February 17 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. The purpose of this holy season is to prepare us, through penance and conversion, to celebrate the resurrection of Christ at Easter.

On Ash Wednesday, Catholics ages 14 and above are required to abstain from eating meat (Code of Canon Law, canons 1251–1252). Animal flesh is not consumed out of respect for Christ’s flesh, which was crucified for our salvation. Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are required to fast from the normal amount of food (canons 1252–1253; U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Complementary Norm to canon 1253 [1983]). When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal; two smaller meals may also be taken, but should not equal a full meal.

Click here for more information on Ash Wednesday Masses and to register.
This Week at the Cathedral

Saturday, February 13, 2021 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Second Collection: Cathedral Preservation

5:15 p.m. Mass (Livestream)
Cathedral open (4:15 pm)

Sunday, February 14, 2021 - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Second Collection: Cathedral Preservation

9:00 a.m. Mass (Diocesan Livestream) + Thomas Richard Golden
Cathedral open (8:00 am)

11:00 a.m. Mass + John Anderson
Cathedral open (10:00 am)

1:00 p.m. First Penance Preparation

5:15 p.m. Mass

7:00 p.m. High School Youth Group

Monday, February 15, 2021 – Presidents Day
Cathedral and Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, February 16, 2021 – Cathedral Open (11:30 am–1:00 pm)

10:00 a.m. Tuesdays Together (Zoom)

12:05 p.m. Confessions in Large Sacristy until 6:00 pm

12:00 p.m. Tuesdays Together (Zoom)

12:00 p.m. Mass (Livestream)

6:00 p.m. RCIA (Zoom)

7:00 p.m. Exposition and Benediction

Wednesday, February 17, 2021 – Ash Wednesday
Cathedral Open One Hour Before Mass

7:30 a.m. Lauds (Morning Prayer) (Zoom)

9:00 a.m. Mass (Diocesan Livestream)

12:00 p.m. Mass (Livestream)

6:00 p.m. Mass (Livestream)

Thursday, February 18, 2021–Cathedral Open (11:30 am–1:00 pm)

12:05 p.m. Mass (Livestream)

7:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group

Friday, February 19, 2021 – Cathedral Open (11:30 am–1:00 pm and 5:00–7:00 pm)

12:05 p.m. Mass (Livestream)

5:00 p.m. Confessions in Large Sacristy until 6:00 pm

6:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross (Livestream)

Saturday, February 20, 2021 - First Sunday of Lent
5:15 p.m. Mass (Livestream) –Cathedral Parishioners
Cathedral open (4:15 pm)

Sunday, February 21, 2021 - First Sunday of Lent
9:00 a.m. Mass with the Rite of Election (Diocesan Livestream)
+ Daniel Beebe
Cathedral open (8:00 am)

11:00 a.m. Mass + Alvaro Roco
Cathedral open (10:00 am)

3:00 p.m. Confirmation Preparation

5:15 p.m. Mass – Deacon Christopher Malone
Cathedral open (4:15 pm)

7:00 p.m. High School Youth Group

Distribution of Ashes
This year, owing to the coronavirus pandemic, the distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday will take place in a different format. According to a directive from the Vatican, the priest will say the accompanying formula only once—not for each individual person—and the people will receive a sprinkling of ashes on the crown of their head. The practice of sprinkling ashes on the crown of the head is the European custom, whereas the custom in the English-speaking world and elsewhere is to smear the ashes on the forehead. (The Roman Missal leaves the precise way of distributing ashes open to different approaches, simply stating that, “The Priest places ashes on the head of all those present who come to him.”)

Although having ashes sprinkled on the crown of the head is a less visible sign than having them smeared on the forehead, it is more consistent with the Gospel proclaimed on Ash Wednesday: “Take care not to perform righteous deeds in order that people may see them; otherwise, you will have no recompense from your heavenly Father” (Matt 6:1).

