

# CATHEDRAL *of the* SACRED HEART

Dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, 1906  
Serving Virginia Commonwealth University  
Twinning with St. Paul's, Carissade, Haiti

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 10, 2023

Most Reverend Barry C. Knestout  
Bishop of Richmond

Very Reverend Anthony E. Marques  
Rector

823 Cathedral Place, Richmond, VA 23220

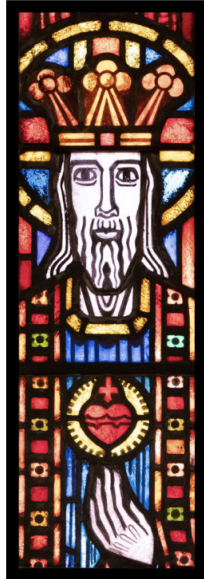
[www.richmondcathedral.org](http://www.richmondcathedral.org)

Office: (804) 359-5651

Emergency: (804) 254-0699

Monday–Friday: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

To register as a parishioner, visit: [bit.ly/jointhecathedral](https://bit.ly/jointhecathedral)



*Christ the King window in the Cathedral (1931)*

### MASSES

Tuesday–Friday: 12:00 N

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.

### CONFESSIONS

Wednesday: 6:00–7:00 p.m.

Saturday: 4:00–4:45 p.m.

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday: 6:00–7:00 p.m.

## **“Is it not I, Your Mother, Who is Here?”: A Holy Hour in Commemoration of Our Lady of Guadalupe Tuesday, December 12 | 6:00 p.m.**

Each month, a holy hour takes place that includes exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Scripture, sacred music, silent prayer, and benediction. The holy hour is a way to deepen one’s love and appreciation for the Eucharist, which is Christ himself.

This month’s holy hour will focus on Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose feast day is observed on December 12. On the outskirts of Mexico City in 1531, the Virgin Mary appeared to St. Juan Diego (1474–1548), saying to him, “Do not let your heart be troubled, and let nothing upset you. Is it not I, your Mother, who is here?”

**Rector:** Very Rev. Anthony Marques.....[tmarques@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:tmarques@richmonddiocese.org)  
**Deacons:** Rev. Mr. Christopher Malone...[cmalone@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:cmalone@richmondcathedral.org)  
Rev. Mr. Mark Matte.....[mmatte@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:mmatte@richmondcathedral.org)  
**Baptisms and Catechesis:** Joy Weir.....[jweir@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:jweir@richmondcathedral.org)  
**RCIA:** Maria Thorsen.....[mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org)  
**Weddings:** Janice Guzman.....[afw@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:afw@richmondcathedral.org)  
**Music:** Daniel Sáñez.....[dsanez@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:dsanez@richmondcathedral.org)  
**VCU Campus Ministry:** Chris Spilka.....[cspilka@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:cspilka@richmonddiocese.org)  
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**Facilities:** John Marike.....[jmarike@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:jmarike@richmondcathedral.org)  
**Finance Council:** Rosie Sinclair.....[rbsinclair28@gmail.com](mailto:rbsinclair28@gmail.com)

### QR Code for Parking

Parking validation for Saturday and Sunday Masses only.



Valid until June 30, 2024

When parking in the VCU Deck (801 W. Main St.):

1. Pull and keep a ticket to enter deck
2. Use this code from this bulletin or:
3. Take a photo of the code with your phone
4. When leaving the deck, insert your ticket first, then when asked for payment, scan the code and the gate will open.

## COMMUNITY

### Saturday, December 9

4:00 p.m. Confessions  
5:00 p.m. Mass (+Daniel Shreve)

### Sunday, December 10

9:00 a.m. **Second Sunday of Advent**  
Mass (+Elena Brigotti Curran)  
[Cathedral Facebook Livestream](#)  
11:00 a.m. Mass (+Mary Agnes Eshman)  
5:00 p.m. Mass (*pro populo*)

### Monday, December 11

12:00 N **St. Damasus I**  
No Mass

### Tuesday, December 12

12:00 N **Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
Mass (+Most Rev. Walter F. Sullivan)  
6:00 p.m. Monthly holy hour  
6:00 p.m. RCIA

### Wednesday, December 13

7:30 a.m. **St. Lucy**  
Lauds ([bit.ly/cshlauds](#))  
12:00 N Mass (Laura Haas)  
6:00 p.m. Adoration and confessions

### Thursday, December 14

12:00 N **St. John of the Cross**  
Mass (Susan Malone)

### Friday, December 15

12:00 N Mass (+Ardolino family)

### Saturday, December 16

4:00 p.m. Confessions  
5:00 p.m. Mass (+Thomas Dougherty)

