

December 17, 2023

**3rd Sunday
of
Advent**

**Rejoice in the Lord
always; again I say,
rejoice. Indeed, the
Lord is near. Phil 4:4-5**

Holy Rosary CATHOLIC CHURCH

3300 "R" STREET, RICHMOND, VA 23223

Phone: 804-222-1105 • Fax: 804-226-2204 • E-mail: office@hrccrichmond.org • Website: www.hrccrichmond.org

PARISH STAFF

PASTOR..... REV. TOCHI IWUJI
EMAIL friwuji@gmail.com..... Contact.....434-288-0184
DEACON FRANCIS NELSON...francisn52@aol.com Cell.. 804-363-3379
DEACON MEL DOWDY..... mddltd@me.com Cell...804-840-0639
DEACON WILLARD WITHERSPOON..joec51@verizon.net...804-370-8527
DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION.....TANYA LESANE
 tylesane@hrccrichmond.org
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (Part-time).....JOSLYN B. FORD
 office@hrccrichmond.org
MUSIC DIRECTOR..... DR. JOSEPH ROBINSON
joseph @hrccrichmond.org
PARISH COUNCIL..... KANIKA McBRIDE, Chair
FINANCE COUNCIL..... CARROLL ANTOINE, Chair
YOUTH /YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY..... JOLINDA UNDERWOOD
yyaholyrosary@gmail.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday Mass..... 8:00 A.M. and 11:00 A.M.
 11:00 A.M. Livestreamed Mass each Sunday on
 YOUTUBE: To watch access our website at
 www.hrccrichmond.org
Sunday Adult Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
 and 6:30 P.M. via Zoom
Weekdays:
 Wednesdays.. Daily Mass....9:00 A.M.
 Eucharistic Adoration every Wednesday after
 Daily Mass until 12noon
 Holy Days.....TBA
 Bible Study-Thursdays.... 10 A.M. via Zoom
Confessions: Sunday 7:15 A.M.—7:40 A.M.
 and 10:00 A.M.—10:30 A.M. before Mass.

*For information about joining Holy Rosary, please see
 an Usher or Greeter. For Sacramental information
 please call the Church Office during business hours.*

OFFICE HOURS-CLOSED MONDAY— (In Case of an Emergency call 434-288-0184)
TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY... 9:00a.m.-3:00pm-THURSDAYS-9:00a.m.-2pm
FRIDAYS.....Closed

Mission Statement

We, the people of Holy Rosary, are called to be a Church with a living God and a dynamic heritage; a heritage that encompasses the beliefs and tenets of the Roman Catholic faith as well as the characteristics of the African American culture. We are called to be a welcoming beacon of hope to parishioners and the surrounding community for continued and sustainable spiritual growth to enhance and strengthen our relationship with God, address social issues, and provide parishioners with the necessary skills for increased evangelization.



General Fund Collection

Current Year: July 01, 2023 through June 30, 2024
 Budget vs. Actual as of December 10, 2023

Collections	Needed Weekly	Y-T-D	Budget	Difference
\$7,786.50	\$6,923	\$159,082.30	\$166,152	—(\$7,069.70)

12/10/2023 Attendance 8AM—73 11AM—125

Debt Reduction Collection (Building Fund)
 Current Year: July 01, 2023 through June 30, 2024
 Budget vs. Actual as of December 10, 2023
 Collection \$ 2,057.50— Needed Weekly \$1,994.00
 Y-T-D— \$48,494.92
 Budget—\$47,856.00— Difference +\$638.92
 Loan Payment Monthly: \$9,879.00
 Outstanding Balance on Loan **\$1,050,679.34**

† Please remember to write a separate check for Debt Reduction.



Please consider making Electronic Contributions throughout the year. Check our website: www.hrccrichmond.org

Please support Holy Rosary Parish through your donations:

• Mail in your usual donation amount by check to Holy Rosary Catholic Church, 3300 “ R” Street, Richmond, VA 23223 or go to E-Giving to set up your donations. Donations can also be dropped off at the church. Thanks!

Scan the QR code to give online: Just point your camera at the code and click the link that pops up. It’s easy!



PRAY FOR THE SICK, and all who suffer.

PRAY FOR THE HOMEBOUND....

Alice Wright, Clinton Harris, Jr.