Prayers and Praise


Please pray for those in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):

Jefferson Abaricia, Carey Ann Campbell, Kathy Gideon, Sean Gottschalk, Emily-Cheryl Grimes, Timothy Irby, Katherine Murphy, Richard Nehrboss, Gary Romer, Lauren Raye Romer, Natalie Schmitting, Graham Scholl, Taylor Spalt, and Jonathan Walker.

Pope Francis’s general prayer intention for February is:

Violence Against Women: We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

February: Corporal Works of Mercy

This month’s theme is the Corporal Works of Mercy. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, “The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities (no. 2447). Click here to see the many ways you may join us to get involved and gather, in-person and online, with your fellow parishioners.

Weekly Offertory Collection
For Fiscal Year beginning 7/1/2020
The Cathedral is grateful for last week’s collections and year-end gifts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Type</th>
<th>Last Week</th>
<th>Year to Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Offertory</td>
<td>$21,058</td>
<td>$561,064</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Budgeted</td>
<td>$17,375</td>
<td>$625,127**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference</td>
<td>-$3,683</td>
<td>$64,064</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We are $113,366 above last year, a 22% increase in Offertory collections.

Cathedral Preservation $243 $21,693
Social Justice
Poor and Needy $966 $29,739
Haiti $150 $17,083
CCM $10 $1,721

**Due to a generous donation of $70,000. This amount will be used to help cover the cost of past due invoices owed.
We welcome new members to our parish. You can fill out an online registration form found at https://richmondcathedral.org or email tbaham@richmondcathedral.org.

For Weddings: Call Janice Guzman, Parish Office at (804) 212-3891

For Funerals: Call Janice Guzman, Parish Office at (804) 212-3891

For Mass Intentions: Call Chris Ferrara, Parish Office at (804) 359-5651

Infant Baptisms: Contact Joy Weir at jweir@richmondcathedral.org or (804) 212-3893

For Adults inquiring about Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist: Contact Maria Thorsen at mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org

Cathedral Gift Shop
Shop the Cathedral Gift Shop for Holy Communion, Baptism and Confirmation, and Father's Day gifts. Open after every Mass. If you need to arrange a time to shop on a weekday, contact Chris Ferrara in the Parish Office at 804-359-5651.

Adult Catechesis
"God, for ever and ever!" A change to the concluding doxology of the orations, effective Ash Wednesday 2021, “One God, for ever and ever” becomes “God, for ever and ever.”

"In May of 2020 the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments wrote to the English-speaking Conferences of Bishops regarding the concluding doxology of the Collects in the Roman Missal (which also appear in other liturgical books).

Specifically, the Congregation pointed out that the current translation – which concludes ‘... in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever”– is incorrect. There is no mention of “one” in the Latin, and ‘Deus” in the Latin text refers to Christ. Therefore, the correct translation, which is already reflected in the Missal in other languages (including our own USCCB Misal Romano) is simply: ‘[...] in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.’

The Cardinal Prefepoinout the importance of affirming this Christological truth amid the religious pluralism of today’s world.” from https://fdlc.org/content/god-forever-and-ever

“What You Did For Me”:
A Holy Hour for the Corporal Works of Mercy
Thursday, February 25 | 6:00 p.m. | In-person and Livestream

“Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?’ … ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me” (Matt 25:37, 40).

A holy hour for the Corporal Works of Mercy will take place on Thursday, February 25 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. This event will include Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction, biblical readings, sacred music, and a homily. The holy hour will take place in the church and will also be live-streamed: https://www.facebook.com/cathedralofthesacredheart/live.

Sharing Our Story: An Enduring Faith
Sundays in February | 4:00 p.m. | Zoom

Join us each Sunday in February for an in-depth educational experience for Black History Month. We strive to inspire the Christian faithful through the witness of the Catholic candidates for sainthood. We will celebrate how they triumphed over tragedies and how we can do the same. His Eminence, Cardinal Wilton Gregory, will present on February 13 and 27. Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Chicago with the Diocese of Richmond as a co-sponsor.