### Sunday, December 17

9:00 a.m. **Third Sunday of Advent**  
Mass (+Joan Weir)  
[Cathedral Facebook Livestream](#)  
10:05 a.m. Catechesis (PreK–middle school)  
11:00 a.m. Mass (+Sally Jo Lash)  
5:00 p.m. Mass (*pro populo*)

## Intercessory Prayers

**Pope's monthly intention (December):** We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

**Sick:** Joan Debiassi, Mary Drexler, Jake Einwechter, Frank Fletcher, Dennis Halloran, Cathy High, Margaret Huber, Bobby Locke, Shep Christopher Moran, Roger Neathawk, Colleen O'Connor, Madeline Peace, James Raber, Peggy Ross, Elizabeth Storm, Eugene Trani, Lee Wexler, Michele Whitehurst.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):** Autumn Barrick, Courtney Calloway, Leigha Chaney, Isabel Fedroff, Kendall Fleming, Kishan Gadkar, Menelik Glover, Sean Gottschalk, Samuel Hammock, Noah Harvey, Darren Huany, Tristan James, Jill Kraus, George Lane, Chip Moelchert, Samantha Moulds, Zach Myers, Matthew Nelson, Corina Nuckols, Rachel Nunley, Brian Ornder, Ashley Payne, Maria Quezaba, Gabriela Ribero, Rangle Rivera, Nicholas Simpson, Diyan Sinclair, Rachel Stuppy, Rowland Taylor.

## YOUNG ADULTS

For more information, visit [evangelizerichmond.org/young-adults](https://evangelizerichmond.org/young-adults).

**January 2** Theology on Tap | Strangeways Brewing | 6:00 p.m.

**January 24** Pizza & Wine and "Four Prayers to Live By" | 6:00 p.m.  
Register here: <https://bit.ly/YAfourprayers>

## WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Fiscal Year 2023–2024

Regular Offertory	Last Week	Year-to-Date
Amount Budgeted	\$13,744	\$315,592
<u>Amount Received</u>	<u>\$18,738</u>	<u>\$308,814</u>
Difference	\$4,994	–\$6,978

### Upcoming second collection

December 25: Cathedral Foundation

## Financial Update: Christmas Wish

The Cathedral has withdrawn \$117,000 from its endowment fund to pay for normal operating expenses. Even with this withdrawal, the parish is projected to have a cash shortfall of \$43,000 by the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2024). The current situation reflects the trend of falling offertory income over the past five years (since 2018), compounded by rising prices. During the Christmas season, parishioners are kindly asked to consider increasing their offertory contributions to help cover this deficit, as expenses have already been significantly reduced.

## Breakfast with Santa

**December 16 | 9:00–11:00 a.m. | Parish Hall**

It's time to register for the Knights of Columbus Breakfast with Santa (<https://bit.ly/kofcbreakfast23>). It's free, but please register by Monday, December 11, so there is enough food and an age appropriate toy for each child from Santa. Have your child bring some money if they would like to purchase gifts for his or her parents or siblings from the Elf Gift shop. Items are just \$1 to \$3, including gift wrap.

## Cathedral Shop Annual Christmas Sale

Stop by the local Cathedral Shop and save 20% on all your gift needs. The shelves have been restocked. You will find something for everyone. The specially made Cathedral rosaries will not be on sale, but they are priceless. You won't mind spending a little extra on these lovely, commemorative rosaries.

## Knights of Columbus Raffle

**January 28, 2024 | 6:00 p.m.**

Tickets are now available for the second annual Knights of Columbus raffle. Prizes are gift cards of \$500 (first prize), \$250 (second prize), and \$100 (third prize) to a vendor of choice. Tickets are available from any member of the Knights or at the Cathedral Shop. It is not necessary to be present to win.

## WORSHIP

### Notes from the Choir Loft: Sunday's Motet

"E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come" (Cf. Rev 22), written by Paul Manz (1919–2009) and published in 1954, has been performed around the world and recorded hundreds of times. Selling well over one million copies, the piece was written as a lamentation for the composer's son, who was stricken with a rare, crippling double pneumonia. The opening motif for the composition simultaneously expresses hope and grief, while the text prays for the immediate presence of Christ to dispel the dark of doubt and night. (The son recovered, and this motet was dedicated to him.)

### Morning Prayer (Lauds)

**Wednesdays | 7:30 a.m. | Zoom: [bit.ly/cshlauds](https://bit.ly/cshlauds)**

Pray the church's beautiful Morning Prayer with fellow parishioners. This prayer lasts 20 minutes and is a great way to start the day. Newcomers are welcome.

### Foundation Organ Campaign: Turning "Pipe" Dreams Into Reality

The Cathedral's third and final organ is on track for delivery on Monday, April 1, 2024. In addition to the choir and continuo organs hand crafted by the same firm, the gallery instrument will be the magnum opus of Juget-Sinclair Organ Builders of Montréal, Quebec, Canada. Like many ancient cathedrals and churches, the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart will house multiple organs operating in consort for the praise and worship of God.