Pastoral Care: If you or a family member is sick, becomes homebound or is anticipating surgery, please notify our Church office 222-1105. We want to know so we can provide prayer, care, comfort, or the Sacraments.



For the Week of December 17

- Sunday:** Is 61:1-2a,10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8,19-28
- Monday:** Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
- Tuesday:** Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
- Wednesday:** Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
- Thursday:** Sg 2:8-14/Lk 1:39-45
- Friday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
- Saturday:** Mal 3:1-4,23-24/Lk 1:26-38

Happy Birthday

- December 17:** Cynthia Diggs, Michele Jones, Euphresia Patrick
- December 18:** Antionette Essa, David Hudson, Adrian Scott
- December 21:** Ethelyn Parker
- December 23:** Barbara Branch, Dawn Murray



Liturgical Ministers for December 24
ONE MASS 10:00AM

Lectors—Hope Jackson and Gilbert Menefield
 EOM of Holy Communion—Ellen Davis
 Altar Servers—Walter Jones and Christiana Huynh
 Ushers— Richard Branch, Phil Robinson, Damian Njoku Jerome Johnson
 Greeters—Monica Churchwell and Sheila Stanley
 Counters— Raja Mason and Carroll Antoine

6:00PM

Lectors—Carla Kimbrough and Melanie Titmus
 EOM of Holy Communion—Phillip Robinson
 Cantor—Dr. Joseph Robinson
 Altar Servers—Jadira Jones, Scott Titmus, Gilbert Menefield
 Ushers—TBA
 Greeters—TBA

10:00AM December 25 Christmas Day

Lectors— Charlette Wilson and Ameenah Zakia
 Cantor— Dr. Joseph Robinson
 EOM of Holy Communion— Janice Jackson
 Altar Server— Walter Jones



Sunday	December 17, 2023
8AM	Mass—Capri Stanley-Smith
11AM	Mass—Rise Nelson and David Nelson
Wednesday	December 20, 2023
9AM	Mass—Deceased Members of Holy Rosary Eucharistic Adoration following Daily Mass until 12 Noon in the Chapel
Friday	December 22, 2023
12PM	Mass at Richmond Community Hospital

***Bible Study** will be held every Thursday 10:00am via Zoom. Contact Joanna Haliday at joanna.haliday@yahoo.com for Zoom link.

***Adult Bible Study** is held on Sunday mornings at 9:30am and Sunday evenings at 6:30pm via Zoom. Contact Mario Dance at marioedance@gmail.com for Zoom link.

***Our Sunday Livestream Services can be seen on You Tube visit: www.hrccrichmond.org**
 ***The Sunday Bulletin can be downloaded from our website: www.hrccrichmond.org**

Question of the Week
December 17, 2023



All catechesis flows from the liturgy nothing is as important as what happens at the Sunday Mass. Christ is present in four fold ways, in the bread and wine, the Presider, the word of God and the community gathered. But for a lot of people the Sunday mass and readings and homily goes too quickly. In order for people to think back on the mass, we will have the "Question of the Week". The purpose of the "Question of the Week" is to bring together people of all ages to learn about and share their faith. The question will be relating to one of the readings from Sunday's Mass. The question will allow different ministry groups and families to break open the word and share faith throughout the week.

Question of the Week:

Adults: *If you were to write three suggestions for those who follow Jesus, to keep them strong in their faith, what would you write?*

Children: *John tried to help people prepare their lives for the coming of the Messiah. What do you need to change about your life to be ready for Jesus' coming?*

Reading 1: Is 61:1-2a,10-11

Reading 2: 1 Thes 5:16-24

Gospel: Jn 1:6-8,19-28

Pastoral Care Ministry Prayer Square

Parishioners are encouraged to take a prayer square from the Pastoral Care tree found in the Commons and put it in a pocket or purse. When you touch it, you will be reminded of God's love and it will bring peace, comfort, hope, and joy.

Josephite Calendars

Josephite Calendars are available after each mass for \$5.00. We have no more Roman Missals.

TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

If you have been coming to Holy Rosary Parish for some time and have decided to remain with the parish, please notify your previous parish that you have transferred your membership. You will also need to complete a parish registration form for Holy Rosary. Thank You!



