Advent Penance Liturgy
December 21 | 5:30 p.m.

Several priests will be on hand to hear confessions for the parish's Advent penance service. Please note that this will be the individual form of penance (Rite for Reconciliation of Individual Penitents) and not the communal one (Rite for Reconciliation of Several Penitents with Individual Confession and Absolution). Therefore, it is not necessary to arrive at the church right at 5:30 p.m.; confessions will continue until approximately 6:30 p.m.
This Week at the Cathedral

Saturday, December 17
9:00 a.m.  Breakfast with Santa
5:00 p.m.   Mass (+Katherine Harder)

Sunday, December 18: Fourth Sunday of Advent
9:00 a.m.  Mass (+Francisco Borja and Toribia Salgatar)  
[Catholic Facebook Livestream]
10:05 a.m. PREK-Middle-School Catechesis
10:05 a.m. Children’s Choir
11:00 a.m. Mass (Margaret Hansen)
12:30 p.m. Christmas pageant rehearsal and costume pick-up
5:00 p.m.   Mass (Cathedral parishioners)

Monday, December 19
6:00 p.m.   Pageant costume pick-up and rehearsal

Tuesday, December 20
12:00  N  Mass (+Most Rev. Walter F. Sullivan)

Wednesday, December 21
7:30 a.m.  Lauds [bit.ly/cshlauds]
12:00 N** Mass (+Bruna Bullock) **(Note Mass time change)
5:30 p.m.   Advent Penance Service

Thursday, December 22
Church and office close after 12:00N Mass
12:00  N  Mass (+Paul Romeo)

Friday, December 23
Office closed; church open for Mass only
10:00 a.m. Children’s Choir Rehearsal
12:00 N  Mass (Most Rev. Barry C. Knestout)
7:30 p.m.   Advent Lessons and Carols

Saturday, December 24: Christmas Eve
10:00 a.m. Confessions
4:00 p.m.   Mass (+Allen West)
7:00 p.m.   Mass (Cathedral parishioners)  
[Catholic Facebook Livestream]
12:00 a.m. Mass (Fr. John Ziegler)

Sunday, December 25: Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord
No 9:00 a.m. or 5:00 p.m. Mass
11:00 a.m. Mass (+Clarence and Bruna Bullock)

Confessions on Christmas Eve **NEW**

We are encouraged to receive the sacrament of Penance in preparation for Christmas. For those who like to make use of this sacrament, confessions will be heard on Saturday, December 24 at 10:00 a.m.

Cathedral Shop Closures **NEW**

The Cathedral Shop staff would like to wish everyone a happy, safe and blessed Christmas and New Year’s! The shop will be closed through the next two weekends (December 24–25, December 31-January 1), and will reopen the weekend of January 7–8.

Would You Like to Make a Gift That...
- May reduce your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)?
- May satisfy all/part of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the year?
- Will help the work of our parish?

If you answered “YES” (and you are 72 or older), consider making a gift from your IRA. Giving through your IRA is EASY! To learn how you can make an impact through your IRA right now, contact Tiffany Baham (tbaham@richmondcathedral.org | (804) 212-3890). IMPORTANT: Please make your gift as soon as possible so you can ensure it is received by December 31st, 2022!

Weekly Offertory Collection
For Fiscal Year beginning 7/1/2022
The Cathedral is grateful for last week’s collections.

Second Collection
December 25: Cathedral Foundation
2022–2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Last Week</th>
<th>Year-to-Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular Offertory</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Budgeted</td>
<td>$35,700</td>
<td>$378,186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount Received</td>
<td>$19,075</td>
<td>$314,735</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Difference</td>
<td>-$16,624</td>
<td>-$63,451</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We are $82,997 below last year, a 21% decrease in Offertory collections.

- Cathedral Preservation   $2,545  $19,482
- Social Justice
  - Poor and Needy   $1,623  $20,620
  - Haiti           $1,702  $14,311
- Catholic Campus Ministry $5  $3,511
- Religious Education    $24  $1,770

Our Greatest Treasure

From the beginning, Jesus associated his disciples with his own life, revealed the mystery of the Kingdom to them, and gave them a share in his mission, joy, and sufferings.215 Jesus spoke of a still more intimate communion between him and those who would follow him: “Abide in me, and I in you. . . . I am the vine, you are the branches.” (John 15:5) And he proclaimed a mysterious and real communion between his own body and ours: “He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.” (John 6:56)

—Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 787
**Catechist Corner: Who is a prophet?**

Who is a prophet? A prophet is a person who speaks and predicts; but the distinctive trait of the prophet is that the word he announces is not his own: it is the word of God. The prophet is a voice, but he can only speak because he has first listened to the voice of God who has spoken to him. The entire life of the prophet is based in this listening. In the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd atrium, the children hear the clues from the prophet Isaiah, and the prophet Micah about the Child who is to come.

—From The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd USA website.

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**PREK–Middle-School Catechesis**

Did you know that we have ongoing religious education for children from PREK- Middle School students? We meet regularly on Sundays between the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. Masses (10:05–10:55 a.m.). We would love to enroll your child(ren) in our programs and get them started in January! Visit [bit.ly/1shcatreg](https://bit.ly/1shcatreg) for a registration form.

