

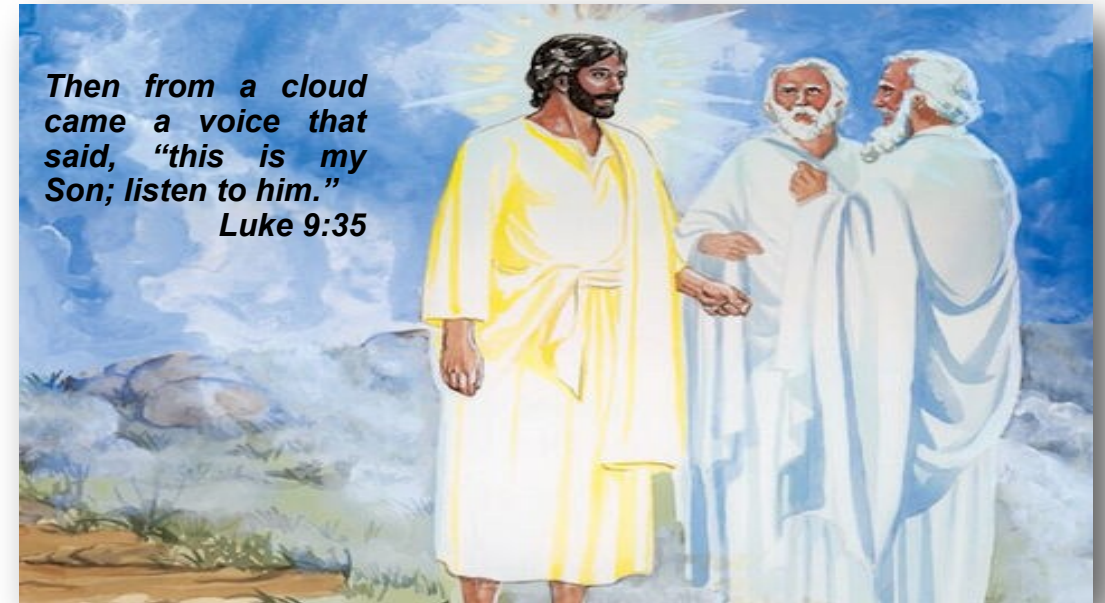
March Birthdays

March 2: Keith Hamilton, Sr.
March 3: Betty Craft
March 4: Bernadette Servis
March 11: Mely Ruiz-Pineda
March 16: Pat Hirtz
March 16: David Gaydos
March 18: Kenneth Hamilton
March 21: Andrew Blum
March 25: Patti West
March 25: Robert Jackson

March Anniversaries

March 14: Reed & Jackie Johnson

Our Lady Of Peace Catholic Church



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	Linda Gardner	Beverly Moyer	Jim Tew
Sid Barr	Elizabeth Gillam	Chris Moyer	Fred Toth
Robert Berry	Lorraine Brennen Gilliam	Ray Moyer	Amy Tracy
Patricia Bonnewitz	Lynn Goss	Don Notestein	Charles Watson
Gloria Bowden	Mary Graf	Patsy Notestein	Danielle Weedon
Millie Budney	Kathleen Hamilton	Angel Ortiz	Laura Williams
Sandra Burke	Jeanne Harper	George Perry	Louise Williams
Julie Byron	Jeannine Iannaco	Gary Peters	Michael Williams
Toni Capute	Pablo Ignacio	Laurie Peters	Travis Williams
Deacon John Carey	Patrick Ignacio	Frank Powell	Betty Jo Wolfram
Riordan Cavoris	Meja Irvin	Nelson Sanchez	
Justin Curtis	Leslie Jarrett	Princess Sanchez	
Alessia Destefano	Marge Lent	John Seaquist	
Carol Donato	Paul Lent	Ray Servis	
Islea Duncan	Carolyn Martin	Jane Sliwinski	
John Evans	Kimberly Martin	Margaret Smith	
Jack Fisher	Greg Moore	Chere Tew	

March 16, 2025
Second 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

The Financial Corner

Collections for March 9, 2025: \$738.00
Attendees: 73

Have you considered E-giving? It's safe and convenient. You can sign up on our website: www.olpcatholicchurch.org or scan the QR Code to the right. You may sign up for recurring donations or make a one-time gift.