This Christmas, help the Cathedral Foundation fund this instrument: adopt a stop or pick a pipe! To learn more or to select the perfect gift for yourself or a loved one, visit [AdoptAStop.org](https://AdoptAStop.org).

### Loving Mother of the Redeemer

There are five antiphons sung in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary that correspond to the various liturgical seasons. The antiphon sung during Advent and Christmas, until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (February 2), is the *Alma Redemptoris Mater* (Loving Mother of the Redeemer). Parishioners may wish to use this antiphon as devotional prayer during Advent:

*Loving Mother of the Redeemer,  
gate of heaven, star of the sea,  
assist your people who have fallen yet strive to rise again.  
To the wonderment of nature you bore your Creator,  
yet remained a virgin after as before.  
You who received Gabriel's joyful greeting,  
have pity on us poor sinners.*

## THE EUCHARIST: OUR TREASURE

"Because Christ himself is present in the sacrament of the altar, he is to be honored with the worship of adoration. 'To visit the Blessed Sacrament is . . . a proof of gratitude, an expression of love, and a duty of adoration toward Christ our Lord'" (Pope St. Paul VI, *Mysterium fidei*, no. 66).

— Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1418

## SERVICE

### Thank You

Saint Francis—Manchester is very thankful for the items collected for residents in November. Cathedral parishioners donated \$100 in gift cards and many of the requested items. Your generosity is amazing.

### Advent Giving Tree

The Cathedral's annual Advent Giving Tree project is off to a great start. We collected 75 tangible gifts and several monetary gifts over the weekend. There is still time to participate in this project—take one or more ornaments from the tree in the church vestibule, then drop off the requested items under the tree with the ornament attached. Below is a list of organizations we are donating to this year.

- All Saints Catholic School: Specific items are listed on each ornament.
- Circle Center Adult Day Services: Specific items are listed on each ornament.
- Grace and Peace Community Ministries: Checks should be made payable to Cathedral of the Sacred Heart with Grace and Peace on the memo line.
- Holy Family Hospital Foundation: Envelopes are provided with the ornament.
- Mary's Choice RVA: Please place gift cards in the offertory clearly marked Mary's Choice, or drop off at the office.
- St. Francis Home: Specific items are listed on each ornament.
- Cathedral | St. Bridget Haiti Committee: Checks should be made payable to Cathedral of the Sacred Heart with Haiti on the memo line.

*Next Sunday, December 17 is the final day to drop off items.*

### Social Justice Committee

**December 20 | 12:30–3:30 p.m. | Feedmore**

The Cathedral's Social Justice Committee is committed to helping Feedmore by assembling meals the third Wednesday of each month from 12:30– 3:30 p.m. It is an assembly line, so no special skills are necessary. It will involve standing at tables, with some light lifting and stooping. You will have an opportunity to get to know fellow parishioners while providing a valuable service. To sign up or to get more information please contact Richard Robbins at 540/312-8524 or [crrobb28@gmail.com](mailto:crrobb28@gmail.com).

### Social Justice Speaker Series

**January 28, 2024 | 12:30 p.m.**

Deacon Chris Barrett, M.Div, Notre Dame, contemplative activist, former peace education center director, and concerned grandfather, will speak in the parish hall after the 11:00 a.m. Mass.

### Livestreaming Volunteers

The Cathedral parish livestreams the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Mass. Volunteers are needed to help. 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. Sunday Mass, please contact Fr. Tony ([tmarques@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:tmarques@richmonddiocese.org)).

# CATECHESIS

## CHILDREN & YOUTH

### Children's Choir Resumes for Christmas

The Cathedral Children's Choir have begun their preparations, led by parishioner Amy Hruska ([aghruska@verizon.net](mailto:aghruska@verizon.net)). Choristers must be present for every rehearsal.

- December 10 10:05–10:55 a.m.
- December 17 10:05–10:55 a.m.
- December 23 10:00–11:00 a.m.
- December 24 3:00 p.m. call for the 4:00 p.m. Mass

### Children's Christmas Pageant

Help us tell the story of the birth of Christ and be a part of the blessing of the crèche. Angels and shepherds are needed for the pageant. Ages 4–18 are invited to participate. Register your child or teen to participate today (<https://bit.ly/Cathedralpageant2023>).

Please come to one of the following costume pick-up and brief rehearsals:

- December 17 12:15–1:00 p.m.
- December 18 6:00–6:45 p.m.

### Gaudete Sunday Party on the Plaza

**December 17 | 10:05–10:45 a.m.**

Next week we will celebrate *Gaudete* Sunday with a parish wide celebration on the plaza. (We will meet in the parish hall in the event of bad weather.) There will be opportunities to grow in faith and understanding of this special Sunday in Advent that reminds us to "Rejoice in the Lord always."

