

## SPIRIT OF THE MOUNTAIN CLUSTER

OCTOBER 19-20, 2024

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B)

Reverend Emmanuel Darfour Appah, Administrator



### Saint Mary Catholic Church

109 Beech Ave., PO Box 1724  
Coeburn, VA 24230

**NO Saturday OCT 19 Vigil Mass @ 5 PM**

Tuesday Mass @ 5 PM

### Saint Therese Catholic Church

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

Sunday Mass @ 8:30 AM

Reconciliation Sunday 8:00 AM

### Good Shepherd Catholic Church

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

Sunday Mass 11:00 AM

Reconciliation Sunday @ 10:30 AM

Wednesday Mass @ 6 PM

### CLUSTER CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Telephone: 1-276-889-1690

Office e-mail: [office@spiritofthemountain.org](mailto:office@spiritofthemountain.org)

Website: <https://spiritofthemountain.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100078972283533>

**EMERGENCY: NEED A PRIEST? CALL 1-804-631-9027**

**or [eappah@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:eappah@richmonddiocese.org)**

### Father Emmanuel's Reflection for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

**Theme:** The nature of true Leadership

In our Gospel reading for today, we see James and John approach Jesus with a request for positions of honor in His kingdom. Their ambition reveals a common human desire for recognition and power. However, Jesus responds not with affirmation but with a challenge to their understanding of greatness.

He teaches them that true leadership is found in service. "Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant," He says. This flips our usual understanding of success and authority on its head. Instead of striving for power over others, Jesus invites us to embody humility and selflessness.

In a world often obsessed with status, we are called to reflect on our own motivations. Are we seeking to elevate ourselves, or are we willing to serve those around us? This is especially relevant in our relationships, workplaces, and communities.

Jesus reminds us that He Himself came "not to be served but to serve." This radical call to servanthood challenges us to rethink our priorities. It asks us to consider how we can support and uplift others, particularly those who are marginalized or in need.

As we meditate on this message, let us ask ourselves: How can I serve others in my daily life? What small acts of kindness can I offer that reflect Christ's love? In doing so, we not only follow His example but also find deeper fulfillment in our own lives.

May we embrace the call to serve with open hearts, recognizing that in serving others, we truly encounter Christ.

Peace and Joy!!

**Readings for this Week (October 20-21, 2024)**

20 OCT SUN	Isaiah 53:10-11; Psalm 33; Hebrews 4:14-16; Mark 10:35-45
21 OCT MON	Ephesians 2:1-10; Psalm 100; Luke 12:13-21
22 OCT TUE	Ephesians 2:12-22; Psalm 85; Luke 11:37-41
23 OCT WED	Ephesians 3:2-12; Psalm Isaiah 12:2-5; Luke 12:39-48
24 OCT THU	Ephesians 3:14-21; Psalm 33; Luke 12:49-53
25 OCT FRI	Ephesians 4:1-6; Psalm 24; Luke 12:54-59
26 OCT SAT	Ephesians 4:7-16; Psalm 122; Luke 13:1-9

**Next Sunday Readings – 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time (Oct. 27, 2024)**

Jeremiah 31:7-9; Psalm 126; Hebrews 5:1-6; Mark 10:46-52

**REMINDER: October Month of the Rosary.** Parishioners are asked to come to church **30 minutes early to recite the rosary before the weekend Masses** during the month of October. Families are encouraged to pray the rosary together at home on the other days of this special month.

*“If our age in its pride laughs at and rejects Our Lady’s Rosary, a countless legion of the most saintly men of every age and of every condition have not only held it most dear and have most piously recited it but have also used it at all times as a most powerful weapon to overcome the devil, to preserve the purity of their lives, to acquire virtue more zealously, in a word, to promote peace among men.”* Pope Pius XI

**WORLD MISSION DIOCESAN COLLECTION** (THIS WEEKEND-October 19-20): We celebrate this day by remembering our baptismal call – to bring the Gospel to all! The collection today for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith Black and Indian Missions and the Home Mission Collection supporting the work and witness of the Mission Church, as it provides for priests, religious and lay leaders who offer the Lord’s mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope’s missions. Thank you for your generosity. Special envelopes are provided at the back of the church. **SAINT MARY’S WILL HAVE THIS COLLECTION THE FOLLOWING WEEKEND, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26.**

**Hurricane Helene Relief.** Thank you to all who generously gave to this collection. Our Cluster received a total of \$381 forwarded to the Diocese for giving to those needing assistance because of the hurricane.

**October 19 (Saturday) SWVA 50th Anniversary Celebration--St. Anne Catholic Church** (350 Euclid Avenue, Bristol, VA) beginning at **11:30 AM**. The rosary will be recited at 3:35 PM and Mass at 4 PM. Thank you to those who signed up to attend and donate baby bag items. All are welcome to come to hear the deanery/cluster history, Rosary and/or Mass.

**Food Donations** are being collected by Good Shepherd for the **Lebanon Community Food Pantry**. If any Cluster parishioners wish to donation to the pantry (items most needed canned fruit, vegetables, soup, and meat) bring the items to your mass and place in bags at the back of the church. Father Emmanuel will transport them to Lebanon and place in the basket to be taken to the Pantry. Items in glass jars and with expired dates are not accepted.

**40 Days for Life.** Between now and Nov. 3rd, the 40 Days for Life vigil is taking place in 703 cities worldwide including Bristol, VA. Join Christians as we pray and fast for the end of

abortion and vigil near the Bristol Women's Health abortion business which is located at 2603 Osborne Street, Bristol VA. If you are new to praying publicly, praying with a group is the easiest way to begin. We know of these group prayer opportunities.