SCAN TO



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A PASTORAL MOMENT WITH FR. JIM

As I write this column in Late February 2025, Pope Francis' time on this side of eternity grows short. There is pneumonia in both lungs of this 88 year old body. I want to use my time to show my appreciation on why I feel he has invigorated my life and has given me hope.

First of all, he had made us a healthier church because we are free to discuss issues and express opinions even if they challenge the leadership and the teachings. Why is this important? In a family where there are toxic secrets kept and there is no discussion because of authoritarian leadership, it becomes an invitation for unhealthy passive aggressive behavior and even addiction. That is what happens when communication is suppressed. Pope Francis opened the door to discussion. In the past, I could be accused to being "disloyal to Rome" when I thought I was speaking the truth. But during his pontificate, nobody has made that accusation dialogue has been on the table.

One sign was the Synod. For the first time in the history of our church women were invited to be Synod and all synod meetings. The toothpaste is out of the tube and cannot be put back in. Women's voices must and need to be heard. Furthermore, the discussion of women for the diaconate has taken place. While previous pontiffs have shut off discussion of women's ordination, Francis opened up the discussion. It is still on the table. Again, the activity of such discussion can no longer be stopped. Because of the Synod, pastors and bishops are encouraged to incorporate the laity in forming the mission. While some of my brother priests want to "go backwards" the Synod discouraged "top down" style of leadership. Francis encouraged the synodal decision making. By not giving out "fancy titles" to some priests, he has made all of us feel equal to one another. He told us that we were ordained priests to love the people and serve - not to climb the hierarchical ladder. Ordained ministry is not about upward mobility, but to be nobodies by serving the nobodies of the world. No "scarlet fever", please! My favorite was welcoming for LGBTQ members. Gay people are more than welcomed and blessed. We became a more inclusive church. The latest was his correcting and teaching about welcome immigrants and refugees. This went against the grain of where some politicians want to take us. Truth spoken to power.

As Francis' time grows short, grieve for a loss to come, but rejoice that we are a more healthy and inclusive church.

The quote of Jesus in Matthew 25:23 rings true: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

WEEKLY LENTEN REFLECTION

In today's Gospel, Jesus leads James, John, and Peter to the top of a mountain, and there they see Jesus as he truly is, the fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets, the very Son of God. This changes everything, for them and for us, because it establishes Jesus' absolute authority, to which we all owe obedience. No longer may we ask, "How ought I to go?...to believe?...to live?" For Jesus Himself is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Palm Sunday/Holy Week/Easter Liturgy Sign-Ups

Have you ever thought about ways to be a part of these powerful liturgies? Please see the signup sheets on the Liturgy Table in the Commons for several opportunities to do so for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter. All are welcome!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Confession/Reconciliation: Saturday, March 29, 10:30 am. Fr. Jim and a priest from St. Theresa's in Farmville will be available.

Communal Anointing of the Sick: Sunday, March 30. Fr. Jim will offer anointing of the sick during mass.

Confirmation: April 9, 7:00 pm. Both Itzell and Beatrice will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. Let's have an awesome turnout!!

Holy Cross Stations of the Cross/Soup Super: Friday, April 11, 6 pm. Fr. Jim will lead the Stations of the Cross at Holy Cross followed by a Soup Supper featuring six different kinds of soup and some delicious home made bread. St. Victoria is joining us.



Fund Raiser Church Rummage Sale: Friday, April 25 and Saturday, April 26 at Alice's house on Church Street across from Appomattox Middle School. It's time to clean out your garage and fill up Alice's. Please see Alice after mass to get your items to her house.

Grass Cutting: Ladies and gentlemen, start your engines! The grass cutting season is here. Please see the chart on the entrance door to sign up for a date to volunteer. St. Patrick kicked out all the snakes, so there's no need to be afraid!