diocesan debt (BLUE env)		\$	4,505.00	\$	41.00				
Homeless Meals:		\$	13,829.37	\$	226.00				

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, 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.



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.



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



after 9 and 11 am Masses!

Join us for a delicious breakfast of waffles and sausages. **DONATIONS ONLY**

Thank you for giving generously to our youth!

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



Please join us in the Parish Hall





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.

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 5 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.

Tuesday, January 7

11 a.m. Senior Mass Followed by Potluck Soup Lunch

Newcomers are welcome!

For more information:

Joan: stanjam22@aol.com (757) 287-6779 or

Judy: judithflorance@cox.net (757) 472-6008



The Prince of Peace Rosary Makers will be holding a class on how to make a cord Rosary. The class will be held at 6:30 p.m., January 8th in classroom 10. If you are interested in attending, please send your name and email to mitolo@cox.net.

PEACE AND JUSTICE:

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



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 need: Spaghetti Sauce, Ramen Noodles, Canned: Tuna, Soups, Fruit and Vegetables

Drop off before all Masses on the benches in the 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, sets 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 at www.popparish.org to sign up for church giving. Follow POP Parish Soft 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. A qualified charitable distribution (QCD) from an IRA is an excellent source of charitable giving. It also fulfills your annual distribution requirement without receiving taxable income.

If you are over age 70 1/2, you may donate directly from your IRA to *Prince of Peace Permanent Endowment Fund*. (A gift to an endowment fund is never spent. Instead, the gifts are protected by law, invested, and grow over time. As the value of the endowment fund grows, your parish can receive an annual distribution that can be used in many ways to support the needs of the parish.)

If you would like to make a QCD to satisfy your 2024 RMD, you will need to complete the distribution by December 31. The donor saves on taxes even if he/she does not itemize their taxes. Thank you and God bless you.



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 donation 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 the **QR Code, ordering and having items sent to POP – Homeless Meals**. The address will be available for you to choose once you go to checkout. If you have any questions at all, please just email cooeybrooks@cox.net. Thank you.

PRINCE OF PEACE

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE VOLUNTEERS

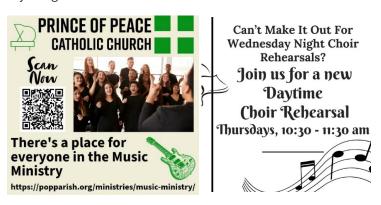
Agape Feast of Prince of Peace needs at least six people to become Team Members for our Parking Lot Food Distribution Program. The distribution takes only about 30 minutes (4 days every 2 1/2 months before regular travel times to work.) Please consider being a part of the team that makes such a huge 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 where 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: 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.



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.



For more information contact Joni Dillabough 757-228-2125



PRINCE OF PEACE HONORED BY BISHOP KNESTOUT FOR LEGACY GIVING



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

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.

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.
- Click on the blue "Sign up as a Parishioner" button. 2.
- Enter: "Prince of Peace, 621 Cedar Road, Chesapeake, VA" 3.
- Enter your Name and Email.



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 757-690-1369 or 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)
- * January 21-February 2 Myrtle Beach, SC

- * March 14-16

* March 7-9

Rehoboth Beach, DE

Jessup, MD and Ocean City, NJ

* March 21-23 Emerald Isle, NC

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 Michael Mastro at 908-399-3982

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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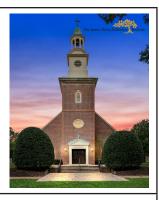
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