### Diocesan Youth Conference

**February 9–11, 2024 | Richmond Convention Center & Marriott**

All 8th–12th grade teens from across the Diocese are invited to the Diocesan Youth Conference (DYC) this February. DYC is an annual weekend event that gathers hundreds of Catholic teens together in downtown Richmond. Participants will be inspired to live the Gospel through keynote and breakout sessions, a service project, Reconciliation, Eucharistic Adoration, and Mass with Bishop Knestout. From sacraments to free time activities, DYC is an opportunity for teens to experience the joy that comes from living the Catholic faith and to take courage in all things because the Lord is with them – don't miss out! Registration is now open. Contact Joy Weir [jweir@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:jweir@richmondcathedral.org)

### Catechist Corner

Within the rite of Baptism, the priest instructs the mother to hold the child and receive a special blessing. He then prays over her and the child, "God the Father, through his Son, the Virgin Mary's child has brought joy to all Christian mothers, as they see the hope of eternal life shine on their children. May he bless the mother of this child. She now thanks God for the gift of her child. May she be one with him (her) in thanking him for ever in heaven, in Christ Jesus our Lord." It is a beautiful prayer that reminds us of the true joy we feel in the hope of our children having eternal life in Christ.

## ADULT

### Advent Bible Study

[Registration](#) is open for small group opportunities for Advent. Come together with other Cathedral parishioners in a small group setting. Groups will meet once a week for four sessions. After you sign up for a small group, we will share details on picking up your book and the specific home address for each host:

- West End Group: Tuesdays, Dec. 12, 19 | 7:00–8:30 p.m.
- Young Adult Group (ages 18–39): Wednesdays, Dec. 13, 20 6:30–8:00 p.m.

### Making Disciples:

#### What Does It Mean to "Become Catholic"?

Dear Parishioners,

As baptized Catholics we are called to understand that the focus of every ministry and activity is to help invite all to be disciples of God. If you have witnessed a child's baptism, the baby is anointed with sacred chrism. At this time, the priest or deacon prays these words: "As Christ was anointed Priest, Prophet, and King, so may you live always as a member of his holy body, sharing everlasting life." All of us must embrace these shared gifts. Please pray for those adults who are part of our RCIA ministry, they come together each week to pray and learn about the Catholic faith. These adults are the responsibility of every member of the parish. We celebrate the opportunity to be part of their journey.

Please contact Maria Thorsen for more information ([mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org)).

### Provide a Meal for an RCIA Session

Each RCIA session begins with a meal provided by our parishioners. Sharing a meal together creates a faith community, where people come to learn about the Catholic faith. If you would like to provide a meal, please use the sign up form (<https://bit.ly/RCIAMeal>) or email Maria Thorsen ([mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org)).

### Adult Confirmation

Adult Confirmation is for Catholics who have already received Baptism and First Holy Communion. Please contact Maria Thorsen for more information ([mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org](mailto:mthorsen@richmondcathedral.org)).

### Deacon Charles Williams Speaker Series for Racial Healing

**February 21, 2024 | 6:00 p.m.**

The speaker will be Preslaysa Williams, Catholic campus minister at Hampton University and Norfolk State University.

December 10, 2023

Dear Cathedral Parishioners,

Happy Advent. I am writing to thank you for your financial support and to ask you to consider further assistance.

You may have read in the bulletin that, last month, the Cathedral withdrew \$117,000 from its endowment fund to pay for normal operating expenses. I made this decision upon the recommendation of the parish finance council and in agreement with it.

Even with this withdrawal, the parish is projected to have a cash shortfall of \$43,000 by the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2024). The current situation is the result of falling offertory income over the past five years (since 2018), compounded by rising prices owing to inflation.

The parish's operating expenses cover essential items such as staff payroll, utilities, insurance, social events, and various programs and activities. These costs reflect the parish's mission of teaching the Catholic faith, celebrating the sacraments, and fostering community. In this regard, the Cathedral can be proud of its vibrant catechumenate (the process for entering the Catholic Church: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults or RCIA), solid religious education, robust campus ministry, and dynamic engagement of young adults.

The Cathedral's operating expenses have already been significantly reduced (by 40 percent, beginning in 2019). These costs are separate from other projects such as the rectory renovation, the financing of the new pipe organs, and charitable outreach.

I kindly ask you to consider increasing your offertory contribution to help cover the Cathedral's deficit. If you can contribute more, please do. If you can't, please don't. Contributions can be made by check or online (<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZABM/campaign/C-ZRYR>).

Please know that I am grateful for your prayers and support. I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Fr. Tony Marques*

Very Reverend Anthony E. Marques  
Rector