

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

02: Bob Burke
 09: Biff Gilliam
 10: Helen Ravagli
 11: Barbara Luna; Zina Talya
 14: Paul Harmon
 18: Cecilia Chan; Wyatt Simonton
 19: Sandra Burke; Kelsey Brown
 20: Carol Donato
 24: Ronnie Haney
 26: Caeli McCabe

24: Edwin & Nurium Alvarado

Please continue to pray for the sick of our Parish. To add someone to the prayer list, call Fr. Jim or email Bonnie Toth at: bonnie3871@gmail.com.

Dylan Anderson	Melanie Furlough	Kimberly Martin	John Seaquist
Sid Barr	Linda Gardner	Chefley Matthews	Bernadette Servis
Robert Berry	Elizabeth Gillam	Rhonda Mayberry	Ray Servis
Patricia Bonnewitz	Lynn Goss	Willard Mock	Jane Sliwinski
Gloria Bowden	Mary Graf	Greg Moore	Don Smith
Kellsei Boyce	Kathleen Hamilton	Jane Moreton	Margaret Smith
Millie Budney	Ronnie Haney	Beverly Moyer	Maureen Smith
Sandra Burke	Jeanne Harper	Chris Moyer	Chere Tew
Julie Byron	James Heady	Ray Moyer	Jim Tew
Deacon John Carey	Pablo Ignacio	Riley Naber	Amy Tracy
Riordan Cavoris	Patrick Ignacio	Don & Patsy Notestein	Emilia Walker
Suzi Crawford	Meja Irvin	Angel Ortiz	Wardell Family
Justin Curtis	Leslie Jarrett	George Perry	Charles Watson
Trish Decresce	Maggie Kreiser	Gary Peters	Danielle Weedon
Alessia Destefano	Fran Lecco	Laurie Peters	Laura Williams
Carol Donato	Paul Lent	Frank Powell	Louise Williams
Islea Duncan	Patel Mahendra	Nelson Sanchez	Michael Williams
John Evans	Carolyn Martin	Princess Sanchez	Betty Jo Wolfrum

The Financial Corner

Collections: February 15: General: \$1536; Maintenance: \$200
 Attendees: February 15; 75

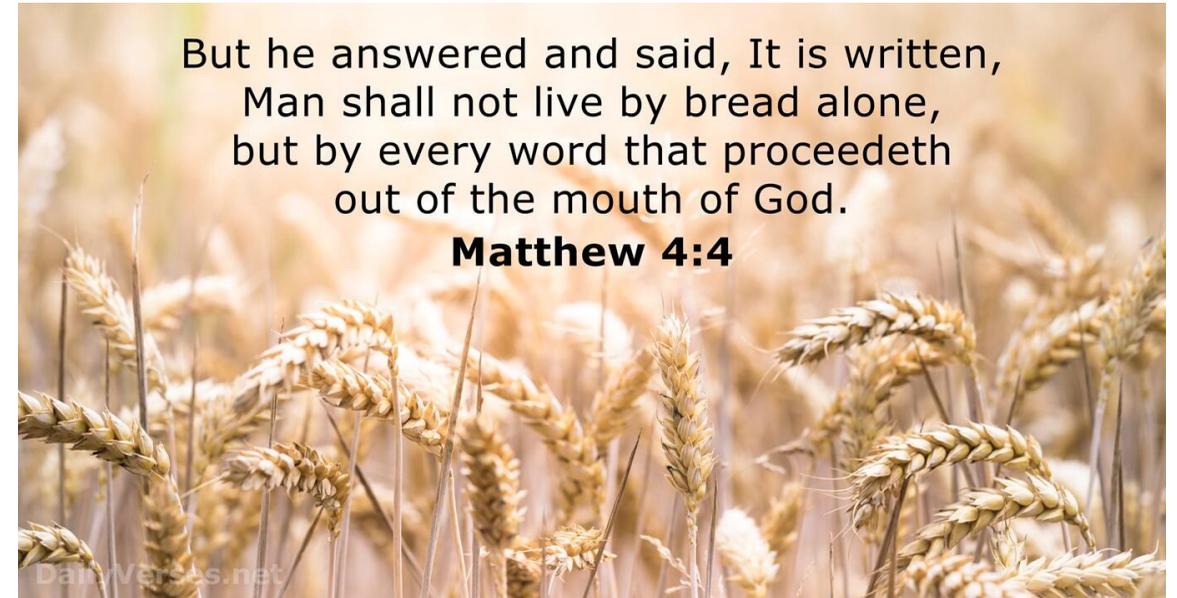
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SCAN TO



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Our Lady Of Peace Catholic Church



But he answered and said, It is written,
 Man shall not live by bread alone,
 but by every word that proceedeth
 out of the mouth of God.

