



SPIRIT OF THE MOUNTAINS CLUSTER

July 30-31, 2022 – 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Reverend Zaverio Banasula, Administrator

St. Mary Catholic Church

109 Beech Ave., PO Box 1724
Coeburn VA 24230

Saturday Vigil Mass 4 PM

No Tuesday Mass 5 PM August 2, 2022

St. Therese Catholic Church

16661 Wise St., PO Box 56
St. Paul VA 24283

Sunday Mass 8:30 AM

Good Shepherd Catholic Church

890 W Main St., PO Box 730
Lebanon VA 24266-0730

Sunday Mass 11 AM

Wednesday Mass 6 PM

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Spirit-of-the-Mountain-Cluster-107130504274408>

Cluster Contact Information

Telephone Office: 276-889-1690

EMERGENCY Need of Priest: 276-254-0176

e-mail: office@spiritofthemountain.org

Website: www.spiritofthemountain.org

Readings for this Week (July 30-August 6, 2022)

31 JULY SUN: Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23; Psalm 90; Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11; Luke 12:13-21

01 AUG MON: Jeremiah 28:1-7; Psalm 119; Matthew 14:13-21

02 AUG TUE: Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Psalm 102; Matthew 14:22-36

03 AUG WED: Jeremiah 31:1-7; Jeremiah 31:10-13; Matthew 15:21-28

04 AUG THU: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51; Matthew 16:13-23

05 AUG FRI: Nahum 2:1-3, 3:1-3, 6-7; Deuteronomy 32:35-36, 39, 41; Matthew 16:24-48

06 AUG SAT: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 97; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Luke 9:28-36

Scripture for next Sunday, August 7, 2022 – 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wisdom 18:6-9; Psalm 33; Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19; Luke 12:32-48

CLUSTER PICNIC: This weekend, July 31, SUNDAY is our picnic. Hope to see many at the Lebanon Community Center Park (45 Gibson Street, Lebanon) (behind the First Bank & Trust Company, 359 West Main Street). The church has rented the back larger pavilion down at the end of the parking lot where the splash pad is. There will be bingo with prizes, corn hole, splash pad, volleyball, and a softball game (bring your baseball glove) and of course plenty of food. The pool is open Sunday 1pm-5pm and costs \$3 for ages 12 and under and senior citizens. The cost is \$5 for ages 13 and up. Thanks to Betty Meade from St. Therese for pulling this all together with your committee Donna Bates (St. Mary), and Ruby Dorton (Good Shepherd).

SACRAMENTS: Please contact the church office or priest to make arrangements for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick or Holy Matrimony as well as funerals.

COVID-19 News. As of July 28, 2022, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) website reports **Russell County** and **Wise County** with a community level of HIGH COVID-19 transmission rate. Per the (CDC) and the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), and our Diocese, with a COVID-19 Community Level designation of high, it is recommended: Wear a mask indoors in public, stay

up to date with COVID-19 vaccines, get tested if you have symptoms. Additional precautions may be needed for people at high risk for severe illness. Here is a link to the CDC website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

Virginia is an abortion state! The abortionist in Bristol, TN is moving to Bristol, VA. As Catholic Christians we are called to stand up for life. From September 28-November 6, we need parishioners from Spirit of the Mountain cluster to publicly pray for the end of abortion by getting involved with 40 Days for Life. Contact Angie Bush or Jackie Early via email 40daysbristoltn@gmail.com or inquire through Eileen Panasewicz at St. Anne's 1-276-669-8200 extension 32. Plans are underway to contact the Russell County Board of Supervisors requesting Russell County be made an Abortion Free County.

Not sure if we have any former RCHS students, but the school asked us to post this announcement. Attention RCHS (**Roanoke Catholic High School**) Classes of 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, and 1979! RCHS **Reunion Weekend on Friday, August 26 through Sunday, August 28** hosted by the class of 1977. A fun weekend is planned; Football Game, School Tour, Reunion Celebration, Mass and Outdoor Adventure. Please visit following link to view schedule: <https://www.roanokecatholic.com/resources/alumni/>. Sign up SOON on Eventbrite under the TICKET section to purchase tickets for the Saturday Celebration. Contact Lilli Kelly Winstead lilwins@gmail.com for more information. To sign up for all other free events--<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rchs-class-of-1977-invites-classes-of-1974-1979-to-a-reunion-celebration-tickets-303119026167>.

