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Parishioner of St. Richard 5-10-20

Mass Intentions This Week:



The Parishioners of St. Richard Catholic Church

Contact Elizabeth to schedule a Mass or if you have any questions. Please give Mass intentions to Father.

Next Week's Readings

Reading I: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
 Responsorial Psalm: 89:2-3, 4-5, 27-29
 Reading II: Romans 16:25-27
 Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

LECTOR SCHEDULE

12-06 Elsie Moleno
 12-08 Toni Ferris
 12-13 George Seif
 12-20 Fred Maldonado
 12-25 George Seif
 12-27 George Seif
 01-01 Toni Ferris

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 Please contact the Office



People will stay on the prayer list for the sick for 1 month. If you would like your loved one to go back on the list for the following month please call the office and let Elizabeth know. We encourage parishioners to use this list during their daily prayer time to pray for those who are sick. May we all lift one another up in prayer during times of need: Steven Goellner, Earnest Thomas, Franklin Epps, Rosemary Buskirk & Norma Vacca.

Knights of Columbus Council 9309

If you are a Catholic man 18 years or older and wish to join our Council please contact: Jerry Beil (252-586-0635) ncjib2@gmail.com or Thomas O'Neill (252-308-0493) oneilltomandanne@gmail.com

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE COUNCIL#9309

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
 St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church
 Ebony, Va
 St. Richards Catholic Church
 Emporia, VA
 Officers for 2020-2021:

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Grand Knight: Jerry Beil
Deputy Grand Knight: Bobby Berndt
Chancellor: Dave Thomas
Recorder: Bob Hathaway
Treasurer: Jay Warfel, PGK
Financial Secretary: Tom O'Neill, PGK
Advocate: Bob Oravits
Warden: Paul Kurilla
Guards: Inside: Kaid Moody
 Outside: Richard Rumprik
Lecturer: Chuck Youse
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Trustee One Year: Kip Boisot PKG
Trustee Two Years: Mark Fracassa
Trustee Three Years: Tom Eddy PKG

St. Richard Catholic Church

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 Emporia, VA 23847
 Phone: (434) 636-6277

Pastor:

Fr. Jong R. Bayta
frjong23845@gmail.com
 434-636-6277
 434-636-7782

Secretary/Bookkeeper:

Elizabeth Martin
Church Office:
 434-636-6277

strichards.emporia@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF MASSES:

SUNDAY: 10:30AM
SPANISH MASS:
Wednesday: 6:00PM
ROSARY: 10am Sunday
CONFESSIONS: 10am Sunday
 Holy Days - As Announced.

PASTORAL COUNCIL:
 Jenny Holtkamp: 515-201-3761

FINANCE COUNCIL:
 Dr. Fitzgerald Marcelin:
 804-894-0277

RELIGIOUS FORMATION:
 John Holtkamp: 937-935-4516

LITURGY:
 Ann Thomas: 434-637-2016

MUSIC COORDINATOR:
 Luz Zapanta: 434-430-6092

ALTAR MINISTRY:
 Stevie Thomas: 434-634-6713



We welcome all visitors and guests to our parish family and wish you safe travels and a happy visit to Emporia.

**Third Sunday of Advent
 December 13, 2020**

Focusing the Gospel

Key words and phrases:

Who are you? I am not the Christ, the voice of one crying out, one who is coming after me

To the point: John the Baptist is sure about his own identity because he is sure about the identity of Jesus. John knows himself to be the precursor of the greater One yet to come, whose sandal strap he is not even worthy to untie. His self-knowledge enables John to be who God intends him to be: not the Messiah, but the one who points beyond self to the Messiah's presence. If we are asked, "Who are you?" can we be so sure about our own identity in relation to

Jesus that our lives too point to him?

Connecting the Gospel ...

... **to First Reading:** John the Baptist in the Gospel describes the great difference that exists between who he is and who Jesus is. By implication, the same great difference exists between Jesus and us. Yet, in the second reading Paul makes clear that God indeed diminishes this difference through the grace of the Spirit in whom we are made "perfectly holy" and are "preserved blameless."

... **to experience:** American Idol shows us identities and gifts in fierce competition to be number one. John shows us the opposite: how different identities and gifts must cooperate to bring about the reign of God by not focusing on self but on Other and other.

Centrar el Evangelio

Palabras y frases clave:

¿Quién eres? Yo no soy el Cristo, la voz de uno gritando, uno que viene después de mí

Hasta el punto:

Juan el Bautista está seguro de su propia identidad porque está seguro de la identidad de Jesús. Juan sabe a sí mismo como el precursor del Grande Aún por venir, cuya correa de sandalias ni siquiera es digno de desatar. Su autoconocimiento permite a Juan ser quien Dios quiere que sea: no el Mesías, sino el que señala más allá de sí mismo a la presencia del Mesías. Si se nos pregunta: "¿Quién eres tú?" ¿podemos estar tan seguros de nuestra propia identidad en relación con Jesús que nuestras vidas también lo señalan?