Click here for more information and click here to register.

Confessions and Stations of the Cross
This Lenten season the Cathedral will hold Stations of the Cross every Friday at 6:00 p.m. with Confessions beforehand at 5:00 p.m. If you are unable to attend in person, Stations will be livestreamed at our Cathedral Facebook page. Join us!

Did you know? Our Middle School Youth Group meets every Thursday over Zoom. The schedule fluctuates, as once a month we meet at 6:00 p.m. for the monthly catechesis with Father Tony, and the remaining Thursdays we meet at 7:00 p.m. Last week, we had a fun game night which included a Kahoot on the Saints, a retro scavenger hunt, and a game of boys vs. girls hangman. We have four dedicated youth leaders that are ready to connect with you! If your 6-8th grade student would like to join our Middle School Youth Group, please contact Joy Weir at jweir@richmondcathedral.org.

A SPECIAL SERIES ON THE MASS FOR CHILDREN & PARENTS

One of the following short blessings may be said by the parent at various times, such as when a child is going to play or to school, but especially when the child is going to bed each night. The parent makes the sign of the cross on the child’s forehead or heart and says one of the following blessings.

May God bless you.
May God keep you safe.
God be with you.
God be in your heart.
May God bless and protect you.

~from Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers

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A Note From Msgr. Patrick Golden

I wanted to take this time to thank all of you for your heartfelt emails and cards concerning the passing of my father. Your words brought great comfort to me in my grieving. He was a wonderful father and I am so blessed to have had a dad like him. Thank you again.

God bless, Msgr. Patrick

Collecting Palms: Last Weekend

Palm Sunday is fast approaching! Palm Sunday is the traditional day on which palms are blessed and distributed to the faithful. If you have saved palms from Palm Sunday, please deposit them in the baskets that will be provided at the entrances to the Weekend Masses. The palms will be blessed and burned for Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is a solemn day that marks the beginning of the Lenten season. The ashes are used to reflect on the reflection of the beginning of the Lenten season

Diocesan Annual Appeal

Thank you for participating in the Diocesan Annual Appeal, which is underway. The Appeal serves important ministries in the diocese including: seminarian education for future priests, retired religious, Fuel and Hunger, Campus Ministry, Reengagement with the Eucharist, St. Francis Home, Liturgy and Worship, and more. Find out the many other ministries the Appeal supports in next week’s communications.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is a process with several distinct stages: the period of evangelization and the precatechumenate, the period of the catechumenate, the period of purification and enlightenment, and the period of postbaptismal catechesis or mystagogy. These stages are a good model of faith development. At each RCIA Session we pray, study Sacred Scripture, and reflect on the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. We welcome you to learn about the RCIA process at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart.

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic? Do you have a child the age of seven or above who has not been baptized? Were you baptized Catholic as a child, but have not yet received the Sacraments of Confirmation and/or Eucharist?

Our parish offers the opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about the Catholic faith. RCIA sessions focus on the faith and experience of the Catholic Church and prepares individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Please email Maria Thorsen if you would like information about the RCIA process: mthorsen@richmonddiocese.org.

Greener Giving

Thank you for your support! The prayer and work of our beloved parish continues. While some may not be in the position to give as before, for those who can, we hope that you will consider offering your support as you are able. Every gift, no matter the size, makes a tremendous difference. During these uncertain times, we are sadly aware that many people will suffer financial hardship. We continue to pray for everyone and reach out to those who are suffering. Thank you for keeping your financial stewardship active during this challenging time, as we continue to serve our parish family. Please continue to support the Cathedral parish through your donations:

- Mail in your usual donation amount by check to 823 Cathedral Place, Richmond, VA 23220
- Use Vanco, our online giving platform (Click Here). You can set up one-time or recurring donations using your bank account or credit card. If you previously have not set up your account in Vanco, you can do so easily. Remember, you have total control over your giving using Vanco.
- You can text the amount you wish to donate to (804) 315-0903. We will be here throughout this time of crisis. We are keeping you all in our prayers, please keep us in yours.