The **Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Reports** are in the process of being prepared and approved by the councils. If any parishioner would like to have a copy of these documents, please contact the church office at 276-889-1690 or e-mail office@spiritofthemountain.com. July 2022 monthly reports will be e-mailed to parishioners—if you do not receive a copy and wish to have one mailed to you, please leave a message on the office phone's answering machine.

August is National Make-a-Will Month! As Catholics, we are called to plan ahead and share the blessings of our lives with our loved ones and future generations. To help you be a steward of everything God has entrusted to your care, the Catholic Community Foundation has shared with our Spirit of the Mountain Cluster a free, online Will-writing tool. It is cost-free, legal, and takes 20 minutes or less to protect your family and your assets, and create a legacy gift to pass the Catholic faith onto future generations at our parish. For more information contact the church office or go to <https://www.freewill.com/RichmondCatholicFoundation>.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS: If simplicity of life and the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience especially attract you, discover that life as a priest. Call the Vocations Office, (804)359-5661, to speak with Fr. Brian Capuano; or write vocations@richmonddiocese.org.

The Spirit of the Mountain Cluster and our Bishop Knestout encourages anyone aware of sexual abuse of minors on the part of clergy or staff of our diocese to notify civil authorities, call the Attorney General's Clergy Abuse Hotline at 1-833-454-9064 and reach out to the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator at 1-877-887-9603, or visit the Safe Environment page at <https://richmonddiocese.org/protecting-gods-children/>

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ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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| July 23 Offertory | \$ 443 | Attendance 11 |
| July 23 Votive Candles | \$ 4 | |

August 1 – 11 AM – Funeral Mass for Genevieve (Hunsaker) Kelly

PRAYERS REQUESTED: Alton Lawson, Jr., Sister Stacey Hanrahan, Lillie Peters, Billy Hunsaker, Charles Bennett, Jim Hatch

August Birthdays: Carol Perry (5)

- There will be **no 5 PM Tuesday Mass this week, August 2, 2022**. Mass will resume next Tuesday August 9 at 5 PM.
- **Food will be served** for family and friends at the Coeburn farmhouse **after the graveside service for Gen Hunsaker**.
- The **St. Mary pastoral council** will meet **this Saturday, July 30, after the 4 PM Mass**. **Review of fiscal year 2022 annual report materials** will be on the agenda.

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ST. THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH

July 24 Offering **\$ 130** **Attendance 7**
PRAYERS REQUESTED: Margaret Meade, Jackie and Scotty White, Helen Moretz, Danny Laney, Tom Lusk, and Marty Jessee
August Birthdays: Eusebio Cardenas (15), Angel Sproles (29)
 • The **pastoral council meeting** was rescheduled for **August 7** after Mass during breakfast.

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GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH

July 24 Offering **\$ 240** **Attendance 15**
Votive Candle Donations **\$ 5**
July 31 Mass Intention: For the eternal repose of the soul of + Joseph A. Weisbarth +
PRAYERS REQUESTED: James White, Bob Dorton, Danny Laney, and Jackie & Scotty White
August Birthdays: Sandy Altenbach/Ruby Hernandez (1), Seth Dorton/Dawn Figueiras (2), Francisco Hernandez Rodriquez (Senior) (), Mathew Dillon (27), Alexa Castro (28), Dave Britten/Bob Dorton (31)
 • The **Good Shepherd parish pastoral council** will be meeting after **Mass Sunday, August 14**. We only have three of six members for the council. If anyone wishes to share their time and talent and serve on the council, please contact Father Xavier.
 • The **basket** for your **offertory donation** at this time is at the back of the church. **The offertory basket will begin to be passed on August 7, 2022.**
 • **Joseph A. Weisbarth** passed away July 20 in Fairview Park, Ohio. Mr. Weisbarth was the father of **Ken Weisbarth** and grandfather of **Mark Weisbarth**, two long ago parishioners of Good Shepherd. Mark came to Good Shepherd as a toddler many, many years ago and attended Mass until he left the area after high school. Ken moved back to Ohio to care for his father. Please keep this family in your prayers.
 • **REMINDER: Our Wednesday 6 PM Mass is now being celebrated.**