The Third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

**HOLY ROSARY ADVENT
 AND
 CHRISTMAS CALENDAR 2023**

Sunday December 17th
 Third Sunday of Advent
 8AM Mass
 11AM Mass

Sunday December 24
 Fourth Sunday of Advent
 10AM Mass

Sunday December 24th
 Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
 6PM Mass

Monday December 25th
 The Nativity of the Lord
 10AM Mass Christmas Day

Sunday December 31
 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
 10AM Mass

Sunday December 31
 New Year's Eve
 6PM Mass

Monday, January 1, 2024
NO MASS NEW YEAR'S DAY
 Happy New Year



In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord." Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord.

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving... please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who are in need can share in the blessings of Christmas.

AIDS Spiritual Reflections

On the third Sunday of Advent, we turn our hearts to the theme of joy. Envision a joy that goes beyond personal feelings, demonstrate compassionate actions towards others.

AIDS Fact:

HIV is increasingly recognized as an illness that affects couples and families, and not just the individual. This is not only because the virus can be passed on from one person to another, but also because for every person infected with HIV, there is a family and community that are also affected.

Legion of Mary Holy Hour of Adoration

The Legion of Mary **will not** have a Sunday Holy Hour of Adoration on December 24th. Going forward the 4th Sunday Holy Hour of Adoration will be held immediately after the 8AM Mass rather than at 9:30AM.

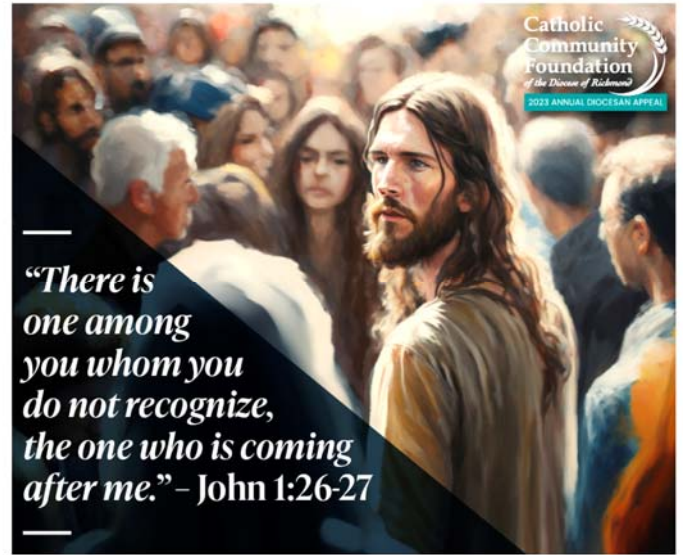
Christmas and Easter Flower Fund Donations

Parishioners are you aware that you can make donations for Christmas Flowers and Easter Flowers online in **E-GIVING**. The parish would like your donation to be at least \$25.00 due to the rise in cost for flowers. You can leave in the comment section once you make your donation who the flowers are in memory/honor of. **The Christmas and Easter Flower envelope can be found in your box of offering envelopes.**

Thank You

The Social Justice Ministry would like to thank all the parishioners of Holy Rosary for participating in the Angel Tree Program. Your generous donations of toys and clothes helped the children in the surrounding community have a wonderful Christmas.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL 2023-2024 **—Sharing His Love With Others**



“There is one among you whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming after me.” – John 1:26-27

John warned the crowds, “*There is one among you whom you do not recognize.*” (John 1:26) When Christ comes again, will we recognize Him?

We probably will. He promised us that, when he comes again, “*You will see ‘the Son of Man... coming on the clouds of heaven.’*” (Matthew 26:64) It sounds like He will Make himself known clearly! Yet, He comes to us daily, in our brothers and sisters: “*Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.*” (Matthew 25:40) Jesus is hard to recognize in “the least of these.”

He is also hard to recognize in the sinner – the person who cuts you off in traffic or doesn't uphold their end of a bargain. We need the help of grace to see Jesus alive in our neighbors. Our parish is working hard to share the light of Christ in our neighborhood. It's an arduous task; we can't do it if we don't pull together as a family and community of faith. Through our Annual Diocesan Appeal, you have an opportunity to enter more deeply into this mission and we ask you to give as you can. Your community is counting on you!

This Advent, please consider contributing to our Annual Diocesan Appeal. If you do, you'll be fulfilling Christ's command to “*love your neighbor as yourself,*” and you'll join John the Baptist in making way for Christ in your heart!