**Children's Pageant and Blessing of the Nativity Scene Costume Pick-up and Brief Rehearsal**

Help us tell the story of the birth of Jesus and be a part of the blessing of our beautiful crèche. Angels and Shepherds are needed for the pageant. Ages 4 to 18 are invited to participate. Register your child or teen to participate today at [bit.ly/cshpageant](https://bit.ly/cshpageant).

Costume pick-up and brief rehearsal date and times, only need to attend one:

- Sunday, December 18, 12:30–1:15 p.m. (following 11:00 a.m. Mass)
- Monday, December 19, 6:00–6:45 p.m.

**Nursery Closure**

The nursery, which serves families with children ages 1 to 4 during the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses, will be closed on Sunday, December 25, 2022 and Sunday, January 1, 2023. It will reopen on Sunday, January 8, 2023.

**Diocesan Youth Conference**

**February 10–12, 2023**

The Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC) is a highly energetic and engaging opportunity for our high school teenagers to gather as a larger Church community and celebrate the richness of our Catholic faith. Save $50 if you register before November 30. Grades 9–12 will get priority registration until November 22. Registration is limited. Please contact Joy Weir ([jweir@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:jweir@richmondcathedral.org)) if you would like more information.

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**Becoming Catholic: RCIA Inquiry Sessions**

**NEW**

**January 25, February 15, March 15 | 6:00 p.m. | Office**

You are invited to join several sessions to have a discussion about the Catholic Faith. These inquiry sessions will be held on the following dates at 6:00 p.m. in the parish office (823 Cathedral Place): January 25, February 15, and March 15. If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, please contact Maria Thorsen ([mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org)).

We welcome new members into the Catholic faith through the process of education and faith sharing, known as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). This process includes several stages marked by prayer, study, discussion and Gospel reflections.

Would you be interested in the RCIA? Would you like to learn more about the Catholic faith? Perhaps you have never been baptized. Perhaps you are baptized in another Christian denomination, or you have been baptized Catholic and have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation. We welcome your questions and look forward to walking with you on your faith journey.

**RCIA Dinner**

A simple, yet powerful way you can be involved in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is to help provide a light dinner for the RCIA sessions; breaking bread together is the way we begin each week. Please sign up to provide a light dinner for one of the Tuesday night RCIA sessions ([https://bit.ly/3KdppCa](https://bit.ly/3KdppCa)).

**Adult Confirmation Sessions**

**February 1, 8, 16 | 6:00 p.m. | Office**

Adult Confirmation is for Catholic adults who have already received Baptism and First Holy Communion. The Cathedral will have preparation sessions in the parish office (823 Cathedral Place) on the following dates at 6:00 p.m.:

- Wednesday, February 1
- Wednesday, February 8
- Thursday, February 16

For more information about RCIA and/or adult Confirmation, please contact Maria Thorsen ([mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org)).

**Book Study with St. Elizabeth’s**

**January 10, 24; February 7, 21 | 7:00 p.m. | Zoom**

Join a book group in reading *Subversive Habits: Black Catholic Nuns in the Long African American Freedom Struggle* by Shannen Dee Williams. Sessions will be on Zoom on Tuesdays, January 10 and 24, and February 7 and 21, at 7:00 p.m. To register, contact Dcn. Chris Barrett of St. Elizabeth at [chrisbarrett4nd@gmail.com](mailto:chrisbarrett4nd@gmail.com) or at (804) 266-3596.

**Save the Date: Deacon Charles Williams Speaker Series**

**February 8 | 6:30–8:30 p.m.**

Save the date as registration will be opening in Eventbrite soon for this special evening, which will begin with Mass at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by dinner and a presentation by Sr. Cora Marie Billings.

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Parish Life

Catholic Campus Ministry Update

The Catholic Campus Ministry at VCU had an engaging and busy fall semester. From hosting weekly small groups, to going on fall retreat, and even to attending the priesthood ordination, we strive to be a community for students to grow deeper into their faith together. We would like to thank the Cathedral community for all of your prayers and support that help keep our activities going. See you next year for the spring semester, and merry Christmas!

Social Ministry Committee Meeting

January 8 | Following the 11:00 a.m. Mass | Parish Hall

The next social ministry committee meeting will be on January 8 following the 11:00 a.m. Mass in the Parish Hall. The committee will coordinate the various outreach activities and monthly service projects of the parish, and also develop new advocacy, outreach, and service opportunities for parishioners. These opportunities will focus on the corporal works of mercy and the seven key themes of Catholic social teaching.

Knights of Columbus Super Bowl Raffle

February 5 | Following the 5:00 p.m. Mass

The Cathedral’s Knights of Columbus are holding their first annual Super Bowl raffle. Tickets can be purchased at the Cathedral Shop for $10 each, or from any Knight. Two winners will be drawn on Sunday, February 5 after the Sunday 5:00 p.m. Mass. The first winner will select from the following prizes and the second winner will select from the remaining two prizes:

- LG-70” Class UQ75 Series LED 4k UHD Smart TV or equivalent, a $600.00 value.
- Four $50.00 gift cards to restaurants or stores of the winner’s choice.
- One years subscription to Sirius Premium radio.