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LIVING WELL

Melanie B. Coddington

This Sunday's 1st reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes begins: "Vanity of vanities, says Qoheleth, vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!" In this case, "vanity" does not refer to excessive mirror-gazing or undue pride in one's appearance. It means "in vain," as in futile or useless. The Hebrew word, hebel, translated here as "vanity," also means vapor, implying an insubstantial or fleeting quality. This little verse launches a poem (not included in today's reading) that rants on for ten verses (Eccl 1:2-11), describing the rhythm of life not as a graceful ebb and flow but as an unrelenting grind. The same verse appears again at the end of the book, framing all the hard wisdom in between.

In today's reading, the opening verse introduces the following example: "Here is one who has labored with wisdom and knowledge and skill, and yet to another who has not labored over it, he must leave his property." In the time and culture that brought us Ecclesiastes, property would have been left to the eldest son, and in the absence of a son, to the nearest male relative. These arrangements, known in advance, would have resulted in the heir being brought into the business during the lifetime of the property owner. In this specific situation, something has gone wrong. This man must leave his property to one who has not

labored alongside him. The welfare of any remaining family members (widow, daughters) would also be in jeopardy.

Today's Responsorial Psalm echoes the existential angst of the 1st reading. Two verses stand out. The first, "Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart," speaks of getting our priorities straight, i.e., in alignment with God's will for us. The second, "prosper the work of our hands," acknowledges that only God can give substance to fleeting human experience.

Life is short; live well. Of course, living well means different things to different people. The rich man in today's Gospel builds bigger barns to store up his treasure and secure a comfortable retirement. He never gets to enjoy it. Jesus promotes a different brand of wealth—being "rich in what matters to God." How much richer might the man have become if he had shared his wealth, improved the lot of his neighbors, and strengthened the life of his community?

St. Paul has this alternative vision of wealth in mind as he exhorts the Colossians to "seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God." Not surprisingly, "the greed that is idolatry" appears in his list of earthly vices to avoid. The "new self" born in Baptism must continually seek renewal, "in the image of its creator," with the generosity of God, who loves and blesses all, as the example to follow.

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How many versions of the New American Bible are there?

The original version of the New American Bible (NAB) was published in 1970. The translation of the New Testament was revised and published in 1986. The translation of the Book of Psalms (the Psalter) was revised in 1991. A revision of the translation of the Old Testament, including the Psalter, was published in March 2011. This version is called the New American Bible Revised Edition ("NABRE"). Besides the various editions of the translation, many different publishers have produced editions of the NAB. Each publisher has added material, such as photographs, maps, devotions and prayers, and reference matter to the biblical text.

In what formats is the New American Bible available?

The New American Bible is available in the following formats: print, audio, electronic (including e-books), and digital.

Do we read from the Bible at Mass?

Readings from Scripture are part of every Mass. At least two readings (3 on Sundays and solemnities), one always from the Gospels, make up the Liturgy of the Word. In addition, a psalm or canticle is sung.

For ease, these readings are typically read from a Lectionary, which includes the sections of the Bible to be read on a given day.

What's the difference between a Bible and a Lectionary?

A Lectionary provides the readings and the responsorial psalm assigned for each Mass of the year (Sundays, weekdays, and special occasions). The readings are divided by the day or the theme (baptism, marriage, vocations, etc.) rather than according to the books of the Bible. Introductions and conclusions have been added to each reading. Not all of the Bible is included in the Lectionary.

Individual readings in the Lectionary are called pericopes, from a Greek word meaning a "section" or "cutting." Because the Mass readings are only portions of a book or chapter, introductory phrases, called incipits, are often added to begin the Lectionary reading, for example, "In those days," "Jesus said to his disciples," etc.