Parking Validation for
Saturday & Sunday Masses

Valid until June 30, 2021

QR Code

When you park in the VCU Deck, you must do the following:

1. Pull & Keep a Ticket to Enter Deck
2. Use this code from this bulletin OR
3. Take a photo of the code with your smartphone (code located near main doors of the church)
4. Insert your ticket first, then when asked for payment, scan the code and the gate will open.
YOUR GUIDE TO LENT

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Tips for making the season more meaningful

SLOW DOWN. Set aside 10 min a day for silent prayer or attend Lauds (Morning Prayer) on Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m.

READ OPEN WIDE YOUR HEARTS. Open your own heart and conversation with another.

BE KIND. Go out of your way to do something nice for someone every day.

GET INVOLVED. Participate in monthly service activities. February: St. Peter’s Shower Ministry. March: Send a card to one of our friends at The Virginia Home or to a homebound parishioner.

REACH OUT. Invite someone to attend a monthly catechesis or holy hour.

PRAY. Especially for those discerning a priestly vocation.

TUNE OUT. Turn off the television and spend quality time talking with family members or friends.

DONATE. Did you know that less than 1/2 of Hatians have clean drinking water? Donate to our twinning parish in Haiti.

Rite of Election
February 21 at 9:00 a.m. Mass
First Scrutiny of the Elect
March 7 at 9:00 a.m. Mass
Second Scrutiny of the Elect
March 13 at 5:15 p.m. Mass
Third Scrutiny of the Elect
March 20 at 5:15 p.m. Mass

Parish Lenten Activities and Events

Ash Wednesday Masses
February 17
9:00 a.m. (Diocesan Livestream) Bishop Knestout, celebrant
12:00 Noon (Cathedral Facebook Livestream)
6:00 p.m (Cathedral Facebook Livestream)

Lauds (Morning Prayer)
Every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m.
Zoom Link

Confessions and Stations of the Cross
Every Friday, except Good Friday, during Lent
Confessions at 5:00 p.m. followed by Stations at 6:00 p.m.
Stations livestreamed on the Cathedral’s Facebook page

Monthly Catechesis
Spiritual Works of Mercy
Thursday, March 11 at 6:00 p.m.
Zoom Link

Holy Hours
Corporal Works of Mercy
Thursday, February 25 at 6:00 p.m.

Spiritual Works of Mercy
Thursday, March 18 at 6:00 p.m.
Cathedral’s Facebook Livestream

February Service
Clothe the Naked: St. Peter’s Shower Ministry

March Service
Comfort the Afflicted: Send Easter Cards to our friends at The Virginia Home or to homebound parishioners.

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
March 28

Chrism Mass
March 29 at 6:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday
April 1: Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday
April 2
10:00 a.m. Confessions
3:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross
7:00 p.m. Celebration of the Passion of the Lord

Easter Vigil in the Holy Night
April 3 at 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
April 4: Masses at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
No 5:15 p.m. Mass

STATIONS WITH CONFESSIONS
Each Friday, except Good Friday, Confessions are heard at 5:00 p.m. and the Stations of the Cross are prayed at 6:00 p.m.

Please pray for our RCIA Catechumens, Candidates, and Confirmants:

Jefferson Abaricia
Carey Ann Campbell
Kathy Gideon
Sean Gottschalk
Emily-Cheryl Grimes
Timothy Irby
Katherine Murphy
Richard Nehrboss
Gary Romer
Lauren Romer
Natalie Schmitting
Graham Scholl
Taylor Spalt
Jonathan Walker

Stations with Confessions
Fasting and Abstinence

Abstinence: No meat may be eaten on Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday. This applies to Catholics 14 and older.

Fasting: Only one full meal is permitted on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday for Catholics between 18 and 59. Two smaller meals should not equal a second full meal. Coffee, tea, or water between meals is allowed, but snacks are not.