Tickets are $10.00 each and are limited to 200 tickets. Winners need not be present to win. Proceeds will benefit the Knights’ Catholic ministries.

Spiritual Pilgrimage with Deacon Chris Malone

September 27–October 7, 2023

Join Deacon Christopher Malone from the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart on a Spiritual Pilgrimage to Lourdes, France, Spain, and Portugal to visit Our Blessed Virgin Mary’s many gorgeous shrines. This is an 11-day tour, September 27–October 7th, 2023, for $4,399, including airfare, 4-star hotels, daily prayers, arrangements for Mass, local tours, breakfast and dinner, and more. Reservations are available now. Spaces are limited. For further information, please contact:
Alba Kim:
Phone: (804) 298-4035
Email: tours@albastours.com
Website: https://www.albastours.com/

Calling all Christmas Cards

Do you do a family photo Christmas Card? We would love to include your card in a display on our bulletin board in the parish hall. If you would like your card included, kindly send it to the parish office (823 Cathedral Place, Richmond, VA 23220 ATTN: Joy Weir) or pin it on to the bulletin board in the parish hall when you come to church. Let’s fill up the board wishing our community a happy and holy Christmas!

Lauds (Morning Prayer) during Advent

Wednesdays | 7:30 a.m. | bit.ly/cshlauds

Come every week or just as your schedule allows—join us on Zoom at 7:30 a.m. for Morning Prayer. The prayer lasts about 20 minutes, and has become a weekly habit for the past two years for about a dozen. It is a friendly, welcoming group and we love to see new faces.

Survivor Support Group

December 21 | 7:00 p.m. | Virtual

As a community, we strive to support survivors of child sexual abuse on their journey toward healing and wholeness. For those who have suffered abuse by clergy residing in the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, we invite you to join virtually on December 21, at 7:00 p.m. Spouses and affected community members are also welcome. These gatherings, led by an independent facilitator, will offer a safe environment for participants to connect, share experiences, support, and heal. If you would like more information, or the virtual meeting link, please call the Victim Assistance Coordinator at (877) 887-9603 or email dana@atreeplanted.org.

Service Opportunities

Advent Giving Tree Gifts Due This Week

Please drop off all your Giving Tree gifts under the tree at the Cathedral entrance by Christmas Day, as the Cathedral will be closed from December 22 through January 2. Financial gifts can be dropped off in the collection baskets or at the Cathedral office (please write checks to Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, with the organization in the memo line.) If you have gifts that need to be dropped off late, please call the Cathedral office at (804) 359-5651.

Livestreaming Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help livestream the Sunday 9:00 a.m. Mass. Training and equipment are happily provided. The time commitment is approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes per Sunday. If you would like to volunteer to conduct the livestreaming of the 9:00 a.m. Mass, please contact Fr. Tony (tmarques@richmonddiocese.org).

QR Code for Parking

When you park in the VCU Deck (801 W. Main St.), 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 smart phone
4 - When leaving the deck, insert your ticket first, then when asked for payment, scan the code and the gate will open.
Happy Advent and Merry Christmas

**ADVENT ACTIVITIES**

**ADVENT GIVING TREE (VESTIBULE)**

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES HOLIDAY FESTIVAL OF MUSIC** *(click)*
- Monday, November 28
  - Open House: 5:30 p.m.
  - Concert: 7:00 p.m.

**THREE NOTCH’D ROAD:**
**THE VIRGINIA BAROQUE ENSEMBLE** *(click)*
- Monday, December 5: 11:00 a.m.

**A HOLY HOUR IN COMMEMORATION OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**
- Tuesday, December 13: 6:00 p.m.

**PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION**
- Saturday, December 10: 10:30 a.m.

**ADVENT LESSON AND CAROLS** *(click)*
- Friday, December 16: 7:30 p.m.

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**
- Saturday, December 17: 9:00 a.m.

**CONFESSIONS**
- WEDNESDAYS 5:30 p.m.
- ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE
  - Wednesday, December 21: 5:30 p.m.
- CHRISTMAS EVE
  - Saturday, December 24: 10:00 a.m.

**MASS SCHEDULE**

**THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
- *Holy Day of Obligation*
  - Wednesday, December 7: 6:30 p.m.
  - Thursday, December 8: 12:00 N, 6:30 p.m.

**THE SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)**
- *Holy Day of Obligation*
  - Saturday, December 24
    - 4:00 p.m. (3:45 p.m. Pageant)
    - 7:00 p.m. | Livestream (moved from 4:00 p.m.)
    - 12:00 Midnight (11:00 p.m. Prelude)
  - Sunday, December 25
    - 11:00 a.m.
    - No 5:00 p.m. Mass

**THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**
- Saturday, December 31
  - 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday, January 1
  - 9:00 a.m.
  - 11:00 a.m.
  - 5:00 p.m.

*Pictured above: The Nativity window in the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Richmond, VA, (Chigot, 1956)*