Tuesday, Oct. 22nd 11:00 AM—St. Mary's Knight of Columbus

Sunday, Nov. 3rd, 4:00 PM—Closing prayer gathering

We need more Christians praying near the abortion business. Contact Angie Bush at (423) 482-2123 or go to [www.40daysforlife.com/bristol](http://www.40daysforlife.com/bristol) if you would like to get involved. And please consider organizing a prayer opportunity with members from your church. Thank you for your witness.

**Election Day is November 5.** Early voting began September 20. As Americans, we will decide who our next President will be. As Virginians, we will also decide who will represent our Commonwealth in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. As faithful citizens, it is our sacred duty to form our consciences and vote. Resources provided by the Virginia Catholic Conference explain the principles, the positions of candidates, and practical tips for voter registration. Visit [www.vacatholic.org](http://www.vacatholic.org) to view these materials.

**PRAY FOR VOCATIONS:** "What do you wish for me to do for you?" Listen closely to your heart. Is God calling you to consider a vocation to the priesthood or religious life? Let the grace of prayer encourage you. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Office of Vocations at (804) 359-5661 or via email: [vocations@richmonddiocese.org](mailto:vocations@richmonddiocese.org).

On **October 26th and 27th, Fr. Leo Patalinghug (the cooking priest)** is coming to **St. Anne in Bristol** to help raise money to install a Safe Haven Baby Box in Southwest Virginia. This is happening over the course of two food-related events: (1) Adults' Night Out - A talk and heavy hors d'oeuvres <https://stannechurchbristol.betterworld.org/events/fr-leo-patalinghug-adults-night> and (2) Full Fundraising Dinner - A food demonstration, talk, and multi-course meal (with various beverages available): <https://stannechurchbristol.betterworld.org/events/fr-leo-patalinghug-baby-box-fund>. The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring this event. More information may be found at [www.shbb.org](http://www.shbb.org). For tickets to the above event or make a donation use the QR code on the attached sheet or copy and paste this URL below into your browser <https://stannechurchbristol.betterworld.org/events/fr-leo-patalinghug-baby-box-fund>

**Catholic Community Foundation** of the Diocese of Richmond's topic for October is bequests, stock, IRA-QCD, etc. Plan ahead for your future and the future of your church. October 21st - 27th is National Estate Planning Awareness Week, and we invite you to consider important questions while making your will or trust: Who do you want to care for your children? Have you stewarded the time, talents, and treasures entrusted to your care? How can you pass your faith to future generations? The Catholic Community Foundation of the Diocese of Richmond sponsors a free, online service with FreeWill so you can answer these questions and create your plan for the future. You can even designate an optional legacy gift to support the future of your church parish or another ministry you love. Visit [FreeWill.com/RichmondCatholicFoundation](http://FreeWill.com/RichmondCatholicFoundation) to get started.

**The Spirit of the Mountain Cluster and our Catholic Diocese of Richmond 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 email**

vac@richmonddiocese.org or visit the Diocese's Child Protection/Safe Environment page at <https://richmonddiocese.org/protecting-gods-children/>

### SAINT MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

October 12 Offertory \$ 455.00 Attendance 11

October 12 Hurricane Helene Relief \$ 54.00

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR: Alton Lawson, Jr., Sister Stacey Hanrahan, Lillie Peters, Billy Hunsaker, Charles Bennett, and Bobby Kyle.

October Birthdays: Lillie Peters (12), Debbie Goodman (25), Robert Hatch (31)

- There will be **NO MASS this weekend - Saturday, October 19 at St. Mary's**. Parishioners may attend the Saturday, October 19 SWVA 50th Anniversary Celebration in Bristol at St. Anne's Catholic Church where Mass will be celebrated at 4 PM. There is also Mass at Norton at 10 AM Sunday.
- **Parish Finance Council meeting NEXT Saturday, October 26 after Vigil Mass**. All parishioners are invited to attend.

### SAINT THERESE CATHOLIC CHURCH

October 12 Offertory \$ 185.00 Attendance 9

October 12 Donation \$ 500.00

October 12 Hurricane Helene Relief \$ 66.00

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR: Tim Long, Jackie White, Helen Moretz, James F. White, Brayn Whited, JoAnn Detta, and Rodney Altizer.

October Birthdays: Ryan Meade (23), Lucia Cardenas (26)

- **70th Anniversary** of Saint Therese Catholic Church. November 2 (The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed) Mass will be celebrated at 1 PM for all the faithful departed of St. Therese. Those planning to attend should submit the names of their loved ones to the church office by October 31 so a list can be compiled to be read before Mass. If one cannot attend or was not a member of the Church and wants to include a name, they are most welcome to do so. After Mass, a meal will be served. All (especially former parishioners) are invited to come and celebrate the anniversary of this small church which has been a big part of the lives of many in this community.

### GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH

October 12 Offertory \$ 776.00 Attendance 23

October 12 Hurricane Helene Relief \$ 261.00

**MASS INTENTION:** For the repose of the soul of + Stephen Roman +

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR: Valerie Christian, James White, Bob Dorton, JoAnn Detta, Jackie White, Phyllis Dotson, and Sherry Hubbard.

October Birthdays: Sharon Martin (9), Cheryl Spoharski (16), Colt/AmberChristian (17),

Jose Mendoza, Jr., (27) Valerie Christian (28), Joyce Sapp/Alfredo Castro (31)

October Anniversary: Jeff/Janice Halsey (21)

- **Parish Council** (short) meeting **November 3**, Sunday, after Mass.

#### **Good Shepherd Lector Schedule:**

October 20 – Cathy Stiltner

October 27/November 3 -- Dave Britten

November 10/17 -- Janice Halsey