Conectando el Evangelio...

... a la primera lectura:

Juan el Bautista en el Evangelio describe la gran diferencia que existe entre quién es y quién es Jesús. Por implicación, la misma gran diferencia existe entre Jesús y nosotros. Sin embargo, en la segunda lectura Pablo deja claro que

Dios ciertamente disminuye esta diferencia por medio de la gracia del Espíritu en el que somos "perfectamente santos" y somos "conservados sin culpa".

... **para experimentar:** American Idol nos muestra identidades y regalos en competencia feroz para ser el número uno. Juan nos muestra lo contrario: cómo las diferentes identidades y dones deben cooperar para llevar a cabo el reinado de Dios al no centrarse en sí mismo, sino en Otro y otros.

Calendar of Events & Special Announcements

The church is being decorated for Christmas after mass on December 20th if you are able to assist.

Please pick up your 2021 contribution envelopes and calendars after mass.

Advent and Christmas Schedule

12/12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Mass at 1 pm

12/13 3rd Sunday of Advent
Bambinelli Blessing

12/20 4th Sunday of Advent

12/25 Christmas Day

Mass at 10:30 am

January 1, 2021 Solemnity of the Motherhood of Mary
Mass at 10:30 am



Christmas Flower Donations in Memory/Honor of:

Joseph Comorat

Frank Derring

Mary Derring

Don Gilliard

Kelli Gownley

Timothy Gownley

Sammy Jones

Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Jones

Mr. Bob Lucas, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lucas

James J. McDonnell, Jr.

Leda & Nelson Thomas

Weekly Offerings: December 6th

Offertory: \$469

Christmas Flowers: \$190

Building Fund: \$1230

ParishSoft Egiving: \$0

Mass Attendance for 12/06:

Adults 20

Children 8

If you are a volunteer, and have not signed the Acknowledgement Form from the Digital Communications and Media Policy, please do so

and return it to the parish office so that we are in compliance with the Diocese.

Si usted es voluntario y no ha firmado el Formulario de Reconocimiento de la Política de Comunicaciones Digitales y Medios, por favor hágalo y devuélvalo a la oficina parroquial para que estemos en conformidad con la Diócesis.

Online Giving Reminder

If you manage your bills online, you can give to St. Richard Catholic Church online too. It's safe and secure, and you decide exactly when your gift is made and where it goes. Online Giving lets you set up recurring weekly offertory and special collections gifts, so you will be able to give the way you want—even if you've forgotten your envelope. Getting started is easy! Please visit <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/strichardemporiva>

Si administra sus facturas en línea, también puede dar a la Iglesia Católica de St. Richard en línea. Es seguro y seguro, y usted decide exactamente cuándo se

hace su regalo y a dónde va. Online Giving te permite configurar regalos recurrentes de ofertas semanales y colecciones especiales, para que puedas dar la forma que quieras, incluso si has olvidado tu sobre. ¡Empezar es fácil! Por favor, visite <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/strichardemporiva>



- 1st Kasey Zapanta
- 7th Earnest Thomas
- 8th Carlos Nery
- 11th Paolo Malabanan
Fitzgerald Marcelin
- 14th Maribel Garcia
- 22nd Emily Plascenia
- 25th Cynthia Baux
Vanessa Carillo
- 28th Luz Zapanta
- 29th Magdalena Alston
- 31st Eli Henry Smith



**Ma. Socorro & Victor Conte
December 20, 2008**

Getting Ready to Pray

So as to be more available to the Advent-graces of the readings, imagine John the Precursor seated at a table with a sign hanging above his head which reads, "Fidelity Employment Agency." He has the reputation of being a prophet and announcing hard times for the unjust. People from various occupations approach him for some instructions for how they can survive and prosper. To each he states clearly what the usual injustice is for their employment and urges them to refrain from these, because there is a "someone" coming who will invite them to true prosperity if they are ready.

Some Thoughts

We pray for the grace of a freedom from fears of our futures. This is "Rejoice Sunday" and fear suppresses joy. We pray with the confidence, literally "with-faith" that Jesus not only has come, but is always reaching towards us, even in the world's troubles.

We can pray for a good spirit of quiet joy as we prepare to celebrate his presence. As we move quickly through these days of preparing to celebrate the "Santa-side" of Christmas, we can pray for a "Ho-Ho-Holy" Spirit of extending Christ's love and peace!

Larry Gillick, SJ
<https://liturgy.slu.edu/>