Matthew 4:4

February 22, 2026 First Sunday of Lent

Our Lady Of Peace Catholic Church

2938 Oakleigh Avenue (PO Box 668)
 Appomattox VA 24522-0668

Pastor: Father James Gallagher 434-352-0104
 For emergencies: Fr. Jim's cell number: 434-238-7030
 or Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church 434-846-5245

www.olpcatholicchurch.org

Holy Eucharist
Sunday 8:30 AM; Tuesday 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM
Thursday: 12:15 PM

Bulletin news and requests for mass cards: contact
 Bonnie Toth at bonnie3871@gmail.com

A PASTORAL MOMENT WITH FATHER JIM

Recently our Pope Leo had been meeting with a gathering of all the Cardinals throughout the world. One of his teaching moments was a review the documents of the Second Vatican Council. The Second Vatican Council met in the years 1962-1965. One of the documents that came from the council was the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy.

The first page of the documents calls for "full, conscious participation." In other words, it is not just about the priest leading the prayers at Eucharist, but it is about the all gathered to be fully engaged. The document also tells us that Christ is present in the word (scripture readings), the sacrament (communion) and the gathered assembly (all the people).

Pope Leo's teaching was greatly needed. Recently one notices that the appreciation for Christ in the gathered assembly is being diminished. Some priests enjoy offering the sign of peace to the laity at mass. There are places, however, where the priest is forbidden to do that. Again, what about celebrating Christ in the gathered assembly? I am pleased to see that the restriction is not at Our Lady of Peace or St. Victoria. In some places, the people are not invited to greet one another before the opening song. What about Christ in the gathered assembly? At St. Victoria and Our Lady of Peace, we continue to say, "As Christ is present in the gathered assembly, let us stand and greet one another."

In some places, the Precious Blood (the consecrated wine) has been taken away from the lay people. Only the priest in those places drinks from the cup or chalice. I am pleased that at Our Lady of Peace and St. Victoria Communion is offered in its fullness. The Precious Blood and the Body of Christ are both offered.

Also, in some places, they ring the bells when the priest receives Communion as if to say, "Father's Communion is more important than the lay peoples' Communion." Again, the same Jesus is offered to all at St. Victoria and Our Lady of Peace whether you are clergy or a lay person. We are all equal as we dine with the Lord. My hope is that Pope Leo's challenge to clericalism (meaning ordained are better than the laity) sticks as the Cardinals head home.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY'S MASS INTENTIONS

Thomas Iannaco (former parishioner)
Agnes Perkoski (Joyce Hing's mother)

Lenten Theme 2026

Our Lenten theme is, "Open my eyes, Lord."

When we are born, we cannot see. A baby's eyes work, but the brain doesn't yet know what to do with the information; at first all is blurry and gray. Slowly we come to perceive colors, and shapes, and faces. The process of learning to see continues throughout our lives. Artists will tell you that learning to draw or paint is really a matter of learning to see, because in truth we don't see with our eyes, but with our mind and our heart. When the apostles meet Jesus, they don't see Him as he truly is, but in time they learn to. Our path as disciples of Christ is the same: we must learn to see. The Catholic writer G.K. Chesterton noted that the eyes of a Buddhist saint are closed as if in sleep, but a Christian saint's eyes are wide and "frightfully alive." They are open so as to behold the beatific vision: "Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God." We pray that our own Lenten journey will cleanse our heart and mind so that we may learn to see, and look upon the face of Jesus.

CONFESSIONS AT OUR LADY OF PEACE MARCH 7

Fr. Jim and a visiting priest will be available for confessions on Saturday, March 7, at 10:30 am. There will be a short service before confessions.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026 MEETING MARCH 7

This year's Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 21-24.. Please join Helen Dennany, VBS Coordinator, on Saturday, March 7, at 12:30 pm for a planning meeting for all those interested in volunteering to help this year.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Thank you to all who donated to the Knights of Columbus Council 17599 Polar Plunge Fundraiser. We raised almost \$900, with 1.7 million dollars raised so far statewide! Donations will still be accepted through the end of summer.